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The Bates Student

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WEDNESDAY March 11, 2015

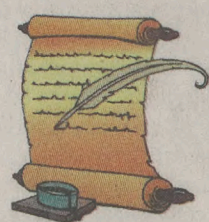
Vol. 144, Issue. 16

Lewiston, Maine

News

New proposed BCSG constitution

The full text of the new constitution will be voted on by the entire student body on Friday



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ARTS & LEISURE

Medieval morality play

Amanda San Roman takes an in-depth look at the latest Schaeffer Theater play



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SPORTS

Record-breaking heave

Sean Enos '15 sets a new weight throw record at the ECAC Championships and is seeded second for the upcoming NCAA Championships



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Sit-in draws scant attendance

Administration already working with Student Government to open communication

ALEX DAUGHERTY
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

A small group of students staged a "sit-in" at Lane Hall on Monday, urging President Clayton Spencer and Dean Josh McIntosh to sign a contract that aimed at increasing communication channels between students and the administration.

There were three main goals of the contract: reinstating the Dean's Advisory Committee, creating a monthly open forum in which students can raise questions and concerns, and finding a way to communicate news with students that is more respectful and more efficient than an announce email.

"Josh was very open to the conversation, and agreed to the context of the contract," junior Tommy Fitzgerald said. "[Vice President for Finance and Administration] Geoffrey Swift was accommodating to the students while waiting for Dean McIntosh to finish a meeting, and overall it was a really positive response."

President Spencer was not present.

While Dean McIntosh agreed with the stipulations of the contract in principle, he did not agree to sign the document.

"We want to open up a bigger highway between the administration and the student body," Fitzgerald said.

After meeting in the Pettingill Atrium, a small group of students ventured over to Lane Hall, where they waited to present the contract to Dean McIntosh, who was finishing a meeting.

"My initial response is good," McIntosh said to the students in attendance when presented with the contract. "My question is how does what you are proposing fit into the landscape of student governance?"

The students present made it clear that the biweekly meetings are for all students and that there needs to be greater communication with students regarding changes that are made by the administration.

"I want to see biweekly meetings for students who may not want to actually speak to Josh and have the administration announce, face-to-face, what is going on," senior Nicole Schlichting said. "This forum can also be used by the administration to fill us in on issues."

"I'm here because of the departure of Dean Gurney and Tannenbaum," senior Mark Charest said. "Dean Gurney can relate to students and has benefited me personally. I think students will suffer if a new person is brought in because it takes time to acclimate to the student body and a lot of new people."

The attendees of the sit-in also felt that President Spencer's email on Monday was a step in the right direction, signaling that the administration is willing to hear student voices when making decisions.

"I want to improve upon the culture we have without eliminating faculty members and social events," Schlichting said. "Have students be more involved in the decision-making process."

McIntosh said that the administration is already working to open avenues of communication with students.

Men's basketball advances to the Sweet Sixteen

A heart-pounding overtime win over Stockton College kept Bates basketball's national championship aspirations alive

JAMO KARSTEN
ASSISTANT SPORTS EDITOR

There was a nervous period of time last week when the Bates men's basketball team was not sure if their season was going to continue. But elation and relief came when the team received an invitation to the NCAA Division III national tournament for the first time in the program's history. There is a phrase in the sporting world to describe such an invitation; the Bobcats were going dancing. This past weekend, Bates shrugged off any questions about their selection, as they two-stepped past St. Vincent College and Stockton College in back-to-back victories to advance to the Sweet Sixteen.

In the professional world of journalism, game recap columns are often an unbiased recounting of action from the event. Writing for your college school newspaper gives you the unique perspective of writing such columns as a fan of your school's teams. And as a fan of Bates basketball, the only way I can accurately describe this weekend is *fun*. It was fun because they dropped 92 points in their tournament debut. It was fun because the Den was crowded with people watching the game and listening to the ludicrous Stockton College announcers on both nights. It was fun because I had multiple conversations with people in this community I have never met before about the team

See B-BALL, PAGE 7



Junior Mike Boortzian scored 18 points against Stockton to reach 1,000 for his career. PHYLIS GRABER JENSEN/BATES COLLEGE

Penobscot Nation stakes claim of river, conflicts with Bates processor

Maine activist boycotts Bates professor for Penobscot stance

AUGUST SILVER
STAFF WRITER

Last week, Maria Girouard, a major activist in the protection of Penobscot rights, initiated a boycott stating she would not set foot on Bates campus because of a Bates professor's standpoint on the issue. Girouard argues that, contrary to Bates Anthropology Professor Bruce Bourque's belief, the Penobscot Nation territory should encompass the Penobscot River as well.

Formerly the Penobscot Tribe of Maine, the Penobscot Nation is a Native American tribe in Maine and some provinces in Canada with over 2,000 members. They are thought to have inhabited Maine for over 11,000 years.

Maine has begun to enforce a law that prevents the Penobscot tribesmen from fishing, a practice that has provided the nation with their primary source of food for centuries. In 2012, a lawsuit between the city of Portland and the Nation stated the dismay of the city residents at the claiming of the River as Penobscot territory. As stated by the Penobscot Nation's Attorney General William Schneider in a letter filed in the U.S. District Court in Bangor, the Penobscot "Nation has exercised exclusive jurisdiction over sustenance fishing" in the River. In other words, the Penobscot people wanted their territory to not only include the islands where they lived, but also the surrounding River. If they do not have jurisdiction over the River, they will not be able to fish, a main food resource.

This February, the case *Penobscot Nation v. Mills* over the rights to the Penobscot fishing territory was revisited

to ensure the rights of the Penobscot people. The lawsuit claims the 1980 law passed by Congress stated that the Penobscot Nation and its members "retain a sovereign right to take fish from the Penobscot River" by ratifying a law entitled Sustenance Fishing within the Indian Reservations. This law allowed fishing in the River within the reservation as long as no Maine state law prevented it.

In an interview with *The Student*, Professor Bourque stated he had no opinion regarding the dispute. He based his conclusions on facts that he found from 30 years of extensive research on the Nation, which he included in the deposition he wrote to Attorney General Schneider.

The Nation claims that they have always considered the River essential to their survival, and therefore should be able to claim the River as their land. However, according to Bourque, his research of historical documents seemed to point to the exact opposite conclusion. Bourque's deposition stated that the River has never been part of their land, because "the Tribe did not have such an intent or understanding, and the reality was the Tribe was politically and militarily unable to do so."

From the outside, this lawsuit seems to have been initiated by the State of Maine, but it was not. In 2010, the Nation began to solicit money to sue for the rights to the River. In the coming trial, Bourque's deposition will be weighed against two depositions from the Penobscot people.

As for his reaction to Maria Girouard, Bourque believes she is "free to do whatever [she] want[s]." Bourque's fact-based work refutes a number of

points in the lawsuit, and he believes his research will carry some weight in the decision. In addition, under the care of the State, the Penobscot River has been in the best shape it has been in years.

Bates Environmental Studies Professor Ethan Miller also shared his perspective regarding Girouard's boycott and the River dispute.

In his opinion, Professor Bourque's document may have been derived entirely from fact, but those facts are highly political and open to interpretation and dispute. A large emphasis is put on the inability of the Nation to claim land at the time of their settlement. If looked at differently, this could make a substantial argument for the Nation. If they were not actually able to claim land, how could they have stated their necessity for the River?

When thinking about the boycott, Professor Miller espoused the idea of academic freedom. Miller sees Bates as an institution founded on the ideals of social justice, and along with that comes the responsibility to question whether or not this justice is upheld.

Professor Miller views this dispute as a continuation of colonization, a process that created many wrongs that Americans should be trying constantly to undo. He came to the conclusion that yes, academic freedom could be cited as an excuse for Girouard to boycott, and professionals in the field will have conflicting opinions. However, it should be questioned whether this freedom upholds the standard of integrity upon which Bates is founded.

This instance we may be talking about a land dispute, but it is also an example of the fine line between academic integrity and political opinion.

Professor Dauge-Roth wins 2015 Kroepsch Award

Assistant Professor of French and Francophone Studies wins award for excellence in teaching

BRIDGET RUFF
STAFF WRITER

In 1985, Robert Kroepsch (Class of 1933) established and endowed The Ruth M. and Robert H. Kroepsch Award for Excellence in Teaching to acknowledge those professors who go above and beyond at Bates College. Each year, previous winners decide a winner based on nominations from the student body. This year, the committee selected Alexandre Dauge-Roth, Assistant Professor of French and Francophone Studies.

What makes a great teacher?

"I would say... several things... There's not one thing that's going to make it happen. I think one important thing is trying to meet students where they are... Here at Bates, we are teaching a whole range of classes... in each class you try to meet people where they are. For me, where they are is defined by their linguistic ability to speak French... you have to meet them linguistically so they can understand you. But then I think you also need to try to meet them where they are and what they are interested in in terms of topics. I have a lot of choice in what I can address in terms of material. It could be songs, books, whatever. So that what we are studying in another culture is also something that is relevant to them... The second [criterion] would be having high expectations for them and yourself as a teacher... it's only if [students] invest [their time] fully is something going to happen. It means also that you as a teacher need to set up

a certain rhythm and give feedback on a regular or fast basis. Third would be to be a good listener, because often the questions that students ask may be the best feedback. About what you teach is understood. That allows you to modify the pace of the class. The fourth would be to be enthusiastic about what you do because if you don't believe in what you teach then it's not going to be exciting to students either."

Why are you so passionate about French and Francophone Studies?

"The beginning of the passion is by default because I was born in [Switzerland]. I have to put it into reverse by learning English. English allowed me to meet and to discover a lot of cultured people and have a certain number of interactions that I would have not had had I only been a French speaker. Here, it's the other way round with the students... there's the cultural aspect. The French and francophone world is about 50 countries, so there is a lot of diversity. I know maybe 5 percent of the francophone world. I'm discovering facets of the francophone world with my students. When they do presentations I discover... things I didn't know were there. So there's the discovery aspect. Then there's the intercultural awareness that one can gain, because you are dealing with cultures that are not your own because you cannot project your values [and] your world views. So you have to understand your own position

See KROEPSCH, PAGE 4

What is going on with student government?

ALEX DAUGHERTY
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

On Friday, the student body will have the chance to vote on a new constitution that would dissolve the Representative Assembly and replace it with a smaller body. The new body would give more power to a new Student Senate and significantly reduce the number of elected positions on student government.

Language of the proposed constitution is available on page four of this week's *Student*, and I strongly encourage all students to read it. The new constitution is not available on the student government website. Last week's amendment allows for this Friday's vote, and as of right now it appears that there is some sort of internal power struggle going on in student government.

I don't know exactly whether a smaller student government makes sense. There are certainly arguments for both sides. Currently, student government consists of a myriad of committees and working groups, and RA members are not present at all meetings. However, a larger student government allows for more voices to be heard and increases the representative effectiveness of government. The biggest reason why the new constitution is not a good idea at this time is because there are pressing issues with administration, and student government needs to be our voice.

An announce email on Monday from Parliamentarian Kiernan Majerus-Collins read "On Friday, we will be holding a referendum on a proposed amendment to the Bates College Student Government Constitution put forward by Tomás Jurgensen. Voting will take place in Commons from 9:30 A.M. until

5:30 P.M. Anyone who won't be on campus on Friday should write to me and arrange an absentee ballot." This email does nothing to inform voters beyond the logistics of voting.

Philosophical debates about the size of student government aside, why are the RA and executive council bothering to go through this process now? It is clear from the past few weeks that there is widespread uncertainty over the direction of the administration and whether current students are actually being consulted about changes that are occurring. If the student government exists to represent the student body, why have they resorted to infighting when the student body needs them the most?

Last week's vote of no confidence in President Spencer and Dean McIntosh was important, whether you personally agree with it or not. It shows that student government wants to take an active role in ensuring that the administration consults students in decision-making processes. Weakening a body of democratically-elected students through threats to dissolve it does nothing toward ensuring that student voices are heard by the administration, it only further divides them.

If the debate over the size of student government is actually about efficiency instead of internal issues, then simply wait until the end of the year when the current RA finishes its term. That way, students who were democratically elected can finish their time in office and it can be clear who will be taking their place.

Don't further divide student voices on campus, and unless there is a sufficient and transparent justification for shrinking the size of student government immediately, I urge everyone to vote no on Friday.

Op-ed: A letter from President Spencer

Dear Members of the Bates Community,

Some recent events on campus received attention in last week's edition of *The Bates Student*, on social media, and in other settings. I take the concerns of our students and the Bates community very seriously. Accordingly, I thought it might be helpful for me to share some basic facts about these events and to give you a sense of the principles and values that guide my thinking about how to honor what is most important about Bates as we work together to move the institution forward.

Background

On Feb. 23, Dean of Students Josh McIntosh announced a set of organizational changes in the Dean of Students Office, designed to strengthen the support we provide our students across all dimensions of their lives; achieve greater coordination with faculty and staff colleagues across campus; and create more effective systems for meeting the broad set of medical, legal, and regulatory requirements that play an increasing role in student affairs in the modern era.

The plan involves creating greater clarity and definition around positions and responsibilities in the Dean of Students Office and addressing areas in which we need newly defined roles to be effective in the rapidly evolving field of student affairs.

Many on campus have greeted these plans as positive and long overdue. At the same time, some have expressed frustration about the departure of two long-serving staff members and the lack of advance consultation on the planned organizational and personnel changes.

At a meeting on Wednesday, February 25, the Student Government's Representative Assembly made a decision to register their disapproval of Dean McIntosh and me in a vote of no confidence that

carried 19-2. In a subsequent statement, these students acknowledged that the vote "carries no practical weight," but was intended as a "powerful rebuke of the college administration by the student body and their representatives."

I regret that the Student Government felt compelled to take this action, because it suggests a gap between the perceptions of a group of students and what I know to be widely shared aspirations for strengthening the Bates experience, even as we preserve the quality of community that is one of Bates' most defining features.

Principles and Values

Bates is an extraordinary place because of the powerful personal connections that faculty, staff, and students form and maintain with one another — both in and beyond the classroom. At our best, we engage each other with joyfulness and respect, creating an ethos of mutual caring and concern that strengthens every aspect of this community. Our collective dedication to exploring, learning, and being together, and the historic principles that call us to hail our differences as a source of power and effectiveness, combine to make Bates an exceptional place, distinctive among liberal arts colleges.

An important part of what makes Bates distinctive is the principle, embedded in our mission, that no institution remains vital, or even viable, if it stands still. As a "college for coming times," we at Bates have built our community not by hanging on fiercely to the status quo, but by challenging ourselves to engage each other, and the world, with rigor, energy, and confidence. From our founding Bates has been both a powerful community in the here and now and a progressive institution, inviting the future in as a source of strength and vitality.

My responsibility as a leader,

and ours collectively as a college community, is to provide the best possible experience for every Bates student, now and into the future. This work involves building on Bates' considerable strengths and having the clarity and courage to tackle areas that need to be improved.

Even in a community with values as deeply and clearly aligned as are ours, we will not always agree on the specific means by which the institution moves forward. But if we continue to approach each other, and our differences, in the spirit of mutual respect and jointly held principles we will enrich the experience of the current students and lay a strong foundation for the future.

Some Context on Developments in Student Affairs

With these principles in mind, let me share some context on recent events.

First, the changes in the Dean of Students Office were made with care and deliberation, though necessarily without explicit prior public conversation, given that personnel matters were involved. It is our legal obligation and ethical duty to honor the dignity, respect, and privacy of individuals, and these obligations dictate what information may be shared and not shared.

That said, we took care to announce the planned changes in February, several months in advance of their full implementation. No staff departures will take place until after the end of the academic year to ensure that there is no interruption of important relationships or services for current students. Moreover, students will serve as members of the search committees for the new staff positions, meaning that they are participants in the hiring process

See SPENCER, PAGE 3

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SPENCER

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 2

and at the table to help shape the future direction of the Dean of Students Office.

Second, the organizational changes in the Dean of Students Office were based on extensive conversation and consultation with students and other campus constituencies. I personally have been closely involved with students and with student issues since the moment I arrived on campus two and a half years ago. I have had countless conversations with students, parents, faculty, and staff about ways in which we as a college need to improve our structures and effectiveness in a broad range of areas, from academic support, to residential life, to funding for student extracurricular activities, to social options, to norms of behavior around alcohol and sexual interaction, to student health and safety, to questions of campus culture and student leadership.

Views on these issues are predictably wide-ranging. But not a single person has suggested that Bates is perfectly where it needs to be in the area of student life. It is a domain in which external legal and regulatory frameworks have changed dramatically in recent years, and issues with student life and campus climate present significant challenges on every residential college campus. Several heartbreaking tragedies in our own community within the past two years serve to underscore this point.

Under the circumstances, I am thrilled that we were able to attract a student affairs leader of the caliber of Josh McIntosh, who is deeply grounded in best practices, while also being engaged, action-oriented, and personally accessible to students at all hours of the day and night. In his first year here, Josh has spent many hours getting to know students informally, and he has worked with students, faculty, and staff to create a series of venues for structured, campuswide work on issues that have remained too long in the shadows.

Students are front and center in all of these efforts through, for ex-

ample, participation on the Student Government Executive Council, the Student-Athlete Advisory Committee, the Campus Culture Working Group, the Orientation Planning Committee, the expansion of AE-SOP to serve more students, the Board of Trustees' Committee on Campus Life, and the redesign of campus communications with students. Students will also participate as team members on the campuswide institutional planning process that will commence this spring and extend through the next academic year.

The goal of all of this work is to approach questions of student life and campus culture with greater intentionality and effectiveness, so that we have in place structures that more reliably support a successful experience for all of our students.

A Few Closing Thoughts

Recent events confirm what I know to be true — that students care deeply about this college, as do faculty and staff on campus, and alumni of every generation. Students also rightly want and expect to be included in the discussions and decisions that shape their own experience and the way the college moves forward.

On these fundamental points we are in wild agreement, as demonstrated by the many mechanisms described above for student participation in planning and decision making. Unquestionably, we have room to improve our channels of engagement and communication with students, and we are committed to working collaboratively to make progress in these areas.

Meanwhile, in all of this work — even when it gets personally uncomfortable — I am grounded by the fundamental values that define our sense of shared purpose, heartened by the solidarity I feel with the wonderful human beings who make up the Bates community on campus and beyond, and buoyed by the energy and creativity that are driving us forward.

Thank you for taking the time and care to read this letter, and thank you, as always, for the privilege of serving as the president of Bates College. I welcome any thoughts you may have.

With all best wishes,
Clayton Spencer

Remembering Dorothea Dix

AMAR OJHA
ASSISTANT FORUM EDITOR

March 8th was International Women's Day, a day dedicated to recognizing women's economic, political, and social achievements, something often forgotten or ignored in history.

Among the various accounts of women who had incredible impacts in their respective fields, one particular account stood out. In a country where there is still a large stigma against mental illness, one Maine-born individual stood out more than any other to initiate activism for those with mental illnesses.

Born in 1802 in Hampden, Maine, Dorothea Dix revolutionized the perception surrounding those suffering from various psychiatric disorders. From 1840-1841, Dix conducted a thorough investigation in Massachusetts in order to further learn about the way the state dealt with these patients. In a heated report to the state legislature, Dix wrote, "I proceed, Gentlemen, to briefly call your attention to the present state of Insane Persons confined within this Commonwealth, in cages, stalls, pens! Chained, naked, beaten with rods, and lashed into obedience."

Her next investigation brought her to New Jersey, where she proceeded to visit jails and all the counties in the state. After her extensive exploration, she urged the state to construct an appropriate treatment and care center for many of those suffering from various mental disorders. Writing a powerful piece about a renowned state jurist who had begun suffering from a psychiatric disorder in his old age, she was able

to make a case strong enough to get her report introduced to the Senate.

Less than a month later, a committee was formed to further plans to create a facility. A group of politicians opposed the measure, fearing the taxes that would be needed for this facility. Upon learning of this, Dix took further action. She wrote letters and editorials, continuing to lobby for her cause. During the day she met with numerous state legislatures. During the evenings, she would conduct meetings in her house. The act was read for the last time on March 14th, 1845, and the bill was subsequently passed eleven days later for the establishment of a state facility.

Traveling from New Hampshire to Louisiana, Dix continued her investigations, recording thoroughly the conditions in which mentally ill patients were treated. Along the way, Dix was able to open the first mental hospital in Illinois, helped form the first public mental hospital in Pennsylvania, and three hospitals in North Carolina.

After passing both houses of the U.S. Congress, the culmination of her work, the "Bill for the Benefit of the Indigent Insane," was vetoed by President Franklin Pierce, citing that it is the duty of the states to provide for social welfare. Frustrated, Dix left the country to investigate maltreatment overseas in England and Scotland. If that was not enough, she managed to also assist in the rescue of a shipwreck in Nova Scotia.

During the start of the American Civil War, Dix was appointed Superintendent of Army Nurses by the Union Army. Dix's team of nurses was often one of the only in the field to provide care for both wounded Union and Confederate

soldiers. One of Dix's nurses, Julia Susan Wheelock, commented, "Many of these were Rebels. I could not pass them by neglected. Though enemies, they were nevertheless helpless, suffering human beings."

Given the fact that one woman was able to accomplish more than what many bodies of Congress cannot, it remains baffling that Dorothea Dix has not received the praise and recognition she deserved. Raising social consciousness, Dix was able to wake up a nation that was fast asleep, one that mistreated and neglected the thousands across the nation that suffered the most profound mental disorders.

The most appropriate way, however, to celebrate Dix's work would not be to simply teach about her and other incredible female leaders the world has seen, but to continue the important work they have started. In order to create a new wave of empowered generation, it is of the utmost importance to emphasize that the fight is not over. In what is often considered one of the world's most progressive countries, the United States currently has more mentally ill individuals in jails and prisons than they have in hospitals receiving care. Whether it is due to a lack of funding or an inability to understand many of these psychiatric disorders and treat them appropriately, in 2015, this remains a frightening and inexcusable statistic.

In order to continue the legacy of these incredible women it is of the utmost importance that we begin by recognizing them for the work that they have done and continue in their footsteps, redefining the society we live in as advocates of social justice.

Ferguson revisited

DAVID WEINMAN
MANAGING FORUM EDITOR

Last Wednesday, the Justice Department released two highly anticipated reports on Ferguson.

The first focused exclusively on the shooting itself, which sparked months of protest and debate in the community of Ferguson and nationwide. In the report, the Justice Department declared it would not pursue civil rights charges against Officer Darren Wilson. In supporting this course of action, the federal government reinforced an earlier Grand Jury decision not to indict Wilson, arguing the available evidence did not disprove the Officer's account of this deadly encounter.

In October, I wrote an article in *The Bates Student* in which I argued that we have a moral responsibility to allow for all the facts of a specific case to come to light before declaring the guilt of any individual. I also maintained that any rush to judge the officer undermined the right of "presumed innocence and... to argue [one's] defense in the court of law rather than on cable news."

This principle, which has served as the hallmark of our judicial system, stands in stark contrast to the statements of those who were eager to judge the officer before the investigation could release its findings. For example, Al Sharpton confidently declared, "Michael Brown posed no deadly threat to the officer," way before the known evidence could support or contradict this conclusion.

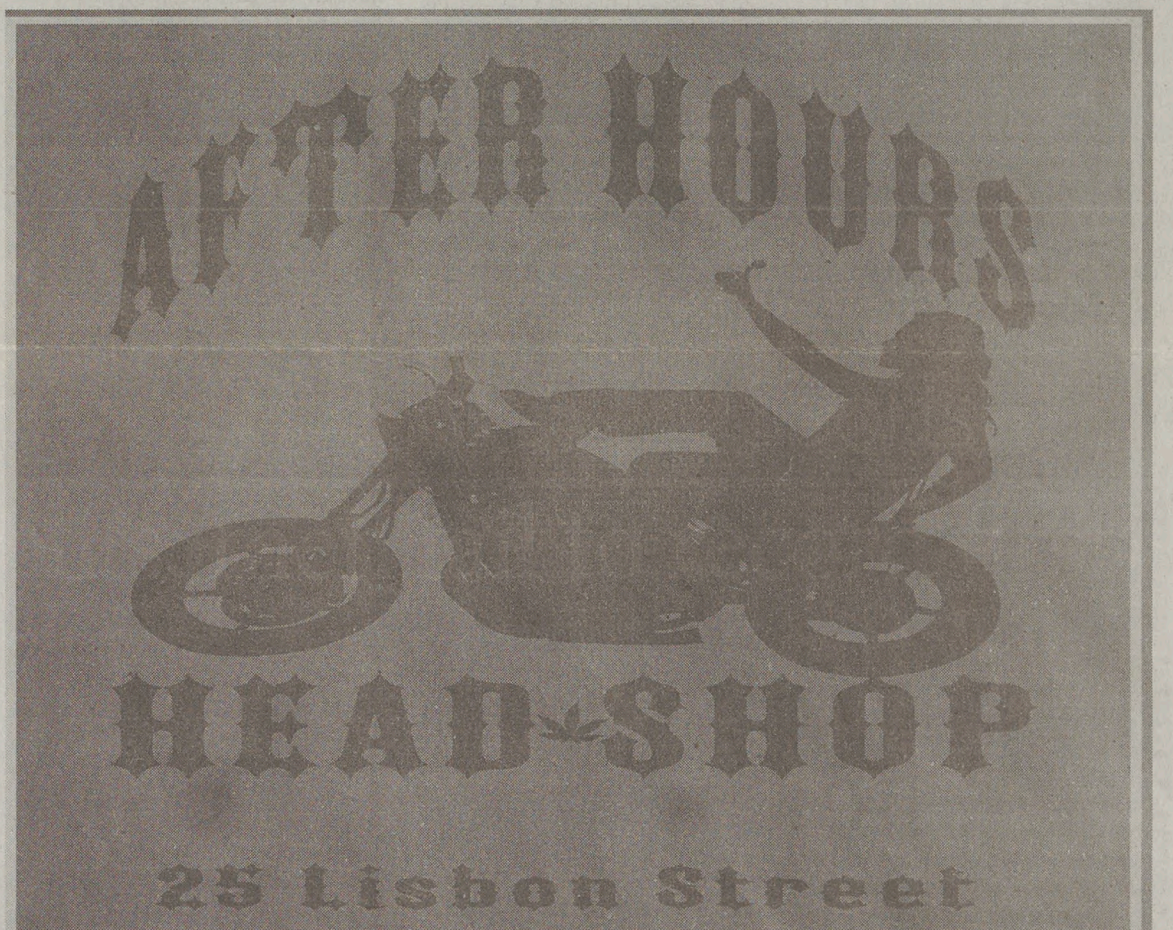
In addition, protests such as the die-in at Bates implicitly declared Wilson's guilt by using the slogan, "Hands up, don't shoot." This phrase emerged from initial, and now arguably debunked, accounts of the shooting which reported that Michael Brown had raised his hands in the air and uttered this state-

ment before being executed in the street by Darren Wilson. The focus on this slogan orients the purpose of the protest on this specific case rather than on a broader structural problem and inherently rejects the account given by Officer Wilson. Given the context, it is impossible to separate the slogan from the facts of this specific case.

Movements such as the die-in protest, so anxious to create a national symbol to support their cause, stake their legitimacy on the guilt of one individual. This is highly unfortunate because the facts surrounding one case are more or less irrelevant compared to broader questions regarding race relations and justice within our society. This strategy deflects focus from the debates we should be having and places too much importance on details which should be exclusively discussed in the courtroom.

In the second report released by the Justice Department, the federal government detailed evidence of systemic malpractices by the Ferguson police department which creates "clear racial disparities that adversely impact African Americans." The findings demonstrate the danger when a police force which is concerned more with extracting revenue from its citizens than protecting them, is mixed with racial prejudice.

This moment offers both sides of the political spectrum something to be incensed about. While conservatives are more likely to focus on the danger of predatory government, liberals will warn about the pervasiveness of racism in our society. The report offers yet another opportunity to openly and honestly examine the sources of racial tension in communities such as Ferguson. To make real progress and prevent Ferguson from becoming just another political wedge issue, let's remain focused on the more pertinent issue this time.



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LePage to tax nonprofits

Effects on municipalities, colleges to be determined

ADAM MAUREY
STAFF WRITER

When the LePage administration announced its 2016-17 biennial budget proposal on January 9th, there were several conditions that perhaps needed closer scrutiny. The most poignant being the proposal by LePage to end revenue sharing in municipalities and replace it with the right of those municipalities to tax nonprofit organizations.

The plan allows the taxation by a municipality of a large nonprofits valued over \$500,000. The portion of the assessed property value over \$500,000 will then be taxed at 50 percent of the host municipality's property tax rate. Lewiston, for example, would benefit by taxing the numerous local hospitals, museums, organizations like Tree Street Youth, and Bates College. The Governor's plan expressly excludes religious institutions.

However, the ability to tax nonprofits rests on ending the practice of revenue sharing, or the distribution of funds by the state to municipalities funded by sales, service provider, as well as personal and corporate income tax receipts. Revenue sharing is currently valued at \$62 million. The governor argues that the money lost by the end of revenue sharing would be made up with

that money which is gained by taxing nonprofits. But would it?

Through a recent survey of 43 Maine cities and towns across the state, the Maine Municipal Association (MMA) argues that the plan could at best generate close to \$35 million. The MMA calculates that nearly 75 percent of Maine's 490 municipalities would benefit from LePage's plan. On the other hand, smaller communities would be faced with that fact that, often, there are too few nonprofits to tax. In response to this claim, Gov. LePage claimed in his State of the State address that the MMA is far more interested in preserving local government structures, while he is instead interested in revamping those structures much in the same way that he is interested in flipping the state's tax system on its head. Many of those small communities do not have the nonprofits to tax; the solution to this problem is still being addressed by the LePage administration.

Nonprofits, which have historically been exempted from certain taxes, exist to provide services not provided by the state, and in many ways pick up state slack by creating more tailored approaches to local issues. Nonprofits, argues LePage, rely on local services and personnel to facilitate their activities, and therefore unfairly drive up property

taxes for the local citizenry, and should therefore be forced to pay that money back to their respective municipalities.

Cultural organizations like the Maine Historical Society, located in Portland, provide goods to the people of Maine that the government does not. Valued at \$5 million, the MHS has calculated their tentative taxes under the LePage proposal to cost at least one job, in addition to a limit placed on their operating budget which would effectively lead to the closure of part of the Society's three-acre campus.

The Pejepscot Historical Society, which owns three historical sites in Brunswick, is currently valued at \$700,000, just enough over the \$500,000 limit to cause the possible closure of at least one of those historical locations.

In a recent interview with MPBN, Penobscot Historical Society's director, Jennifer Blanchard, commented on the possible closure. "I don't know if we would be able to keep all properties going. That would be something that would be very much a question," she said.

Maine is also home to nearly one-third of the NESCAC. Bates, Bowdoin, and Colby, all well worth over \$500,000, would be prime targets for this new tax plan. Edward Barrett, the

City Administrator for Lewiston, said in an interview with the *Wall Street Journal* that he would see a boost in his budget if Bates and local hospitals went on the tax rolls, and "this will certainly be a controversial issue here in Maine." Auburn's Mayor, Jonathan LaBonte, is the director of Maine's Office of Policy and Management under LePage. Advocates for the plan can be found on both sides of the Androscoggin.

With increased taxes for Bates, the Governor's measure could wreak havoc on Bates; tuition hikes, less financial aid, even fewer tenured professors, fewer jobs, less campus maintenance (more windows on Frye Street will leak), as well as fewer local services being employed in the maintenance of the College. Bates' new Treasurer and Vice President for Finance and Administration, Geoffrey Swift, stated, "Institutions of higher education face tough choices and tradeoffs when planning and budgeting, and Bates is no exception. Any significant new costs or expenses will make those decisions that much more difficult, so we are watching Governor LePage's proposal closely."

The hopes of Governor LePage, now in his second term, could significantly change the face of Bates and Maine, to the point of unfamiliarity.

as an American student. There's also the literary part... literature is one venue for you to reshape, or re-envision, the way you see people, the world, issues, interactions."

Why Bates?

"The question should be why have you chosen to stay at Bates? What I like is especially all of the work I've been able to do with the Harvard Center with Franco-Americans in Lewiston, with communities in Rwanda when I did Short Terms over there...there is still an ongoing association with Bates and a generation of orphans who survived a genocide of '94. The socially engaged aspect is something that keeps me here and makes me happy to be here.

Is there anything else you would like to add?

"I was fortunate to have great students. I have a lot of pleasure to be pushed with the students I have because the pleasure is to be shared in the classroom. I am fortunate each year with a good number of students who have a pleasure to work and we all roll up [our] sleeves and dive into different topics."

Professor Dauge-Roth will give a lecture on Wednesday, March 18 entitled "The Transformative Power of Literary and Testimonial Encounters" in Pettengill Hall, Room G52 (Keck Classroom) to accept the Kroepsch Award.

Proposed new student government constitution

We, the students of Bates College, for the purpose of the betterment of life at the College, hereby establish this Constitution for the Bates College Student Government.

Article I:

Section 1: All legislative powers granted herein shall be vested in a Student Senate, hereafter referred to as the Senate.

Section 2: The Senate shall have the autonomous power to govern itself, and to investigate misconduct, hold relevant hearings, and to expel a member of the Senate with the concurrence of three quarters of present members.

Section 3: The Senate shall assume the following:

1.The right to determine the rules of its own proceedings.

1.The responsibility to confirm Executive Cabinet and Parliamentary Council appointments.

1.The ultimate authority to allocate funds.

2.The ultimate authority to establish and oversee student clubs.

3.The responsibility to adhere to all current laws and rules of student government.

4.All powers necessary and proper for carrying out these duties and responsibilities, including, but not limited to, passing legislation.

Section 4: The Senate shall solely consist of Class Senators and Campus Senators.

1.Class Senators shall be chosen annually by the first years and the juniors, with two Senators representing each class. Class Senators shall serve a two-year term beginning the first of October following their election. No person shall be a Class Senator who is not an enrolled student at Bates College, and who is not a member of the class being represented. Elections for the positions of Class Senator shall be conducted by the Parliamentary Council in September of every year. Should any Class Senator's seat be vacated, the Student Body Vice-President, hereafter referred to as the Vice-President, shall fill such vacancies by appointment, and these appointments shall be ratified by a simple majority vote in the Senate.

2.Campus Senators shall be chosen annually by the entire student body, with twelve Senators elected in total. Campus Senators shall serve a one-year term beginning the first of October following their election. No person shall be a Campus Senator who is not an enrolled student at Bates College. Elections for the office of Campus Senator shall be conducted by the Parliamentary Council in September of every year. Should any Campus Senator's seat be vacated, the Vice-President shall fill such vacancies by appointment, and these appointments shall be ratified by a simple majority vote in the Senate.

Section 5: Every Senator shall have equal voting power equivalent to one vote.

Section 6: The Senate shall assemble at least sixteen times in every academic calendar year, and such meetings shall be called by the Vice-President.

Section 7: Every Senator has the right to propose legislation to the Sen-

ate.

Section 8: Quorum for Senate meetings shall be a simple majority of the current seated Senate.

Section 9: Every bill which shall have passed the Senate shall, before it becomes an act and takes effect, be presented to the Student Body President, hereafter referred to as the President. The President may either sign and ratify the bill, or veto the bill and return it to the Senate.

Section 10: A Secretary of the Senate, appointed by the Vice-President, will assume the following:

1.The responsibility to record minutes of all Senate meetings, and to make these minutes available to the public.

2.The responsibility to take attendance at the start of all Senate meetings.

3.The responsibility to maintain and update the government roster.

Article II:

Chapter 1:

Section 1: The Executive Cabinet shall consist of the President, the Vice-President, and any appointed Executive Cabinet Ministers.

Section 2: The Executive Cabinet shall assume the following:

1.The right to write a budget for the Student Government, pending approval by the Senate.

2.The responsibility to lead the student body.

Section 3: The Executive Cabinet shall convene by order of the President at least 16 times in the academic calendar year.

Section 4: Should the President leave office due to either resignation, graduation, or impeachment and conviction, the Vice-President shall assume the office of President, and shall appoint a successor to serve as Vice-President.

Chapter 2:

Section 1: The Student Body President shall be the chief advocate for the College's student body and its government.

Section 2: Executive power shall be vested in the President, the chair of the Executive Cabinet. The President shall assume the following:

1.The authority to both negotiate and speak on behalf of the student body with the College's administration.

2.The authority to enforce Senate legislation.

3.The authority to veto Senate legislation.

1.The chair of the Executive Cabinet.

2.The authority to appoint Parliamentarians to the Parliamentary Council, and to appoint and dismiss Cabinet Ministers.

1.The authority to create and disband all public committees as well as appoint and dismiss their members..

Section 3: The President shall serve from the first Sunday after election through the Sunday after the election of his or her successor.

Chapter 3:

Section 1: The Student Body Vice-President shall be the advocate for and Chair of the Senate.

Section 2: The Vice-President shall assume the following:

1.The right to propose legislation to

the Senate.

2.The obligation to run Senate meetings, enforce orderly conduct, and all other responsibilities of a Senate chair.

3.The authority to form, oversee, and dissolve Senate committees.

4.The authority to appoint and remove Senators to and from Senate committees.

5.The voting power equivalent to one vote in the event of a tied Senate vote

Section 3: The Vice-President shall serve from the first Sunday after election through the Sunday after the election of his or her successor.

Chapter 4:

Section 1: The Executive Cabinet shall consist of no more than 5 members, appointed by the President as counsel.

Section 2: An Executive Cabinet member may be nominated by the President from the entire present student body, and must be confirmed by a simple majority vote in the Senate.

Section 3: An Executive Cabinet member holds his or her seat from the time of confirmation until either resignation, dismissal, or change of administration.

Chapter 5:

Section 1: Elections for Student Body President and Vice President shall be held in January of every year, on a date specified by the Chief Parliamentarian. The election shall be conducted by the Parliamentary Council

Section 2: No person shall be a candidate for President or Vice-President who is not an enrolled student at the College.

Section 3: The President and the Vice-President shall run for election together on one ticket.

Chapter 6:

Section 1: The Student Senate may bring articles of impeachment against any officer of the student government, and, after a trial presided over by the Chief Parliamentarian, or a Senator chosen by the Senate in a simple majority vote, in the event the Chief Parliamentarian is on trial, may convict and remove any officer of the student government by the concurrence of four-fifths of the members present.

Article III:

Section 1: The judicial power of the student government shall be vested in the Parliamentary Council.

Section 2: The Parliamentary Council shall be comprised of one Chief Parliamentarian and four Associate Parliamentarians.

Section 3: No person shall serve on the Parliamentary Council who is not an enrolled student of the College.

Section 4: A Parliamentarian, having assumed their office, shall only leave it through resignation, impeachment and conviction, or graduation.

Section 5: No person currently serving on the Parliamentary Council shall be eligible to stand for any election officiated by the Parliamentary Council.

Section 6: The Parliamentary Council shall be the ultimate authority on this Constitution, and shall settle all disagreements regarding the Constitu-

tion. The Chief Parliamentarian shall be required to attend Senate meetings so as to provide legislative parliamentary rulings, but if any decision of his shall be disputed, the case shall be settled by the entire Council.

Section 7: The Parliamentary Council shall convene no fewer than six times in an academic calendar year, to review cases that may be before them, to regulate and conduct elections, and to attend to such business as the Chief Parliamentarian may deem necessary.

Article IV:

Section 1: Any amendment to this Constitution may not be submitted for a vote in the same meeting as its initial proposal.

Section 2: An amendment to this Constitution may originate from either the student body or from any Senator.

1.An amendment proposed by a Senator shall be presented at a Senate meeting. The amendment requires a three-fourths majority of the Senate to pass.

2.Any student may propose an amendment, which shall be proposed by sending the text of the amendment to the Chief Parliamentarian. Upon receiving the proposal of such an amendment, the Chief Parliamentarian shall set a date for a college-wide referendum on the proposed amendment. This referendum shall be carried out by the Parliamentary Council in a manner consistent with its guidelines. This referendum can only transpire during the fall and winter semesters, and must occur no less than five days after and no more than twenty days before the date of the amendment's proposal, defined as days on which classes are held. The Parliamentary Council shall then hold a student body-wide vote on the proposed amendment. A three-quarters majority of all votes cast, and a turnout minimum of 300 students, shall be required to pass the proposed amendment. Any amendment successfully passed via referendum shall take effect immediately.

The Rules of Transition:

Preface: The following rules shall be used to transition Bates College Student Government from one governmental framework to another. These rules shall be null and void on October 1, 2015, although persons assuming office under their provisions shall stay there in a manner consistent with the new Constitution.

Section 1: The Student Body President, Berto Diaz, shall remain Student Body President until the regularly scheduled election in January of 2016. Additionally, he shall immediately receive all the Presidential powers enumerated in this Constitution.

Section 2: The current Parliamentarian shall become the new Chief Parliamentarian, unless he shall reject the office in which case he shall select a new Chief Parliamentarian from the present members of the Elections and Judiciary Committee. The Associate Parliamentarians shall be selected by the Chief Parliamentarian.

Section 3: The Vice-President shall be selected via special election open to the Chair of the RA, the Vice-President of Student Committees, and the Vice-

President of Student Clubs. This election will be conducted by the Parliamentary Council.

Section 4: The Senate shall be seated for the remainder of the academic school year in the following manner:

1.The new Vice-President shall choose two current Class of 2015 Representatives to serve as Class of 2015 Senators for the remainder of the academic school year.

2.The new Vice-President shall choose two current students in the Class of 2016 to serve as Class of 2016 Senators until the end of the 2015-2016 academic school year.

3.The new Vice-President shall choose two current students in the Class of 2017 to serve as Class of 2017 Senators until the election of their successors in September 2015.

4.The new Vice-President shall choose two current students in the Class of 2018 to serve as Class of 2018 Senators until the election of their successors in September 2016.

5.The President and Vice-President, with input from the President's Executive Cabinet, shall choose twelve current students to serve as Campus Senators until the election of their successors in September 2015.

Section 5: The Budget Committee shall become a public committee. Henry Finkelstein shall be its chair. It shall have seven members. They shall be selected by the President with input from the Chair. All current members on the Budget Committee shall keep their seats until at least the end of the 2014-2015 academic year, and they shall again return in the fall.

Section 6: The Organization Review Board shall become the Senate Student Organization Committee. If Sarah Stanley is a Senator, she shall be its chair. It shall have seven members, including the chair. The Vice-President shall select three Senators in addition to the chair to serve on the Senate Student Organization Committee. Additionally, the Vice-President, in consultation with the chair, shall select three non-Senators to serve on the Committee.

Section 7: The previous Bylaws governing the Bates College Student Government shall be considered null and void. Any necessary rulings shall be made by the Parliamentary Council in the interim period during which there will be no Bylaws. Senate meeting procedure shall be determined by the Vice-President. A new set of Bylaws shall be authored by the end of the 2014-2015 academic year by the President, Vice-President, and Chief Parliamentarian. The proposed Bylaws shall be approved by a majority vote in the Senate.

Section 8: As the new government's first order of business, the Bates College Student Government will provide \$3,000.00 to Gregory P. Vincent as a token of appreciation for all of his work on behalf of the student body.

The Castle of Perseverance reinvents morality theater

AMANDA SAN ROMAN
STAFF WRITER

Last weekend, *The Castle of Perseverance*, the theatrical brainchild of senior Max Pendergast, came to life in Schaeffer Theater.

Pendergast, a Theater major who directed the play for her senior thesis, adapted the 15th century work by an anonymous playwright, originally four hours in length and written in Middle English, into a script that yielded a thrilling hour-and-a-half morality play. Morality plays “were a form of medieval theater that used archetypes and grandiose metaphors to teach their audience about Christian morality,” according to Pendergast’s director’s note. It is an unexpected type of play to choose for a senior thesis production, but nevertheless the content, along with the aesthetic presentation, produced a unique theatrical experience that left the audience in awe.

The Castle of Perseverance follows the main character Mankind (played by first-year Nate Stephenson) on his journey from birth to death. Along the way he runs into a good angel and a bad angel, craftily embodied by two puppets through the handling of sophomore Eva Goldstein. With the good and bad angels following him throughout the play, Mankind runs into all types of archetypes good and bad: World/Folly/Lust-Liking (senior Hanna Allerton), Backbiter (senior John Goodman), Greediness (junior Colin McIntire), Flesh (sophomore Brennen Malone), Belial (sopho-



Hanna Allerton as the World in a costume designed by Carol Farrell
JOHNATHAN NEUFELD/THE BATES STUDENT

more Mike Stone), Pride/Wrath/Envy (first-year Keila Ching), Gluttony/Sloth/Lechery (junior Ben Wilentz), Shrift (first-year James Erwin) The Seven Virtues (sophomore Azure Reid-Russell), The Four Daughters (sophomore Julia Mason) and God (senior Gunnar Manchester). Each actor was dressed in impressive costume designed by Carol Farrell. Some actors used puppets designed by John Farrell and Antje Hohmuth.

The actors helped to shape the show itself. Pendergast adapted the show primarily, but she noted, “A huge amount of cuts were found in the rehearsal process as the actors found strength in some lines and excess in others.” The actors put so much life and detail into their char-

acters. McIntire’s gold nail polish, Malone’s faux-weight in his cheeks, Stephenson’s steady eye-contact with the audience, Goldstein’s and Reid-Russell’s differing voices between characters, and so many other impressive qualities were highlights in an already visually stunning show.

Next to the impressive adaptation and skillful portrayal of characters, the aesthetic appeal of this production went above and beyond expectations. Performed in the round (with audience members in a circle around the action) on the Schaeffer stage, the audience was able to feel fully immersed in the experience. Locking eyes with Mankind as he struggles between right and wrong adds to the depth of the show as the audience joins the ad-



Eva Goldstein handles the good and bad angel puppets
JOHNATHAN NEUFELD/THE BATES STUDENT

venture with him. Getting sized-up by the puppet Envy makes an audience member feel uncomfortable. Or perhaps an audience member sat so close to Flesh that they could actually feel the spit as this huge physical character comes to life in the seat next to them.

Especially adding to the immersion was the intimacy in which the play was situated. All the audience’s seats were on stage, while the seats filling the rest of Schaeffer Theater were left empty, contributing to the worldly view the show takes on. As God’s voice booms out, the lights from the sound booth above the seats shone into the audience with such shock that one couldn’t help but feel small. As the beautiful crown of the Seven Virtues masks

came down from a fly above center stage, it felt as though heaven was descending.

Through Pendergast’s direction and attention to detail, this show was sure to be incredible. It went above and beyond expectations with an amazing script, a killer cast, and a dazzling audio-visual experience. Although perhaps an out of the ordinary choice for a thesis production, the show was ultimately inspiring and thought-provoking.

Above all else, Pendergast hopes that “the audience sees themselves in Mankind – that they see how much choice they have in life and become conscious of the world around them.”

Edges: A not-so-typical musical that addresses real-life dilemmas

RILEY HOPKINS
ASSISTANT ARTS EDITOR

It’s no *Mamma Mia* or *Phantom of the Opera*, but the student-directed musical *Edges*, premiering on March 13th, is sure to rise up to the same expectations.

After the success of the musical last winter, *The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee*, the Robinson Players asked sophomore Colby Harrison to direct this year’s production.

“I fell in love with it the moment I listened to the music,” said Harrison. “I knew I couldn’t do this alone, so I wanted a partner-in-crime and I went to Katie Van Patten. She agreed and we decided to go in this together as a team.”

What makes this production so unique is the idea that there is no specific plot to follow; it’s technically a song cycle. While the songs don’t directly relate to one another through narrative, the show is still comprised of musical numbers that tell a story. *Edges* attempts to break down the walls between the self and society, as it is these walls that prevent us from expressing our true personalities and embracing the world around us. The show reveals the barriers that we think protect us but ultimately shut us out of the space around us.

Accordingly, the music and general theme of the show revolve around questions about one’s personal being and identification, such as, “Who am I and who do I want to

become? Am I good enough? Why can’t I just connect with someone? Will I find love?”

First-year Sarah Curtis plays an overly independent character who, throughout the play, transitions to become open and vulnerable to the outside world. She said, “I think that *Edges* was a really fantastic choice, because it not only showcases the voices of everyone in the cast but also addresses common themes throughout each song that people can really relate to. In the grand scheme of things, the show is really genuine and universal.”

Even the audition process foreshadowed how connected the show would be to the ideas of collegiate atmosphere and personal development. Curtis had to prepare a song for the directors and stage manager as well as recite a monologue. Perhaps the most interesting part of the process that had a lot to do with the overall theme of the show was the “additional talents” portion of the audition, where Curtis ended up freestyle rapping to an instrumental version of “Ms. Jackson” by Outkast.

The songs in this production were written when the authors were sophomores in college, the exact age of Harrison and Van Patten currently, emphasizing the fact that everyone here can relate to them in one way or another. The songs encompass many issues that we deal with on a daily basis, “emphasizing the importance of communication and vulnerability when becoming

an adult,” claimed Harrison.

He said, “All of the actors in the show sing songs about love, break-ups, divorce, family, careers, as well as many other subjects around this central question. We still want to make these characters come alive by giving them some sort of story. While we believe that the emotion of the characters is most important to express to the audience we have also made relationships and small story arcs between the songs and characters.”

The cast of students who bring these characters to life have been working tirelessly with Harrison and Van Patten for weeks to perfectly convey the messages *Edges* embraces.

“I could not have asked for a more perfect cast,” exclaimed Harrison. “Theater is all about collaboration, and this cast was the epitome of it. All of them are talented singers, musicians, and actors. They were so patient when Katie and I were behind schedule or a little flustered from dealing with important director duties. These are powerful songs accompanied by powerful actors.”

The audience can expect to be not only wowed by the talent of the performers like Curtis, but also to be faced with resonating contemplations about who we are as the human race as well as individually.

Curtis added, “The audience can expect to see some great performers sing songs from comedic to serious, all of which are moving.”

F.A.B. celebrates 10th anniversary

HALLEY POSNER
ASSISTANT ARTS EDITOR

People say that dancing is the closest humans can come to flying. After watching the tenth annual F.A.B. (Franco-American/Bates) performance at the Franco Center for the Heritage and the Performing Arts in Lewiston, I can confidently say that being a dancer takes someone above and beyond. These talented people use their bodies to accomplish mind-bending feats that leave an audience in wonder.

The F.A.B. performance is a unique conglomeration of dancers. This wonderful event is managed by the director of the dance program at Bates, Carol Dilley. Dilley danced professionally for thirty years before coming to be the director of the Bates Dance program in 2003.

Dilley said, “F.A.B. began as an initiative to create an annual dance showcase of professional dance work to bring quality dance to downtown Lewiston.” However, Dilley noted that this event quickly snowballed further than anyone expected. Now, in its tenth year, the event draws college students, professional choreographers from all around New England, local youth, and more.

The logistics of pulling off an affair of this magnitude takes coordination, organization, and a lot of devotion. For the first couple of years, Dilley had to constantly reach out to potential performers in order to get slots filled for the show.

Now, Dilley says, “artists are calling me before I even turn my attention to the event.”

As time went on, and the event was well received by the Lewiston community and beyond, potential dancers came flooding in. Furthermore, for this tenth anniversary show, Dilley remarks that she “ended up with seventeen pieces instead of the usual ten to twelve.” This is a very high compliment to this initiative.

This year, seventeen individual groups performed at F.A.B. Many of these companies are new to this event, but some are returning for a second or even third time. This is an accomplishment that dance groups would return to share their talent

year after year.

Vignettes included solo performances, duets, and bigger group numbers. The ages and talent of the dancers varied to collectively form an eclectic array. Filled with Bates students, students at the local dance school in Lewiston, and professional dancers, the audience was continuously bombarded with dazzling dancing.

Courtney Sinclair ‘18 said, “It was great to see so many genres of dance performed in one space.” Dancers continuously pushed the metaphorical envelope with their awe-inspiring routines. One soloist employed spoken word in her performance, which gave the excerpt that explored ideas behind metaphorical paralysis a new sphere of understanding.

The Franco Center itself is a beautiful church that has been repurposed into a performing arts center. The sloped floor of the audience gave the theatre a stadium-like feel. Arches bordered the stage and the audience to lend height to the room. Those same arches, when combined with lighting and dancers, threw exquisite shadows onto the walls.

It goes without saying that choreography is by far one of the most vital parts of a performance, because, really, without it there would be nothing to watch. The variety of style presented was dizzying; there was a style of dance at this gathering for every type of viewer. The choices the choreographers made presented a range; some chose not to have music in their numbers, while others chose to have props to help display a dream sequence. It is clear that these choreographers held their dancers to a high standard and that it all paid off in the end.

First-year Sam Reiss also said, “Seeing the Franco Center filled with people from all over Maine coming to watch dance was just amazing.”

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6 Arts & Leisure

Enjoyably overacted: *Into the Woods* filmboard preview

MATTHEW WINTER
STAFF WRITER

Let's be honest, when you finish the week, finally hand in those papers and complete those exams, you just want to relax and have fun. And it's good to watch mentally stimulating movies like *Selma* every once in a while, but sometimes you deserve a weird, brainless movie like *Into the Woods*, which is conveniently the Filmboard movie this weekend.

On paper, *Into the Woods* sounds like it should be a mess. First of all, it is a fairy tale/romantic comedy/drama/musical that is not satisfied with only having one fairy tale involved. There is Cinderella and her step-family, Little Red Riding Hood and the Wolf, Rapunzel and the Witch, Jack and the Beanstalk, and not one but two princes. Somehow, though, all the pieces fit together to make a fun movie filled with mostly unintentional funny moments.

Now, if having all your favorite fairy tales combined into one movie that is also a musical is not enough to make you want to see *Into the Woods*, then simply look at the cast and try not to faint. First off, there's Anna Kendrick, who always kills it with the music, playing Cinderella. Emily Blunt and future late-night

host James Corden bring their comedy A-game as the very funny Baker's Wife and Baker.

Thankfully, the producers realized that Johnny Depp's acting performance is directly proportional to the level of weirdness that his role requires. Accordingly, Johnny Depp is great (and creepy) as the Wolf. Chris Pine plays Cinderella's Prince Charming (of course he does, he is very charming) and Billy Magnussen plays Rapunzel's Prince Charming (once again, no surprise there). Finally, there's Meryl Streep basically being Meryl Streep. Honestly, I would pay to see Meryl Streep try to print in Ladd for an hour over a lot of movies, but seeing her as the Witch is just as good. Streep is the best part of the movie, and she justly earned a Best Supporting Actress nomination at the Oscars.

Furthermore, the movie itself is beautifully shot with an appealing use of animation to create the fantasy world. Everything from the titular woods to the costumes is meticulously thought out and executed. Of course, what puts *Into the Woods* onto a higher level of weirdness is the music. The music is not necessarily bad, but it's just nothing special. The songs all sound as if they were being performed on Broadway, which makes sense given



Meryl Streep portraying the character of the Witch in *Into the Woods*.
TAYLOR BLACKBURN/THE BATES STUDENT

that the movie is based on a Broadway musical.

Luckily, Anna Kendrick nails all of her songs, which somewhat makes up for the very average singing of the rest of the cast. Yet, even though the music by itself might not be anything special, the performances in the movie are very

memorable. The highlight is by far the performance of "Agony" by the two princes. It is unclear if the director wanted this scene to be funny, but there is something about seeing two princes sing about how their respective princesses won't love them back while they dance around in a river and rip open their shirts that

makes me laugh out loud every time. Furthermore, Chris Pine and Billy Magnussen both overact to the point where the scene is so ridiculous that it's impossible not to laugh.

But then again, this movie is filled with overacting, which is what makes it so weird, but also so fun.

The Poets and the Assassin highlights women activists in the Middle East

BRETT RANIERI
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

In an evocative one-night-only performance, the Theater Department offered an impressive interpretation of Reza Jalali's play, *The Poets and the Assassin*. Theater faculty member Katalin Vecsey directed five students in five monologues that unveil the strengths and struggles of Iranian women striving to discover their identities amidst the sometimes hypocritical and oppressive expectations of their deeply conservative society.

In his introduction to the play, Jalali writes, "Although women in Iran have historically been in the forefront of the national struggle for liberation, democracy, and human rights, and are among the most educated and progressive women in the Middle East, their stories of courage, resistance, and survival—as well as the strength and character of the century-old women's movement in Iran—are unknown to most in the West."

Why do these stories remain so untold? Often, there can be a dangerous line that performers dance over when they consider sharing stories that are tied so strongly to certain cultures, and there is always a fear that foreign audiences will not be as receptive to the intended take-away message. In the case of many southern African dances, such as the Mandiani and the Zulu Warrior Dance, they are so familiar to the people of southern Africa and are deeply rooted in their cultures' history that it is rare to find these dances shared outside of those who can truly identify with the political and emotional undertones. However, Jalali asserts in his introduction to the piece that his intent for *The Poets and the Assassin* is to "[unveil] the complex and contradictory plight of Iranian women caught in the battle between traditionalism and modernity, while challenging our assumptions about women in Iran and Islam." His show was written to be shared with the uninformed, and for that, I applaud Bates, Kati, and the five women of the cast for tackling such an important endeavor.

As an avid member of the audience in many of Bates' theater, dance, and music performances, I found myself not only intrigued by the narrative of the show, but also by the individuals who came to see it. Amidst the overwhelmingly non-Bates student audience, I couldn't help but wonder what attracted this specific group of people to attend the show. The monologues addressed highly contradictory beliefs surrounding women in Iranian culture, a perfect venue for Bates students to engage in the critical and controversial thinking we so often enjoy; yet these discussions can't

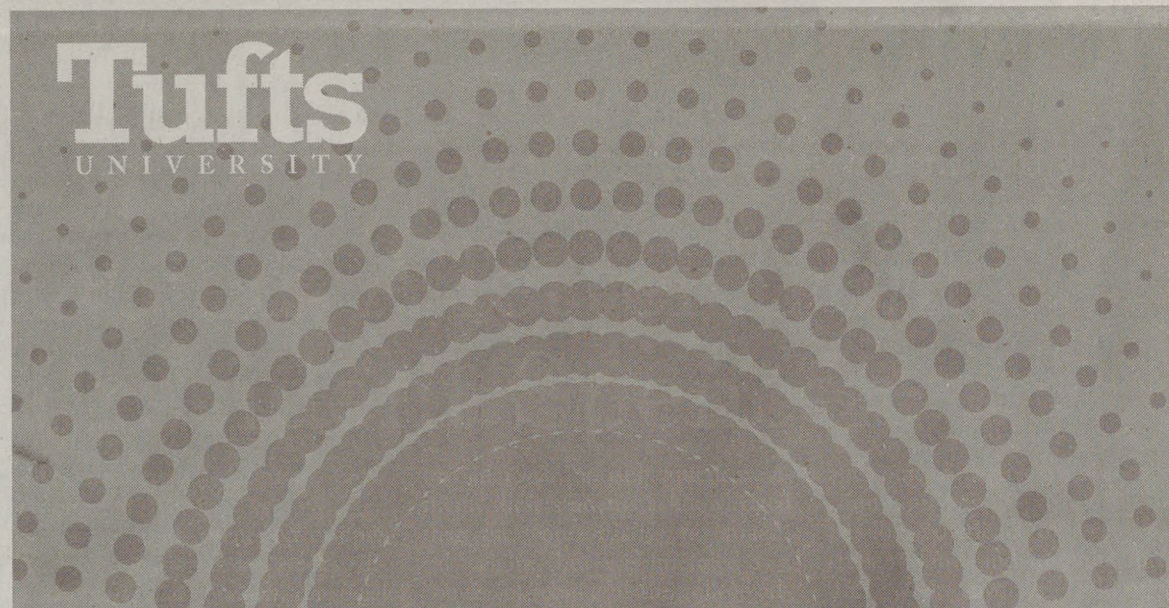
occur if too few students are present for the stories that inspire them. I am torn between feeling disappointed that so little of the Bates student community was able to hear such an important, eye-opening story and impressed that such an eclectic group of the non-student community dedicated their time to the hear truthful tales of the women portrayed.

On the importance of sharing this play with all communities, senior Shana Wallace comments, "Stories are the building blocks of community. Using stories to retell and reconstruct identities and systems of power is something that can be applied to any community, really. My character serves as a beacon of what it means to do just that—and it is easy (and inspiring) to note the many people in each community who serve similar roles." With her words in mind, I believe that another on-campus performance would have given the show an opportunity to gain the fuller recognition that it deserved. (The cast will perform the show again in Portland on Thursday and in Augusta later this month.)

Audience aside, it would not be fair to the six incredible women, who made this show possible, if I did not comment on their contributions to the performance. Vecsey as a director has repeatedly proven to create a unique space on the stage and continues to draw-out such honest performances from her cast, and her direction of *The Poets and the Assassin* proved no differently. Wallace further praises Vecsey for her "equal parts intensity and intentionality. [Kati] unfailingly cares for her actors and I have never felt such support from a director."

Even more so, I was particularly impressed by the ability of the performers to weave aspects of humor into the serious nature of their monologues; Wallace as the fabled Scheherazade and junior Rebecca Bassell as 'That Veil Thing' portrayed some of my favorite moments during the show, capturing an essence of light-heartedness and intensity, vulnerability and strength, and incredible growth over the course of their monologues.

With regards to the importance of the discussions addressed by the character women, Wallace said, "I hope that the play will bring to light certain systems of oppression against women—both in Iran and elsewhere—that have been perpetuated for an incomprehensible amount of time. *Poets* teaches about women's rights in a frank, unforgiving way, but with beauty and grace. I hope that the people who attend leave with new knowledge about these systems and the ways in which they include certain people and exclude others in painful, personal ways."



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Bates women's lax splits, men fail to record first NESCAC win

The Bobcat women were impressive in their 12-6 road win against Wesleyan



Goalie Hannah Jeffrey '16 saved 11 shots in Bates' victory over Wesleyan. PHYLIS GRABER JENSEN/BATES COLLEGE



Sophomore Kyle Weber has five goals this season. PHYLIS GRABER JENSEN/BATES COLLEGE

WILL CLEAVES CONTRIBUTING WRITER

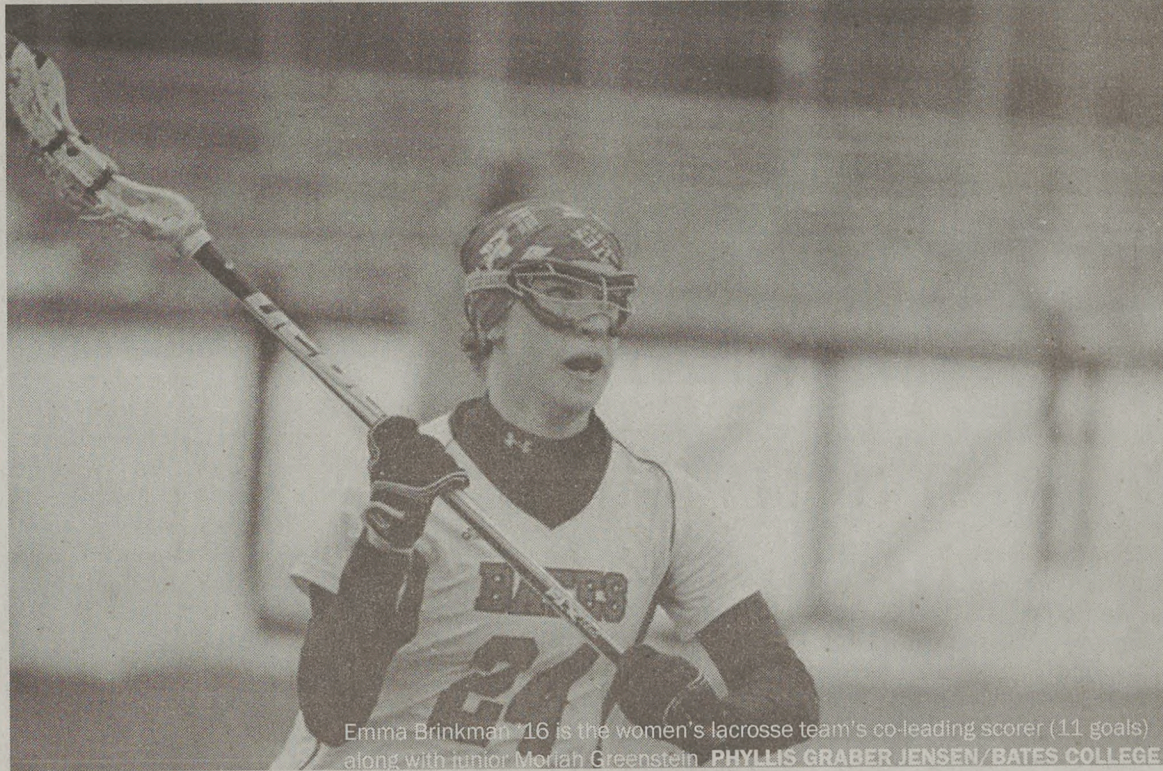
The women's lacrosse team grabbed a NESCAC victory and then lost a close one on their weekend trip, competing on both Saturday and Sunday. After falling short last weekend at Amherst, Bates got back on track with its first conference win this season.

The Bobcats downed the Wesleyan Cardinals at their home nest in Middletown, pulling out a 12-6 road victory. A hot start by the visitors set the tone for the afternoon, as Bates scored five unanswered goals in the first 14 minutes of play. Junior attackers Emma Brinkman and Moriah Greenstein combined for five goals, with Brinkman scoring just 39 seconds into the contest. Cruising to a 7-2 halftime lead, the 'Cats never looked back. The Cardinals remained relevant but couldn't get within four goals, as the Bates ultimately won the second half as well, by a 5-4 margin. Junior Hannah Jeffrey remained strong in goal, finishing with 11 saves. Draw controls proved integral, as Bates won the battle with 14 to Wesleyan's five.

Coming off their first NES-

CAC victory, Bates was set to face off against Stevens College in Hoboken, NJ. In a game that included five lead changes and six ties, Bates came up short, losing 11-8 to the Ducks. Brinkman remained hot, notching three goals and keeping the 'Cats in the game. Bates continued to hang around, trailing 5-4 at halftime, and taking the lead 8-7 on a Greenstein goal shortly after the break. But the visitors failed to cash in after the junior's effort, and Stevens scored four goals over the final 19:20 en route to their victory. Stevens won the draws 14-7, also gaining a 20-9 edge in groundballs. The Bates women come out of the weekend sitting at 3-2 and 1-1 in the NESCAC. The team will be playing their first in-conference home game next weekend against Trinity on Saturday, where they'll look to grab another victory.

While women's lacrosse experienced some success this past weekend, the Bates men couldn't pick up their first NESCAC win, losing their second in-conference game in two tries. Bates couldn't quite hang in against Wesleyan despite pulling within two goals with under five minutes left, as the Cardinals kept the 'Cats at bay and won 10-7. Junior

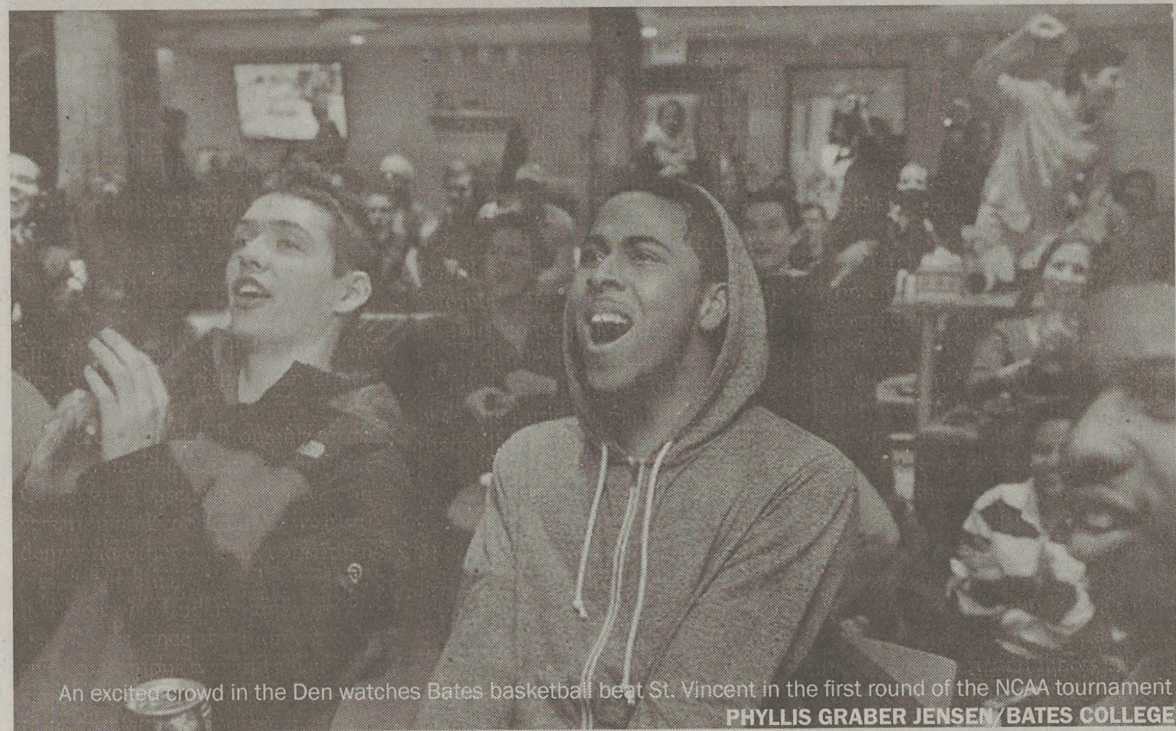


Emma Brinkman '16 is the women's lacrosse team's co-leading scorer (11 goals) along with junior Moriah Greenstein. PHYLIS GRABER JENSEN/BATES COLLEGE

attacker Charlie Hildebrand got the party started with a tricky shot off a rebound to put Bates up 1-0. However, a furious Wesleyan attack led by senior Matt Prezioso (five goals) and freshman Harry Stanton (two goals) paced the visi-

tors, not allowing Bates to reclaim the lead. Joe Faria was under fire for most of the game once again, as Wesleyan shot 32 times, and the junior goalie recorded ten saves. Despite winning the ground ball battle 33-28 and outshooting the Cards

39-32, Bates couldn't put all the pieces together. The 'Cats will look to get back on track on Wednesday at home against Roger Williams at 4:30 P.M. If they can't turn things around soon, the team could be staring down another long season.



An excited crowd in the Den watches Bates basketball beat St. Vincent in the first round of the NCAA tournament. PHYLIS GRABER JENSEN/BATES COLLEGE

BASKETBALL CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

and their victories, and because they clinched their birth in the Sweet Sixteen on a ridiculous put back slam in overtime. The Bates men's basketball team is in uncharted waters navigating the NCAA tournament field of 62, and yet somehow it feels like they know exactly where they are going.

The Bobcats opened their championship bid on Friday night against St. Vincent College, in their four-team region of the NCAA Division III tournament hosted by Stockton College. The DIII national tournament requires a team to win two games on back-to-back days over three consecutive weekends in order to win the championship. The grueling NESCAC schedule during the regular season is the perfect preparation for such a format, as conference members play competitive back-to-back games each weekend.

"We've been playing back-to-back games all year long, so playing on Saturday just felt like another conference weekend," said senior point guard Graham Safford. The only difference was that this game was at 7:00 P.M. as opposed to our usual conference Saturday time of 3:00 P.M. We used the extra time

for a team stretching and visualization session, which I think always puts in a healthy frame of mind."

Safford led the Bobcats against St. Vincent with 30 points and 10 assists. He capitalized from the charity stripe for more than half of his point tally, knocking in 16 of 19 free throws. Bates found themselves cruising against a team who had received a birth in the NCAA tournament three years running, and were three-time conference tournament champions of the President's Athletic Conference, thanks in large part to their steady, high-percentage shooting performance.

"We practiced very hard for the past two weeks leading up to the game against St. Vincent, so the hot shooting wasn't necessarily a surprise to us," junior Mike Boornazian said. "We did a lot of high-level shooting drills to prepare us for the weekend, and whenever you combine that with the level of focus we brought to our opening round game, it puts you in a good position to be successful."

Game two on Saturday against host Stockton saw the Bobcats jump out to another hot start thanks in large part to Boornazian's 14 first-half points on five of seven shooting. They were able to secure a 33-23 halftime lead despite Safford picking up two early fouls. After a

back-and-forth second half that saw the Ospreys claw their way back to tie the game late in regulation and force overtime, the Bobcats would outscore Stockton 13-4 in the extra period to secure a spot in the next round. Bates exhibited incredible composure in a high-pressure national tournament environment. But this team has the simple combination of chemistry and senior leadership that breeds winning teams.

Asked on independent occasions, Safford and senior Billy Selmon gave virtually identical answers about the team's mentality in the tournament, proof of the chemistry and leadership they exude. "Our mentality moving forward is focusing on doing the things that we as a team need to do to win," Selmon said. "We can't control who we play, where we play, or who is officiating

the games; we can only control our work ethic in practice, and our intensity and focus come game time. We are taking the tournament one game at a time."

Safford echoed, "The mentality moving forward is how it's always been, one game at a time. At this point, every team left is really good, and here for a reason." Both leaders are appealing to an often spoken cliché, yes, but the funny thing about clichés is they are true.

But what really got me excited about this team and their victories over the weekend are all the subtle yet inspirational and exciting little things (and big things) they did right. It's being able to feel Coach Furbush's solidarity with his players through an Internet live feed. It's freshman Shawn Strickland managing the game, cool as the other side of the pillow, while Safford was out early with two fouls against Stockton. It's role player Mike Newton '16 hauling in nine huge rebounds and Billy Selmon playing in-your-face, I-dare-you defense on the NJAC player of the year. It's Graham Safford blocking the Ospreys' game-winning attempt at the end of regulation, and after Bates had surrendered the lead for the first time all game in overtime, coming back down the court and pulling up for a trey, smooth as silk, to take the lead back as if it was stolen. It's sophomore Marcus Delpeche crashing the offensive glass and punctuating Bates' historic championship bid with a ferocious put-back slam.

The Bobcats take on conference foe Trinity this Friday at Babson University in as they make their bid for a spot in the Elite Eight. There is no other place you should be, because history is in the making. Go 'Cats.

Did you know?

With his 18 points again Stockton College on Saturday, junior Mike Boornazian eclipsed the 1,000 point-mark, making him the second Bobcat to reach that milestone this year along with senior guard Graham Safford.

TRACK

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 8

56 teams at ECACs, with numerous athletes placing. Some notable mentions are the 4x400 relay group (who also had never raced together) placing sixth with a time of 3:22.54. Junior Nick Margitza had himself a great day with a placement of third place in the shot put contest, and senior Mike Horowicz placed seventh in the 5,000 meter run with a time of 15:13.77.

The star man on the day for Bates was senior Sean Enos, who won the weight throw and shot put contest and scored 20 of Bates' 37 points at the meet. Enos set new records in the weight throw for Bates as well as breaking Bates' ECAC record throw of 20.17 meters. He has swept the throwing events in four straight meets. Enos has hot hands and plans to keep them warm going into the NCAA Division III Indoor Championship. Enos is seeded second in the weight throw based on his top performance of 66-2.25 feet, and fourth in the shot put with an effort of 58-4.

Horowicz spoke about the team's morale after the meet: "Everyone was pretty happy after the meet," he said. "Although not everyone set new personal bests at the meet, many Bobcats concluded their seasons with huge progress and development."

For the men, the distance medley relay team of sophomore Patrick Griffin, junior Gregg Heller, and seniors Mark McCauley and John Stansel will compete at the NCAA Championships in addition to Enos, senior Eric Wainman in heptathlon, and Stansel in the mile.

Enos, a five-time All-American, will be making his fifth NCAA Championship appearance while Stansel will be making his sixth appearance at an NCAA Championship meet across cross-country and track.

Men's and women's tennis victorious

The women beat Mount Holyoke at home while the men took down Babson on the road



Henry Lee '15 won for Bates in both singles and doubles against Babson **SARAH CROSBY/BATES COLLEGE**

KYLE OLEHNIK
MANAGING SPORTS EDITOR

As the weather has begun to warm and the snow has begun to melt, things have also been heating up for the men's and women's tennis teams for a while now. Both teams have enjoyed early season success, with the men going 3-1 and the women 3-3, including consecutive wins in their last two matches. This past weekend, the men traveled to Haverhill, Massachusetts to take on Babson while the women were home against Mount Holyoke. Both teams got the win easily.

First, on the men's side, the

team handled Babson and ended up with an 8-1 victory. The No. 14 Bobcats completely swept the singles matches, led by senior Pierre Planche at first singles, who defeated Roberto Perez 6-2, 6-4. Sophomore number two Christopher Ellis handled business as well, calmly taking down Victor Vu 6-4, 4-6, 6-2.

The duo also teamed up for a doubles bout against foes Connor DeFiore and Vu, and won by a 6-1 tally. Sophomore Pat Ordway and senior Henry Lee also picked up the victory in doubles.

On the women's side, Bates blanked Mount Holyoke to improve their overall record .500. Led by se-

nior Elena Mandzhukova, who took down Margaux Holloschutz 6-0, 6-3, the lady 'Cats completely dominated both the singles and doubles matches.

Freshman Maisie Silverman and sophomore Kelsey Pearson teamed up to defeat Sarah Anischik and Amy Chen, while junior Emma Blakeley and sophomore Kate Rosenthal handled their opposition at number three doubles.

After their strong week, both teams will be in action again later this week against Colby and MIT.

Track team keeps foot on the pedal

Enos breaks school record in the weight throw, while five women and seven men will compete at the NCAA Championships

GERALD NELSON
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

Though the women's track team finished 21st out of 60 teams at the ECAC Championships this weekend in New York, their placement does not accurately reflect how well they truly did. The team sent their distance medley relay team to Tufts this weekend, as the group wanted to improve on their time on a flat track to ensure they would have a spot in the NCAA Championship. The relay squad of sophomores Jess Wilson and Claire Markonic, and seniors Sarah Fusco and Elena Jay finished with a time of 11:54.60, which moved them into eighth in Division III and propelled them into the NCAA tournament. With these four top runners at Tufts, the women's placement at the ECAC meet should not make anyone panic.

On the bright side, there were multiple standouts that stepped up. First-year student Srishti Sunil had a great day, finishing fifth in the 4x400 relay and fourth in the long jump. Another first-year who did not disappoint when her number was called was Sally Ceesay, who placed seventh in the triple jump. The veterans who participated did their job as well, especially those on the 4x400 relay team. Seniors Quincy Snellings and Amelia Oliver, ju-

nior Melanie Ehrenberg, and sophomore Allison Hill had never raced together before this meet, and still finished in fifth place with a time of 3:54.48. Hill did not stop there, as she placed fourth in the 60-meter hurdles with a time of 9.19 seconds. I got a chance to speak with Hill about the team's performance.

"Coach Hartshorn believes that if each individual performs her best in every event that she is placed in, then we will succeed overall as a team," Hill said. "She is very smart and tactical when placing people in events for championship season; she will not overexploit our abilities and put us in multiple strenuous events, but rather will place each athlete in three events or fewer in order to maximize everyone's best performance."

It's safe to say that the women's team has a solid game plan that has proven to be successful. On Monday, Ceesay qualified for the NCAA Championships in the triple jump, making her the only freshman selected in Division III. She'll join her teammates on the distance medley relay team for NCAAAs Friday and Saturday in Winston-Salem, North Carolina.

The men's team is still on a roll. The Bobcats placed fifth out of

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