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Janet Judge Speaks About Divison III Athletics

Sarah Rothmann, Editor-In-Chief

Bates has seen tremendous success in the world of athletics. Teams have competed at the national level, state and regional championships have been won, and Bates offers over 30 varsity programs to students. Approximately one third of the student body has been recruited or chose to compete for these teams. These students are busy on and off the field, balancing practice with academics and other club and extracurricular opportunities.

As a student-athlete who participates on the cross-country and track teams year-round, I have never taken a moment to think about why athletics is important to me and the rest of the Bates student body. I am in the midst of my final cross-country season at Bates and I want to make sure the following question gets answered: What does it mean to be a DIII collegiate student-athlete? Fortunately, 2019 Boston sports lawyer of the year, Janet Judge, visited our campus to tackle this question among other relevant issues and topics for NCAA DIII varsity sports teams.

As a student-athlete at Harvard University, Janet Judge appreciated having athletics help to "structure her world." After graduation, she was offered the job of assistant director of facilities at Harvard. She proceeded to earn the position "Assistant Director

of Athletics" the following year. Judge then went to Boston University School of Law and eventually became a litigation partner for the law firm of Holland & Knight in Boston. She is currently an online instructor for the National Association of College and University Attorneys' Title IX coordinator course.

In addition to all of her career accomplishments and endeavors, Janet Judge spends time traveling to different colleges and universities and speaks about current sports and sexual misconduct issues. Her visit to Bates was sponsored by the Bates Athletics Department and Student Affairs. She visited from Sept. 26-27. and presented to students, captains, the Student-Athlete Advisory committee, and the athletic department staff. Her discussions included important conversations about eligibility, social media, hazing, and leadership.

When speaking about her own athletic and work experiences, Judge made sure to highlight the importance of staying true to yourself and your personal life goals. "You hear it all the time. Do what you love. That is wonderful for everybody to say that but actually figuring out how to do it took me a little bit of time to figure out," she said. "I was playing out some of the opportunities that



Janet Judge presents to Bates varsity sports captains and SAAC members on Thursday, Sept. 27. SARAH DU PONT/THE BATES STUDENT

were important to me because I believe that is how I got to know the people in my community. It sounds trite but I have an obligation to be paying forward as well and sports is the way you can do it."

A former captain of Harvard's soccer, basketball and track and field teams, Judge also spoke about why she values athletics and her identity as a student-athlete. "Athletics was transformative in my life," she explained. "It taught me about managing my time, about being respectful to others, and about working hard now for a result that might not come until later."

Judge also discussed the

importance of community for student-athletes. "I have had a number of mentors in my life which was incredibly important and the vast majority of them were the people I met through athletics," she said. "They saw something in me and then pushed me to work harder than I was working at the time. I can trace almost every success to athletics."

Janet Judge finished her discussions by asking the audience, "What three words do you associate with your identity as a student-athlete?" My thoughts immediately went to "Strong," "Dedicated," and "Compassionate." While I definitely value these characteristics, Janet Judge's pres-

entation made me realize that I can use the skills I have gained from athletics to work toward career aspirations and leadership opportunities within my community.

Janet Judge left the Bates community with advice that will help me and all students when thinking about the daunting road ahead. "Give it your all. Don't leave anything behind. Be grateful," she said. "You are being given tremendous opportunities. Acknowledge that and make the most of it. Also, support each other both in athletics and outside of athletics. I think it is always important for athletes to take a broader view. Finally, talk about a network. You will always be Bates athletes. Own it!"

Batesies Volunteer at Trinity Jubilee Center

Sophie Mackin, Contributing Writer

Hungry for some volunteer work? The Trinity Jubilee Center – only a five-minute drive from campus – has plenty of opportunities.

An independent non-profit organization since 2001, the Trinity Jubilee Center now serves over 1,000 people in the Lewiston-Auburn area each week. The Center provides immediate aid in the

form of meal programs and a day shelter as well as long-term aid in the form of job application advice and medical attention. The Center is dedicated to helping people get back up on their feet regardless of their needs or restrictions. According to its website, "Each person comes to the Jubilee Center with different barriers and goals and utilizes different programs in order to stabilize and improve their life."

Erin Reed '08, the Executive Director and Food Pantry Coordinator, is eager to increase Bates' presence at the Center. "My AESOP trip volunteered at Trinity and I've been involved ever since! Our previous Executive Director is also a Bates alum who volunteered for a long time before joining the staff. We've had some awesome Bates volunteers and would love to connect with more students!" she said.

Any special skills you have might come in handy. Elizabeth Kiley-Bergen '20, who worked at the Trinity Jubilee Center this past summer, was able to use her French speaking skills to translate for francophone clients, such as immigrants and political refugees from Francophone Africa. "My job would change from day to day, because, in a small space and with a small staff, Trinity services a lot of people with A LOT of different needs," she explained. Each day, there are two translators and two or three full-time staff members available, so volunteer help is greatly appreciated in order to serve as many people as possible. "Most of my time was spent translating job applications for

francophone clients, though my translating duties sometimes included translating for patients at the free clinic on Thursdays or helping people that spoke limited English make phone calls and such. Also, when we were understaffed in the kitchen, I would jump in to help the kitchen manager Crystal," Kiley-Bergen added.

Spending time in the Lewiston-Auburn area is a great way to re-connect with different communities and life outside of Bates. Trinity Jubilee Center is a meeting place for people from all walks of life, each with unique stories to share. "Working at Trinity this summer I really came to see first-hand how complicated Lewiston is, which is not something we ever think about in our limited little Bates bubble. Lewiston really struggles economically and there is definitely a lack of opportunity for mobility. A place like Trinity helps to keep a lot of smart and capable people as well as those who are down on their luck afloat," said Kiley-Bergen.

Last year, the Trinity Jubilee Center served 26,000 meals, distributed 10,000 bags of groceries, and helped more than 225 people

find jobs!

The Center runs five programs: soup kitchen, food pantry, day shelter, resource center, and the refugee integration program. The kitchen serves healthy lunches every Monday through Saturday at 11am. Volunteers are needed weekdays, especially Tuesdays and Thursdays, from 8 am-9am to help cook and from 12pm-1pm to wash dishes and clean up. Volunteers are welcome to come in earlier, at 11:00am, to help serve lunch as well. On Saturdays, volunteers are needed from 9am-1pm to cook, serve, and clean up. If you're looking for a once-a-week gig, the Center is also looking for volunteers to pick up food donations from restaurants and cafeterias like Commons that save leftovers. Lastly, the Center wants to expand its Refugee Integration Program and hire a work-study student to help refugees with job applications. They hope to help even more people this year – but that requires volunteers!

Email trinitylewiston@gmail.com if you are interested. The Center is only a mile from campus at 247 Bates Street, and the community service shuttle can take you there if you need a ride.



Bates's Swim and Dive team help the center build a garden. ERIN REED/COURTESY PHOTO

Isuken Food Truck Drives New ‘Commensality’ to Lewiston

Christina Perrone, Managing News Editor

On Sept. 20, 2018, the Isuken Co-op Food Truck held its much-anticipated grand opening on 966 Sabattus Street in Lewiston, where it shares a space with New Roots, a local Somali Bantu farm stand.

After two years of planning,

what they want to do as a co-op. And after that, I helped them raise funds, get the food truck—so really just kind of providing support and training on the way.”

His recommendation from the menu? “Sambusas.” He went into

sold out from under them and so they invented this idea of creating a food truck instead, which seems brilliant.”

For Professor Eames, the opening of the food truck has a significant impact in terms of the wider

Finally, I had the chance to speak with Mohamed Dekow, one of the founders of the Isuken Cooperative, about what initially sparked the inspiration for the food truck. “A number of community leaders, including myself, came together. We understood the gaps and the need of the communities [of Lisbon and Lewiston]. This here,” Dekow said, gesturing to the food truck and surrounding area, “is a piece of what was missing from the community.”

According to Dekow, “The biggest challenge to start this was the community displacement and the complaints of the barriers of language—the fears ‘We don’t know the language’ and ‘We’re afraid that this won’t happen,’ and until we found CDI, Cooperative Development Institute, we didn’t know as leaders exactly what to do with the right elements to form the co-op.”

In the future, Isuken plans to

cater over the winter and attend events throughout the summer and fall. When asked about working with Bates, he replied, “We are looking forward to working with Bates College, of course, because it was one of the tools that we used, because they’ve been filming all of this, they showed great support through the Kickstarter and [helped us] gain the \$14,000.”

Before returning to eat with friends and family, Dekow shared what one of the most rewarding parts of his experience has been. “Really, we are one of the community. And we live in a place where it has been accomplished,” he said. “We took the responsibility of understanding that we are one of the community, and we are taking our responsibility to keep the accomplishments of existing in this city and to provide an example for others to see what has been done.”



Isuken Food Truck serves hot chai and delicious food to locals.
CHRISTINA PERRONE/THE BATES STUDENT

the Isuken Food Truck is the first ever Somali Bantu farm-to-fork food truck in the US. According to its website, Isuken means “unity and together” and is a fitting title for the five-member cooperative, as its members are all equally involved in making decisions, sharing responsibilities and sharing the rewards of the business.

On the day of the grand opening, the food truck was bustling with activity. Jonah Fertig-Burd, the director of Cooperative Food Systems at the Cooperative Development Institute, came to enjoy food with his family.

“I’ve been working and providing support to Isuken Co-op as they’ve developed over the past two years,” said Fertig-Burd. “[I’ve been] helping them form their co-op, develop a business plan, explore what their market is, and

further detail: “I like the beef sambusa a lot, but all of the sambusas are good...Sambusas are going to be a big winner. It’s a good food truck item.”

Also attending the opening was Professor Elizabeth Eames from Bates’ Anthropology Department. Last year, two of her classes collaborated with the Isuken Cooperative in its preliminary stages, providing consulting and film footage of the business process.

As with most small businesses, the road to accomplishing the end goal had its unanticipated hardships. Professor Eames explained, “Last year in the Comparative Economic senior seminar... we worked with this group when they were thinking of creating a farm-to-table restaurant in town. But then, meanwhile, the space they had picked out for themselves got

community. “It brings people together to celebrate the bounty of the land and the community itself, to share conversations with people you know and don’t know. Anthropologists call it ‘commensality,’ where you eat together, and eating together forms bonds. So, throw that word ‘commensality’ in there if you want,” she said.

One student from her Comparative Economic seminar, Keenan Shields ’18, shared his experience working with Isuken: “We did a number of small, informal consulting-like things. My group researched different locations that they could potentially go to, and researched some of the licensing and permit stuff that they would need. There was another group that did publicity, and another group that did menu and aesthetic research.”



New Roots Coop shares the space with Isuken Food Truck on Sabattus.
CHRISTINA PERRONE/THE BATES STUDENT

The Consequences of Gender Imbalance in Economics

Georgina Scoville, Contributing Writer

Margaret Flynn ’22 has felt alienated from math since high school. She can pin it back to a sophomore year class when she was placed in a group with three boys and was asked to complete problems. “They would say, ‘Oh, we don’t even need to do this one, it’s so easy,’ and I wouldn’t speak up even though I didn’t understand it,” Flynn described.

Since then, she has grown accustomed to doubting her ability in math and science courses. This lack of confidence contributed to her being sceptical about taking economics in the first place.

Although Madeline Schapiro ’20 has been a TA for two years, she initially felt a similar hesitation in attempting economics. “I think many girls don’t take economics for the same reason I dreaded it going into my freshman year. Economics is seen as a

major for sporty men who want to go into investment banking,” she explained.

This perception that men dominate economics is no accident; the Principles of Microeconomics class, a typical introductory course to the major, is composed of 67 boys and 26 girls. This means that 72% of the 93 students are male. It is important to note that this imbalance is not a problem at Bates alone—Economics is one of the least diverse academic fields nationwide.

The natural majority of men in the class, as well as gender norms that make it easier for them to feel comfortable participating, has repercussions on women’s ability to learn and be involved.

Flynn noticed a lack of women answering questions posed by the professors, and that most conversations were led by men. “[This

environment] makes it harder for me to want to raise my hand,” she said in response to how the class demographic has impacted her learning.

Although Zach Birger ’22 acknowledged that his gender had led him to be unaware of the imbalance within his class, he also explained that, “In any class, if there is a large misbalance between any individual group, I assume that the minority probably feels like it’s harder to speak up than if you’re in the majority.” He went on to admit that after having the lack of female participation in the class pointed out to him, he could understand how it could have an effect on women.

Despite the numerous issues associated with having a large, male-dominated class, some students see opportunity in this situation. Schapiro, who is currently

one of two female TAs for Principles of Microeconomics class, explained that this environment motivates her to work harder. “I want to prove myself and hold my own in the class so I actually feel more comfortable speaking sometimes in male dominated classes,” she noted.

There have been recent movements to address this issue within the academic department at Bates. A group of female students and professors in the department recently founded Women in Economics at Bates (WE @ Bates) in the hopes of providing a venue for women to talk with other women in the department about their experiences and goals. The group holds weekly lunches as well as events about internship opportunities and career plans.

Schapiro added that another way for women to feel more com-

fortable in economics was to have professors acknowledge potential discrimination. Her freshman year, her professor asked the class to read an article about women facing discrimination in economics. This was helpful in encouraging women to speak up about their difficulties in being a minority in the class.

Although some women acknowledge an opportunity in being part of a class mostly comprised of men, the overwhelming majority see it as a negative. Hopefully, this will gradually cease to become an issue in the future as more women are encouraged to try economics and professors increasingly emphasize female participation.

Foreign Language T.A Spotlight: Daniel Guarín

Madeline Polkinghorn, Assistant News Editor

Each week, The Bates Student interviews a foreign language teaching assistant to get a better grasp on how foreign languages are taught at Bates and understand the importance of teaching assistants. This week I spoke to Spanish teaching assistant Daniel Guarín, who discussed his non-linear path to teaching Spanish, his Colombian education, and the importance of communication over perfection when learning a language.

Bates Student (BS): Hi, Daniel! Where are you from?

Daniel Guarín (DG): I'm from Colombia.

BS: Where in Colombia are you from and what is it like there?

DG: I was born and raised in a city called Armenia, which is like the European country. Armenia's actually not that famous. But when I mention the coffee region,

it is famous now. So my city is a place where the Colombian coffee's grown. It's in the middle of the country—like in the mountains. So it's a small but very beautiful city.

BS: Why did you decide to teach Spanish?

DG: Well, teaching Spanish actually was not my first idea when I finished my high school. I always wanted to be a mathematician, work with numbers. But when I was in the last grade of my high school, my mathematics professor just killed my hopes of being a mathematician. He let me know that I wasn't going to be a mathematician, but he told me the importance of being a teacher, and the important role of being an educator... So at the same time at my high school I really loved to read, so I wanted to study for literature. So then I looked at the syllabus at the university of my city, which was University of

Quindío, and there was a literature career or a modern languages career. A modern languages career was actually linguistics and literature, but with languages. So I took that one. I studied linguistics and then I applied for a master's degree in linguistics, with Spanish as a foreign language. So I took that one and I really believe that Spanish is a way of teaching more about culture and language. I didn't decide it, but life chose me the path.

BS: How have you liked Bates?

DG: Oh, [Bates] is great. You know, my students—I've only had a [little] time with them— but so far I've had a chance to know a little more about them, their perspective, and to share knowledge and ideas and points of view. So it's very nice, like the discussions we have or the ideas they have. It's very nice to see [life] from a different perspective. I like Bates a lot.

BS: Are there any major differences between the education systems and America and in Colombia?

DG: There are many and it depends on the perspective or what parts you're talking about. Yesterday I was in the Philosophy Club, and they were talking about B.A. and B.S., something we don't have in Colombia – the difference between a bachelor of arts and a bachelor of science. We just have a bachelor's, and a graduate program – that's it. That's the main difference. But here you have four years of college or university, over there it's five, sometimes six.

BS: Do you have any advice for students hoping to learn Spanish?

DG: Practice! I think practice is the clue. Not being afraid, not being shy. I mean, we can't think about grammar mistakes anymore—that's an old thought that people used to have. So I try to

convince my students and my friends that are learning Spanish that grammar mistakes don't really matter anymore. Communication is the clue – not just for Spanish, but for the world. So if I think X and I want to communicate X and you understand X, it doesn't really matter how many mistakes I am doing – but you understand what I'm doing, I'm communicating. And that's important. So just try. I think practice is the clue for this.

BS: Do you have any plans for when you finish your time at Bates?

DG: Well actually, I'm currently doing another masters. So I think I'm going to finish the second masters in June or July, and I'm applying for a PhD. So maybe, start my PhD I hope—finally!

PLOT Garden Caters to Locavores

Ayden Eickhoff, Contributing Writer

More than ten years after the word “locavore” was added to the New Oxford American Dictionary and featured as the word of the

is a definite benefit, and one that drives many concerned consumers to buy locally, sustainably, or organically produced products.

farmers was of great importance. Many of the farms in Maine use many of the same, if not the exact same practices as organic farms but cannot afford the official organic certification.

Establishing relationships with these farms is mutually beneficial as students get to enjoy fresher food and farms receive a steady source of revenue from a large buyer.

This steady source of revenue has the potential to outweigh the organic price premium producers forgo without the official certification. Another reason why Commons puts an emphasis on local goods is that food that is coming from Maine is going to be fresher than food that

ated into the rotation.

Although sourcing local food is a source of great pride for Commons, there are a variety of limitations that inhibit providing purely local. One of the main limitations is the region we live in; Maine's climate does not support year-round growing. Bates students enjoy their bananas, orange juice, kiwis; all

products that just can't be sourced locally. Secondly, Bates attracts diverse students, who have even more diverse tastes. This diversity ensures that striking a balance between cost, nutritional value, and variety is never easy. Yet, it is a challenge that plays a large role in encouraging active consideration of where we put our food dollars.



The new PLOT garden is a step for a more sustainable future at Bates.
BATES CHEWS/COURTESY PHOTO

year, the jury is still out on what “local” and “local food” actually is. While “locavore” describes someone who attempts to eat food produced within a 100-mile radius, “local food” can embody a variety of associations. In 2009, a study sponsored by the Food Marketing Institute asked people why they buy local. The top three reasons listed were freshness (82%), supporting the local economy (75%), and knowing where the product came from (58%). Knowing your food dollars are being spent well

However, consumers who ascribe certain values to “local foods” without realizing what values they are trying to promote may lose track of their original goals.

Commons has officially committed to spending a quarter of their purchasing budget on food sourced from within the state of Maine. To clarify Commons's goals, I sat down with Cheryl Lacey, the Director of Dining here at Bates. She explained that, amongst other reasons, supporting the local economy and local area

has traveled thousands of miles, likely with the aid of preservatives. Reducing food miles can directly impact the nutritional value of the food while also reducing the carbon footprint (depending on how the produce was transported). The produce grown in The PLOT, the garden that Bates students and faculty oversee, has been a wonderful supplement to the local food in Commons. In total, around 2,500 pounds of tomatoes, cucumbers, kale, summer squash, and zucchini have been harvested and incorpor-



Commons welcomes local farmers at Bates.
BATES CHEWS/COURTESY PHOTO



Science Buildings or Students?

William Hibbitts, Staff Writer

Science is political. Not only does science have political implications, politics shapes the direction and demands of the scientific process. In a few months’ time, we will see the interaction between politics and science right in front of our eyes when Bates College will break ground on a new, multi-million dollar science building in 2019.

On the surface, this seems like an excellent step forward for the sciences at Bates. Departments like Biology and Chemistry will have access to much improved resources. The Neuroscience department can move out of its puzzling location in Hathorn Hall. Students and professors will have access to top-of-the-line research equipment.

But the story of this new science building is also political. It is much bigger than technological and structural improvements. What will lie behind the building’s façade is not just busy students performing scientific research, but an ongoing identity crisis. The construction of this new science building will be yet another questionable step by an administration predicated on transforming Bates from a progressive college that was founded by abolitionists to a carbon copy of every other elitist liberal arts school.

This building will use up millions of dollars that could be used to reinforce Bates’s tradition of educating the marginalized and boldly differentiate Bates from the other NESACAS. Not only that, this building is an insult to student organizers like Bates Student Action who have been relentlessly pushing for Bates to eliminate student loans completely. Out of the three

NESAC schools in Maine, Bates is the only one that still retains loans in its financial aid packages, and the administration justifies this arrangement by claiming that our endowment is too small. So why have student organizers been fed this explanation when we will be able to see the falsehoods of this argument on Campus Avenue in the coming year?

For the past few years, the college has been running a fundraising campaign called Bates+. The campaign has set a total goal of \$300 million raised, \$75 million of which will potentially go to “Investing in Educational Opportunity” (financial aid), and \$53 million of which will go to the sciences, including this new building. Ostensibly, it seems like financial aid will be taken care of, but if we look at the campaign’s website, we can see that the plan for the STEM funds are specific and detailed, unlike the page for financial aid, which remains vague and nebulous.

We can also infer from the numbers that the administration only considers financial aid .5x more important than STEM improvements, even though the cost of attendance at Bates is obscenely high. We will be getting new facilities and buildings, but it seems financial aid will still largely remain the same. This discrepancy reveals a divergence of priorities on this campus that is directly attributable to those who control it.

The \$50 million donation which will anchor the new science building was given to Bates by pharma and biotech CEO Michael Bonney, the current Chairman of the Board of Trustees. Now some

may say that Mr. Bonney has the right to donate his funds wherever he wants, which is true in American society. But as Chairman of the Board, he should know better.

He should know that the *New York Times* reported that 18% of Bates students come from families in the top 1%. He should know that they revealed that 13% of Bates students come from families in the bottom 60%. He should know that \$50 million would enable Bates to eliminate loans for 15 years without any cuts according to our 2017 institutional profile.

What we have here is a clear-cut conflict of interest. It should be no surprise that a pharma and biotech CEO would be more responsive to the needs of his industry rather than the needs of our most vulnerable students. Unfortunately, this is a reality at many other colleges in the United States. Corporate interest is pitted against students’ livelihoods.

But we here at Bates do not have to accept this reality. While we cannot delay and should not prevent the construction of this building, we can make it known that we oppose the Bates administration’s investments in its prestige instead of its students. We can create a movement that can turn the tide and make Bates the liberator it was supposed to be, and we can start with this new science building.

Me Too? Not the Supreme Court

Julia Raboy, Contributing writer

With the rise of the #MeToo movement, one would think it safe for a woman to share past trauma of sexual assault. It seems incongruous that, despite ever growing support for movements like the Women’s March, which has an Instagram page with upwards of one million followers, Dr. Christine Blasey Ford has received death threats



and violent backlash for testifying on behalf of her allegations against Judge Brett Kavanaugh.

Ford’s accusations draw obvious and eerie similarities to Anita Hill’s allegations against then-Judge Clarence Thomas twenty-seven years ago. In 1991, sexual harassment was still taboo, but there weren’t thousands of women coming forward to share their stories like we see today. Despite outlandish accounts of sexual harassment, Thomas was appointed to the Supreme Court, where he still sits today.

Anita Hill’s accusations were revolutionary and earned 1992 the title of “The Year of the Woman.”

Her courage gave American women hope that they too could someday share their stories. After watching last week’s testimony, what I gathered is that regardless of the newfound fervor to support sexual assault survivors, American society has not caught up with the changing landscape.

If you consider the facts, Ford had little to gain in testifying. In

immature. The hearing became an issue of partisanship rather than sexual assault. Despite Ford passing a polygraph test and agreeing to an F.B.I investigation (two things Kavanaugh has not done), Republican Senators still accuse Ford of being a pawn in a Democratic scheme to tarnish Kavanaugh’s appointment. Senator Lindsey Graham (R-South Carolina) addressed the Democrats of the committee, stating: “What you want to do is destroy this guy’s life. This is the most unethical sham since I have been in politics. And if you really wanted to know the truth, you sure as hell wouldn’t have done what you’ve done to this guy.” The fact that Graham could justify Kavanaugh’s incoherent rhetoric and ignore the facts that refute his denial of Ford’s accusations goes to show that he, like many in Washington, value partisanship over morality.

If women’s voices were truly valued, not a single senator would question Dr. Blasey Ford’s motives. To doubt her intentions and integrity in sharing her story is disheartening to American women who thought they finally had a chance to seek justice.

No woman should ever feel unsafe about coming forward. When a woman says she was sexually assaulted, she should be heard without bias in a welcoming and understanding environment. If Dr. Blasey Ford’s hearing accomplished anything, it’s shown us that, as a society, we have a long way to go before we can call women first-class citizens.

standing before the Senate Judiciary Committee, she was forced to relive a traumatic event in front of the entire country. After all the backlash she has received, it would have been far easier to drop the allegations. In her testimony, she stated: “I am here today not because I want to be. I am terrified. I am here because I believe it is my civic duty to tell you what happened to me while Brett Kavanaugh and I were in high school.” It takes a pretty immoral person to fabricate an event, complete with graphic and specific details, about a sexual assault.

The only word I can think of to describe the behavior of the Judiciary Committee is

Islamophobia is Racism

Christopher Hassan, Managing Forum Editor

Despite what my last name would suggest, my only connection to any Islamic identity is my Albanian grandfather. And even if I was Muslim, you would never assume so since I am just an average-looking white man. In fact, I can’t count how many times people have read my name and assumed it was the common Irish surname “Hansen...” well, to be fair, I am in fact half-Irish.

I am so privileged that these assumptions are at best comical and at worst a minor nuisance. But for people of color, these assumptions can be fatal. People of African, Arabic, Middle Eastern, and South Asian descent are all subject to insipid stereotyping, hate crimes, and direct violence against them for their garments, immigration statuses, dialects, and skin color.

It’s a knee-jerk reaction for many people to say that hating Islam can’t be racist because “Islam is not a race.” After all, I just listed four different categories of people, didn’t I? Even the term “Islamophobia” itself is hated because people claim that attacking a religion/ideology shouldn’t be labeled as bigoted. This line of argument was most famously made in a debate in 2014 between Ben Affleck, Bill Maher, and atheist writer, Sam Harris, when Affleck called the two “gross” and “racist” for their open disdain for Islam.

For centuries, we in the “West” have differentiated ourselves from those in the “Orient,” which for the longest time has meant the caliphates of Arabia, the Levant, and the Mediterranean. Since events like the Crusades and the expulsion of Moriscos out of Iberia, popular Western imagination has portrayed Islam, and by extension Muslims, as antithetical to our so-called “shared civilization.” Orientalism, as in the archetype of painting Asiatic cultures as exotic and backward, was coined by Palestinian scholar Edward Said in his observations of how European academics framed Islamic art and culture.

Yes, it is true that Islam is an incredibly diverse, multifaceted religion that for thousands of years has spanned continents with followers of countless ethnicities and cultures. But the exact same thing can be said about peoples of general African or European descent, whom (for better or worse) we still classify as “black” and “white.” This is because race is not inherently coherent or rational. Race, as a social construct, is a way for powerful groups to claim that their families, communities, and

culture are superior to those of the peoples they oppress.

In modern times, our collective hatred of Islam and Muslims has now morphed into this racialized depiction of Africans, South Asians, and Arabs. Brown actors of color have countless stories of always being cast as “the terrorist” for roles in movies and TV. Ever since 9/11, dozens of Sikh Indians have been assaulted and murdered because racists conflate their skin color and clothing with stereotypical images of Muslims. Islamaphobes of all political stripes paint Muslim migrants as barbarian hordes invading our borders to leech off of our riches and destroy our culture. The Alt-Right itself makes clear that there is no place in their white nationalist utopia for Muslims. They don’t specify by saying “Arabs” or “Indonesians;” they directly target Muslims.

Islamophobia is perhaps at its worst in years. World leaders like Donald Trump and Viktor Orbán proudly pronounce their hatred for Muslims and have moved to ban refugees from Muslim countries. This has in part been thanks to neo-fascist groups like the Alt-Right shifting the Overton Window to make these hateful platforms mainstream. Even more gruesome are hate crimes like the mass shooting at the Islamic Cultural Center of Quebec City in January 2017 when white man Alexandre Bissonnette killed six people, and injured nineteen.

Worst of all, thousands of Rohingya Muslims are being massacred and forced to flee their homes as the government of Myanmar wages a genocide against them, and literally millions of Uighur Muslims in China are being thrown into internment camps where the Han Chinese government is torturing them into renouncing their faith.

Our imagination of Muslims is inseparable from our racialized view of the world. Islamophobia cannot be disentangled from its racist undertones because its racist undertones are foundational to its outlook. There’s a good reason why, despite my Muslim heritage, people can’t believe my last name is “Hassan,” and it’s because I am white.



The Obama-Trump Foreign Policy

Two Sides to the Same Coin

Nick Morgoshia, Assistant Forum Editor

After loading up on a daily dose of Trumpian bile, revisiting President Obama's speeches, social media posts, and interviews is a breath of fresh air. Of particular resonance is the idea that Obama's composure, gentle temperament, and oratorical mastery – qualities that President Trump has repeatedly failed to demonstrate – bolstered America's global standing and ensured the utility of US foreign policy. "Obama was not an international embarrassment to this country... he did not praise our enemies and demean our allies," the argument has it.

All that is well, but it is crucial to distinguish political potential and rhetoric from the actual ebb and flow of policy. Just because Obama had all the traits one might ask for in the leader of the free world does not mean he was an effective leader of the free world; in fact, if we interpret the "leader of the free world" to mean someone who supports carrying on the burdens of global US leadership, he was anything but.

Obama, much like Trump, supported shrinking the US role on the world stage. As foreign policy pundits Bill Kristol and Tom Donnelly aptly put it, "Trump speaks in the voice of the deplorables, Obama in the voice of the deploring, but the messages are similar: America must learn to step back from its previous global responsibilities."

Helsinki, Finland. Early afternoon. After days of speculation about how the Trump-Putin meeting might unfold, President Trump emerged out of his one-on-one with the Russian leader to do the unthinkable: absolve Putin and his minions of any allegations of wrongdoing in the 2016 election interference. Although no doubt shocking, the statement was long coming given Trump's panoply of friendly overtures towards Russia. And as far as amicable gestures are concerned, Trump and Obama are not much different.

In 2009, Obama sent his Secretary of State, Hillary Clinton, to present a red button with the word "reset" to Foreign Minister Sergei Lavrov in an effort to improve relations with Russia. Putin had already demonstrated that his administration is not worthy of American trust by fanning

separatist flames throughout Europe, hampering NATO's geopolitical interests in the Baltics, and invading the small country of Georgia, the chief US ally in the Caucasus region.

Why would Obama extend a hand to someone who has been living the idea of undermining America's international leadership for years? For the same reason Trump favors appeasing and getting along with Putin today. The US should no longer strive to be the uncontested world leader, the Obama-Trump logic has it. If Putin wants to exert Russian impact over his country's historic sphere of influence, so be it. This explains why Obama refused to provide lethal aid to Ukrainians in their fight against Russia-based insurgency. It also explains why Trump has admitted to questioning if America's sons should help defend Montenegro, a US partner and the newest NATO member.

Then there is the ever-salient Middle East. As a presidential candidate in 2008, Obama campaigned on the promise of withdrawing US troops from Iraq and Afghanistan. Following drastic reduction of troops in both countries under his watch—particularly in the case of Iraq, where the war officially concluded in 2011—the region became a playground for such terrorist groups as ISIS, Al-Qaeda, and Jabhat al-Nusra.

Even as the timing of Trump's presidency presented a unique opportunity to learn from his predecessor's mistakes, Trump seems to have all but realized that the only option worse than staying in the Middle East is not staying in the Middle East. As Trump hastens to depart from Syria within the next couple of years, extremist groups and a menage of Russian, Iranian, and Turkish forces are already vying to fill the vacuum left behind by the US. Look no further than the July 2018 meeting of said nations in the Russian city of Sochi to discuss reconstruction of Syria – the US was not deemed relevant enough to have a seat at the table.

Many aspects of Obama and Trump's take on the US foreign policy are the same. So is my response to each president: a world without America is less safe and peaceful. For America to abandon the role it has played since WWII is to permanently change the course of history for the worse, for Americans and people across the globe alike.

The Continuation of the Crisis in Myanmar

Miles Nabritt, Contributing Writer

One of the many international crises in recent years has been the ongoing devastation in Myanmar. Specifically, we have seen the presence of an authoritarian junta using ethnic cleansing against the Rohingya Muslim minority.

For those unaware, Myanmar is a small country in Southeast Asia with a population of 53 million people, well known for upholding strong ties to Buddhism. Ever since the official Burmese coup d'état on March 2, 1962, the Rohingya have been oppressed by totalitarian rule. During this coup, the country witnessed the fortitude and influence of General Ne Win, who enacted drastic reforms to change Burmese society and its government. From 1962-1974, Win and his government implemented nationalist, Marxist, and Buddhist initiatives en masse. One of the many notable aspects of Win's totalitarian regime was the use of extreme military force against those in opposition to his government.

It is these major social and governmental reforms that reverberate into the genocide against the Rohingya. They are one out of 135 ethnic minorities that are a part of Myanmar's population, and since last August, the government

in Myanmar, led by Win Myint expelled around 700,000 from their homes in the northern echelons of the country. The main reason for this mass expulsion is that the Myanmar government has declared Rohingya citizenship illegal because, apparently, they have not assimilated with the Buddhist citizens.

Unfortunately, the devastation to Rohingya Muslims has been difficult to record. According to Hannah Beech of the *New York Times*, "with the Myanmar government restricting access to the area where the Rohingya once lived, even refusing to let top United Nations officials into the country, it is impossible for investigators and journalists to gather firsthand evidence of atrocities."

Rohingya Muslims are not only suffering from political misrepresentation but also endure the harsh conditions of immigration. Since the ethnic cleansing began, they have desperately fled into neighboring Bangladesh in a province called Cox's Bazar. Due to increased military pressure from the government in Myanmar, the Rohingya have been unable to remain in one place safely for a long period of time.

Even before the Rohingya became refugees, Myanmar had

been a witness to major gender discrimination. For Rohingya women, sexual violence is unfortunately a commonality and results in the degradation of women all across the country. As Rohingya women are fleeing from Myanmar to Bangladesh, they are facing continuous oppression from men who are in charge of brothels, hotels, and other sites for organized prostitution.

Many of these young women and girls are trapped in the sex trafficking system and can never find a way out. In fact, many other Rohingya women are so disenfranchised that the only means of escape is to participate in adultery and sex under the will of men. As *BBC News* writes, "The girls appeared war-torn between poverty and prostitution - they said that without the sex work they would not be able to provide for themselves or for their families."

Earlier in 2017, the United Nations High Commission For Refugees (UNHCR) said there were around 307,500 Rohingya Muslims living in refugee camps, with most of them being located in Bangladesh. While they are being supported with supplies such as water, food, and healthcare, it is simply not enough. Despite political and international support from the Bangladeshi government and the UN Security Council, the Rohingya continue to live in extreme poverty.

Is it possible to somehow, somehow help the Rohingya? There needs to be more international aid and more public awareness in order for the Rohingya to gain more support. From the way the situation looks now, it continues to be an inevitable path towards abandonment and suffering. But though I may not have the power or authority to help the situation in Myanmar, at least bringing this news to light might inspire others to take action.



We're Here, We're Queer

Kyle Larry, Assistant Forum Editor

"The closet does have a benefit. It provides safety. Which at times is important. But remember, as long as you are in there, two other things will be too. Fear and shame." This quote by Anthony Venn-Brown, a former Australian evangelist, highlights how queer and trans individuals tend to hide who they are because of the stigma and discrimination that comes with it. Due to societal standards, non-heterosexual people are considered deviant, and asinine rhetoric rooted in biology and religion, is used to substantiate this claim. Because of their "deviancy," queer and trans people are usually outcasted from society. However, next week, Bates College will endeavor to break down the walls that separate the LGBTQIA+ and heterosexual community by engaging everyone in Coming Out Week. Coming Out Week is supposed to bring awareness to the issues that threaten queer and trans individuals, while simultaneously providing us a platform to speak our minds and feel comfortable in our own skin. This week serves to remind queer and trans people how far we have grown after coming out as well as encourage others who haven't had to opportunity to come out to do the same. Now coming out isn't an easy ask because as Venn-Brown said not disclosing one's sexuality or gender "provides safety." Those that don't openly identify as queer or trans don't have to hear the demeaning questions, such as "who's the woman in the relationship" (asking two gay men as if the purpose of being gay wasn't to be with a man), or "which bathroom do you use"

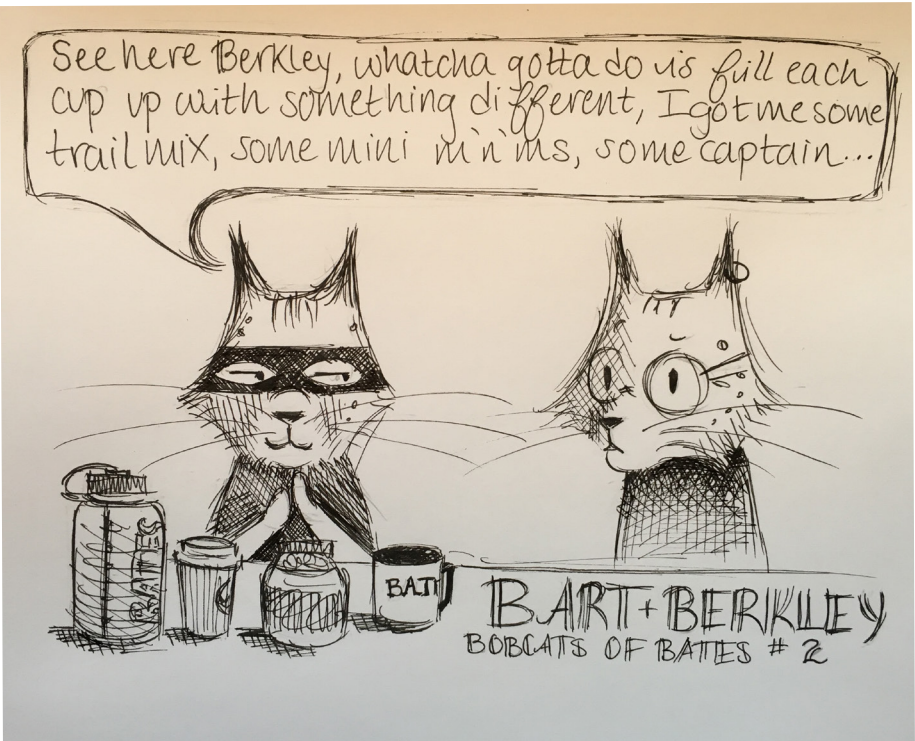
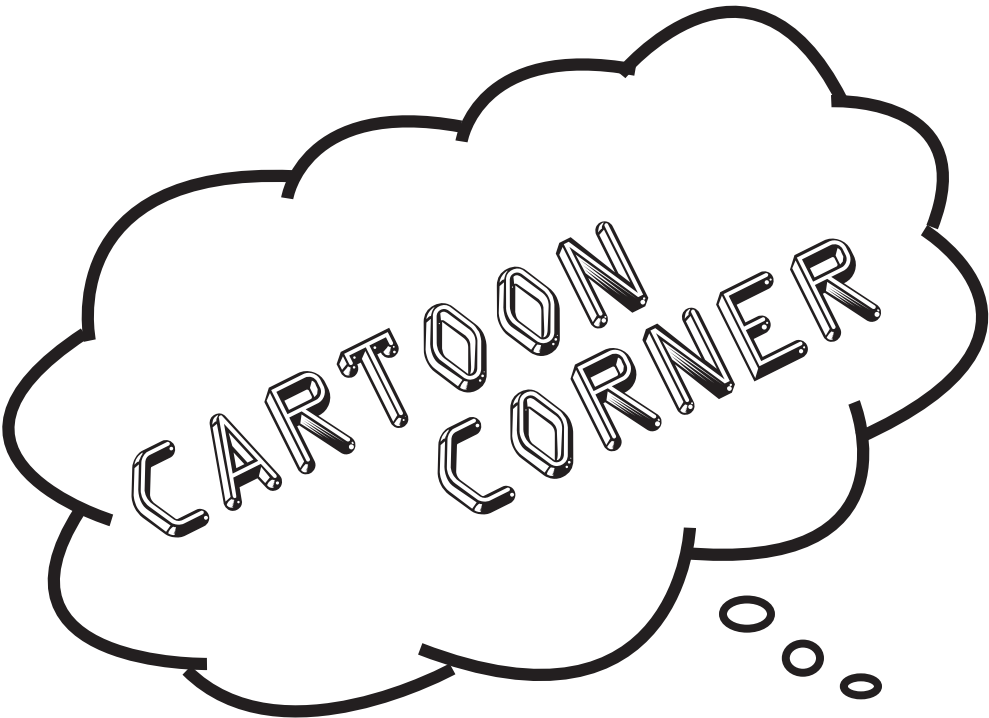
(asking a trans identifying person). Being closeted grants a reprieve from having to deal with questions that come out of curiosity which usually end up very awkward for everyone because someone decided to reach a bit too far. People who are not out also don't have to get rude looks from people who are anti-LGBTQ+.

Now hearing about this type of hatred makes people feel inclined to not disclose their sexuality, but not disclosing can hurt a person more so than protect them. Coming out, at least for me, is like a fresh breath of air, because I personally felt like I had to hide who I was from people who I care about. I finally got to talk to people who I felt an intimate connection with and developed more authentic relationships with others. I also gained a whole new level of self-respect and self-love, because I finally could be honest with myself and others. For me, it's important to acknowledge who I was and who I am now, because they are essentially two different people. I was a person who felt suffocated and trapped; I was a person who felt like I didn't belong. Now I'm a person who is open-minded, grateful, and truly happy with myself. Coming out is about impressing yourself

rather than going your whole life impressing others because you start to realize that the people who love you accept you no matter how you identify.

This brings me to my next point which is what it means to be an ally to queer and trans individuals. Many people go by the saying "I'm cool with them as long as they don't try and hit on me" (as if every queer or trans individuals wants to get in their pants). This is a very common yet sad claim because not only does it hypersexualize queer and trans people, but it also shows that people do not intend on getting to understand why this group is oppressed, as well as how their stereotypes add on to the oppression. Coming Out Week is as much for heterosexuals as it is for queer and trans people because it helps them understand others stories and come to terms with how they might help endorse certain stereotypes. Being an ally is about actively listening to others and ensuring them that they have a friend who cares. Therefore, next week I implore all Bates students to get involved and learn something about what it means to be queer or trans, and how this campus can accommodate those people better.



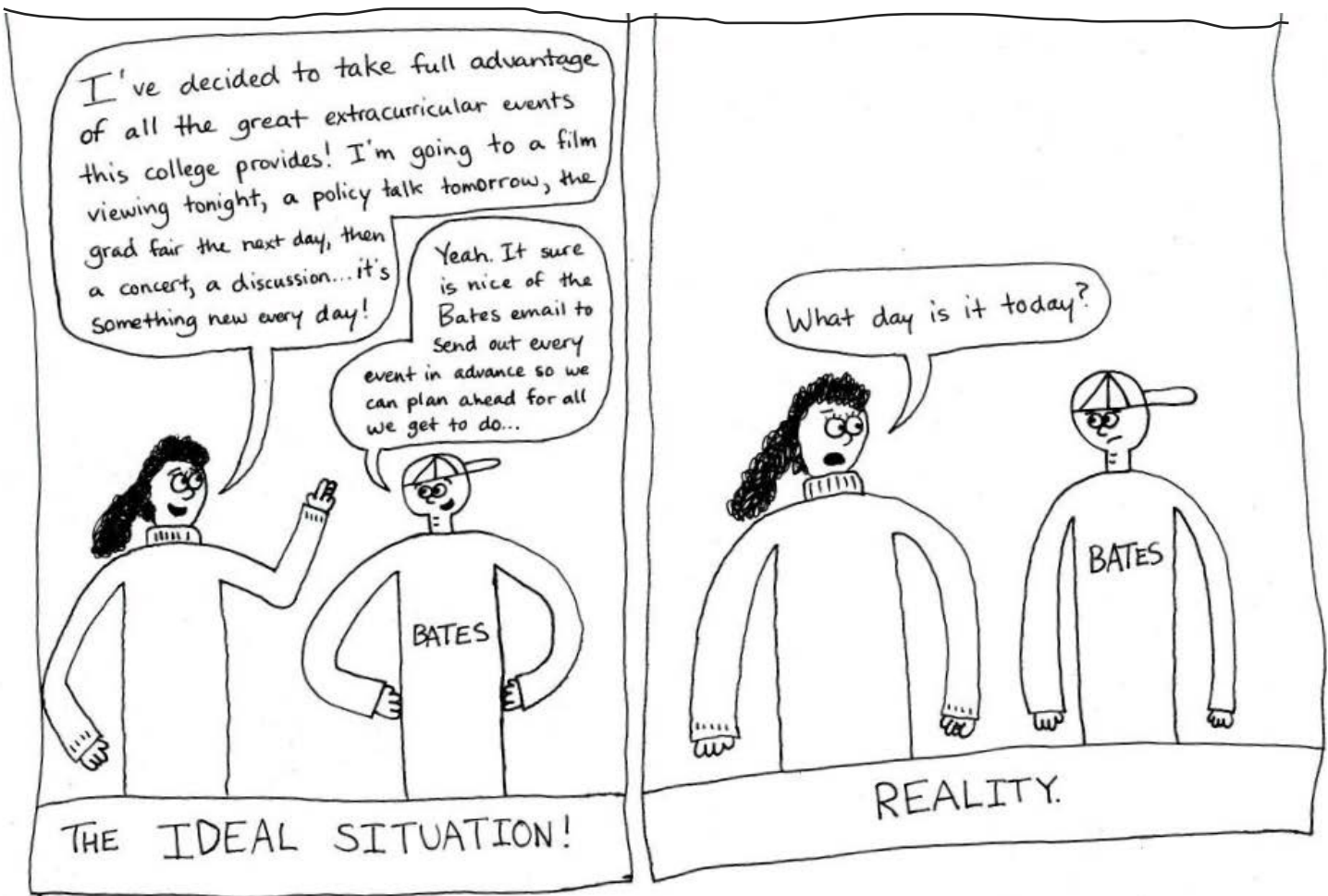


Mary Richardson, Contributing Cartoonist

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

Email as JPEG image to

srothman@bates.edu



Jack McLarnon, Staff Cartoonist

Question on the Quad

Sarah du Pont, Sports Photographer

What is Your Favorite Part of Fall at Bates?



Shanzeh Rauf '21

“The crunch of the fallen leaves.”



Enton Lam '21

“My favorite part is the leaves.”



JR Watanasiri '19

“Meeting new people!”

Causes Of Mental Health Struggles at Bates

Mamta Saraogi, Contributing Writer

You walk onto a college campus and the first thing you see is your fellow students looking down at their phones, typing emails, writing papers, or reading from a computer. I suppose in the “digital age” it’s acceptable, and even somewhat required, to do so. Assignments are posted online, Google Calendar is our own personal secretary, and social media is our entertainment. We’ve reached a stage where it’s all practically routine.

Mental health is an important indicator of overall happiness level; however, most of us often neglect it by stowing it away in the back of our minds. If I were to ask my peers on campus if they find the sunset beautiful, most of them would probably say yes. But, if I then ask about the last time they appreciated it as it happened, I don’t think

many of us would remember. Who has time, right? What’s most striking is that there is always time for a panic attack, which can almost last as long as the gorgeous sunset itself. And there always seems to be time to debate one’s social image on campus for thirty minutes. That is what is scary.

Stress comes from so many different sources, it’s almost impossible to keep count. Causes for stress can be seemingly simple things such as homesickness, what to do with free time, or even Commons. At times, all can appear as barriers to being fully happy. However, talking to someone about daily stressors doesn’t usually seem like a feasible option. The situation might not seem large or important enough to bring up in discussion. That innate hesitation to talk

about our feelings is a result of the stigma surrounding mental health on campus. That bottom line is: if it causes stress, it is a problem. Furthermore, there’s no reason to think your problem is too small to have an effect on you. In reality, I would say that stress from unnamed sources is probably the most recurrent cause of anxiety on the Bates campus.

A college campus like ours is small, requiring constant, daily social interaction from its inhabitants. Some may call it a “fishbowl” existence, and to a large extent, they’re right. We tend to make it look easy to maintain public personas every time we step out of our living spaces, but it’s ludicrous to think that we actually aren’t revealing our true feelings. Keeping all our emotions inside is actually

one of the hardest things to do, introverts and extroverts alike. Concealing one’s private self for the majority of one’s time can take a toll on anyone. Moreover, seeing those who make it look easy to keep up appearances can cause further stress. Because who would one talk to if everyone seems to be doing just fine?

Here’s my takeaway: not everyone is doing just fine. That is a major problem that needs to be dealt with. There’s no point in nursing the issue anymore. It’s time we talk about it because most of us know it exists.

Acclimating to new environments, interacting with different personality types, and living a life drastically dissimilar from anything one has experienced in the past are undoubtedly big changes.

International students come from completely different cultures, students of color may not be used to being in the minority in their communities, and domestic students can come from a host of different environments. It is natural that self-doubt and dilemmas that had never surfaced before would be able to do so when students assimilate into the campus lifestyle. These stressors are some of the biggest causes of poor mental health on campus. Therefore, they need to be addressed and, hopefully, eventually eliminated. We cannot afford to stigmatize them.



“Burning:” Rise of the Murakami-Pixie-Dream-Girl

Harry Meadows, Contributing Writer

“Burning” is a new South Korean mystery-drama directed by Lee Chang-dong, based on the short story, “Barn Burning,” by the hyper-popular Japanese writer Haruki Murakami. While the movie is beautifully realized, it’s perhaps too obviously an exercise on behalf of the director to stretch out his source material to the length of a feature film.

In the story, a disaffected and isolated struggling fiction writer, Jong-su, meets a mysterious young woman, Haemi. She affects a transient connection to her surroundings, illustrated by a scene in which she mimes eating a tangerine and claims it’s just as good as the real thing. The substance of the plot begins when Haemi comes back from a long trip to North Africa, now linked to her similarly mysterious wealthy boyfriend, Ben. Our protagonist, Jong-su, strikes up an odd rapport with the rich boyfriend (masterfully portrayed by Steven Yeun, of Walking Dead fame). Yeun’s Ben confides

in Jong-su that he burns down disused barns as a kind of perverse, cathartic hobby.

A substantial point of divergence between Murakami’s story and the movie, other than its setting in South Korea rather than Japan, is that plastic greenhouses, instead of barns, are the subject of Ben’s arson in Chang-dong’s on-screen adaptation. The central mystery of the film obliquely ties together the progression of both men’s relationship to Haemi through their bizarre hobby, hinting that one may be a complex metaphor for the other. Whether or not this is actually the case remains critically ambiguous both in the movie and the story.

The film suffers from two critical problems. The first is that, while Murakami balances Haemi’s transience with substantive human characteristics and agency, the movie minimizes these qualities. This treatment, deliberate or not, brings Chang-dong’s Haemi too close to the Western rom-com

trope viewers know as the ‘manic pixie dream girl’: it reduces Haemi to a quirky and superficially mysterious vessel for Jong-su and Ben’s mysterious and disparate desires. For Jong-su, she is a break from his life’s alienating monotony: a kind of unpredictable X-factor that brings him out of himself, working against his partially self-imposed isolation. For Ben, Haemi is an object of his desire to project power on to the world, and stands as either an analogy for, or the analogized-to, his barn-burning hobby. What she lacks, outside of a few scenes that feature her aloof but endearingly captivating eccentricity, is any kind of agency of her own.

Murakami’s fiction often includes female characters who walk this line, but they always have aspirations, agency, and are three-dimensional both in their backgrounds and in relation to the fictional worlds the author creates. The distinction is as follows:

“Burning” fails because it too easily buys into the rather sickening male propensity to project onto and control women, while the story that is its source material merely portrays this desire in commentary.

It is perhaps because of the movie’s second fatal flaw that all of the above is a problem in the first place: “Barn Burning” is a short story. It doesn’t need to develop Haemi’s character more substantively because the story is very short, and the scenes in which she appears emphasize her agency and coherent self-hood by painting an impressionistic image of her. “Burning” stretches that source material into a two-and-a-half-hours-long slog, with extremely long scenes containing surprisingly undeveloped dialogue. Minutes upon minutes of sweeping countrysides, Jong-su cleaning out his dad’s apartment, or feeding Haemi’s cat are cut with conversation that is bizarrely reductive and

barely expansive on the original story. This all produces the effect of a plot line stretched far too thin over its visual medium, especially in the middle portions of the film. Admittedly, Chang-dong’s movie is very well made. Yoo Ah-in perfectly encapsulates the aesthetic of Murakami’s fiction: the cinematography and choice of setting perfectly evokes the alienating anonymity of Murakami’s characters. The film includes the requisite Murakami-esque qualities: a cat with puzzling metaphysical status, a super-awkward sex scene, and a lethargic male protagonist with a throwaway attitude in the world who ends up becoming embroiled in a mystery of his own making. While the movie stands as an aesthetic story and a puzzling metaphorical mystery, it falls uncomfortably short of the nuance of Murakami’s fiction.

Skin Care Routine of the Week: A Strategy for the Fearful

Isabelle Marlow, Contributing Writer



There are not many things in my life that I’m regimented about. In fact, I’d say I’m generally a pretty lazy person. My laziness is undermined by a singular exception: my all-consuming and expensive passion for skincare. After reading countless articles on the dangers of pollution, sunlight, sleeping with makeup on, non-silk pillowcases, and so on, I have built a skincare regimen centered around my greatest motivator: fear.

My skincare process begins, as all should, with a full body exfoliation. Dry brushing is an admittedly uncomfortable practice used to remove dead skin and increase circulation. I highly recommend buying one of these sadistic-looking body brushes and scraping yourself with it before getting into the shower. Trust me, it leaves your skin silky smooth.

Post-shower, I moisturize from neck-to-toe with CeraVe Moisturizing Cream (a perfect choice for those of us with eczema), and use the custard-like It Cosmetics’ Confidence in a Cream on my face. If I’m doing a full makeup look, I’ll swap out my decadent default with Embryolisse Lait Crème because I’ve read makeup artists

often use it as a base. Next, I lather on La Mer for sunscreen and eye cream (lavishness thanks to a huge discount I received over the summer) because their fanciness inspires my daily application. Finally, I swipe on Lanolips, a multipurpose balm made from lanolin (the waxy substance in sheep’s wool), which is ideal for dry lips suffering from Maine’s cold weather.

Of course, like any good beauty fanatic, I face mask often regardless of the fact that dorm-living renders mask removal slightly challenging. I’d like to take this time to extend my deepest apologies to the people on my floor who have seen me looking like a stone man from Game of Thrones on my way to the shower. The fact of the matter is, I just can’t resist using the Aztec Clay Mask (available at Whole Foods for only \$8). It sucks every microscopic impurity out of your skin, leaving pores flawless. Pro tip: make sure you mix it with apple cider vinegar! When I need hydration, I use the Dr. Jart Ceramidin Sheet Mask or sleep with a thick layer of Weleda Skin Food on my face; the latter is not for those with oily skin.

If you’re already masking while you sleep, you might as well do a hair mask, too, and just resign yourself to looking like a grease ball for 8 hours straight. I love using the Garnier Fructis Banana

Hair Food in hopes of realizing my dreams of shiny hair. I am also an avid user of Baby Foot Exfoliant Foot Peel. For those of you who aren’t familiar with it, do yourself a favor and order it. Prepare yourself for a wild week. And, because Weleda Skin Food is generally amazing for all dry, cracked skin, I rub my feet with it and sleep in socks if I haven’t done a Baby Foot peel recently.

Finally, at night, I force myself to take off my makeup with the Boscia Purifying Cleansing Gel (or at least use a Simple Cleansing Wipe if I’m really struggling). It is terrible for your skin to sleep in makeup... even though makeup legend Charlotte Tilbury sleeps in mascara and eye shadow every night!

Because my love of skincare is a research-based endeavor, I’m always combing through “Into the Gloss” and “Violet Files,” looking for the next thing to worry about. Right now, I’m looking to get in on the jade roller/gua sha game. Neither seems particularly effective, but I just love making my entire skin care process a little more complicated. Makeup, however, is a totally different ball game...

Bates Welcomes Planned Parenthood Gen Action Club

Pippin Evarts, Assistant Arts & Leisure Editor

Bates College prides itself on its slew of amazing clubs and organizations. Offering everything from the Outing Club to the Chess Club, the college fosters an inclusive environment for people looking to get more involved in their community. A recent addition to Bates’ lengthy list of clubs and organizations is Planned Parenthood Generation Action.

Planned Parenthood Generation Action is a national network of college student-activists who organize events on and around their campuses and communities to raise public awareness about reproductive health and rights and to educate and mobilize their peers about sexual health and reproductive freedom.

The activist organization and network is one that we are now proud to include in the campus community. The group formed at Bates mere months ago, but it has already begun to zero in on some of its goals. The club’s main goal is to supply affordable and accessible contraception on campus. Group members are currently working to install contraceptive vending machines around campus. This goal is a new and forward-thinking way to approach sexual health and reproductive freedom here at Bates. Anni Gundeck ‘21, the club’s student data manager, said that she was most excited about having a “group working exclusively for issues regarding reproductive

rights.”

“The work of planned parenthood is so necessary on college campuses everywhere, so I’m excited to hopefully increase access to PP resources at Bates,” said Gundeck. Gundeck is a sophomore at Bates from Poughkeepsie, NY, and works remotely for her hometown Planned Parenthood affiliate.

Having this club at Bates and as

a part of our campus community is an amazing privilege. Fortunately, we are already a very sexually educated campus thanks to our infamous Sex Week, an event-based continuation of sexual health education. Adding Planned Parenthood Gen Action will only further Bates’ push for a sexually and reproductively free and healthy campus.

College is, and should be, a sexually liberating time for young people. Adding Planned Parenthood Generation Action to Bates’ list of incredible clubs and organizations will only benefit our campus community as we work to create a safe and healthy attitude surrounding sex and reproductive health. Being able to instill a campus-wide understanding of what

it means to be sexually healthy is something that should be regarded with immense appreciation. If you are interested in joining Planned Parenthood Generation Action, please contact Nina Moskowitz ‘20, Analea Angot ‘20, Diana Flores ‘20, Sofie Sogaard ‘20, or Anni Gundeck ‘21.



Members congregate at the first club meeting. ANNI GUNDECK/ COURTESY PHOTO

ADVICE FROM ABROAD!


Ashley Pratt '20: Studying in Dublin, Ireland Fall Semester 2018

“I wasn’t really interested in studying abroad at all when I first came to Bates, and now that I’m here I’m so thankful that others pushed me to give it a go. There are so many different and interesting people I’m meeting, and I’m gaining a lot of independence already, especially since I’m here on my own. So just don’t rule it out!”




Ashley Pratt poses with friends in Dublin. ASHLEY PRATT/ COURTESY PHOTO


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Maddy Clark’s “A Dance” Tugs at the Heartstrings

Tricia Crimmins, Managing Arts & Leisure Editor

When Maddy Clark ‘20 is not performing with the Crosstones a capella group or singing at PAUSE in the Chapel, she’s an award-winning songwriter who puts her heart and soul into her music. As a testament to her double life, on the last day of short term 2018, Clark released her debut record: “A Dance.” I recently interviewed the talented artist about her recent work, and about what songwriting means to her.

Clark’s “A Dance” features six heartfelt songs. The album’s impressive titular track placed in the Mid-Atlantic Song Contest, in which Clark is a three-time honoree. “A Dance” also coincidentally happens to be the musician’s favorite track. “It’s the song I’m most proud of.” Throughout the album, Clark sings about past loves and heartbreak. She revealed that the first and last songs on the album are about the same person and that the two tracks “bookend the relationship in a sort of way.” Generally, Clark explained that some of the six songs on her record are products of songwriting that occurred years ago.

Therefore, because “A Dance” is Clark’s first full musical collection, it’s almost an amalgamation of her entire musical career thus

hours on end and I just have my guitar and a notebook.” Clark is an accomplished songwriter who studied her craft at Interlochen Arts Academy, and she admits that she writes best “in states of emotional turbulence and high emotion.” For Clark, songwriting

long as it’s authentic,” she said.

In making music, the singer strives to truly be heard by listeners. Unsurprisingly, she is most proud of her ballads because, through their narrative style, Clark feels she’s able to “say what [she] wants to say best.” However, the

“I write best when I’m given the time to do so.”
—Maddy Clark ‘20

is “cathartic. Once I say what I wanted to say, I feel worlds better,” she said.

When writing music, one of the artist’s main goals is to expose

musician admitted that she did vary the genre of the songs and her stylistic choices on “A Dance” to avoid a ballad-only EP. However, I’m sure my fellow listeners can agree that we’d love to hear many more Maddy Clark-style ballads.

Still in the wake of her album’s success, the current junior doesn’t plan on working in the studio anytime soon. Because “A Dance” was the climax of her musical career so far, Clark hopes that her newer music will feel truer to both the person she is now and the musical style that she “wants to project.” For now, the artist’s personal goals are to find liberation through writing happy songs. She confessed that she, mysteriously, has “never been able to write a good love song for someone.”

Otherwise, Clark hopes to have the opportunity to collaborate with other Bates musicians. “I would love to start a band here, and make music more a part of my life [on campus].” Luckily, there’s hope for Maddy Clark fans yet: she mused that she’d “maybe” record a second album post-grad. Here’s hoping she does.



Album cover for “A Dance” MADDY CLARK/ COURTESY PHOTO

far. “People forget the time it takes to make [an album].” The musician shared that though all of the work is uniquely and authentically her own, after many years, she feels distant from some of the songs on the EP. As a testament to her own emotional evolution, Clark confessed that “if I were to do it again, it would look so different.”

Clark’s dad has had such a huge influence on her music that she included one of his favorite songs of hers on the album in his honor. He played a key role in the genesis of her musical journey: Clark began writing music at the age of 13, after her father taught her to play the guitar. As a child, the singer had always loved creative writing and writing poetry. So, songwriting was a logical next step, “a natural pairing,” as she put it.

From then on, she “couldn’t stop” songwriting. Clark divulged that she wrote her first full song in seventh grade about her unrequited love for a middle-school crush. “It came out as this very Taylor Swiftian-song; the rest is history,” Clark said.

After all these years, the current Bates junior explained that her creative process hasn’t changed much from when she was a crushing tween. “I write best when I’m given the time to do so,” she said. This, she elaborated, usually occurs when she’s home on break or over the summer. “I sit in my room for

her own emotional vulnerabilities. That effort definitely shines through to the listener: Clark’s music is unparalleled due to its creator’s relentless lyrical sincerity.

One of the artist’s main goals is to expose her own emotional vulnerabilities.

“People get really scared of sounding cliché, but as long as you [stay true to yourself] you’re going to write something that is very authentic.” Clark believes that the more vulnerable and specific a song can be, the better. “That vulnerability can take a lot of different forms, be it through a unique sound or a thing you do with your voice, or what you’re saying... as

A New Wave in Off-Campus Activity

Hannah Palacios, Assistant Sports Editor

When you think of the surf lifestyle, the Northeast—and Maine—probably is not the first thing you think of. However, surfing at Bates has a substantial following and is only growing.

“It is definitely more popular than I thought it would be,” Andy Karr ‘21 said. “I think a lot of people come from places where they didn’t necessarily have the opportunity to surf, but they have the skills to surf from other activities they do, like skiing.”

“Higgins is kind of the Bates hub for surfing,” he continued. “It’s only 45 minutes from campus, and it has some very accessible waves. They are more of a mushy wave, but they can barrel when they get bigger, and the beach is pretty open to swells.”

Of the many avenues to go down to learn to surf at Bates, the first is through the Outing Club.

“Last year when I went to the first Outing Club meeting, I immediately got a great energy from the people leading surf trips,” Talia Spurduto ‘21 said. “I talked to Eli Nixon and he was really excited to get some first years out to the beach.”

However, because of how the swells form in Maine, in the winter the waves are bigger and just too challenging for beginners. If one does not start to learn to

surf right at the beginning of the year, another opportunity might not present itself until the spring.

Generally, the Outing Club usually sponsors larger trips.

“Last fall break the outing club did a surfing trip to Nova Scotia. We had three vans and about 30 people. The trip was a total success

fore coming to Bates, I didn’t know I would be surfing so much, but the breaks here can actually start firing and do so on a regular basis. The biggest problem with the surfing here is turning into an ice cube when the water is only a couple degrees above freezing. When you catch that perfect wave though, it’s all worth it. Shacka!”

The Outing Club

other people who want to surf. However, one thing that the Outing Club is lacking in is instruction. That is where another avenue comes in.

The Bates surfing community is rather evenly distributed with very experienced surfers and complete beginners. A large part of the growth in surfing at Bates come from some more

“He provided a pretty unique experience for me and my friends as in he kind of became a mentor to me, but he also showed me a whole different side of myself that I didn’t really know before I started to surf,” Spurduto said. “I also love just getting in the car without homework, for pretty much a day or five hours. Focusing on one thing and nothing else is a really beautiful thing. When I’m surfing, I’m just focused on getting the wave and feeling the ocean around me.”

Looking ahead, Karr and Spurduto hope to keep bringing their friends along. “If there is a three to four foot swell and I have a free afternoon, I’ll definitely go surf. But if there is a really good wave coming I will do almost whatever I can to get out there,” Karr said.

Karr also hopes to start surfing some bigger waves this year. “Maine has the best big wave potential of anywhere in the East Coast because of the deeper water,” he said. “My goal this winter is to surf some of the biggest waves in Maine.”

As for Bates, maybe there is the possibility of a surfing club in the near future. Either way, surfing at Bates is a fantastic way to build relationships and explore Maine.



Bates surfers enjoy the coasts of Maine. TALIA SPERDUTO/COURTESY PHOTO

and a bunch of us came back having caught upwards of 20 tubular waves. It was a blast!” Domi Fridger ‘21 said. “Be-

also has resources for people who want to go surfing by themselves, whether that be boards and wetsuits or just

experienced surfers taking their friends out and teaching them. Karr is a large part of that community.

Alumni Update: Julia Rafferty ‘14

Vanessa Paoletta, Managing Sports Editor

While many student-athletes at Bates graduate ready to leave behind the hectic schedule of a student-athlete, Julia Rafferty ‘14 had no such intention. Now, more than four years after graduation, Rafferty continues to structure her life around the collegiate-athlete schedule, but this time as an assistant coach for the women’s soccer team at Tufts University.

While she was at Bates, Rafferty majored in psychology and wrote her thesis on sports psychology. She was a four-year starter on the women’s soccer team and a two-year member and starter on the women’s basketball team during her junior and senior years.

“Raff didn’t care about the score of a game, because it was always 0-0 in her mind,” head soccer coach Kelsy Ross said. “Her unwavering competitiveness was the equalizer when

matching-up against more talented opponents.”

Rafferty knew for a long time that after graduation she would like to continue to be involved in athletics as a coach. To make her dream a reality, Rafferty pursued coaching jobs, even driving more than ten hours the day after graduation to interview and eventually land a part-time job as the University of Mary Washington’s assistant soccer coach in 2014.

Less than a year later, she found out that Tufts University was searching for an assistant coach for their women’s soccer team. After talking with the head coach, Martha Whiting, Rafferty said they just clicked. She now finds herself in the midst of her fourth season as an assistant coach and her third year as the Assistant Director of Compliance at Tufts.

There were many challenges that Rafferty

knew she would face as a collegiate coach: late nights, long hours and multiple jobs to name a few. One thing she did not expect was how the transition from player to coach would affect how she approached getting everyone to buy in.

“As a player I would never ask something of one of my teammates that I wasn’t willing to do myself,” she said. “I would try to be the hardest worker out there and then it made me feel comfortable asking someone else to work harder. In coaching, you can’t just go out there and crush sprints as your way of proving yourself. So for me, the hardest thing was finding ways to show them that I’m bought in and I’m working hard, just to show that this is something you really care about and are really passionate about, without exerting physical effort.”

Rafferty said that her time at Bates as a captain

of the soccer and basketball teams was the best preparation she had for tackling this personal dilemma.

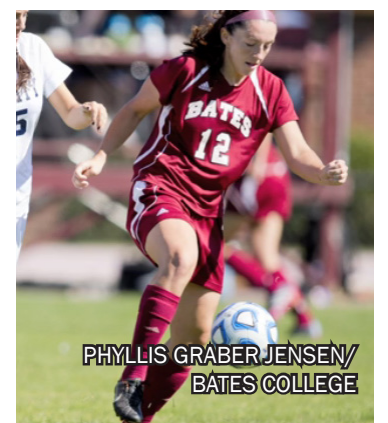
“I was a captain going into my junior year, so since sophomore year on I was trying to work on improving our team culture, working with our coaches and my teammates. There were a lot of challenges in that, there was some push back, there were some great moments where I found success, so going through that so early on helped me start to realize what works, what doesn’t work, what makes people tick and how to deal with different types of players who have a different mindset than you.”

“I think that is the great challenge of coaching, how to get as many players as possible to buy into your vision and your philosophy,” she continued. “Having to start doing that as a student-athlete really helped me

when I went into coaching.”

Rafferty advises students looking to take a similar path as her to talk with people in the field as much as possible and go for it with all their heart.

“You just have to commit to it. I think the best thing that you can do is network and talk to as many people that are in the field already. Just put yourself out there as much as you can. Sometimes you have to put three jobs together at once but if it’s something that you’re passionate about and you love, you won’t think twice about those things.”



PHYLLIS GRABERJENSEN/
BATES COLLEGE



Field Hockey Fundraises for Suicide Prevention

Jack Howard, Contributing Writer

Off the field, the Bates Field Hockey team is helping to lead a fundraiser for the American Foundation for Suicide Prevention (AFSP). Taylor Haugh '19, who started the field hockey fundraising efforts a few years back, feels a personal connection to the cause. Two years ago, Haugh lost one of her close friends to suicide.

Every day, an average of 123 suicides are committed. In the United States, suicide is the second leading cause of death amongst individuals aged 15-24. In one year, an average of nearly 45,000 Americans die of suicide. These national statistics represent the data collection for the AFSP.

The annual fundraiser kicked off on Sunday, Sept. 23 as Bates Field Hockey hosted Williams College in a rivalry NESCAC duel. Initial donations were collected after the game, but the fundraiser will continue through the month of October. "The number of people who have been affected by suicide is striking. Spearheading this fundraiser, I have hopes of highlighting the issue of mental health, something

that is often overlooked in our society," Haugh said.

The fundraising goal for the field hockey team is \$1,000. "We're at close to \$400 [with] online donations, and then we have between \$200-300 on cash donations," Haugh said. "We're at a little over \$600 right now, so we should reach our goal by the end of the month."

Before Haugh's sophomore year, upon learning about the death of her close friend, she called her field hockey coach.

"We organized a game, and we've done it every year," Haugh said. "This is the third year that we've done the game, and it will continue, because there are other girls on the team who have had similar situations."

Every year, when the fundraiser comes around, Haugh feels a sense of guilt in not being able to see what her friend went through. "Luc was the most selfless, kind, intelligent friend that

I have ever had," she said. "I know my friend is in a better place, and I have really come to terms with that. The outcome, as much as it is hard, is what he needed."

Suicide and depression are difficult topics to bring up in conversation. "When we found out, I don't

"[By] spearheading this fundraiser I have hopes of highlighting the issue of mental health, something that is often overlooked in our society." -Haugh '19

think anyone was completely shocked, because we had known that he had been going through dark times, so it's even harder," Haugh said. "How do you help someone where you're in a position where you don't know if you're close enough to step in?"

Haugh wishes more people could have helped her friend when he was in need. "When the time of year comes around, I'm thankful for remembering him," said Haugh. "I think of him every

day; not a day goes by where I don't think of my friend."

The event is saddening in many facets, but uplifting as well. "The days when I actively play for him, I feel so strong," Haugh said. "It's just hard, because it's really hard to step in when someone is going through something like this, and it's so necessary, but how do you find that balance between overstepping and understepping."

Haugh picked the AFSP organization for a variety of reasons. "I think

AFSP puts their money towards such good research and such good preventative health," Haugh said. "I know that their money goes to such great causes." After Bandoni passed away, his parents named a few organizations to donate to. AFSP was one of those organizations.

Over the course of the fundraiser's history at Bates, Haugh has learned to reach out to many different groups of people on campus. "I'm very involved in the math department, I'm

very involved in the athletic aspect of Bates, and so I think I've been able to reach out to all different groups of people," Haugh said. "All of my friends at Bates are really supportive and always donate and spread the word."

Many people fail to understand the severity of mental health illness. "Regardless of my friend, and how much it's been affecting me, I will never understand what he went through, ever," Haugh said. "That is something that I don't think everyone understands."

Nationally, suicide is a serious issue. On a smaller scale, the issue is closer to Bates than one may hope to think. "We don't see it, because it is something people tend to hide," Haugh said. "CAPS (Counseling and Psychological Services) is used by the majority of students at Bates."

Although Taylor is optimistic about the future of mental health awareness growth, she is not satisfied. "I don't think there is enough help going towards this cause, but I also think that it is growing," she said. "I hope that in the future, people are able to take this as something like cancer."

Women's Volleyball Falls to Middlebury

Justin Levine, Contributing Writer

On Sept. 28, in the historic Alumni Gym at Bates, the Middlebury Panthers (7-2, 1-1 NESCAC) took on the Bates Bobcats (5-3, 1-2 NESCAC) in a primetime matchup. Both teams have prolific histories and are contenders for the NESCAC Championship this year.

At the start, the game was dead even at 15-15 before the Panthers were able to score a couple points in a row and take the first set 25-20. In this set, Taylor Stafford-Smith's '20 high flying kills combined with teammate Gabi Eustache's '20 miraculous diving digs brought lots of excitement to the game. In addition, team captain Julia Panepinto '20 brought her energy to the game with some impressive assists.

Sydney Phillips '22 and Ruby Lightbourn '21 added versatility to the Bates attack. Angel Echipue '21 had some beautiful serves in the first set, some of which amounted to aces. She, along with teammate Stafford-Smith, formed a brick wall at the net to hold off a

strong Middlebury offense. Sets two and three did not go as well for the Bobcats. The team struggled to maintain their chemistry and composure as the Panthers seemed

After the game, Bates Volleyball Head Coach Melissa DeRan shared her thoughts on how the team can continue to improve moving forward. She ex-

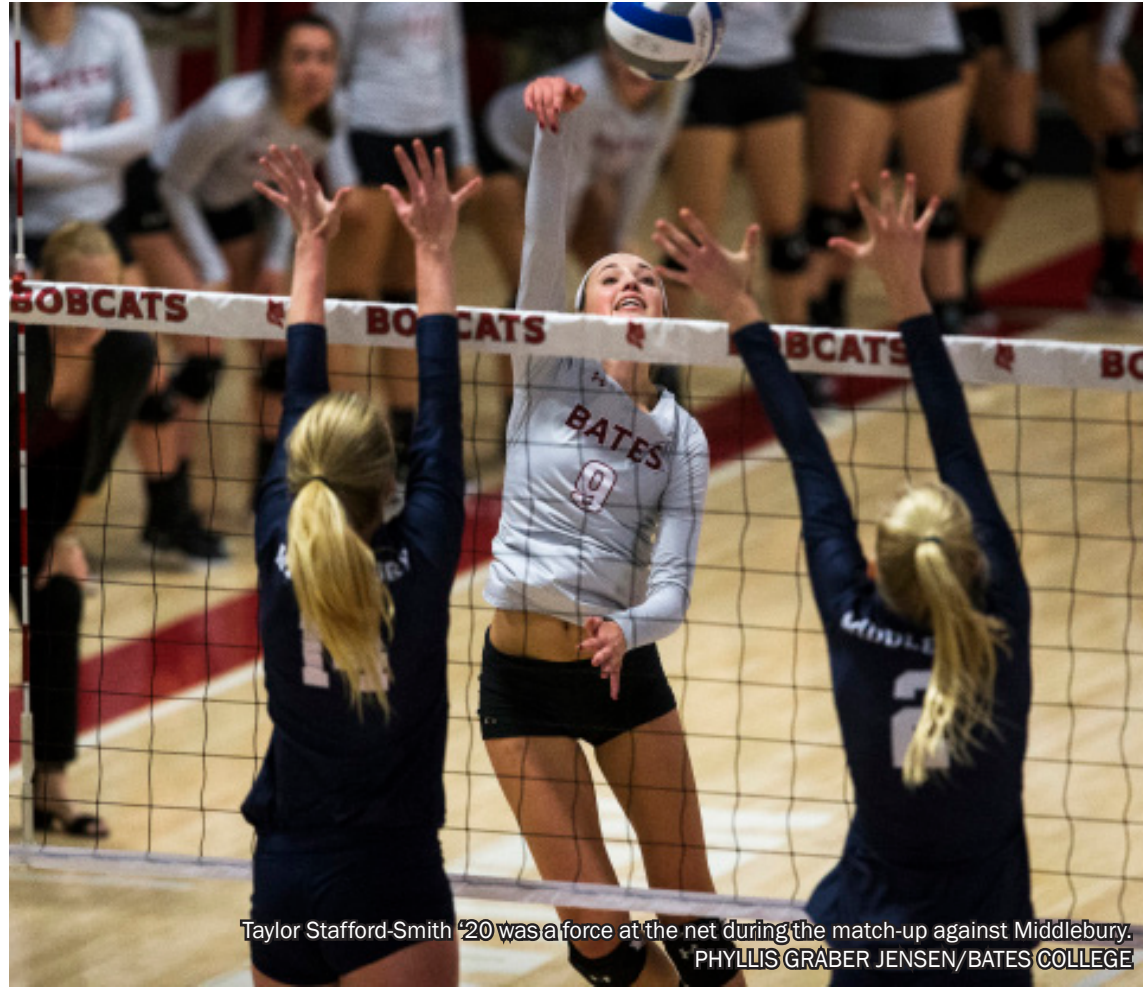
are able to be healthy and practice the way we want to, our season is going to really take off."

"Each year we progress and each year our goals

we just need to continue to work on the nuances of the game and the pieces will start to fall in place for us."

Panepinto explained that "as a junior on the team, it's exciting to see how much the program has grown. Each year we gain more dedicated, gritty, talented women that have only made us better. I love every one of my teammates and with some hard work this week, we are going to get some NESCAC wins. We will be a late-blooming team and the second half of the season has just begun." Sydney Phillips '22 explained that "[I] love spending time with the girls on and off the court. I'm having lots of fun playing with them and I expect us to get better and better as the season goes on."

As players recover from injuries, with the newly added talent this year, the Bates Women's Volleyball Team will be a team to look out for in the NESCAC, especially down the stretch as playoffs approach and the stakes are raised.



Taylor Stafford-Smith '20 was a force at the net during the match-up against Middlebury. PHYLIS GRABER JENSEN/BATES COLLEGE

to take full advantage. Middlebury went on huge scoring runs with powerful kills and incredible blocks that proved too much for the Bobcats to handle.

plained that "it's certainly been a difficult year so far in terms of injuries. But, we continue to put our heads down and rely on the next woman to step up. Once we

get loftier," she continued. "We have a group of very committed young women who work extremely hard for each other. They have created a very strong culture; now

Something’s in the Air

Men’s Soccer adds to success with overtime Trinity defeat

Margy Schueler, Contributing Writer

Reminiscent of a year ago, the Bates men’s soccer team found themselves in double overtime this past Saturday, Sept. 29, against the Trinity Bantams. Thanks to a game winning goal by team captain Peder Bakken ’20 109 minutes into the game, Bates walked away victorious, besting their draw against Trinity last year.

Bates was the first on the board at the Trinity soccer field in Hartford, Conn. with a goal in the first half by Austin Sansone ’20, who was assisted by Bakken.

“It felt great to get my first goal of the season, but it never would have happened without a tremendous ball from Peder,” Sansone said.

making the final score (2-1).

Coach Tyler Sheikh, in his first season as the Head Soccer Coach at Bate, commented on Saturdays match: “We prepare and play the games for these high stakes moments, so we are pleased the bounce went our way this time.”

This “bounce” propelled the team to a three-game winning streak and one of their best season starts in over a decade. Unfortunately, the team came up short in a hard-fought loss the following day at Amherst (1-2), ending their streak. The single goal in Sunday’s game came from Bakken, making it his third of the season. As of Sunday, the Bobcats have an overall record of 5-3 (NESCAC 3-3).

son that no stats sheet will ever capture. We are witnessing the perfect storm of raw talent, top to bottom belief, and 31 guys that love to be part of this family.”

When discussing what led to their achievements up until this point in the season, a common denominator cited by players and coaches is the collective group effort and team cohesion. Bakken put it this way: “As the saying goes ‘it takes a village.’”

“We need to make sure that we continue to have every guy on our roster [brought] in because that is what it takes to be successful,” he continued.

With seven regular season games to be played, the team is optimistic and



Peder Bakken ’20 drives ball up the field for Bates. PHYLLIS GRABER JENSEN/BATES COLLEGE

The Bobcats’ lead only lasted so long before Bantams’ player Alistair Matule tied up the game in the 59th minute. Keeping their intensity for the remainder of the match, Bates held off Trinity and continued to attack until the end of regulation. The first ten-minute period of overtime proved to be fruitless, but the team’s efforts were rewarded with Bakken’s game ending goal in the final minutes of the second overtime period,

Despite Sunday’s defeat, the results and caliber of play from team members old and new so far have been encouraging. Nobody can say for certain what makes this year different from any other, but fans and players can tell that this season is going to be special.

“Everyone senses there is something different in the air this year,” Captain Aleks Marceau ’19 said. “[It was] cultivated through years of hard work in the off-sea-

looking forward to the rest of the season. According to Coach Sheikh, “Nothing is a guarantee in soccer except Bates Soccer will always work hard. As long as we bring that requisite focus I think we can push or beat anyone in the country.”

The Bates men’s soccer team will be on the field again Wednesday Oct. 3 at Maine Maritime, and this Saturday, Oct. 6, at 2 p.m. on the Russell Street Field.

Sports Results from Week of September 23

Men’s Cross Country

Sept. 29: Maine State Meet, 2nd/12 (State), 3rd/19 (Overall)

Women’s Cross Country

Sept. 29: Maine State Meet, 1st/12 (State), 2nd/18 (Overall)

Field Hockey (2-6, 1-5 NESCAC)

Sept. 19: Thomas (ME), L 5-2
Sept. 22: Wesleyan (Conn.), W 5-2
Sept. 23: Williams, L 4-2
Sept. 26: Babson, W 3-2
Sept. 29: Trinity (Conn.), L 4-0

Football (0-3, 0-3 NESCAC)

Sept. 22: Trinity (Conn.), L 59-16
Sept. 29: Tufts, L 47-14

Men’s Golf

Sept. 22: UMF Invitational, 8th/10
Sept. 29-30: NESCAC Championship Fall Qualifier, 9th/10

Women’s Golf

Sept. 29-30: Williams Fall Classic, T-14th/15

Men’s Soccer (5-3, 3-3 NESCAC)

Sept. 22: Wesleyan (Conn.), W 1-0
Sept. 23: Williams, W 2-0
Sept. 29: Trinity (Conn.), W 2-1
Sept. 30: Amherst, L 2-1

Women’s Soccer

Sept. 22: Wesleyan (Conn.), L 2-1
Sept. 23: Williams, L 3-0

Volleyball (5-4, 1-3 NESCAC)

Sept. 21: Colby, W 3-1
Sept. 22: Brandeis, W 3-1
Sept. 28: Middlebury, L 3-0

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