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The Bates Student

THE VOICE OF BATES COLLEGE SINCE 1873

WEDNESDAY

March 14, 2018

Vol. 148, Issue. 15

Lewiston, Maine

FORUM

Sarah McCarthy '18 sheds light on *The New York Times'* forgotten obituaries.



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ARTS & LEISURE

Halley Posner '18 discusses Dance theses with Sofi Elbadawi '18 and Riley Hopkins '18.



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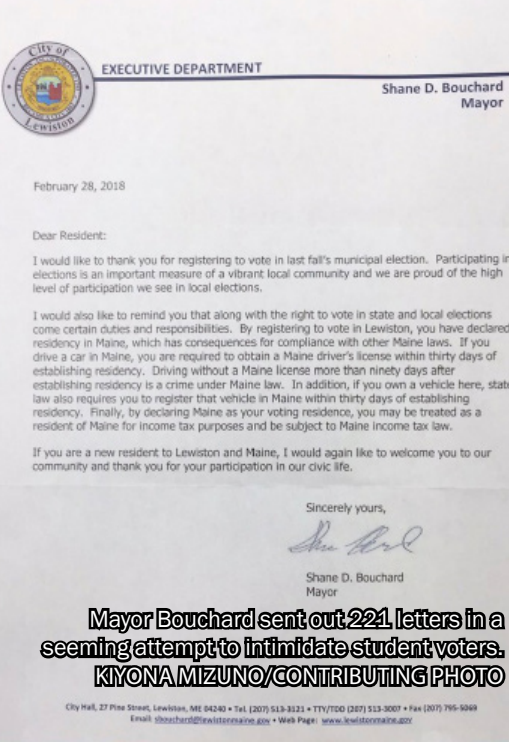
SPORTS

Sarah Rothmann '19 talks to Dinos Lefkaritis '19 about his experience in the 2018 Winter Olympic Games.



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Mayor Bouchard's Letter Rattles the Community



HALLEY POSNER
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

On February 28, Lewiston's mayor, Shane Bouchard, sent a letter out to 221 people, Bates students and community members alike, that can be understood as voter intimidation or an attempt to subdue the vote.

This is not the first time a letter has been sent out to Bates students seeming to attack their constitutional right to vote. *The Sun Journal* reported a similar incident that occurred on November 5, 2016 wherein orange fliers were disseminated

throughout the campus erroneously telling students that in order to vote, they must have a valid driver's license registered in Maine. That same year, there was a movement to change the date of the vote to June, which would have precluded many Bates students from voting.

Zach Guion '19, President of Bates Democrats, notes that following Ben Chin's first run for mayor in 2016, "the local Republican Party sought to move local elections from November to June. Some of them claimed it was to make it easier for folks who spend their winters in Florida to vote, but others were very open about the fact that it was directed at Bates students who had voted." The Republican party spun this issue as a means for snowbirds to vote, hiding its true goal.

Peggy Rotundo, Director of Strategic and Policy Initiatives at the

Harvard Center and former member of both the State House and Senate, sees a concerning pattern that was evident before the most recent letter. "In my sixteen years in the Legislature, it seemed that the Republicans sponsored legislation each session designed to make it harder for out of state students to vote in Maine," Rotundo notes.

In his most recent letter, Mayor Bouchard states in the second paragraph that he wants to remind the registered voters of Lewiston that there are "certain duties" that accompany the right to vote.

For example, he states that "[b]y registering to vote in Lewiston, you have declared residency in Maine, which has consequences for compliance with other Maine laws. If you drive a car in Maine, you are required to obtain a Maine driver's license within thirty days of estab-

lishing residency..." The letter goes on to state that "[d]riving without a Maine license more than ninety days after establishing residency is a crime under Maine law."

In a statement made directly to *The Bates Student*, Mayor Bouchard maintains, "[t]he letter is purely informational. The information is accurate. No group was targeted for any nefarious purposes."

The Bates Republicans say that "[t]he fact that less than half of the letters were sent to Bates students makes the narrative that this was a targeted effort difficult to believe."

When asked bluntly if this letter was an intimidation tactic to prevent Bates students from voting in further elections, Mayor Bouchard did not have a concise response.

Instead, he answered the ques-

See LETTER, PAGE 4

Inside Sports:

March Madness Bracket Palooza

VANESSA PAOLELLA
STAFF WRITER

Welcome to March, a time of dreary weather, academic struggles, and non-stop basketball. With the start of the NCAA Division I basketball tournament, commonly known as March Madness, on the horizon, many fans have begun to pore over season records and past championships to try and predict the outcomes of each of the 67 games played throughout the tournament.

The NCAA selection committee released the full list of the 68 eligible teams competing in March Madness last Sunday, March 11. Fans have a short window of opportunity, namely until the first game on Thursday, March 15, to create and submit their bracket predictions to any number of online pools, or in simple competition amongst friends.

Prediction methods vary hugely amongst fans and may include any combination of statistics, history and personal bias. Some have even been known to choose winners based on superficial characteristics, such as a team's color or mascot. Others may simply choose to flip a coin or create elaborate and highly entertaining schemes involving their exotic pets. No method is foolproof, however, as no one person has yet to create a perfect bracket in the modern version of the tournament.

Ellie Strauss '21 says that she tends to take a pragmatic approach when creating her own bracket predictions. "I don't have favorite teams, [although] I definitely have favorites between match-ups," she explains. "If there's a rivalry, like UNC and Duke, I have my favorite and I'm definitely more biased to pick them. But a lot of me goes into looking at what they did, especially in previous matchups. Duke has played UNC three or four times this

season already, so you have to factor that in as well."

The makeup of a team also factors highly into her decisions. Strauss will look at the seniority of a team's players and how well they have worked together in the past. Additionally, team histories play a significant role in her selection process.

"I look at records as well as previous NCAA appearances," she says. "For instance, if it's a team first appearance at the NCAA tournament I'm less likely to choose them to win against a team that has been at the NCAA tournament a bunch of times...Then there's a few teams that I know right off the bat who always win one or two rounds and then they're done."

Jaimin Kelihoomalu '21 tends to take a softer approach with his predictions; statistics may be useful in choosing the winners for the outer brackets, however the inner brackets are much more difficult, he

says.

"It's not about choosing who is going to win for the majority [of the games]," he says. "The higher seeds are going to win; now you just have to pick the upsets. You can guess every one of the first 32 games right, and you get all the points and all your teams move onto the next level. Then you can get all of the next ones wrong and you can lose. Every year, there are always upsets, there will always be upsets."

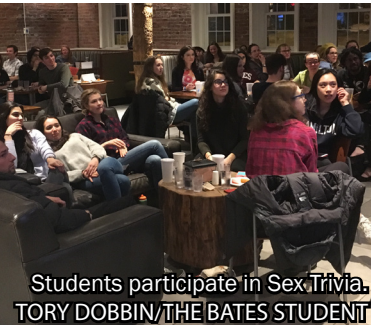
When it comes down to these brackets, Kelihoomalu will look at who other people are choosing and go with his gut instinct.

"Sometimes you just know," he says. "When you've been around sports long enough, you see how a team works, how it functions. It's not something you can really point out...[but] you just know that this team is going to play really well against this team. In the end, it comes down to matchups."

See MARCH MADNESS, PAGE 8

Inside Arts & Leisure:

Sex Trivia Excites the Den



Students participate in Sex Trivia. TORY DOBBIN/THE BATES STUDENT

TORY DOBBIN
MANAGING ARTS&LEISURE EDITOR

Free food filled the Den; wine and beer were sold at reduced price; condoms littered the tables. What event am I describing? None other than Sex Trivia hosted by Residential Life and the Feminist Collective.

This past week has been Bates College Sex Week, a week full of events and activities meant to spark conversation regarding consent, safe behaviors, and positivity. Already, the week involved a sex-positive a Cappella concert, an aphrodisiac cooking class, and several informative conversations.

Around 8:50 p.m. Saturday night, the Den started to fill with eager trivia participants forming sex-themed groups. Team names were creative, such as "Dirty G," "Academic Challenge," and "The Nasty Women." Giggles and light chatter filled the air as the Trivia coordinators Taryn Bedard '18 and Anna Luiza Mendonca '18 signed people up, distributed response cards, and talked with friends.

Part of Sex Week is getting students excited to talk about sexual health, behaviors, and preferences; Sex Trivia expertly covered all of these topics. Bedard and Mendonca led six rounds of ten questions each with themes varying from "History" to "Fun Facts" to "Non-traditional Sex." Questions addressed many aspects of sexual life, such as "What proportion of European babies were conceived on an Ikea bed?" (10 percent) and "What percent of the population has sex once a day?" (5 percent). The questions also addressed the orgasm gap among heterosexual couples by asking the percent orgasm rate for both male and female partners in such relationships (men orgasm 78 percent of the time, women orgasm around 26 percent of the time). Other questions asked "In which state do you need parental permission before getting a wax if you are under 18 years old?" (Missouri).

See SEX TRIVIA, PAGE 6

Inside Forum:

AESOP and the Outing Club are Made of White Privilege

JUSTICE GEDDES
LAYOUT EDITOR

It comes as no surprise to most Bates students that our "beloved" AESOP orientation trips are led by an overwhelmingly white organization. Whiteness is central on this path to entry to our college; to have an identity dissociated from a "hip," outdoorsy norm rooted in a Northeastern white understanding of self seems almost inconceivable by Bates' orientation standards.

Many of us have heard AESOP horror stories; friends and peers had AESOP experiences they wouldn't care to relive, and in my experience, many of those friends are those who inhabit marginalized identities. Women of color on white-majority hiking trips that are entirely made of microaggressions, queer first-years surrounded by straight people making eyes at each other across canoes, or simply geeks forced into a beach camping trip despite social anxiety—these experiences, while not at all equatable, are somewhat parallel. It's

easy to feel isolated and lost when you're surrounded by people with nothing in common with you on a trip that you signed up for because you had to, especially in an insecure environment.

A large part of this discomfort and unpleasantness stems from the organization that runs AESOP: the Bates Outing Club. A club with prehistoric policies regarding gender (saying "two people of different genders" can lead a trip does not avoid transphobia just because you don't label those genders as male and female), the Outing Club is massively white, sickeningly privileged, and the closest thing to a fraternity we've got at Bates. While the college supposedly bans such organizations, the fact that Outing Club effectively has their own houses, trips, parties, and management of orientation makes the club a fraternity/sorority in all but name.

And just like a frat, the barriers to entry are enormously high. The social capital (and outdoors experience) required to be an Outing Club member—let alone a leader—is

enormous, and the established pure-white-privilege environment that the club has established makes it unlikely for anyone unlike the club's intended audience to feel comfortable engaging in their space. Unfortunately, this effectively translates to AESOP leadership—folks that don't match the Club-constructed definitions of acceptable (that is, non-members who don't have prominent friends) will never know the inside jokes or match the guidelines necessary to be hired as a trip leader or AESOP coordinator.

The Outing Club cannot be allowed to maintain its reign over entry into Bates. The current system actively harms students entering the college in its exclusionary makeup and cruel deficiency of offerings. AESOP leadership must be restructured to include a wider variety of clubs that can help students find friends and connections during orientation, especially for first-years of marginalized identities.

Bates is not just made up of rich white people who want to hike mountains, or strip in public,

or smoke weed, and especially as students arrive at the college, it's important that they don't find those to be the school's defining characteristics.

It's true that over the past few years, AESOP trip offerings have started to expand—notable newer trips include service-oriented trips based in the town of Lewiston. But this slow change simply isn't enough, and hasn't done much to make students feel more comfortable and at home in the Bates community.

For AESOP to become a valuable, inclusive part of Bates orientation, other clubs need to be involved in the processes of creating trips and selecting trip leaders. I could list any number of student organizations that could positively contribute to a more healthy AESOP. Let first-years get a jump on participating in things they care about, rather than sticking them on a beach with students they, in all likelihood, will forget about after a few months.

See AESOP, PAGE 2

More Than Dessert: How Wedding Cakes Could Redefine Free Speech

NICK MORGOSHIA
STAFF WRITER

Few things stir the American blood as much as the First Amendment. Almost as old as the U.S. Constitution itself, the First Amendment vouchsafes our continued existence as a marketplace of ideas by barring Congress from “abridging the freedom of speech, press, peaceful assembly, and religion.” Throughout history, this rather generic language has given rise to conflicting interpretations – prompting the Supreme Court to examine whether the realm of the First Amendment extends to nontraditional forms of self-expression. In *Buckley v. Valeo*, the eight justices wrapped their gavels around the issue of campaign spending; more specifically, whether the quantity of money determines the quality of expression. In *Texas v. Johnson*, the Court tried to decide whether prohibitions on desecrating the American flag violated the First Amendment; that is, if symbolic acts constitute speech.

In the pending *Masterpiece Cakeshop v. Colorado Civil Rights Commission*, the Court will render its verdict on one of the most consequential questions facing our generation: whether cakes – and, by extension, artistic creations in their many graphic and culinary forms – amount to free speech.

Same-sex couple Charlie Craig and David Mullins’ trip to Masterpiece Cakeshop, a local bakery, started in a small Colorado town of Lakewood in 2012 and continues on the steps of the United States Supreme Court to the present day. Masterpiece’s owner,

Jack Phillips, declined the couple’s request for a wedding cake, stating that although they were welcome to purchase any other baked goods in the store, he would not cater to an event that ran counter to his deeply held Christian beliefs. Alleging violation of the state’s public accommodation law, Craig and Mullins filed a complaint to the Colorado Civil Rights Commission. The complaint quickly morphed into a lawsuit and brought favorable rulings for the plaintiffs by both Colorado district and appellate courts.

Per Mr. Phillips’s logic, custom cakes convey messages—for example, having two grooms on a wedding cake inherently purports the idea that non-heterosexual unions are acceptable – and forcing bakers to go against their personal convictions impinges on their First Amendment rights. The Supreme Court decided Mr. Phillips might indeed have a point and agreed to proceed with the case in 2017. Oral arguments have been heard, and a decision is expected by the end of this summer.

The Colorado public accommodation law, pertinent to restaurants, bakeries, hotels, and all other places generally open to the public, prohibits discrimination on the basis of “marital status or actual or perceived sexual orientation”; just as it does in the cases of “race, ethnicity, and national origin.” Unsurprisingly, Phillips’ opponents argue that his refusal to make the cake out of religious beliefs is no different from the restaurants in the Jim Crow South refusing to serve African American customers. After all, one could always claim that their religious convictions advise against racial integration. Refusing to serve someone for who they are

— black or white; gay or straight — is most certainly illegal. However, Mr. Phillips by no means refused to serve Craig and Mullins. In fact, he offered to sell them any product available at his store. Declining to comply with customers’ special requests – and given that Mr. Phillips is a painter focusing on custom cakes, every cake has a unique design and constitutes a special request in and of itself – is bad business, not discrimination. Therefore, the case at hand has more to do with the state-mandated interference in Mr. Phillips’s artistic expression rather than his violation of public accommodation laws.

In his many interviews, Mr. Phillips has repeatedly emphasized that it is not just gay wedding cakes he refuses to make; he has continuously turned down customers asking for Halloween, anti-American, and adult-themed cakes as well.

That said, I cannot help but ask: if it is decided that the state can indeed force Mr. Phillips to make a cake for Craig and Mullins, does it mean it can also force him to cater to Halloween and bachelorette parties? The scope of implications only keeps getting broader. Would private architects no longer be able to decline projects they believe to be inconsistent with their architectural preferences? Would painters no longer be able to choose who to paint?

Like most people, I sympathize with the Craig and Mullins situation. A wedding is a truly special occasion, and no one deserves unpleasant surprises in preparation for their big day. Yet, undermine the First Amendment rights of one baker, and you set a precedent potent enough to influence constitutional freedoms of millions of Americans.

“Overlooked” and Correcting Past Injustices

SARAH MCCARTHY
ASSISTANT FORUM EDITOR

On March 8, *The New York Times* unraveled a new series of obituaries dedicated to important figures from the past for whom they had neglected to publish an obituary when their natural lives came to an end. *The Times* acknowledges that the majority of the obituaries they have published and continue to publish are those of white men and dedicated this project, on International Women’s Day, to giving due to people who had been “overlooked” in the past. This project is seen as a collaboration between many different people who work at or with *The Times*, but also with the greater community: readers and such. Readers or those curious are able to submit names of people they felt may have contributed to meaningful conversations or society writ large. A handful of obits have been curated under this project so far including those of Ida B. Wells and Charlotte Bronte. Additionally, Amisha Padnani, an editor for *The Times* and creator of *Overlooked*, said that she encouraged her writers to take a non-traditional approach to the writings of these obituaries, in order to present a creative and nuanced re-telling of the achievements these people, mostly women, garnered throughout their respective lifetimes.

Padnani conceived the idea for this project when she came across a woman who had been credited with introducing tennis to America, and realized she was excluded from the obit section. After further research, Padnani saw a pattern that troubled her: many significant women, especially women of color, were excluded from receiving a *Times* Obituary. William McDonald, the obituaries editor of *The New York Times*, revealed that on average

around 155,000 people die between the printings of *The Times* and the paper usually runs 3 obituaries per issue, leaving his team with a lot of decisions to make. According to him, the main criteria of entry is newsworthiness, or the number of people who will care about your death enough to read about it, which is in part why he believes the obituaries continue to be dominated by white men.

He writes, “Unlike the rest of the newsroom, the obituaries desk covers the past, not the present.” McDonald argues that the obits look back on what the world was and not the direction it is moving or the way we wish it had been and thus the obituary pages are decades and generations behind the current times and the purported equality we have begun to embrace. He also notes that women, people of color, openly gay people, and other marginalized groups were not given the platform to make history or to effect such large change that their death would be considered globally newsworthy.

While one can only speculate the reasons people such as Sylvia Plath were not given an obituary at their time of death, the *Overlooked* project provides a platform for a discussion regarding reparations and correcting past injustices. On the one hand, it is incredibly important that the stories of the lives of people like Nella Larsen are shared and celebrated, but does that also provide a means of reducing guilt and not truly apologizing for years of mistreatment?

I feel this project is incredibly important, but, like most things in modern American society, there is a need for a caveat or, at least, an acknowledgement of why these women were not properly celebrated throughout their lives and in their time of death.

The Virtues of Being Reflexive

AYESHA SHARMA
MANAGING FORUM EDITOR

So many of the same people who espouse liberal gender politics (i.e. mainstream, now branded “intersectional” feminism) respond with polite tolerance toward progressive gender politics (i.e. ideals for transnational gender revolution). The latter politics acknowledge the western constructed-ness of the male-female gender binary, whereas the former doesn’t normalize that knowledge into its everyday ideology. Instead, mainstream gender politics have tended to be “trans-inclusive,” doing things like inviting non-binary people into spaces which are intended for “women and non-binary people.” The sort of polite tolerance exercised

by mainstream feminism is passive and complicit and implies the belief that, if we don’t have someone else’s struggle, then we should stay in our lanes and not get involved with it.

But, really, a much different approach to transnational organizing is possible. Instead of considering ourselves to be distinct from others, we can acknowledge our roles in the broader political systems which tie us together. That way, it is possible to discern the roles we need to fill in the present. This sort of exercise in locating oneself requires introspection.

It involves asking ourselves: How are our families in the financial space that they are in now? Did our parents inherit anything from their parents? What social roles did our ancestors have? Were they entrepreneurs, merchants, farmers,

or slaves? What were their privileges or oppressions? How did the way they looked impact the way others characterized them?

If we start to ask ourselves these questions, we can do what I think should be the most basic, introductory anthropologic practice: autoethnography—literally, studying yourself. Our cultural traditions are not without meaning. They are rich in historical and political significance, and learning about them can make us much more informed in our politics if we internally and externally acknowledge that context to our existences. The perspective of my argument for comprehending and communicating how we came to be where and who we are is rooted in the concept of reflexivity.

Reflexivity basically means self-

awareness and transparency. It was introduced into anthropology to shift the discipline from its more oppressive, colonial origins. But it’s also a valuable practice for everyday politics. One situation in which somebody might use reflexivity would be if they find themselves speaking over other people, who happen to have marginalized identities, in a public setting. If somebody does introspection around why they might have done this, they might find that their privileges granted them the entitlement to do so. If somebody were to reflect in this way, with acknowledgment of their historical and present political context, they might also be able to connect themselves with others who are marginalized.

And what’s important to acknowledge is that connecting

doesn’t necessarily mean having to find points of similarity. In fact, I think this mentality is quite dangerous. In order to meaningfully connect, transnationally, we need to form bonds in the direction of responsibility.

For example, if we are aware that structural privileges brought us to our present comforts, we need to mobilize the resources and wealth that we have access to for people and collectives that do not share our privileges. If we are aware that we are settlers on colonized land, we can center Native people in our organizing rather than erasing them further. I am not perfect at exercising reflexivity and so I do not claim a position of authority on this topic, but I do argue that it is a virtue worth developing for all types of political engagement.

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AESOP

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Imagine if students arriving at Bates could take orientation trips that involved topics or activities they were interested in. Why couldn’t there be an AESOP dedicated to anti-racist activism in Lewiston? Why isn’t there a trip focused on queer identity formation in tabletop role-playing games? Bates students have a wide variety of interests—but their options are limited by a club that finds itself the most compelling thing about the college.

To the Outing Club: consider

loosening up on expectations like costumed interviews, or flaunting your drinking in class less. Recognize the privileges your members had coming into Bates—not everyone could surf, or ski, or kayak in their lives before college. The environment you’re creating is unhealthy and uncondusive to inclusion.

Please help students like me feel okay about your hegemony on campus—and if you can’t, maybe it’s time we shut this frat down.



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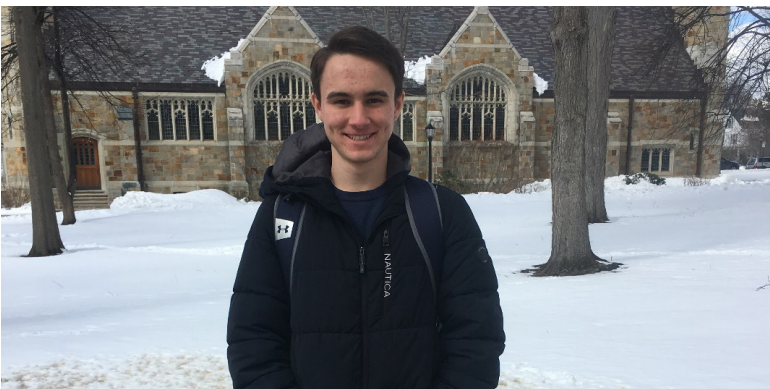
The Bates Student

Question on the Quad

What’s your favorite season?



“Summer.”
–Julie Self ’18



“Spring.”
–Andrew Murdock ’21

SARAH MCCARTHY/THE BATES STUDENT

Considering Divergences Among Different Radicalisms

CARL DEAKINS
STAFF WRITER

Though there is an increasing awareness to the way identity intersects to inform experience, there remains a lack of attention to divergences in belief sets. Discourse surrounding “the left” would purport a homogeneity that simply does not exist. It is not just that politically left folks have different beliefs on any given topic; many often voice and practice contradictory and conflictual theories of change. To address this concern, people often problematize the left/right binary with a competing model of spectrum politics. However, this, again, fails, because it does not grapple with the individuality of a person’s politics on a particular issue. Interactions between TERFs (trans-exclusionary radical feminists) and other groups often explicate this type of dynamic. Today there are many cis-women and men who importantly advocate for resources increased access to contraceptive resources for AFABs (Assigned Females at Birth). This type of advocacy is incredibly necessary for goals of reproductive justice. However, reproductive justice does not just encompass choosing to not have children. Reproductive justice also encompasses the ability to be actively supported in moments of reproduction. This has particular importance for Black, Indigenous, and Latinx communities in America whose populations have been controlled through means such as, but not limited to, taking of children, sterilization, and threats of extrajudicial violence. And that only describes relatively recent state-enforced structures; it does not even contend with older histories such

as slavery. Reproductive justice as a principle, unlike “pro-choice,” encompasses a wider panoply of experiences, particularly for people of color, whose challenges often get erased in the pro-choice versus pro-life dialectic. Individuals are willing to accommodate different types of shifts in their ideas based on what they find important. Similar to the earlier explanation, it is important in discussions of reproduction to say “people with uteruses” rather than “women.” Doing otherwise often enforces “womanhood” as essentially cis and also ignores the experiences of many queer AFAB. Yet, two people described as “leftist” or “progressive” might be willing to consider and change different aspects of their perspective. Some people might be willing to start operating with a politics of reproductive justice while still entrenching a purported essential womanhood, some will do the inverse, some neither, and some will allow for both. Though I describe these as categories, none of these perspectives are binaries or static aspects of belief. Acting and thinking in any one of these ways is not simply an off and on switch, but requires continuous and serious introspection. The concept of intersectionality can help think through how this type of dynamic unfolds. Intersectionality considers how various levels of identity experience coalesce and are not simply additive. The term specifically entered academic discourse from an article titled “Demarginalizing The Intersection of Race and Sex: A Black Feminist Critique of Antidiscrimination Doctrine, Feminist Theory and Anti Racist Politics” by Kimberlé Williams Crenshaw, though it had been informed by centuries of ideas from

scholarly and un scholarly materials. Though the particular discussion focuses on the historic erasure of race in discourse surrounding gender equity in feminist materials by white women, the term has more broad applications. Addressing intersections of identities does not just apply to identities that are marginalized but also those that are privileged. Applying a lens of intersectional analysis makes certain layers of identity ostensibly more visible. One can consider how whiteness and womanhood influence experience. At the same time, they might ignore how ability and class also play a role. It is impossible to be exhaustive in this analysis. To return to the earlier discussion, people are willing to accommodate different changes in their vernacular and actions based upon how they mentally hierarchize the political importance of a particular identity. A homogenous view of radicalism erases inner complexities for the supposed sake of political expediency. Yet, this ignores the type of critical thinking and emotional skills necessary to form any meaningful unity, allyship, or even solidarity across layers of identity. Even more importantly, it is difficult, if not impossible, to strive towards a world of justice and equity if certain sufferings get erased. In the face of finite time and limited intelligence, justice requires an attitude of diligence, perseverance, and humility. Frankly, if someone repeatedly finds giving space for trans experiences too difficult, cumbersome, or unnecessary in their activism, I question the value of that activism. Though I describe it in this one instance, it is a more broadly applicable principle.

Comic Corner

Submit your comics to be considered for our Comic Corner feature!

Email as JPEG image to
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JACK MCLARNON
CONTRIBUTOR

BatesRates

▼

Rex Tillerson is out.

▲

It’s good that an oil executive is out of the State Department, but will Mike Pompeo be any better?

▲

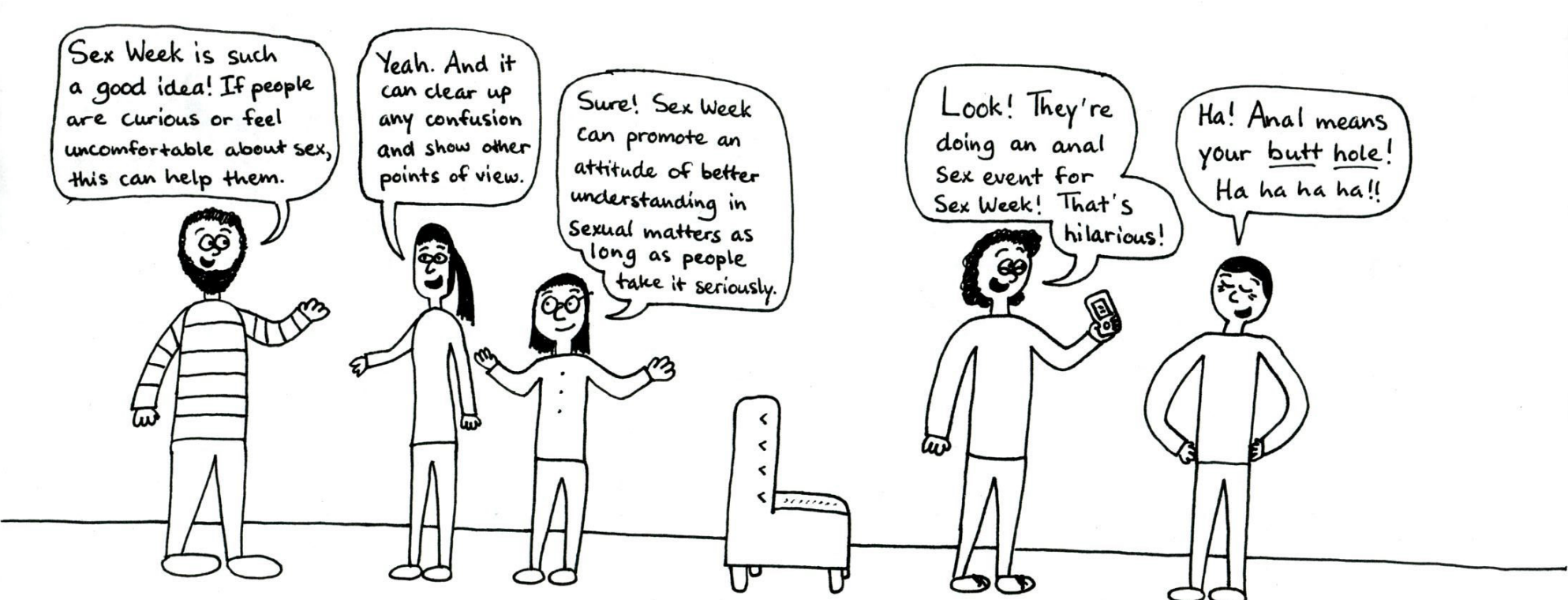
St. Patty’s Day is almost here.

Get ready for lots of green and Guinness!

▼

Another Nor’easter.

We get the point, Mother Nature.



LETTER

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

tion with questions of his own: “how is a letter that went out to all newly registered voters across the city to be construed as aimed at students?” and “how is an outline of what is legally required of new registrants at all intimidating?”

In the letter Maine Secretary of State Matthew Dunlap sent to Mayor Bouchard on March 9, Secretary Dunlap unpacks the mayor’s statement and puts the letter into context.

Secretary Dunlap writes, “[w]hile the letter’s contents are indeed factual, I must observe that the respective processes are not relational; constructing them as such leaves the right to vote as subordinate to bureaucratic checklists – which neither the constitution nor the statutes template – and further it does seem to be a rather awkward way to welcome new residents into a community.” Secretary Dunlap goes on to say, “[w]hile you cite the requirements in law accurately, what is not included is any information that ties these requirements to voting. U.S. citizens who have reached the age of majority have, in the State of Maine, an unquestionable right to vote.”

That last sentence is key: not having a Maine driver’s license does not preclude a person from voting. Secretary Dunlap further notes that connecting the need to register a car in Maine and the right to vote “... only arouses unfounded fear in the minds of the voting public, and is a

disservice to the public discourse.” The letter sent by Mayor Bouchard, while not technically incorrect, blurs the lines between two different segments of the law, with the result of intimidating its recipients. For example, residency is not voluntary “established,” it happens when a person moves to a new place, therefore it is not a crime to drive in Maine without a Maine license.

Kristen Cloutier, City Council President worries over Mayor Bouchard’s “lack of transparency” in this letter. Cloutier emphasizes that this letter was sent out on behalf of the mayor only, not the entire City Council and the mayor did not alert the rest of City Council to its publication prior to its mailing. Since the letter was sent on behalf of the mayor, rather than City Council, and it was printed on City of Lewiston supplies, it could be construed as a misappropriation of city funds.

Brian Wauford ’18, a recipient of Mayor Bouchard’s “welcome,” commented that “[w]hen I first read the letter I was really panicked, it made me initially regret registering to vote. I was especially worried because the letter directly quoted a stature from the Maine law.”

Quoting law that many students do not fully understand makes it easier to believe that the intent of the letter was to cause unease in the community, specifically towards the more liberal voting demographic of the Bates community.

Who is Clayton Spencer?



HALLEY POSNER
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF
CHRISTINA PERRONE
MANAGING NEWS EDITOR

Clayton Spencer is a name immediately familiar to anyone who knows Bates College. She is Bates’ eighth president as well as a great fundraiser, but we want to know more about the lady behind Bates and how she got here.

Growing up in the South, Spencer’s father was president of two different colleges. Living on these campuses exposed Spencer to new ideas and passions. She remarks, “growing up on a college campus in a small town was fabulous because every time a speaker or visitor came to campus they would come to our house for dinner, and I was very fascinated with the adult conversations...”

When it came time for college, Spencer knew she wanted to go to an institution that valued the liberal arts style of education. “I grew up with a model: you went to a liberal arts college for college, because you wanted the close relationship with faculty, and then in graduate or professional school, go to the best one you can find, right?” Spencer tells.

Williams College provided her with a positive undergraduate education, one marked by close faculty relationships and the liberal arts style of education for which she was looking. Oxford University, which exposed her to a different type of learning style, was next on the educational docket.

After spending the first twenty-

five years of her life on college or university campuses, Spencer believed she would pursue a career as an academic. Instead, she pivoted in her career path, opting for law school after Oxford University.

“I grew up thinking I’d be a straight academic, and then I became so interested in the world that it felt like law was a better choice for me. But even when I went to law school, I said that I wanted to work in education, and I imagined that I might want to be a university general council,” she notes. She worked her first eight years out of Yale law school as a clerk, then at a firm doing litigation, and finally as a federal prosecutor.

“Those were all good experiences that, in one sense, toughened me up as a professional, but I also knew deep in my heart that it wasn’t purposeful work for me. It wasn’t work that was aligned with who I am. So, I really came alive when I left being a prosecutor and went to Washington and was chief education counsel for Senator Kennedy—that was fabulous, because that was the intersection of law and education...” admits Spencer.

After working in Washington in the Senate at the junction of law and education, she and her family, moved back up to Boston where she was offered a consulting job by the Head of Government Relations and Communications at Harvard.

Her stint at Harvard lasted fifteen years and was “pure joy” with the trials and tribulations that any job has. Working there allowed her to use the skills learned on Capitol

Hill, but also provided an avenue for her to be around higher education again, the flow of ideas. According to Spencer, most jobs have a shelf life, so when the fifteen-year mark at Harvard came around, she started looking for a new challenge.

But why Bates? Why go back to the small liberal arts world when you have already gotten acclimated to places like Oxford, Yale, and Harvard?

In her own words Spencer notes, “I have an irrational passion for Maine. I love Maine...For me, New England had always had a romance to it, and once you’re in New England, then you pick the most romantic state: it’s this big, naturally beautiful state with mountains and ocean and moose...I’m a cliché. I’m a summer person who thought Maine was all about those summer experiences, and of course, you realize the reality of Maine is much more complex. But as far as I’m concerned, it makes it much more interesting. I had a secret fascination, and compulsion to go to Maine, and everybody knew this about me.”

Spencer, the southerner turned Mainer, knew she wanted to make a life for herself in this corner of New England. When the position for President of Bates opened, she jumped at the chance.

“What is best about Bates long predated me,” she notes. “But my job is to bring strength to strength, to make the institution stronger by the time I leave than it was when I got here in a variety of ways, and hopefully to have joy and collegialship while that’s going on.”

Club Spotlight: Badminton Club

MATT MORRIS
ASSISTANT NEWS EDITOR

Every few weeks *The Bates Student* covers one club out of the nearly one hundred clubs on campus. This week, we’re covering the Badminton Club which meets every Sunday at 4:30 p.m. in the Gray Cage. Though club meetings are casual and always welcome to new players, the club’s members are looking to test their competitive chops in the next year.

Meetings generally start with setting up nets and to retrieving the equipment. Players warm up by rallying back and forth before playing games in pairs or one-on-one. According to Eric Feng ’20, one of the club’s presidents, the club meetings are very relaxed.

“I played badminton competitively when I was in high school, but we don’t have that kind of vibe here. It’s just a casual thing,” said Feng.

While Feng does have a competitive background in badminton, the overall club is made up mostly of players who discovered badminton far more recently. According to Feng, about 70 percent of new members have never played Badminton before in their life. The club takes the time to let more inexperienced players learn skills.

“We usually have two courts where people are playing games and one court where we’re teaching them [new players] how to play,” said Feng.

Member Morgan Baxter ’20 echoed Feng’s sentiments about the welcoming nature of the Badminton Club. Baxter played badminton when he was in middle school in Japan, where the sport is more popular than in the United States.

He stepped away from badminton for several years until joining the club, however. Baxter said that the club has been great to use as a “study break on a Sunday afternoon.”

“Whether you’re a beginner or you’ve been playing for years, there’s something for everyone,” said Baxter.

The club currently only has interteam competitions; however, it is looking to change that next year. Many of the other NESCAC schools have badminton clubs as well, and the Bates club has allotted money in its budget to potentially invite them to Lewiston for a tournament.

“Starting next year we’re going to get some NESCAC connections, hopefully get enough interest for a tournament. Hopefully people are willing to make the trip up,” said Feng.

Playing badminton requires a specific kind of racquet as well as a shuttlecock, a plastic sphere with a cone of mesh coming out from behind it. Players hit the shuttlecock over a net and attempt to get their opponents on the other side of the net to miss, which results in a point. The first player to score twenty one points is the winner. The dimensions of a badminton court vary slightly depending on whether a singles or doubles game is being played.

According to the Olympic website for the sport, modern Badminton was developed in England in the late nineteenth century, but was heavily influenced by an Indian game called Poona. The sport is named after Badminton House, a property of the English Duke who is credited with first introducing Poona to England. Today, the sport is played worldwide and is especially popular in parts of Asia.

Leading Black Feminist Scholar Hortense Spillers at Bates: Love for the Enslaved

JEANNE HUA
GENERAL MANAGER

On Tuesday, March 6, Hortense Spillers, a professor of English at Vanderbilt University, delivered a thoughtful talk on “Sentiment and Sorrow: What the 18th Century Teaches Us” in Olin Concert Hall. As a literary critic and a leading scholar of black feminism and the African diaspora, Spillers received a warm welcome from Bates College attendees following Professor Sue Houchins’s introduction.

During her introduction, Professor Houchins described how Spillers “was there at the vanguard of intellectual transformations,” where interdisciplinary fields began to consider continental movements, linguistics, feminist theory and philosophy to reconfigure the leading assumptions of the humanistic order.

Spillers’ dissertation was among the first to focus entirely on a black cultural form that was produced at a mainstream university, Brandeis University. Professor Houchins pointed to her own experiences of being unable to study African American literature and culture since the institution she attended did not deem it to be “suitable subjects.” Furthermore, although Brandeis deemed the subject of the rhetoric of black sermons an appropriate field for Spillers’ doctoral work, and though some presses expressed an interest in her dissertation, none “had the courage to publish it.” Spillers has exerted a continuous effort to bring the African American field to higher education, constructing a substantial body of work that became central to the field of black and

feminist studies.

Throughout Spillers’ lecture, she challenged her audience to question the multiple shades of intimacy in the 18th century. What are the implications for intimacy, touch, and love when one is enslaved and does not possess self-ownership? The intimate sphere has been transformed by slavery, where flesh becomes a medium for exchange.

Spillers explicitly expounded the disconnection between the master’s family and the “shadow family,” a master’s ownership of his own enslaved children cannot allow for intimacy in a system that encourages the separation between the family and the family’s “other.” In turn, shadow families cannot assert the same dignity of regular families since feelings of love are unstable due to their positionality as property.

She drew the example of Sally Hemings, President Thomas Jefferson’s slave and his family’s “other.” Spillers argued that consensual, intimate relationships cannot exist between a master and slave if the master can sell his shadow family for profit. The master-slave social contract outweighs any private, personal sentimental feelings if one partner is not self-owning. Love under conditions where there is no law nor protection is abusive and cannot be considered love. Thus, love does not and cannot exist if it is not free.

Spillers redefined what intimacy means by arguing that body and flesh lose integrity when “they can be invaded by coercive power.” Touch for the enslaved, in this sense, means the invasive power to wound, enter, or penetrate, and is no longer intimate, but violent. It can be argued that the deepest definition for a relationship



Dr. Spillers comes to Bates to discuss what the 18th century taught us. CHRISTINA PERRONE/
THE BATES STUDENT

is touch, yet there also exists the profoundness violation to be touched without wanting to be touched. This is the paradoxical nature of touch, of haptic touch.

The space that Spillers carved in Olin Concert Hall with her words and language was a sacred and dedicated space. This space is what Professor Houchins calls “libation for the named and for the nameless.” Spillers’ dedication and passion for her work “is for black women who made and broke narrative—the quiet, the quarreling, the queer. This is where, this is what, this is how.”

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Elbadawi '18 and Hopkins '18 Showcase Diverse Approaches to Dance Theses

HALLEY POSNER
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

Everyone knows thesis: it's the project that we work towards for three years; the culmination of our academic careers.

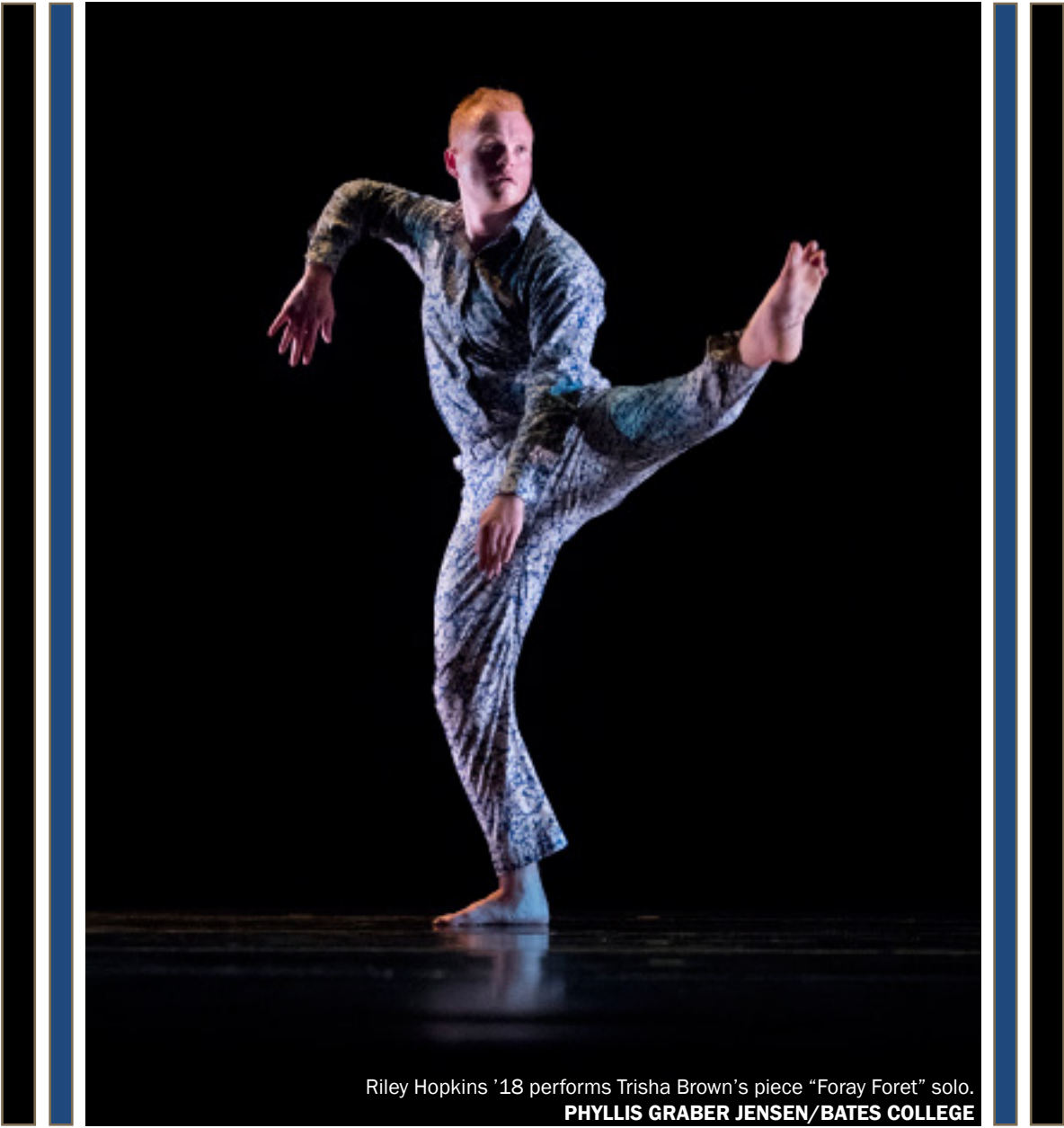
Sofi Elbadawi '18 is one such senior who is currently working on choreographing her dance thesis. She explains that she got her inspiration when she choreographed a duet for the fall *Back to Bates Dance Concert* with fellow dance major Riley Hopkins '18, in which they danced to popular love songs.

She explains, "While I was doing preliminary research about love songs, I stumbled upon a TED Talk by Mary Len Catron called 'What We Don't Talk About When We Talk About Love.' In this talk, Catron argues that the metaphors we use to talk about love equate the experience to violence, sickness, or mental illness. She specifically deconstructs certain phrases, like 'to fall in love,' 'to burn with passion,' 'heartbreak,' 'being crazy in love,' and 'love-struck.' When I listened to love songs again after hearing this TED Talk, I was fascinated by how often these metaphors appeared."

Just like with theses in any other academic department, there is intense research that goes into a Dance thesis that helps students mold testing questions, which the project strives to answer. For Elbadawi, she decided to explore three main questions: "Can the subtle, underlying violence in common metaphors for love be exposed through physical exploration and embodiment of these metaphors? How do metaphors inform the way we understand the concept of love? How can movement be used to exaggerate and juxtapose the cheesiness, clichés and hyperromanticism of the language of love songs?" To answer these questions, Elbadawi put together a cast of five students – Hopkins, Peter Cottingham '18, Ellie Madwed '20, Libby Wellington '20, and Danielle Ward '20 – who would all be part of the dance process. These members act as equal parts support and sounding board throughout the project.

A seasoned member of the Dance Department, Elbadawi is no stranger to choreographing and engaging in creative dance processes. Over her college career, she has participated in and created many dance pieces. But, thesis presents different challenges.

She explains that, "This proj-



Riley Hopkins '18 performs Trisha Brown's piece "Foray Foret" solo.
PHYLLIS GRABER JENSEN/BATES COLLEGE



Sofi Elbadawi '18 spent a lot of time researching choreographs for her dance thesis.
PHYLLIS GRABER JENSEN/BATES COLLEGE

ect is similar to previous pieces I have choreographed, as I used the same tools and methods to generate movement that I have used in the past...However, my thesis is much longer and much more intensively researched than anything I have created in the past. It also deals with a more musically-based sound score than I typically tend to use." Working on a senior thesis is a unique experience in every Batesian's academic career. Advisors push us harder and empower us to expect more out of ourselves.

Hopkins took a different route with his thesis, choosing to perform Trisha Brown's piece "Foray Foret" solo. This thesis process is different from Elbadawi and others. He notes, "My thesis process has been a continuous navigation of the unknown, to be honest. My thesis research is focused on the performance of this piece that I learned, whereas every other dance thesis before me has been focused on original student choreography."

Through self-reflection and outside research, Hopkins finds that, "I enjoy being watched as a dancer. I love being a spectacle. I perform because it excites me to see how I can leave an impression on the audience, no matter what that impression may be. There's an interesting dichotomy between being an objectified body on stage - one that is purely looked at from the outside - and being a subjective agent that connects with the audience by somehow being relatable." In more technical terms, he follows the thought process of "kinesthetic empathy," a theory which explores that the audience can relate to movements they see because it seems attainable in their own bodies. He uses this theory to "cross the line from being an objectified body to a subjective agent on stage."

Bates encourages diversity of thought and fosters new ways to approach topics. "I'm gaining a lot from this process so far," states Hopkins. "No one really does research on performance here, just choreography and theory. I'm excited to pioneer this new opportunity for future dance majors and show people the benefits of scholarly performance." Hopkins shows that the thesis project can be used as a way to explore new areas of dance.

Elbadawi and Hopkins, though taking different routes, are getting the most out of the senior thesis experience; they are both driving a project from inception to conclusion.

Portland Museum of Art Biennial Explores Contemporary Art

ARIEL ABONIZIO
ASSISTANT ARTS & LEISURE
EDITOR

Walking around the Portland Museum of Art 2018 Biennial Exhibit, I happened to be thinking about what a museum is. The definition by the books popped in my head: museums collect, conserve, and interpret objects. But as it often happens, after a few seconds, I realized that this model is limited, and that museums today do much more than that; the Portland Museum of Art (PMA) certainly collects, conserves, and interprets art, but the collaborative nature of the Biennial seems to have added something more.

In the show, over 60 works of art on display represent an active, diverse, and diffused network of living artists that are connected to Maine. Representing 25 artists that had never shown at the PMA Biennials, guest curator Nat May facilitated a show that creates, reflects, and promotes unique narratives

that find the state of Maine as their point of encounter. In an informal talk with May, his interest for letting artists speak up and represent their own works was evident. More than simply collecting, conserving, and interpreting art on its own terms, the PMA Biennial provides a space for artistic life to be celebrated.

It is sometimes easy to lose sight and forget that a museum is a part of a community. There are plenty of stories. Omer Fast's installation at the James Cohan Gallery in Chinatown pops in my mind as a moment when artist and administrator imagined art institutions as entities separate from the world that surrounds it.

Fast attempted to have a site-specific installation by recreating a shop in Chinatown based on Fast's imagined audience, without really collaborating with his real audience, the community surrounding the James Cohan Gallery in New York. The result was protests and poor reception for a number of reasons. How is an art institution to provide a genuine learning experience if it

never truly goes beyond its walls? This is where art institutions that lack collaboration can fail.

On the other end of the spectrum seems to be the PMA Biennial, which is intentionally aware of Maine communities and artists, its main public. May, who was also the former executive director of SPACE Gallery in Portland, built his career getting to know artists in the state and seemed to be very committed to representing these artists in a collaborative and authentic way.

The results of collaboration are visible in the installation and content of the exhibition. As one enters the exhibition, the first painting is "The Twork - Torkwase Dyson," by Angela Dufresne. The large painting of a black woman is visually striking; the vivid green background and form traditional of a court painting already demonstrate the interesting nature of the exhibition as a whole, subverting and re-appropriating narratives and identities that have historically been either misrepresented or absent.

"The Republic of Hysteria," by

Anne Buckwalter has a similar political milieu; the grid of gouache and oil paintings on paper reimagines femininity by rewriting narratives of the female body and animality, subverting the negative connotations of the animal-like.

Near Buckwalter's art piece is "Reis Education Canoe," by David Moses Bridge and Steve Cayard, a Wabanaki traditional demonstration birch-bark canoe. May mentioned that this work is a mark of how knowledge flows in our contemporary society, since the indigenous knowledge of how to build these canoes seemed to have been partially lost or fragmented, but was able to be collaboratively reclaimed by Bridge and Cayard.

Together, I would argue that these three pieces represent the complicated theme that emerged through collaboration in the Portland Museum of Art 2018 Biennial. They show the deeply collaborative nature of art making, curation, interpretation, and distribution, which exists not as an "art world" separate from the real world in

which we live.

The Portland Museum of Art 2018 Biennial is visibly contemporary. A quick look around and one sees installation pieces that combine multiple art objects, re-imaginings of World War I material culture, subverted "court portraits," reinterpreted symbols of gender, classic painting form with contemporary content, and objects that mark the flow of indigenous knowledge.

One of the strengths of the Biennial is that multimedia art coexists in a space that allows the audience to engage with a body of contemporary art without the obscurity of academic writing. Even the catalog essay is collaborative, constituted of transcribed interviews rather than an individual curatorial take. Saying that the personal is political seems redundant and collecting, conserving, and interpreting seems like a very limited list of verbs to describe the PMA Biennial; beyond those words, the Biennial is simultaneously responding to and defining new contemporary problems.

Twin Fantasy Album Remake

TED BURNS
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

Twin Fantasy by Car Seat Headrest is a fantastic album, and also an album that exists in a way that I have never experienced before. *Twin Fantasy* is a remake of an album of the same name that front-man Will Toledo put on Bandcamp in 2011 at the ripe age of 19. The album accrued a passionate following in the years after its release, but, for Toledo, it was never a “finished” album. Listening to it, one can understand why he would feel that way. Self-produced in GarageBand, the original album exists under a lo-fi smog. It was like if you heard a band playing some cool songs, but you were hearing them play through a baby monitor.

This effect is what many listeners, myself included, found endearing about the album. The amateurishly produced songs, as well the auteur approach, created a sense of intimacy as Toledo sang euphoric and devastating songs detailing the beginning and end of a relationship. Now we have *Twin Fantasy* in 2018, and so much more has been accomplished than a simple clean-up. Following the album’s reflective and dualistic form, *Twin Fantasy (Face to Face)* (as the 2018 version is called) and *Twin Fantasy (Mirror to Mirror)* (as the 2011 version has been retroactively titled) form an experience where the two albums are in conversation with each other thematically. Each version can certainly be enjoyed by itself, but when experienced together, they create an emotional arc informed by their seven-year gap.

Toledo has said that he feels differently about the personal events that vaguely informed the album’s dramatic love story, saying that he no longer sees his own story as a tragedy. *Mirror to Mirror* certainly feels like it was performed by a 19-year-old who believed he was living a tragedy. The lyrics are simultaneously personal and grand in scale, and Toledo’s untrained adolescent voice had the fervor of the hopelessly heartbroken. They are left mostly unchanged in *Face to Face*, besides a handful of poignant exceptions, which is just fine as they are as thoughtful, witty, and earnest as they were in 2011. *Face to Face* creates through its production the

notion of the current-day Toledo looking back, taking stock of his experience, and making peace with it. This idea is also conveyed in the opposing titles of the albums: If you put a mirror to a mirror, an infinite reflection is created, a phenomenon not unlike the bottomless solipsism of a teenager experiencing unrequited love. But when put face to face with the object of your heartbreak, there is the possibility of emotional resolution.

Catharsis is achieved by the excellent band Toledo works with to bring his songs to sonic fruition. Drums that used to sound like they were being played on stiff mattresses are now sharp and explosive thanks to Andrew Katz; Ethan Ives lends a second guitar that fleshes out melodies in creative and interesting ways, and Seth Dalby is as reliable a bass player as you’d ever want. Though there are only four members in the band, the songs are massive and expressive.

“Beach Life-In-Death” sounds like a dive into angst-hell as guitars upon guitars are layered on top of each other over the course of 13 minutes.

“Bodys,” my favorite song on the album, begins with a synth and a drum machine that builds into a danceable, shout-along anthem that describes the drunk, hormonal glee of dancing with someone your body likes being around.

“Twin Fantasy (Those Boys),” the final song on the album, features a grainy organ that makes the song sound like a 16mm film, and reinforces the cyclical feel of the album by being backed by the same drum beat found on the first song.

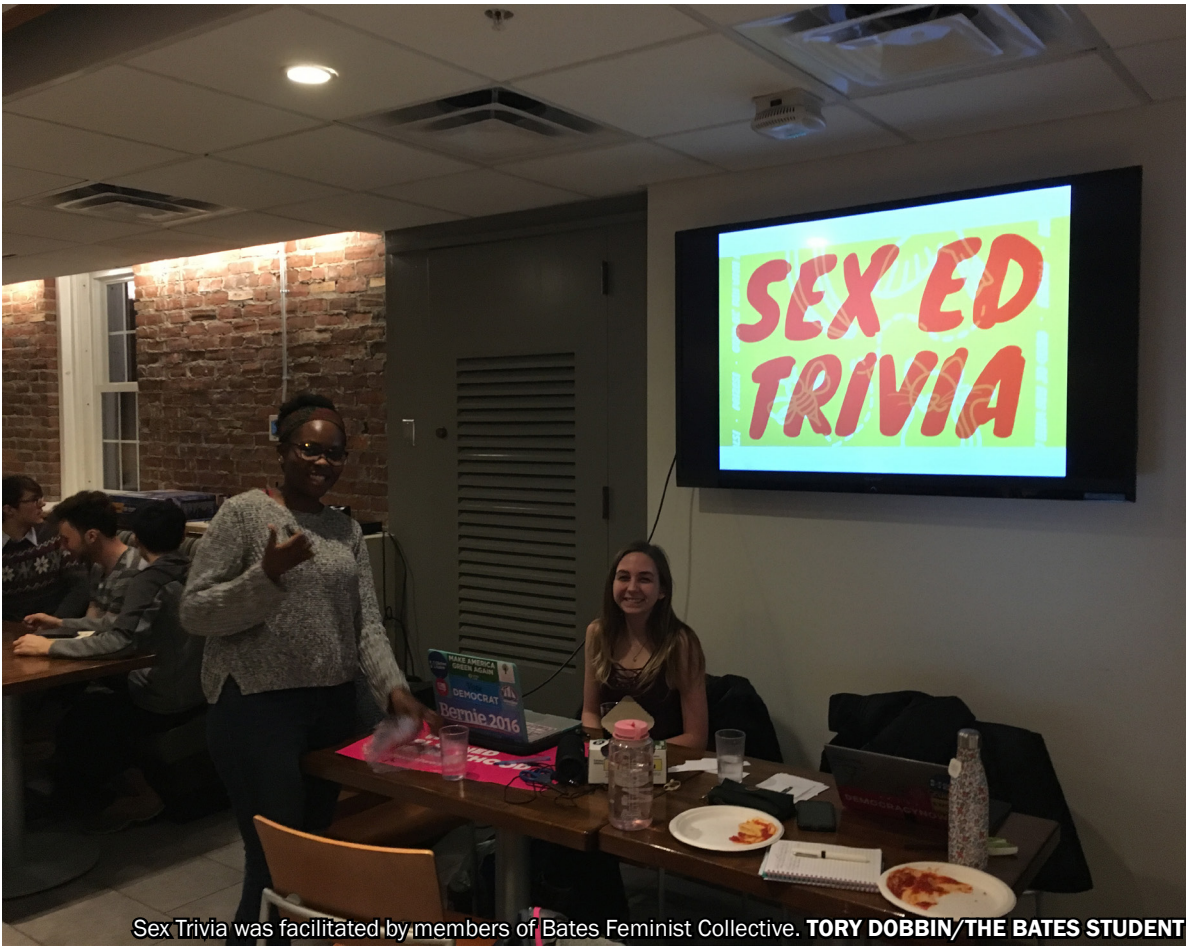
The last line of “Twin Fantasy (Those Boys)” captures the entire narrative created by *Mirror to Mirror* and *Face to Face*: “When I come back, you’ll still be here.” When I first heard this on *Mirror to Mirror*, I interpreted that as meaning the narrator saw the object of his affection as something he couldn’t escape.

But when I heard Toledo sing those same words on *Face to Face*, a new meaning was somehow prescribed: time erased the pain, and only the love remains, safe in a place of his design. And when background vocals come in to respond with, “When you come back, I’ll still be here,” I felt the sentiment flowing both ways.

SEX WEEK CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1



Sex Trivia in the Den offered a free buffet of chicken fingers, mozzarella sticks, spanakopita, and pigs in a blanket. **TORY DOBBIN/THE BATES STUDENT**



Sex Trivia was facilitated by members of Bates Feminist Collective. **TORY DOBBIN/THE BATES STUDENT**

Between rounds, trivia participants took breaks to get drinks and free food, while volunteer table-runners counted points and tallied results. Dining Services provided mozzarella sticks, chicken fingers, spanakopita, and pigs in a blanket; these snacks were quickly consumed by participants and observers alike.

While many participants may have been motivated by food, others may have been motivated by the prizes. Fleshlights, lubricants, a sexy card game, sensual wax, sex tape, vibrators, dildos, and vibrating rings were all in the running to be won by a team or individual. Bedard

and Mendonca explained that they had so many toys that each member of the winning, second place, and third place teams could win an item! Batesies walked away with some prizes worth up to \$49.99; all trivia participants could grab the free condoms on tables (provided by Planned Parenthood), so each person walked away with something useful in addition to the knowledge gained through trivia.

While I was observing the festivities, I noticed many people who were not playing all the rounds but had happened upon Sex Trivia on their visit to the Den and wanted to

join in the fun.

These groups had sat down at the high tables in the den, faced towards the TV where questions were displayed, and chatted amongst themselves trying to figure out the answers. Though they weren’t in the running to win any of the prizes, these Batesies still wanted to learn and discuss sex and health in a casual atmosphere.

As I walked away from the Den towards the rest of my evening, I contemplated the success of Sex Trivia; it is inclusive, fun, student-lead events like these that make me proud to be a Bobcat.

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Captain Maisie Silverman '18 Talks about Women's Tennis Early Success

MAX PETRIE
ASSISTANT SPORTS EDITOR

The Bates women's tennis team has put together an impressive start to their season, with a 6-1 record so far. Their only loss was to Pomona-Pitzer, and since that match they have rattled off five straight wins. For their season opener, the Bobcats traveled to Chapman University in Orange, California and came back to Maine with a 7-2 victory to drive the rest of their season. Also in California, the women earned an impressive 8-1 win at Cal Lutheran. Back in New England to begin their March competitions, the Bobcats dominated the NEWMAC teams, defeating Mt. Holyoke and Wheaton by scores of 6-3 and sweeping Smith College 9-0.

On their early success, Captain Maisie Silverman '18 says, "I did not anticipate that we would be 6-1 at the start of the season, mainly because we have had various injuries that have affected our lineup. However, I am not surprised at all. This group of girls are such fierce competitors who are competing not only for themselves in their single matches but for the team. By controlling the controllable, the girls on the team have been able to persevere and encourage each other through various adversities."

Silverman also stated the main goals for the season. The first is "to go out to every match, regardless of who we are playing and compete and fight for every point." The second: "Transform our team cul-



Maisie Silverman '20 returns shots from opponent. SARAH DU PONT/THE BATES STUDENT

ture—we fight for each other and leave everything out on the courts for our teammates. If we have left everything on the court and haven't focused on the outcome, we will improve and become better tennis players and teammates throughout the season."

So far, these goals have paid off. In the most recent match, the women defeated Hamilton in their first NESCAC matchup 9-0. A standout performance in this match came from the doubles duo of Lauren Hernandez '20 and Hannah Sweeney '21, who notched a 8-1 victory. Silverman says of the two, "First-year Hannah Sweeney continues to stand out—her mental toughness,

fight, and competitiveness have led her to multiple wins in both singles and doubles. Also, Lauren Hernandez has stepped up her fearlessness at the net and has helped create a dynamic duo doubles team with Hannah and Lauren." Silverman also praised the impressive play of Suzanne Elfman '20, while noting that in addition to these individuals "Everyone on the team has stepped up this season. There are several girls who have gone above and beyond especially with unexpected injuries that have affected some of the players in the top of the lineup."

Ultimately, the team has embraced "When we compete, we are difficult to beat" as their mantra,

says Silverman. In her words, "I feel like this has shown in various ways throughout the season, and it is just the beginning!" With such an impressive start to the season, the team seems poised for big things as the season rolls on. In the coming weeks, the women will play some high-stakes NESCAC matchups, many at home, so be sure to check out a match as the team looks to continue their winning streak. First, however, they will be on the road this coming weekend, with matchups against Case Western Reserve, Swarthmore, and Washington & Lee on a trip to Fredericksburg, Virginia.

Women's Crew

Snow Won't Stop the Start of the Women's Crew Season

KERRY MANUEL
STAFF WRITER

I interviewed Bates College Women's rower, Martha Bishop '21, from Hudson, New York. Her season has quickly approached and she is looking forward to the teams first race on March 31.

The Bates Student (BS): Tell me about how this year has been so far.

Martha Bishop (MB): We start our season in the fall and we go until early November. From November till our trip to Florida, we had captains' practices that were "optional" but you were really encouraged to go. The captains would lead three erg workouts a week and then two quarter workouts, and then the rest of the time you are getting lifting and cardio in on your own.

BS: Tell the Bates community about your "February vacation" Florida trip.

MB: Over spring break, we were in Florida, right outside of the Orlando area, practicing before the start of the season. We had two practices a day but it was really fun. I got to know the upperclassmen better which was nice and on the last day we were able to do a "mock race" against Stetson University.

BS: Since you have been back, what has the team been doing?

MB: We have been erging 3-4 days a week, and running the other days.

BS: What has been the most rewarding aspect of being part of this team so far?

MB: I really love the community aspect. I have made so many friends on the team, and everyone is just awesome. I think this is great to have freshman year. There is a group of women out there on campus that I know I can talk to about anything. A lot of my best friends are on the team.

BS: What is one thing you're most looking forward to now that your season has officially begun?

MB: I am probably most excited about getting on the water. I heard the first time we are on the water officially is when we get to our first race. But I can't wait to be on the water for practices. The erg room gets

really stuffy really easily.

BS: What body of water do you practice on?

MB: We practice on the Androscoggin River. There is a really nice stretch, a dam at one end, 5k or 6k down from the boathouse, then there is a bridge. It's a little rocky but you get a nice 12k stretch.

BS: Do you find that there is a lot of competition on the team?

MB: I feel like people on the team are constantly pushing themselves and pushing others to get into the boat they think they should be in or the one they want to be in. For example, in junior year of high school, it got really catty on my team. I feel lucky that it is not like that here at all. Another thing that was good when we were practicing in Florida was that Coach Steenstra would switch the lineups every single day. He gave a speech about changing up the lineups and having everyone row somewhere different every day. He said we are trying out to see what people can do best.

BS: Does your Coach deliver a lot of these "speeches"?

MB: Yes, but it's more focused for what day it is and how he wants the program to go. Like today at the end of our workout, he spoke about why we are doing the workout we do. He says "knowing your tank" which relates to your energy, especially how much energy you have. If you are having a bad day, it's knowing that you can do this, for this much time. It's basically knowing how well you can do that day.

BS: How is the coaching staff on the team?

MB: I think the coaching staff is really good. We just got a new assistant coach in January. I work with her, Haley, more than Coach, but I can't really say much because I don't know her too well yet.

BS: Tell me something the Bates community doesn't know about the Crew team.

MB: "Chicken Patty Satty" gets us through our Saturday practices. When we are on the water, Saturday practices start at 7:00 a.m. So when we get back we are always like "its Chicken Patty Satty." On the guys team, they even had a competition of who can make the best chicken patty satty!"

Women's Tennis

Sports Results from March 4-11

Tuesday March 6:

Softball: W, 6-0; L, 7-2

Women's Lacrosse: W, 18-10

Wednesday March 7:

Softball: W, 1-0; W, 9-1

Alpine Skiing: Griffin Mueller '20 places 30th/34 in the women's Giant Slalom at NCAA Championships in Steamboat Springs, Colorado

Thursday March 8:

Nordic Skiing: Kaelyn Woods '20 places 26th/40 in women's 5K classic at NCAA Championships in Steamboat Springs, Colorado

Softball: W, 3-1; W, 5-4

Friday March 9:

Alpine Skiing: Mueller places 22nd/34 in the women's slalom at NCAA championships in Steamboat Springs, Colorado

Track and Field: Katherine Cook '18 earns All-America honors with third place finish in the 5K at NCAA Championships in Birmingham, Alabama

Adedire Fakorede '18 places 11th/35 in the weight throw at NCAA

Saturday March 10:

Track and Field: Women's team place 8th/105 at NCAA Championships in Birmingham, Alabama with Ayden Eickhoff '19 4th in 800 meters, Sally Ceesay '18 2nd in triple jump, and Cook 7th in 3,000 meters. All three women earn All-America honors.

Jack Kiely '18 also earned All-America honors at NCAAAs with his seventh place finish in the mile run.

Nordic Skiing: Woods places 23rd in women's 15k freestyle race at NCAA Championships.

Softball: W, 15-5; L-20

Men's Tennis: W, 9-0

Women's Lacrosse: L, 9-7

Baseball: W, 3-2; W, 4-3

Men's Lacrosse: L, 13-11

Women's Tennis: W, 9-0

Sunday March 11:

Softball: W, 7-1; L, 6-4

Men's Tennis: L, 7-2

Women's Lacrosse

Women's Lacrosse Falls to Wesleyan

SOJUNG KIM
STAFF WRITER

The women's lacrosse team was narrowly defeated by No.18 nationally ranked Wesleyan University on Saturday, March 10. With 11 minutes left on the clock, the Cardinals pulled away from a 6-6 tie to defeat the Bobcats 9-7.

Before the game against Wesleyan, the team had a great start to the season with three wins and one loss. Therefore, they won't let this loss ruin their momentum.

"The important thing to do to keep our momentum going is to stay strong mentally," says senior captain Allison Dewey '18. "If we go into a game with the mental state that we are going to win and play our best, then we will do just that. As our assistant coach always says, lacrosse is 80 percent mental and 20 percent physical."

Annie Duke '18 led Bates with three goals and attacker Katie Al-lard '19 led the Bobcats with three caused turnovers.

At the 26:01 mark, Wesleyan scored the first goal from a shot at the left wing by Caitlin Wood. Bates quickly tied the game as Avery Mac-Mullen '20 drew a foul allowing a rare open net free position attempt to score a goal at the 24:13 mark.

Goalie Eliza Statile '19 intercepted a Wesleyan pass and set up a goal for Duke who took a great opportunity of a 1-on-1 dodge with a shot from the left wing to give Bates a 2-1 lead. Soon after, Camille Bel-lete '18 was able to find Duke in an open spot in the middle of Wesleyan's defense line where Duke

dodged a defender and shot to give Bates a 3-1 lead.

In the final 40 seconds of the first half, Wesleyan responded with two quick goals to tie the game 3-3 with goals scored by Cardinals Manning and Horst. At the start of the second half, Bates was able to re-take the lead when Liv Sandford '20 dribbled over the line to score a goal.

Wesleyan's Gretsky finished a strong wrap around move to tie the game 4-4 and quickly Horst won a free position shot from a foul giving Wesleyan the 5-4 lead.

Bates was able to fight back to tie the game 6-6 with back-to-back goals by Duke and Teal Oatley '20. This was possible with the tremendous teamwork shown by the team.

"Our team has become very close over the past few months since the start of the school year in September," says Dewey. "In our eyes, this is the closest our team has ever felt. We consider each and every one of our teammates our closest friends and I think that is definitely a contributor to our success on the field."

In the final 11 minutes of the game, the Cardinals dominated, controlled, and seized all of their opportunities giving them the lead 9-7 to win the game.

With another game coming up against Saint Joseph's on March 13, the team is hoping to come out with a win to add another win to their record and continue their great momentum. To do this Dewey explains, "We will have to play the game we know how to play and continue to work as a unit. We are optimistic that we will come out strong if we do exactly this."

MARCH MADNESS

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Justin Levine '20 similarly enjoys predicting brackets. His strategy? He first starts by picking his favorite team to win and then moves down from there. He tries to identify strong teams that are ranked higher than they should be as upset picks, focusing much of his time on the inner brackets.

Yet, Levine notes that his own personal preferences often drive his choices.

"[First], I usually pick my favorite team, which is Duke. Depend-

ing on the year, they are usually the team I pick to win...sometimes I pick teams based on whether I like the school or not."

For most, March Madness is a time to get together with friends and family to enjoy one of their favorite sports.

"March Madness is a lot of fun," Levine says. "My family has done a bracket every year since I was a little kid, so it's just a really exciting time [for me]. I really love basketball."

Softball Team Sets Records in Florida

SARAH ROTHMANN
MANAGING SPORTS EDITOR

March is always a hectic month for Bates. The softball team, however, knows how to begin this crazy month right as they traveled south to Clermont, Florida for a week of intense competition. Instead of trucking through mounds of snow, the Bobcats took advantage of the warm Florida sun and won nine out of the twelve games that they played during the week. This is the best start the women's softball team has seen since 1994.

"The Florida trip is an essential part of our season and travel experiences are important to the team because not only are we playing a lot of games down here, but we're also together 24/7 for a week," says Kirsten Pelletier '20. "We're cooking, cleaning, packing coolers, doing school work, and everything else in between which really allows us to develop an amazing team dynamic."

Before the team started the week, they visited a second grade classroom at Clermont Elementary. While they were helping out, the teacher and her students used a "ten-finger woot-woot!" cheer whenever a hard question was answered correctly. The team took this saying under their wing during the rest of their time in Florida.

"When someone on the team gets a good hit, or makes a great play, we award them with a "ten-finger woot-woot!" Pelletier explains.

Tuesday, March 6 marked the first day of the week-long series and the Bobcats immediately started with a "ten-finger woot-woot!" During their first game against North Central University, Pelletier threw the team's first no-hitter since 2013 to drive Bates to win 6-0. She struck out a career-high eleven batters. The

Bobcats also tallied seven hits during this game with the first-years making impressive strides. Caroline Bass '21 went 2-2 with a run scored, walk, and stolen base and Mary Collette '21 went 2-3 at the plate.

"The no-hitter I threw was an awesome experience," says Pelletier. "I have worked hard all offseason, and to see results in the first game was an amazing feeling."

On the same day the Bobcats fell 7-2 to Dominican University. Julia Panepinto '20 and Andrea Russo '19 each recorded a pair of hits and RBI to put Bates on the board.

The Bobcats won all of the games that they played on Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday. On Wednesday they won 1-0 against Penn State Brandywine and 5-4 against New England College. During the win against Penn State Brandywine, Pelletier allowed just two hits and struck out eight batters. On the same day, the Bobcats defeated Mitchell 9-1. Payton Buxton '21 pitched a complete game and did not allow a single run after the first inning. The Bobcats scored five times in the third inning with Buxton scoring twice and driving in two runs.

Pelletier continued her dominance on Thursday, March 8 when she threw a complete game three-hitter and struck out seven batters. Mimi Crowley '19 and Buxton both had two hits and Russo scored two runs. All of these impressive feats helped the Bobcats defeat Bridgewater State 3-1. Moreover, Buxton hit her first career home-run to help the Bobcats win a game against New England College with a score 5-4 that same day. Over the course of both games, runs were scored by Russo and Buxton.

Friday consisted of a tight win against Northwestern (Minn.) and a complete blowout against Wheelock. When the Bobcats played



Andrea Russo '19 gets in her stances awaiting the pitch. PHYLLIS GRABER JENSEN/BATES COLLEGE

Northwestern, Pelletier threw another complete game with nine strikeouts and no walks. Russo, Panepinto, and Buxton each recorded two hits to help the Bobcats rise 4-3. Later that same day, Bates defeated Wheelock 15-1 as the Bobcats scored 10 runs in the sixth inning. Jevan Sandhu '21 allowed just one run during the game and struck out two batters.

To end the week, on Saturday March 10, the Bobcats defeated Gordon College 12-6 and lost to UMass Dartmouth 2-0. During the win against Gordon, every Bates batter tallied at least one hit. Buxton threw four shutout innings, striking out five batters and allowing only one hit. Pelletier pitched the entire game against UMass Dartmouth, allowing eight hits and striking out two batters. Finally, on Sunday the Bobcats defeated Ripton 7-1 and lost to Minnesota-Morris 6-4.

Given their impressive week in the Florida, the Bobcats are eager to have this level of intensity be consistent through the rest of the season.

"In general, we want to give it our all in every moment of every game. As a young team, our main focus is to compete and develop the program," explains Russo.



Kirsten Pelletier '20 throws first no-hitter since 2013 on Tuesday, March 6 in Clermont, Florida. PHYLLIS GRABER JENSEN/BATES COLLEGE

Q&A: Dinos Letkaritis '19 Shares Stories from the 2018 Winter Olympic Games

SARAH ROTHMANN
MANAGING SPORTS EDITOR

February break feels like ages ago. Alpine skier Dinos Letkaritis '19, however, remembers that week like it was yesterday. During break, Letkaritis was in Pyeongchang County, South Korea representing his country, Cyprus, in the Olympic games. Despite a 10 hour time difference and an intensive training schedule, Letkaritis took the time to share his remarkable Olympics experience with me.

The Bates Student (BS): When did you find out that you got selected to represent Cyprus at the Olympics?

Dinos Letkaritis (DL): I found out after the Olympic list was published on January 22. Until the deadline, I was racing with the national team in order to get the lowest average out of five races. Cyprus only got one spot for alpine skiing.

BS: Describe your thoughts before arriving to the Olympics.

DL: I was in Cyprus for some days before the trip to Korea for some training and preparations. I wanted to start this journey as soon as possible. I had a small taste from participating in the 2012 Youth Olympics. There was some nice anxiety going into something so big and new.

BS: How did you prepare yourself for this competition?

DL: I was following our usual training program at Bates. Due to an injury in the summer, I needed to take a semester off and have more time to train and prepare. I was in

Austria since September for training and then from December I joined the national team for our qualification races. With the good news, we decided to take the winter semester off as well for the Olympics. I had also seven days of training in Korea before the competition which was focused on getting used to the snow and adjusting to the equipment.

BS: What was it like being the sole athlete from Cyprus? Describe your thoughts during the Opening and Closing Ceremonies.

DL: Walking into the stadium, especially in the Opening Ceremony, was a very special moment. I just wanted to hold the flag as high and proud as possible. The Opening Ceremony was the first moment when I fully realized that I was at the Olympics. The shows were amazing and also being together with all the athletes from so many different countries under one Olympic flame was incredible.

BS: What was it like training with all of the athletes before competition?

DL: Besides training at the slopes we spent a lot of time in the gym and the fitness centers at the Olympic village. As an athlete, it was the best environment because everybody had similar goals and interesting stories to tell. Our events were later in the schedule so we got to watch other competitions from TV's all around the village. In the village there was also a recreational center where we had games like air hockey, table football, and the best, a massage chair room. The center was filled with TV's so we mostly watched other events there.

BS: What was your most



Dinos Letkaritis '19 competes in a FIS Race in Pamporovo, Bulgaria. DINOS LETKARITIS/COURTESY/PHOTO

memorable moment from the experience?

DL: I distinctly remember the Olympic circles on the starting gates and the flags. Everything was set up perfectly. You feel an obligation to yourself and your country to leave that starting gate with everything you have. Unfortunately, things didn't turn out as I hoped for as I fell in both of my events but I have no regrets.

BS: The most difficult?

The end of the Games. I could definitely stay much longer but all good things come to an end. I have

so many memories and experiences that will stay with me forever.

BS: What's next in your skiing career?

DL: Until the end of this season, I will continue with training and races in Europe. I am looking forward to joining Bates again for the college championship. Looking even further, I hope I have the opportunity to represent my country again in big competitions.

BS: What are your plans for when you return to Bates?

DL: I will continue pursuing

the combined plan of Mechanical Engineering and Economics.

BS: Any final thoughts?

DL: I really want to thank the Bates Alpine ski team, my teammates and coach Michaela Holland for all the help and support in this journey. The last two years, we have been working together and contributed a lot in this achievement. I also want to thank my parents for being next to me in good and bad times and lastly the whole Bates community for the amazing support.