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The Bates Student

VOLUME 136, NO. 14

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 13, 2007

LEWISTON, MAINE

Dorm Damage Numbers Reflect Changes in Housing Chem Designations

SUZANNE ADATTO
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

Dorm damage numbers this year are reflecting recent changes in campus housing designations. While overall dorm damage is considerably lower than last year, dorms that were designated with a new chem status for this year have shifted their dorm damage numbers, based on their new higher or lower chemical restrictions.

"Overall, dorm damage is down considerably this year, and more damage has been attributed to the responsible individuals than was last year," said Kacey Houston, Residential Life Assistant. Throughout campus, damage numbers have not been nearly as high, both in first-year dorms and all-class living, as last year.

Rand Hall, which became low-chem this year, has had considerably less dorm damage numbers this year.

"Rand's building total is \$960.27 or approximately \$8.81 per person," said Physical Plant's Residential Facilities Auditor David Larrabee.

"Rand's low designation has been working very well and we are planning to continue it next year," added Houston. The plan to continue the low-chem designations also follows student input.

"Most students we've heard from have enjoyed the atmosphere in Rand



AMELIA LARSEN/THE BATES STUDENT

Once the new Rand Village (pictured here) opens next fall, The Bill will no longer be used for student housing. That residence hall has seen an increase in dorm damage this school year.

this year and have appreciated living in an environment that is relaxed and respectful," said Houston.

In contrast, Roger Williams Hall, known as "The Bill," has experienced an increase in dorm damage this year. "Damage in the Bill has increased over

last year since its chem-free designation was removed," said Houston.

"The total [in the Bill] is \$2,437.54, or approximately \$25.93 [per person]," said Larrabee. The Bill will no longer be used as a student residence once the new Rand Village opens.

For next year, students can expect another low-chem dorm building on campus, as the new residential village will also likely be designated low-chem.

Student Group Hosts Lecture on Media Coverage of Middle East Conflict

ANDREW KELNER
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

The Students for Peace and Justice in Palestine (SPJP) hosted a presentation on Tuesday by Alison Weir, a former journalist and founder of If Americans Knew. She shared information about her organization, which works to provide full and accurate information regarding the Israel-Palestine conflict and her own travels in the Middle East.

Weir was introduced by Lars Olofsson '07, president of the SPJP. He began the presentation by stating his belief that the U.S., as a dominant world power, has an obligation to play an active role in resolving peace in the Israel-Palestine conflict.

"How can we contribute to solving the conflict between Palestine and Israel?" asked Olofsson. "We created a group that would focus on education."

Weir began her presentation with the trailer for one of the documentaries created by If Americans Knew, a group which works toward providing full and accurate information regarding the Israel-Palestine conflict. The trailer featured statements by a number of former American political and military officials, as well as Foreign Service officers and journalists, criticizing U.S. support of Israel.

Weir insisted that she is neither pro-Palestine nor anti-Israel. Instead, she said, she supports principles and justice. "I feel an obligation and responsibility to show the full story," said Weir, which she feels is missing from mainstream media coverage.

In order to confirm her suspicions that the media is one-sided in its coverage of the conflict, her group performed a series of studies. She looked at how often the media reported deaths caused as a direct result of the conflict and found that Israeli deaths were reported far more often than Palestinian deaths in all of the newspapers, television and radio stations she observed. Though coverage of suicide bombings in Israel, which she did not include in her statistics, is common, Americans rarely see coverage of Palestinian deaths caused by Israeli military action, she said. When looking at deaths of children, the trends were even more pronounced, with Israeli deaths receiving more cov-

See PALESTINE, page 4

Group Focuses on Increasing Healthy Habits

KIRSTEN TERRY
MANAGING NEWS EDITOR

Studies show that anywhere from 13 to 20 percent of college students suffer from eating disorders. Though no recent statistics are available about Bates students, it is safe to assume the problem exists here as well, said Jenny Sadler '07, Bates Eating Awareness Association President.

"It is likely there are people at Bates struggling with eating disorders," said Sadler. "There are likely even more people who have some issues surrounding eating, weight, body image or self-esteem."

The week of Feb. 25 to Mar. 3 is rec-

ognized nationally as Eating Disorders Awareness Week, although at Bates, events sponsored by the BEAA during that time will take place under the name Healthy Habits Week, in hopes of attracting more interest from students.

"It is often hard to get people to attend events that they think have to do with having an eating disorder," said Sadler. "It is a very secretive issue in society."

One highlight of the week will be a photography exhibit in Chase Lounge, which will feature a selection of photos taken of students' favorite body parts.

"The message we are trying to send is that we want people to focus on the amazing things that the body allows us

to do... rather than nitpicking on the little things about one's body that aren't 'perfect,'" explained Sadler.

Other events taking place during the week include a free yoga session, a movie screening and a Barbie modification workshop. This workshop is a chance to take scissors or markers and change the appearance of the classic children's doll.

"Basically, it's to make Barbie look more like a real person," said Sadler.

Though workshops like this may make it seem like the week is targeted only at female body image issues, this is not so, said Sadler.

"We also want to point out that these issues are not a 'chick thing,'" she said.

"Men deal with the same stressors, may feel the same pressure to look a certain way and may deal with this pressure in unhealthy ways."

Sadler believes that even students who feel they already live a healthy lifestyle can benefit from the week's events.

"Bates can be a very fast-paced and stressful environment, and it is easy to get caught up in the whirlwind," said Sadler. "The point of Healthy Habits Week is to remind people to take a breath, realize we can't control everything and be healthy."

Alcohol Banned from JB Hall

SAM NAGOURNEY
ASSISTANT NEWS EDITOR

As of last week, alcohol is banned from upperclass dorm John Bertram Hall (JB) until further notice. JB will not be a chem-free dorm, meaning that residents can return home inebriated, but anyone caught with alcohol in the dorm will be referred to the Student Conduct Committee.

Last weekend, a large hole was broken through a wall into the custodial closet—part of the extensive damage that has occurred in JB this year. There

have also been noise issues, with security frequently being called to break up gatherings only to have the groups coalesce again after security leaves the building, Dean of Students Tedd Goundie wrote via e-mail.

"Should the problems continue, we will have no choice but to place Security personnel in the building. The cost of the added security would be billed to the residents of the building," Dean Goundie wrote. Both RCs of the building were unavailable for comment.

Bates Students Have High Acceptance Rate with Teach for America Program

ALEXANDRA KELLY
ASSISTANT NEWS EDITOR

Across the United States, 75 percent of students from high-income communities have the chance to go to college, but fewer than 10 percent of their peers in low-income communities do the same. Teach for America's mission, said New England recruitment director Edward Smith, is to "close the achievement gap."

Teach for America is a nonprofit organization dedicated to improving the quality of education for the 13 million children living in poverty in the U.S. today. It places college graduates of all majors, after intensive training, into schools serving low-income students. "Education is the one thing that will allow a student to pull himself out of the cycle of poverty," said Smith.

Teach for America's published mission is "to enlist our nation's most promising future leaders in the movement to eliminate educational inequality." Recognizing that students in low-income communities have more challenges to overcome to receive an education than high-income students, Teach for America recruits as many teachers as possible to make changes in students' lives. Then, after spending two years teaching, the program's alumni can continue to teach, or bring their experience into areas like law, medicine and policy.

For those corps members who choose not to remain in education, Teach for America has developed partnerships with corporations and gradu-

ate programs across the country. Many of these universities and employers offer two-year deferrals for graduates entering the program.

From the last four graduating classes, more than 20 percent of Bates applicants have been accepted into the highly selective Teach for America corps—a rate higher than the national average. For the last three years, all accepted candidates have entered the corps.

In the current Bates senior class, four students have already been accepted, including Lauren Woo, Kay Gonsalves and Sara Gips. Gips, with Rachel Pool '07, is employed by Teach for America as a campus campaign manager.

In that position, Gips and Pool help Smith in his recruiting efforts at Bates. They are responsible for the posters and fliers on walls and in bathroom stalls all over campus, as well as organizing and hosting events, raising awareness about Teach for America and identifying potential candidates to put in contact with Smith.

So far, all four students who were offered positions accepted them, though Gips plans to defer for one year. The program does not normally grant deferrals, Gips said, but she is committed to Teach for America, and her work in the intervening year will enhance her potential as a teacher.

Gips, a double major in anthropology and Spanish, wants to be a third or fourth-grade teacher. Next year, she will volunteer with the Global Education Fund in Nicaragua, do her own work in Guatemala and later live in Buenos Ai-

res. At the end of that year, she said, she hopes to pass the exam to be a teacher in a bilingual classroom. "Educational inequities should be our generation's civil rights movement," said Gips. "Once I get into it, I feel like I'm going to want to keep going with it."

Woo, whose older sister was in Teach for America, will teach elementary special education in New York City next year. "I believe the key to an adequate education is expecting high expectations from all students and being brave enough to go into those tough school systems that are in a dire need of teachers," she said.

A psychology major with a secondary concentration in education, Woo knew that she did not want to go directly to graduate school after Bates. Even though she had not intended to be a classroom teacher, she said, "this program's goals and values are aligned with my own, so I thought it would be a perfect match." She said that she is excited about her placement because she "will be able to give those students who typically do not succeed a chance for a new start and more importantly the chance to succeed again."

Last year, Teach for America employed 4,000 teachers, reaching 500,000 students. Its current goal, says Smith, is to double the number of teachers by 2010 and reach as many as a million students. This means an increase in recruitment efforts will be necessary in order to raise the number of high-

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Al Gore Would Approve

Erin Bond '09 writes in support of the Bates Energy Action Movement, which is working to make Bates carbon neutral.

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Prestigious Possibility

Kris Goulding '07 is nominated for a Fulbright Fellowship, which she would use to research Muslim women in Northern Africa.

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Play Ball!

Male a cappella group The Deansmen sang the national anthem for Friday night's Boston Celtics game.

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Club Team Wins Big

Men's hockey won the NECHA championship last weekend.

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With Global Warming Undisputed, it's Time for Action

ERIN BOND
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

There are times, such as the past few bitterly cold days when the wind bit at my fingertips and nose, when I think, "I don't care what Al Gore or anyone else says, bring on global warming! You go pull the Hummer round and I'll grab the swimsuits." Of course, my brain thaws, and I realize what a horrible idea that actually is. If only because you're sick of listening to whiny skiers complain about lack of snow or because you like polar bears as much as I do, we all should be quite happy that Bates has stepped up on the issue of global warming. Whatever your reasons, it's time to accept that global warming, caused primarily by anthropogenic (human-produced) emissions of greenhouse gases, is a big deal, and we ought to be doing even more about it.

BEAM, the Bates Energy Action Movement, is Bates' latest effort to get people thinking about minimizing their contributions to global warming and ways Bates can become carbon neutral. BEAM's presence on campus, along with a variety of other indicators, suggests that the debate is no longer whether global warming is occurring or even whether human contribution to greenhouse gases in the atmosphere is the cause of global warming. In December 2004, Science Magazine published an analysis of 928 peer-reviewed science papers on climate change from science journals between 1993 and 2003. The analysis found that not a single sci-

entific article disputed the evidence that the climate is warming because of human activities. Further the "Joint Statement of Science Academies: Global Response to Climate Change, 2005" reported: "The scientific understanding of climate change is now sufficiently clear to justify nations taking prompt action. It is vital that all nations identify cost-effective steps that they can take now, to contribute to substantial and long-term reduction in net global greenhouse gas emissions." (See www.fightglobalwarming.org) The question now is what should we do about it? BEAM provides

some answers at www.beamnow.blogspot.com.

Bates is getting greener and greener every year – think mugs, Recyclemania and the environmentally conscious

aspects of the new Commons. Colleges are coming together to face global warming (BEAM founders attended the Maine State Climate Summit at the College of the Atlantic this weekend). Far beyond Bates, other organizations and governments have made recent progress in the fight against global warming. As reported by Scientific American, "International rules allowing burial of greenhouse gases beneath the seabed enter into force on Saturday [Feb. 10, 2007] in what will be a step toward fighting global warming... carbon burial could be one of the top contributors to slowing warming this century." Support on all levels is slowly growing and hopefully will continue to do so, but we're

See BATES ENERGY, page 3

Letters

Speaker's Indictment of Israel Hinders Peaceful Discourse

To the Editor:

On Tuesday, Feb. 6 the group known as Students for Peace and Justice in Palestine (SPJP) hosted a speaker by the name of Alison Weir. The SPJP state that their goal is "ensuring that both the Palestinians' and the Israelis' historical and cultural narratives are understood and respected in the US." It is important to note that both Hillel and the SPJP are committed to a peaceful resolution, which brings a quick end to the violence on both sides and creates two independent nations living in harmony.

However, I feel that Ms. Weir did little to accomplish this goal. Before Ms. Weir spoke, I had my doubts about her ability to bring meaningful and productive viewpoints to a peaceful discussion. These doubts were based on editorial reviews of her works as well as the provocative nature of some of her past writings. Furthermore, I was alarmed because her articles have been posted on websites which advocate hatred and anti-Semitism, seemingly without her objection. Among these websites are davidduke.com (former Grand Wizard of the KKK), and jewwatch.com (a known anti-Semitic website which provides links to what they call, "Jewish Hate Groups").

Nonetheless, I gave her the benefit of the doubt and attended the lecture to hear her ideas. After hearing her presentation, I still believe that her speech was not conducive to creating meaningful discussion about peace in the

Middle East.

Ms. Weir claimed to be an unbiased journalist who was neither pro-Palestinian nor pro-Israeli yet throughout the lecture she indicted Israel as whole, including its people, for launching what she stressed was a one-sided conflict. While she could have been critical of Israeli policies currently in effect, she chose – through her biased historical standpoint and her refusal to name specific Israeli leaders – to demonize the entirety of the Israeli people and thus Jews by association. While I recognize that not everything the Israeli government has done has led toward a peaceful resolution, I feel that blaming a particular group of people is detrimental to a peaceful discussion. Furthermore, she made no attempts to offer any resolution to the conflict and her writings have shown that she does not advocate a peaceful two-state solution. While speakers such as Ms. Weir can be provocative, focusing on only the radical viewpoints in such conflicts will never lead to peaceful discourse. That being said, I hope that there will be open peaceful communication between all groups on campus.

Sincerely,

Alan Cooper '07

President, Bates Hillel

Please Note: This letter represents my views and not those of Hillel.

Speaker Responds to Hillel President's "Highly Defamatory" E-mail

To the Editor:

I was pleased recently to be invited to lecture at Bates College on the Israeli-Palestinian conflict, with particular focus on media coverage of this profoundly important issue. However, upon my arrival Feb. 6th, I was extremely unhappy to learn that the president of Hillel had sent a highly defamatory e-mail about me to the ra-talk@bates.edu list serve.

This student, who, as far as I know, had never heard me speak, claimed that my presentation was "hateful," that my purpose was to spread "misinformation and Antisemitism," (sic), that I am connected to David Duke [a former KKK Grand Wizard], and other similarly offensive, inflammatory and false allegations. A follow-up e-mail was also sent out by this individual to the dean and others, asking that my lecture be canceled, claiming that I "advocate for violence."

Clearly, these e-mails were intended to prevent students from hearing my information or, failing that, to so demean

my character that listeners would be prejudiced against the numerous facts the e-mailer feared I would convey about the current conflict, its history and the significant flaws in media coverage.

While I dislike the "No, I don't beat my children" type of discourse, since these emails were sent so widely throughout the Bates community, I feel compelled to address them here:

No, I do not convey misinformation. I am extremely careful in my work and make every effort to avoid errors. My writings, presentations, and media critiques are based on extremely thorough research. For example, our media studies, which found that network news broadcasts reported Israeli children's deaths at rates up to 14 times greater than they reported Palestinian children's deaths, are based on two years worth of data. When a Stanford journalism professor examined one of our studies, he was so startled

See HILLEL PRESIDENT'S ALLEGATIONS, page 3

BATES RATES

Annie Sprinkle, Ph.D.
(the porn star turned
sexologist)



Can I get a Bates degree in that?

Return of "The Plague"



Toilet bowl, we meet again.

Vagina Monologues



More proof that your girlfriend probably *can* fake an orgasm.

Valentine's Day



At least your Mom sent you something...

The Bates Student

The Newspaper of Bates College Since 1873

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LOUIS DENNIG
MANAGING FORUM EDITOR

It's that time of year again for hundreds of commercials and advertisements selling flowers, jewelry, Hershey's latest chocolate monstrosity and Hallmark cards. Valentine's day has truly become a consumer holiday. According to the Greeting Card Association, over one billion Valentine's Day cards are sent during this holiday, making it second only to Christmas for the largest card-sending holiday of the year. Valentine's Day is surely a big day for consumerism, but it could be so much more.

This day shouldn't be known as an evil scheme from the candy, chocolate and flower industries to make money during the dry post-Christmas consumer season, it shouldn't be seen as a pity day for single people, and it shouldn't be about presents: Valentine's Day should be about letting the people you care about know they're important. It should be a day about love for your family, your friends and the people who make everyday a little bit easier for you.

Valentine's Day wasn't ever supposed to be about showing one's appreciation for the people in your life. All of the day's roots lie in celebrating the romantic relationship between two people, but in today's world there just isn't enough time to say "thank you" to the people who we care about. Anyone could of course show his or her gratitude everyday, but that isn't how we as a society work. It's unfortunate that it takes a holiday or special occasion for us to get the guts to show our appreciation for the people in our life who are important, so the more of those days that are on the calendar, the better. Valentine's Day is another special occasion that gives people an excuse to tell the people they care about that they love them, and what could possibly be wrong with that?

I remember going into elementary school and middle school with a bag full of cheesy little Valentine's Day cards for all my teachers and friends, and everyone I saw would have a bag full of Valentines just like mine. Throughout the day, everyone would exchange his or her little cards with the perforated edges that had been ripped off a

large sheet. Most of them had a series of hearts on them with a stock saying like "be mine," "have a hug" and "smile" written on them. Those Valentine's Day cards were just cheap little pieces of cardboard, but they sure did feel good to get, and they definitely felt good to give away.

The spirit of Valentine's Day has been hijacked. I feel like little Cindy-Lou Hoo writing this, but the meaning and spirit of Valentine's Day should be something other than buying gifts and writing cards for your significant other. Valentine's Day should be about everyone and appreciating the people in your life who are important to you.

Valentine's Day should be embraced as a day of love for everyone everywhere and, especially, those people who make your life better everyday. So this Valentine's Day take a moment, buy a huge perforated sheet of cheesy valentines and tell your roommates, the commons workers, your professors and everyone at Bates that in some way, you love them. On the way to the store, just try to ignore all the ads telling you to buy Hershey Kisses, Smarties, diamonds and flowers for your girlfriend.

Facebook Reveals The Truth About Birthdays

ALLIE GOLDSTEIN
FORUM LAYOUT EDITOR

One day last summer, I awoke to find my inbox overflowing with messages from Facebook. This could mean one of two things: Either I had suddenly acquired a lot of new friends or I had attracted an online stalker. Realizing that I had spent every night of May with the same five friends from high school, I concluded that the second option was much more likely and proceeded to panic. I racked my brain for a mental image of Facebook's notorious "Personal Information" section. What exactly had I put in there? My screenname? My phone number? My marital status to my

friend from Bowdoin? I was so nervous I could barely peck out the letters of my password. However, after signing into my account, I found that all 57 of the messages I received were actually quite pleasant. Instead of demanding a meeting in some back alley, they encouraged me to "Have a fabulous day" and "Eat lots of cake." These weren't my stalkers, they were my friends. Or were they?

Although all well-intentioned, I am pretty sure that, had my birthday not been posted on Facebook, not many people would've remembered. Sure, my grandmother would've still given me a new book. My uncle would've still sent me a quirky DVD. Maybe some

of my closest friends would've called. But I certainly wouldn't have received birthday wishes from my Spanish TA or a girl from my middle school who I talked to once. What was it about my birthday that made people suddenly want to contact me?

The easy answer is that, in addition to reminders, Facebook provides a very low-pressure forum for communication. Under the pretext of "Facebook friends," it becomes appropriate to contact nearly anyone you've ever met. But still, why this obsession with birthdays? If so many people had felt that our relationship warranted a virtual birthday

See THE AGONIES, page 3

Hillel President's Allegations of Hate Unfounded

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 2

by our results that he decided to conduct his own study – which corroborated our findings.

No, my presentation is not "hateful." I always precede my presentations, and reiterate throughout my talk, one of my most fundamental beliefs: that all human beings, regardless of race, religion or ethnicity, are equally important, equally deserving of respect and that their deaths are equally tragic.

No, I am not a bigot. I have a life history of opposing discrimination, of working for peace and of opposing injustice. The e-mail writer seems to have misunderstood the difference between Judaism and Israel. Sadly, this is perhaps not his fault, since the term anti-Semitic is frequently used against those who are critical of Israeli policies. In fact, such conflation of Israel (a nation-state) and Judaism (a religion) – continually promoted by Israel itself – has become so commonplace that the meaning of anti-Semitism has begun to undergo an unfortunate change. While traditionally anti-Semitism denoted bigotry: "(1) hostility toward Jews as a religious or racial minority group, often accompanied by social, political or economic discrimination," it now increasingly simply means that one opposes Israeli policies of discrimination: "(2) opposition to Zionism (3) sympathy for the opponents of Israel." (Merriam-Webster, Third New International Dictionary, 2004).

No, I am not connected to David Duke and do not submit articles to his website. My writings (which can be found at [cansknew.org/about_us/alisonweir.html\) have been posted on a great many websites and blogs – quite possibly hundreds or more. Is it possible that the e-mail writer does not know that webmasters post any article they choose, without ever contacting the writer? Incidentally, also posted on the Duke website are writings by Bishop Desmond Tutu, E.G. Kessler from The Forward \(a major Jewish publication\) and by diverse authors from numerous publications across the country and around the world. The article that the e-mail referenced was one I had submitted to CounterPunch, a politically progressive publication, and which, upon publication there, was subsequently picked up by a great many additional websites, apparently David Duke's among them.](http://ifameri-</p>
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No, I do not denigrate Judaism. The e-mail writer states that I "endorse" a statement about Halacha [Jewish law and tradition] that he implies is inaccurate and offensive. This reference truly perplexed me, so I did a Google search of our website to find all references to Halacha, which turned up four: (1) an article from the Nation, by David Hirst (who is Jewish); (2) a book review from the Washington Report on Middle East Affairs, by Allan C. Brownfeld (who is Jewish; the book was also by Jewish authors, one of them Israeli); (3) another article from the Washington Report on Middle East Affairs, by Suraya Dadoo, a researcher with Media Review Network, a group based in South Africa; and (4) an excellent booklet on "The Origins of the Palestine-Israel Conflict, by Jews for Justice in Palestine.

No, I do not "advocate for violence" (an accusation that in today's climate can result in incarceration and/or exposure to physical attacks). I have seen the results of violence in the Middle East first-hand; this is neither a pleasant nor a forgettable sight. I abhor violence and among my greatest objectives is to end it. I am deeply saddened by the knowledge that my tax money is responsible for the hundreds of thousands of people who have been maimed and killed in what was once called the Holy Land, and it is my determination to join those working to bring this tragedy to an end.

Finally, people who would like to evaluate my approach for themselves may view a public access program about my work produced by Alternate Focus, available on YouTube and Google Videos: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ziSTY408h6k> and <http://video.google.com/videoplay?docid=-5600677940569035557&q=Alternate+Focus>.

It is always disturbing to be on the receiving end of ad hominem attacks and fraudulent allegations. However, if the e-mail-writer's accusations against me serve to bring greater attention at Bates to the realities of Israel and Palestine and to the power and responsibility of Americans to end this tragedy, then I am enormously grateful.

Sincerely,
Alison Weir,
Executive Director, If Americans Knew
Washington, DC

DIGITZ

25

The weight, in kilograms, of a block of cheddar cheese, which can be viewed under 24-hour a day surveillance. Anyone can watch the cheese mature over time on the Internet. Set up by farmers at Somerset dairy, the Cheddarvision website has already received about 47,000 hits. The best time to watch is at about 10 a.m., when the block of cheese is turned.

65,000

Price, in pounds, of the first personal submarines. The underwater vehicles can dive up to 50 meters below the surface, travel at speeds of four knots and remain submerged for two and a half hours. The company, U-Boat Worx, has created both a one-person and a two-person model of the submarine, but anyone who plans on driving below will have to get an underwater pilot's license first.

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Number of years that Ivan Dimitrov was married to his wife before divorcing her over her pumpkin pies. Dimitrov, 47, was enraged to discover that his wife had been feeding him pastries made out of pumpkin instead of a more expensive summer squash called courgette. Despite his claim that he "absolutely hate[s]" pumpkins, Dimitrov did not notice the difference in taste and confronted his wife only after finding pumpkin rinds in the garbage. Still, he saw the pie incident as an irreconcilable breach of trust. "What else has she been lying about?" he said in defense of his decision. "What man could trust a woman who fed him pumpkins for half a year?"

10

The number of potential brides that Xu Fuge, a pig, was presented with before being married by a Taiwanese priest. The pig's owner reported that his pet had little time to meet mates because he is the PR manager of a farm and spends most of his time walking around the restaurant greeting guests. Xu Feng chose his new fiancée, Huang Chichi, out of the four females that he was able to meet personally. Two parrots acted as bridesmaid and groomsmen at the wedding and the mayor of Yilan came to witness the event. "At the beginning, they always fought and quarreled for food...but as time has gone on their relations have improved a lot," Xu Fuge's owner said.

Sources: ananova.com

Bates Energy Action Movement Making Timely Strides to Reach Carbon Neutrality

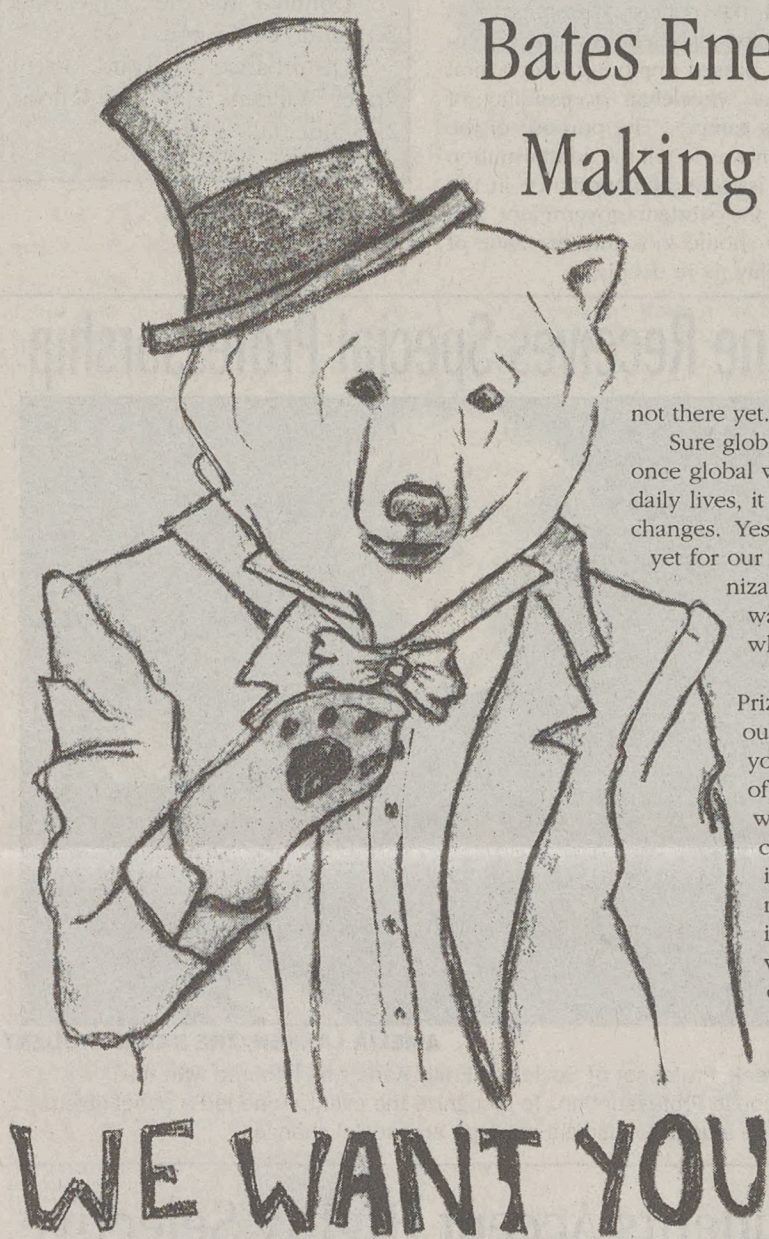
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not there yet.

Sure global warming is easy to ignore – most of us do, but here's the thing: once global warming is something most people can feel in the course of their daily lives, it will be too late to prevent much larger, potentially catastrophic, changes. Yes, action is already being taken, but not enough. There's optimism yet for our planet, for our skiing and our polar bears. Lots of people, organizations, colleges and groups such as BEAM have recognized global warming as a threat and are working to do something about it, but what are you doing?

David Brower, Environmentalist and three – time Nobel Peace Prize nominee, once wisely stated, "We don't inherit the earth from our ancestors; we borrow it from our children." Do you want to leave your kids an earth where increased global temperatures caused loss of habitat and possible extinction of a variety of species? An earth where malaria and West Nile virus spread uncontrollably because climate change expanded favorable zones for areas carrying these infectious diseases? An earth where fresh water is scarce because rising sea levels threaten to contaminate groundwater and increase in temperature increases demand for water as a coolant? An earth where hunger is an even greater issue than it is now because agricultural land has been flooded and crops can't adapt to adverse weather changes? Most importantly, do you want to potentially leave your kids an earth without polar bears or skiing? Perhaps this last bit is a slight exaggeration, but it still seems like turning the lights off, grabbing a recycled notebook in the bookstore, changing a few light bulbs and hopping on public transportation aren't huge sacrifices when you consider the alternatives.

I guess I'll just have to put on my gloves, call Papa John's for delivery because it's too freaking cold to walk all the way to Common's, save my swimsuit for summer and suck it up.



The Agonies and the Ecstasies of Birthdays

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 2

card, why didn't I receive any messages on the other 364 days of the year?

To this inquiry, Professor Steve Kemper provided some insight. Last semester, he presented my Social Anthropology class with the following provocative statement: Not everyone celebrates birthdays. In fact, to some people, the idea of even knowing the specific day on which you were born is absurd. Birthdays, as we know them, are a product of a culture in which the individual is seen as unique and autonomous. So unique and autonomous, in fact, that an entire day of each year is devoted to them. Instead of holding collective coming of age ceremonies, as is done in many other countries, Americans have birthday parties at which many extravagancies – magicians, DJs, goody bags – are dedicated to the maturation of one special child.

This idea of celebrating the individual has been exploited by party stores and toy companies. As Hallmark puts it, "The need to seek rituals that reinforce a sense of shared values is strong, and birthdays offer that opportunity for most Americans." In this cryptic statement, the "shared value" is individualism and the "rituals" are cake, presents and four-dollar cards. As long as people continue to expect a little extra mail on their birthday, Hallmark is in business.

When you really think about it though, birthdays are a little ridiculous. As a child, birthday parties are often just as stressful as they are fun. I can't even imagine how torturous it must have been for my parents when I began planning "my day" months in advance and insisted on having endless conversations about who to invite and who to exclude. Such intense anticipation almost always ended in some kind of disappointment, which was often taken out on the hard-working party planners.

As a young adult, birthdays are transitions into gained freedom and independence that are arbitrarily freed with age. The two magic ages – 16 and 21 – each mark the acquisition of a distinct privilege and are the cause of much excitement. The MTV show "My Super Sweet

Sixteen" is devoted to the first of these rites of passage. Episodes usually feature a ritzy pubescent girl who goes shopping in New York City, has some sort of mental breakdown, hosts the "party of the year" and then drives away in a new Audi. Twenty-first birthday parties seem similarly overdone. It is not uncommon for Batesians to post pictures of their almost-legal friend around Chase Hall in advertisement of his or her upcoming birthday. However, apart from the driver's license or the massive hangover, there is nothing really so different about

"There just isn't enough
time to say thank you to
the people who we care
about."

turning a year older. In fact, one of the most eerie things about birthdays is that the before and after pictures are pretty much identical. Turning 16 or 21 or any age isn't going to feel any different than waking up to a new day.

Beyond the age of about 40, birthdays become a little forced. To people in their 80s and 90s, birthday cards and parties are probably more of a reminder that they're old. Yet despite protests that they "don't need anything" or "don't want it to be a big deal" our culture seems to insist on recognizing birthdays each and every year. Not to do so would seem disrespectful to the individual, no matter how many birthday notches they have in his or her belt.

Probably the strangest aspect of birthdays, though, is the idea of "birthday buddies." In case you're unfamiliar with the term, a "birthday buddy" is someone who shares your day of birth. No matter what your relationship was with such a person beforehand, the discovery that you are "birthday buddies" requires that

you immediately become more intimate and possibly start planning a joint birthday party. For instance, when my mother had the misfortune of meeting a "birthday buddy" at her place of work, the former acquaintance began buying her chintzy birthday presents to which she had to reciprocate with some kind of trinket and card. Even worse than having this kind of "birthday buddy," though, is sharing a birthday with a close friend or family member or – worst of all – Jesus Christ. Such a "birthday buddy" inevitably causes less attention and fewer presents, both of which are necessary for a successful birthday.

In a very few instances, though, birthday parties bring people together. When my brother was in second grade, he had the radical idea of inviting both boys and girls to his birthday party. We hired "the reptile guy," a man who brought lizards, turtles and snakes into our living room. The party ended with him wrapping a 12-foot boa constrictor around the necks of everyone there. Needless to say, my brother was the most popular man at Mitchell Elementary School for at least the next two weeks.

When you're older, birthdays are often one of the only occasions where the entire family gets together. Even when advances in age mean little more than declining eyesight and worsening arthritis, birthdays are at least a chance to spend time with loved ones. In this sense, Hallmark is actually somewhat insightful in saying that birthdays are a "celebration of relationships" (hallmark.com). I'll admit that the pages of Facebook messages I received did make me feel kind of special. However distant, I did in fact have a relationship with every single person who read the little Facebook blurb and decided to respond.

If nothing else, birthdays are a mechanism for maintaining relationships that otherwise might fade. They are an excuse to contact friends and relatives and let them know that you love them – or at least that you hope they have a good day. Throw a little chocolate-frosted cake in there and birthdays don't seem so illogical after all.

Study Says Sweat is Sexy: Show Your Love With Pit Stains

JOHN MILEY
STAFF WRITER

I remember on Valentine's Day in third or fourth grade, my Mom would send me to class with valentines for all the other students. They were the ones that had a little message and could hold a mini package of lifesavers. I would always try to give the least suggestive ones to the girls because it was better to have the boys make fun of you than the girls think you liked them, even if you did.

That was my thought process then and I'm not sure it has changed much since. I think it was that experience that made Valentine's Day traumatizing for me. The pure joy of what Valentine's Day could be was captured in my small class, but there was also the hint of problems that were to come. Not everyone gets presents anymore.

In terms of other ideas for Valentine's Day, science is finally pulling its weight. A recent study showed that women smelling a chemical found in male sweat showed higher levels of the hormone cortisol in addition to faster heartbeats and higher blood pressure. While some people may think this is old news, this is the first study that has shown an increase in hormones in women when smelling male sweat. The study also showed that women reported improved moods and higher sexual arousal.

This is all from male sweat. This means that the perfect place to give a valentine would be at the gym after a ridiculously sweaty workout. Those aisles of spray cans and bottles of magic fragrance ignore the simple fact that women enjoy the smell of male sweat.

Keep in mind, this isn't some Maxim article, this is the Journal of Neuroscience. And because this is February, I say what is at stake is how we conceptualize Valentine's Day. This not only brings the idea of being sweaty, which is quite obvious. It also challenges us to realize that the things that most attract the opposite sex are probably subconscious and shaped by evolution.

I mean, as males, we can't say we didn't see this coming. We knew all along females could smell our fear, especially when we sweat. But hey, guess what? They like it. Not in some kind of platonic way, but in a sexually aroused way. So when women tell men that they smell when they're all sweaty, they are actually saying, "I'm so sexually aroused that you have to go take a shower just so I can concentrate on anything but you." The amount you sweat during the day is therefore directly proportional to the amount of women you will attract.

Whatever you give this Valentine's Day, make sure you give it while sweaty. Whether it's nervous sweat, anxious sweat, excited sweat or the all-too-familiar, overconfident sweat, it doesn't matter. For the most part, you can never go wrong with science. There's also a lot of ways to go wrong when approaching this dubious holiday, but you can avoid them all by just following some of the things I've mentioned in this article.

Senior Nominated for Fulbright Fellowship

CHRISTINE ARSNOW
STAFF WRITER

Senior Kris Goulding has recently been nominated for the prestigious Fulbright Fellowship. She hopes to use the fellowship to further her research on Muslim women, a subject she has already begun to research as part of her thesis.

A standout candidate for the award, Goulding will graduate in May with a double major in French and political science and a double minor in religion and women and gender studies. Her political science thesis, which she composed last semester, examined the differences between Muslim women in neotraditionalist and Sufi groups in north India.

Sufism, according to Goulding, is a "mystic branch of Islam which embraces the veneration of saints." She will travel to India next week on a Barlow grant to conclude her thesis research. In addition, Goulding is currently working on a French thesis that examines the political differences between conservative and moderate Muslim women in Morocco.

According to the Fellowship website, U.S. Congress established the Fulbright in 1946 to "enable the government of the United States to increase mutual understanding between the people of the United States and the people of other countries."

International exchange grants are awarded to students, graduate researchers and educators from elementary to university level. Approximately 6,000 grants were awarded in 2006, with awards totaling over \$325 million. The Fulbright is funded primarily by the U.S. Department of State, though foreign governments also contribute. Host institutions also assist through salary supplements, tuition waivers and housing provisions.

Goulding's Fulbright project furthers her research on Muslim women in traditional and Sufi sects. If accepted, she will travel to the Tunisian cities of Nefta and Tunis. Goulding plans to interview Sufis during her stay in Nefta, a major Sufi pilgrimage site in North Africa. She will focus her research on the political role and perception of



MEG KINNEY/THE BATES STUDENT

Kris Goulding '07 is in the running for a prestigious Fulbright Fellowship, which she plans to use to continue her research on Muslim women in Northern Africa.

women in this Muslim sect.

In Tunis, Goulding will examine the position and rights of women in conservative Muslim groups. She will compare the female identity in these two factions of Islam.

"Through interviews with conservative Muslim women and government officials, visits to and observations of conservative organizations and research of primary documents at the Center for Maghreb Studies, which American institutions do not possess, I hope to gain a better understanding of the relationship and interplay between Sufi and Islamist women, Islamic revivalism and the government," said Goulding.

In addition to the Fulbright, Goulding has applied for a Language Initiative Scholarship. If she receives the award, Goulding will spend her summer taking intensive Arabic language classes in either Egypt or Yemen. Already fluent in French, Goulding wishes to improve

her Arabic language skills to facilitate interviews and research in Tunisia.

Goulding applied for the Fulbright Fellowship because she loves to travel, she wants to continue her research and she knows the award will benefit her as she pursues her M.A. in Islamic Studies.

"My interests in Islamic politics are far from specific and, as a result, my academic aim is to reach across social and academic boundaries rather than choose one area to research exclusively," said Goulding. "I want to have the opportunity to be free of the constraints of an organized school program so that I can ask the questions that I want, do the research that I want and go where I want."

Goulding hopes to someday be an authoritative scholar in the growing field of Islam and North African politics.

President Addresses BCSG's Legitimacy

BRIANA GERRISH
STAFF WRITER

President Bill Jack '08 took a stand against the accusations that the Bates College Student Government is ineffective by urging members to become more active in their roles as representatives at last night's meeting.

"Don't just work for one to two minutes on a resolution, but take 20 minutes out of the rest of the week, and do something productive for student government," pleaded Jack. "Our role is not just to pass resolutions but to figure out what we want to do to help the student body."

Compared to the other NESCAC schools, it seems as though Bates' Student Government is "at the bottom of the totem pole," said Jack. He attributed this trend to the lack of interest in student government by members and non-members alike.

Amid the criticism, progress was made at last night's meeting. A resolution was passed imploring information about the wheelchair accessibility of the Bates campus. The purpose of the resolution was to tell the administration that the issue is of importance in the eyes of the student government and that they should look into the issue of accessibility more deeply.

Security Bulletin

Friday, Feb. 9:

-Disturbance, Wentworth Adams Hall, room 401, taken care of.

-Disturbance, Wentworth Adams Hall, room 226, report taken.
-Narcotics Laws, Roger Williams Hall, third floor, taken care of.

Saturday, Feb. 10:

-Disturbance - Loud Music, Chase House, 3:42 a.m., taken care of.

Sunday, Feb. 11:

-Disturbance - Loud Music, Wentworth Adams Hall, room 234, 12:01 a.m., taken care of.

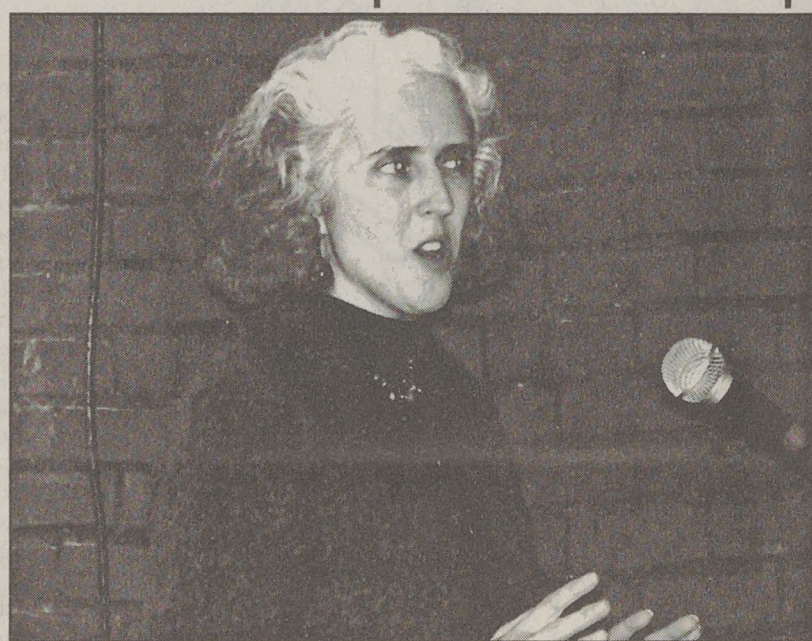
-Disturbance - Loud Party, Roger Williams Hall, third floor, 12:15 a.m., taken care of.

-Dorm Damage, John Bertram Hall, 1:33 a.m., case open.

-Criminal Mischief, Page Hall, 2:11 a.m., case open.

-Disturbance - Loud Party, Roger Williams Hall, third floor, 2:45 a.m., taken care of.

Kane Receives Special Professorship



AMELIA LARSEN/THE BATES STUDENT

Last week, Professor of Sociology Emily Kane was honored with the Whitehouse Professorship. To recognize the event, Kane led a panel discussion with alumni to discuss privilege and social change.

Students for Peace and Justice in Palestine Host Middle East Researcher

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

erage than Palestinian deaths, despite the fact that a greater number of Palestinian deaths occurred.

"This is bizarre reporting, and it is not tolerable reporting," said Weir.

Following her analysis of media coverage, Weir began a synopsis of the history of the conflict itself. The history, she said, "is not a complicated issue at all." She began with the emergence of the Zionist movement in the late 1800s, moving on to the creation of the nation of Israel and the 1967 Six-Day War between Israel and the joint forces of Egypt, Iraq, Syria and Jordan.

Weir specifically discussed the attack by Israeli forces on the USS Liberty Naval intelligence ship which killed 34 Americans and injured 172 more. Weir believes that the attack, which is typically thought to have been a mistake, was a deliberate attempt by the Israeli Defense Forces to sink the ship, and prevent the U.S. from observing Israeli war crimes in the Sinai and Golan heights. She said the attack was then buried by the U.S. media.

In order to see the Israeli-Palestinian situation firsthand, Weir traveled as a journalist to the West Bank and Gaza, without any support system or guides. Despite being warned that as an American woman she would be in danger, she said she found the residents welcoming, friendly and peaceful. She also felt that she was subject to Israeli harassment, as bullets were fired in her direction. Weir believes this was a purposeful attempt to harass an American journalist.

During her research, Weir learned of activists and reporters who had been killed by Israelis. She discussed the deaths of Rachel Corrie and Thomas Hurndall, members and activists for the International Solidarity Movement in Is-

rael. According to Weir, these cases are not rare, and Israel also often targets reporters.

"This was the most covered up story I have ever seen," said Weir. "Israel shoots and kills journalists frequently."

She concluded her presentation by reaffirming the need for fair and balanced reporting in the U.S. Weir said she was appalled to see news headlines in America of the Israel-Palestine conflict on returning to the U.S. and the distorted story they told. She compared the treatment of the Palestinians to the Holocaust, saying that this is a holocaust that America has the power to stop.

Following the presentation, there was a question-and-answer session, with many of the questions coming from audience members clearly upset and frustrated with Weir's treatment of the issue. The controversy was already evident prior to the presentation, as an e-mail was distributed to a number of club listservs by Alan Cooper '07, president of Bates Hillel, accusing Weir of "anti-Semitism" and spreading "misinformation." He also passed out an article by Weir in which she referred to the Israeli War for Independence as ethnic cleansing.

The subject for much of the Q&A period was directed toward this favoritism of Israel, both in the government and media. Weir credited it to powerful pro-Israel lobbies (such as AIPAC) and powerful media and advertising influence by people with a Zionist bias. Any media outlet or politician who attempts to criticize Israel, said Weir, is subject to an immediate campaign against them. They are then forced to stop their criticism, or often, they are driven to bankruptcy and obscurity. Additionally, she said, anyone who criticizes Israel is immediately labeled as an anti-Semite, as she has been, or should he or she be Jewish, he or she is labeled "self-hat-

ing."

Olofsson felt the event was a success and was pleased with the large turnout. He was also surprised to find that the speaker had caused such controversy.

"Those [complaints] are completely unfounded," said Olofsson. "This has all been about non-violence. She shared a narrative that we haven't been hearing."

When asked why he feels that speakers such as Weir are important, he reaffirmed that he feels Americans have a moral obligation to find peace between Israel and Palestine. "The U.S. is the only international actor capable of stopping the conflict. The blood is on our hands," he said.

Cooper agrees that both the SPJP and Hillel would like to see peace between Israel and Palestine. He does not believe that Weir is helping to achieve this goal though.

"I believe that both Hillel and SPJP are committed to a peaceful two state solution in the Middle East," he wrote in an e-mail after the event. "However, I feel that a speaker like Alison Weir is not conducive to a peaceful atmosphere where students can feel safe to express themselves."

Students Accept Highly Selective Teach for America Positions

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

achieving applicants. Therefore, applicants to Teach for America are not competing against each other, and are only being evaluated for their potential as teachers. "They want as many Bates students as they can get," said Gips.

The last of four application deadlines for the Teach for America corps is Feb. 18, so interested seniors still have time to apply. The first part of the application is entirely online and involves the submission of a resume and two essays. Bates students may apply through eRecruiting, the Bates career search site.



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Roots to Rock Campus

CONOR HURLEY
MANAGING ARTS & LIVING EDITOR

The Chase Hall Committee announced last week that The Roots will perform on campus Monday, March 26.

To decide who to bring as the premiere performance of Winter Semester, CHC held two rounds of online voting. In the first campus-wide vote, students selected from six bands including The Roots, Ben Folds, Wilco and Cake. With 744 total votes, Ben Folds won the first round by just 20 votes over The Roots, said Ky Winborn '07, Co-President of the Chase Hall Committee. A runoff vote was held between Ben Folds and The Roots, which The Roots won by a significant margin, Winborn said.

"We were very impressed by the amount of people who voted," said Winborn. "The campus would obviously like to see them most. We're happy to put on the show."

The Philadelphia based hip-hop group will perform in the Gray Cage, which can accommodate a crowd of 1,900. Renowned for their unique jazz vibe and live performances, The Roots have received two Grammy nominations since winning the award for 'Best Rap Performance by a Duo or Group' in 1999.

"I'm definitely excited about The Roots coming," said Winborn. "We haven't brought their type of music, at their level, in quite a while."

Tickets will go on sale by the first week of March and will likely cost about \$20, Winborn said. The cost of tickets will increase slightly over previous CHC concerts to cover the \$40,000 price tag of The Roots.

Deansmen Perform National Anthem for Boston Celtics



The Deansmen (shown singing above at the Parent's Weekend a cappella concert in October) sang the national anthem before Friday night's Celtics game as part of a tour of Massachusetts last weekend.

JOE WILLIAMS
STAFF WRITER

Representing Bates a cappella at the TD Banknorth Garden last Friday night, the Deansmen sang the national anthem for the Boston Celtics' game against the New Jersey Nets. The singers reported having a great time and were quite satisfied with their performance.

The Garden has a capacity of 19,600—about 65 times the limit of the Olin Concert Hall, the group's regular venue. The singers relished the chance and did not quake. Peter Granquist '07 described it as unlike any concert they'd done before.

"We waited in the caverns of the Garden," he said. "It was epic. All the cheerleaders were standing behind us."

"We were on the court with Paul Pierce and Jason Kidd," added Peter Serafini '10. "It was living the dream."

After a tremendous applause, the Deansmen were led to their box seats in the "Halo" section where they got a nice bird's eye-view of the game. The Nets ended up beating the Celtics 92-78. Serafini felt that the Deansmen had really interacted with the fans and helped to pump up both teams.

Months ago, Serafini got in touch with Jake Wendling of the Celtics Publicity Office, connecting with him through a high school friend. The Deansmen sent in an audition tape, and Wendling proceeded to coordinate the Feb. 9 gig from there.

Such connections have brought the Deansmen other great concert oppor-

tunities, such as Saturday night's concert at Deerfield Academy in Mass., for which they joined groups from Yale, Brown and Connecticut College on the program to finish their own weekend tour. At this concert, the Deansmen received a standing ovation.

Performing complex arrangements of pop classics such as Michael Jackson's "Thriller" and Steely Dan's "Peg," the Deansmen draw a huge crowd at their Bates concerts and never fail to impress. Now, with an NBA National Anthem under their belt, the Deansmen and all other Bates a cappella groups can look forward to future special events. The singers are especially optimistic.

Next on the list? "We're hoping to do a Red Sox game," said Granquist.

Porn Star with a Ph.D. Shows and Tells

JAMIE CRAGNOLINE
STAFF WRITER

"Who here has seen sexually explicit material?" Nearly every hand shoots up in response to Annie Sprinkle's opening question. "Who here has not seen sexually explicit material?" This time the room is motionless.

Muskie Archives was packed on Friday evening with people attending "An Intimate Informal Show and Tell Evening with Annie Sprinkle, Ph. D." Sprinkle, a self-proclaimed prostitute/porn star turned artist/sexologist, was on campus to share her own personal journey with the intention of sparking conversation about a generally taboo subject: sexually explicit material. Sprinkle told her story through the use of video clips and a PowerPoint presentation; an upgrade from the slides she usually uses. "My slides were getting really dirty... I mean dusty dirty!" she says with a laugh.

After her first sexual experience during her teenage years, Sprinkle began documenting all of her experiences. She soon found herself working at a friend's massage parlor and before she knew it, she had entered the world of prostitution. She moved to New York City in the early 1970s and launched her career in hard-core pornographic films, eventually starring in 150 loops and over 50 films.



CONOR HURLEY/BATES STUDENT

Sprinkle always wanted to be more creative than the industry would let her. She found herself asking what came next. She began experimenting with gender and doing burlesque shows. She was discovered by an NYU professor who brought his class to her show as an example of alternative theater. He asked her to work with him, and Sprinkle loved the new "art audience." She developed a show in which she opened herself up with a speculum and invited the audience to view her cervix. She took the show on tour, traveling to 15 different countries and showing about 40,000 people her cervix. Sprinkle also developed "tit prints," using her breasts as brushes. Pieces have sold for thousands of dollars.

For Sprinkle, everything changed when AIDS became an epidemic. As she lost friends and lovers to the disease, she realized that she had the ability to educate others about safe sex. "It's a pendulum of freedom and repression," says Sprinkle of the public's opinion of sex. Today the world is filled with many negative images of sex, but Sprinkle says, "We have—come—a long way in terms of orgasm."

Sprinkle has produced films and authored books, including "Sluts and Goddesses," a film fusion of porn, art and education. Her film, "Annie Sprinkle's Amazing World of Orgasm," was shown at Bates on Thursday and she also hosted a Sidewalk Sex Clinic on campus.

She has a Ph. D. in Human Sexuality from the Institute for Advanced Study of Human Sexuality, making her the first porn star in history to earn a Ph. D.

Sprinkle concluded her lecture with a "bosom ballet" set to music. "Sex is very political," Sprinkle says. "Everyone has an opinion and feelings about it. Some people don't want it talked about." Annie Sprinkle is certainly not one of those people.

By Committee Decision: Sunday's Back

SARAH DUNN
ASSISTANT ARTS & LIVING EDITOR

Famous for in-studio parties and explorative hip-hop, The Committee is by far the most well known Bates radio show. These DJ's transform Sunday nights from typically dull, long hours spent in Pettengill to a hip-hop education with dance party potential.

Bates seniors Brandon Shields, Eric Obeng, Amadi Cisse, Zach Ray and Chris Robinson take over the airwaves every Sunday from 10-12 p.m. These DJ's offer a palpable passion for hip-hop and an open studio filling the room with friends and fans eager to experience the two hours of quality music.

Each DJ has an on-air alias: DJ Blackstar, DJ Ridikaliculous, DJ Skrilla Gorilla, DJ al Islam and DJ Droppin' Deuces. However, these radio personalities vary week to week; using "AKA" they change names according to their mood. DJ Blackstar has become DJ "I'm better than you," or DJ Ghana pride, whatever inspires these hip-hop aficionados on any given Sunday.

The comical and slightly ridicu-

lous nicknames reflect the Committee's style. They display a kind of improvisational hilarity, evident in their "yo' mama" jokes and banter. When asked to describe the Committee experience, Obeng had only one word: "ill."

The other side of the show explores the many facets of hip-hop, giving each DJ a chance to broadcast songs from their personal collections. Each DJ has a distinct taste: from Brandon and Chris's love of "dirty south" gangster rap, Ray's loyalty to New York beats and Amadi and Eric's appreciation of more conscious sounds, every sub-type gets the spotlight.

"We give a well-rounded display of the hip-hop genre. We play a lot of good music that people don't usually hear. Or a lot of music that was really important at the time, that people haven't heard in a while," said Cisse.

The Committee attempts to educate hip-hop unawares by offering background information and explanations for old-school songs. They divulge candid opinions on the music they play, unafraid to claim favorites and blazon the best of the hip-hop community.

"Three 6 Mafia—my heros," pro-

fessed Brandon Shields.

The guys are not strictly hip-hop; they play other party music and use their show to relate to students on the most basic level. They discuss weekend occurrences, many of which could not be relayed via interview due to issues of propriety. However, in the show they proffer blunt and unabashed commentary, leaving listeners thoroughly entertained and hooked on the show.

"I got all my friends listening to our show. It's a movement," said Shields.

"It's an epidemic," replied Obeng.

"It's the bird flu, everyone's getting it," Shields countered.

These WRBC DJ's have big plans for the months to come. They are planning a barbeque during Short Term to give back to the school and their listeners. There will be great food, great giveaways and the chance to experience what goes on in the studio, the Committee promised.

For now, the Committee simply wants more listeners. They want the entire campus and local area listening to their sounds.

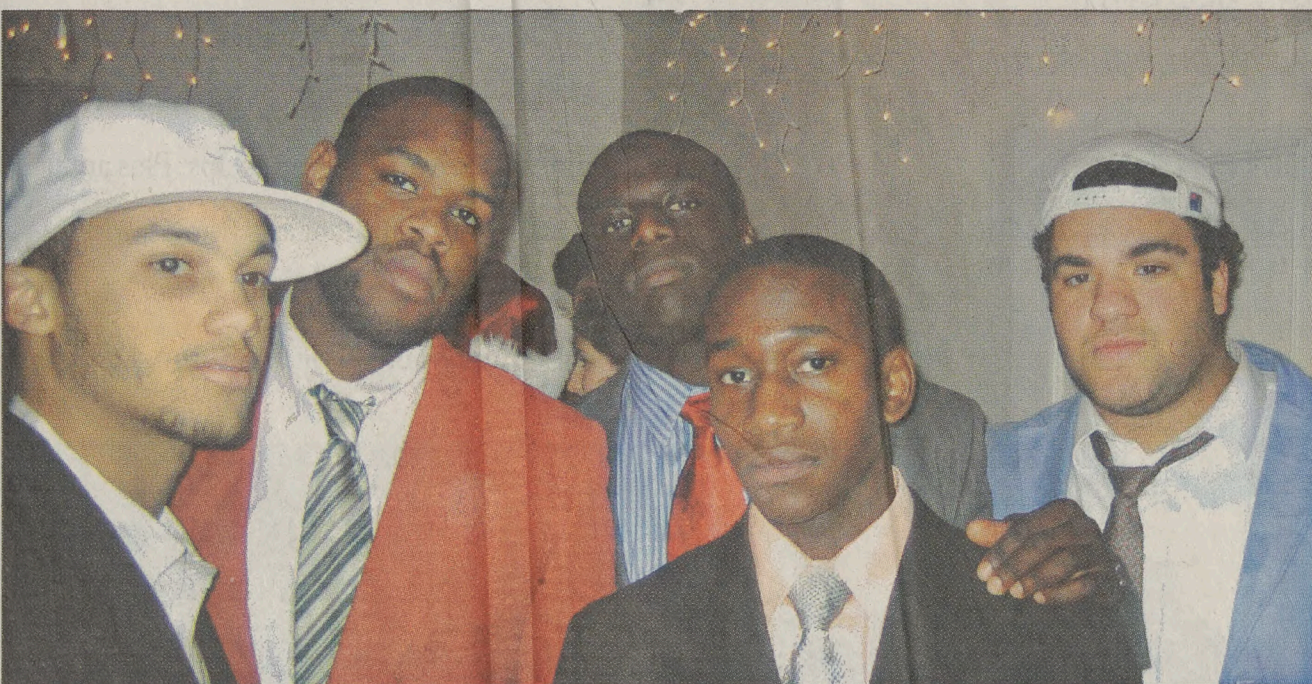


PHOTO COURTESY BRANDON SHIELDS

The Committee, featuring Zak Ray, Brandon Shields, Eric Obeng, Amadi Cisse and Chris Robinson, makes the Sunday-to-Monday transition more bearable with the hip-hop radio show's party atmosphere.

WRBC 91.5

Show of the Month:
The Committee
Sunday 10 p.m. to Midnight

The DJ's of The Committee compiled the following playlist.

Crunk Music
Dipset



Scenario
A Tribe called
Quest

Fake Bonanza
Mos Def



Mr. 17.5
Young Jeezy

Lost One
Jay-z



The Message
Nas

Chop Me Up
Justin
Timberlake



Snoop Dogg
Candy

Three 6 Mafia
Doe Boy Fresh



99 Problems
Jay-z

Shoes Can Help Get You Through the Winter Blues

KEITH KEARNEY JR.
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

During these frigid months in the twin cities of L-A, it can be a struggle to figure out whether to go leather or rubber. Although the salt and sand sprinkled around campus prevents us from falling up or down stairs around campus, it makes it impossible to keep your shoes fresh and avoid the 'residue pant' look. You really cannot win. Or can you?

Uggs have replaced tennis shoes for many people. These sherling lined boots are mostly worn by girls, but are acceptable for guys, though most have not ventured there... yet. Uggs can be worn with pants tucked in or out of them. They feel as if you are walking on a pillow. They are essential to many people's winter footwear. Many girls wear them in the spring and summer with skirts and shorts, therefore making the Ugg style unaffected by weather changes (and real 2005). Winter boots and summer temperatures? It just baffles me. Who knows how long it will be before Uggs are just too Uggly. They are functional and warm, so their disappearance does not seem to be in the near future. These Australian boots have inspired many other brands to make their own version of calf-length boots.

Rainboots, also known as "wellies," are useful during the winter months when you do not want to destroy your shoes in slush. These rubber boots are available at J.Crew and Ralph Lauren to name just a few establishments supporting this trend. They are decorated

with herringbone or tweed fabric on the shaft of the boots and some have critters on them. I have a pair of yellow ones, which I have been made fun of for incessantly. However, when this snow melts and you find yourself walking in puddles, you're basically left with no other option.

Given that many Bobcats are from "just outside of Boston," as long as it's warmer than 20 degrees, people are flip-floppin' all around campus. People literally pair a hat, scarf or pashmina with a big North Face and flip-flops. I totally understand, because any amount of sun or warmth can be exciting after some of these snowy, gloomy winter days. Not to mention we finally got Bates logo flip-flops in the bookstore. Another reason to increase our Bates wardrobe? I think so. Havaianas are hot! But, all you girls better be running to Sarah Jeanes for a pedicure: unpolished toes need not apply!

Minnetonka moccasins, loafers and boots are on the scene at Bates in a major way. The Thunderbird Beaded Moccasins are popular among girls and are made in leather, suede and deerskin. They also have nice versatile driving moccasins for men, better yet: these are seasonless, and they can be worn with anything. They also have their own variation of the Ugg boot; if you were wondering...but you may not have been because some people are so over them.

There has also been a recent surge of L.L. Bean slippers around campus. As you drag yourself out of bed at 9:25 for your 9:30, it seems as though all

the blood rushes to your head as you scramble hysterically through the pile of clothing on the floor. Sometimes the easiest thing to do is to grab a pair of jeans, a t-shirt and SLIPPERS! I got my Leather Double-Sole Slippers freshman year. Initially, I wore them around my dorm, but one day I found myself wearing them all day, everyday, everywhere! There are many styles, they're all uber comfortable, and I think it's the resemblance to moccasins that makes most of them look great with jeans. In no way am I suggesting I started this trend (though should anyone want to give me credit for it, I will happily accept). I have spotted men and women alike, without fail, in the omelette line or the library, mid-afternoon, in their slippers.

Other shoes that are universally popular and integral to many people's style are Converse, Vans and New Balance 995s. Chucks have been around for years and are continuously creating the Chuck hi's and lo's in funky prints and fabric. They have recently teamed up with Bono on his (RED) Campaign aimed at ending AIDS in Africa by providing people access to education, nutrition, counseling and medical services. A percentage of the cost that you spend on your (RED) Chucks can assist in changing and saving lives. Bono is the bomb, and whether you buy the shoes because you like them or you want to help, Chucks have clearly found another way to keep us stepping in the right direction. The New Balances 995s are one of the most highly purchased shoes, and many people wear them working out or just kicking around. These grey sneakers are everywhere. I wish I had a pair...I hope my Valentine's Day crush

is reading...you still have 24 hours!

Many girls have jumped on board with ballet flats, though they expose small amounts of skin; they are worn by many girls year round. Many designers have made their own variation of flats and can be found in Urban Outfitters and designer boutiques. The Tory Burch signature Reva Ballerina Flats are chic with the clever gold or silver medallion, a detail that sets them apart from others. French Soles are popular and encourage women to "kick off their heels." J.Crew also carries flats year round with great patterns, textures and colors that are a little more affordable and accessible, but comparable in sophistication.

Nike Dunk hi's and lo's are very popular among some guys on campus. The shoes have been popular in the skateboarding and basketball subculture. There is a lot of hype that exists around Dunks because before they are released, there is high anticipation. They range from \$69-\$99, but can cost way more, given the limited number of each pair. Since they are popular among collectors and athletes, stores tend to raise prices based on the demand. One of my favorite male basketball stars, J.B.L., has one the more extensive collections of Dunks. Even one of Bates' own celebrated Rhode Islanders, C.R.C., has been consistently sporting his collections of dunks with matching straight brimmed hats. Dunks are undeniably prized shoes.

With the wide array of shoe options available on the market, it is astounding how many people are still crazed

about their Crocs.

There are beneficial reasons for everyday Croc-wearing thanks to the resin foam called Croslite. The American Podiatric Medical Association notes Croslite "warms and softens with body heat and molds to the users' feet, while remaining extremely lightweight." They are supposed to be the best relief to the stress we put on our feet daily. Still, I cannot imagine why people would want to wear goofy rubber clogs with holes in them. They're backless, which means your feet will have a higher chance of getting wet and cold, though I have been told they stand strong against some of the harshest winter days. One thing is for sure, people are firm and open about the likes, dislikes or angst these shoes create. It seems like Crocs have even out-sold Birkenstocks, a brand whose popularity seemed untouchable. It does not appear that Crocs are worn on campus exclusively by any particular group. We express ourselves through the footwear we deem fashionable or believe represents our individuality.

I want to give a shout out to all my girls who think their three to five inch heels are appropriate on ice and snow. Hope those spiked pumps give you the traction you need so you don't break an ankle. I'm not hating, just keep your head up high and your eyes out for bitchy girls looking to trip you for giving extra effort on Tuesday morning (not twofer Tuesdays). In regard to shoes, it seems functionality is most important to Batesies. Whatever helps you to walk down the Commons runway—from the bagel bar to the exit—rock it!

AMELIA LARSEN/BATES STUDENT

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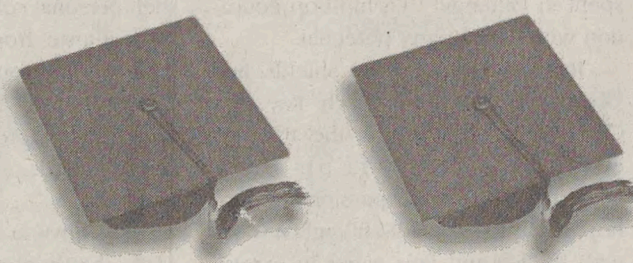
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Women's Basketball Poised for Big Post-Season Run

JESSIE SAWYER
ASSISTANT SPORTS EDITOR

The women's basketball team split its regular season-closing weekend with a victory and a loss. After beating Colby in the NESCAC tournament quarterfinals last year, as well as earlier in the season, Bates tacked on an 87-74 win Feb. 9 to its history against the Mules. The Bobcats duelled with number one-ranked Bowdoin, dropping a 47-78 loss to the team that has beaten them in the NESCAC tournament championships for the past four years. Post season, Bates will push to stage a comeback.

Bates achieved its second-highest

score of the season against Colby. Val Beckwith '09 hit a game-high 25 points, tying her career-best and shooting 10 for 14 on field goals. Sarah Barton '08 set up 12 baskets, scored 10 of her own and snatched seven off the glass. Captain Katie Franklin '07 netted a career-high 17 points, five from beyond the arc. Matia Kostakis '08, returning to the court after sitting out the previous weekend, netted 10 points and had nine rebounds.

Though Colby led 23-18 eight minutes in, Bates responded with an 11-0 run to take the lead. The Mules were stubborn, reclaiming the edge with two minutes remaining to make the score 34-33. Sophomore ShawnRose Lanchan-

tin's jumper in the last minute gave her team the 35-34 edge at halftime.

Colby tied the score 39-39 in the second half. Bates followed with an 11-0 run to secure them the lead for the remainder of the game. Colby's Katie McCabe, Tracy Nale and Alison Cappeloni combined for 21 points.

Against Bowdoin, Bates closed the season with 6-3 and 14-9 NESCAC and overall records, respectively. The Polar Bears ended their season undefeated in the NESCAC and 23-1 overall. Beckwith led the scoring efforts with 14 points and Lanchantin followed with a career-high 11 points. Eileen Flaherty showed her status as Bowdoin's number one all-time scorer, bucketing 15 points.

Bowdoin was quick out of the gates. Flaherty hit a three-pointer 11 seconds in. Bates held on to at least a five-point margin until the 10th minute, when Bowdoin capped a 15-1 run which widened the score margin. The Polar Bears went into the second period ahead 40-26 and were able to hold the lead for the rest of the game. The Bobcats turned the ball over 19 times and Bowdoin dominated the glass with 46 to Bates' 36 rebounds.

Despite the loss, Bates merits a third-seed entry into the NESCAC tournament. The Bobcats will travel to Amherst next weekend in a quarterfinal match-up. The Polar Bears, seeded first in the tournament, will host eighth-seeded Trinity.

Durant and Oden: Saviors of the College Game

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

happening.

For those reasons, this season—symbolized by Rivalry Week—has been a sign of the rise of the college game. Sure last year's tournament was exciting, but it was more of a crapshoot than anything else. No number one seed made the Final Four, and though George Mason was a great ride, were they really that good of a team? This year, there are at least eight good teams with a legitimate shot to win the title. Florida's juniors, Kansas' sophomores, Ohio State and North Carolina's freshmen, UCLA and Texas A&M's defenses, Wisconsin's experience and Kevin Durant's incredibility (remember Carmelo's Syracuse) will all have something to say. How many of those were entering last year's tournament? So though the game will forever be changed (Durant and Oden are likely one-and-dones) and can't reach its peak of the '90s, it is coming back. The quality of play is once again respectable, and there are great players playing. And once March comes, the fans will be the ones reaping most of the benefits.

Men's Nordic Hits their Stride

LAUREN JACOBS
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

This weekend, the Bates men's Nordic ski team took revenge on the trails at the Trapps Family Lodge in Stowe, VT., the same venue that held last weekend's races. The events at this weekend's Dartmouth Carnival were almost identical with a 20k classic race on Friday and a 3x10k skate relay on Saturday, but the results were drastically different.

Friday's race ended with three Bobcats in the top 20, which was enough to put the men in third place, ahead of Colby, St. Lawrence and Middlebury. Sylvan Ellefson '09 led Bates with an eighth-place finish, while Tim Whiton '09 and Bran-

don Cooper '10 were close behind in 10th and 18th, respectively. Whiton battled with a Colby skier in the final meters and came out ahead to keep two Bates skiers in the top 10.

Ellefson started off the relay strong by coming into the tag zone in third place. The other members of the team, Cooper and Dylan McGuffin '10, were able to hold their own in a deep field to give the Bobcats a fifth-place finish, only 14 seconds behind the team from Middlebury. The Bates men had two excellent days of racing and are looking forward to next weekend's Williams Carnival.

"We finally skied as a team and we are right where we should be," Ellefson said.

Downhillers Continue Dominance

LUKE HASSELBECK
STAFF WRITER

The Bates alpine ski teams had another solid performance at this weekend's Dartmouth Carnival, but this time the men lead the way. Combined with an outstanding weekend from the Men's Nordic team, Bates finished sixth overall, once again in front of Colby. On Friday, Carter Casner '07 led the Bobcats with an 18th place finish, followed closely behind by Leo Menard '08 in 21st. The men saw still more success in Saturday's slalom event, putting four skiers in the top 25. Junior Dan Loman led the way, finishing 13th out of 60 competitors. Menard, Casner and Kevin Berry '08 rounded out Bates' top finishers with 16th, 18th and 25th place fin-

ishes respectively.

On the women's side, Bates was less productive than last weekend's UVM Carnival, but still managed to notch several notable finishes. On Friday, Megan Papineau '09 led the Bobcats, with a 17th place finish out of a field of 57 racers. Junior Whitney Fahy and Alison Martini '10 also skied well, placing 25th and 26th.

Saturday's slalom race saw three women finish in the top 25, led by Emily Sampson's '09 19th place finish. Papineau followed suit with a 20th place result, and sophomore Liz Thompson skied well enough for 22nd.

Unfortunately, the Alpine and Nordic teams have yet to coordinate their best effort, as they will look to do at next weekend's Williams Carnival.

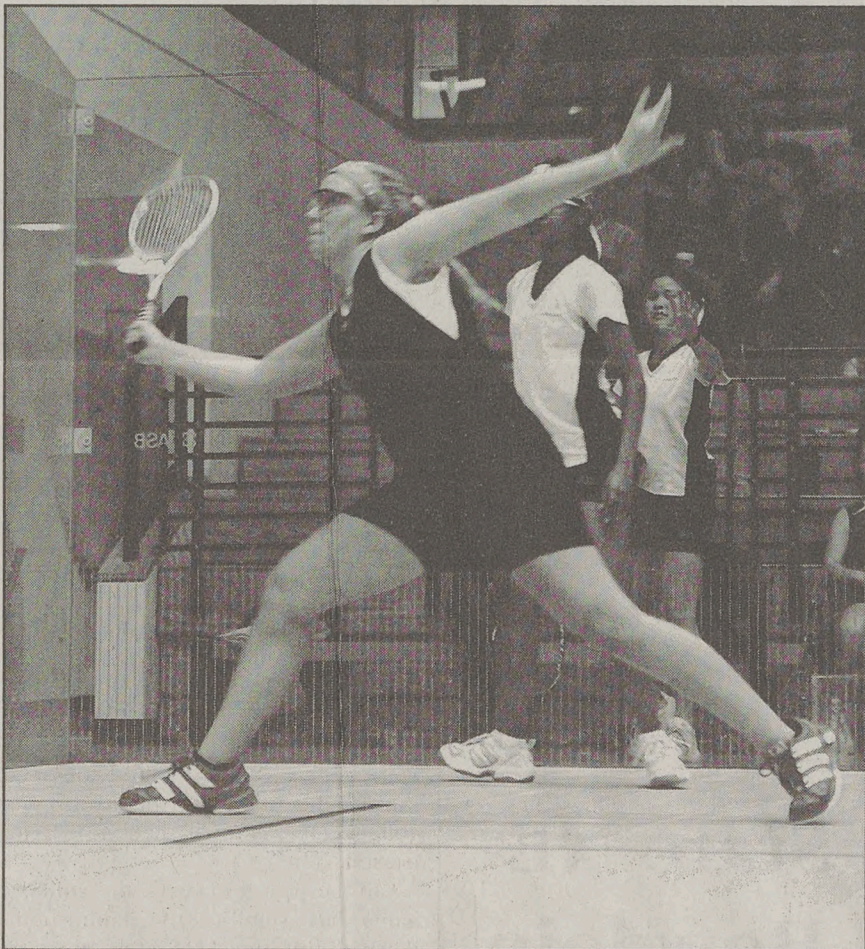
Bates Squash Ranked Ninth and 10th Nationally

RACHEL KURZIUS
STAFF WRITER

Last week, after the women's and men's Bies squash teams impressively made it to the semi-finals of the NESCAC squash tournament, Williams' teams bumped off both squads and went on to face Trinity in the finals.

The losses did not mark the end of Bates participation in the tournament. Unlike many other sports, squash has playoff matches to determine the exact placement of competitors. The men's team played against Amherst, and the Bobcat pulled through to achieve third place. Similarly, the women competed against Bowdoin to earn the third place finish. Both teams were seeded third in the tournament.

On Feb. 8, the men's team beat bitter rivals Colby easily in a home match. The Bates squad didn't lose a single set in their 9-0 victory, bringing their season's record to 16. The male Bobcats' first meeting with the Mules this season marked a momentous achievement for Bates head coach John Illig, who reached his 400th career win at Bates College, including his current work for the men and women's squash teams and previous coaching for the tennis team. Next Saturday, the Bobcats have two matches — against host Bowdoin and visiting Northwestern.



DALE WALKER/COURTESY PHOTO

A Bates squash player lunges to make a shot.

Women's Nordic Has Off-Week

SAM EVANS-BROWN
STAFF WRITER

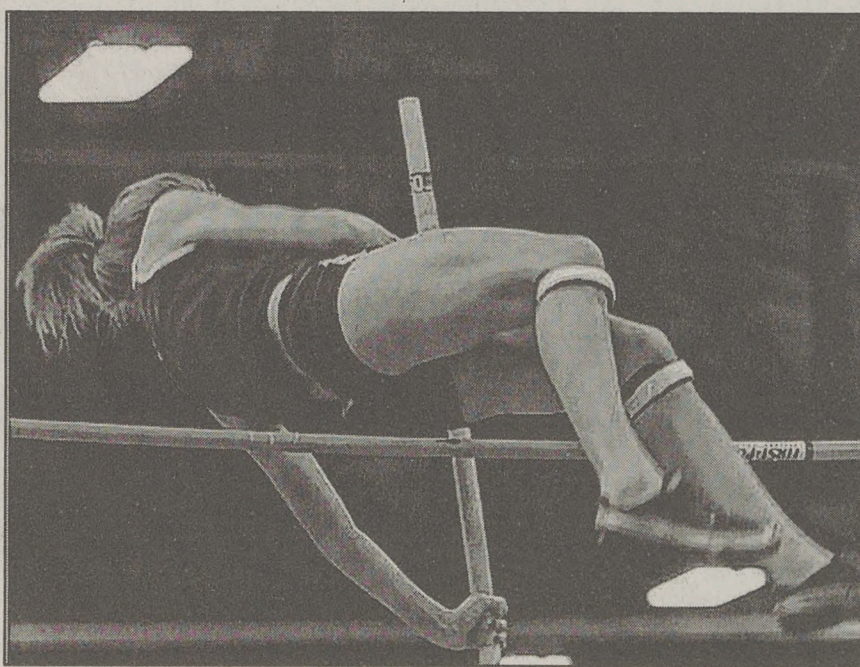
Due to poor snow conditions, this weekend's Nordic races, which were hosted by Dartmouth, were held on the same course as the previous weekend's races — hosted by UVM. It was not surprising that the Bobcat women posted very similar results.

On the first day's 15k classic race,

Haleigh Armstrong '09 repeated her 22nd place performance from last weekend's carnival. The other scorers for Bates were Emily Poole '07 in 38th and Abby Samuelson '10 in 39th. Their combined scores gave the women eighth for the day.

During the second day's 3x5k freestyle relay, Samuelson, Poole and Armstrong were again Bates' top performers, taking eighth place out of 12 teams.

Women's Indoor Takes Strides towards New England's



TOM LEONARD/COURTESY PHOTO

Julie Shelkey '07 clears the bar in the pole vault.

ANDY PERCY
STAFF WRITER

The DMR team started the weekend off on a high note for the women's indoor track and field team at Boston University's Valentine Invitational on Friday night by shattering the school record and provisionally qualifying for DIII Nationals.

The team of Katie Bash '10, Izzy Alexander '09, Jenn Caban '07 and co-captain Kathryn Moore '07 ran 12:05, beating the four-year-old school record of 12:19. The team won their heat and finished fifth overall behind talented Division I teams.

On Saturday, the team competed at the non-scoring MIT Coed Invitational. One of the most impressive performances of the day came from Allie Goldstein '09, who finished second in the 3,000m run in 10:50. Goldstein's time, which is a 24 second improvement and seasonal personal record, led her to qualify for both DIII New England and ECAC Championships in a month.

Jenna Ligor '10 had a strong race

in the 800 and qualified for New England's next Saturday by running 2:23. Amy Rosania '08 won her first collegiate race in the 1000 with a time of 3:14. Ngoc Pham '10 had a great debut in the 5000m run with a second place finish and a time of 19:41.

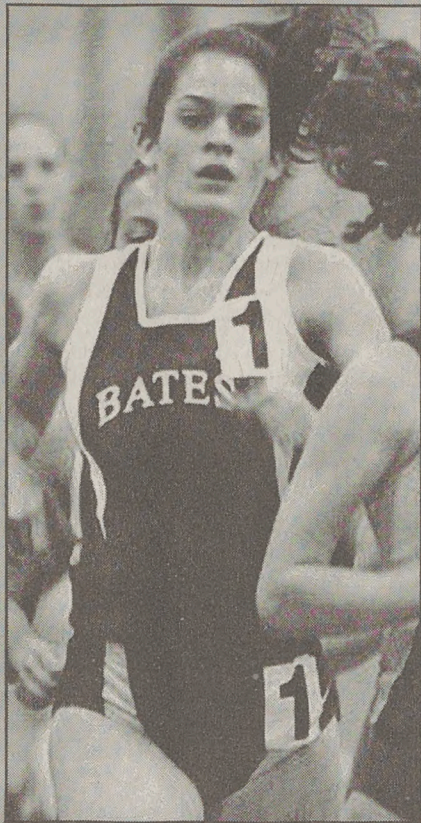
Bates hit a number of qualification standards in the field events. Jen Marino '09 finished second in the triple jump in 34-02.25, just about equaling her seasonal personal best from last weekend's State of Maine Championships. Marino also finished fifth in the 400m dash with a New England qualifying time of 1:03.83. Co-captain Meredith Anderson '07 finished fourth in the long jump and her leap of 15-7.50 qualified her for New England.

Cassandra Kirkland '08 finished fourth out of 28 competitors in the weight throw with a toss of 45-06.50.

Those who have qualified will compete next Saturday at the Division III New England Championships hosted by the University of Southern Maine.

Bobcat of the Week

Allie Goldstein '09



A native of Needham Mass., Allie Goldstein took second in this past weekend's 3,000m, earning her a place at next week's New England's and a spot in ECACs in March. [Editors Note: Allie Goldstein is the Forum Layout Editor.]

MEN'S HOCKEY, CHAMPS AGAIN

MAC KING

MANAGING SPORTS EDITOR

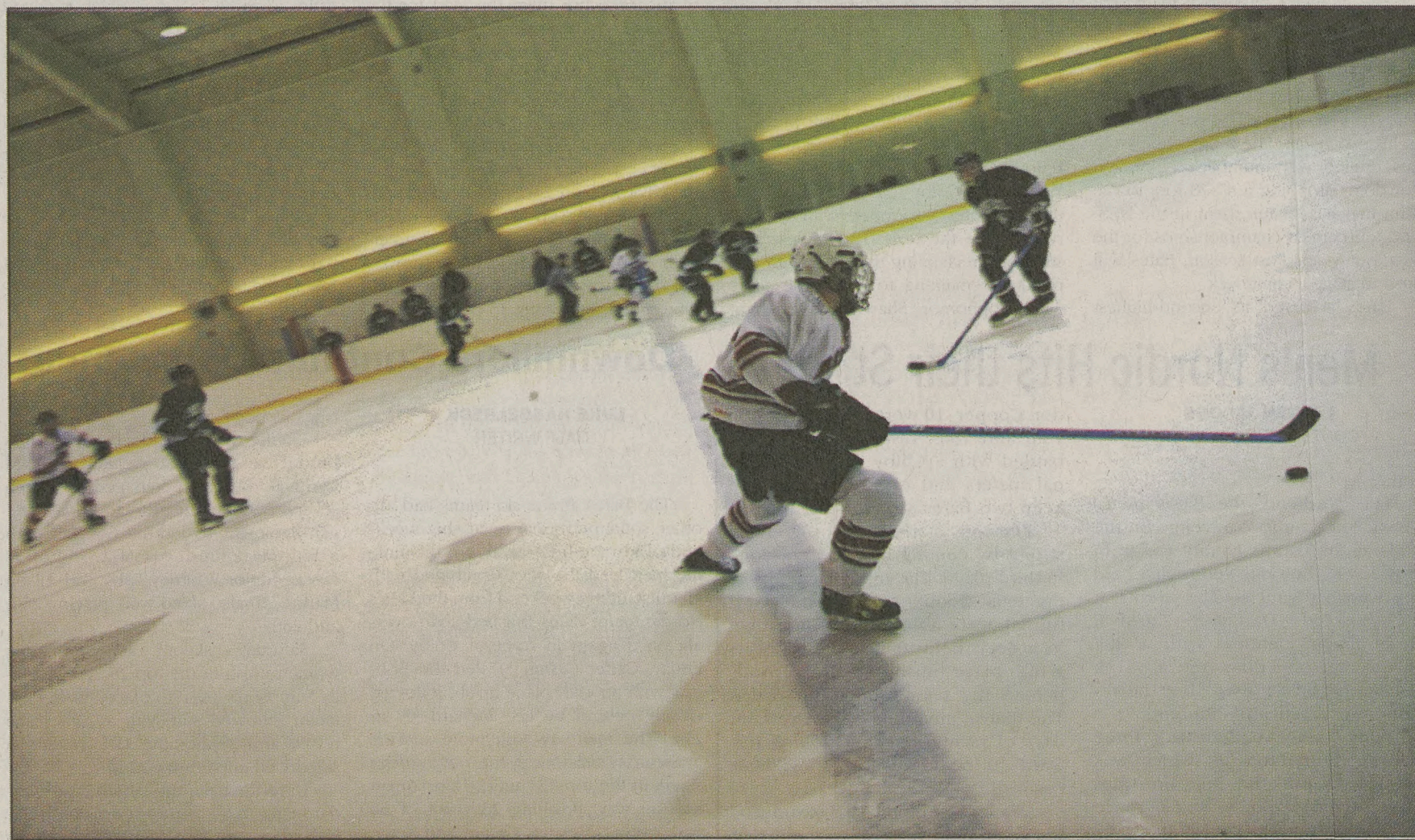
Men's hockey became NECHA regular season Champions for the second year in a row Saturday afternoon. Led by a high-powered offense and a stifling defense, the Bobcats downed the Coast Guard 7-3 to clinch the title, after blowing out Lyndon State 7-1, the night before.

First-year Wes Chaput joined one of Bates' most dynamic lines for the weekend, helping Sean O'Brien '09 and Captain Nick Tierney '07 spark the Bobcat offense in both Friday's and Saturday's games.

O'Brien added to his already substantial highlight reel of Sports Center worthy goals, while scoring-greenhorns Jeremy Rogalski '09, Dave Marr '09 and Greg Henkes '08 all netted goals in Friday's victory over Lyndon State. Marr's goal was particularly pretty, coming off a snipe from the point.

Saturday's game against the Coast Guard represented arguably one of the biggest games of the regular season. The Bobcats fell to the Bears earlier this season in perhaps the team's only regrettable loss. To beat the Coast Guard Academy at home on Saturday gave great confidence to the Bobcat skaters. Garnet forwards excelled at back-checking the puck, successfully killing penalties and preventing the Coast Guard Academy from mounting any sort of offensive. Like their Yellowstone counterparts, the Bears dominated the game's garbage time, scoring all three of their goals with the contest already out of their grasp.

"I felt that we completely con-



LINCOLN BENEDICT/THE BATES STUDENT

A Bates forward takes the puck down the right wing against Lyndon State.

trolled the pace of the game," said Assistant Captain and Co-President Chris Theile '07. "I think it was probably our most complete effort to date."

Contrastingly, if one were to compare Friday night's game against Lyndon State to a piece of food, it would

have been a sloppy joe. Lyndon State resorted to a sort of broken-arrow, desperation strategy, opting to ice the puck rather than attempt to skate by the Bobcat defensemen.

Theile described the contest as "some of the worst hockey [he has] seen in [his] Bates career."

The Bobcat defense continued their dominant play over the weekend, as net-minder Ryan Rollo '09 dominated between the pipes and Paul Stanton '10 played solid defense. In his debut with his new line, Chaput played his little heart out, impressing all those in attendance.

The team was without consistent contributors Craig Blake '08, Mark Delgiudice '09 and Erik Hood '08 this past weekend, making their two wins all the more impressive. The team has a bye through the first round of the playoffs and hopes to have such standouts back in the lineup.

Men's Runners Split between Meets at BU and MIT

KATIE BASH

CONTRIBUTING WRITER

Men's indoor turned in several great performances at Boston University's Valentine's Day classic Friday night.

Co-captain Sam Thomas '07 ran his way to a New England-DIII and ECAC qualifying time in the 500m (1:06.66), after he had already competed in the 400m earlier in the evening, with a time of 50.40. Sophomores C.J. Murray and Andrew Percy also qualified for both meets, Murray in the 1,000m (2:34.42) and Percy

in the 3,000m (8:50.99). Also excelling at the BU meet was co-captain Matt Capone '07, running the 200m in just 22.72 seconds, placing him 55th out of over 120 athletes, many of whom were NCAA Division I runners. The men spent nearly 10 hours at the meet, making this trip down to Boston exhausting, yet ultimately rewarding.

On Saturday, the men who did not compete at BU set out for MIT's Coed Invitational, a non-scoring meet. The field events turned out the most notable performances as Emmanuel Drabo '08 triple-jumped his way to fourth place, with a distance

of 13.79m, and Graham Raymond '08 finished fourth, throwing 14.07m in the weight throw.

"It was a long meet and there was good competition. There were several schools there we had not yet competed against, which was good because it was a last-chance meet for qualifying," Drabo said.

Also standing out on the field was Noah Glick '10 who tied for third place in the high jump with 1.86 m.

Next weekend, the men who qualified for the New England Division III Championships will compete here at Bates.

The Return of College Hoops to American Households

TOMMY IMBODEN
SPORTS
COLUMNIST



This past week has been vital to the progress of college basketball. Billed as "Rivalry Week" by ESPN, the past

10 days have showcased some of college basketball's best programs and games. With the stage set, the teams and players have lived up to the billing. For the first time in a long time, there are a number of elite teams vying for the title. The quality of the college game is finally back to where it used to be.

In the past few years, the college game has significantly diminished. Ravaged by the NBA, the number of elite basketball talents displaying their skills at Division I colleges and universities has markedly decreased. With nothing to keep players in college (read: money), many unprepared players have left school early seeking NBA millions. Few actually succeed, and the college game suffers: inferior, inexperienced players see more court time, and the play is just not as pleasing. However, this season has bucked the trend and college ball is back on the same level as the NBA.

Before the prep-to-pro phenomenon, which peaked during the 2004 draft (eight high school players taken in the first round), the college game was unquestionably more exciting to watch than the professional game. The NBA was plagued by the MJ-Era and teams began to rely heavily on isolation and one-on-ones, completely eschewing team-oriented basketball for individual play. Defense was mandatory, and the games did not seem to matter until the playoffs (save for MJ and a few others). Conversely, the college game thrived. Players came in as first-years, stayed a few years and developed their skills and rapport with their teammates. Fans were treated to excellent basketball from an aesthetic point of view. The beauty would crest every March as players and coaches battled for an NCAA title as if their lives were at stake. The Final Fours were memorable and the championship a fitting conclusion for a great month.

But as more and more high schoolers and college underclassmen decided to enter the NBA draft, the game began to decline. The first signs were in 2000 when Michigan State defeated Florida in a Colts-Bears type of championship game (I

would know, I had to sit through it in person). That game low-lighted a horrible Final Four that featured two eight seeds in Wisconsin and North Carolina. In one of the national semifinals, Michigan State led Wisconsin 19-17 at half! Most intramural games are higher scoring. Floods of underclassmen continued to enter the draft and the NBA only fueled their exodus; "talents" like Marcus Haislip and Rodney White would become lottery picks. Logically, the college game suffered. Everything culminated in the 2002 Maryland-Indiana final, which emphasized to every viewing fan just how precipitous the drop-off had become. Even Billy Packer, a criminal college basketball apologist, was appalled by how much the skills of Division I players had diminished.

At the same time, the NBA finally started to become relevant again. Superstars emerged from the younger pool of players and the league implemented rule changes to speed up the pace of the game and increase scoring. Steve Nash joined the Suns, Shaq was traded to the Heat and the 2003 draft, which produced the triumvirate of LeBron, Carmelo and Wade, pushed the NBA to a different level. Suddenly, the NBA was interesting; storylines existed. Without any name stars (unless you want to count J.J. Redick), college basketball could barely compete with its professional counterpart. Seniors found themselves underappreciated come draft day and people began to openly question the college game. How could it be fixed?

Fortunately, the sport never lost its following, which probably ended up saving it. The games were still exciting, but it became clear that the game was no longer what it was a decade ago. Action was taken though. In an effort to prevent unprepared players from entering the NBA—and help the college game—David Stern implemented an age limit, forcing high school players to spend at least one season in college. Though primarily created to increase the quality of play in the NBA, the new restriction helped colleges. Better players—guys who would enter the draft straight out of high school—enrolled and played on a national level instead of toiling at the end of an NBA team's bench. Having Kevin Durant and Greg Oden play college basketball is the equivalent of seeing Amare Stoudemire or Kevin Garnett do the same. Could you imagine that? Well, for now, it is

Men's Ballers Fall to In-State NE-SCAC Rivals, Colby and Bowdoin

DAVID BRODER
STAFF WRITER

Despite a good start to the week, Bates stumbled over the weekend, dropping games to both Colby and Bowdoin. The Bobcats finished the regular season 18-6 (3-6) and look forward to the NESCAC playoffs this coming weekend.

Bates began the week with a gritty overtime victory over Gordon College, 82-74. The Bobcats received big performances from both Zak Ray '07 and Damon McGinn '07, who each established personal season-high scoring marks of 23 points and 13 points, respectively. Senior Rob Stockwell also had a big night with 19 points and game highs in both rebounds, (15) and assists (seven). Junior Bryan Wholey also contributed 12 points, six of which came in overtime. Bates shot 54 percent from the floor, 85 percent from the line and dominated the paint, scoring 40 points down low.

The toughest game of the week came in a 63-62 loss to Colby in Alumni Gym on Friday night. The Bobcats led by nipe, but went on a scoring drought, allowing Colby to come back. Adding to their woes, Bates shot 50 percent from the charity stripe. With a new season-high of 26 points to go with his six boards, five assists and three steals, Co-Captain Zak Ray played a great game. Unfortunately, it was just that type of night for the Bobcats, as Rob Stockwell '07 was reduced to shooting the buzzer-beater from his back, 10 feet away from the hoop.

Next came Bowdoin who defeated the Bobcats 66-58. Bates' Achilles' heel was once again exposed as they shot 36.4 percent from the floor, including 16.7 per-



I-HWEI WARNER/THE BATES STUDENT

A Colby player attempts a free-throw in the face of Bates' garnet gauntlet.

cent from three-point land. Over the final four and a half minutes, Bates only made one field goal, making it difficult to come back against a tough Bowdoin team.

Next weekend, Bates kicks off the post-season with the first round of NESCACs, which take place at Amherst College. The beauty of the college post-sea-

son is single elimination, and even though the 'cats have lost four of their last six, they can go in to the tourney with a clean slate and play one game at a time.

This weekend concluded the regular season and next weekend kicks off one of the most exciting times in all of sports: the post season of college basketball.