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Bates College

The Bates Student

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FORUM

Restructuring causes uncertainty

The Bates Student staff is concerned about changes within the administration



See Page 2

ARTS & LEISURE

Oscars dazzle and divide

Emily Pinette and Riley Hopkins break down the good, the bad, and the ugly from a memorable Oscars night



See Page 7

SPORTS

Bates goes dancing

Men's basketball makes the NCAA Tournament field for the first time in school history, plays St. Vincent on Friday in New Jersey



See Page 12

RA passes no-confidence vote on President Spencer and Dean McIntosh



A banner protesting the recent changes in staff and administration hangs inside the Perry Atrium in Pettit Hall.

ALEX DAUGHERTY
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

Last Wednesday, the Representative Assembly voiced their frustration with a perceived lack of transparency between the administration and student body through a vote of no-confidence toward President Clayton Spencer and Vice President of Student Affairs and Dean of Students Josh McIntosh. Members

of the RA were concerned about the announcement that Assistant Dean of Students Keith Tannenbaum and Associate Dean of Students Holly Gurney would be leaving at the end of the year.

The following is a statement from the Bates College Student Government: "On Wednesday, the BCSG passed a vote of no-confidence in President Spencer and Dean McIntosh. This action, while carrying no practical weight, should be seen as a powerful rebuke of

the College administration by the student body and their representatives. It is clear that students have serious doubts about the direction President Spencer and Dean McIntosh are taking us, and we hope they will come to the table with us as partners. We students should be citizens at Bates, not subjects, and we hope Wednesday's no-confidence

See NO CONFIDENCE, PAGE 6

Institutional planning could yield new science building, computer science major

"We need to get everybody above the day-to-day and think of a slightly larger horizon"

ALEX DAUGHERTY
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

In a meeting with students last Wednesday, President Clayton Spencer announced a campus-wide initiative that will guide decision making over the next five to ten years. The institutional planning initiative has three main goals: to evolve and adapt, to lead in areas consistent with Bates' mission, and to achieve greater financial flexibility and sustainability.

"We will still be a liberal arts college that will be some version of the liberal arts experience you are currently getting," Spencer said during the presentation to students.

President Spencer identified a few areas of strength that she wants to continue to develop as part of the initiative, community-engaged learning and Purposeful Work.

However, there are many aspects of Bates that could be improved, according to Spencer.

"We have the lowest endowment in the NESCAC and are currently ranked 48th in endowment among the top 50 liberal arts colleges," Spencer said. "However, we are currently ranked in the 20s if you take the U.S. News and World Report Rankings seriously."

Issues that President Spencer highlighted during the meeting are Bates' lack of a computer science department, considering an additional science building, and the need for additional digital and computational studies.

"Any leader coming into an institution or organization needs to outline a vision for where the institution is going to move, there is always going to

be a balance between continuity and change," Spencer said in an interview with *The Student*. "I want to make sure that we take strategic advantage of the fact that over the next ten years a third of our faculty will be retiring and really plant a flag on diversity and excellence."

The institutional planning structure will include four teams and a steering group. The four teams are Intellectual Life at Bates, Educating the Whole Person, Facilities, Infrastructure, and Technology, along with Resources.

Eight students will work on each team in two sessions; the first from March until May and the second between September and December. Seniors are not eligible to serve on the teams and undergraduates must be on campus this semester and next fall to be eligible.

Prospective team members will fill out an application and statement of purpose which will be submitted to the Representative Assembly. The Representative Assembly will select students and spread them across the teams—there will be no elections.

After the presentation on the nuts and bolts of institutional planning, students broke into groups and discussed the strengths and challenges of Bates as an institution.

Various strengths students presented were the community feel of Bates, accessibility of faculty, and Deans Keith Tannenbaum and Holly Gurney, who will be leaving at the end of the academic year.

"It is not reasonable for students to

See INSTITUTIONAL PLANNING, PAGE 5

Op-ed: The truth about Vinny

PACKAGE CENTER EMPLOYEES

As you may have heard by now, Package Center Manager Gregory Vincent has decided to quit his job at Bates College. Up until now, we, his student employees, have remained silent upon instruction, but we feel that we are no longer able to hold back.

Gregory Vincent is the victim of age discrimination by his superiors. This is a direct violation of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 and the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990. Mr. Vincent has been discriminated and targeted against his will being the age of 63 years old and having a bad knee and hip. He was forcibly put under "cross training" by order of his superiors. Both his supervisors were well aware of how Vinny's bad knee and hip from a motorcycle accident when he was younger limits his mobility and makes it painful to stand for long periods of time. It is this same reason that he is missing a finger on one of his hands.

It is well known that Vinny was planning on retiring in two years when he can apply for retirement and open his IRA account. However, over time this "cross-training" developed into specifically targeting solely Vinny and a co-worker, Bobby, as to forcibly make him leave now. Because of Vinny's disability and lack of mobility, standing for long periods of time is extremely painful. The

"cross-training" he was forced to endure had led to him being in extreme pain and otherwise not being able to go home and relax after work. Instead, Vinny was forced to nurse and prepare himself for the next day's abuse and pain. He had us remain silent for fear of being fired by his superiors as it is clear they already want him to leave.

Mr. Vincent is a hard-working and important individual to the Bates Community. Previously, before Bates, Mr. Vincent was a lifetime employee at L.L. Bean and helped to make L.L. Bean's customer service successful. He is a trusted and honest person that we aspire to be like every day when we walk into the Package Center.

We are collectively bringing this to your attention because we firmly believe that the acts being committed are unlawful and also not Bates-like. Vinny as we call him, is a keystone member of the Bates community.

In addition to the discrimination, his superiors have also targeted Vinny further trying to make him feel uncomfortable and unwelcomed by pressuring him into removing his memorabilia and wedding photos off of the wall of the Package Center. Until this summer, these photos and memorabilia had re-

See VINNY, PAGE 2

National title for Khalek



Ahmed Abdel Khalek '16 captured Bates' first ever individual squash national championship over the weekend with a 3-2 victory over Columbia's Osama Khalifa. Abdel Khalek completed an undefeated season by overcoming a 2-0 deficit in the match. The talented junior has not lost a match since his freshman year. Teammate Ahmed Hatata '17 advanced to the quarterfinals in a strong showing for Bates. See page 12 for complete coverage of the historic win. AVERY BOURKE/COURTESY PHOTO

VINNY

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

mained where they were since he joined Bates College nine years ago. They also banned the daily riddle or trivia question that Vinny used to post on a white board for students to guess the answers.

Because of the level of abuse and discrimination, Vinny has decided to leave simply because his body cannot handle the toll of being abused by the orders of his superiors anymore.

We have spread the word amongst the Bates students and across the student body. There is general unrest and disappointment to hear of Vinny's forced departure.

The concerns above are from an original email from the Package Center employees to administration members connected with human resources.

The next day, Crystal Williams responded with the email below:

"Dear Students,

Thank you for writing, and thank you for your patience as I looked in the issue you raised.

While I'm not able to comment specifically about any personnel situation, please be assured that the College has taken the allegations expressed in January 26th email seriously and has acted in accordance with College policy.

More personally, I deeply appreciate your concern. It is yet another testament to Bates' culture of caring and support. And while I realize you may want more information than any of us

can give regarding a personnel matter, I hope you understand that part of my job is to ensure that our institution responsibly creates and maintains an equitable work environment. After review of this situation, I believe the College has acted in a responsive and conscientious manner, in full compliance with our employment policies and procedures."

When we tried to approach Dean Holly Gurney on the matter, we were referred to Dean Josh McIntosh. We were told that the deans had been instructed to not respond to our email and all questions were to be referred to Dean McIntosh. He confirmed that Crystal Williams and Mary Main conducted an investigation on the report sent to the administration and that we needed to trust them that they completed said investigation thoroughly and correctly. He informed us that the way HR handled this situation is typical and routine of any college or corporation. He also stated that further discussing the matter openly or asking for more information on the investigation would be highly inappropriate.

It has also been confirmed that the Trustees have been kept in the dark about this whole incident. In addition, neither Crystal Williams nor HR ever interviewed the "whistle-blowers" or concerned Package Center student employees on the injustices witnessed. How are we to trust HR to handle situations involving students and employees when the original reporters were not even interviewed? We find that the original policies put into place are flawed and need to be reformed. How are we to "trust" an HR department to properly handle an investigation such as the report above when the discrimination officer is a tenured English professor?

Furthermore, it is very questionable that this procedure was handled correctly because Vinny was 18 months away from reaching 65 years old. Upon reaching the age of 65, he can retire with full benefits. Vinny is now forced to apply for Social Security and withdraw money from his retirement account in order to pay for his medical insurance. Why was the college not able to coordinate with HR and help pay for Vinny's health insurance for the next 18 months? To add, Vinny's predecessor David Moore was involved in a similar incident involving HR and harassment. He worked at Bates for 14 years and was less than a year away from receiving additional Bates benefits. What was strange about Mr. Moore's case was that he left very quickly and suddenly. We also know that HR was involved and nothing resulted of it.

We feel the issue was swept under the carpet and are extremely disappointed in how the College has handled this report. We believe there needs to be reformation in the policies and procedures of HR and the discrimination offenses departments. If Bates is a school about community, how can we trust our own HR department to do the right thing when it seems that the policies and procedures in place allow harassment and discrimination incidents to occur routinely whenever the College wants to push someone out of the Bates community?

Still searching

ADAM MAUREY
STAFF WRITER

For nearly 40 years since its publishing in 1971, Eduardo Galeano's work *The Open Veins of Latin America: Five Centuries of the Pillage of a Continent*, has been revered as the canonical anti-colonialist, anti-capitalist, and anti-American literary work of the region. Ex-Venezuelan President Hugo Chavez even put a copy in the hands of President Obama during their first meeting, calling the work "a monument in our Latin American history." At the news of Chavez's death: "Sic semper tyrannis," proclaimed a Republican representative from Arkansas. "After the welcome news of Hugo Chavez's death, I hope that the oppressed people of Venezuela will be able to live in freedom, not under miserable tyranny." America, as it were.

Relatively recently, the Uruguayan journalist redacted the story, saying "*Open Veins* tried to be a book of political economy, but I didn't yet have the necessary training or preparation," noting afterward that it was in fact the heavy-handed prose, and not the content, that he rejected.

As one of the few Latin American Studies majors on campus, I was relatively upset. While heavy-handed and viciously anti-American, I felt that Galeano's message was sufficiently provocative to warrant the means through which it was delivered. *Open Veins* didn't change my life, but it helped to pry open entirely new political possibilities. Much in the same way that Hugo Chavez's dictatorial presence was offensive to the democracy-loving West, Galeano's book took the West's shameful exploits straight to the basket, much like Blake Griffin.

That said, Galeano's work hasn't lost its potency: people will continue to read it, allow it to influence them, and refer to it as an important challenge to Western hegemony. But by redacting it, Galeano sent a perhaps more potent message to students of the world: *it is okay to think critically about past works and to go back and revise what you meant*. His work is a time-capsule of past emotional memory, nevertheless a prime example of changing literary consciousness.

A few weeks ago, I wrote an ill-received piece titled, *Activism? At Bates? Which way did it go?* where I made several arguments about activism at Bates. In that Op-Ed, I said that the recent die-in was ir-

responsibly planned and executed; that certain prankster groups at Bates should not be considered in the same sphere of "activism" as they have been in past *Student* articles, that they are instead nothing more than a vocal, creative group of pranksters (see Hannah Goldberg's article in *The Student* 2/04/2015); and that as Bates students we must reconsider what we mean when we think of "activism" at Bates.

After the article was published, I received mail from several campus leaders, I became a touch more popular on Yik Yak than my Yakarma score would indicate (but only a touch), I've engaged in an almost comical string of comments regarding a *Bates Onion* special-mention that I considered more presumptuous and biting than humorous. I have been told to "eat shit" both literally and figuratively, over the internet, by people whose voices I have never heard, whose backgrounds remain a mystery.

In declining an invitation to a face-to-face discussion made to the Ferguson at Bates posse, a peer of mine, who I frankly wouldn't recognize in a crowd, told me in a Facebook message that he believed I would "misuse his words... for [my] own personal gain." In fact, every person I've offered to speak with—to clarify what I meant—has "respectfully decline[d]." Indeed, despite much frustration, I've had the chance used those words to my own personal, reflective gain.

So what does it all mean? It means I had the chance to sit back and think.

There are many possible reasons for the largely negative (often vicious, hurtful, cowardly) responses to my piece. It was either read incorrectly (the corollary being that I failed to frame my point clearly), or I struck a chord within the activist community. I'd argue that a bit of both happened, with help from several somewhat unfair, preclusive facets of modern society, but I'll save those for another time.

In retrospect, I made a clear mistake in framing any racially-charged protest in the same article discussing pranksters at Bates. I will say now that my intent was by no means to draw explicit comparisons between the two, nor was I suggesting that one serve as a model for the other. I was instead hoping to encourage a discussion of the meaning of "activism" by making it clear that not all forms of student mobilization, in the words of Goldberg, "are cre-

ated equal." The yet uncorroborated claim that I myself am I member of any prank group has served only to dismiss the piece as nothing more than a self-aggrandizing pat on the back, thereby rendering the attacks personal, and my argument infertile.

With Galeano's disavowal in mind, I disagree with my prose, and now see that the more imaginative content of my argument was obscured by what I'll refer to simply as overly busy organization.

I hold, however, that the organizers of the die-in were incorrect to automatically assume that an exclusive movement was necessarily more to anybody's benefit than not, and that by eschewing the local, intimate context of Bates as a small college, drove a wedge between the activist "us" and the "them" it was trying to "educate." They never interrogated the idea of making the die-in a campus-wide act of solidarity. At least, such suggestion were ignored in the exclusive chat Facebook chat group, as well as the meeting.

As Batesies, as human beings, are we not all in this together? None of us asked to be born; do we not *all* have the responsibility of coming together to challenge the world we've inherited?

There is an incorrect assumption, crystallized by Ashleen O'Brien's reference to my Op-Ed in *The Bates Onion*, that MLK Day and SANKOFA are to be considered student "activism," a continuation of the die-in, suggesting that the die-in had sustained roots. In a way I agree: SANKOFA and MLK Day are indeed *institutional* manifestations of protest surrounding important issues in our society in which everybody is invited to participate, but they are by no means extra-institutional, as was the die-in.

What did the die-in have to lose by including the whole Bates community? How much is shock value worth?

When will Bates finally unite?

Tannenbaum and Gurney's departure raises more questions than answers

BATES STUDENT STAFF

The sudden news of Assistant Dean of Students Keith Tannenbaum and Associate Dean of Students Holly Gurney's departure last week was deeply unsettling. Both individuals contribute uniquely to student life at Bates and are an integral part of the day-to-day Bates experience. They are more than administrators; they are colleagues and friends who are there for us when we need them.

Dean Gurney is an essential part of the first-year experience at Bates and is the resource and mentor for countless Batesies when they struggle with certain aspects of college life. Dean Tannenbaum seeks to create social spaces for Batesies that create the unique sense of community we all enjoy.

Their departure, announced via email from Vice President for Student Affairs and Dean of Students Josh McIntosh, raises more questions than answers. What will happen to student support for learning differences, an area where Dean Gurney provided specific guidance? Will AESOP continue to exist? How will student clubs and organizations like *The Student*, where Dean Tannenbaum serves as advisor, be affected? Does the student experience matter in the reimagining of Bates as an institution or is it solely about promoting a new "Bates brand"?

Students deserve more than a cursory email that simply announces more changes without a viable alternative. Long-form announce emails are not the correct venue to display changes in staff. Call a meeting, announce the decision to students, and deal with their concerns

directly.

We respectfully disagree with President Clayton Spencer's opinion that "It is not reasonable for students to be involved in organizational and personnel issues." Students invest countless hours into the Bates community and have no say over who is appointed to the Board of Trustees. We have every right to be directly involved in personnel decisions that will drastically change the day-to-day experience of that investment. The institution includes students on search committees for prospective faculty, why shouldn't they include students on the decision-making bodies that ultimately oust people from their jobs?

The Bates student body is comprised of adults, not children. We deserve and demand to be a part of every aspect of Bates that is supposedly changing for the better, so we can critically engage with it before the hammer of yet another announce email drops. President Spencer wants students to be involved in the institutional planning process, and a big part of institutional planning is determining who will be around to implement the processes.

In sum, we ask for two things. First, involve students in the decision-making process surrounding the hiring and firing of administration officials. Second, address the questions that arise from Dean Tannenbaum's and Dean Gurney's departure.

Additionally, we wish the best for Dean Tannenbaum and Dean Gurney and sincerely thank them for their time at Bates. We hope they continue to inspire and provide guidance for future generations of young minds no matter what they choose to do next.

"Who's next?" banner responds to administrative changes

AMAR OJHA
ASSISTANT FORUM EDITOR

On the night of March 1st as students curled up with their weekend reading on the couches in Pettengill Hall's Perry Atrium, a large banner was let down from the fourth floor balcony. The gigantic banner reads, "RETIREMENT, RESTRUCTURING" on top, with a laundry list of the following names: K. Tannenbaum, H. Gurney, T. Goundie, G. Wiemers, B. Blaine Wallace, M. Kimmel, J. Cole, J. Rosenback, H. Lindkvist, T. Beckmann, P. Baker, H. Oakes, Vinny, and D. Vincent. The very bottom of the large banner reads, "...WHO'S NEXT?"

Over the past few months, students have received emails announcing the unexpected departure of Bates faculty, staff, or workers. Students are disturbed by the suddenness of these notices, as many of their favorite faces will begin disappearing. As the student body comes to terms with changes in administration, many remain skeptical of this "restructuring" process, precisely because students feel that they are left in the dark about most of these issues while being notified about them without transparent explanations explaining the rationale behind decisions.

Whether the underlying causes of student frustration is the inability of college students to accept decisions in this paternalistic sense or not feeling as if they too have a say in important college matters is a matter for debate.

As the list continues to grow, so does the fissure and distrust between the student body and the administration. The administration faces a new challenge of establishing open and honest communication if it wishes to implement changes while also maintaining a content student body. Students are becoming increasingly agitated with finding out about decisions after they have been made and furthermore not having a say in their outcomes. While it remains unclear how these top-down decisions will occur in the future, it seems imperative to change the role that the student body plays in these matters, especially in a college that prides itself on inclusive principles.

At the end of the day, whether workers decided to "retire" or their position was removed for "institutional restructuring," students are displeased by the way they are finding out about these large changes, especially in a community that thrives and exists only because of the people that make Bates the place that it is.

House of Cards is a product of our time

DAVID WEINMAN
MANAGING FORUM EDITOR

Last Friday, Netflix released season three of its original series *House of Cards*. The show portrays an ambitious Democratic politician named Frank Underwood who will stop at nothing in his quest for power. He operates within a political system which rewards pragmatic ruthlessness and punishes any attempt to put the common good over self-interest. This series, like much of successful television, is in some ways a reflection of the time which it is written. While the post-Cold War and 9/11 eras gave us the idealistic and patriotic public servants of *The West Wing*, the post-Iraq Obama age has given the cold, calculating cynicism of *House of Cards*.

Six years after Barack Obama captured the imagination and spirit of the millennial generation under the mantle of "hope and change," Americans' faith in our political system has been diminished severely. While the failures of the Bush years bred great skepticism in our leaders, the Obama years have perhaps cemented this great distrust. According to a poll taken by Gallup, a historically high 81 percent of Americans said that they could trust government never or only some of the time.

While this dynamic reflects a declining lack of faith in almost all of our most consequential national institutions, it is also partially a result of the contrast between a candidate who promised that this election would be the time that "when

the rise of the oceans began to slow and our planet began to heal" and a president who has presided over an era of historic political polarization. This current crisis in basic trust attests to the dangers of naively elevated expectations.

As a result, young Americans, who served as Obama's core base and were often the most hopeful about his prospects to achieve meaningful change, have begun to disengage from politics entirely. According to the Harvard University Institute of Politics, 22 percent of Americans, ages 18 to 29, regard themselves as "politically engaged," down from 35 percent in 2006. Just 33 percent of millennials said they would be willing to volunteer of campaign. When asked whether this activity or volunteering "for community service to support a worthy cause" is the "best way to solve important issues facing the country," only 18 percent chose the former. This young generation no longer sees government as a possible vehicle to accomplish great things.

While a healthy dose of skepticism of politics and our leaders can be productive, too much can be self-fulfilling. If we expect our politicians to act like Frank Underwood, than how can we hold them accountable when they do? Perhaps part of the current appeal of *House of Cards* is that we secretly yearn for a President Underwood. We decry his tactics, yet we celebrate his effectiveness. The challenge for 2016 and our next generation of national leaders is to show we do not have to make this false choice.

A woman's place in the NBA

MACKLIN STERN
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

Last summer, we witnessed a groundbreaking moment in the NBA. No, it wasn't LeBron James' Decision (2.0) to take his talents back to Cleveland. On August 5th, the San Antonio Spurs announced the hiring of Becky Hammon as their new assistant coach. In doing so, one of the greatest WNBA players of all time became the first paid female coach in NBA history.

Hammon's hiring was crucial. It did more than just challenge current gender expectations in the NBA; it demonstrated the sheer absence of these expectations. Few typically associate women with the NBA, seeing as how the most visible employees in the industry—the players—are men. Hammon's trailblazing feat emphasized that women have a strikingly minimal standing in the NBA.

But this isn't a new idea. Women's involvement in other "male" sports is just as limited and troubling. Most notably, females take the form of scantily clad cheerleaders who dance provocatively to keep audiences entertained during breaks in action. Then, of course, women are forcibly brought into the lime-light thanks to criminal behaviors displayed by male athletes. Instances of sexual abuse continue to surface, particularly in the NFL. It is highly problematic that women are objects of exploitation and victimized figures in the "male" sports world.

ures in the "male" sports world.

When the Spurs hired Hammon, it appeared the long-standing gender expectations plaguing the NBA were destined to shift. Since the summer, however, discussion of female presence in the league has been silent...until a few weeks ago.

After a game against the Cleveland Cavaliers, Los Angeles Clippers point guard Chris Paul criticized referee Lauren Holtkamp (one of the three female referees in NBA history) for making "ridiculous calls." He concluded his unpleasant sentiments regarding Holtkamp by suggesting that "[refereeing] might not be for her" (via ESPN.com).

People were outraged. They believed Paul blamed Holtkamp's supposed inadequacies at performing a notoriously male job on her being a female. Paul denied his comments were sexist, arguing that he meant only to disparage the refereeing itself. Journalists have also attempted to downplay the remarks, maintaining that the media has gone fishing for a story that isn't there.

I don't believe it's fair to rush to the conclusion that Chris Paul's comments were intentionally sexist. At the same time, though, we can't kick them under the carpet. Regardless of intent, Paul's words have obvious undertones (and overtones) of sexism. Ignoring them implies that Paul's sentiments are okay. They're NOT. Chris Paul, like many Americans, has been conditioned to believe that since women do not exist in the NBA, they do not belong

there. As such, Paul is not necessarily at fault here—his line of thinking is, and it reflects our flawed societal values.

When Chris Paul makes comments like these, he—and his wealth of influence—delegitimizes women's already limited place in the league, perpetuating and supporting damaging gender norms. If Holtkamp doesn't belong, what can be said about Hammon and other women in the NBA?

For those still not convinced regarding the gravity of Chris Paul's comments, consider this: Despite taking significant steps towards equality for all, America has not yet reached its goal. To believe that the U.S. is beyond gender discrimination is a fallacy. Sexism, whether expressed overtly or not, is deeply ingrained in our culture as evidenced by Chris Paul's ignorantly harmful comments. Just because we have addressed some discriminatory atrocities, we are not free from discussing instances of sexism that continue to occur. Becky Hammon's hiring was monumental since it combats sexism, but doesn't its monumentality demonstrate just how much more ground we must cover to promote gender equality?

NBA Commissioner Adam Silver fined Chris Paul \$25,000 for his statements. The seemingly hefty fine is hardly a slap on the wrist for

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BatesRates

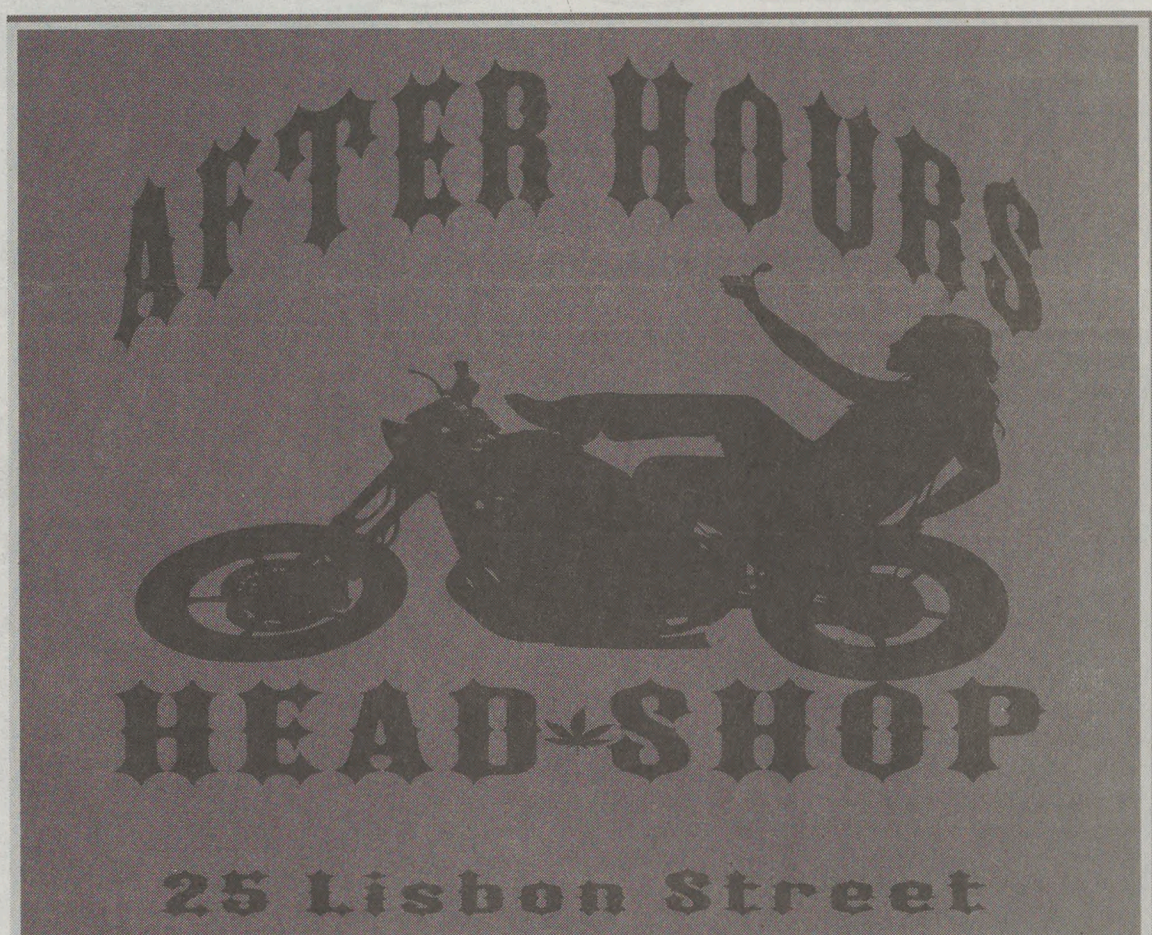
▼	Small mugs in Commons
	How will we be able to hoard chicken nuggets?
▲	Laser tag in the library basement
	Hopefully no one gets crushed in the moving stacks
▲	Men's basketball in the big dance
	Let's continue the NESCAC dominance in NCAA's
▲	Gala on the horizon
	Stock up on cummerbunds

READ.THINK.SHARE

The Bates Student

Correction:

Photographs of "A Sense of" in the February 11th issue were mistakenly credited to Phyllis Graber Jensen. They were really taken by Max Huang '18 for Bates College. We regret the error.



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NBA

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 3

Paul, since he's set to make nearly \$21 million this year. If anything, the penalty was awarded to silence outraged fans, feminists, and media members—it was intended to put a band-aid on an injury that needs serious attention. If Silver truly wanted to take a progressive stance, he would establish league-wide programs and regulations that facilitate the integration of females. If two referees and one assistant coach constitute the visibility of women in a globalized sport, what kind of message does that send about the league? About the U.S.? Adam Silver has failed to capitalize on two incredible opportunities to promote female integration into an all-male industry.

I feel obligated as a male to underscore the severity of Chris Paul's comments and to argue for women's place in the NBA. Women have no form of representation to dispute Paul's claims (and more importantly, to become more directly involved with the organization) since there are no women in the NBA to begin with. How can change be expected when no one is there to call for it? Only those in power (old white men) have the ability to affect the league's future. But why would they suggest change if things seem to be working? The blunt answer is, they wouldn't. Change does not come unless there is public pressure demanding it. It's important that we demand greater gender equality in the NBA, and in sports in general.

Coming soon: New policies for trans and gender neutral students

Bates has recently adopted more open policies and plans to implement changes by the end of 2015-2016

BRIDGET RUFF
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

Take a moment to think about the morning routine of the average Bates student. Wake up, brush teeth, go to Commons and then class. For most of students, all of this seems commonplace. However, for non-binary students, even these seemingly simple actions can include major headaches. Many of the bathrooms at Bates have a stick figure on the door marking the bathroom for either men or women. When a gender-neutral option is unavailable, non-binary students often lack a clear choice. In classes, a professor might accidentally out students by calling them a feminine name for a trans-man. A recent article in the *New York Times* highlighted the University of Vermont's recent addition of a gender-neutral option to their information systems, a feat that took nearly a decade of lobbying.

However, at Bates, the discussion is moving at a fast pace. Many of these issues will be at least a little bit easier over the course of the next year. "Our goal is that by the end of [the] academic year 2015-2016, we will have moved the ball forward in important and transformative ways that positively impact the student, staff, and faculty experience at the College," Crystal Williams, Associate Vice President and Chief Diversity Officer, said. Already, Bates has made major strides forward.

In 2012, Bates adopted the Open Gender Housing policy in an important step in combating strict and traditional gender roles. It allows students to live with those they feel they are most

compatible with. The Open Gender Housing policy allows for a break from the dominant binary, heteronormative structures that marginalize LGBTQ students.

The LGBTQ & Ally Statement sets the standard for inclusion of and policies towards LGBTQ students at Bates. In addition to a rejection of discrimination and intolerance, the statement affirms the rights of all students, no matter who they may be. According to the policy, "We respect and welcome all persons, regardless of their perceived or actual sexual orientation, gender identity, or gender expression. We affirm that all students, staff, and faculty should feel safe, welcome, and supported on our campus."

This year, for the first time, students can ask for a preferred name to be used on class rosters. This allows for trans and neutral students to feel more included and safe at Bates. While the legal name of the student must be used on official college documents, preferred names on class rosters allow students freedom to fully explore and embody their identity.

Numerous support services through the Dean of Students, the Health Center and the OIE are offered to LGBTQ students. Residence Life consults with non-binary students on housing options. The Health Center supports students mentally and physically and identifies resources outside of Bates if needed.

Lexie Mucci, Program Coordinator of the OIE, serves as a primary resource for LGBTQ students. The Safe Space Program states that "All LGBTQ students, faculty, and staff should feel safe,

welcome, and supported on campus so that they can thrive personally, academically, and professionally" through the use of visible messages of inclusion, acceptance and support. OUTfront functions as a peer support service for LGBTQ students and as an educational tool for the entire community. Queer Peer Mentors assist students individually through issues of sexuality and gender and coordinate with OUTfront to educate the entire campus community. Non-binary students are protected from discrimination in athletics on any level through Bates Athletic Transgender Inclusion policies. After graduation, the BatesPRIDE alumni network connects LGBTQ alums to one another and Bates.

Bates aims to better include non-binary students over the course of the next year. A group has convened this year to discuss issues for non-binary students. One of the major ones is the ability to identify as non-binary on college documents and the ability to choose personal pronouns. The group is working on an official gender change policy. Pronouns will likely be addressed in this policy. Additionally, Bates makes an effort to limit gendered pronouns in official documents.

Office of Student Affairs sees significant changes

Dean McIntosh plans to provide students with a "one-on-one" experience

SAM HIGGINS
ASSISTANT NEWS EDITOR

After this school year, the Office of Student Affairs will undergo some significant changes with the addition of three new Dean positions and the departures of Assistant Dean of Students Keith Tananbaum and the Associate Dean of Students Holley Gurney.

While taking this repositioning into consideration, Vice President of Student Affairs and Dean of Students Josh McIntosh talked to individual students and student groups about what they do and don't want to see change at Bates and observed what has and hasn't been working well in the Deans' office. He also compared Bates with other schools across the country to reassess what the Office of Student Affairs' responsibilities should be.

"We tried to identify what are our real strengths, and what could be further leverage," McIntosh said. "If we want to create the best liberal arts experience in the country and the best student experience, then having the courage to identify that we're not hitting the mark and then tackle those difficult issues and wrestle with them to see if we can map out a plan over the next several years seems like a particularly important thing for us to be doing. We need to organize to address those issues."

McIntosh noted that Bates has many leadership development programs that function well independently, such as the Junior Advisor program and Mike Leonard in the Athletic Department. However, McIntosh was struck by the fact that there is no overall coherent leadership development program at Bates, which he hopes to change.

McIntosh elaborated, "It's all operating independent of one another. There are no shared principles, no curriculum, etc. There is no coherent pathway or pipeline into that program across the College."

He then stated that leadership development does not just affect the student experience at Bates, but the experiences that they will have beyond college as well.

By capitalizing leadership development, McIntosh hopes to build to the capacity to take on more ties to Bates'

residential experience.

"If we think about the residential nature of Bates, which I think is one of its strengths, you've got all students living here, and even the 160 who live off-campus live across the street. You wouldn't necessarily know that's not owned by the College. So there's a way to leverage that sense of community connection in the way that we're all here, which is not unique for small private liberal arts schools, but quite frankly Bates."

McIntosh also spoke about how the Deans' office is working to improve Bates' current traditions to make them more inclusive and safe. "It's not the elimination of them, but we need to work to with student leaders to figure out the path forward," McIntosh said.

McIntosh further aspires to promote greater unity among each class. While Bates provides many bonding activities for the senior class, the other class years lack those activities. McIntosh hopes to provide more new traditions that can emerge on campus.

With regard to the orientation program, AESOP participants and fall athletes used to arrive on campus at different times, but in future years they will all move in on the same day. Newly, all students aside from fall athletes will be going on an AESOP trip.

"From day one there is no class identity, at least in gesture," McIntosh said. "We have shoehorned orientation, and I think we need to take a step back as we've been doing this past winter, and let the students know what they need to be doing in the first couple months of school."

Rather than trying to "shoehorn" information during orientation, he is working toward a structure that reiterates and reinforces that information throughout a Bates student's four years.

Additionally, McIntosh hopes to have better support for students with learning differences, psychological issues, and medical and physical challenges by providing them with one-on-one counseling with the Deans. He is also working to promote better communication and coordination among faculty on how to work with students who have

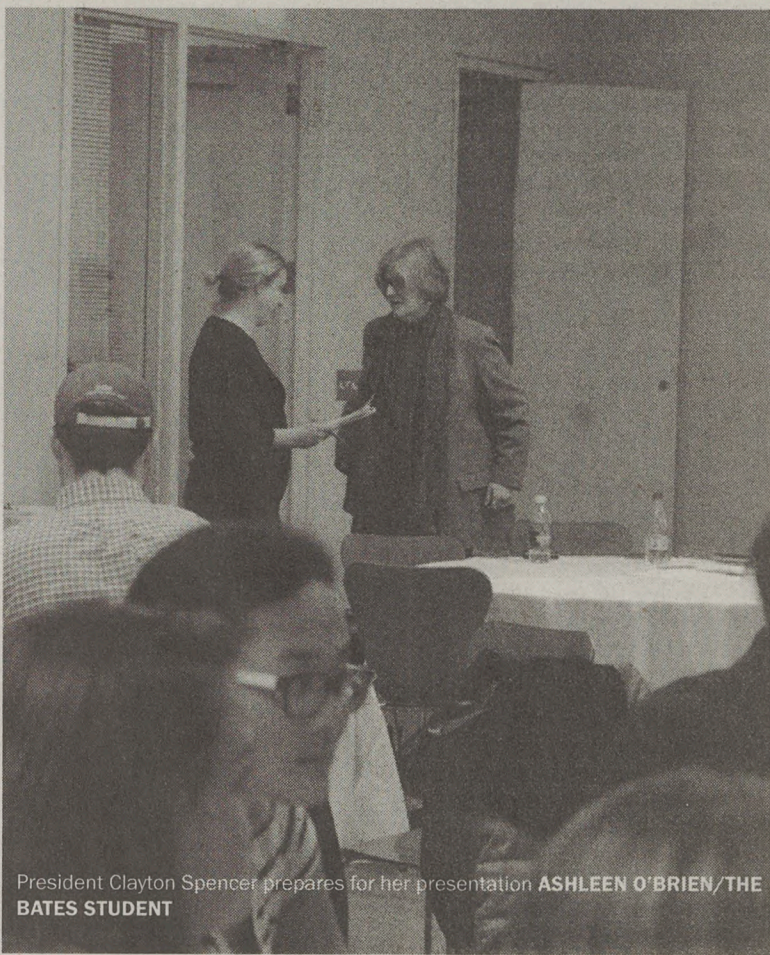
See MCINTOSH, PAGE 6



Students share their thoughts on Bates' strengths ASHLEEN O'BRIEN/THE BATES STUDENT



Students discuss strengths and weaknesses of the Bates community and educational experience ASHLEEN O'BRIEN/THE BATES STUDENT



President Clayton Spencer prepares for her presentation ASHLEEN O'BRIEN/THE BATES STUDENT

INSTITUTIONAL PLANNING

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

be involved in organizational and personnel issues," Spencer said. "A certain set of decisions are my responsibility to make, and I have to take the flak for that."

A large issue that was discussed at the meeting was how to open channels of communication between the student body and administration. Students came up with suggestions such as bi-weekly fireside chats and publishing an organizational chart to show students

the various responsibilities of members of the administration.

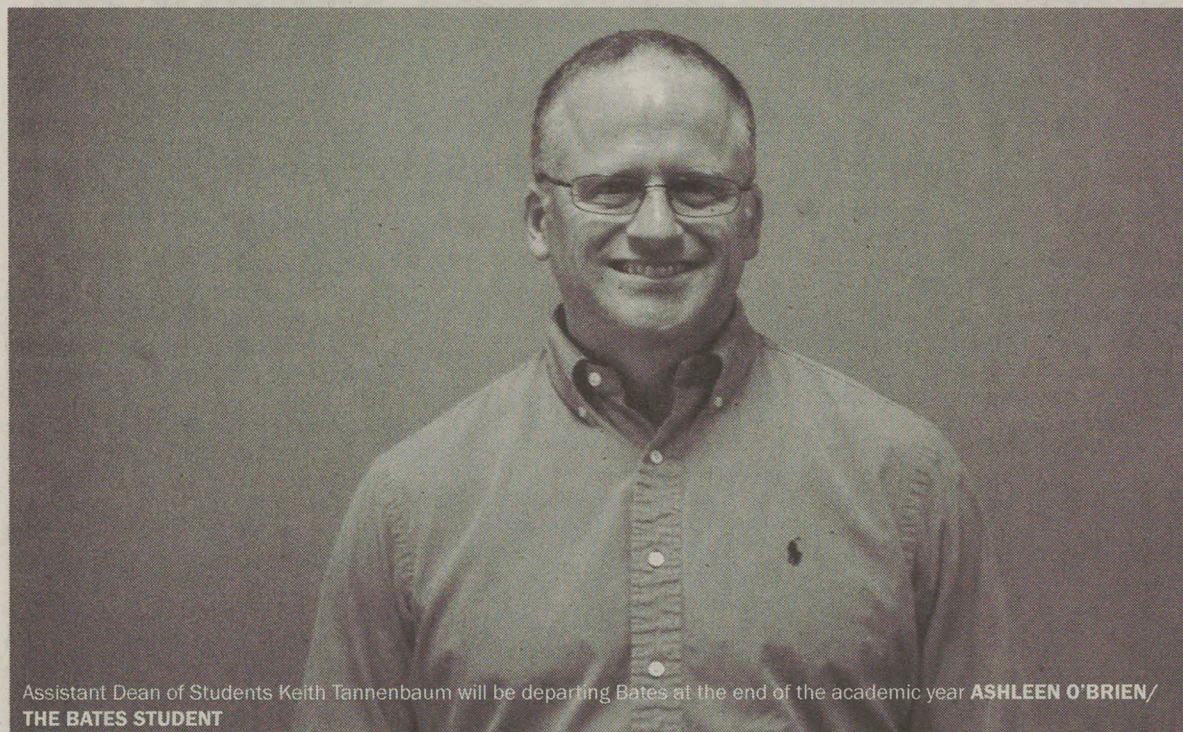
"It seems like long emails aren't particularly effective when you've got an important message you need to frame," Spencer said. "As we move forward, there are certain things that are necessary for progress that won't necessarily be popular. Anytime you actually do something you create a potential for conflict, and there are better and worse ways to manage that."

In the coming weeks, underclassmen will have the opportunity to apply for one of the four teams.

"I would like to figure out how to get senior voices involved who won't be part of the process but do have a lot of experience," Spencer said.

Deans Tannenbaum and Gurney depart Bates

Tannenbaum reflects on his time at Bates



Assistant Dean of Students Keith Tannenbaum will be departing Bates at the end of the academic year. **ASHLEEN O'BRIEN/ THE BATES STUDENT**

SAM HIGGINS
ASSISTANT NEWS EDITOR

Last week, an announce email informed the Bates community that Assistant Dean of Students Keith Tannenbaum and Associate Dean of Students Holley Gurney would be stepping down at the end of the school year. Loved by many Bates students, their presence on campus will surely be missed next year.

When he first arrived at Bates, four months before the Ronj opened, Tannenbaum started working for the College in 1997 as the Housing Coordinator and the Assistant Coordinator of Student Activities. He was promoted to the Assistant Dean of Students in 1999, a role he has had for the past 16 years.

In addition to being a dean, Tannenbaum serves as the advisor to the Chase Hall Committee (CHC) and *The Mirror*, manages finances for *The Bates Student*, runs the Film Board, coordinates the Village Club Series (VCS),

and organizes weekly off-campus bus trips and the Lewiston-Auburn shuttle. He also runs nightly Den events such as Mondays at the Den, Tuesday Tea, Wind Down Wednesday, learn-to-lessons, and Friday Treats once a month. Additionally, he reviews and revises announce emails and runs the program that provides students with *The New York Times* and *The Boston Globe* in Commons.

He undeniably has had a major impact on the Bates community.

Although Tannenbaum organizes many of these student activities, he always takes student input into account. For instance, the students who help Tannenbaum run VCS choose all the artists who perform, and in turn he buys them dinner once a week.

Tannenbaum highly values the relationships he has formed with students throughout his time at Bates.

"My interactions with the students has been the most rewarding part of my

time at Bates. It's why I'm here; It's why I do what I do, and I feel like every day I can make a difference," Tannenbaum said. "I have that chance every day when I interact with students to try to help them enjoy something or provide them with an opportunity to do something new...I love the joy and the genuine pleasure students get from just doing fun things."

Tannenbaum recalled working with Sarah Neukom, former President as the CHC, who graduated in 2005. Neukom was in charge of planning events for the Winter Carnival, and currently does professional event planning for 1st Ward Events, a club in Chicago.

"Working with her and watching her put all her energy and effort into those events, and what she learned from both her successes and the failures, was great," Tannenbaum said.

In addition, Tannenbaum oversaw Andrew Byrnes, who graduated in 2005 and was the Vice President of the CHC.

Byrnes later won two olympic medals for Canada in rowing.

"I love the relationships I've developed with students over the years, to watch what they've done after they've left. Some have come back, and some have gone on to bigger and better things. It's great," Tannenbaum said.

Some of Tannenbaum's finest Bates memories were organizing concerts with students. He recalled, "Some concerts here were spectacular; it was a mad rush at Snoop Dogg. One month ahead we heard that he was available from when the concert happened, so it was a mad rush to put it all together, and watching the tickets sell out online in under two minutes was fantastic."

Tannenbaum admitted that when there are new activities that he thinks he would enjoy, he becomes especially excited. He also loves to help make students' ideas for activities happen.

"I remember when we first tried bingo night back in the mid-2000s. There was a student who said, 'I'm not a grandmother. I'm not going to play bingo.' We tried it, put out 250 chairs and we had to keep on putting out extra chairs because people kept on showing up. It always gets a huge turn out. It's always fun to watch people pick that up and enjoy it," Tannenbaum said.

After the school year is through, Tannenbaum is not sure what he is going to do. "I am looking around. This news is relatively recent for me. Now I'm figuring out what to do next," Tannenbaum said.

He noted that he and his wife will likely stay in Maine, though their youngest son is starting college in the fall.

"It's been an honor to work here and work with the students at Bates for the past 18 years. It's something I'm going to miss very much. It's definitely a sad day for me. I'm going to miss the day-to-day interactions with students I hope I'll still be able to have these kinds of meaningful relationships on a regular basis," Tannenbaum said.

Dean Gurney was not available for an interview at this time.

NO CONFIDENCE

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

vote will serve as a wake-up call to an administration that many students feel has been cavalier and out-of-touch."

The final vote was 19 RA members in favor, two against, and one abstaining.

President Spencer also issued a statement concerning the vote of no-confidence:

"We are working to create the strongest possible Bates' experience for every student, now and into the future. This work involves building on Bates' considerable strengths and tackling areas that need to be improved. Students have been instrumental in identifying these areas, and they are front and center in all of this work—the campus culture working group, the institutional planning process, and a range of initiatives including improving student advising, services for students with disabilities, student communications, and first-year orientation. Additionally, students will be involved in developing integrated leadership and peer education programs. I'm sorry about the vote, and I take it seriously because it suggests that there is a gap between this important work and the perceptions of a group of students on campus. I am confident, however, that in continued partnership with our students we will preserve what is most important about Bates while moving the institution forward."

At its Sunday meeting, the BCSG passed an amendment proposed by Tomas Jurgensen that would allow the student body itself to vote on amendments proposed by students or the RA. In order for an amendment to pass via student vote, it would need two-thirds of student support and a minimum voter turnout of 300 students. The RA still has the power to undo, propose, and pass amendments. Members of the RA believe that Jurgensen's proposal would heighten transparency and communication between the student body and student government, along with the administration. The Representative Assembly meets on Sunday evenings in Commons 221.

Working with what we have

Bates hires new Vice President for Finance and Administration and Treasurer

HANNAH GOLDBERG
MANAGING NEWS EDITOR

This fall, former Chief Financial Officer at Harvard Law School Geoffrey Swift joined Bates as the new Vice President for Finance and Administration and Treasurer. Swift joins Bates at an exciting time of advancement and growth—campus construction as well as developments in the Dean's office breathe new energy onto campus. Swift received an M.B.A. from Harvard Business School and is a fellow NESCAC alumnus and economics major from Amherst College.

Swift oversees the college's 240 employees largely involved in Dining and Facilities, but also its finances, including an annual \$100 million operating budget. As President Spencer continues to push Bates into the spotlight as a rigorous academic institution, Swift will be responsible for capital allocations, emphasizing collaboration with his colleagues in the administration and working to provide clarity on difficult decisions.

Bates' operating budget and endowment are dwarfed compared to other liberal arts institutions. Swift's previous employer Harvard Law has an operational budget of \$200 million. With his expertise managing a prestigious graduate school, Swift seeks to help Bates grow and prosper, while continuing to sustain Bates' current values.

Swift ensures that the core emphasis of the College is adequately financed; academics, students, and facilities take priority.

"We see facilities that need improvement; we make trade-offs; some work is behind the scenes," Swift said. "If you ignore certain problems they can become a bigger problem that force other hard decisions."

A major point of frustration among students is Bates' low endowment—Swift shares this sentiment. As of June 2014, Bates' endowment sits at around \$264 million.

"People often don't understand[or] appreciate how an endowment works," Swift said. "It's not an untapped bank account, it's an active asset the school relies on annually." The new Vice President of Finance uses a certain image to illustrate his point: "It is like having a herd of cattle from which you have been taking a set amount of milk from," Swift said. "The herd/endowment/asset can be long-lived if tended to and if used carefully, but if you want more resources in one year, this will mean less in future years, in perpetuity."

Like a living asset, endowments can get sick. A large endowment like Harvard's provides increased market exposure, which makes the funds more susceptible to dips in the market. Swift entered Harvard Law School at the time of the Great Recession of 2009, helping to guide Harvard through that difficult time.

"Even post-Great Recession the endowment was over \$1.3b," Swift said, "but when your program relies on the draw on a \$1.6b billion endowment, there's a math problem! So, more endowment means more programs, and it also brings market exposure, but it

doesn't mean there's lots of unused resources."

The Bates Student also asked Swift about the school's spending on visiting professors versus permanent faculty. Bates dedicates a large portion of its budget towards faculty members. Bates will spend money on visiting professors in order to fill voids of permanent faculty on sabbatical or to hire someone to teach a particular topic of current interest to students. Change is slow, especially at liberal arts institutions, states Swift, but Bates works to accommodate changing interests of the student body without compromising the liberal arts model.

Swift states that he still has a lot to learn. Bates will likely have to confront new revenue sharing policies from Maine's Governor Paul LePage. LePage seeks to tax non-profits, like educational institutions such as Bates, valued over \$500,000. Swift shared that he is new to the state and its financial matters, but is looking to learn more about the state's plans, as well as the Bates' community connections.

"Part of my role is to be sure the broader community is aware of all that Bates adds to the surrounding area, from drawing visitors, facilities access, events, and student community involvement," Swift said.



Vice President for Finance and Administration and Treasurer Geoffrey Swift. **ASHLEEN O'BRIEN/ THE BATES STUDENT**

MCINTOSH

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 5

differences and challenges. He wants to make "headway with these three domains."

Also, all incoming students will be assigned to a student advisor throughout their time at Bates. "Clarity and transparency allows us to support students who are struggling with a more timely intervention," McIntosh said.

Moreover, McIntosh has noticed that students don't necessarily know who to talk to in the Dean's office when they have issues, whether they have problems concerning roommates, adjusting to a new environment, academ-

ics, or family issues. Instead of deans representing a given class year, one dean will be assigned to a certain class for all four years.

"We need a coherent, clear structure for our students," McIntosh said.

Furthermore, McIntosh is promoting larger campus-wide conversations around campus culture, specifically concerning sexual misconduct, the abuse of alcohol and other drugs, and how these are perpetuated by cultural normalcy. He wants students to take leadership in the conversation surrounding these issues by talking about what to do about them, not just what not to do, and also how to foster healthy relationships.

Regarding the departure of Dean Tannenbaum, McIntosh made it clear

that the activities he is in charge of such as VCS and the CHC will not be changing. Much of the work Tannenbaum does will move over to Associate Dean of Students Qui Fogarty.

Next year there will be three new positions in the Dean's Office. The Associate Dean of Campus Life will help to advise the Chase Hall Committee and Student Government while also working on a new student leadership development program. The Assistant Dean of First-Year Programs will work specifically on improving the orientation program and the first-year experience. The Assistant Dean of Accessible Education will work to improve the experience of students who have mental, physical, learning, and psychological

issues.

In the search to fill these new positions, McIntosh is looking for candidates who have knowledge and expertise in each position's respective area, interpersonal acumen, and would be a good fit for the College.

"The faculty here is incredible. The attention and care they give to students is something I've never seen before, quite frankly. That supportive ethos. To not leverage that would be a real missed opportunity," McIntosh said.

In addition, McIntosh is working to provide a better system for identifying places where students want to see change.

"I'm looking to work with Student Government far more closely to look at

the big things that students care about, and how do I work with you to support us making movement on those. Which means we need to elevate our support of Student Government," McIntosh said.

He is also working toward improving the Deans' relationship with the Executive Board, which is student-run.

McIntosh stated it will take one to two years for students to feel some of the benefits of these new changes, while with new certain aspects of Bates' campus culture will take four to six years.

"Senior leadership employees are always evaluating themselves and doing what they think is best for the College," Media Relations Director and Policy Advisor Kent Fischer said.

The Oscars 2015: Somehow still neutral

RILEY HOPKINS
EMILY PINETTE
ASSISTANT ARTS EDITOR
STAFF WRITER

Oscar Sunday: what more is there to say? This iconic event took over almost every TV on campus and had students laughing, discussing which movie was their favorite, and arguing over who looked best on the Red Carpet.

While this awards show was certainly an excellent excuse not to do homework, we would like to discuss some of the things that are less obvious on the screen. We want to address the authenticity and entertainment value of the show as well as the appropriateness of the content of the acceptance speeches. Are the Oscars just another performance opportunity for these nominees?

Starting with the amazing hosting talents of Neil Patrick Harris, we dive right into to the analyses of the "performance" of the Oscars. Harris is undoubtedly musically inclined, humorous...oh, and gorgeous. All of these characteristics are what makes him such a legendary host and draws the audience in, wanting more. His performance with Mainer, Anna Kendrick was nothing short of entertaining; however, did this "performance" carry on through the rest of the show? We propose the question of authenticity at the Oscars, starting with Harris' role of the host setting up the performance-esque quality that would continue to be exhibited through the rest of the night.

Birdman was the big winner of the evening, picking up four Academy Awards. Among them was Best Picture, which was accepted by director Alejandro González Iñárritu. González Iñárritu dedicated his speech to fellow Mexicans who are working to build a strong government, as well as Mexican immigrants living in America that seek respect and dignity. While immigration and ethnicities are not themes in *Birdman*, they have been talked about in regards to this year's Academy Awards. The nominations were



TAYLOR BLACKBURN/THE BATES STUDENT

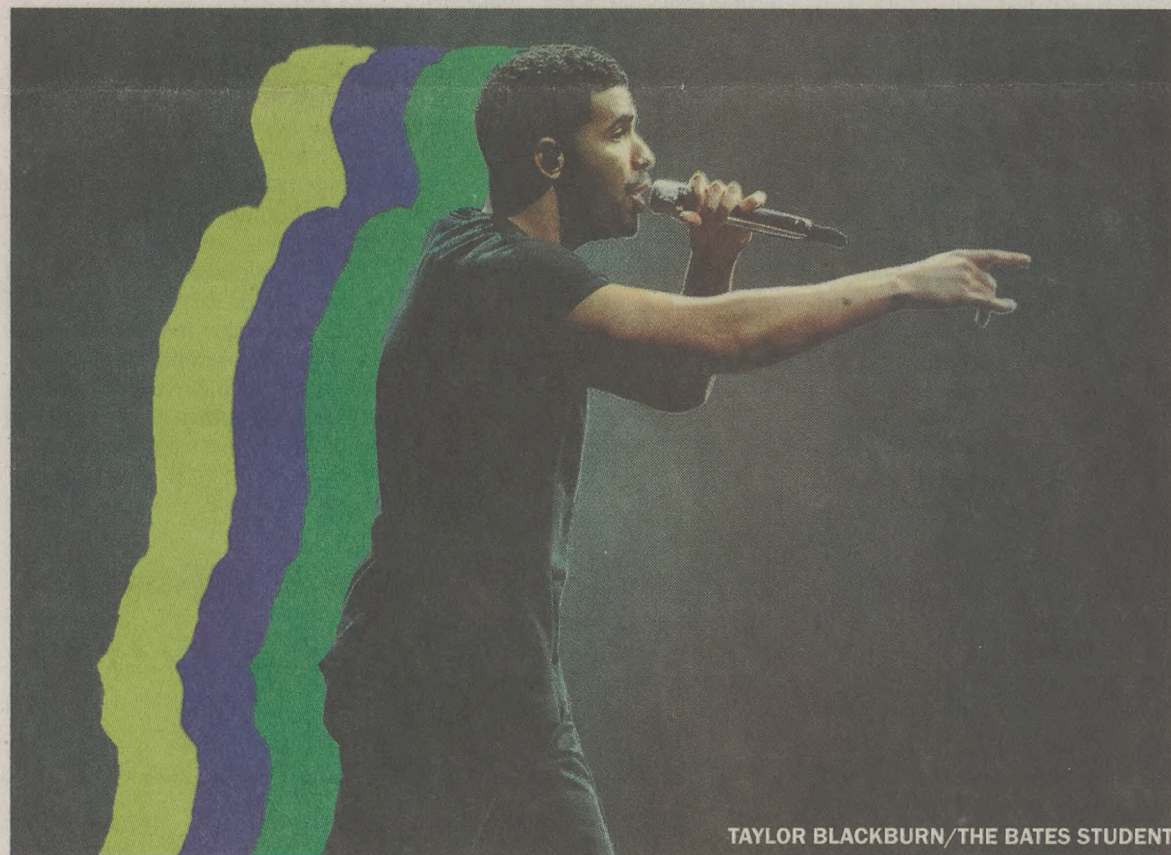
widely criticized for their lack of diversity. For one, *Selma*, which has been widely acclaimed for its portrayal of the 1965 marches from Selma to Montgomery, was left out of the running for Best Director and Best Actor. In fact, all twenty of the acting nominees were white, leading to the creation of the Twitter

hashtag #OscarsSoWhite. When the Best Picture award was announced, presenter Sean Penn joked about González Iñárritu, "Who gave this son of a bitch his green card?" Granted, González Iñárritu and Penn are good friends, and González Iñárritu himself enjoyed the job; however, it was not necessarily the proper place to make such

a statement, and came off as tasteless. In conjunction, the problems at the Academy Awards based on race and ethnicity made González Iñárritu's immigration speech relevant and important to hear. However, what can be said

See OSCARS, PAGE 9

It's not too late to read this.



TAYLOR BLACKBURN/THE BATES STUDENT

MATTHEW WINTER
STAFF WRITER

By releasing an album out of nowhere, watching that album become the best-seller in America, and guaranteeing he will be the center of all music conversations for weeks to come, Drake cemented his place in music supremacy.

If *You're Reading This It's Too Late* is characterized as a mixtape by Drake, despite being technically an album with a cost of \$13. The release does feel like a mixtape as opposed to an album as it is less flashy and more bare-bones than Drake's normal albums. There are no features by artists like Jay-Z or Rihanna, aside from one with Lil Wayne, there is no production from Kayne West or No I.D., there are no radio-ready singles, and for the most part, the songs do not even have a hook. Nonetheless, *IYRTTL* finds Drake at the top of his game and frankly, at his most boastful.

Drake talks about a lot on the release, from his status in hip-hop to his mother. On "Energy," Drake takes a swipe at his enemies by mentioning everything that he has that his enemies do not. The album's highlight, "6 PM in New York," has Drake taking shots at other rappers and expressing his dominance. Then Drake goes back to his childhood in Toronto where he would attempt to get money from phone scams by us-

ing "star 67." Especially since many of the songs on the album deal with Drake flaunting his wealth and status, it is nice to get some insight on Drake's childhood and how it may have shaped him. Drake also talks about how hard he had to work to get to where he is on "6 Man."

Making moms jealous everywhere, Drake used "You & The 6" as a love letter to his mom, rapping about how essential she was to his dealing with the problems he faced in his childhood. Though for every personal song on the record, there are songs like "Madonna" where Drake tries to convince a girl to sleep with him so that she can be like Madonna and sleep his way to being famous.

Given that the record is being referred to as a mixtape but was released as an album, many are wondering if there is an ulterior motive to releasing *IYRTTL* on iTunes. There has been turmoil in Drake's label for a couple of months, and many are speculating that Drake wants to leave Cash Money Records with Lil Wayne and this release is his way of doing so. Drake's contract is for four albums with Cash Money, and he has already released three. Since *IYRTTL* is technically an album, it counts under his record contract, thus Drake has fulfilled his contract. Furthermore, some say the record title is a tongue-in-cheek reference to the Cash Money execu-

tives seeing the album and realizing there's nothing they can do. On "Now & Believe" Drake realizes that he needs to leave the label since he doesn't "wanna miss the boat" and he has to "get where he's going."

Unfortunately, Drake misses an opportunity to make a statement. Many rappers recently, such as J. Cole or Kendrick Lamar, have been using their music to discuss recent social and political events. Given that Drake will make waves with whatever he releases and his appeal stretches much further than almost any rapper, he had a chance to release a song that deals with current societal issues. Hip-hop has long been a platform where artists discussed social change and it seems odd that one of rap's biggest stars in what may be rap's biggest album this year stayed away from discussing social issues.

As the hip hop world patiently waits for *View from the 6*, which will be Drake's fourth real album, listeners can at least savor this preview of what is to come from Drake. As he says on "No Tellin'," there's no telling where Drake will go next, but wherever it is, it will be great.

Matthew Szlachetka '02: Listen or be square

HALLEY POSNER
ASSISTANT ARTS EDITOR

Last week at the Ronj, Bates alum Matthew Szlachetka performed an original nine-piece set from his new album on his acoustic guitar.

"How would you escape a blender if shrunk to the size of a grape?" I asked Szlachetka. With a chuckle and a scratch of his chin, Szlachetka answers, "Well, I guess I'd get ground up, drunk, and escape that way." Tenacity and patience obviously come easily to this artist.

Szlachetka is a Los Angeles-based musician and 2002 alum of Bates. After living at home for a few months after graduation, he jumped into the music world of Los Angeles. He prides himself on his Rock and Roll Americana style. Szlachetka started out in a band named The North Star Session, then struck out on his own to start his solo career after seven years with the band. His brilliant first album entitled "Waits for A Storm to Find" is a must-listen-to. You can find his music on Spotify and iTunes.

In order to be successful in the music business, Szlachetka has three pieces of advice: practice, know your musicology, and listen to albums. Especially in high school and college, when you have plenty of time, practice as much as you can. Szlachetka states that you need to "go back to where it all starts" in terms of musicology, know who your influences are. Furthermore, know who influenced those influences and go listen to those artists. It's not good enough to listen to singles; listen to albums. This will teach you to notice all the different moving pieces that go into making a collection of songs. Szlachetka knows that the location of recording, who mixed and produced the album have profound influences on the tone of the music. Furthermore, this artist knows that you just need to "learn how to write a good song."

Everyone needs inspiration to write the perfect tune, and Szlachetka has a few to say the least. Here at Bates, he had the opportunity to have many professors who made an impact on his music. Through John Smedley's musical acoustics and

physics of electrical sound classes, this acclaimed artist learned how sounds interact with each other. Ken Labrecque was a pivotal person in teaching Szlachetka the guitar at Bates. In the English Department, professor Robert Farnsworth and former professor Lewis Turlish's class left lasting impressions. Turlish's class on *Ulysses* even became an inspiration for a song he released while with his previous band.

I asked this musician what sources outside the Bates community inspired him and he responded by asking "how many days [I] had to talk." It is easy to say that Szlachetka has an incredibly well rounded and well-researched list of musicians whom he claims as inspiration such as: Bob Dylan, Tom Petty, Bruce Springsteen, Jackson Brown and Elton John. Elton John's "Honky Chateau," "Tumbleweed Connection," and "Madmen Across the Water" provided encouragement for the album he just produced. Szlachetka let me in on a secret that he learned while recording his album. Many people think layering tracks over each other makes music sound more complex, but in reality Szlachetka notes "it just makes the music sound smaller, because you can't hear the individual sounds."

When asked how his music reflects himself, Szlachetka answered that he preforms a blend of Rock and Roll, folk, blues, and country. These influences come from "the gumbo of records he grew up listening to" in his parents' house. This artist stays true to his roots even in the hustling and bustling Los Angeles music community.

For many, the music industry is surrounded in a hazy cloud of celebrities, flashing lights, and platinum records hanging on walls of music studies. However, Szlachetka showed me a different side to music labels. Musicians "always need to have a good sense of their own identity," Szlachetka says. The music world has changed, record labels will no longer hire someone, and then invest a bunch of money so they can go on the road to develop a fan-base and longevity. Now, there isn't the

See SZLACHETKA, PAGE 4

How to Get Away with Murder: Cliffhanger crimes committed



TAYLOR BLACKBURN/THE BATES STUDENT

HANNA BAYER
STAFF WRITER

SPOILER ALERT

Last Thursday, February 26th, Shonda Rhimes's latest masterpiece, *How To Get Away With Murder*, ended for the season (*cries softly*). The two-hour finale is essentially a build-up to the final two minutes of the episode, which were truly unbelievable. Classic Shonda. She never fails to throw an unbelievably twisted and unexpected cliffhanger to end her seasons.

The episode begins with characters Wes and Laurel visiting Rudy, Rebecca's last neighbor. After discovering that Rebecca is a murderer, the team takes an Orthodox approach: they bind and gag Rebecca in order to keep her from escaping Annalise's home. At first, most of the evidence that the team can find is speculation and not physical, thus later evidence supporting their claim leads to a heated final two minutes.

We learn through flashbacks that Sam ordered Frank to murder Lila. The last minute of the episode shows Rebecca dead on the floor, with both Annalise and Frank claiming they didn't do it. I guess we have another murder on our hands.

The finale was enjoyable because

it is consistent with Rhimes's writing style. Some more dramatic episodes, and all of her finales, contain sequences of events that are all leading to a greater event. This is typically the cliffhanger. Rhimes's viewers have grown to love this aspect of her writing, and she definitely knows this, as she consistently includes it.

Don't get me wrong, the build-up is just as exhilarating as the cliffhanger. Many viewers, myself included, are constantly trying to figure out what these events are leading to. We become the detectives, though we are not always successful. It is possible to figure out the cliffhanger, as she always leaves small clues, but it is surely difficult. It's all right that I don't figure it out, though. The surprise at the end of an episode, or a season, is incredibly exciting and will often make you say, "Oh, I see that now!"

The finale also did an excellent job tying up the season, which is again nothing unusual for Rhimes. It came full circle by opening with flashbacks of Sam's murder, investigating the murder (with Rebecca as a suspect at first), dropping clues about possible suspects and the murderer, and ending with all our season's questions answered. Rhimes dropped many clues to lead us to believe Sam or Rebecca could have

killed Lila, and she left a few about Frank's sociopathic tendencies.

Further, Rudy, who was the key that unlocked the Keating Five's return to investigating Rebecca, has had a small but mysterious presence throughout the season. We wondered what happened to him, if or how Rebecca was involved, and how they were involved in the bigger picture. And in the last episode, we learned. All the questions and suspicions Rhimes planted throughout the season were confirmed or debunked in the finale, but new ones have been planted, perfect for the coming season. My hat goes off to you, Shonda.

Though I could continue to rave about the finale, there is a significant plot flaw in the episode. After Wes met with Rudy, he raided Annalise's files only to discover Rebecca was seen at the sorority house after the murder. This gave him reason to believe she was involved, and he started digging. But this vital piece of evidence had been there all along. Shouldn't this investigation have happened a long time ago? How did Rebecca end up get off of being a suspect so easily? Wes's finding was extremely convenient, if you ask me.

Cinematography has also been an issue throughout the season. *Scandal*, another of Rhimes's shows,

uses a variety of camera angles to evoke senses of emotion, but in *Murder* the cinematography has always seemed quite bland. It does nothing for the characters or the plot. Since Rhimes's show is capable of a strong cinematographic aspect, I wonder if she chooses to not use the camera in this way. In my opinion, the show would be a lot better if she did.

This episode left me with a lot of questions and brewing theories, beginning with the character Frank. I guess I can see it now, considering he had no hesitation planting evidence to make it appear that Nate killed Sam. He asked no questions, and did as told with no remorse. It was unsettling. But the murder of Lila is different. When Sam claims that Frank owes him a favor, we're left wondering why and what that favor is. It's a puzzling interaction because there has been no evidence of a relationship between Frank and Sam. This leads me to believe Annalise was in on the murder of Lila. She wanted Lila dead because she knew Lila was pregnant, and knew that would be bad press for her. Sam wanted Lila dead because his mistress is pregnant, but perhaps they were in it together? As for who murdered Rebecca, I think

it was Connor. He's been horribly paranoid about his involvement in Sam's death getting out, and he voiced concern that once they set Rebecca free, she would run and tell the world. As far as we knew, Wes was the last one to see Rebecca. But there was a scene showing him standing over her empty chair, wondering where she is. So it can't have been him. But Annalise said she would make sure Rebecca kept quiet about how poorly she was treated by "asking her nicely." Annalise is smart enough to know that would never work. Maybe Annalise did it.

Knowing Rhimes, it'll be something totally unexpected. All I know is that I cannot wait for the next season. If you have not watched *How To Get Away With Murder* before, I strongly recommend it. I think anyone could enjoy it, due to its mystery, drama, action and romance. However, I find that it especially appeals to women and women of color, due to its strong female roles.

Comic Corner

KATE BLANDFORD
STAFF CARTOONIST

It's not just the snow keeping us cold

The absurdity of adaptation: Why *50 Shades of Grey* should never have been made



TAYLOR BLACKBURN/THE BATES STUDENT

MARY ANNE BODNAR
MANAGING ARTS EDITOR

Last week's Oscars ceremony led viewers and bloggers everywhere to question "Who is all of this for, anyway?" As J. K. Simmons accepted his best supporting actor award for a film that hardly any of my friends had heard about, and Alejandro Inarritu (or the man that Sean Penn affectionately refers to with the phrase; "Who gave this son of a bitch his green card?") became the Best Director, cinephiles everywhere sighed with relief that their favorite quirky films had been recognized. Meanwhile, hordes of viewers adopted puzzled looks as box office hits that had lead them to write heated Facebook posts related to patriotism and gun control lost every chance they had to be relevant again.

I didn't think too much about this discrepancy between popular opinion and those of the (mostly old, white, male) voting members of the Academy until I watched "50 Shades of Grey" this weekend and

my own expectations for a product of the film industry felt mildly ignored. I can't attempt to critique *50 Shades of Grey* because Anthony Lane did a knee-slapping good job in his review "No Pain No Gain" for the *New Yorker* three weeks ago, but I will use it as a jumping off point to discuss the validity in calling Sam Taylor-Johnson's film an adaptation of E.L. James' "prose" (insulting quotation marks intended) and my own qualms as an expectant moviegoer.

Firstly, for anyone who isn't one of the "over one million" people that have bought this book, E.L. James' "50 Shades of Grey" is an erotic novel, of sorts. I say "of sorts" because this attempt at the English language has become so hugely popular with individuals and book groups around the country that it has become more than acceptable to read in public. I'm hard-pressed these days to get on a subway car in NYC and not see someone reading it. Never before has the ride from Pelham Bay Park to Brooklyn Bridge gone by so quickly. "If you see something, say

something" has taken on entirely new meanings.

I hate to call myself an expectant moviegoer because I don't want to admit that I expected anything to come from such a sad excuse for a book, but upon reflection I admit that I naively expected, as I do with other book to film adaptations, such as the *The Hunger Games* and *Harry Potter*, for the essence of the book to stay intact.

I've read sections of *50 Shades*, (mostly just the crease-worn sections of the book I borrowed from a friend, and then brief other paragraphs to laugh at the lack of diversity in choice adjectives), and I can say that the film barely resembles the book. How can I make this judgment if I haven't read it in full? Quite easily, once I picked up on the pattern of which were worn sections in my friend's book and which seemed hardly touched. No one reads *50 Shades* for the prose, they read it because it's a socially acceptable form of pornography. If you'd like to argue otherwise, I'll gladly set

up office hours of some kind. The pornographic sections that were so crease-worn in my friend's copy (which she has sworn to have leant to all her friends...) don't exist in the movie. They are, by nature of the MPAA guidelines for "R" rated movies, dulled down. These guidelines exist to ensure that mainstream films with MPAA ratings aren't about sex. Movies can feature and allude to it, but they can't center entirely around it. Since the sad soul of James' book is the physically daring relationship between two individuals, a key step in the adaptation process was extracting that physical essence and making it less excitable. What we're left with are two works of entirely different genres.

A. O. Scott of the *New York Times* asserted in his article entitled "Unexpected Lessons from 'Fifty Shades'" that "On the page, 'Fifty Shades' is bad art and effective pornography. On screen, it's the reverse."

By generous standards, Taylor-Johnson's film is not terrible. Da-

kota Johnson and Jamie Dorman demonstrate fundamental abilities of acting, cinematographer Seamus McGarvey employs flattering camera angles, and sound editors let Ellie Goulding's pipes ring right when we take a scenic helicopter ride over Seattle.

Suspense is really the fire blanket that smothers any real excitement out of the film. Expectant viewers wait for the pornography that just spilled artlessly out of the novel, but instead they spend the blessedly short 120 minutes ruminating on the source of their growing disappointment.

Consequently, it's my belief that *50 Shades* is a film that should have never been made. It's a disservice to an already terrible book and another way for the film industry to rack in money from naive moviegoers (\$486.2 million and counting). Let me be clear: I'm not arguing for censorship in any way. I love that our society allows art to exist at all ends of a spectrum ranging from outlandishly vulgar, liberal, and explicit to sterile and conservative. The very existence of these extremes is the crux of our country's First Amendment and it is—for lack of a better word—beautiful (patriotism is sappy, is it not?).

But let respectfully self-labeled pornography be the squatter of that extreme, and please, film industry, don't waste \$40 million on dulled-down—dare I say grey—interpretations of raunchy books pretend to serve that role for society. It's a waste of everyone's time and nearly-high-school reading skills. When film critics such as Anthony Lane compare what was supposed to be a raunchy sex scene with a whip to "Roger Federer, practicing gentle cross-court lobs at the net," you know something has been lost in translation.

Gliss Riffer: A cacophany too complex

ZEV CARTER
STAFF WRITER

I have listened to Dan Deacon's *Gliss Riffer* three times now, and I have no idea as to what's going on in this album. I'm just about as clueless right now as I was before I even pressed play. By clueless, I should clarify that I mean almost every song on *Gliss Riffer* wasn't easy to listen to or follow by any reasonable stretch of the imagination. This could be a function of Deacon's music, or it could simply be mean that his album concept and songwriting process is a success—which is really odd, just like the artist and almost all of the music that he produces.

Dan Deacon's musical style has been described by dozens of people as belonging to as many different genres, from experimental EDM to minimalist electronic to Anthony Fantano's description of "ecstatic pop," characterized by "incredibly sweet funfetti cakes of textural happiness." I don't think I have the vocabulary or the musical expertise to pinpoint just where this music or this album falls on the musical spectrum, but what I can confidently say is that some convoluted combination of the above three genres is as accurate of a description that I can uncover. Most of Deacon's songs begin with one or two layers of sound, and these are almost invariably a combination of buzzy synthesizer and uptempo drum beat. This is where any semblance to predictability in Deacon's music, at least on *Gliss Riffer*, flies right on out of the metaphorical window.

Explaining the album is probably done best by describing the methods by which the songs that

it contains progress and develop over time. Deacon, as far as I can tell, writes his songs in a way similar to STRFKR, a technique called "Process Music." Process Music is defined by a song's evolution over time, with many different musical elements adjoining, building off of, and accenting one another, but doing so while based off of a limited amount of musical material. In essence, these musical elements stick closely together to build an extremely dense song structure. Every track on *Gliss Riffer* has so many musical layers and textures wound so tightly around one or two patterns or musical ideas, for complete lack of a better term, which gives them their complex and admittedly confusing characteristics.

That's the underlying problem that I, and I think others, will have with this album—the songs that Dan Deacon has made, while they're impressive in their complexity, are just too difficult to listen to and garner real enjoyment from. In a similar vein, there's almost no use of silence on this album, to the point where certain songs like "Mind on Fire" and "Take it to the Max" approach, and at certain points reach the point of droning electronic noise accompanied by sparsely distributed and highly distorted lyrics.

I don't have a hard time seeing people enjoying this album—it's definitely respectable in the technical skill and musical talent that must have been necessary to create it and unite so many sounds into coherent pieces. All of this being said, though, there's simply too much going on here for me to enjoy what Dan Deacon has created.

SZLACHETKA

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 7

budget to do this sort of work. Instead, the label wants the individual to do all the work. Szlachetka notes that Springsteen didn't "make it" until his fourth album, but now if your first record doesn't sell "you get

dropped."

One regret that Szlachetka has is that he didn't strike out on his own solo career sooner. While being in a band helped him develop interpersonal and compromising skills, sometimes, Szlachetka notes, people sometimes get hired because they "can hang" and get along with others.

Szlachetka's performance and life work are a testament to how

far hard work and perseverance can get you in the world. Bates should be proud to call this humble, successful, and talented individual an alumnus.

OSCARS

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 7

about the actual presentation of the acceptance speech? For one, this group of men on stage did not use the typical emotional and dramatic speech mechanism that most of the recipients used. They were humorous, lighthearted, and genuine, offering a new dynamic in the realm of Oscar entertainment. It was refreshing to see an acceptance speech that got the job done without the tears and gasping for air.

The Oscar for Best Supporting Actress went to Patricia Arquette for her portrayal of a single mom in *Boyhood*. This Richard Linklater-directed film garnered praise for its unusual filming, which took place over a period of twelve years. Arquette used her time onstage to call attention to gender inequality in the workplace, asking taxpayers of our nation to start working to close the wage gap between men and women. While most of the women in the audience—most notably, front row seaters Meryl Streep and J-Lo—cheered in agreement, not everyone was on board with Arquette. As a well-paid Hollywood actress, critics

found it slightly inappropriate for Arquette to be talking about a topic that most likely affects women who were watching the Awards at home greater than the actress herself. However, the wage gap does reach all classes. While the show may be about entertainment, the speech gave the Academy, and Hollywood overall, a moment to rethink the way women are treated in the industry.

Perhaps the most talked-about speech of the night came from Graham Moore, who picked up the Best Adapted Screenplay Oscar for *The Imitation Game*. The film follows the life of Alan Turing, a World War II codebreaker who was prosecuted for his homosexuality. Moore used his speech to discuss how he used to, like Turing, feel different. He opened up about having attempted suicide at the age of sixteen, and reminded anyone struggling themselves that they do fit in this world closing with the phrase, "Stay weird. Stay different." This speech highlighted that, while the Academy Awards take place to honor film, they also serve to reiterate to us of the messages that these films are sending.

It was interesting to see Moore present the acceptance speech in such a way that directly connects to

the underlying theme in the movie. It makes us marvel at the question of authenticity in his gratitude. He did something no one would have expected, which leads us to believe that his speech was indeed genuine, while others could argue that this act was a mere "act" that was dramatized to capture the audience and ultimately serve as something to be talked about for days to come. Either way, it was certainly a stand-out speech that boosted the popularity of the Oscars.

Finally, what would an Oscars 2015 review be without mentioning John Travolta? That's right, he strikes again. Last year we saw him mispronounce Idina Menzel's name only to have her do the same to him this year. Seeing the two of them onstage together this year was exciting for the audience because it was like...rekindling an old flame, if you will.

The Oscars were certainly filled with humor, entertainment, and powerful, emotional, dense acceptance speeches. Nonetheless, the high level of entertainment is undeniable and sucks us in every year.

Spring sports stock

As the spring season begins in earnest, we preview each team and attempt to forecast their future



Samuel Warren '16 leads an experienced junior class. PHYLLIS GRABER JENSEN/BATES COLLEGE



Singles No.1 Pierre Planche '15. SARAH CROSBY/BATES COLLEGE



Attacker Moriah Greenstein '16. PHYLLIS GRABER JENSEN/BATES COLLEGE



Captain Jack Strain '15. PHYLLIS GRABER JENSEN/BATES COLLEGE

KYLE OLEHNIK
NOAH LEVICK
WILL CLEAVES
MANAGING SPORTS EDITORS
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

Baseball

Stock: Up

Despite losing seven seniors to graduation including star first baseman Griff Tewksbury and pitcher Brad Reynolds, the Bates baseball team looks to build upon last season's success. They have the tools to do damage in the NESCAC, which they displayed over February break when they went 4-2 behind junior Evan Czopek and senior Nate Pajka, who hit .522 and .423 respectively. This season, the team has a nice blend of seasoned veterans and freshmen. Along with Pajka are fellow seniors Mekae Hyde and Rockwell Jackson, who have the experience to lead a NESCAC run. From there, the 'Cats have depth up the middle with sophomore Brendan Fox and junior Sam Warren, who hit .302 during the 2014 campaign. Junior classmates Conor Reenstierna and Berto Diaz also provide much needed depth. Finally, senior duo Will Levangie and Sam Berry lead a crop of pitchers that also include promising freshmen Connor Speed and Connor Russell. The Bobcats next play at Old Westbury on March 14.

Softball

Stock: Down

After going 8-20 during the 2014 campaign and losing only one senior, second-year coach McKell Barnes will try to continue building a relatively young squad. Barnes has stressed building team identity, core values, and working with sports professionals to prepare for this upcoming season. On the diamond, the pitching duo of seniors Kelsey Freedman and Brenna Callahan look to keep opposing hitters at bay,

while junior Karen Lockhart and sophomore Maddie Inlow should lead the offensive charge.

Women's Lacrosse

Stock: Up

Last year's record: 8-8 (4-6)
Last year's result: Lost 12-7 at Trinity in NESCAC Quarterfinals
Pivotal games: this season Trinity, March 17 (A), Bowdoin, April 1 (H), Colby, April 22 (A)

Key returning players:

Moriah Greenstein '16

The Bobcats will rely on the junior attacker to provide offensive firepower. Greenstein led the team with 48 points in a 2014 season that was cut short by a torn ACL. Coming off that injury, look for Greenstein to be just as strong and lead Bates to another NESCAC tournament bid.

Emma Getsinger '15

As the senior captain, Getsinger will be a force in the midfield. She's athletic and can get up and down the field. She should be important in the close games when it's going to be won between the lines. The 'Cats will depend on Getsinger to set the tone for a talented midfield group.

Hannah Jeffrey '16

Jeffrey has been nothing short of a stonewall in the cage for the last two seasons. With a goals against average of 8.14, expect Jeffrey to once again keep Bates in close games and continue to make big time saves. She'll remain the cornerstone of a Bobcat defense that appears primed for another impressive campaign.

Overall outlook:

Bates has its sights not only on returning to the NESCAC tournament, but making a bit more noise nationally as well. Last year this team spent most of the season ranked in the top 20, and it's hard to

believe that this squad isn't capable of greater success than last season's first round exit at Trinity. It will be important for the Bobcats to finish in the top four in the NESCAC and secure a home playoff game. Consistency is the word on the chalkboard in the locker room. When everything is clicking for Bates, they can take down powerhouses behind enemy lines (6-3 win at Trinity on March 15 last season), but they can't afford to let some other games slip away (10-6 loss to Colby in regular season finale).

Prediction:

Bates will advance to the semifinals of the NESCAC championship and regardless of result, the 'Cats should punch a ticket to the NCAA championships.

Men's Lacrosse

Stock: Up

Last year's record: 4-9 (1-9)
Last year's result: Last place in the NESCAC
Pivotal games: Wesleyan, March 7 (H), Bowdoin, April 1 (A), Colby, April 22 (H)

Key returning players:

Jack Strain '15

The senior captain is a force to be reckoned with. Strain notched 21 goals and dished 5 assists last year. With a deadly shot from the outside and the ability to drive to the cage, Strain should play an even greater role entering his senior campaign. Strain stands as a big third of an attack that will need to produce in order to stay competitive in the NESCAC. If he stays hungry, Strain is capable of a 35-point season.

Kenneth O'Friel '16

O'Friel ate groundballs for breakfast, lunch, and dinner last year, leading the squad with 45. He's an athletic freak at long-stick midfield and is capable of matching

up with the NESCAC's finest and beating them to the loose ball. With a number of holes at the faceoff X, O'Friel will have to step in and win some draws for Bates. He will be crucial to the midfield unit's success this season.

Joe Faria '16

Starting this season, Faria will be giving Jeffrey a run for her money as the best goalie in Lewiston. It was just a matter of time before the stars aligned for Faria to take the helm as the starter and finisher for the 'Cats. After sharing time last year with senior Charlie Kazarian, Faria assumes the role as the clear-cut choice in the cage for Bates. He impressed at times last year with a goals against average of 8.57. Look for that number to drop, and for Faria to keep Bates in the hunt for a NESCAC tournament birth.

Overall outlook:

This team is a strange animal. They're definitely talented, as Bates has players in all three parts of the field that can run with the best of them. But the 'Cats lost too many close games (8-7 loss to Trinity, March 15) and too many winnable games (12-9 loss to Colby, April 23) last year. It seemed that when the going got tough, Bates couldn't answer the call. They lost six NESCAC games by a margin of three goals or less. The Bobcats went winless in the month of April, losing five straight NESCAC conference games. But with the Bobcats retaining most of their weapons from last season, expect Bates to win some of those closer contests this time around. They'll have to finish games out and remain tough both on the road and at home. It also is important that they get a few wins under their belt early in the season. There is certainly hope for the squad, but they still need to prove that they can turn those tight losses from last season into clutch wins.

Prediction:

Bates will fight all year and will win against Bowdoin and Colby, capturing the CBB lacrosse title. But unless they figure it out against the rest of the NESCAC, it may be a long shot for Bates to return to the playoffs.

Women's Tennis

Stock: Even

The spring season is already in full swing for the women's tennis team, who have opened with a 2-2 record, with losses to Redlands and Claremont and wins over Whittier and Smith. Senior Elena Mandzhukova, freshman Maisie Silverman, and sophomore Elizabeth Erbasina anchor the Bates lineup as the top three seeds. Manzhukova picked up a dramatic individual victory at Claremont in a 7-6, 2-6, 14-12 marathon. Last spring, Bates started well before petering out and losing their last six games against NESCAC opposition. They'll aim to build on their solid start to the season.

Men's Tennis

Stock: Up

Senior Pierre Planche and sophomore Chris Ellis, who combined to win the Northeast Region National Small College Championships in the fall, should lead Bates as the weather gradually gets warmer and playing tennis outside starts to sound like a sane idea. The Bates men started the spring by going 2-1 on their trip to California. On Friday, Bates is scheduled to play their first game in the chilly Northeast, against Babson. Bates then has a slew of games in March before taking on a formidable slate of seven NESCAC opponents in April. The emergence of freshmen Adam Schwartz and Ben Rosen may be key in determining the team's fortunes.

Men's Basketball



Billy Selmon '15. DARYN SLOVER/BATES COLLEGE

Did you know?

After receiving an at-large bid, the men's basketball team will play in the NCAA Division III tournament for the first time in school history.

KHALEK

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 12

the team has played all season," according to Arora. In this NESCAC showdown, the Bobcats triumphed over the Ephs 5-4 in spectacular fashion. Earlier in the season, Williams beat Bates 5-4. Bates swept the first four singles positions with wins from Abdel Khalek, Hatata, Campbell, and senior captain Andy Cannon.

The Bobcats next faced George Washington for 13th place in the final CSA team rankings. The squad triumphed 6-3 in a good team win,

with wins coming at the top and the bottom of the lineup. Bates won first, second, fourth, sixth, eighth, and ninth singles.

Sophomore ninth singles player Carlos Ames commented on the team's performance: "It was pure intensity last weekend at nationals. With all the ups and downs our team has had this year, to finish how we did was really special. After a tough loss to Princeton, we gave it everything we had against Williams and George Washington. From the first point to the last point, all of us grinded. We made a statement at CSA nationals. Next year we're going to do even bigger things, I just

know it. We've all come a long way, and it's really sad to see the seniors leave, but we're also excited and happy for them. I couldn't have asked for a better group of guys to play alongside with. This team is special."

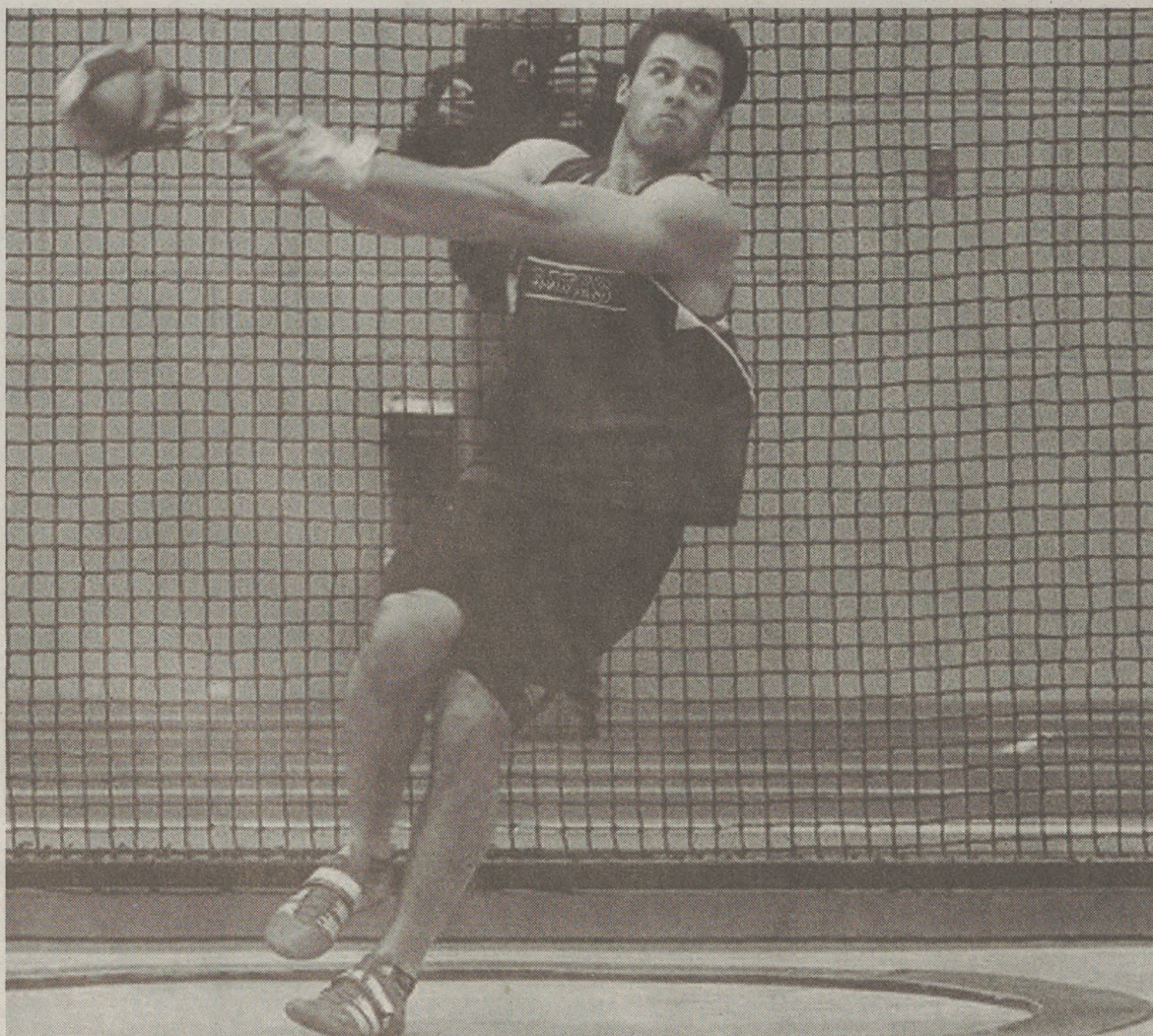
On the women's side, the 16th ranked Bobcats opened the CSA team championship weekend in the B division against number nine Dartmouth. Dartmouth prevailed 6-3, with Bates' points coming from Nessrine Ariffin (first), Myriam Kelly (second), and Lauren Williams (six), who all won in straight sets. The team finished their season against Middlebury, who won 7-2. Bates' top two singles players

(Ariffin and Kelly) again won their matches against their NESCAC rivals. However, the Panthers swept from three through nine.

Ariffin and Kelly went on to compete at the national individual tournament. Ariffin, the 24th ranked player, lost to Trinity's Raneem Sharaf 3-1 before defeating the 25th ranked player Zandra Ho, 3-0. The next day, she fell in four sets to Michelle Gemmell of Harvard. Kelly, ranked 43rd, had a first-round bye before losing to Yale's Georgia Blatchford in four sets. In the consolation bracket, Kelly took down Saskia Pownall-Gray of Middlebury before facing Gabriella Garr. Kelly

jumped out to a 2-0 lead but lost the next three sets.

Kelly had this to say on the season: "This past season was filled with ups and downs. Some of us have pushed through injuries, and that just goes to show how much we love the game and our teammates. Given that squash is an individual sport, when I'm on the court, I am comforted by the knowledge that my team has my back, and through my actions and fight on the court I let them know that I've got their backs. I believe the hard work has paid off for all of us as individual players, and as a team."



Sean Enos '15. TOM LEONARD '78/COURTESY PHOTO

TRACK

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land's there were multiple runners, throwers, jumpers, and hurdlers that were trying to qualify for ECACs or NCAAAs, which are the final two meets of the season.

The women's team performed strongly in the 4x400m relay, as they finished less than a second off of Bates' all-time record. The women's success did not stop there. In the

Distance Medley Relay, they ran the 3rd-fastest time in Bates history and posted the 8th fastest time in the nation.

Sophomores Molly Chisholm and Ashley Pollack also were stand-outs for the Bobcats. Both destroyed their previous personal records in the 800 meters and 1000 meters; they posted the 9th and 10th fastest times respectively in Bates history. Fellow sophomore Allison Hill qualified for the semifinals in the 60-meter hurdles in a very talented pool of hurdlers, and ran an opening time of 9.13 seconds.

I spoke with sophomore Jessica Wilson, who placed fourth with her teammates in the Women's Distance Medley, and she provided some insight on the team's state of mind.

"Coming off of an unexpected Maine State Championship win, there is a very positive force fueling us through the remaining championship races. We're lucky in that this year we have a talented mix of jumpers, throwers, vaulters, runners, and hurdlers who all love the sport and are dedicated to making the team be as successful as possible," Wilson commented. The women's team placed 26th out of 38 very competitive teams at Open New England's.

The men's team held their own against difficult opponents as well this past weekend, placing 8th out of 32 teams. Senior Sean Enos starred again, taking first place in the weight throw (19.89 meters) and shot put (17.43 meters). Enos was not alone in the throwing standings; freshman up-and-comer Adedire Fakorede

came in 11th in the weight throw and junior Nick Margitza took sixth in the shot put.

Bates edged out Colby by a tenth of a second for 11th place in the 4x400 Meter relay with a time of 3:20.20. Several runners stepped up for Bates, including sophomore Michael Horowicz, who placed 16th in the 5000-meter run. Additionally, the men's Distance Medley group took 16th place, and the 4x800-meter relay came in ninth. I had the chance to talk with senior captain John Stansel about his team's performance.

"This has been a very successful year for us on the indoor oval, maintaining our reputation in New England as an elite team," Stansel said. "With a young crop of talented runners, it looks like the team will hopefully be set to continue our tradition of excellence in the years to come."

The Bobcats are aiming to continue their surge into this weekend, when they travel to New York for the ECAC Division III Championships.

Swimming



Andrew Briggs '15. PHYLLIS GRABER JENSON/BATES COLLEGE

Men take 5th, women 2nd in NESCAC Swimming and Diving Championships

An impressive total of 12 Bobcats qualified for the NCAA Championships

WILL CLEAVES
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

On February 15, the Bates women's swim team took to the pool at Wesleyan for the NESCAC Swimming and Diving Championships. The Bobcats finished in second place, marking their highest finish in the tournament's history. Coming off a fourth place finish in 2014, the team not only climbed a couple of rungs up the ladder, but all 24 members of the team scored points in the effort, another first for the 'Cats. Their total of 1,345 points fell below Williams' mark of 2,103.5, while Middlebury rounded out the top three with 1,203 points.

Bates put on quite a show throughout the three-day event, as this year's group broke ten previous

team records. Freshman Logan McGil set a NESCAC meet record in the 50-yard freestyle, while sophomore Julia Smachlo finished sixth in the 1650-yard freestyle. Both will go on to compete in the NCAA Championships alongside six other 'Cats in sophomore Sara Daher, junior Lyndsey Pregovisk, freshman Nell Houde, junior Whitney Paine, junior Caroline Depew, and freshman Anabel Carter. This impressive bunch from Bates will compete March 18-21 in Shenandoah, Texas.

Just one week after the women's strong effort, the Bates men were at Middlebury competing against their NESCAC opponents. Bates finished in fifth place with 969 points, falling just short of fourth-place Tufts. Williams and Amherst finished at the top with 2,066.5 and 1,579 points

respectively. The 'Cats certainly improved from last year's showing (when they finished 6th), breaking 19 team records. Senior Matt Gagne posted one of those records, finishing eighth in the 200-yard butterfly with a time of 1:51.11. The senior captain will be joining the Bates women qualifiers at NCAAAs with four teammates of his own in fellow senior captain Andrew Briggs, and freshmen Riley Ewing and Theodore Pender.

Bates is sending 12 athletes to the NCAA Championships, a large improvement from the record five who made the trip last year. After a long season of record-breaking success, this group of Bobcats has the opportunity to prove once again that 'Cats don't fear the water; in fact, they swim pretty darn well.

Track & Field

Track builds momentum

After solid showings at the New England Division III Indoor Championships and the Open New England Indoor Championships, Bates looks ahead to ECAC and NCAA Division III meets

GERALD NELSON
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

Since winning the Maine State Title, Bates the track team has not looked back.

Both the men's and women's teams were at Boston University for the David Hemery Valentine Invitational on February 14, where they did not disappoint. Senior captain John Stansel ran a career best 4:10.72 in the mile, which moved him to sixth all-time at Bates, and freshman Sally Ceesay broke her own triple jump record with a jump of 11.75 meters.

In the New England Division III Indoor Championship on February 20th and 21st, both teams took home top ten spots, with the women finishing a respectable eighth and the men coming in an impressive second. Senior captain Elena Jay led by example, winning the 3,000 meter run, and senior Sean Enos would not be dethroned as New England champion, winning the shot put and the weight throw. He also broke the meet record for the weight throw. It's safe to say that the team is on a roll.

This past weekend, the men and women's team competed in Open New England's at Boston University, and both teams stepped up to the challenge of some very tenacious competition. At Open New Eng-

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Ahmed Abdel Khalek crowned national squash champion

Abdel Khalek capped an undefeated season by winning the first individual national championship in Bates history



National champion Ahmed Abdel Khalek '16. PHYLLIS GRABER JENSON/BATES COLLEGE

JOHN NEUFELD
STAFF WRITER

Both men and women's squash finished up their seasons this past weekend. On the men's side, junior Ahmed Abdel Khalek made history by winning the College Squash Association national championship to end his 25-0 season.

This past weekend, the top three singles players for Bates competed at the CSA individual national tournament. Abdel Khalek and sophomore Ahmed Hatata are both All-NESCAC First Team honorees. Abdel Khalek is also the NESCAC Men's squash Player of the Year for the third season in a row.

Sophomore Darrius Campbell played two matches in the B division, defeating Lockie Munro from

St. Lawrence before losing to Michelangelo Bertocchi of Rochester in a close consolation quarterfinals match. Hatata advanced to the quarterfinals in the A division before falling to Ryosei Kobayashi of Rochester in three hard-fought games (11-9, 11-8, 11-9).

Abdel Khalek was seeded first in the tournament, and he did not disappoint. He won his first five matches without dropping a set, beating some of the nation's top players along the way. In the championship match, Abdel Khalek came back from two sets down to beat Colombia freshman Osama Khalifa 3-2 to win the national title. He is currently on a two season, 42-match winning streak. He is truly a master of squash.

From the team standpoint, junior captain Caran Arora described

the season as "a roller coaster. We had some huge wins and some forgettable losses. And we have gotten into a habit of digging ourselves out of a hole at the very end. The end to this season was no different." With two weeks left in the season, the team was ranked 18th in the nation. "This ranking was very foreign and unknown to us," Arora said. "We knew we had to beat Middlebury at NESCACs to stand a chance of getting into the B flight and being a top 16 team" Arora continued. With their win against Middlebury, the Bobcats were able to compete at CSA team nationals in the B division.

The men's team participated in CSA team nationals two weekends ago, ultimately placing 13th in the nation. The team opened the championship weekend with a 7-2 loss

to Princeton in the Hoehn Cup (B Division) quarterfinals. The Tigers were ranked ninth at this point and the Bobcats were 16th. Abdel Khalek, remained undefeated as he bested Princeton's Samuel Kang in four sets. At second singles, Hatata suffered his first loss of the season. Bates' second point came at third singles from sophomore Darrius Campbell, who posted a very impressive four set win. Bates came close at fourth and sixth singles but lost both matches in five sets. Princeton swept seeds four through nine.

With the loss, Bates moved into the consolation side of the bracket and faced Williams the next day in "one of the most intense matches

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Men's Basketball

Men's basketball receives first ever NCAA bid

A disappointing defeat in the NESCAC tournament to Wesleyan didn't keep the 19-6 Bobcats from qualifying for the NCAA tournament



Marques Delpeche '15 battling down low. DARYN SLOVER/BATES COLLEGE

KYLE OLEHNIK
MANAGING SPORTS EDITOR

Heading into a NESCAC quarterfinal matchup against Wesleyan, the men's basketball team had momentum on their side, going 5-1 in the month of February prior to

the contest. Just a few weeks earlier, the Bobcats took down Wesleyan in Alumni Gym and ended the regular season with a win against St. Joseph's College of Maine heading into the tournament. However, cold shooting from the field proved to be the dagger for the Bobcats in the NES-

CAC quarterfinals, as Bates eventually fell to the Cardinals, 66-59.

Wesleyan had superb performances from guard combo Joe Edmonds and Jack Mackey, who both got things started for Wesleyan and did not let up. The duo both hit big shots throughout the game, particu-

larly at the end. For the 'Cats, junior Mike Boornazian had a game-high 23 points and nine rebounds while senior Graham Safford added 16 points and seven assists.

For most of the game, both teams were dropping shots and making clutch plays, but the Bob-

cats' poor shooting from beyond the arc proved to be their downfall. For the game, the 'Cats shot 15% from three and 38% overall. As the game came down to the end, the Cardinals got two important defensive stops and hit 7-8 from the charity stripe to seal the deal. With the loss, the Bobcats dropped their first home contest of the year.

Despite the defeat, the Bobcats learned that their postseason hopes are still alive on Monday, when they received an at-large bid for the NCAA Division III tournament. Bates received one of 20 at-large berths for the tournament, along with fellow NESCAC rivals Wesleyan, Trinity, and Amherst. The Bobcats had the third toughest schedule in the country. The collective winning percentage of Bates' opponents was 61%, which propelled Bates over rival Bowdoin when at-large selections were announced. Bowdoin, a team on the bubble, went 1-1 against Bates this year, but Bates had crucial wins over Babson, Nichols, Husson, and Southern Vermont in non-conference play.

The 'Cats will travel to Gallopway, New Jersey for a first round bout with St. Vincent College on Saturday. St. Vincent College, from Latrobe, PA finished 22-6 and earned an automatic bid by winning the Presidents' Athletic Conference championship. St. Vincent has earned three straight trips to the NCAA Tournament, but they are 0-2 in the tournament.