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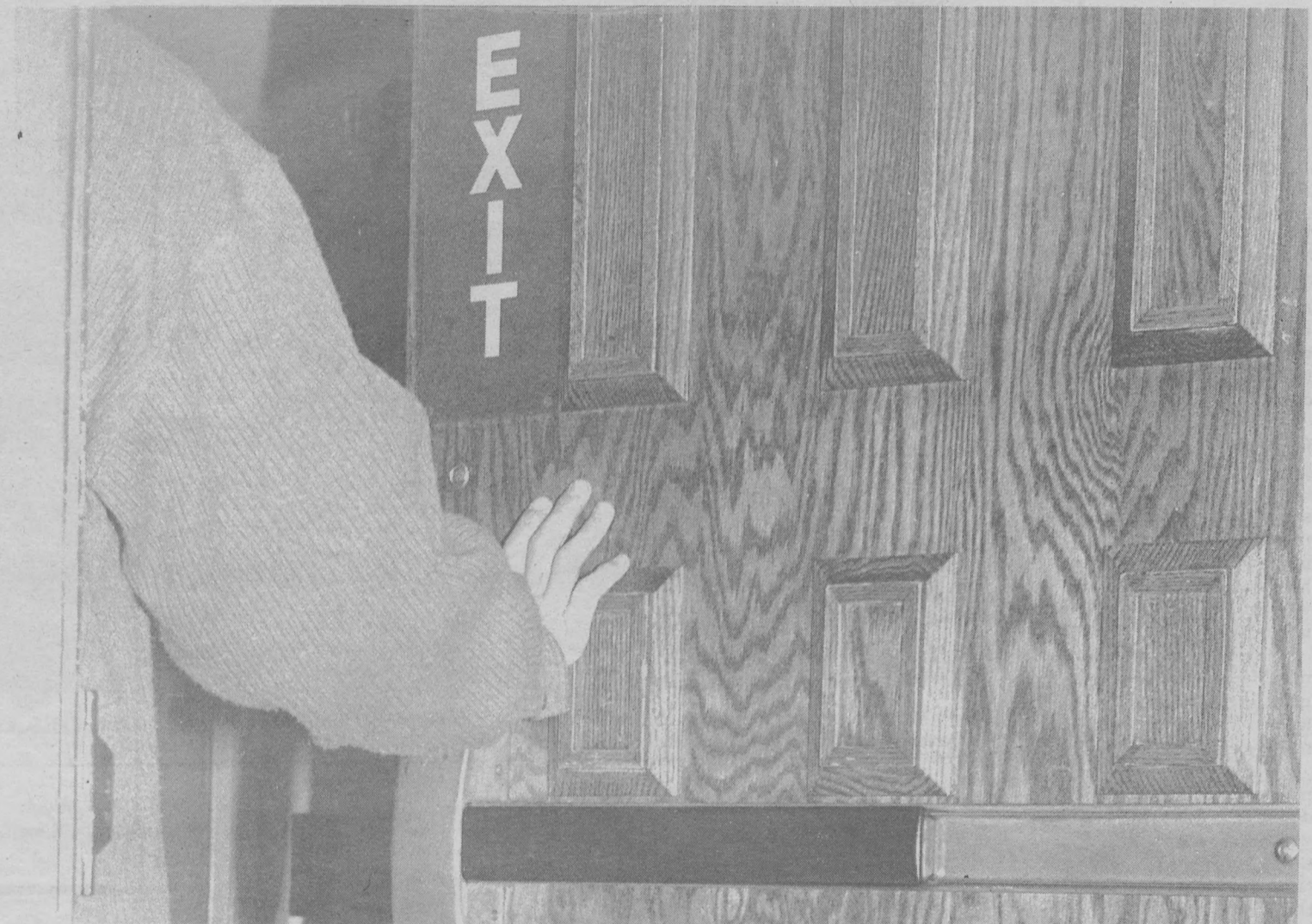
Tenure: elucidating the process

An examination
reveals the
logistics of
decisions
by Gabe Fried

Last Saturday, the Committee on Personnel made its recommendations to President Harward regarding which eligible candidates among the Faculty should secure tenure after completing the 1996-97 academic year. The College will not officially announce its decisions to the Bates community until the spring due to issues of confidentiality, as per Article I, Section 5a, of the portion of The Faculty Handbook of Bates College entitled "Faculty Appointment, Reappointment, Tenure, and Promotion."

For many Bates students, the seemingly covert nature of the tenure process generates a considerable amount of speculation regarding its validity. Candidates, if hired, will be promoted to lifelong positions whose most direct relationship will be with Bates' student body. A pressing question, therefore, especially in light of rumors of the Committee's decisions, is one that each generation of Bates students considers: who gets tenure and why?

Officially, there are three criteria used to generate evaluation of tenure candidates, who are assessed within their individual departments after two years at Bates and, more comprehensively, after four years, at which point the College must make a decision of whether or not to invite the professors to finish the final three years of the cycle. Two of these measurements, teaching and scholarly work, are viewed as equally imperative to attain tenure, while the final criterion, community work



No way out - Once a professor secures tenure, the issue of job security ceases to be a serious concern.

Paige Brown photo illustration.

at Bates, is less emphasized, according to Professor of English Ann Thompson, chair of the Division of Humanities at Bates and a member of the Committee on Personnel.

But, Thompson said, the process of selecting tenured professors is not so easily simplified: "It wouldn't be such a complicated process that takes so much time if it could be quantified."

Generally speaking, Thompson continued, professors must strike a balance between their personal re-

search and their performance in the classroom, despite the fact that untenured faculty may seem more preoccupied with publishing articles than with educating students. "The faculty is enormously anxious about scholarly work, maybe because it is easily quantifiable," she explained. "[But they] understand that they have to be good teachers to get tenure. The bottom line is we want to have good teachers and good scholars."

Associate Dean of the Faculty

Jack Pribram agreed. "A professor will not get tenure if the teaching isn't there," he said. "Someone's teaching can be a little weaker if their scholarly work is strong and vice versa. But I have been aware of good teachers with no scholarly works who didn't get tenure" as well as the other way around.

Pribram said there were three primary reasons he has such strong faith in the tenure selection process at Bates. First and foremost among these is the work the personnel com-

mittee, the various academic divisions and departments, and what the Dean of the Faculty's office does to assess the candidates before and during their initial period at Bates.

"We work awfully hard at the hiring stage to get the best people we can find," Pribram said, in part as explanation of why more than half of Bates' eligible candidates ultimately receive tenure.

"Once we've made a commit-

Continued on Page 4

The Inside Scoop

Students who opted to participate in the Urban Education Semester share tales of teaching in New York City.

Read the best article in this week's Features section. It is so good, in fact, that we decided to devote the entire section to it.

Like to scrump by candlelight? Your mood lighting may be in danger! Story,

Wednesday, January 31, 1996

What do you choose to decorate your room with? check out some of the strange paraphernalia that inhabits some Bates students' rooms in

Some balls of leather, a little squash, and some smoking runners. Check out the full menu in

News p. 2

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Urban Education Semester: a unique experience

Putting theory into practice, students reap hands-on experience in New York City.

by Jennifer Lacher

Students who spend time abroad during their tenure at Bates often return with stories of Eiffel Towers, Big Bens, and Parthenons. They recall painful moments of struggles with the language barrier and endless hours of being lost on the Metro. But how often do students return with tales of Manhattan barrios and inner-city schoolchildren?

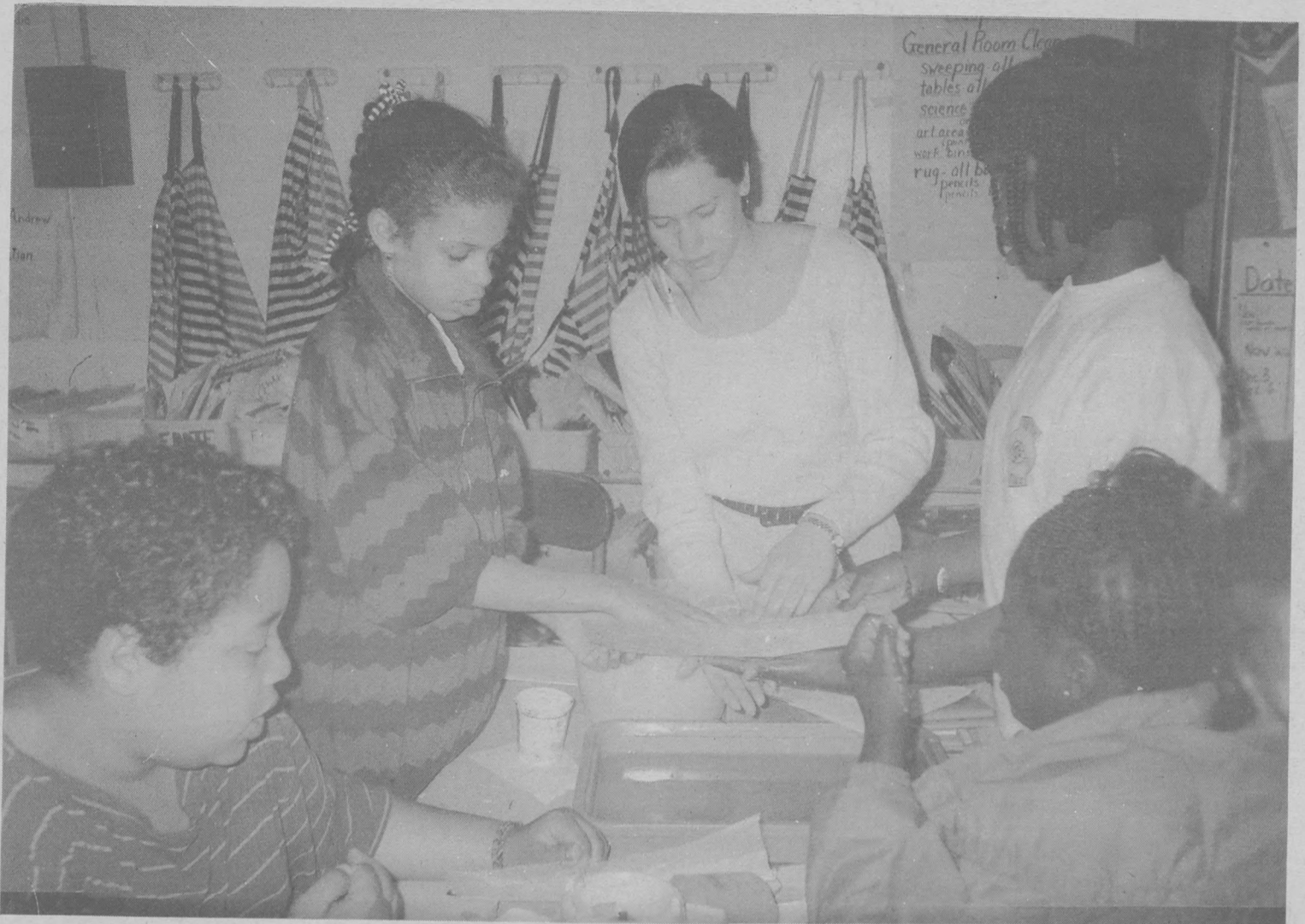
The Urban Education Semester (UES), offered as part of the Venture program, provides students with experiences such as these. Students spend a semester taking courses at the Bank Street College of Education in New York City and receiving hands-on experience as they work with children and teachers in nearby urban classrooms.

Junior Myrna Morales and senior Mary Moss have both participated in this program and found it to be a life-altering experience in many ways.

For example, Moss, who had planned to pursue a career as a pediatrician, "was always fascinated with urban education. I went [to New York City] thinking that would be my one-shot deal, but I liked it too much." Both students now say that they aspire to work for educational reforms one day but emphasize their desire to be teachers first, reformers second.

Students in the program register for five classes at Bank Street College of Education, focusing on current issues in urban education, cross-cultural studies, and a seminar designed to connect theory and practice. Despite the specialized nature of such courses, both Moss and Morales spoke to the importance of their field experiences.

Morales went to New York in



Mary Moss '96 executes a self-designed environmental education project with fifth and sixth graders at CPE II, a New York City school. This experience complemented her educational studies at Bates.

Photo courtesy of Mary Moss.

"You were actually teaching and seeing the concepts — how they really worked in the classroom, and [at Bates] you hear about all these alternate concepts but you never see them at work."

Mary Moss '96
Urban Education Semester participant

the winter of 1995 and was placed in IS 218 for her fieldwork. She

spent two and a half days each week in an elementary-level classroom, observing and planning curriculum.

acknowledging that her favorite activity was to simply observe her host teacher, Morales admitted that she was nervous about taking over the role of primary classroom teacher. "That teacher had a momentum

going; she struck gold with those kids. ... The classroom was so contextualized and hands-on I was almost scared to try to cut into that

momentum," Morales said.

Moss, who unlike Morales has taken several education courses at Bates, also commented on the value of the fieldwork component.

"You were actually teaching and seeing the concepts — how they really worked in the classroom, and [at Bates] you hear about all these alternate concepts but you never see them at work," she said.

Moss, who spent the winter of 1994 in New York City teaching 26 fifth and sixth grade kids at CPE II, was also able to gain some experience planning and implementing her own curriculum but maintained that she was never really a teacher, in the traditional sense of the word.

"There was a lot more one-on-one work, but I was also leading small groups," Moss explained. "There was never really a teacher teaching in front of the class. It was more like facilitating groups rather than teaching in front of the classroom."

Both Morales and Moss were acutely aware of the hardships the children in their classrooms confronted outside of the schoolyard: abusive or absent parents, crime, and drugs are only a few of the obstacles these kids had to overcome.

"It was difficult hearing about the family and home lives of the

kids," Moss said. "Although you could do as much as you could for them in the classroom, you couldn't control what happened to them at home."

But despite this, Morales "cannot help but see hope for the future. ... I saw so much hope it pissed me off! Why didn't I have that sort of education?" Morales lamented. Referring to the community atmosphere of the neighborhood schools she observed, Morales pointed to a respect for and incorporation of various ethnic backgrounds in the curriculum, the lack of graffiti on school grounds, and the "family days" on Saturdays that intended to involve families in the life

of the school.

"When times change, the curriculum needs to change," Morales said. "There was so much I learned, so much I had to learn internally and so much to confront. I definitely came back to Bates with a totally different attitude."

Moss also found that she was forced to rethink her own motives and philosophy as an educator: "[UES] made me more aware of my place not as a missionary coming down off my hill but as someone who had a lot to learn from [the kids'] experiences but also someone who had a lot to contribute to the kids' learning experiences."

"When times change, the curriculum needs to change. There was so much I learned, so much I had to learn internally and so much to confront. I definitely came back to Bates with a totally different attitude."

Myrna Morales '97
Urban Education Semester participant

College Republicans: Individuals endorse activism

Three activists discuss what they perceive as Right.

by Michelle Wong

This year has been a busy one for the Bates College Republicans. Republicans?, you might ask skeptically, unsuspecting that the group even existed anymore from the lack of officers "to be announced" in the student directory and the quietness of conservative expression on campus. Lo and behold, though, it's election year, and there are certainly conservatives on campus trying to make a group comeback.

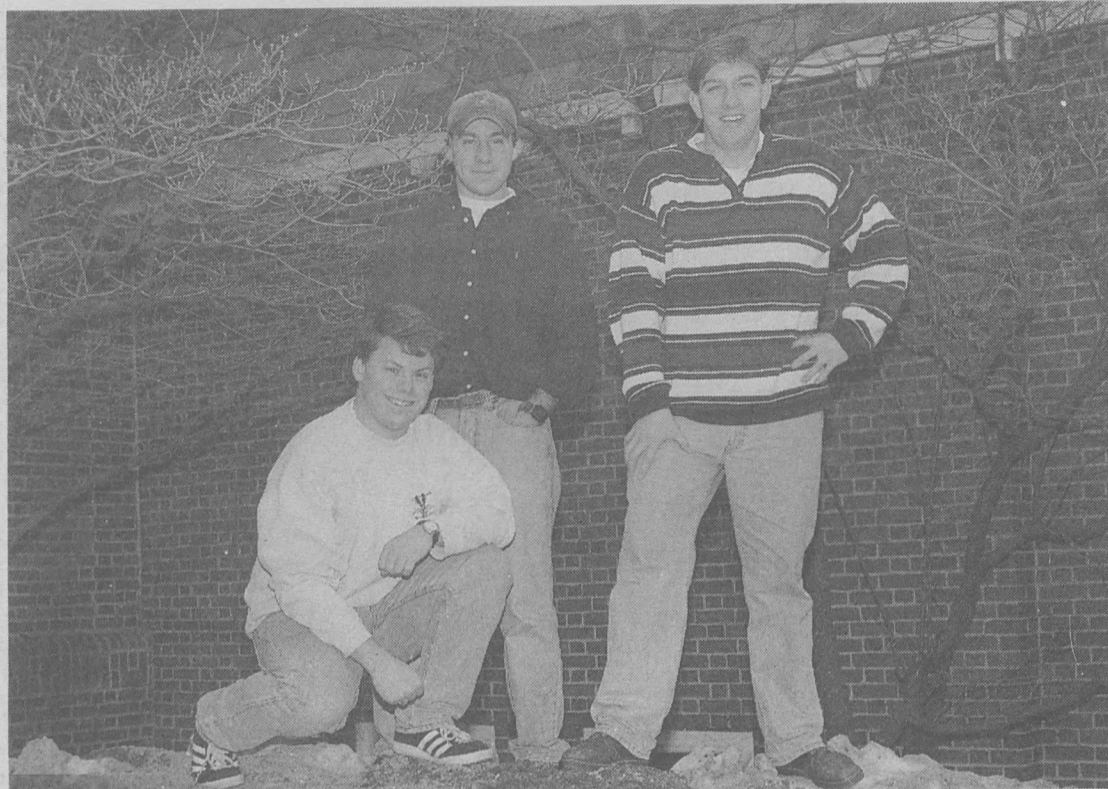
"Since I've been a student here, this is the only year College Republicans have been planning things beyond meetings," said Andrew Bisson '97, secretary and treasurer of the Maine College Republicans and member of the Bates College Republicans. Bisson, along with Bates College Republicans Chairman Chris Raffensperger '98 and Vice-Chairman David Klotz '98, are the three most publicly outspoken officers of the organization.

"I think Bates has had a very liberal reputation for a very long time," Raffensperger said in regard to his perception of the political climate of the College.

"I came in [as a first-year student] as a young, middle-of-the-road Republican from Nebraska," he said. "When I came here, I thought there was an imbalance of liberal and conservative voices. The incredibly liberal atmosphere here drove me further to the right. I had to do something to change that."

In response to this feeling of political marginalization on campus, Raffensperger and his two cohorts are admittedly "doing this [conservative activism] for personal reasons," Klotz said.

Collectively, they want to explore their sometimes coinciding and sometimes conflicting Republican ideologies, and to hear each other's perspectives, as is apparent from the dynamic of the group meetings. This entails confronting a range of issues immediately affecting the United States as a whole and



On top of the political world, a snowbank or both? Chris Rathensperger '98, Andrew Bisson '97 and David Klotz '98 are steering the Bates College Republicans in new directions. *Paige Brown photo.*

them as individuals. Many concerns relate to the recent phenomenon of an uncompromising, Republican-majority Congressional House and

The outcome of these efforts, thus far, has not been for naught. By networking with students and professors via e-mail and word of mouth, the group is constantly increasing its attempts to garner more members or anyone else who is simply interested in what they are doing and in what they believe. Which, as Bisson emphasized, can be different, depending on whether the topic is abortion, states' rights, the ultra-conservative Christian Coalition, the balancing of the federal budget, or anything else deemed political.

"I think it's difficult for people to think of taking just parts of ideologies, but it's not necessary for them to take the whole," said Bisson. A set of true Republican ideologies, at least among these three members of the College Republicans, however, is decidedly undefined and, as they all agree, rightly so.

"The government should be less involved in people's lives," Raffensperger said, alluding to his basic definition of Republicanism. He is a Republican convert whose interest in the political party eventually bloomed in high school, after

he reevaluated his advocacy of liberalism, a lifelong influence of his mother, who he said is "very involved as democratic politics."

"I think a lot of it is to look through the rhetoric and see what's real."

David Klotz '98
Vice-Chairman, Bates College Republicans

the presidential campaign strategies of conservative candidates vying for the platform nomination.

The College Republicans are currently attempting to work through their concerns at a fundamental level by generating political discussions and fostering debate during their weekly scheduled meetings, which draw approximately ten men and women.

"I know there are a lot of Republicans, a lot of conservatives on this campus."

Chris Raffensperger '98
Chairman, Bates College Republicans

Klotz, a self-described "huge Republican" who supported Bill Clinton in the 1992 Presidential election, commented that this particular occurrence was a big mistake and that his parents' conservative influence ultimately swayed his once-liberal political views their way. Regarding his own Republican values, he said: "I think my parents were ultimately right, in terms of econom-

ics and getting things done, and issues."

But, whatever the ideology behind the matter, "I think a lot of it is to look through the rhetoric and see what's real," Klotz said.

And political reality, like political rhetoric, is, to a degree, ambiguous. Beyond talking, though, what is definitely real and also on the College Republicans' list of priorities is campaigning to get any Republican candidate on the ballot, as long as the group is contacted by the candidate's campaign.

Rathensperger and Klotz have petitioned for Dole in Lewiston and have campaigned door-to-door for him in New Hampshire. Bisson serves on the Phil Gramm steering committee as a youth campaign coordinator.

"We're trying to get local political speakers, and, contingent on the speaker, we want to hold a publicity drive with posters, signs, and tables outside Commons to kick it off," said Raffensperger, who disclosed that Republican Maine state senators Olympia Snowe and William Cohen have both expressed interest in coming to Bates. Furthermore, the organization is planning additional political information forums, undeterred by the lack of attendance at its first forum on the budget crisis.

The three Republicans are tenacious, hopeful and sure of their convictions.

"I know there are a lot of Republicans, a lot of conservatives on this campus," Raffensperger said. "A lot of people are scared of or just disinterested in politics."

"Not as much afraid, just disinterested," Klotz interjected.

"People don't want to make waves on this campus," Raffensperger continued, adding an assessment of his groups reaction to overwhelming peer criticism: "Yes, we do get defensive, we do get criticized."

However, said Bisson, "[We're] comfortable with what [we] believe in."

Raffensperger agreed. "If people get offended [by my expression of my beliefs], that's just what I think," he said. But like it or not, he acknowledged, for him and other Republicans at Bates that means actively going against the grain of seemingly popular liberal sentiment.

Interested in journalism?

Write News for *The Bates Student*.

Meetings Sunday, 7 p.m., 224 Chase Hall.

Lavender Womyn: providing place for discourse

Lesbians, bisexuals, others questioning sexuality comprise weekly support group.

by Michelle Wong

There exists, within the Lewiston-Auburn and surrounding communities, a proven safe place where lesbians, bisexuals and women questioning their sexual identity can enlighten themselves and each other on this aspect of their lives. In this place, during these weekly gatherings, discussions are generated: Women are talking about their struggles and the things they celebrate.

The group is called the Lavender Womyn, and according to a notice addressed to The Bates Student, "the purpose of the group roughly is to offer a setting which allows connections, support, encouragement, and a place of safety to share thoughts, feelings and concerns. The need for empowerment and support are important in a world and community which keeps many of use [sic] isolated from each other."

"It actually started over a year ago with a woman who just came out as a lesbian," said Joanne Meiser, Social Action Chair of the First Universalist Church, which provides the space for the gathering. After approximately six months, the group dissolved, but it was regenerated again this past November, when the new group formed.

"People started asking about



The First Universalist Church, Auburn, provides a safe place for Lavender Womyn to meet. Paige Brown photo.

it," said Meiser. Regarding interest about starting up the group again, she said, "I thought it was a great idea."

To date, the group has met three times. Each gathering has been small, with ten or fewer women attending.

"My opinion is that being a lesbian is frightening and terrifying in many ways in this culture," said Meiser, adding that "we've talked about things like work, partners, confusion about sexuality. 'Things

that have nothing to do with age—all of these things span the ages easily," she continued

There is a wide range of ages of attendees; the youngest are in their late teens, while some women are in their fifties.

Both members and non-members of the church are welcome, Meiser said.

"The U.U. Church is very dedicated to social justice," she added. "There is no one doctrine; people are encouraged to believe what they

want to... This religious community is very much pro-gay rights."

In terms of the church setting of the gathering, "I would say that for most people it would feel a little intimidating because of the building," Meiser said. "But I would say that there's no place in the building where anyone of any sexual orientation would not feel safe."

Joan W., a 55-year old who has attended a few Lavender Womyn meetings, expressed a view similar to Meiser's: The purpose of the gath-

ering is, by design, to serve as a support group.

She said that some members are more activist than others, while some are not activists at all. But the atmosphere is conducive to their mutual learning from each other.

"The group has some structure, and a flexible format," she said. She mentioned that the group is currently trying to work out the logistics involved in sharing leadership responsibilities and in enabling all members to voluntarily share individual interests and concerns in their own ways, without the domination of a defined leader. But, she emphasized, "No one must do anything."

"We're open to new ideas. It's a good way to share our similarities and our differences," she said, adding, "We come from all walks of life."

"The thing we have in common is that we're either lesbian, bisexual or questioning our sexuality," Joan said.

"The women want to feel protected, to feel that they can say what they need to say and have it remain there [within the group]," she said. "We're there to get together and talk about the problems that we face in life."

For your information

The First Universalist Church is located at 169 Pleasant St., Auburn. The Lavender Womyn meet there weekly on Tuesday evenings from 7:00 p.m. until 8:00 or 8:30 p.m., depending on the women who attend. For more information, contact the First Universalist Church at 783-0461.

Examination of tenure explains, clarifies process

Continued from Page 1

ment [to them], we want them to succeed; we try to make sure they don't fall by the wayside," he said. "We help them get a professional research career going and give them a lot of support for their teaching—there's a lot of support from someone when they come, in most cases."

Pribram also stressed the importance of the fourth-year evaluation, saying that it can often provide "warning signs" to which professors can respond, rather than leaving them without a reference frame for the entire seven year try-out. "At four years the review is quite thorough," he said. "Pointing out the strengths and weaknesses [of a professor] at the four-year point is as intense as with tenure decision. However at the four-year point, there's still time for improvement."

Re-appointment at the four-year mark, however, is no guarantee and the Committee on Personnel reviews each professor's file scrupulously, according to Pribram. "Until you see the files," he said, "You can't imagine the variety of the information that's in it."

This "variety of information" is often viewed as cryptic to students, however. Since the only evaluation most students can practically agree or disagree with is teaching prowess, the students' emphasis often shifts to their contribution to tenure decisions, via evaluations. They ability evaluations have to sway the overall rulings, and the legitimacy of the confidentiality issue which prevents students from getting a clear picture of who receives promotion have been brought into question by students throughout the history of the College.

According to Thompson, any concern over the impact student course evaluations have should be put to rest.

"Student opinion is taken very seriously indeed," she said. "Students may not have an understanding of how the weighting [of a tenure decision] is achieved," she added, but their vote counts, she stated.

Thompson continued. "Why isn't the tenure process public knowledge? [H]istorically, it was to protect those whose political views jeopardized their careers. Hopefully, professors feel empowered by

tenure and speak truth to power."

As for student involvement, though, Thompson continued to stress the importance of student evaluations, especially the 25 solic-

"I have sympathy [with students] up to a point but there are things not everybody can know due to issues of confidentiality."

Professor of English
Anne Thompson

ited from among a given professor's former students. She said there would always be a certain level of discretion exhibited in discussing tenure.

"There is a power hierarchy between the Faculty and the student

body," she said. "I have sympathy [with students] up to a point but there are things not everybody can know due to issues of confidentiality."

Pribram said that, despite this apparent distance from the system which secures faculty positions, students should be in a situation where they trust the process based on interaction with the members of the Committee on Personnel. "If students talk to people [on the committee] they trust and these people trust the process, there will be the sense that a [tenure decision] was treated fairly," he said.

Pribram added that the decision-making process is painstakingly executed and is relatively free of personal grudges, especially at Bates where policy the hiring of multiple professors to compete for a single tenured spot.

"There's not one person who sabotages a candidate, it takes a series of events," Pribram explained.

"The personnel committee wouldn't let [a rejection] occur based on one incident," he said. "They'd say, 'what is this one person screaming about?' No one person could do someone in, not a de-

partment chair, not a division chair, not the Dean of the Faculty."

Thompson added that "the personnel committee takes its job very seriously and it forms its opinion very slowly," reiterating the idea that the process, for the most part, works, due to the thoughtfulness and dedication of those making the decisions.

Since no particular instance of granting tenure can be discussed officially by the College, exact parameters for tenure remain vague for students interested in deciphering trends in this process. Those with access to a professor's file—the personnel committee, the President, and the Dean of the Faculty—work independently with individual cases, although the Office of Affirmative Action serves in evaluating trends in the tenure-granting process. Though some students may be uncomfortable with this arrangement, it is supported by Pribram and by Thompson, who, while not denying human fallibility, feel that a thorough, extended evaluation by colleagues and employers is an effective and reliable method for landing Bates the best available crop of professors.

Gen X Media Watch has suffered technical difficulties. Do not adjust your newspaper. This regular feature will return next week with exciting new narratives on A.I.D.S.

Features

Wednesday, January 31, 1996

Unlimited Hypocrisy:

In order to get gear without limits, you'll have to test your lungs' limits

By Amanda Barney

In Philip Morris Incorporated's latest, and by far most extravagant, promotional campaign, the company has organized a sweepstakes for Marlboro cigarette smokers. By simply filling out an official sweepstakes entry form and mailing it to the official sweepstakes headquarters, Marlboro smokers enter the contest of the year. According to the latest promotional publication from Philip Morris Incorporated, 2,000 grand prize winners and the guests of their choice will win a 6 day/5 night trip on the Marlboro Unlimited, a promotional train "designed, built and outfitted exclusively for Marlboro smokers". Equipped with hot tubs, bars, a dance club, restaurants, and even a movie theater, the train is "a third of a mile of sleek red steel

Equipped with hot tubs, bars, a dance club, restaurants, and even a movie theater, the train is "a third of a mile of sleek red steel ready to roll west."

ready to roll west". Sounds charming, doesn't it? During the course of the trip, the Marlboro Unlimited will puff its way through Marlboro country: Colorado, Idaho, Montana, and Wyoming. Not only will the train puff along, but so will the sweepstakes winners.

The train itself might be designed and built exclusively for Marlboro smokers, but the activities planned for the grand prize winners could not be more inappropriate for smokers. Five days and five nights of riding, biking, white water rafting, rodeoing, and "taking on the West" sounds like a promotional campaign for Grape Nuts, not a cigarette company. One would tend to believe that extended periods of cardiovascular activity would be utter hell for smokers. Imagine the

sweaty, winded, disgruntled winners trudging back to the big red train after attempting to mountain bike or hike in the wilds of the West. One would hope that in addition to the hot tubs, the Marlboro Unlimited would be outfitted with oxygen tanks and doctors.

Previous promotional attempts by Philip Morris involved smokers collecting the UPC codes from the sides of the packs of cigarettes. Each UPC code was specially marked with "5 MILES." After accumulating enough "Marlboro Miles," the smoker could then go the distance, so to speak, and order products specially designed and priced and advertised in catalogues found in any convenience store. For example, a t-shirt would cost 140 miles; an ash tray, 70 miles. All of the products offered through the catalogs were relevant to smokers' lifestyles.

Ash trays, lighters, denim shirts, hats, and even the Marlboro pool table all represent promotional products which make sense when one understands that smokers are their primary consumers. The latest promotional catalogue which advertises the train trip sweepstakes also contains ads for Marlboro Gear for which smokers trade in their accumulated miles.

In addition to Marlboro lighters and ash trays, the truly ambitious smoker can trade 2,200 miles (plus



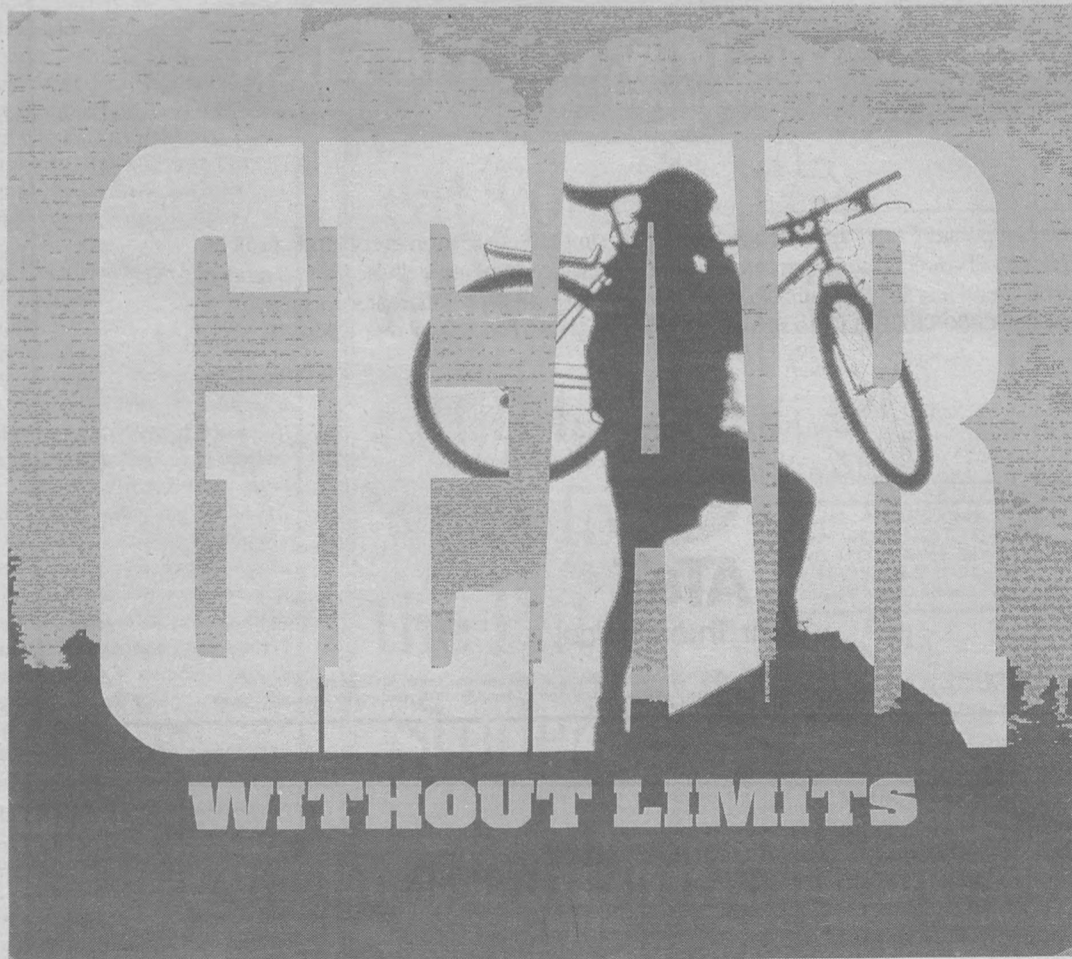
\$110) for the Official Marlboro Mountain Bike. That's the equivalent of 440 packs of cigarettes. Consider the irony and imagine Mike Marlboro. He smokes a pack of Mediums a day and stashes away his Marlboro miles with religious zeal. He wants the folding mountain bike made exclusively for Marlboro. It would take Mike over a year to save the 2,200 miles for the bike. After smoking all 440 packs of cigarettes, how many of the 15 speeds of the Marlboro Mountain Bike do you think Mike will be able to enjoy?

One wonders if the Philip Morris tobacco company has really thought through this promotional campaign and sweepstakes. Although this promotion and sweepstakes might initially boost smokers' enthusiasm about Philip Morris, the plan might backfire. While smokers relish the idea of an environment like the one describing the train in which there exists not a single "no-smoking" section, nor

any sanctimonious non-smokers asking them to please put out their cigarettes, one also has to consider the frustration of the grand prize winners whose limited lung capacity would prevent them from hiking, biking and tackling all the challenges of the frontier.

The official Marlboro Folding Mountain Bike is another example of Philip Morris Incorporated frustrating its customers. One would think that a smoker like our fictitious Mike Marlboro who saves miles and money and finally receives the mountain bike would be ecstatic to finally ride the bike. Imagine his frustration. After waiting almost two years to ride the bike, the pack-a-day smoker probably wouldn't be able to tackle much more terrain than the gravel in his driveway. Philip Morris should consider that many smokers make up their minds to kick the habit after trying and failing to do exactly the same physical activities that the grand prize winners will be struggling to do.

[T]he truly ambitious smoker can trade 2,200 miles (plus \$110) for the Official Marlboro Mountain Bike. That's the equivalent of 440 packs of cigarettes.



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Forum

Wednesday, January 31, 1996

Tenure process lacks crucial student input

Tenure decisions at Bates are treated with nearly as much secrecy as the sexual assault cases that are brought before the Student Conduct Committee. After all, the results of second semester SCC cases are released in May; for the year's tenure decisions, the College reports in April. And while deciding whether an individual gets a job should never be a popularity contest it can and should be more open than it is.

The secrecy shrouding the Personnel Committee limits the ability of the student body to have input into the process. Appeals are due 60 days after the decisions have been made, a deadline that has passed well before the snows of January become the mud of April. That deadline is immaterial for the student body, as only the aggrieved faculty member may lodge an appeal.

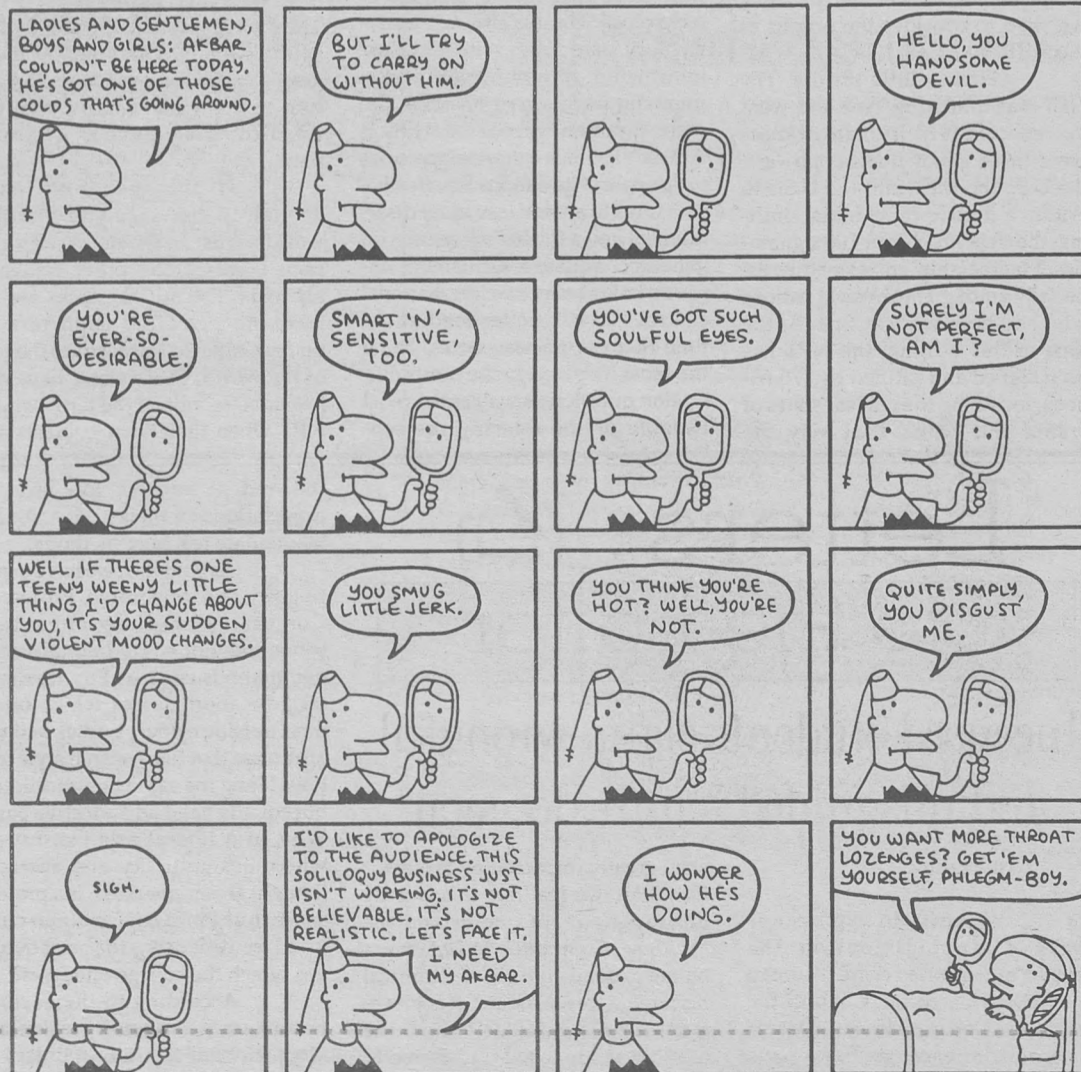
This means that student oversight after tenure decisions is restricted to hearsay and scuttlebut. Some whisper that Mr. Chips in the Education Department must not have had the research. That Mr. Holland in the Anthropology Department probably didn't serve on enough committees, others "in the know" allege. But no one is in the know. When confronted by outraged students, committee members can only point to each professor's confidential evaluation file as justification for their decision.

Confidentiality here sparks conflict rather than eases the process. Students do not feel that their voices are heard by the committee members, particularly if what they perceive as a travesty of justice occurs. Publishing the reasons why a professor did or did not receive tenure would resolve the secrecy surrounding this whole process, and the Personnel Committee would not have to shrink away at disgruntled students wanting to ask questions. Though students' exposure to professors is limited to four years or less, they are instrumental in that they know the side of professors which the committees may not. Their input should not be minimalized or overlooked.

Students, faculty members and administration officials are split into a rancorous debate, as each side believes that the others don't know the whole story. Distance and acrimony are the inevitable fruits of the Personnel Committee's labor, but they don't have to be. There should be more student involvement over the years which are considered in the decision-making process. If the Trustees and Administration truly want educators who have the ability to reach students and foster original thought and intellectual growth teach at Bates, it only makes sense that students play a more significant part in the review process.

Don't
forget to
eat your
Wheaties
and to
write for
the Bates
Student
Forum
Section!

LIFE IN HELL



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NPT and the Illusion of Disarmament

Whoever Has The Most Bombs When They Go Off ... Still Dies

by Shankar Narayan

Conventional liberal wisdom (not to mention good old common sense) holds that nuclear weapons are a bad thing, and that all thinking about such weapons can eventually be boiled down to a simple declaration: the more nukes there are in the world, the grimmer the future looks for us and for our children. I'd be the first to agree with this statement. However, my unequivocal endorsement of the Nuclear Nonproliferation Treaty (NPT) in my younger days has, with advancing age and wisdom, become far more cautious. I feel that, even if you do continue to agree (as I do) with the idea that these weapons are a bad thing, there are a number of very important counter-arguments to be considered when forming an opinion on the topic of nuclear disarmament. In particular, I'd like to consider the role of the NPT from a perspective not often voiced in the western media.

Speaking at the Geneva negotiations for a Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty a few days ago, a U.S. spokesperson refused to consider linking a ban on nuclear testing with a plan for the outright elimination of nuclear weapons. Considering that 176 nations have, under the NPT, entrusted their security and hence their future to a small group of 'depository' nations which includes the United States, this is hardly an encouraging chord for the U.S. to strike. How did the nuclear balance of power come to be so uneven? To answer that question, we need to consider the origins of the NPT.

First, a little history. The NPT was drafted in 1968 and went into effect in 1970. Its main draftees were three major nuclear powers: the U.S., the U.K., and the U.S.S.R. Within a decade of its initial drafting, the treaty had over 100 signatories. Membership grew steadily, especially among Third World nations who had been wary at first. At the time of this writing, the NPT has been signed and ratified by 176 nations, including the nuclear states of France and China. Last May, the

NPT was permanently extended. It should be mentioned that avoidance of U.S. displeasure was a factor in the decision of many of these nations to ratify the NPT: they were too economically dependent on the U.S. to go against its wishes.

According to the treaty's draftees, the NPT aims in essence to stem the spread of nuclear weapons by restricting them to nations which already possessed them at the time of the treaty's drafting. These five nations (the U.S., Russia, the U.K., China, and France) are the 'depositories' for nuclear arms and are each allowed to retain a stockpile of such arms in order to maintain global security. All other signatories to the treaty are required to surrender all nuclear arms and are restrained from acquiring them. 'Transfer of technology' clauses also restrict depository states from selling nuclear information to non-nuclear states. From our perspective, however, the most important part of the treaty is Article VI, which exhorts signatories to "pursue negotiations for effective measures to achieve...nuclear disarmament and a further agreement on general complete disarmament under strict and effective international control." It was understood at the time that the nuclear states, being the most involved in the nonproliferation question as well as the most capable of shouldering the eco-

conomic burden, would be at the forefront of the disarmament movement.

That was the rhetoric. Here's the harsh reality: in the quarter-century since the treaty went into effect, the nuclear stockpiles of the

involved. Case in point: the continuing transfer of nuclear technology from the U.S. to Israel.

The western allies have consistently used economic and military muscle to coerce Third World nations into complying with

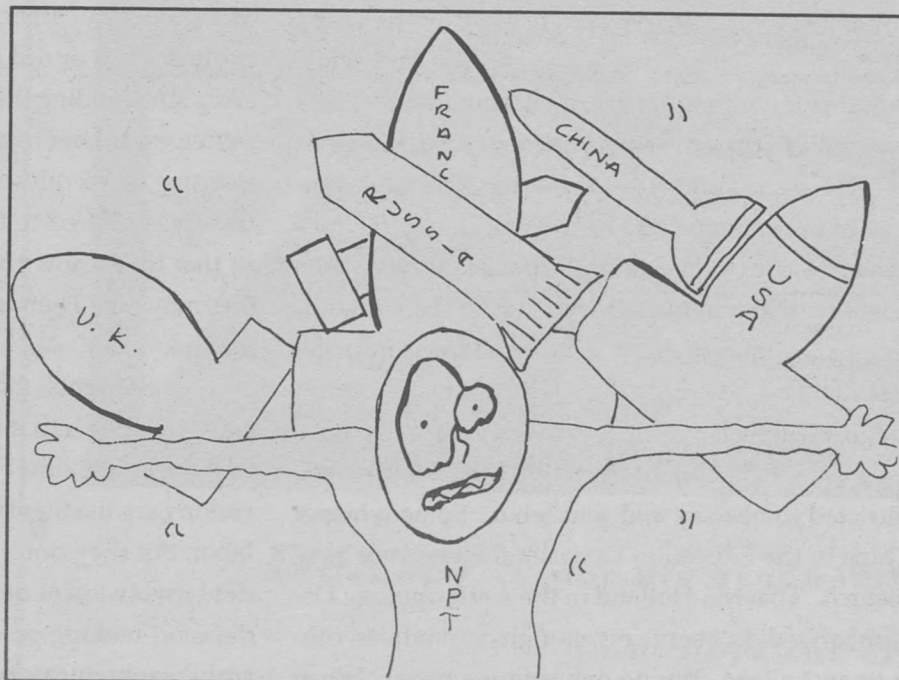
World nations fall even further behind industrialized ones in terms of growth.

Another sensitive issue connected to the NPT is that of nuclear testing. Many nations expressed their bitter regret at having extended the NPT when, shortly after the extension, France ended its moratorium on nuclear tests, and China continued its testing. France rubbed salt in the wound by conducting its supposedly safe tests half a world away in the Pacific Ocean, in the vicinity of economically and militarily insignificant nations. Again, these actions do not help to create an atmosphere conducive to nuclear disarmament.

The NPT itself is antiquated. One of the key platforms on which world security now rests is the continuing political stability of the depository states. In the case of Russia, at least, that stability has been seriously jeopardized in the past few years by ongoing political developments. Russia is a nuclear disaster waiting to happen, with criminals attempting to smuggle nuclear materials out of the country in suitcases. The terms of the treaty need to be reconsidered in order to avert this potential tragedy.

It's possible that the above critique of the NPT might sound overly harsh or even paranoid. My point in writing here is to show that the nuclear scenario is nowhere near as rosy as some observers would have us believe. I do recognize that significant strides have been made on the issue of disarmament. I don't believe that the depository states of the NPT have shown the level of commitment necessary to make complete nuclear disarmament a reality.

The permanent extension of the NPT makes disarmament an illusory goal and thus removes the urgency I believe that goal deserves. We will go nowhere in resolving the nuclear question until the world sees that the declared nuclear powers are serious about eliminating their own stockpiles. The playing field must be leveled. Nuclear disarmament is a step which the entire world must take together.



five depository states have burgeoned out of control. While there have been some initiatives taken toward the control of nuclear arms, and the media lauds these initiatives as 'historic triumphs', it is a fact that the five signatory states have arsenals far larger than necessary to maintain international security. They have acted contrary to the spirit of the NPT in building these arsenals, and have given no indication of their intent to proceed toward complete nuclear disarmament.

If this behavior isn't enough to convince you that the world's trust in the depository nations is misplaced, other evidence abounds. The nuclear states are, in fact, the principal exporters of nuclear-capable warheads to the rest of the world. These states have not hesitated to violate the terms of the NPT when their own interests are

blackmail has been used: for example, in the 1971 India-Pakistan war, the U.S. threatened a nuclear strike against India because of its continuing support of the government in place in Pakistan. Nuclear weapons are horrible things, but they are useful in at least one respect: when an otherwise poor nation has the bomb, the West listens with far more respect. As a bulwark against the otherwise unfettered agenda of the nuclear nations, nuclear weapons effectively level the playing field.

The NPT is technologically discriminatory. The nuclear nations already have well-developed civilian nuclear programs. However, this technology would now be denied to poorer nations already struggling to catch up. Furthermore, NPT restrictions would make it extremely difficult for them even to develop it at home. In this way, poor Third

Letters to the Editor

Incensed students claim wrongful and misguided tenure decision

To the Editor:

We write to express our grave disappointment in the Trustee's decision to deny tenure to Peter Blaze Corcoran, Chair of the Education Department. As students whose experiences at Bates have

been greatly impacted by Professor Corcoran, we feel that this is truly unsupported. We understand the Personnel Committee denied tenure on the grounds of lack of empirical research, a low standard of achievement for his students (which the committee supposed transferred to

the student teachers' low level of expectations for their students), and inadequate teaching methods.

As students, we have experienced and celebrated Professor Corcoran's uniquely engaging, sometimes not-so-traditional teaching methods (such as Environmental Education classes which often meet outside by the puddle), and we are aware that his research style follows along the same nontraditional but equally valid and effective path. Why, at a liberal arts institution where individuality and abstract thought are emphasized, is a professor such as Professor Corcoran punished for espousing the very qualities which the college endorses?

According to the Faculty Handbook, the criteria by which faculty members' teaching abilities are

evaluated include "knowledge of the subject; enthusiasm about the subject; organization of the course and subject matter; capacity to present abstract ideas and theories clearly; capacity to engage the class in the subject of lectures, discussions, or laboratories; encouragement of students to think for themselves; flexibility and willingness to experiment; reliability in meeting scheduled responsibilities; accessibility to students, fairness in examinations and grading." Peter Corcoran encourages a combination of theory and practical experience, with an excellence that only comes from having demonstrated great proficiency in all of these areas.

In terms of "professional achievement, professional service to the public, (and) service to the col-

lege," Professor Corcoran excels in every respect. He was recently elected to serve as the President of the National Association of Environmental Educators; he has presented papers at numerous conferences, he helped design the new Environmental Studies and the Service Learning programs at Bates, and he brought new life to a drowning education department. Professor Corcoran has enough energy and enthusiasm and commitment to motivate even the most uninspired students to work hard and excel both at Bates and in the greater community, now and throughout their lives.

Professor Corcoran has brought academic excellence and in-

Continued on Page 9

Candles at Bates: Burn Baby Burn!!

by Sarah Gunn

Last semester, the college pinpointed one of the major (potential) sources of campus dorm damage and community danger: candles.

Yep. Candles.

I know what you're thinking: "Huh?" But while Bates College has had an amazingly good fire prevention track record, some think that this legacy is mere luck. Candles, they argue, are a disaster in disguise.

The near-disaster in Wilson House last year, when an abandoned candle burned a computer (and nearly the entire house), is often offered as proof of this impending danger.

But there's a solution to this not-yet-realized crisis. A proposed ban being considered by the Campus Safety Committee would outlaw open flames from dorm rooms. Candles and gas lamps would be taboo, but incense and cigarettes would still be permitted.

While its goals may be lofty and well-intentioned, this ban will not be accepted with open arms and few questions. As proposed, this plan will merely receive resistance and ridicule.

■ Ambiance in Jeopardy

Let's face it: the student

body does not support this proposal. We are a flame-happy population. We like our candles, for they are relaxing, smell good, and add a homey touch to our otherwise dull dorm rooms. This view was evidenced in an open forum held at Page Hall last semester. The students present argued that the ban was an unfair intrusion into their lives - particularly when the law is

lowed? Isn't it inconsistent to ban candles and not cigarettes? Particularly when cigarettes were the cause of last semester's near-fire on Frye Street? If I were to sniff a waxy smell in the hall, would I be obliged to turn in my dorm mate? Would I get a fire prevention medal?

■ Friendly maid turned informant

candle, it would become the staff person's responsibility to notify the student of his/her transgression. If the student continues to break the law, the contraband will be confiscated and the student would be fined.

This plan will place an undue burden on Maintenance workers. They already accomplish numerous tasks without also taking on

It's not in their job description, and should not be their concern.

■ Mother Bates

Currently, we allow candles to be burned at Bates. It's a privacy issue. Our rooms, while not entirely inviolate, are personal. The rationalization that maintenance already has the right to pinpoint dangerous situations in rooms ignores the fact that candles could hardly be characterized as imminent dangers. By attacking an aspect of our personal lives that is not illegal or even dangerous when done correctly, this plan is a blatant violation of our privacy.

Bates has an obligation to provide a safe, stable environment which is conducive to learning. It should not take on the role of an overprotective parent. One of the most fundamental tenets of teaching is respect. It's a basic principle. This plan does not respect us. Instead, it reduces us to the level of infants. We are not children. We know how to light candles, and we know how to care for them without making our dorm rooms go BOOM! Candles, when used responsibly, are safe. The vast majority of Batesians use candles responsibly. The fact that we have had so few fires at Bates proves this point. We are not "lucky." We are responsible adults, and should be treated as such.

We are a flame-happy population. We like our candles, for they are relaxing, smell good, and add a homey touch to our otherwise dull dorm rooms.

almost universally disliked by the student body.

Others pose more serious objections. For those who burn candles for religious purposes, their right to worship is threatened. While the ban could make an exception for religious candles, such a clause would also allow widespread abuse. Short of "blue-slipping" their candles, nothing could prevent non-religious students from claiming that their candles serve a pious purpose. The ban would again degenerate into a joke, and would become impossible to enforce.

Too many questions remain: are non-lighted candles al-

Without student support, people will merely devise creative ways to circumvent this ban. Unless Maintenance is expected to scour rooms for random wax spots, the plan will fail. We might be inconvenienced, but candles will remain... and students will get grumpy.

Advocates of the anti-flame movement argue that their plan will not intrude upon our lives. Rather than turning Security into a cadre of candle cops, the ban would leave the problem of enforcement to our Maintenance staff. They already have access to our rooms, the argument goes. If they happen upon a

the job of "candle informant" to their list - and this new duty will surely not be accompanied with a salary raise.

Yet staff members must interact with students every day. As such, they will bear the brunt of student resentment. After having their candles confiscated, students will know who had to turn them in, and many could confront them with this knowledge. The maintenance staff would then have to justify this ban to already testy students, thus making it difficult for the workers to complete their job, or to interact with students. The staff doesn't deserve the hassle or the extra work.

First Lady crawls with the best of them... but don't throw salt

by Frith Breitzer

I didn't pay much attention at first. Everything—accusations, innuendos, attacks—was politics as usual. But then New York Times columnist William Safire called Hillary Clinton a "congenital liar." Coming from a former speechwriter and apologist for Richard Nixon, it was rather like the snowball calling the snowbank white.

Welcome to Washington, where only recently Alfonse D'Amato (R-N.Y.) and ethics could not be mentioned in the same sentence without eliciting a few snickers. Now the Brooklyn native is heading the ethics investigation against Mrs. Clinton. Has he no shame?

Probably not. But neither does our first lady.

Working under the assumption that the first lady should conduct her affairs with a certain amount of decorum, or at least not directly lie to the nation, the charges against Hillary Clinton are serious. "Travelgate" investigators accuse Clinton of having White

House travel aides fired and subsequently harassed by the FBI and Justice Department in order to justify replacement by her own cronies. The White House denied that Mrs. Clinton had any role in the incident. But a recently surfaced memo reported that there would be "hell to pay" unless travel office workers were dismissed "in conformity with the First Lady's wishes."

Mrs. Clinton's slimy snail trail of dealings leads back to Arkansas and her days as the governor's wife. The first lady is accused of using her political clout to turn a 10,000 percent profit in commodities trading by giving her account to a lawyer for state poultry interests through a shady broker. This would amount to taking a \$100,000 bribe.

Hillary Clinton is also accused of lying about her involvement with the corrupt Madison S&L, conspiring to make a sham land deal that cost taxpayers \$3 million, and hiding records regarding these dealings.

Last week, the first lady was given the dubious distinction of being the only president's wife ever subpoenaed by a grand jury. She

emerged from four hours of testimony insisting that she has no idea how missing Whitewater documents suddenly appeared in the White House living quarters, an area off limits to all but the Clintons and a handful of staff.

Hillary Clinton has proven herself a good lawyer. But her repeated stonewalling in the face of accusations has done nothing but lower her credibility and detract attention from her newly reaffirmed role of Martha Stewart protégé and child advocate.

Clinton has proven herself tough enough to battle the big boys on Capitol Hill. She can lie and scam with the best of them. But her schemes rank her worthy only to stand with Washington politicians, not above them.

Yet Hillary Rodham Clinton is not a politician. She is a woman to whom the nation looks for leadership and guidance. While D'Amato's investigation reeks of hypocrisy and political vendetta, the first lady's actions reveal a level of conduct which discredits the White House instead of inspiring the nation.

Celebrated Professor, disgruntled students

Continued from Page 8

spiration to the lives of many students in the last three years. On the basis of the criteria listed in the Faculty Handbook, we find the decision to deny Professor Corcoran a tenured position ludicrous and unfounded. We have faith that the institution will live up to the values that they espouse and reconsider this decision.

We request that the members of the Personnel Committee organize an open forum to address these and other concerns regarding the tenure process and ask that the Committee respond in writing to the undersigned students by February 7, 1996.

Deborah Felicia Brill '96
Theresa Evenson '96

Sarah Ayesha Farag '96
Sacha Garcia '96
Amber Jensen '96
Melissa Margarones '96
Jason Toluba '96
Hope J. MacVane '97
Adam Gaynor '96
T. R. Amsler '96
Maegan E. Ortiz '99
Stoph Hallward '96
Tracy Gregoire '97
Jennifer Johnson '97
Josiah Ahlgren '96
Cliff Wilson '98
Ruby Shamir '96
Weston Noyes '99
Julie O'Neill '98
Myrna Morales '97
John Mackay '99
Jolie Thomas '98
Mya Germaine '98
Jessica Talbot '96
Rochanda Jackson '96

Submit letters to 224
Chase by Friday,
February 2

NEWS IN BRIEF

REPRESENTATIVE ASSEMBLY UPDATE

by Liam Clarke

The Representative Assembly, in conjunction with the Office of the Dean of Students and the Extracurricular Activities and Residential Life (EARL) Committee, has formed a Joint Commission to further address the issue of alcohol use and abuse in the Bates community. This commission is the next step in a joint effort by the RA and offices on campus to tackle the tough questions facing the community as concern for the effects of the misuse of alcohol increases. The RA, as a forum for student input on campus issues, sees itself playing a very important role in the process of solution seeking and opinion gathering.

The RA sponsored open forum on alcohol use and dorm damage was only the first step in the process of information gathering. Many views have been offered on the causes and effects of alcohol use on the campus. The RA has voiced its commitment to continue to moderate discussion on alcohol use and its effects on the campus community.

Anyone interested in serving on this joint commission should pick up an application from the RA office door, 208 Chase Hall. The deadline to return applications is 10:00 p.m. on Wednesday, January 31. Two positions are available for each class and members will be chosen by the Student Committee on Student/Faculty Committees. Questions should be directed to members of the RA Executive Board.

On Monday, February 5 at 7:00 p.m., Bates Safety Director Eric Germain will answer questions and listen to feedback on the proposed ban on open flames in campus residences. All members of the community are welcome to attend this or other meetings of the RA. Meetings are held in Skelton Lounge, Monday nights at 7:00. Student participation is key to a greater understanding of campus sentiment regarding these or other issues.

Around Campus

Volunteer opportunities for the week of January 29

Lewiston City Planners interested in public policy, city planning, or policy issues surrounding health care and public housing? The City of Lewiston is administering a survey on medical and housing needs of different populations within the city as a basis for examining city policy in these areas. The city needs volunteers who can help administer the surveys, which will be done by phone and in person during February. There is a possibility of a paid position with this project as well. If you would like to become involved with this project on either a volunteer or paid basis, please contact Laura Biscoe in the Volunteer Office at x6468 or Peggy Rotundo at x8273 in the Center for Service Learning.

The Girl Scouts have started a program for girls from Lewiston's subsidized housing districts and are looking for volunteers to help run the program. The girls meet once a week for one and a half hours on Wednesday evenings at Hillview Community Center in Lewiston. For further information, please contact Laurie Candelmo McCammon '85 of the Kennebec Girl Scout Council at 1-800-660-1072.

Lewiston Junior High School is looking for volunteers to tutor four seventh grade students who are having problems in all subjects. A volunteer would only be tutoring one of the four students. If interested, please call Phil Bouche (Guidance Counselor) at 795-4188.

Odd Fellow's Nursing Home in Auburn would like a volunteer who would be willing to spend some time with one of their elderly residents. This gentleman is very intelligent and knowledgeable on current events and loves to talk politics/history. Please call 786-4616 if interested and ask for Patti Levenson. If she is unavailable, ask for John Bolduc or Elaine Veneri.

Healthy Start Wellness Center would like to have a volunteer to help in their front office. Tasks would include answering the phone and data entry. CPR certification is required of all volunteers; the center will provide a free certification course for those who are currently uncertified. Volunteers are needed for the following days and times: Monday: 9:00 a.m. - noon, Tuesday: 7:30 - 11:30 a.m. or 6:00 - 8:00 p.m., Friday 6:30 a.m. - noon. If interested, please call 795-0111.

Eating Concerns Week spotlights national problem through awareness

by Tina Iyer

*"I overeat and feel so ashamed, yet even shame doesn't stop me."
"When all I do is work and study it seems like food's the only treat."*

These quotes are now hung on walls over campus to advertise the Health Center's Eating Concerns Group, one of the many aspects of the attention that is currently focussed on the topic of eating concerns. Eating Concerns Week, from February 2 through February 9, has been founded as a "national recognition of eating concerns among our population ... to bring awareness, and to work on prevention, to debate the illusions [of ideal body image] that our culture has accepted," says Adelaide Trafton, health center counselor. Although anorexia, bulimia, and overeating are the "symbolic behaviors that are the endpoint of some women," according to Trafton, eating concerns are not limited to these problems alone, but also to the amount of time and energy that people, especially women, give to worrying about their body image.

The week has been observed for four years, and for three years by Bates. This year the campus can expect a student-run showing of the film "The Famine Within" on February 8 at 7:30 in Olin 104, a display in Ladd Library of all the library owned books dealing with eating concerns, and a table outside Commons with handouts and other information on eating concerns.

On February 2, the Eating Concerns Group will begin a nine to ten week session for students who want to discuss, work through, and get support for any eating concerns that they may be struggling with, as well as focus on learning how to become more comfortable with their bodies. The group will meet on Mondays from 4 to 5:30, and the limit is ten people. Any and all interested should contact the Health Center.



Safe to say that New England weather is kicking our butts hard this year, and providing alot of worthy photos ... last Saturday's storm downed a tree on the quad, and WRBC was a casualty of war, too.

THE STATE OF MAINE

It's all politics, from Senate seats to smoking

■ **Current status of Maine candidates for the U.S. Senate** ... U.S. Representative James Longley, a Republican, is out of the running for current U.S. Senator William Cohen's seat; Longley will seek reelection to the House instead. However, Maine businessman Republican Robert A.G. Monks, who lost two campaigns for a US Senate seat in the 1970's, has declared his intention to run. Sunday River Ski Resort owner Lee Otten is also expected run as a Republican. Stephen Bost, a former Democratic state legislator and current top operative of Ross Perot's political organization, will run as an independent. Former governor Joseph Brennan will run as a Democrat and will be challenged in the primaries by U.S. Representative John Baldacci.

■ **Leaders of Ross Perot's Reform Party refuse to be ignored** ... they filed a lawsuit last week in Portland fighting Maine's decision not to recognize the party officially. The party cites an improper recognition of signatures and errors by election officials in the processing of their petitions as the foundation for their suit.

■ **In an attempt to find a statewide solution to problems caused by relaxation spas**, Senator Sean Faircloth (D-Bangor) and Representative Eddie Povich (D-Ellsworth) brought a proposal to the Maine Legislature's Criminal Justice Committee which would add sexual contact at such spas to the crimes of indecency and prostitution. Currently there is a statutory loophole which allows relaxation spas to provide hand to genital stimulation in communities which do not have ordinances prohibiting such acts. The proposal looks to do away with this loophole. Opponents stress that such statewide action would constitute the imposition of morals on individual communities.

■ **The Maine Health Care Reform Commission** wants the state legislature to up the taxes on cigarettes and other tobacco products by \$70 million a year. Die hard smokers shouldn't worry; Governor King is expected to veto any such measure, and both Democrats and Republicans don't think the measure will even make it to King's desk. So sit back and light up.

Teaching chemistry to kids : Sarah Fried's thesis

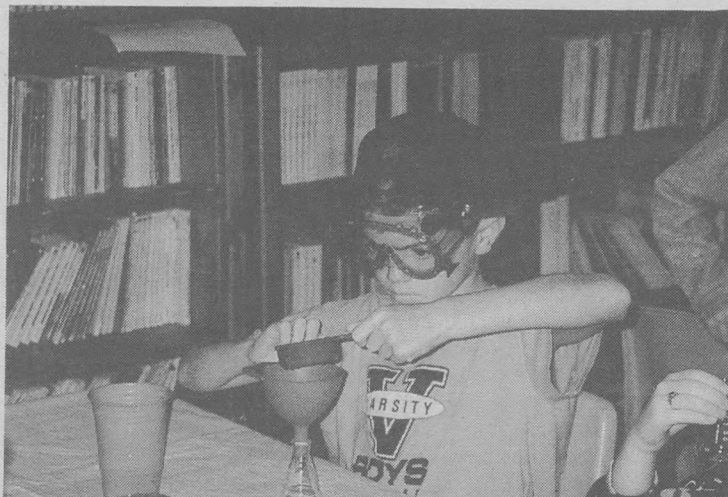
Using test tubes and food coloring, Sarah Fried's thesis is teaching children the wonders of chemistry

by Tina Iyer

She's not marching on Washington, and she's not out to save the world, but in an understated way, Sarah Fried '96 is engaging in her own sort of activism. The senior chemistry major has chosen to teach chemistry to grade schoolers at the New Gloucester Memorial School as her thesis.

"I didn't want to do a lab thesis ... I wanted to do something with children," says Fried. She was particularly interested in teaching chemistry to young children because of what she sees as an overriding fear of chemistry in teenagers and adults. Fried attributes this fear of chemistry to the fact that chemistry is not introduced until high school, while all the other sciences get some attention previous to secondary school.

Fried had the right idea at the right time. As she was busy looking for a school to teach in, the PTA for the New Gloucester elementary school called professor of chemistry Tom Wenzel looking for someone to boost a science curriculum that they felt was lacking. Soon, Fried found herself installed at the New



The formative years: a young scientist pours vinegar into a beaker for a chemistry unit taught by chemistry major Sarah Fried '96. Sarah Fried photo.

Gloucester Memorial School for six hours a week, broken up into two three hours sessions: one session with a class of third and fourth graders, and one with first graders.

"Everything is hands on. It's all engaging the kids ... which is what keeps them interested," Fried remarks. She has designed three four to five weeks units, each dealing with a different but integral aspect of chemistry. "Colors" deals with physical and chemical changes, uses materials such as Play-doh and Jello in experiments, "Mixing and Shaking" teaches students about mix-

tures and solutions, and "Phases of Fun" explains solids, liquids, and gasses. The goal of these units is to show the youngsters, as Fried says, that "Chemistry is everywhere."

"Chemistry is everywhere."
Sarah Fried '96

Both the first graders and the third and fourth graders are taught the same units, but Fried uses different approaches to teach the younger and older students. However, what is constant in her teaching is her unwavering belief that each student should conduct each experience on his or her own, "I don't do anything for them. I don't move their hands," explains

Fried. Instead, she engages the students in "science talks" both before the experiment, which gets the children to discuss what they hope to achieve, and then after the experiment, which enables the students to talk about what they had observed in their experiment.

Fried is also teaching her students how to keep science journals, so that the children get a sense of how scientists record results, and so that they can always look back to their old work. With a smile, Fried mentions that the first graders draw in their science journals more than they write.

Even though she deviated from the norm by not doing the standard lab thesis, Fried's teaching experiment has been met with success on all sides. The children go home and conduct their own experiments, since Fried designed her curriculum around using materials that were safe and easily available to children, the parents are excited to see their kids so interested, and all the other teachers at the Memorial School who don't have Fried in their classrooms now wish that they did. Fried is accommodating these teachers by compiling her lessons plans and experiment procedures into a coherent manual which she will leave with the New Gloucester Memorial School once she has finished the semester.

Sarah Fried has done the almost unthinkable. She has made chemistry interesting, accessible, and fun for those who are most difficult to please, children.

Check this out

Nationally observed Black History Month begins tomorrow, and Bates can expect its own events to celebrate and educate. In fact, the campus can look forward to more than just a month of observation, for many of the scheduled events are slated for the beginning of March.

Rico Herring '98, Amandla board member and the student in charge of the planning of activities for Black History Month, says, "Some events will be in February, not as many as there has been in the past, mainly due to scheduling." Anticipating February break, mid-term hell, and the production of the play, "Before It Hits Home," traditional Amandla sponsored events such as Triad will be pushed back to early March. This is not necessarily negative, because "it gives us more time to prepare and make time for speakers," explains Herring.

Some events, such as group dinners, will be solely for Amandla members, to "have a little more unity, just to be together for Black

The planning of the month itself is vital to the strength of Amandla as a group.

History Month," states Herring, but various performances and speakers will be open to the whole community. Events will include a performance of Afro-Cuban dance and music by a group for New York, which is expected to happen in early February, a coffeehouse featuring original poems by students and the recitation of works by African-American poets, a film series, and a series of lectures by women of color speakers.

Not only will these activities serve to increase the awareness of the Bates community, but the planning of the month itself is vital to the strength of Amandla as a group. "We're bringing more members together working on it ... the majority of the group is spending time together," says Herring.

Renowned choreographer showcased

On Sunday, February 4 at 7:30 p.m. in the Olin Arts Center, Tamar Rogoff, an award-winning choreographer, will present her "live documentary" of a dance-theater work that she first presented in Eastern Europe to the Bates College community. Using slides, video, and the 1935 diary of her father, Rogoff will recreate "The Ivey Project," a production that was originally a large-scale, site specific work delivered at the Holocaust memorial in the woods of Ivey, Belarus. Ivey was the scene of a Nazi massacre of near 4,000 Jews over a two year period of time. Twenty-nine of Rogoff's own relatives were killed in the massacre. All are invited to attend the performance; admission is free.

Security Watch

CRIME STATISTICS
criminal activity reported between January 5 and January 18, 1996

■ Murder	0
■ Sex Offenses	0
■ Robbery	0
■ Aggravated Assault	0
■ Burglary	2
■ Motor Vehicle Theft	0
■ Hate Crimes & Incidents	0
■ Assault	0
■ Bicycle Theft	0
■ Theft	2

Description of Burglary:

01/06/96 - Cash was stolen from a room in Turner House between 2:00 and 10:00 am. Value: \$100.00

01/13/96 - Four pizzas and two pizza bags were stolen from a vehicle

while it was parked in the driveway at WRBC at approximately 1:30 am. The vehicle was locked at the time of theft. Value: \$104.00

Description of Theft:

01/11/96 - A wallet was stolen from Chase Hall between 6:00 and 7:00 pm. The wallet contained a Bates College student identification card and miscellaneous papers. Value: \$40.00

01/14/96 - A snow tube was stolen from the lobby of Carnegie Science Hall between 2:00 and 3:00 p.m. Value: \$15.00

Arrests:

■ Liquor-Law Violation	0
■ Drug-Abuse Violation	0
■ Weapons Possession	0

SECURITY AND CAMPUS SAFETY SERVICES PROVIDED

between January 5 and January 18, 1996

■ Escorts	402
■ Fire Alarms	8
■ Lockouts	224
■ Propped Doors	57
■ Safewalks	n/a
■ Criminal Trespass Warnings	0

WRITE FOR THE BATES STUDENT! MEETINGS
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Arts Calendar

Wednesday, Jan. 31

Concert: Sophomore Thaddeus Carlson will perform a saxophone recital at 7:30 p.m. in the Olin Concert Hall.

Thursday, Feb. 1

Concert: The Haffner Trio, an internationally acclaimed trio of classical musicians, will perform at 7:30 p.m. in the Olin Concert Hall.

Concert: Folk/rock group The Nields and Carol Noonan will perform at 7:30 p.m. in the Chapel. Tickets are \$3 with i.d., \$5 without.

Lecture: Sandra Deer of the Alliance Theatre in Atlanta will discuss her conception of the relationship of the theater arts to issues of public policy, and how she wrote the play *Let's Talk About AIDS*. 7:30 p.m. in Muskie Archives.

Friday, Feb. 2

Theatre: *Before It Hits Home*, a play about the effect of AIDS on a young, black jazz musician, will be performed in Gannett Theater at 8 p.m. on Friday and Saturday and at 2 p.m. on Sunday.

Saturday, Feb. 3

Theatre: *Let's Talk About AIDS*, a musical comedy about raging hormones, romantic fantasy and personal responsibility will be performed in the Benjamin Mays Center at 11 a.m. and 2 p.m. on Saturday and Sunday.

Sunday, Feb. 4

Concert: Moscow pianist Ramiz Akhundov will perform Russian music at 3 p.m. in the Olin Concert Hall.

Lecture: Tamar Rogoff, New York City choreographer will discuss her work entitled *The Ivey Project*, which is about the Holocaust and the destruction of an Eastern European town. 7:30 p.m. in the Olin Concert Hall.

Tuesday, Feb. 6

Concert: Noonday Concert at 12:30 p.m. in the Olin Concert Hall.

Interested in the arts? Want practical job skills in arts administration? Apply for part-time position as administrative assistant for the Bates Dance Festival. Begins April 1996. Two year commitment preferred. Excited paid opportunity to learn about the performing arts working for this internationally acclaimed dance program. Call Laura Faure at 786-6077.

The Arts Wednesday, January 31, 1996

Arpilleras document politics

Moving folk art by Chilean women currently on exhibit in the Multicultural Center

by Tania Ralli

In a week where the issue of "art and witness" held great importance, Bates was fortunate to host Marjorie Agosin, as well as Carolyn Forché. Agosin, now a professor at Wellesley, is a poet and human rights advocate who has extensively concerned herself with the Chilean women's movement of the past two decades.

On Wednesday, January 24th, she lectured about the role that women took from 1973-1989 under

"Women were left behind, and in cases of crisis, women take over."

Marjorie Agosin

the oppressive dictatorship of General Pinochet; a time in which thousands of people disappeared, tearing families apart. Little is known of the women of Latin America, particularly of the roles that they have played affecting politics.

Before 1948 women's political groups did exist, yet they faded as Latin American women gained the right to vote between 1948 and 1951. But in the 1970's a new political history began along with the disappearance of thousands of men. Agosin explained that, "Women were left behind, and in cases of crisis, women take over."

Words were forbidden and books were censored, but these women became political nonetheless. Through the creation of arpilleras, hand stitched tapestries, they told of the terror the dictatorship had brought into their daily lives. Even children were disappearing so "public protest [grew]

out of the private realm," said Agosin. Political action was redefined as working class and rural women with no prior political affiliation joined together.

They risked their lives to assemble in small groups in the basement of Catholic churches. The churches provided them with scraps of fabric to create the arpilleras. The women sewed images that "spoke of an absence" and that showed scenes of abduction. The Andes are frequently depicted in the background as a sign of hope and freedom. Agosin explained that, "This art is based on the roots of everyday existence."

The arpilleras were individually sewn with exquisite care. They may appear child-like, but upon close examination the faces reflect anguish and "grief that will last forever". The arpilleras were sold through human rights organizations in an attempt to send the message abroad.

Even today, the trouble in Chile does not cease since the government refuses to acknowledge the repercussions of the years of fascist regime. Agosin expressed today's "greatest dilemma" by asking, "How [can one] engage again as a citizen of a government that wishes to deny the past?" Chileans live in a frightened society that does not want to come together. Thus, Agosin feels it is best to tell the story. Otherwise, disbelief will keep everyone scared.

She uses these arpilleras that plead for justice as proof for her cause. Agosin was supported by the Vicariate of Solidarity, an organization of the Catholic Church, to visit the workshops of the arpilleras from 1980-1985. She put herself at risk to be with these women, but she said that she felt that, "If so many people tell you that you are crazy, you are doing something worthwhile." She spent her time watching and listening to the terrorized



In times of political hardship, Chilean women banded together and made arpilleras out of the scraps they could find. *Mariano Pelliza photo.*

women that dared to meet without any protection.

The workshops closed in 1990. Many of the women have grown old, and because they no longer see well and are poor, they are unable to continue.

Many have been saddened by the indifference to their struggle and the denial they face. Yet the presence of this immediate history is remarkable. A new political course of action sprung out of the atrocities as women reconstructed broken families by working together.

Towards the end of her presentation, Agosin read from her own poetry in both Spanish and English. She expressed that, "These poems speak to me the danger of being bystanders in our daily lives."

Agosin has written about the women of Chile, the arpilleras, and compiled personal accounts in her book, "Scraps of Life: Chilean Arpilleras."

Additionally, an extraordinary collection of arpilleras is on display at the Multicultural Center until February 8th.



Marjorie Agosin spoke at Bates last week on the history and importance of arpilleras. *Paige Brown photo.*



The arpilleras will be on display until February 9th- there's still time to catch this wonderful exhibit. *Mariano Pelliza photo.*

Rooms with a view

An inside look at the issues behind what you decorate your home away from home with

by Gabe Fried

You get to college and suddenly you've got to make a decision: how do you define your space? From the time you open your first beer and it sprays in a fine hop mist onto your brown linoleum floor, you must decide, do I clean this up or am I prepared to set a precedent which will label me slovenly for at least the next year, if not more than that? It's your call. If your interested in entomology, better let it stick. But remember, you are what you decorate, and vice versa.

Not everyone puts a lot of thought into how their living space is presented and that in and of itself has intimations. A tremendous percentage of the population just plugs in the halogen lamp, hangs up the tapestry, and slaps a poster of Tori Amos to the wall and, ta-da, color him or

Whether you decorate in a stereotyped or completely original manner, is there something bigger at work which is indicative of Bates?

her collegiate: it's a dorm room. That's all right, but for our purposes, not very interesting. Although we're not suggesting that everyone who decorates this way is irreparably typical, we would suggest that in this case what is the norm artistically is also the lowest common denominator. From the standpoint of statement, it doesn't amount to anything. It's an empty gesture. We're not suggesting you have to be a studio art major to set up shop at college - on the contrary, the unschooled artist is often more effective than the slightly schooled one - but for the decoration to be interesting, it has to be heartfelt. In other words, your room, as art, doesn't have to be for sale in Sotheby's to be considered, so long as it is self-conscious and thorough on some level.

An interesting debate would be whether or not your self-defined space is bigger than you; if you as artist/interior decorator are in any way relevant to the broader implications of you're little hidey-hole. (If you are allowing this attempt at deconstruction, you are probably someone who puts a lot of thought into decorating anyhow; if not, it no doubt seems pointless, and you are probably right...) That is to say, whether you decorate in a stereo-



Some students find themselves with aesthetics tastes that wake the dead. This coffin really does inhabit a dorm room. *Paige Brown photo.*

typed or completely original manner, is there something bigger at work which is indicative of Bates? In order to assess this, let's take a gander at several living situations, some retro - well, most retro - and at least one, cutting edge nihilistic.

■ One solution to Maine winters: death warmed over

They say college students work at night and sleep during the day. (Someone says that, don't they...) The result: paler skin, withdrawal from bright lights, a strong inclination toward late-night snacks you can sink your teeth into.

Sounds vaguely vampiric, doesn't it? Well, two Bates students, we'll call them the Batmen, have decorated their cave on Frye Street with an honest-to-God coffin (presumably for snuggling up with a Good Book and a tall glass of blood on those sleepy Sunday mornings).

Though there is no corpse inside, to the best of our knowledge, you can never be sure when one might show up looking for a good day's rest.

Of course, the symbolic implications of a such a piece of undead paraphernalia are myriad and, without delving into the field of sexual fetish, we are able to arrive, on a general level, at what type of decorative properties this morbid wall hanging has. It is a singular, evocative wall fixture which, if it works, inspires bemused repulsion or attraction. It makes or breaks the room, in other words. This cadaver's cradle isn't the crux of a macabre theme park; the Batmen, whether they know it or not, are relying on the shock value of a single piece of furniture to create an identity for their room and it works superficially. Plus, it's a great way to combine decorum with a guest bedroom for less squeamish visitors.


Yet in terms of dorm room decoration being socially generative, coffins surrender unfortunately to a 'fun for one' parameter (fun for two if you really suck in your gut). There's no real way to incorporate a big crowd - to get people to come 'hang in your pad' - with a coffin as your primary ornamental feature. For decoration that is a little more interactive, it is necessary to turn to two works in progress which are a little less subject to rigor mortis puns.

■ Water colors and watery brew

The basement of Wentworth Adams Hall could be referred to as a burial grounds of sorts - a communal coffin, if you will - and this would be one way to link it with the first example. Except, of course, that it's one thing to elect to put a coffin in your room, it's another thing to be assigned to a dank, dark, fetid, coffin by the Housing Office.

But a pair of first-years, who we'll call Bob '99 and Ray '99, have decided to furnish their room and recycle, too, all while bringing a more festive atmosphere to their subterranean abode. Basically, they neatly panel their walls with their emptied cardboard beer cartons. The two have brewed a functional system of decorating which allows for speculation on campus life, market-

Continued on Page 15



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ARTS IN MAINE

Thursday, Feb. 1

The Vintage Repertory Company presents the East Coast Premiere of Terry Johnson's *Hysteria*- a mystery, a drama, and a farce all rolled into one. In 1938, in a quiet London suburb, Salvador Dali visits Sigmund Freud for afternoon tea. Runs until Feb. 18 at the Oak Street Theatre (92 Oak Street, Portland). Thursday, Fridays and Saturdays at 8 p.m. and Sundays at 5 p.m.

Friday, Feb. 2

The Public Theatre, Lewiston/Auburn's Professional Theatre Co. will present *Betrayal*, by Harold Pinter. Thursday-Saturday at 8 p.m. and Sundays at 2 p.m. Runs through Feb. 11. Call 782-3200.

Saturday, Feb. 3

The Theater Project in Brunswick will open *The Compleat Works of Wllm Shkspyr, Abridged*, originally produced by The Reduced Shakespeare Company. Performances are at 7 p.m. on Thursdays, 8 p.m. on Fridays and Saturdays, and 3 p.m. on Sundays. Runs until Feb. 18th.

The exhibit *Neil Welliver Prints: The Essence of Maine* opens at the Portland Museum of Art. This comprehensive survey of Neil Welliver's graphic work includes more than fifty-eight images and is on view until March 24th.

Sunday, Feb. 4

Melvyn Tan will perform 18th Century piano music on period instrument at the Portland High School Theater at 3 p.m.

Tuesday, Feb. 6

Ani and Ida Kavafian, on violin and viola, will perform Mayuzumi's *Bugaku: Part 1*, Mozart's *Sinfonia Concertante, K. 364*, and Dvorak's *Symphony No. 8* at 7:30 p.m. on Tuesday and Wednesday nights at the State Theatre.

The Niels- they're more than just folk

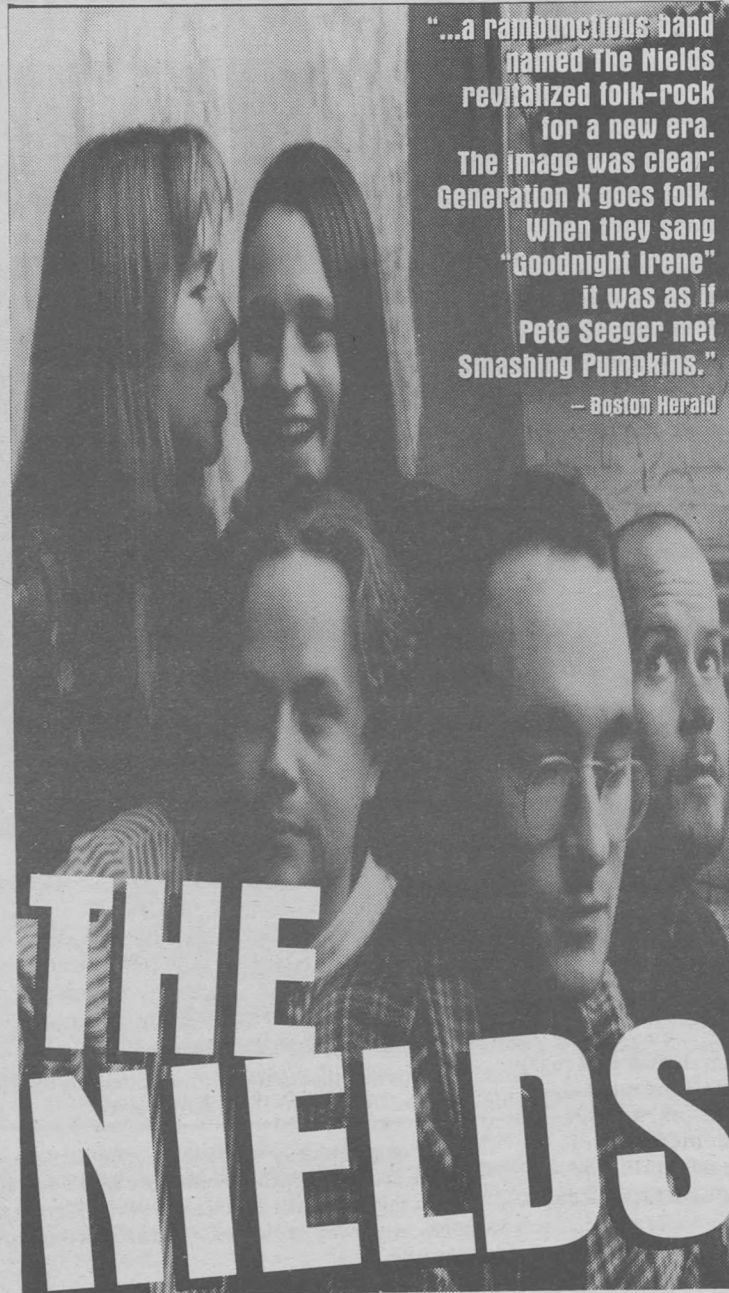
Music critic recounts for us his finding on a rainy evening in Massachusetts

by Jon Wyman

I must admit: I had no intention of seeing The Niels that day. I had heard rumor that Shawn Colvin would be headlining an outdoor concert in my hometown, so I headed down the Maine Turnpike and arrived in historic Concord, Massachusetts, only to be welcomed by a veritable monsoon. My sister, Julie, and I decided to tough it out anyway. The show started as scheduled, but there were seven acts on before Shawn. With each act, we came another step closer to dying of a combination of pneumonia and impatience.

And then The Niels came on. The first thing that caught my eye was the drum kit, which wasn't actually a kit, but a single snare drum that Dave Hower slapped the shit out of with a pair of brushes. The second thing to catch my eye was singer Katryna Niels, who, despite the rain and occasional electrical zaps through the sound system, was absolutely radiant. Yes, I believe I had a crush on her. Within a few minutes, The Niels had pulled me out of my aquatic melancholy.

The concert was titled The Riverbank Folk Festival, but to slap a generalization like "folk" on The Niels is just plain wrong. Yes, they play acoustic guitars, and yes, they have some killer harmony. But they also rock, plain and simple. Acoustic rock has recently been obtaining a little more muscle, enlisting electric guitars and good, old-fashioned backbeats, as illustrated by Jonathan Brooke's latest effort. The Niels presaged Brooke by a year and released an album that combined the best of acoustic and electric music. In Concord, David Niels opted to



"...a rambunctious band named The Niels revitalized folk-rock for a new era. The image was clear: Generation X goes folk. When they sang 'Goodnight Irene' it was as if Pete Seeger met Smashing Pumpkins."

- Boston Herald

use an acoustic guitar for fear of being electrocuted by the rain if he used his electric. But when he plugs in, as he does on the band's album, *Bob On the Ceiling*, he is unstoppable, especially when he succumbs to his apparent fetish for the wah pedal. Check out the absolutely smoking intro to "James." David also shows an affinity for a little jazz in the melodic hook at the end of "Ash Wednesday" or the soulful, Jeff Beck-style guitar mourns in a cover of Sinéad O'Connor's "Black Boys on Mopeds."

The defiance of categorization really shines in the Niels' lyrics, penned largely by Nerissa Niels. Though she writes about growing up, there is nothing innocent about youth for Nerissa. Take the irony of a Christmas-time teenage birth in "Merry Christmas, Mr. Jones" for example, or the similar story behind "Ash Wednesday." "Where Did It Go?" tells the bitter tale of the disintegration of friends and family as youth fades (and also, by the way, bears an uncanny resemblance to Aimee Mann's "I've Had It").

Despite the seriousness of the song material, The Niels certainly don't wallow in their own self-pity. Their live performances are simply joyful. It is impossible to watch Katryna sing and not crack a smile. The Chapel seems like a great venue for them to play. Undoubtedly, it's better than the flooded parking lot where I was introduced to them. And the beauty of it all is the three dollar ticket price. Including opening act Carol Noonan, it's a buck-fifty an act.

As Mark Erelli put it, "you can't even rent a video for that." And good luck finding The Niels at Blockbuster.

LATE NITE INSIGHT AND

OUTRIGHT WHIMSY

ON THE WORLD OF

ADVERTISING

by

Josh Vallee

AD HOC

Sailboats and potato sculptures

Are Super Bowl ads subverting something?

Traditionally, the Super Bowl stands as a key, but unbearably expensive, opportunity for sponsors to unveil new nationwide ad campaigns, for the viewing audience of this particular sporting event is one of the largest of any television program during the year. With the guarantee that an overwhelming fraction of America will ingest the high-priced advertisements during the football game, corporations generally put together expensive, high-glossed series of commercials, which often either connect to each other in a linear fashion, or follow some sort of pattern (like the ever irritating, "No you can't have my Bud Lite, Johnny" campaign, which was extended fabulously on Sunday, using Charlton Heston). Super Bowl XXX didn't feature the diversity of previous games, but certainly did provide a couple of very interesting new twists on the ad game.

Of course, only a few select types of corporations found themselves in the financial position to purchase ad time during the Super Bowl. So one is bombarded with only the finest in car, fast/junk food, cola, and beer commercials, completing the grand slam of sports advertising. Plymouth revealed a new series of ads, which seemed the fairly traditional "buy our car" kind of ads, but also showed that they had a new symbol for their product- a sailboat, or so it appeared. I feel as if there is something terribly corrupt about representing cars with boats, as if the Plymouth people have accepted that the Neon is in fact an awful automobile that no one would want, but if America would only pretend that they were buying a nice big boat. . . Blah blah blah. It is then that one finds him/herself saying, "Leave me alone," to the television.

Pepsi inevitably uses competitive advertising, always putting itself alongside Coke, claiming to somehow surpass it in some way. This year, we find a delivery man stocking a case of Coke cans, with a male voice singing "You Cheatin' Heart." This man apparently gets thirsty and reaches into the Pepsi case for a soda, accidentally knocking hundreds of cans out, making a colossal mess, and attracting the attention of various customers. He takes his soda anyway, and leaves sheepishly. Message: 1) Even Coca-Cola workers prefer Pepsi, 2) People will do anything for soda 3) By creating a hapless, empathetic character, Pepsi says, people like you drink our drink. It's a nice song, too.

Though I wrote about Doritos last week, I never could have hoped for better material than their new "Get a Life" campaign. What a slogan! The commercials follow a general pattern, with a "Life without Doritos" section, mundane and boring, often sad, and a "Life with Doritos" part, full of life and creativity. A lunchlady turns from a boring potato shoveler into a brilliant potato sculptress, creating a tuber Arc d'Triumph, a large Venus di Millo, and more. The ad satisfies every junk food urge to do stupid things with food, targeting children, who can actually buy chips on their own due to the cheap and readily accessible nature of chips. Eat Doritos and you have successfully structured a valid existence for yourself, little Timmy. Jenny, it's true: You can now be one of the lively and funny kids because of the tortilla chips that you eat. Clearly, the ad style directed towards children has a more pointedly subversive method to it, for, indeed, they know no better, and, more importantly, they eat it up.

A coffin, bright crayons, or a whole lot of beer: You choose

Continued from Page 13

ing and advertising, and, of course, beer.

As with many artists, there is a need to reconcile production with subsistence and economic means, and Bob and Ray have managed to continue their decorative endeavor without fear of extinguishing their financial resources by turning to a cheaper medium - or, as they put it, "we drink a lot of 'Beast'". But there's nothing wrong with using a less expensive means as long as artistic ends aren't sacrificed.

Whether or not you're a big-time

souse, you can engage in this type of aesthetic decorating. That's where Bob and Ray's idea is a great one. Drinking for art's sake is a lot more appealing than drinking until you vomit. In this case, even if you do spew, at least you are working toward a cause. Refuse as art definitely has a well excavated niche in the world, and this substitute for more typical collegiate posters deftly melds the old-school social world with new school enviro-utilitarianism.

On the other hand, if you prefer language over form, there's a room on the third floor of Roger Williams Hall you should check out. One senior, known here as Camus, has etched her place in that dorm's history, water solubly of course, simply by leaving out her box of Crayolas. Equally social as Bob and Ray, though clearly more minimalist, this genre allows a different slice of college life to express themselves - most frequently through citation - so that the word of anyone from Nietzsche to Stephen King to Lynda Baron to Charles Mingus to Tom Robbins can be quoted at any given time. It is as if someone took your high school

binder and all your doodling and gave you license to fill a room with ten foot ceilings.

Clearly, there is interaction here on many different levels. Camus has created a situation where you feel you experience her, as represented by the writing on the wall, so to speak. Additionally you experience those who quoted, Camus included, and the room itself, which carries a

of art, or wear a work of art." Even if you're a dorm room.

■ The dead, Red room

We'd be remiss here if we didn't talk about the Red room, but next year's graduating class wouldn't be. The Red room, by some accounts, died three years ago, although it was still kicking during the 1993-94 academic year, the first year of the Bill's single-sexdom.

Arguably the most appealing dormitory space available at Bates, the Red room is a dying hold-over from the days when, according to a 1994 resident of the room we'll call Nike, the Bill and Milliken house represented the "two social poles on campus... people went where they felt more comfortable but were welcome at either. When they took away the Bill and Milliken, that was the end of social

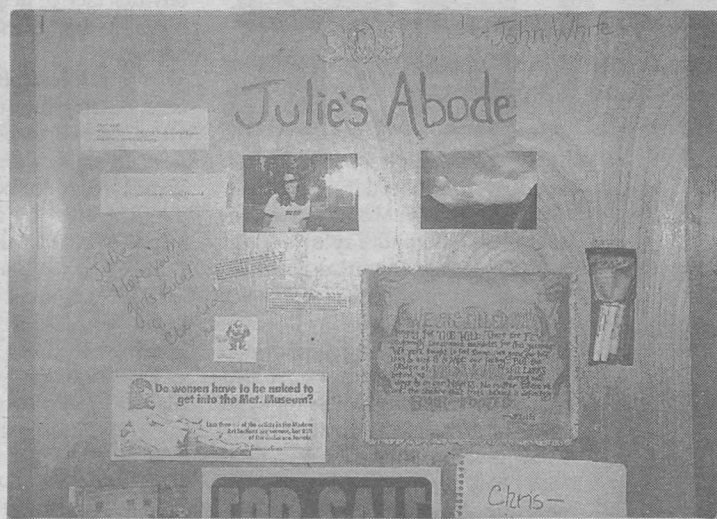


These boys have chosen to plaster the remnants of a fun Saturday night on their walls. Paige Brown photo.

certain intellectual cognizance by virtue of the timeless quotes which line its walls. There is one major drawback: if you're looking for conversation, this technique is based in a sense of group project. People contribute toward filling the wall, much like with the beer cartons. Visitors, however, may find themselves too engrossed reading to actually strike up a conversation, especially with the potential for new additions each time back. As far as decoration goes, though, this approach is good simply because it is difficult to be trite. Even if the concept isn't entirely original, the composition and the all of the quotes will be. See Oscar Wilde, who's quoted just by the entrance: "One must be a work

life at Bates."

The Red room has/had as much to do with atmosphere as it did with decoration but, from one group of tenants to the next, there was always a certain consistency in its furnishing: it was designed as communal space, for hanging out and for 'crashing.' There was always space for multiple guests and anyone and everyone was welcome



Doors can even be creative!

Paige Brown photo.



Life is maybe like deep-sea fishing. We wake up in the morning, we cast our nets into the waters, and, if we are lucky, at days end we will have netted one - maybe two - small fish. Occasionally we will net a sealhorse and sometimes a shark - or a life-preserver or an iceberg, or a monster. And in our dreams at night we assess our Catch of the Day - the treasures of this long, slow process of accumulation - and we eat the flesh of our fish, casting away their bones and weaving the memories of their once-gleaming skins into our souls.
-Douglas Coupland

Inspiration quotes, scrawled with colorful crayola crayons covers this one womans room. Paige Brown photo.

to spend the night.

As a result, the space was furnished with multiple sofas or lofts or whatever it took to create a sense of hospitality - it was like a beacon for wayward students, and you didn't even have to be high - though that association was prevalent whether you were or not.

In a strange way, even if you weren't into it, you had to admit that the Red room was a center, if not the center, for campus social life. As Nike's friend Circe put it, "the whole Bill hung around there. If people were out they'd come by, knowing

people would be having fun, doing crazy shit."

The physical space that was the Red room raises serious issues of what it means to share space and how its presentation affects the way people are drawn to it, a pseudo-Marxist approach to dorm decoration.

One thing that is for certain is that the hugely successful theme parties that were ubiquitous on campus two or three years ago have all but disappeared and, to what should be the dismay of the administration, Bates' social life is generally perceived to be slowly receding toward off-campus residences. Dorm damage aside, that's not what the school should be aiming for. The students who now live in the Red room are not to blame, of course. But the aura created by the room's decorative accessibility has left the campus in a lurch. For now, coffins, beer cartons, and crayons provide some of the best alternatives.

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Cranking out the W's

Women's hoops hits double digits as it makes a mockery of its opponents

by Ryan Spring

Overcoming illnesses, the loss of a starter, and a tough bit of scheduling, the Bates women's basketball team had a perfect week, winning three straight to raise its record to 10-4. The Bobcats defeated Savannah College of Art and Design 75-48 on the 20th, the University of New England 79-74 on the 22nd, and rival Colby 76-55 on the 24th.

■ SCAD

The long trip up from Georgia showed as the 10-4 Bees allowed the Bobcats to race off to a 43-25 lead. The game was close until around the seven-minute mark when first-year A.T Taylor hit a three-pointer that initiated a 16-3 Bates run to end the half. The second half showed no improvement by SCAD and the Bobcats took advantage of their opponents poor attitude and disorganization to put the game away. The Bees were hurt severely by their shooting, which was a measly 26.6% from the floor while the Bobcats shot 43.9%.

Bates was led by junior Sarah Bonkovsky, who netted 27 points and grabbed 13 rebounds and Taylor, who hit for fifteen points. Junior Nicole Woodson scored 9 points in her final game before leaving to go abroad and first-year Colleen McCrave grabbed 12 rebounds and dished out 12 assists while being named the Maine Women's Basketball Coaches' Association Rookie of the Week.

■ UNE

Intra-state rival UNE travelled up from Biddeford to take on the Bobcats Monday. Bates jumped out to an early lead, and with 13:40 left in the first half Bonkovsky scored on a pass from senior Dianna Devlin to cap a 10-2 run that put the Bobcats up 16-9. About six minutes later, UNE cut the lead to 28-25 with an 8-2 run of its own, but buckets by senior Colleen Matlen, Bonkovsky, and a free-throw by McCrave put the Bobcats back up by seven. After a UNE basket, the Bobcats went on a 10-0 run that included four points by Matlen and at the half Bates led 45-34.

Once again, the Bobcats slowed down in the second half. With 2:02 left in the game, UNE had cut the lead to 7 points, but UNE scored six straight points off two turnovers to make the score 77-74 with 39.1 seconds left.

First-year Kristen Porter, however, made a key steal and with 8.1 seconds left iced the game for the Bobcats with two free throws.

Porter, who moved into the starting line-up for the first time this season to replace Woodson, showed great poise while scoring 11 points, including 10 in the second half, a season high. Taylor added 23 points and Bonkovsky scored 18 points and ripped down 11 boards. Matlen also put up 11 points, which tied a season high, and scored eight of those in the second half.

The Bobcats, who are now down to only nine players will sorely miss Woodson, a two-year starter. "Nicole's a big loss because she could play any position and did a great job on defensive. Although

Although Colby managed to outscore Bates in the second half, 30-29, the Bobcats first half lead proved insurmountable.

Coach Murphy, in an attempt to give experience to some of the lesser-used players, made many early substitutions, but Bonkovsky, Devlin, Matlen, McCrave, Porter, and Taylor still saw the bulk of the action.

Bonkovsky led all-scorers with 19 points and an impressive 18 rebounds, while McCrave hit for 18 points to go with 10 steals. Devlin added 11 points and 8 assists in the win.



Demolition Derby! The action down low is heated as Bates Sarah Bonkovsky '97 battles for position. Paige Brown photo

she may not have scored much, she always worked hard setting screens for the other players on offense," commented Devlin.

Coach Jim Murphy added, "I am very concerned about the team's depth. It becomes very difficult at practice. We've had injury problems and with only nine players it is hard to work on a half-court offense."

This lack of depth has forced Bonkovsky, Devlin, McCrave, and Taylor to play well over thirty minutes a game despite the fact that the two upper classmen were overcoming illnesses typical of the season. This task is especially difficult considering the Bates' up-tempo style of play that places emphasis on creating turnovers with tough defense and quickly pushing the ball up court on offense.

■ Colby

The White Mules rolled into Alumni on Wednesday for the Bobcats' sixth game in eleven days. This game was a mismatch from the very start, and the Bobcats roared off to a 47-25 halftime lead.

averaging 12.3 points and 6.9 assists per game which places her among the Division III leaders.

One big difference this year, Murphy points out, is her decrease in turnovers, "Dianna's decision-making has been her big improvement this year. She has great vision. She is also a better defensive player than people give her credit for [44 steals, second on the team] and her ability to penetrate when the shot clock is winding down has also been crucial."

Devlin, however, is quick to cite her teammates as the major reasons for her, and the team's, improvement. "Our team is very unselfish. This is the first year that no one cares about scoring, everyone just wants to win, together. Also, everyone's digging down on defense and really working hard."

As the season winds down, this unselfishness and hard work will become crucial as the team battles some of the premier teams in the region while trying to grab a spot in the post season. Over the next few weeks, the Bobcats face the number two team in Maine, the University of Maine-Farmington, and the number one team in the Northeast, Middlebury. The Bates players will have to overcome their obvious lack of height and depth in order to defeat these two powerhouses.

Devlin points out, "We've been beating all the teams that we are supposed to beat, but now we need to start winning some of the games we are supposed to lose too."

Murphy adds, "The next step is to beat UMF or Middlebury. I think that the players are looking forward to it and I know I am looking forward to it. Originally our goal was to finish at .500, but our goals have changed because our players have played so well."

Those goals for the Bobcats now include, not only wins over UMF and Middlebury, but also a bigger prize. Post-season play is looming larger and larger in the minds of the players, their senior captain, and their coach who adds, "I would love it for Dianna to make the postseason."

Write Sports
Call x7494 to talk to
the man of the hour
and he'll tell you
what's up!

Bates men's hockey club continued its winning ways, trouncing the Wildcats of UNH twice this past weekend at the storied Underhill Arena. The first game was a classic nail-bitter, with Ryan MacDonald '98 breaking a 3-3 deadlock with a little under two minutes to play. Paul Nemetz-Carlson '98, Dan Murphy '96, and Phil (Mecrackin) Alegranti '98 added goals. Dave Argerio '99 was stalwart in goal, denying the Wildcats on 15 occasions, many of them point-blank. If Saturday gave one the indication that our 'Cats weren't for real, Sunday quelled the critic's fire. Behind goals from Alegranti, Nemetz-Carlson, Alan Reed '98 and Ryan Sahr '99, the 'Cats thoroughly beat up upon UNH. Argerio let the light shine but once, turning back 18 shots on the day.

Inside the Lines

Bates swimming and diving came up with split results this past weekend, as the women drowned Tufts but the men were downed by scores of 197-102, and 158-111, respectively. The teams enjoy a week's hiatus before travelling to the Nutmeg state to do battle with Trinity and Connecticut College on Saturday.

Bates men's skiing enjoyed a fourth-place finish at the St. Lawrence Winter Carnival at Lake Placid on Saturday. Competing with the likes of such powerhouses as Dartmouth and UVM, the men received a top ten finish from Dave Chamberlain '98 in the 17.5 K nordic race and a top fifteen finish from Sean Clark '97 in the slalom. The teams hope to set the green mountains of Vermont ablaze, traveling to UVM to compete in a carnival on Friday and Saturday.

Making strides for the post-season

by Cam Donaldson

The women's indoor track team had a promising performance last Saturday at the Bates Challenge Cup, scoring 95 points and checking in at third place. Springfield (225 points) won decisively over Colby (166 points), Bates, and Mount Holyoke (86 points).

Despite finishing third, the team had a number of outstanding individual performers. Kirstin Achenbach '96 finished first and second in the 800 and 1500, respectively. She was

also a key runner in the 800 relay, which Bates won. Another participant in the 800 relay, Christine Unger '98, ran the 600 in 1:45.07. This was her best time of the season, good enough for second place. Blue chip prospect Meghan Lockwood '99 won the 100-yard dash and was the runner-up in the 1200, despite churning out a season-best time. Lindsey Hescocock '99 wouldn't let her classmate take all

the glory, as she jumped five feet to win the high jump event.

Under the tutelage of coach Carolyn Court, Bates will spend the remainder of the season preparing vigorously for the post-season championships. Court, who was named New England Coach of the Year for cross-country last fall, sees an abundance of talent on this team.

"I think we will do very well in post-season competition," said Court. "Through our first three meets, we have eight performances that qualify for the ECAC Championships and 19

that are good enough for the Division III tournament. I have seen some real quality performances, and we are still improving as a team."

With Court in the captain's chair, it is likely that the team will continue improving as the post-season draws nearer. A wealth of super-fast talent and an experienced coaching staff makes this team worth catching on the weekends ... if you can.

"I think we will do very well in post-season competition."
Coach Carolyn Court



Bates women's track is aiming high, hurdling its opponents en route to yet another noteworthy performance this winter. Sean Doherty photo.

Reading this? Either you like sports, or you're bored out of your mind. I don't care. Just WRITE it! call X7494

by e.e. hooley

Racket power: Bates squash pulverising opponents with a lot of brains and a little brawn

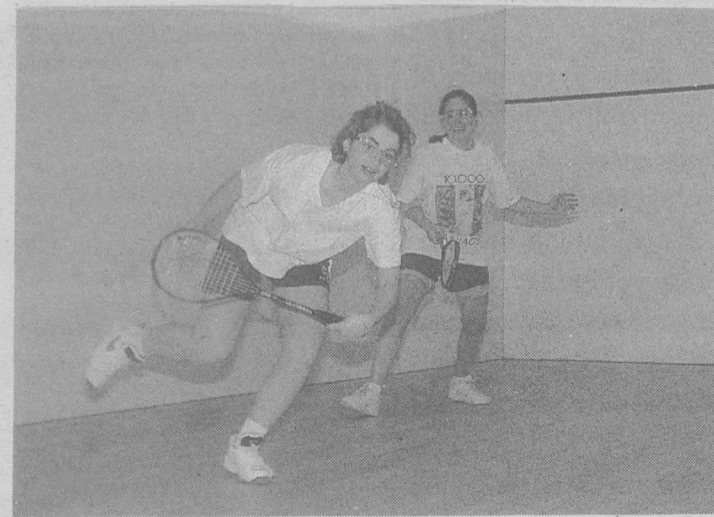
by Jeff Poleshek

For the first time this year the Men's Squash team had its first home match. With a majority of the season's matches being played at Bowdoin, the team was looking forward to actually playing in front of a home crowd. The team didn't disappoint the gallery full of spectators, by defeating Connecticut College 8-1. The team was led by Pat Cosquer '96, who at the #1 position won convincingly 3-1. Following his lead, victories were also achieved by Jamie Reiner '98, Case Newberry '96, Preston Carey '96, Ari Friedlander '96, Sandy Weymouth '98, Ted Horan '97, Eric Sanders '99, and newcomer Gad Nestle. The match improved the Bobcats record to 10-9, and prepared them for their next opponent, the Tuft's Jumbos. This match proved just as successful. The team won convincingly 8-1, and this time the team was led by co-captains Marc Zuccaro '96 and Case Newberry. With this victory, the team record now stands at 11-9, and with just two regular season matches left before Nationals, the team hopes their success will continue.

Of the two upcoming matches, both are extremely impor-

tant for the Bobcat's final ranking. Both Colby and Bowdoin are teams equally matched to the experience and depth of the Bobcat squad, and the matches will only be determined by which team is mentally stronger. On the side of the Bobcats will be the fact that both matches are home, and that the team will be eager to avenge their previous losses to these teams, but the Cats will have their work cut out for them because Colby and Bowdoin will be ready to play when the time comes. When asked about the significance of these matches, co-captain Marc Zuccaro '96 said, "given our win over Cornell, and the decisive avenging of our Columbia loss, a win over Colby or Bowdoin would put us right at the top of our division for Nationals." The Cat's next home match is against Bowdoin on Wednesday, Feb. 7 at 4:00 P.M. in Merrill.

The Women's Squash team has also had great success in their last few matches. Returning from the Williams Invitational, the women posted wins over Connecticut College, Hamilton, and Vassar, in a tournament where top ranked teams like Smith and Wesleyan were invited. Adding to their victories the Women also defeated the Tufts Jumbos 6-3. The team was led by co-captain Autumn Shurin '96, Kiersten Scarpati '97, Katie McQuilkin '97, and Abbey Phelps '98. In this match Autumn Shurin broke the record for the most wins of any woman Squash player at Bates with 34. With this victory the Bobcats improved to 8-8, and are hoping to continue their success against Colby and Bowdoin in the next few weeks.



Laura Sirois '97 and Courtney Jones '97 vie for position Paige Brown Photo

When asked about the season, co-captain Autumn Shurin said,

"The team has done well despite the fact that we lost six of our top ten players. The new players have done well in taking their place, and everyone has won matches at their new positions. The team is improving with every match, and we are looking forward to participating in the Howe Cup at Yale in February." The Women's next home match is against Bowdoin on Feb. 7, so come out and support the Bobcats!

Just a Thought

It's not as if I expect the Cameron crazies to salivate anytime the word Alumni is uttered, nor do expect people to feast on Tender Vittles at game time as the heralded Dawg Pound bows down to our Kitten Litter, but in deference to the ever-af-fable Nell Carter, gimme a break, fans.

I sometimes wonder if people attend the sports functions here at Bates, wondering what kind of interest the most-recent J. Crew catalogue has spurned, rather than to watch the 'Cats do some battle. I'm not trying to confuse Lewiston with Green Bay, Wisconsin, although the weather would be a fine start; I'm just suggesting that, we, the fans, get a little fired up. Sure, were not going to the Final Four, and the closest we'll get to ESPN will be if my mom decides to cook the campus dinner at my place, but heck, let's make some noise.

Yeah, everyone's to blame, myself included, but all hope is not lost. Here are a few suggestions. First, yelling is mandatory, be it directed at your friend, the opposing crowd, players, what have you. Animalistic muttering that is incoherent to the human ear is best, with remarks about the refs' clothing and opposing players running a close second.

Second, clapping and banging upon the wooden bleachers to rouse the team are necessary. Do anything, be it odd, funny, ridiculous, or what. We need numbers, lots of them. So, get to the games, and no, I'm not introducing Sexual Chocolate, but get your hands together for the 'Cats. — Daniel Hooley.

Motherly love? My ass. Where's the snow?

by Daniel Hooley

As I sit here wide-eyed and awake, looking frowningly upon the rain that runs incessantly down my window, I can't help but jog my memory back a few years. My mind tells me that our relationship was far from amicable from the start, at least as far back as I can remember. You see, Mother Nature, you haven't been at all nurturing, and to be downright frank about your actions, I'm pissed.

I guess its a twentysomething thing to do: bask in the alleged comfort one provides for the better part of one's life, realize something is wrong, and rather than taking the responsibility on yourself, you simply blame someone else for your misery. Well, you're the problem. If I'm not mistaken, my early education — primarily the science stuff — told me that you broke this weather thing up, for the most part, into fours.

Seasons, not the crap you put on food, were supposed to be easy. You have summer, which is usually warm in these parts; fall,



which is milder and progressively colder — a time in which the leaves do their thing; winter, cold, hyperbolically speaking in this wanna be Antarctica, a time in which the white stuff falls from the sky; and, alas, spring, beautiful, increasingly

warmer, a little rain, a lot of flowers. So, when did you get so damn messed up?

I suppose I'm partly to blame for being the malcontent, but not wholly. I remember, being little, the temperature unbearably hot, and everyone and their grandmothers swimming and loving the sun. Just too hot, or perhaps thinking I was Boo Radley, I remember wrapping myself in blankets, not wanting your heat. Over the years, I dropped my sun-recluse identity, and actually went full spectrum, as today I do the lifeguard thing. You see I adapted; I changed. You went crazy.

Here it is winter, and I did the change thing again. Instead of hibernating, which consists of my befriending, if not seducing my couch for the better part of three months, I decided to ski. Mind you, the closest I come to being a Street is when I lie on my stomach and allow my friends to walk on me, and as far as Picaboo is concerned, my

little cousin loves when I play it with him, but that's as far as I go.

I have no skiing bumper stickers, don't wear the uniquely tailored pants that look something like an advertisement for Buns r' Us, and the nearest I'll ever come to cross-country will be if I decide to drive my buddy Art home to Seattle. But I've got one problem, and its kind of big. Where for the love of all things holy and in the name of King Caesar is the white shit! I mean I bought this equipment that is worth more than my car-probably not a good example since I'd consider trading the Horizon (a.k.a. the Grey Ferrari) straight up for a pack of Pop Rocks.

But, seriously, I'm upholding my part of the bargain; now, it's your turn. Hence, I'm calling your bluff you awful mother *@#!*&! Bring it on. The white stuff, a whole lot of it. If not, stop screwing with people's heads — therapy isn't fun. Either rouse the groundhog or drop some bombs on us. Now, Mom.

Student's McDevitt smokes the Super Bowl

by Ellen McDevitt

Let's get together, wear obnoxious t-shirts, drink cheap beer, eat bad food, raise our blood pressure, lose our voices, and gloat to friends from other cities. Why not join the masses who gather in front of an electric box to be bombarded with the most minutes of advertising during any one show the entire year? Let's be proud of a team with which we can claim no actual acquaintance but which we take the liberty of criticizing if something goes wrong. How about we throw our pubescent inabilities to athletically perform onto grown men who make a living out of throwing an oblong piece of pigskin around fake grass and let's consider it a personal insult when they fumble. Finally, why not give those teams an oversized, glorified high school ring in reward of their efforts. Damn, is the Super Bowl great! (And this has nothing to do with the fact that I'm from Pittsburgh.)

Even better, let's get together and watch computer generated beer bottles in helmets play football and execute plays with more agility than the players who receive 15 million dollars to do it. We'll get rowdy and cheer for our favorite beer to crush the rival. We can turn our insecurities that we drink Bud Light into vehemence

and unsportsmanlike slurs against Classic Bud. Let's place bets on which beer bottle team will prevail over the other, the winner determined by a boardroom full of business executives who choose the victor according to whimsy.

What am I talking about, you ask?? Where WAS the Bud Bowl on Sunday? All you saw was

Why not eliminate the Super Bowl altogether, or just have the last five minutes played on national television (because no one really cares about the whole game anyway ... we just wanna know who wins and if we can claim allegiance to the winning team due to our geographical backgrounds). Instead, we could watch game after computer-gener-

ated game of Bud Bowls. Maybe beer companies could add some varieties; import versus export beers, pilsners versus wheats, bitters versus darks, ice beers versus lights, micro-brews versus beer magnates? We could sit captive for hours, and beer companies wouldn't have to worry about advertising, as long as we were watching a Bowl between their own beers. If one beer needed a boost in sales, make that one the winner.

Let's stop pretending to like sitting through four hours of football when all we really want is to have an excuse to kick back for those four hours and drink beer.

Why not eliminate the middle man, and make the entire thing beer-oriented?

One could definitely argue that the Bud Bowl is more entertaining, and definitely more colorful. More importantly, it doesn't try to hide its connection with capitalism. Spectators watch two beers battle against each other, the names of those beers displayed prominently across the sweating necks of the bottles. We don't receive hidden messages like "True Value, the OFFICIAL hardware store of the NFL" which plant an egg in our minds so that the next time we need duct tape we find ourselves roaming the sawdusted aisles of True Value. We don't see subtle shots of Emmitt Smith's Nike shoes and then find our little brothers asking mom and dad to buy him shoes like Emmitt's. With the Bud Bowl, its clear that advertisers want us to drink their beer.

Let's stop pretending to like sitting through four hours of football when all we really want is to have an excuse to kick back for those four hours and drink beer. So write to your favorite brewing company in support of more beer bowls. Football players wouldn't have to work so hard during the season, other beers would receive more publicity, and we, as people, will be happier to boot.

the "Butt Bowl" starring Beavis and Butthead, certainly not to be confused with the more astute Bud Bowl. The Super Bowl, a true piece of American culture, was incomplete without the Bud Bowl this year. This past Sunday, beer swilling football fans across the country awaited the eighth annual Bud Bowl, but they waited in vain. The Bud Bowl had become a vital part of watching the Super Bowl, and was ripped from us in its prime. I mean, who really cares about watching the entire Super Bowl anyway ... they are notoriously bad games.

Got Balls....a stick, glove, shoes, skates, or a bat? Like sports? Write for the Student. You wouldn't.

Men's Basketball
NESCAC Standings

	W	L	%t
Williams	15	1	.938
Amherst	13	4	.765
Bowdoin	10	4	.714
Trinity	10	4	.714
Conn. College	10	5	.667
Hamilton	10	5	.667
Colby	10	7	.588
Tufts	7	6	.538
Bates	8	7	.533
Middlebury	6	9	.400
Wesleyan	4	9	.308

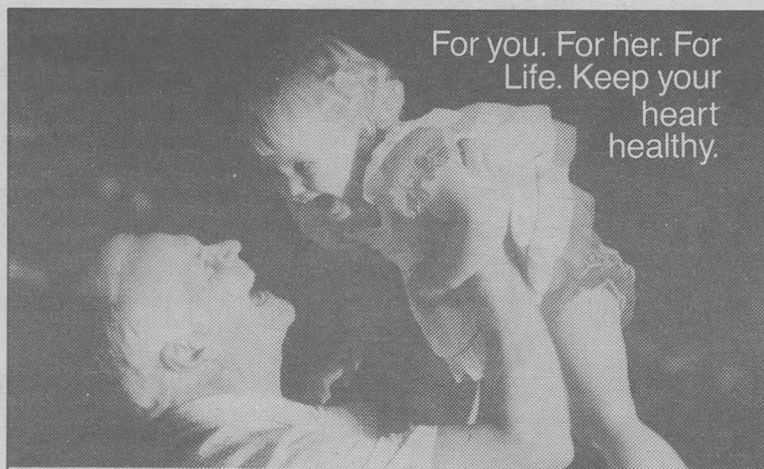
Last week's games
Colby 86, Bates 72.
Bates 103, Emerson College 90

Women's Basketball
NESCAC Standings

	W	L	%
Middlebury	12	3	.800
Amherst	13	5	.722
Bates	10	4	.714
Bowdoin	10	5	.667
Trinity	8	5	.615
Conn. College	8	6	.571
Hamilton	9	7	.563
Williams	5	7	.417
Tufts	5	8	.385
Colby	4	10	.286
Wesleyan	0	14	.000

Last week's games
Bates 79, U. New England 74
Bates 76, Colby 55

	HOME AWAY		UPCOMING VARSITY EVENTS						
	WED	THURS	FRI	SAT	SUN	MON	TUES		
M. BASKETBALL	St. Joe's 7:30			Trinity 1:00			Bowdoin 5:30		
W. BASKETBALL	St. Joe's 8:30			Trinity 3:00			Bowdoin 7:30		
SKIING			UVM Carnival at Stowe, VT TBA						
M. SQUASH									
W. SQUASH				Smith 12:00	Mt. Holyoke 7:30				
SWIMMING				Trinity/ Conn. College					
M. TRACK				Bates Quad Meet					
W. TRACK				Bowdoin 1:00					



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By the
NUMBERS

0

The amount of
snow, in inches,
the ski team has
received from
good 'ol Ma
Nature the past
three weeks.

Armedgeddon?

Obviously in a sportive
mood, a Bates student
decides to reveal his
derrière and its
complimenting parts for a
few bucks Saturday night
at Page.



**THIS FATAL ACCIDENT WAS CAUSED
BY TEENAGERS GETTING STONED AND
GOING TOO FAST.**

Pergunta no quadrangulo

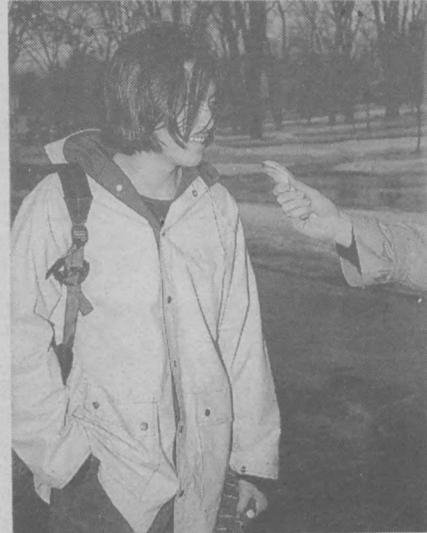
Windy day, huh?



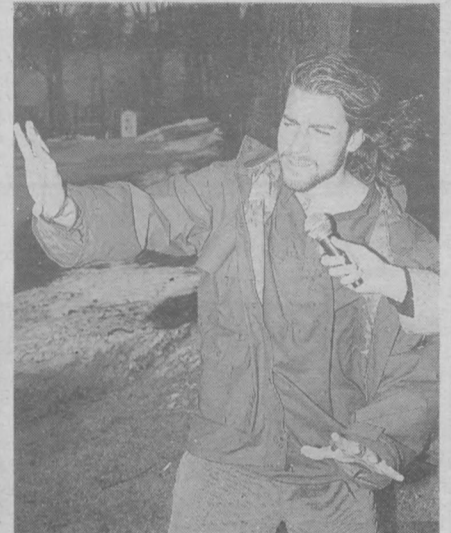
"Yeah."
—Becca Cheezum '97



"I guess so . . . yeah."
—Amber Jensen '96



"Yep."
—Scott Army '98



"It's a lot fuckin' windier and a lot fuckin' rainier in Scotland."
—Allen Reed '98

Reported by Little Stevie Young Photos by Sean Donohue

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