

Bates College

**SCARAB**

---

The Bates Student

Archives and Special Collections

---

2-1-2011

## **The Bates Student - volume 140 number 11 - February 1, 2011**

Bates College

Follow this and additional works at: [https://scarab.bates.edu/bates\\_student](https://scarab.bates.edu/bates_student)

---

# FEATURE

**Lost Valley, a local gem**

**Chloe Bourne '11** explores history of local ski area **PAGE 6**



VOLUME 140, ISSUE 11  
TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 1, 2011  
LEWISTON, MAINE

# The Bates Student

THE VOICE OF BATES COLLEGE SINCE 1873

## Dorm damage continues to trend downward

Phantom fireman strikes again

**PALO PEIRCE**  
MANAGING NEWS EDITOR

Despite several high profile incidents of dorm damage like the latest fire extinguisher discharge in Smith Hall North Tower this past weekend, the total number of dorm damage incidents has decreased, according to College Crime Prevention Coordinator Paul Menice.

A fire extinguisher was discharged on the second floor of Smith North at approximately 1:46 a.m. Saturday Jan. 29th. Students evacuated the building after the fire alarm went off and College Security cordoned off the dorm, according to Smith North residents.

As was the case with the previous weekend's Page Hall fire extinguisher discharge, Smith North was closed until early morning on Jan. 29th. According to a College Security officer who spoke to The Student under the condition of anonymity, Security has identified the guilty party. However, it is unclear if the individual had any connection to last weekend's Page incident. A freshman who spoke to The Student anonymously claimed that the guilty party was a visiting friend from another college.

Dorm damage on the whole actually decreased this past fall semester, noted Menice. There were 71 incidents of dorm damage last semester compared to 55 in the fall of 2009 and 167 in the fall of 2005. A dorm damage incident is reported as anything that causes harm to college property, including acts of criminal mischief like false fire alarm pulls, Menice said.

In the 2009-2010 academic year the College experienced 186 incidents of dorm damage, and while the winter semester is not yet finished this year is tracking to be significantly lower, Menice reported.

Since the start of record-keeping in

See **DAMAGE**, PAGE 5



CAROLINE SOLLMANN/THE BATES STUDENT

## Ghita '12 wins presidency amidst low voter turnout

**HARRISON KIM**  
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

The recent Bates College Student Government (BCSG) election was plagued by a remarkably low voter turnout and little enthusiasm. Only 15 percent of the student body actually cast a vote for president, and three of the candidates for the executive board ran unopposed.

Cosmin Ghita '12 swept the presidential race with 235 votes. Of the 264 total votes for president, Ghita earned 89 percent. In Ghita's landslide victory, the runner-up candidate, senior Morgan Kapinos, won just five votes through write-ins. Prior to his election to the presidency, Ghita served as the Vice President of Student Committees in the

BCSG.

Vice President of Student Committees was contested by Blake Gruber '12 and Segundo Guerrero '12. Guerrero won with 148 votes to Gruber's 114, but Guerrero respectfully declined the position citing previous obligations. By default Gruber, the runner-up, will become the next Vice President of Student Committees, according to BCSG Parliamentarian Ben Horn '12.

Sangita Murali '12 was reelected to her previous position as Vice President of Student Clubs with 254 votes to the closest runner up's 1, the largest margin of victory in the election.

Raking in 240 votes, Hunter Archibald '12 was also reelected to his post as BCSG Treasurer.

The most competitive contest of

the election was over the class of 2012 BCSG representative position, which featured Katherine Buckley, Megan Panzer and James Dowling-Healey. Buckley won by a slim margin of nine votes, while the runner-up candidate Panzer totaled 34. Dowling-Healey finished third with 22.

Finally, the class of 2011 BCSG representative position for the remainder of the semester will be held by Frankie Lamar White Jr., who received 45 votes, beating out Ben McCall for the position.

The BCSG Representative Assembly (RA) meets every Monday at 7 p.m. upstairs in New Commons and all students, faculty and staff are encouraged to attend.

## Recession behind drop in fatal auto accidents

**PALO PEIRCE**  
MANAGING NEWS EDITOR

Automobile accidents are a leading cause of death in America. But data indicates that the frequency of fatal accidents is decreasing over time, and one Bates professor recently utilized his academic expertise to help the country understand why.

Disappointed with recent news media coverage of the nation-wide drop in fatal automobile accidents, Assistant Professor of Economics Nathan Tefft and University of Wisconsin colleague Chad Cotti decided to explore and identify the mechanisms behind the decrease.

From 2000 to 2007 there were an estimated 38,000 fatal car accidents per year, but in 2008 and 2009 this figure dropped to 32,400 according to the National Highway Traffic Administration.

Reading through literature on the topic, Tefft planned his research to consider the associations between fatal automobile accidents and macroeconomic indicators like the unemployment rate and personal income.

"That fatal automobile accidents are one of the leading causes of death, in particular among young people, certainly makes this an important issue to understand," he said. Tefft and Cotti discovered, in contrast to previous findings, that there was a drop in fatal accidents, particularly those involving alcohol, amongst the unemployed.

"The quantity of miles driven would decline because when individuals lose their job or work fewer hours they commute less and have less disposable income available to make purchases or travel for entertainment purposes," said Tefft and Cotti in a Jan. 26th article in the Portland Press Herald.

The study also examined whether personal income, a per capita metric that measures a country's overall level

See **ACCIDENTS**, PAGE 5

## College digs out, prepares for next storm

**RACHEL HASTINGS**  
STAFF WRITER

As a snowstorm bears down on Bates bringing with it the possibility of fresh powder at Sunday River and snowball fights on the quad, the expected foot of snow puts considerable pressure on the grounds maintenance crew, which works hard to ensure that we can trudge to class.

During and after a "snow event," three College employees set out to plow parking lots and paths with red college pickup trucks while two others drive Bobcat Skid Steer Loaders clearing the sidewalks, Grounds Maintenance Supervisor John Griffiths explained. Five employees shovel the steps of academic and residential buildings, and in particularly heavy snowstorms, up to three temporary workers are hired to help.

When snowstorms occur in rapid succession without thaws, large snow piles build up across campus and Bates must rent a Caterpillar Excavator to move them while using a College-

owned front-end loader with a snow bucket.

Each storm presents a new challenge for the maintenance crew, who constantly keeps an eye on the latest weather forecasts, explained Griffiths. The Doppler radar allows the team to track the progress of the storm, making for more accurate predictions about when the work will begin.

As snow storms approach, the maintenance crew loads plows onto their fleet of trucks and checks other equipment, but ultimately faces a waiting game. "We take it storm by storm," Griffiths said. The department must make a judgment call regarding when to start cleaning up the snow. "If we've got between two and four inches of snow, I'll start calling people in," he said, adding that he prefers to hold off on shoveling to save up the strength of his workers, rather than asking them to shovel when their work might be immediately undone.

However, in a big storm it is necessary to start shoveling before the snow stops in order to make sure pathways and stairways are passable. Workers

may shovel the same steps several times since they are cleared off about every three to four inches of snowfall.

The time required for snow removal work is extremely variable. "Removal times can range anywhere from six hours to 12 to 14 hours, as it really depends on the intensity of the storm," Griffiths said. The duration of a storm and the consistency of its snow affect the time and effort the cleanup may cost. Light, fluffy snow requires far less work to remove than heavy, wet snow, which requires significantly more time and resources.

Griffiths and the Maintenance Department are also responsible for clearing snow off of both the Garcelon and Campus Avenue fields. "Keeping snow off [of] the athletic fields takes quite a bit of labor," Griffiths pointed out.

It is difficult to ascertain the costs of maintaining snow-removal equipment, Griffiths explained, because the College-owned trucks and vehicles are not only used for winter plowing. However, he said that during winter 2009-2010, 70 cubic yards of sand and four pallets of rock salt were used and that

during winter 2010-2011, the College used 70 yards of sand and eight pallets of salt.

But these figures do not necessarily correlate to the difficulty or harshness of the winter storm activity, Griffiths said. "2009 was an exceptionally hard winter, but we didn't use much sand because there was so much snow that we never had a chance to put it down."

Since the start of this winter, Bates has used an estimated 98 yards of sand and eight pallets of rock salt. The relatively high rate of sand use this winter is the result of low temperatures, which have prevented the use of rock salt. "Rock salt is typically not good below freezing temperatures, so we are putting more sand down to increase traction," Griffiths said.

While this winter may seem harsh so far, the campus has seen roughly average snowfall. "Compared to this year, last year was exceptionally light," Griffiths said. With more storms predicted to come this winter, it is all but certain that the maintenance crew has plenty of hard work ahead of them.



**PALO PEIRCE/THE BATES STUDENT**  
A Physical Plant worker operates a Bobcat Skid Steer Loader, shoveling snow from behind Parsons House.

### News & Local

Blake Street Tower volunteers



Students visit housing complex to socialize with local elderly **PAGE 5**

### Forum

When censorship inhibits communication



Qianli Xiao '13 discusses the impact of Chinese Internet censorship **PAGE 3**

### Arts & Leisure

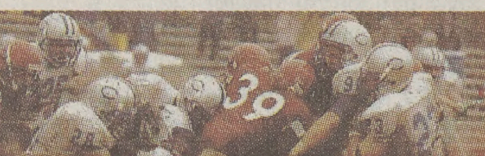
Crawling to the music



First Arts Crawl widely attended by College community **PAGE 8**

### Sports

What's that spell?



Paul Lombardi '11 speaks with a Bates Basketball legend **PAGE 11**

Inside  
This  
Issue

## forum

## Forum &gt;&gt; Columnist

## The Arts Crawl demonstrates student investment in the arts

DIANE SAUNDERS  
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

Most Friday afternoons, I can be found curled up on the couch in my apartment watching trashy TV, cradling a mug of tea and vegging out after my oh-so draining week. However, this past Friday, Jan. 28th, I found myself running all over campus engaged in various stages of several projects: crafting a biology-themed snow sculpture, stringing paper cranes across the lobby of Olin and helping classmates put finishing touches on an art exhibit.

I ended up lingering in my thesis studio for most of the night, which unfortunately meant that the only arts celebrations I witnessed were restricted to the lobby of Olin. However, I know of many students who were involved with poetry readings, music performances and public art projects across campus, and it thrilled me to be part of something so vibrant and spirited.

I will be the first to admit my collective guilt in the matter, but sometimes it seems that Bates students are better at complaining about what is wrong on campus than they are at actually taking actions to change it. The arts are no exception; I can't tell you how many times I have heard students whine about concerts, venues, facilities and faculty members, yet as a whole, we do little to demonstrate our investment.

Yes, it's true that Bates is not an art school. None of us would probably have ended up here if it were. However, that doesn't mean that we can't embrace the spectacular energy and talent that our students and professors bring to these departments, and it doesn't mean that we should let apathy get in the way of keeping the arts a priority.

By no means am I suggesting that there are not extremely committed and passionate students who actively support their extracurricular and artistic interests. I am lucky to work alongside

plenty of them at the Harvard Center and in various clubs and organizations on campus. Nonetheless, I think we can all be more positive and less critical about the "scene," arts or otherwise, on campus.

It is, after all, whatever we create. Take responsibility for the things you care for and complain about. Personally, I believe that the arts, and I use that term inclusively for anyone who considers themselves artistically involved, complement, enrich and intensify a liberal arts education. Friday evening's Arts Crawl is a great example of what is possible when we actively assert what is important to us.

I'm not always the most optimistic person in the world, but after Friday night, I was encouraged. President Elaine Tuttle Hansen herself looked at and inquired about my artwork. Although I had no real answers for her and stumbled over an inarticulate explanation of my goals, I felt satisfied.

Trustees perused senior thesis studios, and my friends were able to see that the pieces that will hang in the College Museum of Art for the senior thesis show have evolved from an array of experimental and not-so-polished sketches adorning my studio walls.

I hope that faculty, artists and students were impacted in some way by the Arts Crawl. Although initial reactions may have been a bit dubious -- my grandfather thought that an Arts Crawl might actually involve crawling, -- I think we ought to celebrate what came together in the end. I'd like to extend a huge thank-you to the faculty and student coordinators and to all of those participating who dedicated their time and energy to scattering a little more art across campus. I hope the Arts Crawl sets a precedent for the future of the arts at Bates.

## Forum &gt;&gt; Columnist

## State of the Union highlights realistic goals for the coming year

SCOTT OLEHNK  
STAFF WRITER

During his State of the Union address just a week ago, President Barack Obama reached out to the legislature and the nation to call for unity in the future. Ahead of the speech, reporters were tentatively titling his speech "Winning America's Future," speculating that the subject matter would set the agenda for America's dominance in the coming years.

They were right. Obama laid out a sweeping plan that was intended to "help the United States win the future by out-innovating, out-educating and out-building our global competition." Included in his lengthy speech were numerous ideas and plans coalescing to form a cohesive package that should be encouraging for all Americans.

As with any State of the Union address, promises flew forth. President Obama first outlined plans to remedy our ills at home since any effort to expand our influence abroad and surpass the "competition" must be weighed against internal problems.

The cuts and savings that President Obama proposed on the domestic front are exactly what are needed and what the American populace needed to hear. One of the most important ideas that President Obama offered was the cutting of subsidies to oil companies. "I don't know if you've noticed, but they're [the oil companies] doing just fine on their own. So instead of subsidizing yesterday's energy, let's invest in tomorrow's," he stated.

As the most advanced and prosperous country on the planet, it is almost incomprehensible that we still rely on fossil fuels that we know to be detri-

mental to our planet. We need to move forward, and with a plan like this, we will be driven toward the future.

Among the other spending-related topics was a ban on earmarks so that Americans "know that special interests aren't larding up legislation with pet projects." The President also mentioned Social Security reform and cuts to the costs of Medicare and Medicaid.

All these cost cutting measures are

ments from last year and proposed new ones for high-speed rails, electric vehicles, clean energy, biomedical research and infrastructure repair.

As I stated above, we need investment in future technologies to move forward. Clean and renewable energies are our future, and to not fund those, or to fund them less than oil-related projects, would be a travesty.

President Obama made a comment about science and science education that I found particularly appropriate. He said, "We need to teach our kids that it's not just the winner of the Super Bowl who deserves to be celebrated, but the winner of the science fair," which echoes my thoughts exactly. Not to belittle the endeavor of sport, but I see the endeavor of science to be infinitely more important. For our younger generations to understand this sentiment would be a great improvement for our society, which idolizes sports figures, leaving scientists relatively anonymous.

Overall, I feel that this year's State of the Union address was worthy of praise. It did not contain all of the hope that was so rampant in last year's address; it was more realistic in its goals while still offering important changes and programs for the future.

As with any political speech, we must wait and see how the future plays out. We know from the official rebuttals that the Republicans and Tea Partiers are already gunning for President Obama's policies. I, however, am hopeful for the future.

meant to reduce the federal budget by billions of dollars over the next decade. A reduction in expenditures is what we need since we are currently outspending our means.

President Obama made a similar comment last year when he said, "Like any cash-strapped family, we will work within a budget to invest in what we need and sacrifice what we don't."

Even more important were President Obama's perspectives on government projects. He echoed his commit-

"We need investment in future technologies to move forward. Clean and renewable energies are our future, and to not fund those, or to fund them less than oil-related projects, would be a travesty."

## The Bates Student TEAM

## Editors-in-Chief

Simone Pathe  
Gardiner Nardini

## FORUM

Managing Editor: Afroz Baig  
Assistant Editor: Rachel Zoe Baumann  
Assistant Editor: Alec Greenberg

## NEWS

Managing Editor: Palo Peirce

## ARTS AND LEISURE

Managing Editor: Hillary Fink  
Assistant Editor: Elizabeth Rowley

## SPORTS

Managing Editor: Paul Lombardi  
Assistant Editor: Caroline O'Sullivan

## PHOTO

Managing Editor: Caroline Sollmann

## LAYOUT

Head Layout Designer: Qianli Xiao  
Layout Editor: Rachel Zoe Baumann  
Layout Editor: Helen Chyz

Business Manager: Tim Ohashi

Webmaster: Qianli Xiao  
Distribution Manager: Brian St. Thomas

## About The Student

The Student is published weekly by the students of Bates College when college is in session. The Student reserves the right not to print any article and to edit for clarity and length.

Staff editorials represent the majority of, but not necessarily all, the views of the editorial board. Views expressed in Letters to the Editor, Columns and Features in the Forum section are the opinions of the writers, and may or may not reflect the opinions of the staff. Letters to the Editor must be received by 6 p.m. on Sunday for Tuesday's publication. Letters should be under 500 words. Please email them to the Managing Forum Editor at [abaig@bates.edu](mailto:abaig@bates.edu).

Staff: (207) 795-7494  
Business: (207) 795-7499  
Fax: (207) 786-6035

347 Bates College  
Lewiston, ME 04240  
[www.batesstudent.com](http://www.batesstudent.com)

Copies of The Student are available at locations around campus.

Subscriptions may be purchased for \$20 for one semester and \$30 for the year.

## Forum &gt;&gt; Columnist

## Violence against southern Sudan's independence movement will result in loss of governmental legitimacy

BEN SMITH  
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

On Jan. 30th, the BBC reported that the referendum committee in charge of polling southern Sudan's vote for independence reported that 99.57 percent of those polled voted for secession. With such an overwhelming majority of support for independence, Khartoum will soon be forced to face some tough issues concerning southern Sudan's independence.

Primarily, Khartoum will need to answer questions about Abyei, a disputed territory on the border between north and south Sudan. Divided between two rival ethnic groups that both claim the right to belong there, Abyei epitomizes many of Africa's historic conflicts.

According to the New York Times, in the past few days in Abyei, militias representing the Ngok Dinka, who are sub-Saharan cattle herders, and the Misseriya, who are Arab nomads, have again violently clashed, resulting in the deaths of dozens. The historical conflict between these two groups has its roots in Sudan's limited natural resources and the Sudanese civil war.

With fertile land and oil reserves, Abyei presents a highly attractive piece of land that both ethnic groups and the soon to be separate nations of Sudan and the Republic of Southern Sudan will make moves to appropriate. However, with civilians wandering the streets carrying fully loaded Kalashnikovs and AK-47s to deter heavily armed nomads from raiding villages and UN peacekeepers from intervening in local affairs, Abyei increasingly presents a danger to southern Sudan's independence movement.

While negotiations over the political future of Abyei continue between the Khartoum-based National Congress

Party and the south's ruling People's Liberation Movement, President Omar al-Bashir has made it clear that he is not willing to let southern Sudan take control of Abyei. Only a few weeks ago, al-Bashir told Al Jazeera television that, "We will not accept Abyei to be part of the south. If any part takes independent action over Abyei, that would be the beginning of a conflict."

Already resentful of the south's independence and bearing the burden of the crippling national debt, President Omar al-Bashir is most likely looking for reasons to take control of Abyei. Unfortunately, any violent action at this point of the independence movement between southern and northern forces could potentially disrupt the secession process and plunge the country back into the civil war that resulted in the death of two million people.

However, while violence between opposing ethnic groups is likely to continue for a while, a full blown-war between north and south will most likely not occur. To validate his innocence in the face of International Criminal Court charges, al-Bashir will need to stay above the fray, no longer hiding behind the facade of proxy militia groups. Additionally, with recent negotiations cutting a large sector of the oil fields

out of Abyei, Khartoum, with extensive debt, has less of a reason to fight another bloody war for few economic gains.

Secondly, Khartoum must worry about the precedent that the south's session, and the rest of the African independence movements, will set for Sudan's future. Traditionally, African rulers and the West viewed colonial borders as hard fact, tending to support their survival over changing them.

However, recent independence movements across the African continent are challenging the view of absolute territorial sovereignty. In 1993, Africa saw the secession of Eritrea from Ethiopia and recently Somaliland has been making progress to separate itself from the rest of war-torn Somalia.

In Sudan, al-Bashir will most likely fear that the independence of southern Sudan will serve as an example for secessionists in Darfur. In response to southern Sudan's independence, Khartoum is likely to tone down any violence occurring in its western states. Furthermore, government sponsored death will most likely only lead to further loss of governmental legitimacy. Southern Sudan's independence will hopefully deter the al-Bashir regime from launching further violence.

READ.THINK.SHARE.  
The Bates Student

Anyone can write for the Forum section. Please submit articles by 6 p.m. on Sundays to [abaig@bates.edu](mailto:abaig@bates.edu).

Forum >> Senior Columnist

AFROZ BAIG

MANAGING FORUM EDITOR



# Airports bring out the worst in people, so might senior year

My family understands that airports bring out the worst in people. People huffing and puffing at the check in counter, people trying to skirt around the long security lines and those individuals who are hell-bent on sneaking large carry-on luggage onto the airplane are always present at any airport.

There is a lot of anxiety associated with travel: the idea of going to a new place, reuniting with people you may or may not want to see, making sure you don't get held up at the security line for possessing items banned by the TSA. Taking all these anxieties into account, I try my best to give people the benefit of the doubt when I fly; there are valid reasons for their erratic behavior.

As second semester of senior year picks up, I am finding that my family's motto about airports may apply to college.

One of the things I find so fascinating when I fly is the people I sit next to. There are always those passengers who are insistent on holding six hour conversations with you even if you have your headphones and have no interest in talking. I've had conversations on some flights that are akin to windows into the souls of the people whom I'm speaking. For instance, one fateful plane ride, a gentleman in his 20's enlightened me about his Mormon faith and his recent choice to marry someone within

the church. Wow. I didn't understand why I was told that story then, and I still don't know why that conversation ever took place.

But the larger point here is this: for some reason, people whom I've never met somehow feel comfortable sharing their life stories, and in turn, asking me personally intrusive questions about my life. Why traveling brings this trait out in people, I am not sure.

Why is it that being a senior brings out this same nosy and pesky behavior in some of our peers? How many seniors out there have had awkward conversations with another senior they haven't spoken to since orientation week? How many times have you been asked, "So do you know what you're doing next year?"

Much in the way that I don't understand the intrusive conversations that take place during airplane rides, I am irked by this question. Let's set the record straight. First of all, if you haven't had a conversation with another senior since the first week of freshman year, their plans for the following year don't affect you. Secondly, I don't understand why people think it's appropriate to inquire about the personal details of someone else's life when they barely know the person or are at best acquaintances.

Another arena for disgraceful be-

havior at airports comes in the form of the many lines one has to stand in when traveling: a line to get your boarding pass, a security line, a line to board the plane and a line to get off the plane. How many times have you been standing in the security line, and the person behind you feels the need to bypass you to snatch a bin even though they are going to have to wait for you to go through security ahead of them anyways? Security lines are always areas where people are watching others to ensure that they don't get left behind, or rather, forget to take their belts off.

The last stretch of senior year feels much the same. With many seniors gravitating towards the same programs and the same post-grad opportunities, there is often pressure to find out what others are doing, "Have you heard back yet?", "are you planning on applying?" and "how far along are you in the process?" are all common questions that float around. In the security line of life, no one wants to feel left behind and competing with peers who have similar credentials only adds to the anxiety.

I am not implying that most seniors proactively behave this way. Yet, when one has to wait two weeks or more to meet with a counselor at career services, it is apparent that we are all worried about the future, even if we don't show it.

As I said before, my family strongly believes that airports bring out the worst in people. But it is not the simple act of traveling that induces bad behavior. Rather, it is the emotions that come with it. You leave one thing behind to go to another; you're physically at a moment of transition in your life; your im-

mediate future partly depends on someone else, and in the case of flying, the weather and airlines.

Perhaps the reason why I think my familial anecdote is applicable to this phase in college is that the emotions are the same. As second semester rolls on, we seniors are forced to look to what is next, where we are headed. The process becomes a lot more stressful once you realize that at the end of May, you are not going to an internship that has an expiration date. Still in college, yet forced to look ahead and make important decisions about the future, the same anxieties arise.

Although it is impossible to ignore the external pressures that come with being a second semester senior, my hope is that fellow seniors stop themselves from letting this stress shape their interactions with their peers. After all, no one likes that person on the plane who decides it's their right to know your life story, and no one enjoys the person in the security line who thinks that bypassing one person will shave off hours from their travels. This is a call to seniors to save our worst selves for the airports, and not to bring them on campus.

Forum >> Columnist

# Internet censorship in China supports Western corporations while undermining access for Chinese citizens

QIANLI XIAO  
HEAD LAYOUT DESIGNER

In terms of GDP, China still falls short of the United States by trillions, although it is developing into the second largest economy in the world. However, there's one thing in China that has reached the world's pinnacle: China's notorious Internet censorship, and no, North Korea doesn't count, their Internet has been physically cut off from the outside. China has managed to maintain the highest level of Internet censorship while keeping transoceanic broad-band cables intact.

Uneasiness and dissatisfaction have spread throughout the Chinese Internet community. My friends who attend colleges in China are constantly sharing satiric cartoons, risking being labeled "Harmonized." One of the satiric cartoons shows a logo of the global Internet with a communist China flag in the middle, brick walls around it, and a caption that reads: Welcome to Chinternet.

There's nothing too hyperbolic in this cartoon; it tells the truth. The Internet environment "inside the walls" is horrendously censored. Last summer, while surfing Google, I typed in "Liu Xiaobo," the recipient of the 2010 Nobel Peace Prize, into the search box.

To be honest, I did not even realize that the name is already on the top of the government's Sensitive Words List with words like democracy and human rights. As soon as I pressed "search," my Firefox browser read, "this page is taking too long to respond," even though it took Firefox milliseconds to load the warning. When I attempted to refresh the page, it displayed the message, "your computer is not connected to the Internet."

After five minutes of stalling, I was eventually allowed to reconnect to the Internet. A friend with whom I was chatting online asked if my Internet was working. I replied, "Yeah, my modem has never backfired on me. It's Liu Xiaobo who robbed my Internet." That message was not allowed to be sent through the online messenger. "The post pending contains inappropriate words (or sentences)" was the message I received. How shameful.

It has become common knowledge that Facebook and YouTube have been blocked in China, despite the government showing some mercy during the Olympics and allowing citizens to update a few statuses on Facebook.

The list of Web sites that are black-listed continues to grow with Vimeo, the New York Times, the Huffington Post, Flickr, Blogspot and Twitter all currently banned.

A week ago, it was rumored that the Chinese government is planning to ban Internet-to-land calls on Skype because Skype would not agree to use the state-run China Telecom wireless services, which would be subject to monitoring from the "relevant bureaucracies," a mysterious term used by the government for agencies more hideous than the KGB or CIA because they do not have a name. Skype, which has a long-standing business relationship with a Hong Kong-based wireless company, would not allow sniffers on its lines.

Once these sites are kicked out of the booming Web market in China, replacements will arrive: Renren, which literally means "everybody," replaces Facebook, Youku, literally translating to "outstanding and cool," replaces YouTube, and Weibo by Sina.com serves as a substitute for Twitter.

It seems that within the great firewalls of China, a legitimate "Chinternet" that possesses all features of the global Internet has been established. I am able to make voice calls from one computer to another or to cell phones through Fetion, a China Mobile product, and I can chat with other people with Tencent QQ, which is arguably the largest online community with a membership of 636.6 million.

Remember, however, that these companies survive in the Chinese market because they are Chinese companies and protected by policies, susceptible to protectionism and violation of WTO regulations. More importantly, these sites censor, or as Chinese Web users describe, castrate themselves.

Let's swing back to summer 2009. One day, I was about to share a link from the Associated Press on Renren.com. It was a report on China's incredible CPI growth and inflation in the past months. The price of pork doubled in as short as three months, for instance. However, as soon as I posted the link, the administrator sent me a personal message briefly saying, "your share post has been deleted."

Switching to the People's Daily Web site, I caught sight of a report that said "pork prices have been 'affordable' and within tolerable range of price fluctuation."

I realized that pork price had somehow, unfortunately, joined the list of sensitive vocabulary, probably because the Ministry of Agriculture did not want citizens to believe in "rumors". The government will teach me what "truth" is via People's Daily, Xinhua, CCTV or any state-run media; there's no place for my post. I am tired of how frequent the Sensitive Vocab List updates, as many as 20 or 30 new words are added every day. My name might be

there someday.

However, had Google consented to self-castration in mainland China, I could not have found out about the AP's report.

Google was immediately propagandized as the immoral example that tolerates porn and violence because it did not compromise. CCTV News interviewed a "pupil from Beijing" described Google as "too yellow (Famous Chinglish word for sexually explicit), too much violence."

As the negotiations between Google and government continued, Google was banned across China. Google's banning looked like nothing but condemned surrender: fighting with those in Beijing will not take your business anywhere.

Now Google.cn merely shows a "redirect" page leading you to Google.hk where their servers are now located. Google disappointedly censors their search results to assure that Google Voice and Android Smartphone Systems will survive.

Knowing what we know about Internet censorship in China, I think it is important to expose the company behind the censorship. Believe it or not, the team that enables censorship in

China belongs to American company Cisco, also known as "The Human Network."

As I have mentioned, the great firewall of China takes care of all censorship businesses. Like the Great Wall erected 2,000 years ago, this great firewall prevents the Internet in China from being "invaded" by anti-revolutionary ideas—do I sound like Mao yet?

Censorship apparently protects the government from malicious attacks, but also requires high-end technology. No other company was capable of developing such an enduring firewall, but Cisco took advantage of the fact that it does not run any services that are vulnerable to censorship, signing a deal with the government, which was desperately looking for a reliable partner with sufficient technological knowledge.

Throw all those human rights and democracy issues out of the window. Cisco claims to be the "The Human Network," but that's just advertising, I assume. No smart business would look further than the deal Cisco has set up: Millions of dollars will pour into their coffers, and all they have to do is to ensure that Facebook does not hack its way through the firewall. The government has hired another team of hundreds of thousands of people to

delete posts and write positive propaganda.

Apparently, Cisco has been so successful in completing its job that it is speaking with new customers interested in Internet censorship: Australia, Iran, Pakistan and perhaps India. Wait, did I hear Tunisia? Oh, so sorry to hear that the president was already overthrown. Unfortunately for him, he may not have known about Cisco.

The deal has been signed; authoritarian politics will not go away. Society will be as harmonious as usual, but my posts will face constant deletions, Chinese Web service providers will bail out their American counterparts' mercilessly; and the CPI will keep rising, allowing monopolist companies to make huge profits while the GDP will boom, crowning President Hu as "America's Banker."

But wait, what about me? I do not know all the words on the Sensitive Vocabulary List, and I have never intended to usurp the government because I enjoy my materially opulent life in a proletarian authoritarian country and the delicious cuisine that my hometown in China has to offer. So I have to ask, why can't I just talk to Batesies during summer vacation through Facebook without receiving the message: "This page is taking too long to respond?"

BatesRates

The Arts Crawl

Uplifting to see the artistic talents of our peers!

BCSG Elections

Out with the old, in with the (unopposed) new.

Bates Basketball

Another great weekend to be a Bobcat!

The World Club Tour

What's wrong with my tee, bro?

Forum >> Columnist  
**RACHEL ZOE BAUMANN**  
 ASSISTANT FORUM EDITOR

## Global warming affects the appeal of going to college in Maine

One of the principle reasons that I chose to come to Bates, besides the maid service that the "Fiske Guide to Colleges" claimed Bates provided, was the snow. My friends applied to schools for various reasons, from one who applied to a particular university because of their Latin department to one who applied to another school for their equestrian program. Since applying, both of these friends have changed their minds about their interests in Latin and equestrian. Bates may have lost some applicants because of our lack of a Quidditch team, but Harry Potter fans know it's coming soon!

The mascot of a college or university is even more important than the strength of any academic department or athletic team when choosing a school. Who wouldn't want to go to the University of California at Santa Cruz to cheer on the Banana Slugs? And I don't know many people who would want to

go to New York University to cheer on the Violets -- sounds pretty boring to me. The winner for best mascot definitely goes to the Connecticut College Camels. If I had to do everything over, I think I would choose my college based on its mascot.

But, back to the white fluffy stuff: I have to admit that I came to Maine because of the abundant snowfalls. "The way life should be" makes me smile every time I cross the border from New Hampshire into Maine.

So I have to ask, where is this snow? My hometown of Fairfield, Connecticut, which is about six hours and 300 miles south of Bates, is known for its mild winters. Over seven days of snowfall, the area has already accumulated over five feet of snow, numerous delays and early dismissals.

There's now enough snow along the side of my parents' driveway to supply a small ski resort. Neighbors are

shoveling snow off of their roofs while the elderly say that they have never seen this much snow in their lives. My dog goes to the backyard, shakes his head,

"The weather gods didn't suddenly get angry; Global warming is a direct consequence and gradual effect of our wasteful and ill-advised activities."

comes back to the house, and is completely depressed. He can't deal with it. No one can.

So, who is responsible for shifting the weather pattern and dumping all of Maine's snow on Connecticut?

I'm sure the Republicans will find a way to blame President Obama for this.

as if he and not global warming were at fault.

Global warming. When many people first heard the term, they thought that it meant that everything was just going to get a little warmer. But for those who have been hiding under a rock for the past two winters, the mid-Atlantic region has had unbelievable blizzards while places like Canada have had unusually warm winters, flipping the weather patterns.

New York City has had more snow in January than it has ever had before and residents are learning to shovel snow when there was no use for this skill in the past.

Global warming leads to droughts, mud slides, floods and extreme weather conditions that are unusual to specific regions. In Professor Tom Tracy's "Environmental Ethics" class, one of the questions that students ask is, how much does human activity contrib-

ute to global warming? The weather gods didn't suddenly get angry; Global warming is a direct consequence and gradual effect of our wasteful and ill-advised activities.

So, as it turns out, the romance of Maine getting more snow than the rest of the North East seems to be a bit of a fantasy. In the meantime, while skiers and snowball-fight-lovers await a few beautiful snowstorms, we can appreciate the bitter cold. I can't say I wasn't expecting it. It's cold; let's embrace it. Why not jump in a puddle? It can't be much colder than the air around us.

I'm crossing my fingers for a few more snowstorms up here. And let's hope people start understanding that global warming has a lot more to do with this than most people think.

And, to the kid who walks around campus still wearing shorts: Please put on some pants.

Forum >> Columnist

## Stay in touch with BCSG as new era dawns

**COSMIN GHITA**  
 CONTRIBUTING WRITER

This past weekend, I have been going through the history of Bates Student Government for the last 30 years, and I realized that a lot has changed not only in the way in which society looks, but in the attitudes of the College towards their representative assembly or student government. Apathy on our campus in our own governing is at an all-time high, which was clearly evidenced in the number of candidates per position available in last week's elections.

As a student interested in apathy, I can tell you that so far, I have noticed that people generally distrust or frown upon the efficiency of their governments. And while distrust itself is not bad, it is the kind of distrust that people exhibit which is most troubling.

Such distrust undermines the power of a body such as BCSG and its ability to provide the public good and achieve its goals. Sadly enough, it is not just the body's power that is undermined, but the power of those whom they serve: the power of the individual to make a difference.

A student government does not exist simply for the sake of existing, but rather it serves a genuine purpose to improve student life. Without a government, students would not have a body to which they could effectively express their concerns.

It is necessary that a student government exist in order to investigate such concerns which are made known through both formal and informal channels. It is the student government's role to lobby the appropriate department of the College to address issues, bridge communication between the College's entities and students, and hold them accountable for their actions.

But to improve student life, being a body before which students can express their concerns is not enough; government can do more and must do more. Government must never forget the individuals it represents and the community those individuals constitute. It has to commit to a set of goals and sustain its efforts and momentum to achieve those goals.

This sustained effort demands open and honest communication because it builds trust and generates a positive

and productive attitude that can be harnessed to improve student life. During my past three years as a member of the student body I have observed that the communication channels between the student body and its government have been severed.

Hence, we have low participation rates, thin agendas and limited involvement in the student-faculty committees.

It is in this sense that we, your representatives, members of the student body, commit to enhancing our communication with you and try to actively involve you in a process that will benefit you during four years at Bates.

I invite you to log on to our Web site Bates Central, to check out the latest projects your student government is engaged in. You can also share your input, or make a suggestion through the Web site.

If you see an invite on Facebook from BCSG, please accept it so we can more easily deliver you our latest news and thoughts. Moreover, you can always send me any ideas, or you could see me in the BCSG office (in Chase Hall) every Wednesday from 1 to 2:30 p.m. I am here to serve you so I would love to get

input from you to find out how I can do my job in a better way.

Lastly, this is the first article in a long series that student government officers and representatives intend to deliver to you with the purpose of rehabilitating our communications' channel.

If you think there is no input to be given, you could not be more wrong. As part of our goal to revamp the student body's governing mechanism and to re-establish its presence, we are considering amending the current constitution to enhance the efficiency and discussion in our legislative meetings. We intend to re-evaluate and extend membership in the representative assembly (RA) to dorm reps, sports teams captains and club officers.

This will enhance dialogue within the student body and help the RA truly represent the entirety of our complex and multifaceted student population. If you have any suggestion as to how we can enhance student government in addressing your needs, you must convey it to us, otherwise we might overlook your perspective.

As I have noticed in my studies and in my prior experiences, enacting

change is an immense obstacle that few attempt to overcome. I believe that we, Bates College students, are one of those few.

Remember, the joy, hope and lust for action that was gleaming in our hearts when setting foot on this campus. We were not given this education; we earned it ourselves. We seized an opportunity! Why can't we seize the opportunity to better our college social life and shape the campus we dedicate the best years of our lives to?

I ask you not to let that spirit go and support your student government in its efforts, holding us accountable and sending us your suggestions. I personally promise you that BCSG will mobilize all its capabilities to address your problems!

*Editor's Note: Cosmin Ghita is President of BCSG.*

1

Number of United States Presidents who have won the Pulitzer Prize

26

Number of states in the United States that allow couples to cite impotence as a reason for divorce

25

Number of years a Canadian man is sentenced to for operating a child sex ring

50

Age of Florida mother charged for fatally shooting her teenage kids

86,400

Number of seconds in a day

**Digitz**

Source: berro.com and cnn.com

Cloud 9 Day Spa & Wellness Center

Services include:

\*Waxing \*Hair design \*Massage  
 \*Facials \*Body treatments

Receive 10% off with your Bates ID

*Cloud 9 Day Spa & Wellness Center*  
 Located on the corner of Main St. & Frye St. (207) 689-2166  
 -Walking distance from Bates! [www.cloud9ds.com](http://www.cloud9ds.com)

### Forum >> Overheards

#### WELCOME TO COLLEGE

Boy 1: I like smoking unfiltered cigs because they're just healthier.

Boy 2: Yeah, the filter takes all the nutrients out.

#### IT PAYS TO BE A VANDAL

Boy 1 (leaving Smith after fire extinguisher is sprayed): Parker is next...

#### THE MEN'S BASKETBALL TEAM SURE IS HOT...

Girl 1: Playing on the Basketball team really up's your potential to get with me.

Girl 2: I know right? That one in the peacoat is so cute.

#### OUCH...

Student 1: I plan on writing my thesis on the successes of the Nixon administration.

Professor 1: That's going to be one short thesis.

#### THE PERKS OF COLLEGE

Girl to Boy: Do you ever go to class?  
 Boy: Only on the days that it says test on the syllabus.

#### MOMMY, WHERE DO OVERHEARDS COME FROM?

Girl 1: I heard that the Cat's Meow came up with the Overheards.  
 Girl 2: My high school paper had Overheards lol.  
 Girl 1: The Meow is still wicked funny.  
 Girl 2: Nah.

Hear something? Share with The Student! Email [hfnk@bates.edu](mailto:hfnk@bates.edu) with your overheards.

## THE NEW BATES STUDENT GETS SUITED AND BOOTED

Let us know how you like our new design. We welcome feedback from our readers as we transition to our new format. Please email [spathe@bates.edu](mailto:spathe@bates.edu) or [qxiao@bates.edu](mailto:qxiao@bates.edu) with comments or suggestions.



### The Pop Shoppe

413 Main Street, Lewiston 777 - SHOP  
 Tuesday-Thursday 7 AM-Close,  
 Friday-Saturday 7 AM-10 PM, Sunday 7 AM-2 PM

Buy 1 Meal, Get 1 Half Off  
 (Equal or lesser value, dinner only)

Everything is homemade!

#### Dinners (Tue-Sat)

Chicken parmigiana Fresh dough pizza  
 Spaghetti & meatballs Burgers & Hot dogs  
 Lasagna Subs, Salads, & Sides

TAKE OUT  
 AVAILABLE

Beer and Wine now available!



### Fran's Place

The Best Crepes in L/A  
 Mon-Fri 6am-1:45pm  
 Sat 5am-11:45, Sun 7am-12:45pm  
 1485 Lisbon St., Lewiston 786-0667

Breakfast All Day  
 Lunch Specials

Fresh Baked Pies and Desserts  
 All Home Cooked! All Delicious!

Miss home yet?  
 THE BEST HOME COOKED  
 FOOD IN TOWN!

Homemade fries, chips & desserts  
 to remind you of mom's cooking!

Welcome,  
 Bates  
 Students

## news

The Bates Student  
TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 1, 2011

## News &gt;&gt; Local

## Students share food, stories with elderly at Blake Street Towers

SARAH MANEVAL  
STAFF WRITER

Every Sunday at 10:45 a.m. when Commons opens for brunch, a group of Bates students gather in front of Security and walk several blocks to the Blake Street Towers public housing complex. This Sunday, I decided to join my fellow students to help complete their mission of cooking a simple but nutritious brunch of eggs, bacon and toast for some of their Lewiston neighbors. The number of student volunteers varies from week to week, ranging from as few as two to as many as the thirteen students who attended this week, who made up one of the largest groups to date.

Blake Street Towers is a housing complex for disabled young people and the elderly. Located at 70 Blake Street under the shadow of the cathedral, the community is home to approximately 100 Lewiston citizens. "The complex has some residents with annual incomes as low as \$8,000, and very few of them own cars," explained the Student Vol-

unteer Fellow at the Harvard Center Danielle Traverse '13.

In the past, members of the College community have made multiple efforts to arrange activities that would enable Towers residents and students to interact. Sunday brunch has proven to be the most successful, as residents of Blake Street Towers immensely enjoy talking to students and look forward to the event every week, Traverse said. "The elderly miss their children and time that they spend with us is invaluable to them," she said. Traverse added that residents also seem to appreciate the students' weekly visits for the youthful energy they provide. In fact, the Blake Street housing authority officials informed Traverse and the volunteers that the residents complained during weeks when students were away on break and could not visit.

The weekly brunch is open to all Blake Street residents and is usually attended by 15 to 20 of the elderly members. "We try to cater to everyone, but there is a lack of interest among the young disabled residents because they don't see eye to eye with the elderly,"

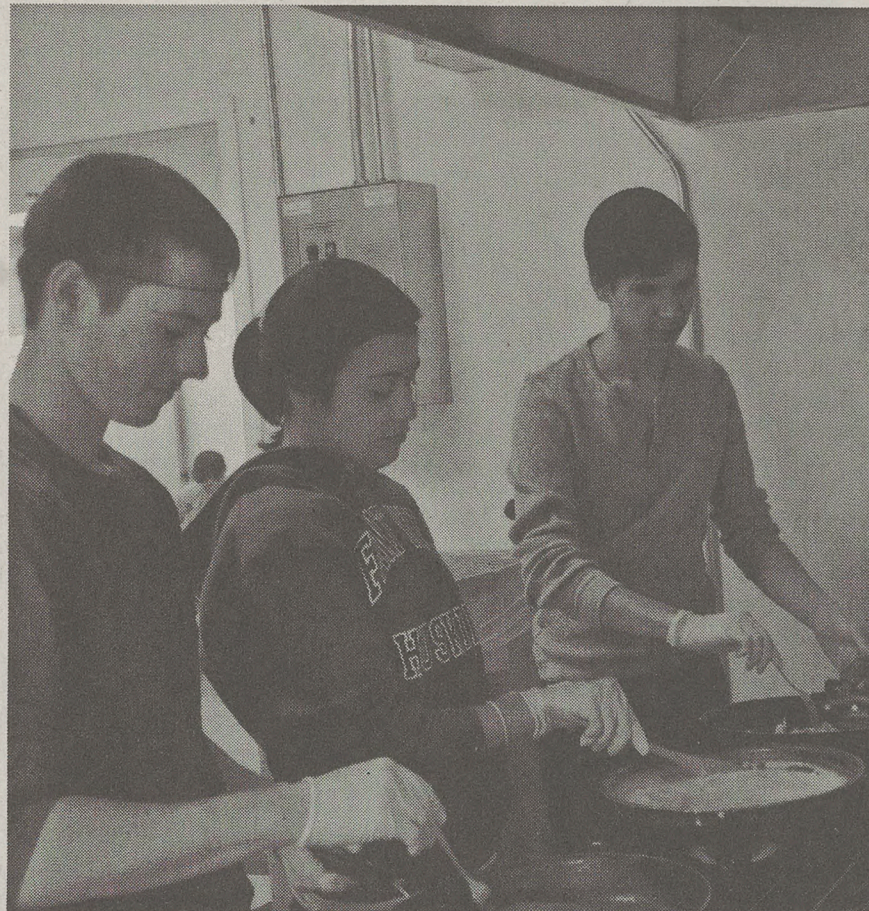
Traverse explained.

When they arrive at the housing complex, five or six of the students prepare brunch while others begin setting the tables. The rest of the group mingles with the residents, spending time talking and sharing in games or social activities like jigsaw puzzles or coloring.

"The visits are very rewarding for yourself, as you have given back to the community," said Traverse. Students who participated this week said that they enjoyed cooking, meeting the residents and hearing fascinating tales from the older generation, especially the various recounts of Lewiston history.

"It's a two way street: there's the opportunity for you to taste Lewiston life, and for them, it is incredibly rejuvenating," she said.

The Blake Street Towers group is always interested in new volunteers. This student led group welcomes anyone interested in participating to meet in front of security at 10:45 a.m. on Sundays, or to contact Traverse for more information.



SARAH MANEVAL/THE BATES STUDENT

Student volunteers prepare a weekly brunch for residents of Blake Street Towers, an area housing complex for disabled young people and the elderly.

## News &gt;&gt; BCSG

## RA to encourage a more involved campus

SARAH MANEVAL  
STAFF WRITER

The Bates College Student Government (BCSG) Representative Assembly (RA) convened on Jan. 31st to address what members called an "urgent need" to remake their image on campus.

Many BCSG representatives, including Treasurer Hunter Archibald '12, are concerned that the lack of participation in the latest election on campus is indicative of a growing apathy about student government. New BCSG President Cosmin Ghita '12 proposed changing the current student government system to a true representative assembly, which would modify the current BCSG structure to include direct representation from various student activities like student clubs, sports teams and campus committees. While the specific architecture of such a system is not yet certain, Ghita believes it could play a fundamental role in growing stu-

dent participation. "It could be implemented as early as the fall semester next year," he said.

Prior to 1995, the BCSG was closer to a true representative assembly, and Ghita believes that in addition to reverting to longstanding traditions, the new system would allow the student body to have greater influence in their government. This new system would afford the opportunity for more direct student participation and would be characterized by a stronger connection between student government and the administration. Ghita's proposal could also provide a more direct and effective way for the deans to reach out to students.

Currently, the deans use open student forums and junior adviser meetings to discuss with the student body on important issues. The implementation of a true representative assembly would provide the deans with an easier means of reaching a broad range of students.

The assembly proceeded to deliberate about methods of promoting their

work and more effectively communicating with the students they represent. Officers discussed planned improvements to the BCSG Web site, Bates Central. The executive board hopes to use Bates Central as its primary means for communicating with the campus as well as to link the Web site with Facebook to facilitate easier communication and increased participation.

Other popular ideas for increasing campus visibility included developing a new BCSG logo. This trademark would be used to help advertise activities that the BCSG sponsors or coordinates like posters for dances and late-night breakfasts. Furthermore, to increase student awareness of and involvement with the BCSG, representatives requested that the Bates Student provide coverage of their new activities.

The BCSG hopes that these new initiatives will help to increase student representation and involvement and unite the campus.

## Damage

Continued from PAGE 1

2004, the number of annual dorm damage incidents has decreased drastically. The academic year of 2005-2006 saw a total of 477 incidents, 2006-2007 saw 333 incidents and 2009-2010 saw only 186 incidents.

The months of January, February and September all have the highest dorm damage totals. He attributed this heightened rate to increased alcohol consumption and excitement after returning from long vacations.

Dorm damage is not correlated to any one semester, but occurs randomly, Menice explained. "Dorm damage incidents are pretty consistent over the three terms: Fall, Winter and Short Term," said Menice. And while it may seem like dorm damage is concentrated in certain dorms, historically this is not the case. For example, many residents of 280 College Street have claimed that an inordinate amount of dorm damage is inflicted on their dorm. However, Menice noted, this perception is only due to very recent events and the dorm's "low-chem" status.

The number of students who take responsibility for dorm damage that they have inflicted remained constant over the past six years at an average of 37 percent. Last semester, guilty students admitted to 21 incidents, 29 percent of the total incidents that occurred. Historically, there is a higher dorm damage accountability rate during Short Term, averaging over 60 percent. However, Short Term 2010 experienced a paltry seven percent student accountability, Menice said.

Last semester's dorm damage cost the College \$7,059.05 compared to \$11,606.82 for the fall semester of

2009. The total dorm damage cost peaked at \$52,540.58 in the academic year of 2007-2008 and decreased in the academic year of 2008-2009 costing the College \$38,274.84.

While the number of students who confess to dorm damage has remained fixed, the data suggests that perpetrators of small dorm damage incidents are being reported or coming forward. In the fall semester of 2006, the College experienced 119 incidents of dorm damage, 22 of which were paid for by students representing an accountability rate of 18 percent. The total damage caused was \$20,351.22 with an average of \$171.01 of damage caused per incident.

The College should have collected an average of \$3,762.22 from responsible students, but the amount of money recovered was only \$2,652.78. Therefore, each guilty student who confessed to committing dorm damage paid on average only \$120.57 per incident. Assuming the absence of large-scale un-attributed dorm damage that could skew the results, the data indicates that students are more likely to confess to smaller dorm damage offenses.

Menice believes that a combination of alcohol, psychological issues, aggressive behavior and accidents are responsible for most dorm damage. However, he has helped develop a program that involves College Security, Physical Plant and the Housing Office to help identify potential motives and solutions for dorm damage. "Overall though, dorm damage has become less acceptable as the quality of college life has drastically improved," he said.

Menice and Physical Plant are trying to promote accountability across campus and encourage guilty parties to come forward to meet their charges respectfully.

## Accidents

Continued from PAGE 1

of income, was associated with the drop in fatal accidents. "We looked at the relationship between the economic indicators and the accident rate between states in which miles driven were the same," explained Tefft and Cotti in the Jan. 26th article. Their findings ultimately demonstrated that while the unemployment rate was associated with a reduced number of accidents, personal income was unrelated.

The total number of accidents fell over the period from 2000 to 2009 due to the higher unemployment rate. The decline in alcohol-related accidents decreased more than non-alcohol related accidents, though both declined due to rising unemployment, Tefft said. When going out on the town, financially insecure individuals may consume less alcohol in the interest of saving money, Tefft suggested. "So, adverse macroeconomic conditions appear to lead people to both drive less and change their behavior related to drunk driving," he said.

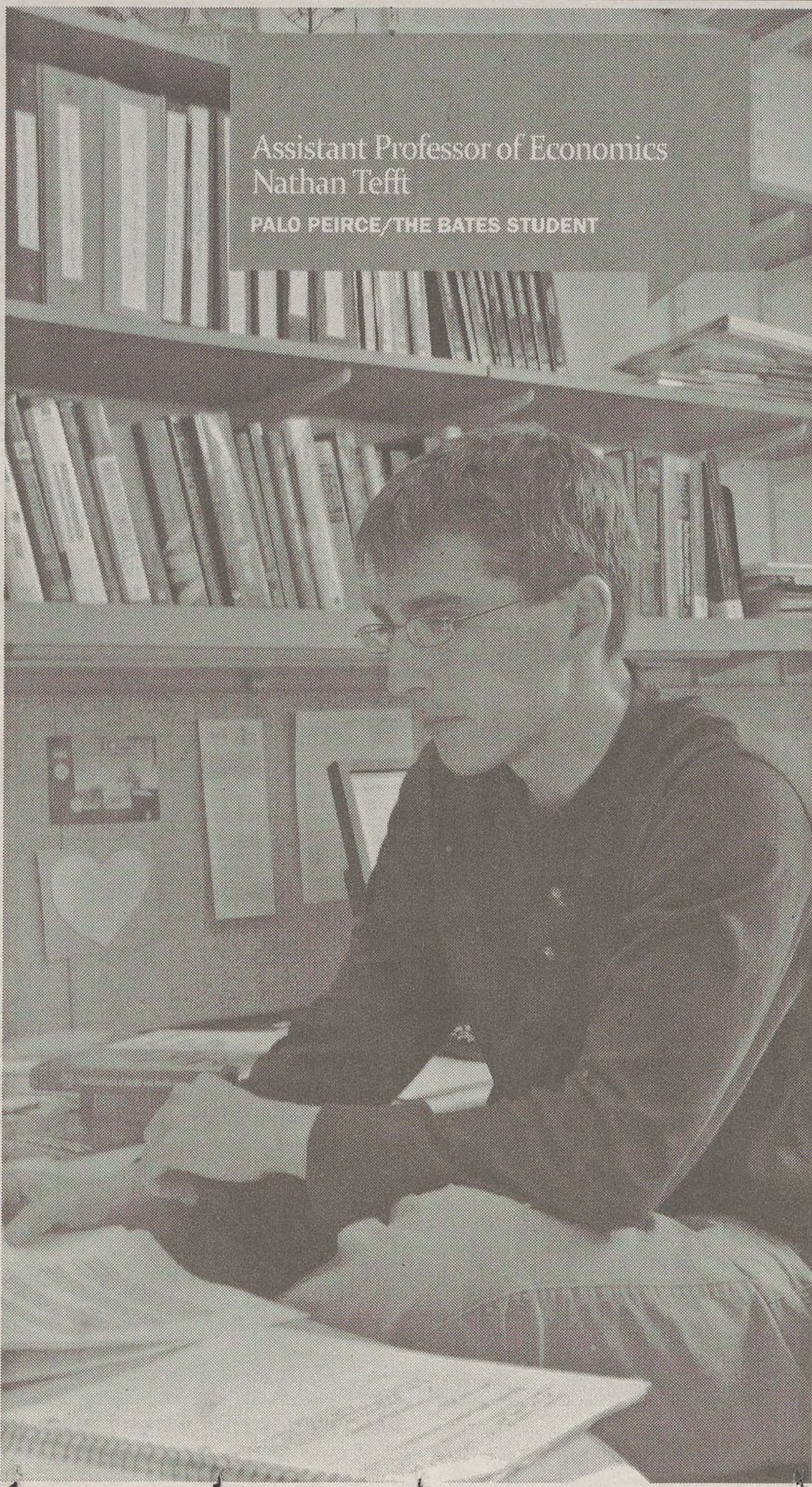
The findings suggest that although behaviors affecting fatal automobile accidents changed across the general population, the largest shift occurred among the unemployed or those at risk of being unemployed.

Tefft's study controlled for variables including the individual unobserved characteristics of each state, such as the annual changes in gasoline prices and automobile safety technology. The results were nonetheless significant, Tefft noted.

Tefft's findings show that the unemployed demographic, which was most affected by the economic downturn, experienced the greatest fall in the number of fatal automobile accidents.

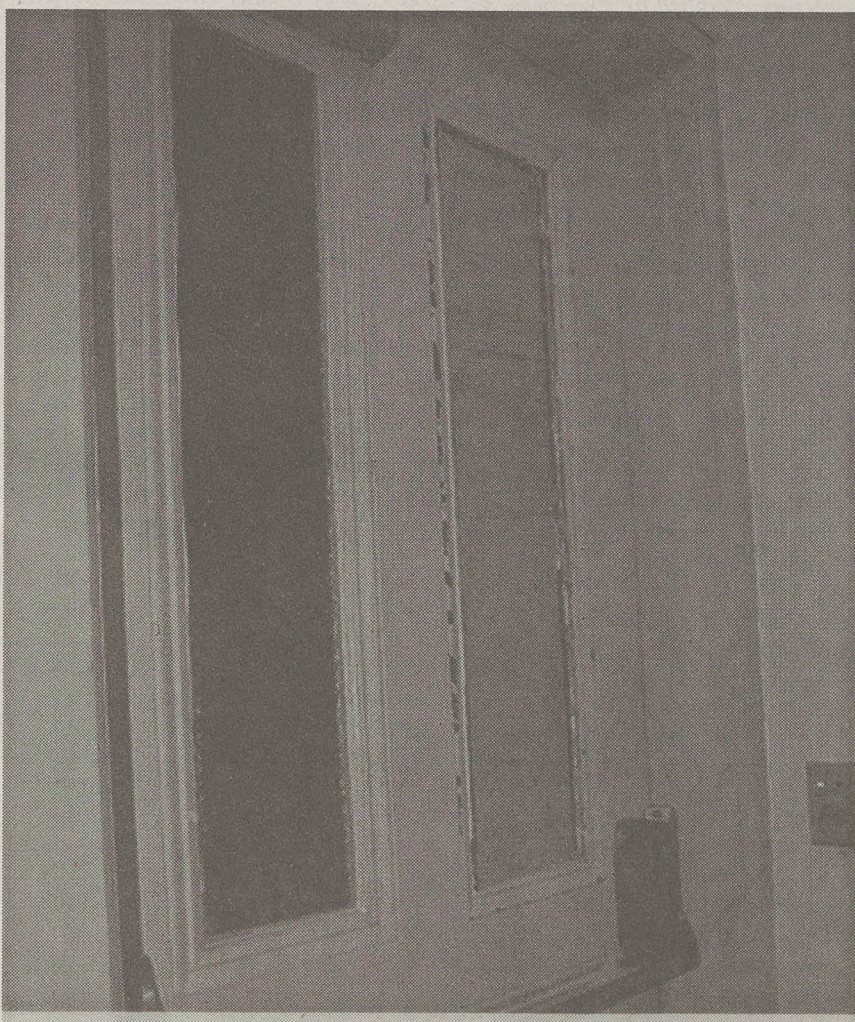
Unfortunately, the trend of declining fatal accidents appears to be fleeting as the macro-economy improves.

"At least we have the consolation that some lives were saved that would have otherwise been lost had the recession not occurred," Tefft wrote.



Assistant Professor of Economics  
Nathan Tefft

PALO PEIRCE/THE BATES STUDENT



ELEANOR ANACLERIO/THE BATES STUDENT

An example of dorm damage: a smashed door-window in Webb House.

## feature

The Bates Student

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 1, 2011

## From Togo to Maine: Making Bates home

Feature &gt;&gt; Campus

## The Ronj unwrapped

PALO PEIRCE  
MANAGING NEWS EDITOR

Yesterday morning sporting a blue Polo button-up, crew neck sweater and a pair of khakis I ventured cautiously into the purported hipster lair on campus: The Ronj, or colloquially "Le Ronj." "In the past, athletes were in particular not interested in the Ronj and the environment was almost exclusively de facto 'hipster' kids- students interested in art and the radio" Ronj Staff Manager Lindsay Swan '11 explained upon my arrival.

In an effort to broaden its customer base, The Ronj now opens at 7:30 a.m. and provides students with an alternative venue for fueling up each morning. Lacking an official cooking license, the student café and hang-out serves local muffins, fresh fruit, juice, coffee, tea and chai. Swan hopes to attract students from every social orbit and encourages all community members, staff and faculty included, to come and enjoy the Ronjian amenities.

The Ronj was started in 1997 by a group of students who wanted to create a student commune and has since morphed into a coffee house, offering food, drinks, music, board and card games, an oft-utilized performance venue, billiards and a space to just chill. It's located on Frye Street in the formally titled Ross House, the previous home of longtime College treasurer Norman Ross and his wife. The house is full of eclectic, comfy and nonmatching furniture, most of which was donated by College custodians. It also sports two pool tables, one of which was scavenged from an unknown academic building.

According to Swan, the Student Activities Office regards the Ronj as a chemical-free, alternative student gathering place. But she has higher hopes for the gig, aspiring to create a professional student-run coffeehouse that is open to the campus community all day and maybe all night. "Other college cafés are open all the time, and ideally we should be open all day as well," she

explained.

Unless the College beefs up The Ronj's operating budget, Swan's vision remains a pipe dream since all day staffing under present financial circumstances is infeasible. Currently, it is impossible for the Ronj to sustain itself off of sales of snacks and drinks so supplemental funding is already funneled from the Student Activities Office budget to keep it afloat. On average, the Ronj does about \$100 to \$150 in daily sales and employs a staff of 22 students.

Swan hopes to market The Ronj to a more diverse array of students while targeting alternative demographics within the staff and faculty. Aside from opening earlier in the morning and serving continental breakfast items, The Ronj just this week implemented an ordering system that lets early-rising customers email in their breakfast orders the night before and schedule a pickup time for the morning.

"We used to cater mostly to junk-food kids that would come in late at night looking for their fix of Red Bull and candy, but we are trying to incorporate the entire campus," Swan said. The Ronj is diversifying their menu across the board to attract more students, adding more baked goods and healthier options. A main attraction of The Ronj, its fresh ground coffee, was recently augmented by the purchase of a sophisticated espresso machine that allows staff to brew various hot drink combinations. "Unlike Commons, we brew coffee by the cup, not by the pot," Swan pointed out.

"Students can come to the Ronj, put something on the wall and make it their home," Swan added. To her, Café house and college culture are synonymous. More students are studying in the Ronj each night not just because study spaces on campus are limited, but because of the café's homey style. "The unique atmosphere of the Ronj is unmatched," said Swan.

But until the Ronj experience catches on, the hangout remains as Housing Coordinator Carrie Murphy described it in an email: "campus' best secret."

SIMONE PATHE  
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

SIMONE PATHE/THE BATES STUDENT

We're not the only ones in Commons focused on our studies. If you've ever stormed into Commons stressed and frazzled, and you've been calmed by a warm greeting from the woman at the front desk, you've probably come across Josee Teko.

Teko, who is by far one of the friendliest faces at Bates, is pursuing her Bachelor's Degree in business at the University of Southern New

Hampshire's campus in Brunswick, Maine.

Teko arrived in Maine in 2000 after leaving her native Togo and staying in Beni for seven years because of political unrest. As members of the Democratic Party in Togo, her family was threatened by the political dictatorship in the capital city where her husband was a professor of law and where she owned a boutique selling fabrics.

When she, her husband and their five children arrived at the airport in Portland, having originally thought they were being sent to Portland, Oregon and unprepared for the cold, Catholic Charities and French-speaking Bates professors were there to welcome them with coats, food and a place to stay. Bates sponsored her family's arrival in Maine and arranged housing for them until she bought their own house.

After her husband dissuaded her from pursuing journalism in Togo, Teko became an entrepreneur and she's already completed her Associate's Degree in accounting. She believes in working hard and setting high goals for herself, saying she'd rather be working than sitting at home watching TV.

Teko was excited to accept a job at Bates, and her children have worked here temporarily during their own college vacations. She works in Commons five days a week and studies the other two.

When she's not working or studying, she's making earrings, a form of pleasure that can also turn a profit. Often modeling her own creations, which happened to be beautiful metal with blue stones on the day of our interview, Teko has sold some during the summer at the Bates Dance Festival.

Greatly appreciative of the assistance Bates has provided her, she spoke highly of the College, its employees and the students. After a long day of work, it would be easy to be perturbed by having to clean up after inconsiderate students. Teko does not complain, however. The students and their behaviors are familiar to her. When she has to wipe down a table that's particularly dirty, she laughs and thinks about her own kids at home and the messes they create.

Teko loves seeing the students on their way into Commons, and she particularly enjoys the chance to speak French with some of them. Her smile radiates warmth and her assiduous presence is reassuring among the bustle of Commons. Josee, Bates vous aime!

Feature &gt;&gt; Local

## Lost Valley and College continue longtime partnership

CHLOE BOURNE  
STAFF WRITER

Lost Valley has been an integral part of the Bates Community since the mountain opened in 1961. In its youth, it consisted of just one rope tow and a small lodge, but the Auburn mountain now boasts one of the largest ski schools in Maine and employs nearly one hundred instructors, according to their Web site. Although Bates students have historically skied at Lost Valley, the College's relationship with the mountain shifted dramatically after new owners took over in 2004.

Prior to the 2004 turnover, Assistant Athletic Director Marsha Graef would contact the administration at Lost Valley every fall to make ticket arrangements for both student physical education classes and mountain access for the campus. Previously, Lost Valley offered students a discount on daily lift tickets but never on their discounted season passes, Graef explained.

In 2004, Linc Hayes and Connie King purchased Lost Valley from its longtime family owners. When Graef called the new owners that fall to make winter arrangements, they asked to meet with her personally. Graef drove the five minutes to Lost Valley to meet them.

The owners had a new vision for educating young people to ski to foster a "lifetime of skiing," described Graef. To help renew local interest in skiing, Lost Valley employees made ticket deals with several area elementary schools to allow children from the area to ski for significantly lower prices. Bates was the first college to join.

In the winter of 2004, Lost Valley offered college students discounts on season passes. The College, in turn, provided the already discounted season passes to all students for free. For the first two years, the discounted season passes were purchased by the College Athletic Department and the Dean of Students. Since 2006, the Bates College Student Government (BCSG) has provided the funding for the arrangement, which was also extended to include College faculty and staff.

This fiscal year (FY 11), the BCSG spent \$6,427.50 to provide free passes for the entire college community. In 2004, Lost Valley gave out 1,400 lift tickets to Bates students. Last year, 2,200 tickets were issued to students and faculty, with visits from them increasing over 50 percent. Attendance would have been even larger, but Lost Valley was forced to close at the end of February because of a dearth of snow, according to Graef. "I expect the number to dramatically increase this year," she said.

Graef reasoned that the new ticketing arrangement helps the college community take advantage of Lost Valley's benefits more than the old arrangement. In addition to being free for students, Lost Valley is close enough to campus that they can drive over for a few runs as a quick study break, she explained.

Junior Advisers occasionally take their first-years skiing at Lost Valley as a bonding activity while physical education classes use the mountain to instruct students in the basics of downhill and cross-country skiing.

Comprised of 15 trails, Lost Valley offers a variety of terrain that is widely used by skiers of all abilities, according to BCSG Treasurer Hunter Archibald '12. "It is a nice place for beginners to learn and for an advanced skier to take a few runs down the steeper slopes," Archibald said. The College physical education snowboard instructor Ben Latham '11 described the terrain as being geared towards intermediate skiers and riders. The convenience of the mountain and the recent snowfall this year has made Lost Valley even more popular this year. "I have 12 riders in my class this year when on average I usually only have six," Latham said.

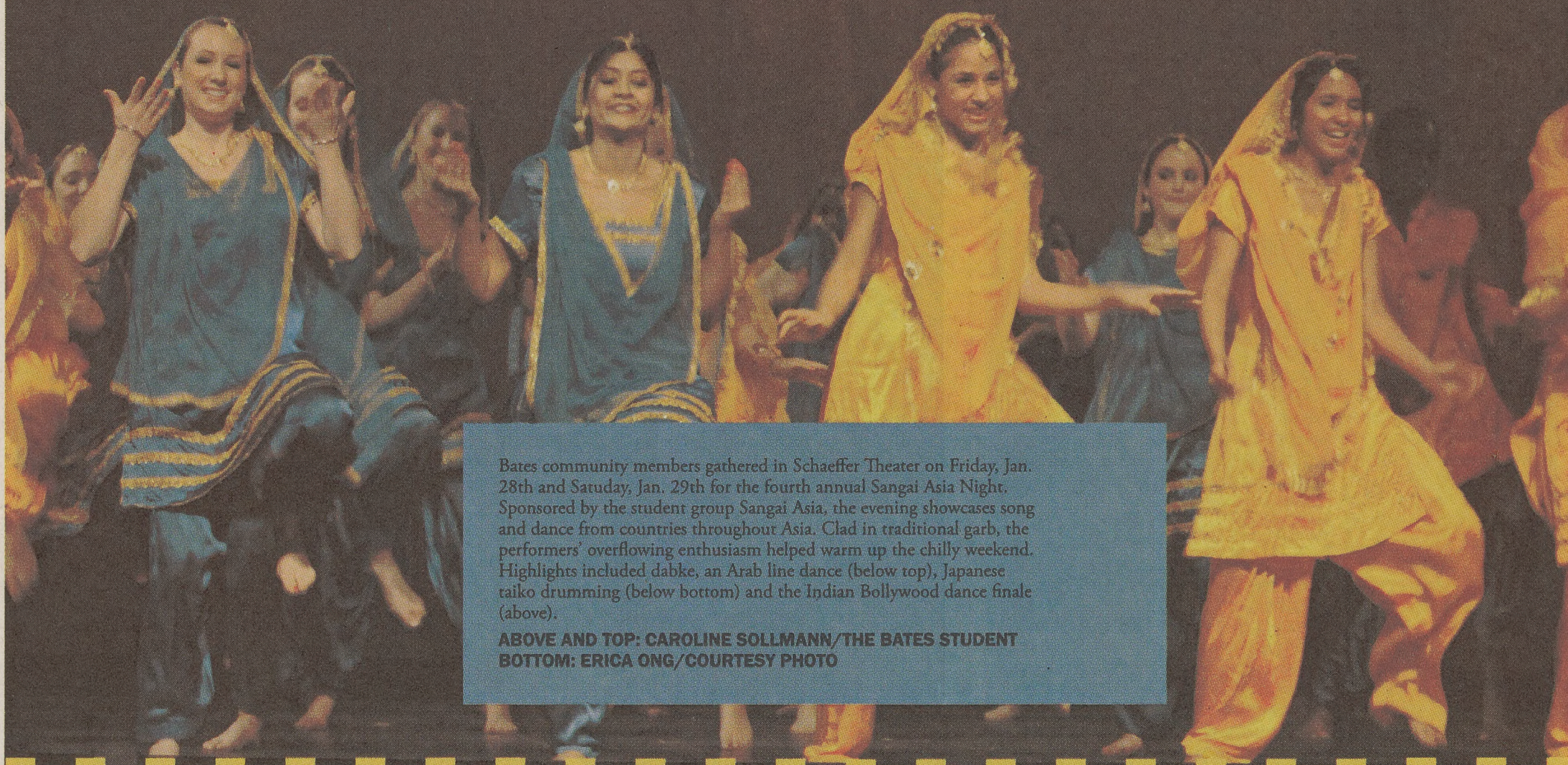
The BCSG hopes to continue to support this storied relationship between Bates and its buddy mountain. "I believe that it is a worthy investment by the Student Government and hope students continue to support Lost Valley," Archibald said.



PALO PEIRCE/THE BATES STUDENT

Lost Valley chair lift double number one rises over the Bull Moose trail, which is rated "most difficult."

## arts &amp; leisure

The Bates Student  
TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 1, 2011A SPLASH OF COLOR  
SANGAI ASIA NIGHT MELTS AWAY JANUARY BLUES

Bates community members gathered in Schaeffer Theater on Friday, Jan. 28th and Saturday, Jan. 29th for the fourth annual Sangai Asia Night. Sponsored by the student group Sangai Asia, the evening showcases song and dance from countries throughout Asia. Clad in traditional garb, the performers' overflowing enthusiasm helped warm up the chilly weekend. Highlights included dabke, an Arab line dance (below top), Japanese taiko drumming (below bottom) and the Indian Bollywood dance finale (above).

ABOVE AND TOP: CAROLINE SOLLMANN/THE BATES STUDENT  
BOTTOM: ERICA ONG/COURTESY PHOTO

ZOE FAHY  
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

It's a general rule of thumb that if the performers are having fun, chances are, so is the audience. Luckily, for those experiencing the January blues, the performers of the Sangai Asia Night show come around every year to brighten things up. Since its inception in 2008, these students have delivered the Bates community an entertaining and informative show, highlighting a diverse array of traditional and modern Asian cultures. This year the show was held on Friday, Jan. 28th and Saturday, Jan. 29th to rave reviews.

The pieces presented in Friday's show varied from explosively colorful and chaotic to simple and reflective, but common to each was the offering of an aesthetic unique to its country of origin. If you have ever seen the Bates Gamelan ensemble perform, you know that the instruments are physically striking. The Double Concerto by the performing Gamelan

percussionists thus added layers of epic beauty to the instrumental composition on stage. If the appeal of a Bollywood number wasn't enough to pull you out of your Gamelan trance, then the fluorescent gloves of the Bates Masti were sure to draw you into a time warp as they travelled through Bollywood history from the 1950s to the present. From the darkened stage, a pair of glowing hands rose up, suddenly joined by a canon of others multiplying out of the darkness like the limbs of a Hindu deity.

And the Bollywood performances didn't stop there; to really get the audience shoulder dancing in their seats, Bollywood choreographers Abritee Dhal '11 and Shirley Serrao '11 brought us the explosion that is the annual Bollywood finale piece. These "Bollywood queens" say it best: Bollywood is, in short, "color, energy, and fun," and given Friday's performance, this is an apt description. Armed with spring loaded feet and nimble hands, the performers of the "Bollywood Dance" upheld the grand finale's reputation as the night's biggest spectacle.

When it comes to Sangai Asia Night's popularity, the numbers speak for themselves. In 2008, there were only 18 students dancing in the finale. In this year's show, 32 performers crammed onto the stage. In total, over 100 student performers brought the 2011 Sangai Asia Night show to life, an amalgam of international students showcasing rituals from their homelands and others taking advantage of the rich opportunity it offered to explore other cultures.

These numbers show how accessible the traditional dance and musical styles are. Whether it is "La Jota Moncadena/Tinikling" of Spain and the Philippines, "FOBotis" Hip Hop or the "Dabke" of Saudi Arabia, all Batesians can find a platform to embrace the rhythms, colors and movements of cultures both familiar and strange. The openness with which this cultural exchange occurs is what has made Sangai Asia Night so successful, turning the event into a tradition as essential to a Bates winter as the Puddle Jump.



## Book Review

## Finding completion in unresolved relationships: King's "Father of the Rain"

SIMONE PATHE  
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

Lily King's "Father of the Rain" is a novel to be devoured in 24 hours, in one of those endless lazy days on the couch that only a bleak stretch of winter and a good book allow for. Its rich character studies make it a page-turner. Waking in the morning, the Amory family was the first thing I thought of, and I couldn't wait to see what was happening to Daley Amory where I left off hours before. The setting changes just enough to keep things interesting but not too much to get lost. The readers' minds – like Daley's – grow and expand but always return to the big stucco house on Myrtle Street in Ashing, Massachusetts where the novel begins.

In one of the bathrooms of this looming house, a few days before Daley's 11th birthday, her mother tells

See YEARNING  
PAGE 9

## Arts &amp; Leisure &gt;&gt; Books

## Nayder: Great expectations for Dickens' revival

ASHLEY LEPRE  
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

Among many more recently written selections on Oprah Winfrey's Book Club reading list, Winfrey's December selection of the two Charles Dickens classics "A Tale of Two Cities" and "Great Expectations" may seem a little out of place. Dickens has satirically and eloquently escorted us through both the best of times and the worst of times, but what can he contribute to the current times?

Bates Associate Professor of English and Chair of the English Department Lillian Nayder recently discussed the issue in "Speakeasy," the Wall Street Journal blog dedicated to the arts. Though Dickensian worries like the threat of the guillotine may no longer be pressing, Nayder points out other ways in which the works of Dickens may reach modern readers in a personal and sympathetic way.

For example, Pip, the narrator of "Great Expectations" who is the heir of a modest blacksmith, finds, through a tangled web of mysterious events, that he has acquired an unnamed benefactor and is destined for greatness. Tempted to break free of his common lifestyle, Pip struggles to remain loyal to his friends, his family and himself. "Great Expectations" is in many ways a tale of the daunting trials of developing a ca-

reer. "Any recent college graduate still living at home and looking for work is likely to relate to Pip, with his thwarted ambitions and his modest career," Nayder explained.

Dickens has reached readers past and present through his representation of human nature. His themes are timeless. As Nora Donahue, a Bates junior who took Nayder's "Dickens Revisited" last winter, pointed out, "His books, or 'Great Expectations' at least, are about human nature. There are still tons of movies about some girl in high school wanting to be popular, which is basically what is going on in that book. Pip is ashamed of where he comes from."

Junior Maria Rouvalis also responded to the question of Dickens' relevance, saying, "Yes, social circumstances and clothes have changed a lot since the 1800s, but human nature has not, and this human element is just what Dickens captures so brilliantly, allowing his novels to transcend time."

Rouvalis cited "David Copperfield" and the title character's struggle to achieve happiness despite the evil and corruption surrounding him. "Because we understand the human struggle of trying to do the right thing, we find this inner strength satisfying and admirable."

Dickens once said, "There is nothing in the world so irresistibly contagious as laughter and good humor." Dickens' unique syntax, cutting satire and matchless humor is ageless.

As Nayder explains, "The writer's characteristic play with language and his complex syntax will place unusual demands on most readers... 'Great Expectations' is a fabulously funny story. It should help cheer up those who are feeling gloomy—whether because of financial difficulties, political gridlock or, simply, holiday stress."

Even to college students, Dickens knows how to deliver a good knee-slapper. Donahue testified to the relevancy of Dickens by fondly recalling the humorous "Great Expectations" character the Aged P. The Aged P is an endearingly senile and deaf old man whose frequent misinterpretations and inexplicable remarks provoke irrepressible giggles which have stood the test of time. His playful representation throughout the book pulls at the heartstrings of college readers who have likely felt the same sense of devotion to embarrassing family members as the Aged's family members feel towards him.

The numerous spin-offs and contemporary interpretations of Dickensian plots are proof of Dickens' lasting impression. The countless renditions of "A Christmas Carol" have made characters such as Scrooge and Tiny Tim legends even to those who have never read Dickens. Even "South Park" recounted Pip's story.

The contemporary relevance of Dickens today is widespread; it can be seen in society, in the complexities of



COMMUNICATIONS AND MEDIA RELATIONS/COURTESY PHOTO

Professor Lillian Nayder, author of "The Other Dickens: A Life of Catherine Hogarth," was recently quoted in the Wall Street Journal arts blog "Speakeasy" about Charles Dickens and the modern reader.

human conflict or in the ever-present desire to laugh or be captivated by a good story. Oprah's "Date with Dickens" will introduce readers to Dickens' charm and wit through two of his greatest works and is sure to lead to a lasting relationship.

# Arts Crawl

## SHOWCASES BATES' FINEST

ELIZABETH ROWLEY  
ASSISTANT ARTS & LEISURE EDITOR  
CAROLINE ULWICK  
STAFF WRITER  
SCOTT LONG  
STAFF WRITER

Students and faculty tramped from one building to the next between 5 p.m. and 7 p.m. on Friday, Jan. 28th, enjoying the creative displays of their peers, with glow sticks and snow sculptures lighting their way. The first-ever Bates Arts Crawl, featuring various works and mediums of art, ranging from dramatic performances to studio paintings and a cappella singing, was a huge success by all accounts.

The Arts Collaborative, lead by Assistant Professor of English Eden Osucha, organized the crawl. Osucha commented on student culture at Bates and the ritualistic tendencies on campus that, more often than not, exclude faculty and staff.

The name of the event is a clear play on the annual Pub Crawl, traditionally completed by seniors during the week preceding graduation. "Our idea was not to replace the Pub Crawl," Osucha said, "but to create new models for campus-wide, student-centered events."

In planning the Arts Crawl, The Arts Collaborative sought to bring together the Bates community at large to create what will hopefully be a new and inclusive tradition.

The organization of this year's Arts Crawl was very top-down, facilitated mainly by faculty. However, Osucha emphasized the importance of student involvement, particularly looking forward to the planning of next year's Arts Crawl.

"Our goal in planning the crawl," Osucha said, "was really to show that art at Bates is not a special interest - it's across the community."

COMMUNICATION AND MEDIA RELATIONS/COURTESY PHOTOS



Juniors Devon Bonney, Jake Kaplove, Caylin Carbonell and Becca Clark pose in the Giant Photo Booth in the Imaging Center studio in Coram Library as Will Ash, Assistant in Instruction for the Imaging and Computer Center, prepares to snap a picture.



The Crosstones brave the cold to sing on the snow covered Library Terrace to a crowd of a cappella fans. The Merimanders and Deansmen also performed. The poetry reading taking place inside Coram Library was paused so students and faculty could listen to both.



Members of the Bates band C-Funk perform in the Museum of Art. Those who stopped in the Museum could also look at exhibits like "Bound to Art" and selections from the Ogunquit Museum of American Art.

### Gamelan in Pettengill

Noise in the Pettengill Atrium is typically limited to the hushed voices of students and the gentle flow of the indoor fountains, but Friday evening was an anomaly. Students enrolled in the class "Music of Southeast Asia" crowded the space between the chairs and tables to deliver a gamelan performance. The group made no introduction before beginning, and the resonant, bell-like tone of the gamelan therefore seemed to unfold organically in the nature-inspired space.

The performance was only one of the many student and faculty productions during the Arts Crawl. Assistant Professor of Music Gina Fatone joined her students in the opening performance. The group played three songs, "Jalir Jangji," "Jeruk Manis" and "Catrik." Following the gamelan performances, Amna Llyas '13 performed "South Asian Vocals," a hypnotizing solo act that had the entire atrium transfixed. Fatone's class reproduced their performance following Llyas, as arts crawlers cycled throughout the space. Next, the Bates Gamelan Orchestra performed a piece they perfected last semester, "Sorban Palid," with Lecturer in Music Jenny Woodruff on vocals.

"Gamelan is a unique form of music based on cycles and rhythmic variation originating from Indonesia," explained one member of the Bates Gamelan Orchestra, Edward Sturtevant '11, after the performance. The performance allowed students and faculty to experience a form of music they may be unfamiliar with in an unusual space.

### Dance in Chase

A particularly striking feature of the Arts Crawl was the dance program in Chase Hall. Members of the Modern Dance Company put on several performances, the most impressive of which was the section devoted to contact improv performed by Lindsay Swan '11, Lindsay Reuter '11, Holly McLaughlin '13 and Katie Ailes '14.

This type of performance is completely improvised by the dancers and requires that dancers have some part of their respective bodies touching at all times. This leads to an intricate series of winding and acrobatic moves in which the dancers encircle, grasp and lift each other and then pull away. "Contact is different in that it is an entirely different way of communicating," said McLaughlin. "You understand your partner by how much weight or touch they grant you. It's unknown. It's an adventure."

The performances were fascinating to watch; sometimes one partner would cradle the other in their lap, sometimes one would run while the other pursued and sometimes they managed to hoist each other into positions that left audience members holding their breaths, fearing that the dancers would tumble to the ground. The dancing was made all the more compelling by the improvisational factor; the current feelings and personalities of the dancers were laid bare for complete strangers, with no rehearsal or mechanical motions to hide behind. The main appeal of contact improv was that it displayed fresh moves and raw feeling coupled with intriguing restrictions.

Another highlight was the perfor-

mance by the step group Dynasty. Stepping is a type of dance that uses words, movements and different appendages to create intricate rhythm and sound. The step team's performance started with a piece where they marched onstage, clapping and stomping in unison. They all suddenly stopped center stage as one dancer asked, "Walk into Africa, what do I see?" The group responded in unison, "I see Nigeria looking at me." The dancers proceeded to run through several African countries, creating unique combinations of steps to match each one. The idea that the intricate history of a place can be expressed through percussive movements the same way that emotions and thoughts can was an interesting take on how an audience can view a country.

Dynasty followed the opening number with a more standard routine, once again exhibiting considerable skill and almost perfect unison in their steps. At the end, an audience member jumped up and demanded that the room be taught a step. After pausing for a moment, Orion McBean '13 stepped up and began to teach the audience a series of claps, stomps and snaps. The move was surprisingly difficult to imitate, but eventually the entire room was shaking and stomping along. The program was engaging and reminded the audience that dance can surprise you with its ability to tell a story in a new way, whether it be two dancers stretching the limits of their strength and trust for one another or a group of strong women stomping and smacking out their own new narrative.

### Poetry in Coram

Faculty and student writers drew a crowd in Coram Library for a reading of verse and prose. The poetry portion of the event, organized by Osucha, featured a large number of student poets, including several who decided to write their senior theses as collections of poetry. Osucha encouraged the student-poets to stand pulpit-style in front of the crowd, joking it would "bring Bates back to its seminarian roots."

One notable student poet was senior Hallie Herz, who read four poems, two of which she said were inspired by her recent semester abroad in Samoa. Herz's verse dealt heavily with the issue of ethnic identity in Samoa. Her other two poems addressed her Jewish American identity. There was a lot of repeating imagery in her work, roots naturally being a common theme and symbol.

Osucha paused the poetry readings every few minutes so the small crowd gathered would not have to miss the a cappella performances from the Crosstones, the Deansmen and the Merimanders on the library terrace.

In addition to the readings, spectators were encouraged to contribute a line to the collective "crowd-sourced poem creation" on two blank poster-sized pieces of paper affixed to the on the wall. As might be expected, the lines of verse ended up quite incongruous, proving that the contributors to the poem drew upon many different sources of artistic inspiration. Halfway through the event, lines included: "Yesterday

was three days ago, but tomorrow is right now. It's only a flesh wound, lamb chop-not the puppet, or the mushroom, or the nineteenth century puppet."

Senior Matthew Gordon, who is working on a poetry thesis, read a selection of his very comical works. The best received of these poems were based on his relationship with his father, a "Freudian Analyst" who enjoys working in his wood shop. As a result of his father's dual occupations, Gordon's poems were filled with obvious Freudian innuendoes concerning power tools.

To conclude the reading, Osucha and Senior Lecturer of English Robert Farnsworth read some of their own works. The intimate audience was particularly mesmerized by one of Farnsworth's poems, which described a visit to the mansion of a notable sculptor for whom his wife modeled and the artistic wonders which decorated his property, including enormous sculptures of insects.

The small gathering of poets and poetry-appreciators shuffled back into the cold night after two hours of beautifully written lines, painful reflections, hilarious tales and poems which each left an image in the mind's eye to be savored or a sentiment with which to identify.

### Arts & Leisure >> Style Spotlight

## Spanish TA Maria Pallarol tutors us in style

DAVINA DUKULY AND  
PHOEBE REED  
STAFF WRITERS

Barcelona native Maria Pallarol, a teaching assistant in the Spanish department, dresses with an intuitive sense of style that can only come from someone who is both self-aware and unintimidated by fashion. With an understated yet distinctive style, Pallarol is a perfect example of how to make fashion a reflection, but not a definition, of who you are.

From Barcelona, Spain, Pallarol sees a distinction between Spanish and American approaches to fashion. An avid people-watcher in Commons, Pallarol was struck by how differently Bat-

sies dressed from the people she studied with back home. "It was really a shock for me because I could see that a lot of girls dress in sporty clothes, [which] is so weird to see in Europe." For Pallarol, this observation illustrated the difference between campus life in a large European city like Barcelona and a small community like Bates. She now appreciates that some people prefer to dress for comfort.

Even though those cultural differences came as a bit of a shock to her, Pallarol does not think of herself as an example of typical Spanish style. Rather, she identifies American style icons like Chloe Sevigny and Sienna Miller as her inspiration. What she loves most about these icons' style is their ability to inte-

grate fashion from various decades into their look; the '60s and the '90s in particular are her favorite fashion eras.

While Pallarol points to these celebrities as influential, she considers her taste in cinema and music to be most essential to her stylistic choices.

"I'm not obsessed about style, but I really care about taste; maybe it's something unconscious," said Pallarol. Some of her favorite movies include "The Royal Tenenbaums" and "Eternal Sunshine of the Spotless Mind." As for music, Bob Dylan, Buffalo Springfield and other iconic '60s bands rank at the top of her list of favorites. These influences are evident in details such as her small leather satchel, unfussy parted-down-the-middle hairstyle, and her red knit

sweater, which displays her affinity for vintage clothing.

"I have a lot of love stories with my clothing," reminisced Pallarol. One of her favorite pieces is what she calls her "90s Kurt Cobain flannel," an item she had been lusting after for quite some time. Her mother helped her alter the shirt, which added to the satisfaction of finding a long sought-after piece. Shopping anecdotes like these show how rewarding it can be to invest your personality in your wardrobe.

For Pallarol, style isn't as much about particular choices as it is about spontaneity and passion.

"What I do in my life, what I wear, it's like a feeling - a need for harmony, in everything, not just in clothes," she said.



CAROLINE SOLLMANN/THE BATES STUDENT

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 1, 2011

The Bates Student

arts &amp; leisure

sports

arts &amp; leisure

Arts &amp; Leisure &gt;&gt; Movie Review

## The Fighter: Boxing movie filled with knockout performances

**HILLARY FINK**  
MANAGING ARTS & LEISURE EDITOR

There seems to be no shortage of movies about boxing. With wide-ranging films like "Rocky," "Million Dollar Baby," "Cinderella Man" and "Raging Bull," it would appear that every element of the sport has made it to the big screen. So is yet another story of an underdog and his unlikely journey to become a champion redundant?

Much like the film's hero Micky Ward, David O. Russell's "The Fighter" defies the odds and comes out on top. Though it may tread well-worn territory, "The Fighter" has its own story to tell. The actors, who shed all inhibitions to fully inhabit their characters, ensure the film's success.

"The Fighter" is based on the true story of Micky Ward, a boxer from Lowell, Massachusetts. Micky, played by Mark Wahlberg, follows in the footsteps of his older brother and coach Dicky Eklund, played by Christian Bale. Dicky becomes a local hero when he knocks out Sugar Ray Leonard. However, in the years following the fight Dicky becomes addicted to crack. The film opens with a film crew from HBO interviewing the pair, apparently there to document Dicky's comeback. Over the course of the film, the crew's actual purpose is revealed - they're filming Dicky for a feature about crack addiction in Lowell.

Though Micky is a gifted boxer, he is poorly managed. His mother Alice, played by Melissa Leo, acts as his manager and is more focused on potential paydays and Dicky than she is on helping Micky succeed. After being humiliated in the ring by an opponent who should be in a higher weight class,

Micky begins to shut out his family, turning instead to Charlene, played by Amy Adams. Charlene is a tough, no-nonsense bartender who sees Micky's potential and realizes the way his family holds him back. The film explores Micky's complex relationship with his mother and brother as he attempts to put his own desires first.

Last week, "The Fighter" was nominated for several Oscars, including Best Picture, Best Director, Best Editing and Best Original Screenplay, with Supporting Acting nominations for Bale, Leo and Adams. While the film will face stiff competition in all categories on Feb. 27th, all of its nominations are well deserved.

The screenplay takes what seems like a straightforward underdog story and turns it into a complicated exploration of drug abuse and working class American families. The audience feels Micky's intense personal struggle as he simultaneously attempts to figure out how to serve his own interests and help the family he cares about.

The editing is noteworthy, particularly in the boxing scenes. Though mesmerizing, the action in the ring is difficult to watch, adding to the authenticity of the film's portrayal of the violence of the sport.

"The Fighter" also features a dynamic soundtrack, melding orchestral and popular music and making inspired use of "How You Like Me Now" by The Heavy throughout the film.

Not only did Bale, Adams and Leo all receive acting nominations, but all three are exceptionally strong contenders. It's difficult to choose a frontrunner between Adams and Leo. Both give dynamic performances. Adams steps out of her comfort zone, playing a part far

grittier than the ones she is famous for. Whether talking trash with bar patrons or brawling with Mikey's motley crew of sisters, Adam's natural and undeniable likeability shines through, making it difficult to compare her to Leo, whose character inspires hate in the audience every time she appears onscreen. However, Leo manages to keep the performance real. While we may detest Alice Ward, we never doubt that Leo is attempting to portray a person with complex motivations, a difficult task that makes worthy of Best Supporting Actress, an accolade she received at the Golden Globes.

While Mark Wahlberg delivers an admirable performance as the film's protagonist, it is truly Bale's movie. "The Fighter" not only proves that Bale should be awarded this year's Best Supporting Actor prize, but it cements his place as one of the greatest living actors today. Bale is known in Hollywood for the dramatic, almost reckless way he commits to every role he takes on. The dramatic way he gains and loses weight is proof of Bale's commitment to his craft. Bale becomes Dicky Eklund, encapsulating his charm, addiction and delusion along with his fierce dedication to his family.

Having come away from the Golden Globes with the Best Supporting Actor trophy, Bale is poised to do the same come Oscar night. Overlooking Bale's masterful display of method acting would be a travesty. While "The Fighter" is unlikely to take home cinema's biggest prize, Bale's performance is a definite KO.



Jeff Leblanc's catchy pop tunes and creative covers captivated the audience at the Village Club Series on Thursday, Jan. 27th

SARA NOYES/COURTESY PHOTO

## Yearning for Lily King's characters

Continued from PAGE 7

her that she's moving to her grandparents' house on a lake in New Hampshire for the summer and that she'll be taking Daley with her. After the summer, she'll rent an apartment in Ashing so that Daley can continue at Ashing Academy. She'll visit her father in the big stucco house on the weekends.

Pages earlier, in the opening of the book, Daley goes to pick out a puppy with her father for her birthday. Her father and the shopkeeper pressure her to pick one of the cuddly Newfoundland puppies, but instead, she selects the ugliest puppy in the store, the one who's been sitting in his cage for several months. She wants the puppy that will be easiest to leave behind when - unbeknownst to her father - she and her mother leave in a few days.

Daley's father, Gardiner, smells of Old Spice and is always clean shaven. Perpetually clad in Nantucket red pants or navy slacks imprinted with lime green martinis or yellow ducks, he dines at the local sailing and tennis club. Photos of his rowing and football team from St. Paul's and Harvard hang in the bathroom next to the den in the house on Myrtle Street. Following his father's footsteps in institutional attendance at least, Daley's older brother, Garvey, is away at prep school and later Harvard for most of Daley's childhood.

Gardiner's wife hosts fundraisers and benefits, inviting inner city minority children to frolic in her pool several times a summer. But unlike her husband, she cannot tolerate Richard Nixon and blames him for Watergate, confirming suspicions that she's - gasp - a Democrat. The Amorys are the quintessential 1970s New England WASP family.

At first, Daley only spells it out indirectly, repeatedly referencing her father's ritualistic Martini-making. But within the first few chapters, what Daley is trying to show becomes clear: her father is an alcoholic.

We are introduced to Daley, the narrator, as a young girl in part one. A much older Daley guides us through her postgraduate wanderings in part two, and in part three, a still older Daley shows us how to say goodbye - even when things seem unfinished.

Daley's world may be a privileged one, but her upbringing does not inoculate her against the playground sneers that her body is concave because she's so flat-chested. Her father's alcoholism and her parents' messy breakup are universal themes, too, and the recounting of shuffling between parents' houses will strike a chord with anyone who has experienced divorce.

Readers view the Amory family's dissolution through Daley's eyes: her discomfort opening the door to her old room and finding her stepsister asleep in what used to be her bed and the way her stepmother, who also happens to be the mother of one of her best friends, moves her mother's dishes are just two of the ways that the travails of torn and patched families pervade Daley's conscience.

King writes the kind of characters that readers yearn to get back to. We know them so well we anticipate how they'll react, picture what they're wearing or how they smell because we've been reminded so many times how the cream Mrs. Daley uses in the morn-

ing makes her smell slightly sour. And even if we never lived in the large stucco house, we sense how this aromatic description suits her.

I took comfort in the way Gardiner Daley routinely feeds the dogs in the morning, cleans the pool and curses about neighbors with whom he doesn't get along. His devotion to fine socks and bright pants, drink and dogs, and his quick temper but soft heart resemble the bits and pieces I know about the grandfather I wish dementia hadn't stolen from me.

Underneath its family drama, "Father of the Rain" is a novel about liberation from the past, from cultural and political conservatism and from personal guilt. In part two, Daley matures into a critically-thinking anthropology doctorate about to accept her first full professorship at Berkeley at 29. When staying with her father, Daley refuses to eat at a club that discriminates against minorities and she marries a black man named Jonathan - a writer and philosophy student - she met at graduate school in Ann Arbor.

Women's liberation holds its own in the novel, too. Mrs. Daley is made out to be the liberal, cursing Nixon and marrying a children's advocate lawyer after leaving her brokerage-firm husband. Daley corrects people's speech, making distinctions between "girl" and "woman."

The privileged aspect of Daley's life could be heard to get past. Jonathan points out that she can afford to look at a job as just a job, giving up a professorship to care for her father, which is a luxury he does not have - but her struggles are universal. As the diversity of Gardiner's AA meetings show, alcoholism affects everyone, rich and poor, male and female, black and white. Divorce and the pain it inflicts on all parties, children in particular, are not limited to specific social strata or political persuasions either.

King's writing beautifully traces the evolution of a contentious father-daughter relationship, not so much illuminating its ups and downs, but contextualizing its presence and absence. In the beginning, readers feel how close Daley and her father are, but tragically, Gardiner's inability to recover from the loss of his wife and Daley precludes him from ever reconnecting with Daley.

The last pages combine the elation of celebrating Obama's 2008 victory in the Silo and the reserved satisfaction that even if only barely, a bigoted nation has loosened, not necessarily overcoming its prejudices, but realizing that they need to be overcome. And with that, the novel is over. As much as I disliked leaving the characters who were my family for 354 pages, I didn't wish the novel would go on past the ending; it felt complete in much the same way that Daley realizes that her relation with her father came as close to completion as it ever would.

Read any good books lately? The Student wants to help you share what's on your nightstand. So email hfink@bates.edu to find out more or send in your reviews!

4

OUT OF 5



Arts &amp; Leisure &gt;&gt;

## Weekly Verse

### Magic Spell

Ashley Lepre '13

Hocus Pocus! One, two three!  
Tulip! Daisy! Bumblebee!

Higgle-piggle! Swiggle-swand!  
Magic to this magic wand!

Fribble frabble fribble froup!  
Oozing mud and gooing goop!

Yellow! Orange! Green! And  
white!  
Swirls and twirls and rainbow  
light!

Skips and jumps and scream and  
shouts,

Cauliflower! Brussel sprouts!

Ruby! Diamond! Emerald! Pearl!  
Lizard! Leopard! Flying squirrel!

Two point five steps north of west!  
Lick your elbow! Pound your  
chest!

Four steps backwards then a halt!  
Cartwheel! Log roll! Summersault!

Eight steps back now spin round!  
Reach the ceiling! Hit the ground!

Pixie dust! A certain must!  
Olive pits and pizza crust!

Nacho pancakes! Frosted peas!  
Snow cones topped with cheddar  
cheese!

Cabbage cake and jerky jam!  
Deep-fried twice-baked pickled  
ham!

Now...

What comes next? I'll never learn!  
Oh!... to the start I must return!

### The Plains of Mercadia

Alec Greenberg '12

The windswept path  
and grassy olive smear sur-  
rounded

By purpled mountain V's in  
the distance

And lion's mane smoothed  
across golded plains

Gathered to mushroom top  
huts peeking out

From underneath soft tufts of  
floppy bush.

And pebble ovals sprinkled in  
for good measure.

For the artist put down a

splotch of dark to make  
shadow and

Finally a granite dragon's egg,  
softened to match the scene.

What silvery cool state of mind  
kindled by quiet flame

Painted the plains of Mercadia

To submit to The Weekly Verse email Charlotte at csimpso2@bates.edu. Submissions should be no longer than a page.

Submit whatever you like, poems by you, or poems that ignite you!

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 1, 2011

The Bates Student

Sports >> men's club hockey



## Men's hockey beats Westfield State, falls to Bridgewater State

PAUL LOMBARDI  
MANAGING SPORTS EDITOR

The men's club hockey team went 1-1 this past weekend, edging Westfield State before falling to Bridgewater State. Bates was originally supposed to play three games this weekend, but Friday night's game against Northeastern was cancelled several hours before the opening face off. At the time of print, there were no reports of the game being rescheduled.

On Saturday, Jan. 29th, Bates took on conference foe Westfield State at Underhill Arena in front of a large Bates crowd. After losing to the Owls 4-3 one week earlier, the Bobcats were able to reverse their fortunes and bounce back with a huge 4-3 victory.

Neither side was able to gain an offensive edge in the early going, and the first period ended in a scoreless tie. 3:19 into the second period, Bates opened up the scoring with a power play goal from senior captain Garrett Kopeski. Less than four minutes later, Bates

added to its lead when junior forward Patrick O'Neill found the back of the net. The Bobcats led 2-0 at the second intermission.

3:56 into the third period, Bates took a commanding 3-0 lead by working the Tyler-to-Tyler connection. Senior Tyler Dewdney hit sophomore Tyler White with a pass and White buried the puck into the back of the net.

Westfield State finally got on the board 5:29 into the third period, spoiling first-year goalie Matt Mosca's shut-out and cutting the Bates lead to 3-1. Just over two minutes later, Dewdney increased Bates' edge to 4-1, scoring a beautiful backhand goal on a breakaway.

Westfield State, however, refused to surrender. One minute after Dewdney's tally, the Owls took advantage of a scramble in front of the net and poked the puck past Mosca to close the gap to 4-2. The Owls pulled their goalie in the closing moments and were again able to score with 57 seconds remaining to cut Bates' lead to just one. Westfield State was unable to score a tying goal and Bates was able to hold on in the final

minute to win 4-3.

Less than 24 hours later, Bates played host to Bridgewater State and fell 4-1. The Bears jumped out to a 1-0 lead with 5:30 remaining in the first period. Goals in the first and last minutes of the second period gave Bridgewater State a 3-0 lead heading into the second intermission.

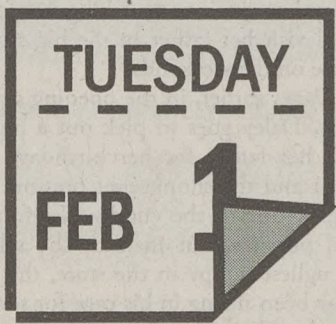
Bates finally got on the board 2:46 into the third period when first-year Chris Debrase scored on a goal assisted by Kopeski and first-year Sean Thomas. The Bobcats were unable to get any closer. The Bears scored once more with just over five minutes to go to seal the 4-1 victory. Bates had seven power plays in the game but was not able to convert with the man advantage. Sophomore Joe Dell'Erario was in goal for the Bobcats.

Bates plays its final home game of the regular season against the University of New Hampshire on Saturday, Feb. 5th at 7:00 p.m. in Underhill Arena.

The men's club hockey team celebrates a third period goal in its 4-3 victory over Westfield State on Saturday, Jan. 29th.

JON RUBIN/THE BATES STUDENT

## Bates upcoming sporting events



FRI

Feb. 4

TBD  
TBD  
6 p.m.  
6 p.m.  
8 p.m.

men's squash at  
women's squash at  
women's track at  
men's basketball at  
women's basketball at

NESCAC CHAMPIONSHIP FIRST ROUND  
NESCAC CHAMPIONSHIP FIRST ROUND  
NESCAC CHAMPIONSHIP FIRST ROUND  
TRINITY  
TRINITY

SAT

Feb. 5

TBD  
TBD  
1 p.m.  
1 p.m.  
2 p.m.  
3 p.m.  
4 p.m.  
6 p.m.  
7 p.m.

men's squash at  
women's squash at  
swimming vs.  
swimming at  
men's basketball at  
women's hockey vs.  
women's basketball at  
men's track at  
men's hockey vs.

NESCAC CHAMPIONSHIP FIRST ROUND  
NESCAC CHAMPIONSHIP FIRST ROUND  
WESLEYAN (at CONN. COLL.)  
WESLEYAN  
AMHERST  
UVM  
AMHERST  
MAINE STATE INDOOR CHAMPIONSHIPS  
UNH

SUN

Feb. 6

TBD  
TBD  
1:30 p.m.

men's squash at  
women's squash at  
women's hockey at

NESCAC CHAMPIONSHIP FIRST ROUND  
NESCAC CHAMPIONSHIP FIRST ROUND  
UVM

## Where they play:

hockey

Underhill Arena  
145 Russell Street

Sports >> squash

## Perfection: men's and women's squash teams go 6-0, don't lose a set in weekend matches

CHRIS CHIAPPETTI  
STAFF WRITER

This past weekend stood as one of only a couple of home stands for the Bates squash teams this season. Both the men's and women's teams made the most of their home court advantage, dominating the opposition and going a combined 6-0.

The No. 13 women started the week on Wednesday, Jan. 26th, against rival Bowdoin, who is ranked No. 22 in the nation. The Polar Bears couldn't muster much of a fight against the Bobcats, who were celebrating Senior Night. Seniors Anna Hogeland, Stephanie Cabot and Emily Russell are all four-year letter winners for the team and went out in style in their last regular season match against Bowdoin. According to the Bates Athletics Web site, Hogeland, Cabot and Russell all have nearly identical career winning percentages with records standing at 44-22, 49-25 and 22-11, respectively. The Bobcats cruised to an easy 9-0 victory over the Polar Bears.

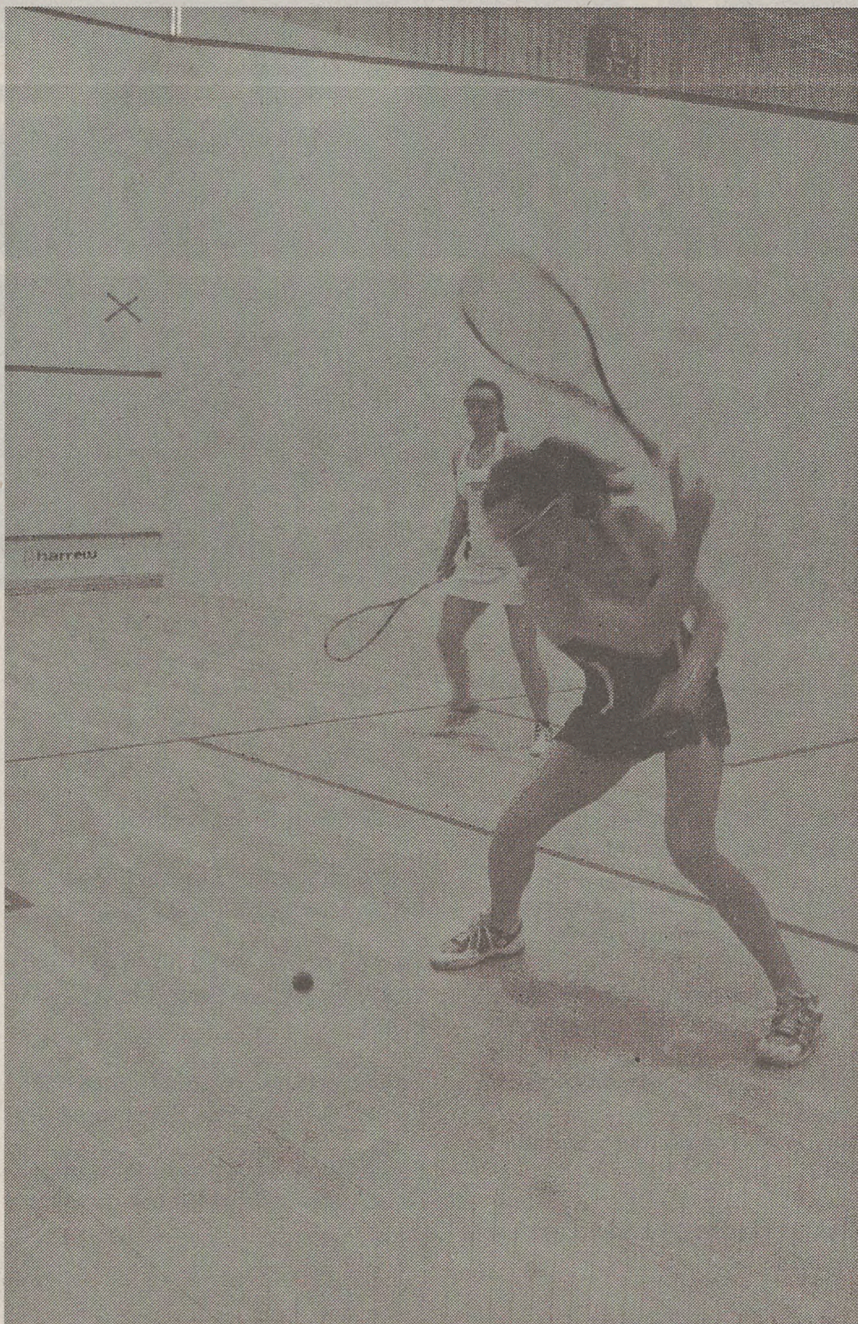
On Saturday, Jan. 29th, the women took on the No. 25 Camels of Conn. College, beating them even more handily. The Camels did not win a single game against the Bobcats. Cabot highlighted the day with a relentless attack in the No. 5 spot, beating her opponent Brittany Badik 11-0, 11-0, 11-2.

The victory allowed the women to finish the regular season with a four-game winning streak and an 11-8 record heading into the NESCAC Championship, which starts on Friday, Feb. 4th at Trinity College.

The men had a much busier weekend, playing four matches between Friday, Jan. 28th and Saturday, Jan. 29th. Denison was first to face the onslaught from the Bates men's team. The No. 14 men's team dominated No. 29 Denison from the start, winning 9-0. Sophomore Matt Baker-White recorded a particularly strong performance, scoring the only "bagel" in an 11-2, 11-0, 11-4 victory.

The men played host to their only NESCAC opponent of the season in their first match on Saturday, taking on the highest-ranked opponent of the weekend, No. 27 Conn. College. Bates would face tough matches up and down the ladder with three four-game matches, but victories were plenty on this day. In what would be one of his last home matches of his career, senior Nick Echeverria fought off John Sluder for the four-set victory.

In the matinee performance, Bates took down the No. 33 Boston College Eagles 9-0. The lineup featured some new names, as Head Coach Pat Cosquer



Senior tri-captain Stephanie Cabot winds up for a shot in Bates' 9-0 victory over Conn. College. The women's squash team went 2-0 this week, also knocking off No. 22 nationally-ranked Bowdoin.  
DIANE SAUNDERS/THE BATES STUDENT

'97 stuck some younger players in the lineup for experience.

At the No. 9 spot in this match, sophomore James Mulholland notched one of his two victories of the day against the Camels, winning in straight games. Sophomore Walter Cabot won 11-3, 11-3, 11-0 at the No. 6 spot.

In the nightcap against the No. 35 Northwestern Wildcats, Bates again secured a 9-0 victory, losing only one game. Cosquer, who formally coached at Northwestern, presented the Wildcats with the Chaffee Trophy, which he won during his tenure there in 1999.

In the No. 9 spot, first-year Rodney Galvao saw action, dominating play and the score line, winning 11-0, 11-0, 11-0. Bates only lost one game in the match.

The men have one remaining home game against Colby on Saturday, Feb. 12th, but next weekend they face stiffer competition at the NESCAC Championship. The success of this weekend should help the 14-7 Bobcats in the postseason, which runs through early March.

"We enjoyed playing a good group of teams this weekend at home, and we're looking forward to the opportunity we have next weekend at the NESCAC tournament," said Baker-White, who was 3-0 on the weekend. "We're planning and going out and playing our best against our NESCAC opponents," he added.

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 1, 2011

The Bates Student

Sports &gt;&gt; men's track and field

## Men's track and field dominates the competition, wins USM Invitational

**NORA HANAGAN**  
ASSISTANT SPORTS EDITOR

The men's track and field team started off its weekend on a phenomenal note at the BU Terrier Invitational on Friday, Jan. 28th, running against athletes from all three divisions. The men entered two squads, "A" and "B," in the Distance Medley Relay, and both ran incredibly well.

The men's "A" team broke the team Distance Medley Relay record by exactly six seconds with their time of 9:58.10. The previous team record of 10:04.10 was set in 2003 by Malcolm Gray '03, Stephen Graham '03, John Bauer '06 and Andrius Stasiunas '05. The new record holding team includes sophomore Nick Barron who ran the lead off 1,200m with a split of 3:02. He handed off to senior captain Ryan Quinn who came around the 400m in 49.2 seconds. Quinn was followed by sophomore James LePage with a 1:53 split in the 800m. Finishing up the relay for the Bobcats was first-year Tully Hannan who had a 4:11 split in the 1600m. The men qualified provisionally for Nationals but missed the Automatic National Qualifying standard by two seconds, despite their time currently standing as second fastest in the nation for Division III teams.

The "B" side won their heat with their time of 10:11.95 and just missed the Provisional National Qualifying mark by five seconds but did add themselves to number five on the team's top 10 performance list. Opening the race was senior Tom Esponette, followed by first-year Ben Levy, junior Peter Corcoran and first-year Noah Graboys.

The next day, Saturday, Jan. 29th, Bates headed to USM where the team excelled both on the track and in the field. Bates dominated the throws for the third weekend in a row, this time sweeping the top three spots in both the shot and the weight throw. In the weight, senior captain Chris Murtagh won with a throw of 61-02.75. He was followed by sophomore David Pless

who threw a 54-01.00 and senior Erhan Waldman who threw a 52-04.50. Waldman then went on to win the shot put with a 49-01.00, which was followed by Pless in second again with a 47-06.50 and Murtagh placing third with 45-09.75.

Bates then swept the top three spots again, this time in the 55m hurdles. The Bobcats were led by first-year Jarret McKallagat in 7.95 seconds followed by sophomore Tony Haeuser in 8.10 seconds and senior captain Brett Epler in 8.25 seconds.

In similar fashion, Bates took first, second and third place in the mile. Sophomore Graham Pearsall won with his time of 4:32.29. He was followed by first-year Mike Martin who ran a 4:35.05 and sophomore Ken Whitney who ran the mile in 4:35.29.

The final sweep of the day came in the 200m with Quinn, Levy and McKallagat placing first, second and third with times of 23.37, 23.46 and 23.78, respectively.

Other winning Bobcats included sophomore Tim Woods in the 55m. He ran it in 6.77 seconds and was followed closely by junior Mike Jiang who placed second. Woods also won the long jump at 19-04.00. LePage won the 600m in a time of 1:22.22, followed in third by senior Kevin McDonald who ran a 1:27.83. Sophomore Andrew Wortham won the 3,000m in 8:56.58 followed in second by junior Sean Colligan with his time of 9:10.37. Both 4x400m and 4x800m teams won by a landslide. The teams included Epler, Haeuser, sophomore David Hardison and LePage in the 4x400m and Barron, Graboys, Corcoran and Esponette in the 4x800m.

Overall, the men totaled an amazing 271.5 points while facing little competition from runners up USM who tallied 151.5 points. Emmanuel, Gordon and St. Joseph's placed even further behind.

The men's team next competes at the Maine State Indoor Championships at Bowdoin on Saturday, Feb. 5th.

**BOBCAT  
OF THE  
WEEK**

### DANA LINDAUER '11

On Friday, Jan. 28th, Dana Lindauer, senior co-captain of the women's track and field team, ran to 14th place out of 57 runners in the 400m dash competing against runners from all three divisions in the BU Terrier Invitational. Lindauer's time of 59.12 seconds was the fourth fastest indoor 400m dash in Bates women's history. Lindauer already holds the College's record for the fastest outdoor 400m dash.



COURTESY PHOTO/OFFICE OF COMMUNICATIONS AND MEDIA RELATIONS

**WOMEN'S TRACK**

Sports >> Senior Columnist  
**PAUL LOMBARDI**  
MANAGING SPORTS EDITOR



## Give me a B! The story of Bates basketball's biggest fan

Don Robitaille is a name that might not look familiar, but if you've attended a Bates basketball home game at any point in the last two decades, you've probably seen him. Robitaille, who turns 80 this year, is not just a familiar face at Alumni Gym, he's a legend.

Robitaille is Bates basketball's most dedicated fan. He's most well-known for leading chants during timeouts, spelling out "Bates" or "Bobcats" letter by letter before asking the crowd questions such as, "What does that spell?" and "Who's going to win this game?"

Robitaille's call-and-response chant has echoed through the historic gym for nearly 20 years, yet few Bates students, faculty or staff seem to know much about him. I recently sat down with Mr. Robitaille and asked him about his chanting, his connections to Bates and his life outside the gym.

I met up with Bates basketball's biggest supporter inside Alumni Gym before the Bobcats' final home game of the regular season against Conn. College on Saturday. I had introduced myself during the previous night's game, and he immediately recognized me when I approached him. He addressed me by name, shook my hand and asked me how I was. It was as if we'd known each other for years.

Robitaille anticipated my first question before I even asked it, handing me his business card and saying with a smile, "this is so you spell my name right in the article."

Robitaille has been attending Bates basketball games for 18 years. When asked how many games he's missed over that span he replied, "no home games, or very few." When pressed further about how many games he's attended in total he responded, "oh boy, about 18 times 18, whatever that is." For those of you wondering, that's 324 games.

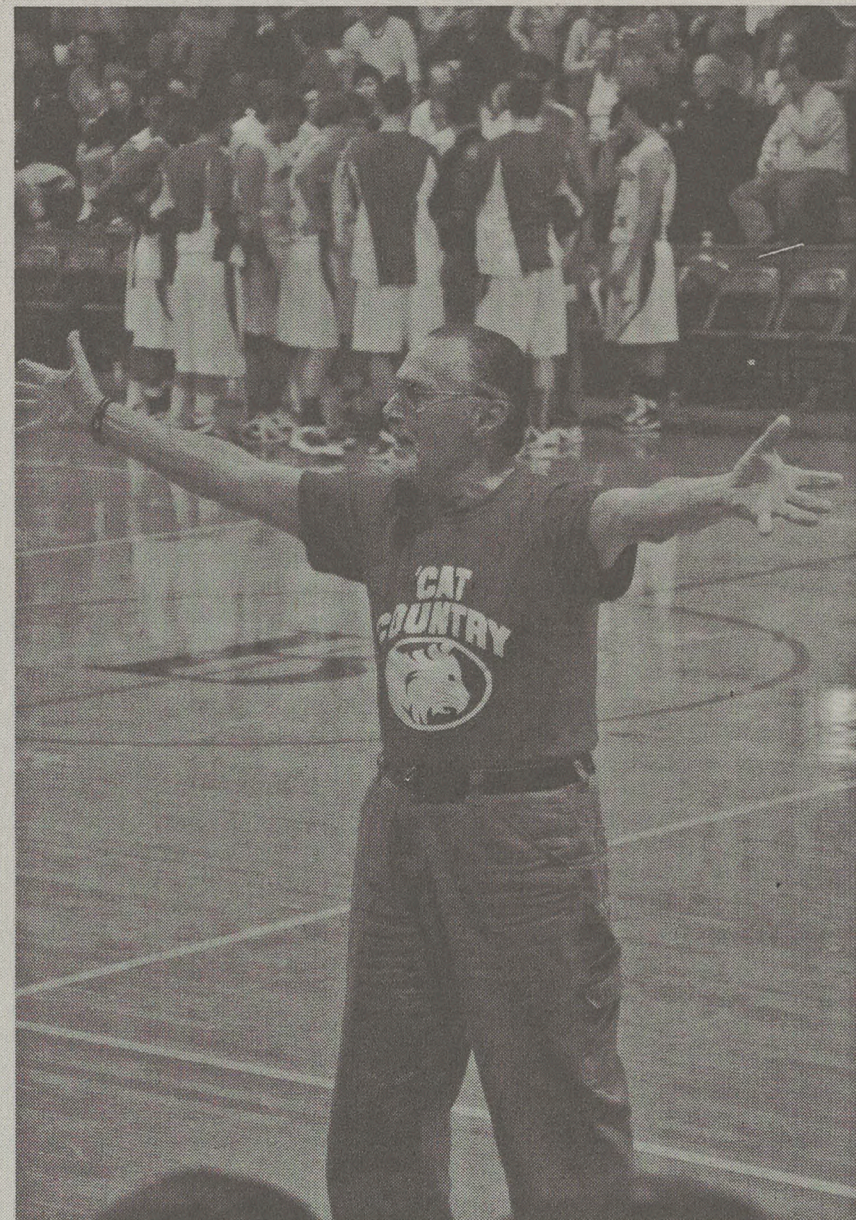
Robitaille's love for Bates basketball doesn't stem from any of the most logical sources. He has five children, but none attended Bates and Robitaille does not work for the College. He even admitted that he never played basketball.

So why root for Bates basketball? Where does the passion come from? Mr. Robitaille says that besides being a basketball fan and the gym being warm, he supports the team because of how you can come to understand a team over time.

"I enjoy watching them in that if you watch the same team over and over every game, you get to know them and know how they are going to react in certain critical situations," he said.

That gives a reason for attending so many games, but what about his chanting? How did that come to be? Surprisingly, Robitaille explained that he didn't start it. An unnamed student who graduated in the early 1990s used to do the chanting, but his graduation left a void that Robitaille was happy to fill.

"The following year [after the prior chanter had graduated] we were



PAUL LOMBARDI/THE BATES STUDENT

Don Robitaille, 79, has been leading cheers at Bates basketball games for nearly two decades.

playing, I think, Bowdoin or Colby. The place was packed and it was a timeout and everyone was just sitting there. [At] about the second timeout, I get up and say, 'we need a cheer here!' Everyone was like, 'yeah!' so that's when I started," he explained.

Robitaille's connection to Bates extends outside the gym as well. He says he attends Bates concerts and volunteers at the Olin Arts Center. When away from the court, Robitaille is an avid bicyclist: "I do, probably, 25-35 miles a day, going nine months of the year," he said. During the winter, he cross country skis, snow shoes and hikes.

Robitaille's relation to Bates basketball also extends off the court. When discussing his relationship with the team, Robitaille said, "I just see them [the players] in Wal-Mart and they recognize me. I don't recognize them without their uniforms [and they say] 'oh you're the Bates guy, you're the cheering guy.'"

Perhaps Robitaille was being modest because his relation to Bates basketball clearly runs deeper than casual run-ins with players in Lewiston. At several points during the interview, coaches and players from both the men's and women's basketball team walked by. Robitaille shook hands with coaches, talked with players about prior games and wished them good luck. Everyone in

the Bates basketball community seemed to know him and all were happy to have him around Alumni Gym.

What's Robitaille's favorite part about Bates basketball? "Everything," he replied immediately. Robitaille doesn't just like sitting there and watching: "I like to be in the parade, rather than watch the parade," he explained. His desire to be a part of Bates basketball is infectious and one of the reasons Bobcat fans are seen as so intimidating.

Nearing the end of the interview, I asked Robitaille if he had any plans to stop attending games or stop the cheer anytime soon. To my surprise, he said that while he has no plan to stop coming or leading the chant, he would gladly hand over the job if a student were willing to take over.

"I've told the coaches and the president, Elaine Hansen, as well, if a Bates student wants to do this, I don't want to be a hindrance to him," Robitaille said. "I hope they don't," he added with a laugh before reiterating, "If [a student] says, 'I'd do it if he didn't do it,' then I'd say 'go right ahead.'"

At the end of the interview I couldn't resist switching roles for a moment. As a final question I asked Robitaille, "Who's going to win this game?"

"Oh, it's going to be Bates all the way," he replied with another smile.

Sports &gt;&gt; Nordic skiing

## Ruppertsberger, Gill lead Nordic team in successful weekend

**PAUL LOMBARDI**  
MANAGING SPORTS EDITOR

The men's and women's Nordic ski teams combined for a third place finish out of five schools at the Chummy Broomhall Cup at Black Mountain in Rumford, Maine on Sunday, Jan. 30th.

Senior co-captain Natalie Ruppertsberger and senior Kirsten Gill led the way, as the women's Nordic ski team cruised to a first place finish out of five teams.

In the 10K Classic Mass Start race, Ruppertsberger and Gill took the top two spots to lead the way for the Bob-

cats. Ruppertsberger finished the race in 32:18.3 while Gill came in less than 30 seconds later with a time of 32:45.2.

Bates had four competitors finish in the top eight spots. First-year Andrea Fisher earned sixth place while senior co-captain Megan McClelland placed eighth. Sophomore Samantha Forrest and first-year Caroline Daniels finished in 12th and 13th, respectively.

For the men's team, first-year Jordan Buetow continued his excellent first season at Bates, coming in 10th place out of 32 skiers with a time of 29:44.7. Junior Jimmy Burnham finished 3.2 seconds behind Buetow, earning 11th

place. First-year Peter Cowan finished in 14th place and fellow first-year Alex Hamilton closely followed with a 15th place finish. Sophomore Lucas Miliken, sophomore Dan Kuzio and first-year Sean Woods also competed for the men, finishing in 17th, 18th and 19th, respectively. The Bates men's team came in third overall.

The men's and women's Nordic ski teams head to the Trapp Family Lodge in Stowe, Vermont to compete in the UVM Carnival on Friday, Feb. 4th and Saturday, Feb. 5th.

**Did You Know ?**

**Fun facts about Bates athletics**

### track and field

The men's and women's track and field teams have produced a combined 23 All-Americans and four NCAA Champions since 1985.

### women's basketball

The women's basketball team has won each of its four NESCAC victories by at least 14 points. The team has won three conference games by more than 20 points this season.

### men's basketball

In 2005-06, the men's basketball team set a Bates record for consecutive wins with 16. The team finished 20-6, beating Bowdoin in the NESCAC quarterfinals before losing to Amherst in the NESCAC Semifinals.

# Men's basketball wins back-to-back conference games, sits fourth in NESCAC standings

JENNA DANNIS  
STAFF WRITER

The men's basketball team went undefeated in a crucial weekend of conference play against Wesleyan and Conn. College. Bates has now won three straight NESCAC games to improve its overall conference record to 3-3, which currently puts the Bobcats fourth in the NESCAC with three regular season conference games remaining.

On Friday, Jan. 28th, the Bobcats took on former head coach Joe Reilly and the Wesleyan Cardinals. Although the Cardinals had only tallied a single conference victory this season, they were unwilling to surrender easily to the higher-ranked Bobcats.

Both teams traded baskets throughout the first half. With five minutes remaining, the Cardinals had their biggest advantage of the game, leading the Bobcats by seven points. However senior Tom Deegan stepped up defensively for Bates, pulling down three rebounds and recording a steal in the final four minutes of the game to spark a Bobcat run, giving Bates a two point advantage going into the half. Senior tri-captain Brian Ellis led the offensive effort by the Bobcats in the first half, scoring 13 points.

The Bobcats started out the second half with lots of momentum and slowly began to extend their lead. Senior tri-captain Nick Schmiemann jump-started the Bates run with a lay up and a three-

pointer to begin the second half. The Bobcat thrust continued throughout the period, and with five minutes remaining, Bates had managed to widen its lead to 17 points.

Wesleyan made one final push to try and close the lead, but was smothered by the Bobcat defense and Bates' strong free throw shooting. The Bobcats eventually defeated the Cardinals 70-59.

Schmiemann and senior tri-captain Alex Gallant combined for 22 of the Bobcat's 46 second-half points, scoring 12 and 10 points, respectively. Gallant also sparked the second half energy for the team and the home crowd with a slam dunk over a Wesleyan defender. Junior forward John Squires played a solid all-around game for Bates, pulling down nine rebounds and scoring 12 points while also blocking two shots.

In their final home game of the regular season on Saturday, Jan. 29th, the Bobcats routed Conn. College for their third straight conference win. Although the Camels were coming off a huge road victory over Tufts the previous evening, they could not slow down the Bobcats on Senior Day.

The game got off to a slow start with only a combined seven points scored in the first five minutes of play. Sharp shooting and aggressive defense allowed the Bobcats to pull away midway through the period, however the Camels were able to respond and crawled back into the game with a slew of three-pointers to end the period.

The camels shot a fantastic 53.7 percent from three-point range and held on to a two-point edge entering the halftime break.

Ellis paced the Bobcats with seven points in the first half while Squires and junior forward Ryan Weston combined for six rebounds in the first frame.

The game remained close for the beginning of the second half as Conn. College continued to drain baskets from beyond the arc. After several lead changes in the first 10 minutes, the Bobcats proved their depth and talent and began to pull away from the visitors. With Bates leading by five with just over a minute left, the Camels were forced to foul, allowing Bates to stretch their lead even further. Accuracy at the foul line prevented the Camels from catching up to the Bobcats, who won the game 58-47.

Schmiemann once again came to life in the second half, finishing the game with a team-high 13 points. Squires also had another solid half for the Bobcats, scoring seven points, grabbing three rebounds and blocking two Camel shots. Squires and Ellis both picked up 12 points in the game.

Bates looks to continue its NESCAC winning streak next weekend when the team hits the road to face Trinity on Friday, Feb. 4th and No. 6 nationally-ranked Amherst on Saturday, Feb. 5th. Currently ranked fourth in the conference, a set of victories could ensure a home playoff game for the Bobcats.



**HANK SCHLESS '14/THE BATES STUDENT**  
Senior tri-captain Brian Ellis drives to the hoop in Bates' 70-59 win over Wesleyan on Friday, Jan. 28th.

## Sports >> women's club hockey

## Winning streak continues: women's hockey wins twice in undefeated weekend

CAROLINE O'SULLIVAN  
ASSISTANT SPORTS EDITOR

The women's club hockey team had a very successful weekend, securing wins over the University of Maine and Westfield State.

On Saturday, Jan. 29th, Bates hosted UMaine in the teams' second meeting of the season. When the two teams last played in November, the Bobcats fell to the Black Bears 3-0. Looking to turn the tables, Bates started out the game in full force. Just three minutes into the first period, a perfectly timed pass from senior tri-captain Kathleen Boyland found the stick of junior Emily Bechtold at the top of the slot. Bechtold launched the puck between the legs of the UMaine goalie, giving Bates the early 1-0 lead.

UMaine responded with 4:30 left in the first period, sliding one past senior

goalie Chelsea Bolton. Bates continued to dominate play in the second period but was unable to capitalize on any scoring opportunities. Still tied 1-1 in the third period, first-year Ali Desjardin was finally able to find the back of the net off a pass from sophomore Annie Cravero. The Bates defense fortified the defensive zone, allowing Bates to hang on to the 2-1 victory.

"In my opinion, this was the best game we have played all season," said Boyland. "We have come such a long way since the first time we played UMaine, and I couldn't be more proud of the team," she added.

"It felt great to win after being the definite underdogs. UMaine has some really great skill, and some individual players who can out-skate us, but we outplayed them because we played as a team and as a unit," explained junior tri-captain Shauna Mulvihill. Mulvihill had been abroad for the first half of the

season, so the game on Saturday against UMaine was her first back on the ice.

"A win like that has brought us closer as a team," said Mulvihill. "I am so proud of everyone and I can confidently say that the hockey we played on Saturday was some of the best hockey I have played at Bates," she added.

The Bobcats continued their winning streak into their game against Westfield State on Sunday, Jan. 30th. Bates dominated the play and had the puck in the offensive zone for the majority of the game, earning a 2-0 win over the Owls.

Bates plays a home-and-home series against the University of Vermont this weekend. The team will face off against the Catamounts at home on Saturday, Feb. 5th at 3:00 p.m. and at UVM on Saturday, Feb. 6th. The results of these games will determine whether the team qualifies for postseason play.

## Sports >> women's basketball

## On a roll: women's basketball blows out NESCAC foes, improves to 16-5

CAROLINE O'SULLIVAN  
ASSISTANT SPORTS EDITOR

The women's basketball team had a successful weekend, blowing out two NESCAC teams by more than 20 points and improving their record to 16-5 and 4-2 in the conference.

On Friday, Jan. 28th, Bates took on the Wesleyan Cardinals at home in Alumni Gymnasium and came away with a dominating 69-49 victory. The game was evenly matched in the first half with a lot of back-and-forth play. Going into the half, the score was 28-27 in Wesleyan's favor.

Bates, however, stepped it up in the second half. Sophomore Taryn O'Connell was the game's highest scoring player with 13 points, 11 of which were scored in the second half. Along with O'Connell's points, the Bobcats opened the half with a 13-2 run that allowed Bates to pull far enough ahead to maintain a substantial lead for the remainder of the game.

Other standout performances came from senior tri-captain Christine McCall and first-year Meredith Kelly who each picked up 11 points. Bates did a very good job of converting on turnovers, scoring 22 points to Wesleyan's 11 off of giveaways.

The Bobcats also had a strong game defensively. Senior tri-captain Jessie Igoe contributed three blocks as well as 11 rebounds in the victory.

Still feeling good after Friday's win, the Bobcats headed into Saturday's game against the Conn. College Camels with confidence. Bates defeated Conn. College by a whopping 27 point margin, knocking off the Camels 86-59.

Bates got on the board just eight seconds into the game with a three-pointer from junior Lauren Dobish and stayed ahead for the rest of the afternoon. Dobish finished the game with a solid nine points, six rebounds and four assists.

Igoe had an exciting finish to her last career regular season home game. She nabbed her second double-double of the season, scoring 16 points and 10 rebounds. It was the fourth time in her Bates career that Igoe finished with a double-double.

Sophomore Allie Beaulieu was on fire in the game, going 9-12 from the field for a game-high total of 23 points to go along with four rebounds, three assists and two steals. First-year Meredith Kelly made her mark with 15 points and junior tri-captain Annie Burns grabbed five boards in addition to her eight assists.

Bates hopes to continue its three-game winning streak this upcoming weekend when the Bobcats face two tough NESCAC teams on the road. Bates tips off against Trinity on Friday, Feb. 4th and against No. 2 nationally-ranked Amherst on Saturday, Feb. 5th.

## Sports >> women's track and field

## Lindauer shines in Boston, runs fourth fastest indoor 400 meter dash in Bates women's history

NORA HANAGAN  
ASSISTANT SPORTS EDITOR

The women's track and field team had a weekend of personal bests kicked off by senior co-captain Dana Lindauer's 400m dash in Boston on Friday, Jan. 28th. Lindauer was the only female Bobcat to attend the meet which was open to all divisions. But the division didn't matter for Lindauer as she grabbed an amazing 14th out of 57 runners, earning her new personal record of 59.12.

She now holds the fourth fastest indoor 400m in Bates women's history along with her claim to the outdoor school record in the 400m. Despite her incredible performance, Lindauer is confident she can run even faster considering this was only her second week of training coming off a foot injury and her split in Saturday's 4x400m clocked in around 58 seconds.

The next day Lindauer headed to USM along with the rest of the team for USM's annual invitational. Although winning in combined scores with the men, the women came third to Spring-

field and Southern Maine. Bates scored 134 and beat out Smith's 61 points, Emmanuel's 40, Mount Holyoke's 24 and Gordon's 10.

Despite placing third, the women had many outstanding performances throughout the day. In the throws, senior co-captain Sarah Ellen Godek continued her undefeated record in the weight and shot while also hitting new personal bests in both. Godek threw a 54-04.75 in the weight to improve her national qualifying mark and hit 40-08.75 in the shot. In the 600m sophomore Bud Arens destroyed the competition, as well as her own personal record, when she ran a 1:41.58 and qualified for the Eastern College Athletic Conference (ECAC) Championship. Also finishing first by a landslide and qualifying for ECAC's was fellow sophomore Lindsay Cullen who ran a 10:47.67 in the 3,000m. Finishing up the individual event winners for the Bobcats was first-year Kallie Nixon who won the 800m in 2:22.86. Nixon also went on to run a fantastic split in the winning 4x400m

team.

Bates took first place in both the 4x800m as well as the 4x400m and was a close second in the 4x200m. The 4x800m team of senior Kat Collet, sophomores Lisa Reedich and Nora Hanagan and first-year Meg Oglivie clocked in at 10:15.23, over 23 seconds ahead of the second place finishers. The 4x400m team ran a time of 4:09.06. The 4x200m team, despite placing second, still ran an excellent time of 1:49.82 which qualified them for ECAC's. The team included Lindauer, Flanagan, sophomore Kristen Poulin and first-year Abby Alexander.

Also performing notably well on Saturday were Oglivie who came in second in the mile with a time of 5:27.68 and junior Taylor Pierce who came second in the triple jump and third in the long jump with marks of 34-08.50 and 16-08.75, respectively.

Next week, the women's team heads back to USM for its much anticipated State of Maine meet with tough competition from Colby, USM and Bowdoin.

## NESCAC Standings

men's basketball			women's basketball		
Team	Conf.	Overall	Team	Conf.	Overall
Amherst	5-0	18-0	Amherst	5-0	19-1
Williams	5-0	19-1	Williams	5-0	19-1
Middlebury	4-1	16-1	<b>Bates</b>	<b>4-2</b>	<b>16-5</b>
<b>Bates</b>	<b>3-3</b>	<b>12-9</b>	Tufts	4-2	15-3
Tufts	3-3	10-9	Colby	3-2	14-4
Bowdoin	2-3	12-5	Bowdoin	2-3	15-4
Trinity	2-3	11-9	Middlebury	2-3	12-5
Colby	1-4	9-10	Trinity	2-3	12-7
Conn. Coll.	1-5	10-10	Conn. Coll.	0-6	7-13
Wesleyan	1-5	9-11	Wesleyan	0-6	6-12

Interested in sports?

Write about them for The Bates Student! For more information, please contact [plombard@bates.edu](mailto:plombard@bates.edu). We look forward to hearing from you!