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Vol. 149, Issue 6

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Sarah Rothmann, Editor-in-Chief

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Sandglass's "Babylon" Holds a Mirror to Refugee Crisis

Pippin Evarts, Assistant Arts & Leisure Editor



Sandglass Theater Company members utilize puppets and other devices to tell the stories of refugees journeying to the United States. JAMES MACDONALD/THE BATES STUDENT

On Friday and Saturday evening, Bates welcomed the Sandglass Theater Company from Putney, Vermont to campus. The theater group performed their piece "Babylon, Journeys of Refugees" in the Gannett Theater in Pettigrew Hall. The piece was incredibly moving. It gave the audience an intimate understanding of the actors and actresses of the company as well as what it is like to be a refugee coming to America. Among the cast was Bates alum Keila K. Ching '18.

The artistic rendition began with a game of trivia to introduce the audience to the cast members. Through the game, we learned intimate facts ranging from who in the cast has a masters degree to whose family had at one point been on food stamps. Opening with such a personal and intimate look at the cast allowed the audience to create a strong connection between themselves and the theater group members. From that connection, the cast transitioned into creating a relationship between themselves and the characters shown in the play.

The performance of "Babylon" itself focused on the stories of four separate refugees: a single man, a man with his young daughter, a single woman, and a young man, all of whom were attempting to leave their homeland to seek asylum in America. Through the use of puppets and the hand painted machines called crankies, we saw heartbreak as a young boy from El Salvador and the single man from Saudi Arabia with a masters degree in computer science are denied access into the United States. We also saw relief as the man and his young daughter, as well as the single woman, are accepted into the country.

The use of multiple media of performance allowed the audience to form a stronger relationship with the characters in the play.

Handmade puppets allowed the audience to see the journeys many of them faced and the wear and tear that their bodies, just like those of the puppets, experienced. Crankies are long, illustrated scrolls wound onto two spools that are loaded into a box with a viewing screen. They are hand-cranked while the story is told and, as a result, the audience better understands the landscape of the places many refugees are attempting to escape from and the environments in which many refugees live when attempting to seek asylum in America. Alongside the hand-created media, the actors and actresses featured kept the audience captivated for the entirety of the play.

After the show, the theater group sat down with the audience and answered questions about why they chose to create the piece and what inspired its inception. The group worked with the Vermont Refugee Resettlement Program, where they were able to meet with refugees and hear their stories. One of the actresses recalled sitting in a resettled refugee's home and hearing about how she escaped her country after state-sponsored violence allowed for a situation in which a man came into her home and shot at her and her family. The actress expressed her surprise at how easily the woman was able to accept new people into her home, and even call the actress 'daughter,' after experiencing such a horrific event. Although the stories told in the play were fictional, each was created through intense research by the group in order to ensure they portrayed an experience not uncommon for most refugees. The piece was incredibly moving to watch and allowed for a greater understanding of a topic so passionately debated in our current political climate.

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Winter Club Fair: It's never too late!

Sophie Mackin, Staff Writer

It's a new semester—which means more chances to get involved at Bates. On Wednesday, Jan. 9, over forty of Bates' clubs and organizations gathered in Chase Hall to educate students about their plans for the winter and recruit more members. The Office of Campus Life sponsors this mid-year club fair as a low-stress alternative to the noisy crowds at the Gray Cage during the first week of fall semester.

"The fall club fair can be a little bit overwhelming. The Gray Cage can get really loud, and even though it's very exciting, we wanted to do a mid-year one that was more relaxed and had a less intimi-

dating atmosphere," explained Jen Haugen, Coordinator of Campus Life Programming.

Club leaders and representatives set up tables in four different rooms throughout Chase Hall: Chase Lounge, Skelton Lounge, Memorial Commons, and Hirasawa Lounge. This set-up allowed students to stroll leisurely and easily seek out the groups they were interested in—each room was also paired with different pizza varieties.

With a better grasp of their time management skills, first-years can be more strategic and thoughtful about which clubs they choose to sign up for. "We realize that

first-years now know their schedule and how much they can handle, so they won't end up just putting their emails down for everything," added Haugen.

Many of Bates' clubs and organizations have exciting plans for the upcoming semester. For example, the Ballroom Club is looking forward to their performance at Gala in March. "I think we have a bigger group than we did last year, so we're really excited about it," said the club's vice president, Joan Buse '21.

**CLUB FAIR,
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Lizzie Ottenstein '20 of Bates Feminist Collective (left), CHRISTINA PERRONE/THE BATES STUDENT

Foreign Language TA Spotlight: Andrea Elisabeth Kreditsch

Madeline Polkinghorn, Assistant News Editor

The Bates Student runs a regular column which hopes to highlight the unique gifts to the Bates community brought forth by foreign language teaching assistants. This week, I spoke to Andrea Elisabeth Kreditsch, the 2018-19 German language teaching assistant, about her native country of Austria, adjusting to American culture, and Austrian food!

Bates Student (BS): Hello, Andrea! Where are you from?

Andrea Elisabeth Kreditsch (AES): I am from Austria, from Graz. Graz is in the southeast of Austria, about a two-hour drive south of Vienna, our capital. It is also the second biggest city of the country and it's a student city, so it has its very distinct flair.

BS: Where did you attend university and what did you study?

AES: I attended Karl Franzens University (or University of Graz) in Graz, Austria. I studied English language, literature and culture as well as history and graduated with my Mag. phil. (like a MA) earlier this year.

BS: Why did you decide to pursue teaching German as a foreign language? What led you to this field of teaching?

AES: I am a trained foreign language teacher for English, and I knew that at some point in my life, I wanted to work and teach abroad. I decided in late 2017 that I would try and apply for a Fulbright grant in German language teaching, because I thought that this would be a great opportunity to not only experience living in a different country but also to teach my language and introduce students to my culture.

BS: When and

how did you learn English?

AES: I learned English first from books and other materials that a family member living in Canada sent over to Austria before I started school. In school, I had 12 years of English, but I think I also learned a lot by reading and watching movies in English outside of class. I then went on to study English in university.

BS: What do you miss the most about your home country?

AES: What I miss most about my home country is the food, probably. Food is such an essential part of every culture, and you don't realize how used you are to your own food until it becomes unavailable. I miss "real" (meaning dark rye) bread and pumpkin seed oil, and gingerbread and cookies, and Topfenstrudel and Marillenknödel. Thankfully, we have a cultural kitchen in Roger Williams that my fellow TAs and I have been using to make some of our favorite dishes from home for and with students, and I am looking forward to doing this again this semester! And I miss the mountains. I am not much of a hiker (more of a skier), but I miss just looking out my window and seeing mountains.

BS: What has been your favorite part of living in the States? Least favorite part?

AES: My favorite part of living in the US is probably that I get to live in such a beautiful part of the country—I love the nature here, I love the outdoors, and I love winter, so Maine is the perfect state for me! My least favorite part of living here is that you need a car to get anywhere, at least here in Maine....

BS: How has your experience at Bates been?

AES: My experience has been great so far, I really love working at the German and Russian Department; it's so much fun! I love teaching my language to students and giving them an insight into my culture. I also really like the tight-knit community at Bates; it is like a big family, and you are never just a number like at big universities (like my university at home—we had 30,000 students and big lectures with 400 students).

BS: Do you have any recommendations for students hoping to learn German?

AES: What I would recommend to students wanting to learn German is to make use of as much authentic material as they can: German movies and TV shows (even if they don't understand anything yet, just hearing the language helps such a lot!), German books, German news, German websites/YouTube channels/blogs etc. and, of course: try to speak German whenever they can, whether it is with German speakers or with each other! I know it can be very intimidating to speak a new language, but it will all pay off in the end! And of course, if you are not a student of German yet, come and say hi to us at the German department and check out our language courses!



German TA Andrea misses the "real" bread she has back in Austria. XINGREN WANG/THE BATES STUDENT

Get Connected With the Harvard Center

Marguerite Schueler, Staff Writer

The frigid temperatures did not stop students from attending the Harvard Center open house this past Friday, Jan. 11, to learn about the Center's many opportunities. The purpose of the event was to connect or reconnect students with the off-campus community for the upcoming semester. Information about funded summer activities was also given.

The Bates College Harvard Center for Community Partnerships strives to promote civic awareness and action in Lewiston-Auburn and the wider world. The director of the Harvard Center, Darby Ray, remarked that the goal of the Center is to "help the Bates community to connect with the outside community." Students can access community-engaged activities through various facets of Bates, including: academic courses, research, dorm life, athletic teams, and clubs. The Harvard Center will make connections between volunteer programs and students' interests, academic or otherwise. "We are kind of like a matchmaker," added Ray.

Casey Kelley '21 is a community outreach fellow. She notes, "It's really important to be involved in the community where you live." Kelley is the coordinator for Art Programming. These programs include weekly opportunities with the ArtVan and at Hillview Family Development to work with low income youth on art projects.

If your interests lie with assisting those with disabilities, then you may want to get involved in the Social Learning Center Friendship Program. Bates students get the chance to form a one-on-one connection with a member of the Social Learning Center. Coordinator Maddy Shmalo '19 described the program as: "A very rewarding experience." The friendships acquired can be gratifying for all parties involved.

George Steckel '19 has been involved with the Harvard Center for all of his time here at Bates and characterizes the center as a family. Steckel is in charge of the Book Buddies program which entails reading to early-elementary aged children who might not have

access to books outside of school.

To discover the wide assortment of ongoing and onetime community programs outside of this selection, you can go to the Harvard Center website and visit the opportunities page. Contact the community outreach fellows for information if you would like to participate in any of these programs. Most of the locations of the programs can be reached using the Service Learning Shuttle for the Harvard Center website and visit the opportunities page. Contact the community outreach fellows for information if you would like to participate in any of these programs. Most of the locations of the programs can be reached using the Service Learning Shuttle for the Harvard Center website and visit the opportunities page. Contact the community outreach fellows for information if you would like to participate in any of these programs. Most of the locations of the programs can be reached using the Service Learning Shuttle for the Harvard Center website and visit the opportunities page.

Funded summer opportunities are also available through the Harvard Center. The Center has generated a list of non-profit organizations in Lewiston and Auburn that Bates students can spend the summer working for. Students are also encouraged to bring their own ideas for community-engaged experiences that align with their interests. For 8 to 10 weeks or full-time work up, to \$4,000 can be earned. For more information, students can visit the Harvard Center and speak with Peggy Rotundo. The deadline for applications is March 18.

Students can get involved off-campus in numerous ways. To get on the Community Links email list if you are not already, send an email to Marty Deschaines. The Center encourages students to take community-engaged courses at Bates or participate in community-engaged research. Approximately 50 seniors every year complete their thesis or capstone project in relation to community-engagement.

Bates is fortunate to be situated in the diverse and vibrant Lewiston-Auburn community, and there are a multitude of ways to engage with the members and organizations of L-A. As George Steckel put it, "When you come to Bates, your home becomes Lewiston."

"Babylon" Gives Voice to Refugees' Experiences

Christina Perrone, Managing News Editor

On Friday and Saturday, Jan. 11 and 12, Sandglass Theater from Putney, Vermont, came to Bates' Gannet Theater to perform the company's original play, "Babylon, Journeys of Refugees," featuring recent Bates grad Keila K. Ching '18 as an ensemble member.

The play started with a pop quiz, in which actors prompted questions and after a pause, would step forward if the answer applied to them. Some questions included: "Which of us have family in another country?" and "Which of us have been arrested?" to which one or a few actors stepped forward. For the final question "Who has been mistaken for another nationality?" all of the ensemble members stepped forward. It was later stated that this exercise was to differentiate who the actors were from the puppets they played.

From there, the stories of four refugees were told through multiple narrative forms, including song, music, sound effects, and crankies—or moving panoramas.

Through the course of the play, the audience watched a mother escape from Afghanistan, a father and his daughter escape from Burundi, a boy from El Salvador escape from the gang violence around him, and a man with a master's degree in computer science escape from Syria by boat. Present in each vignette, Gretel, the ghost from another war, slowly takes away prominent images from each story—from a sack of flour the woman from Afghanistan carried while escaping to a worn out pair of shoes the boy from El Salvador walked in on his way to the US border.

The story lines converge at the end of the play, when all the puppets are behind a chicken wire fence awaiting a decision on their appeals for refugee status in the US. While illustrating the experiences of refugees, the actors in the ensemble also asked questions about the US's responsibility for accepting refugees, especially given the complication that the US is a major arms provider for war-torn

countries like El Salvador. At the end of the play, the audience is left asking what happens to those refugees rejected from the US. Although Gretel the ghost is not given a story, we can assume she was rejected refugee status in the US after escaping Europe in World War II—signifying how history is known to repeat itself.

According to the show's playbill, Sandglass Theater decided to call the play "Babylon" after the ancient city of Babylon which is now in Iraq: "This fallen mythic civilization becomes, for us, a metaphor for the destruction and destabilization that is leading much of the world into a refugee crisis of mythic proportion." It continues, stating that, "In Babylon, the blending of actual testimony with unreal figures gives us a view into how we respond to the enormity of crisis."

In response to a question during the Q&A session after the play about "Babylon's" research and writing process, Shoshana Bass, one of the artistic co-directors and

ensemble members of "Babylon," shared the work that took place from the play's conception to its final product. Through working closely with the Vermont Refugee Resettlement Program (now called USCRI Vermont), Sandglass Theater had the chance to interview staff members of the program—all of whom are resettled refugees—as well as their clients. According to Bass, "[W]e came in there with questions and what we needed to hear was what came out—and it was never necessarily [answers to] the questions we came in with."

"With one exception, none of these stories we tell are somebody's full rope for rope story," explained Bass. "They are kind of amassed from different things. Through the interviews, we then kind of pulled up images that held to us the essence of this story and this situation, for example a pair of shoes that have been walked in for so long that they've fallen apart."

A sentiment that all of the ensemble members wrestled with was

representing a story that does not belong to them. As Eric Bass, the co-founder and director of Sandglass Theater, put it, "The fundamental issue in creating this piece is how you give voice, a voice that needs to be heard, when you cannot embody that voice, because it's not you. It's not just not you [as in] a different person, it's not you [as in] a different culture. It's not us. And so, what the songs are intended to do is to present that voice in a way in which none of us—not the puppets or the puppeteers—pretend to be anybody else but themselves. So the puppets are sculptural representations and they remain puppets, and as such, while they embody a person on a journey, they're also metaphors—they remain metaphors in a way that the human being can be, but not as easily, not as naturally as the puppet."



Christina Perrone, Managing News Editor

Madeline Polkinghorn, Assistant News Editor

CLUB FAIR
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The Ballroom Club practices several times a week and competes about four times a year. They focus primarily on rumba, cha-cha, swing, waltz, foxtrot, and tango. When asked why she joined, Jina McCullough '20 explained: "I've been dancing for 19 years and finding a club that allows me to explore different kinds of dancing has been so fun. Everyone in the club is pretty close – even if they're from different years – because we spend so much time together." The Ballroom Club always welcomes new members, regardless of experience level.

Another club hoping to perform at Gala is the Circus Club. Ben Hoffinger '22 joined Circus Club at the beginning of the year

and speaks highly of his experience so far. "My favorite thing about the club is how willing all the experienced circus folks are to teach you brand new skills and elements of circus that you're unfamiliar with. For instance, I learned how to walk on stilts just last semester," he explained. Circus Club meets on Sundays and encourages everyone to come join the fun," Hoffinger said.

"If you're interested in anything related to juggling, stilt-ing, or unicycling and just want to give it a shot, come try it out with us even if you have zero circus experience," he continued.

Other clubs have their eye on events coming up very soon. For example, Filmboard is screening

the film "Sorry to Bother You" on Martin Luther King Jr. Day next week. Timothy Kaplowitz '20 describes the film as both critically adored and potentially divisive. "I think it will lead to a lot of discussion and I'm really interested in seeing what the reception will be at Bates," Kaplowitz adds. Everyone is invited to attend both the film as well as the discussion panel with Bates professors that will follow.

If you're a movie buff or are interested in screening and discussing a specific movie, the Filmboard is the club for you! "At a typical film board meeting, we'll be deciding on movies to bring in for screenings and planning events for the future. Mostly, we're just hanging out and talking about mov-

ies," explained the club's president, David Unterberger '19.

In addition, there are several new clubs that are looking forward to building their presence on campus. Astronomy Club is new to Bates this year and eager for more members. "Right now, we're looking to get funding for a telescope for public events, so we've been doing a lot of planning for that as well as assigning positions and discussing future events," explained the club's president, Andy Kelly '21. When asked who the ideal member for the club, the club's vice president, Carolyn Snow '21, replied, "Anyone with any interest in space should join. I haven't actually taken an astronomy course here at Bates, but I just really like

space." Clearly, there are many exciting opportunities for extracurricular life at Bates. Don't miss out and take the time this semester to attend some events or meetings for clubs you've never heard of.



WRBC members collect new recruits.
CHRISTINA PERRONE/ THE BATES STUDENT



Phoung Vu '20 and Jin Wei '20 of the Sangai Asia Club
CHRISTINA PERRONE/ THE BATES STUDENT



Madeline Polkinghorn of the Bates College Guild.
CHRISTINA PERRONE/ THE BATES STUDENT



Donald Trump's Solo Endeavor Into Madness

Miles Nabritt, Staff Writer

Oops. He's done it again. Donald Trump's ever-resounding presence in front of our national televisions was at its finest last week. During his national address to the American people this past Tuesday, Jan. 8, President Trump tried to convince the country about the benefits of the creation of his border wall. As we all well know, Trump has been adamant about border security since the early beginning of his campaign back in 2015. Offensively describing Mexicans as "drug dealers," "criminals," and "rapists" has distinguished Trump as by far one of the most protectionist world leaders in recent memory. President Trump continued to live up to his less than sterling reputation by clumsily addressing to the United States about the importance of building a wall.

While watching this speech, like most of Trump's speeches, I was less than thrilled when hearing what he had to say. With all his smugness, insecurity, and aggressiveness, I find his rhetoric less than pleasing. However, it is with this speech where I discovered something rather unique: he was clear. Trump's delivery was succinct and well-organized. It was almost as if Trump was confident in what he had to say and, for a change, believed that his policy was actually

going to work. Maybe I'm wrong and I'm giving our President more credit than he deserves, but I feel as though Trump truly believes that the border wall might give him the notoriety and the respect that he has longed for. At any rate, it is interesting to see this new dynamic in Trump. It's almost as if he knows something is going to happen and that we don't. Or maybe, on the contrary, he is happy that he is finally creating some sort of legislation to be debated on.

Now, more importantly, what Donald Trump actually wants out of this border wall is completely unreasonable. In his speech, President Trump claims that the wall is going to cost \$5.7 billion to build. Trump said that building a wall would cost less than the 500 billion dollars worth of illegal drugs that he claims flow between Mexico and the U.S., and that it would protect American lives. While both of these goals are for sure admirable, I feel there are other, more plausible ways, to deal with the issue of border security. \$5.7 billion can be used in many different ways rather than just a wall.

Despite this, I almost forgot the most important part of Trump's border security plan, the one in which he claims that Mexico is going to inevitably pay for the wall. As he has said this since the beginning of his campaign, Trump wants Mexico



to pay for the border wall based on new trade deals and international relationships. Not only has this part of Trump's border security plan produced major controversy, it has unsettled several members of U.S. Congress including Democratic leaders such as Chuck Schumer and Nancy Pelosi.

Senate minority leader Schumer and current Speaker of the House Pelosi, in their national address rebuttal, kept the headlines concerning the ongoing debate about border security rolling. Not only for economic reasons but for moral reasons, both Schumer and Pelosi have criticized Trump for

neglecting many more important ways of dealing with border security. But like Schumer and Pelosi, we can only wait and see in the coming weeks the fate of Donald Trump's national agenda for border security.

R-Kelly and a Reckoning with Men

Kyle Larry, Assistant Forum Editor

In the age of #MeToo, we as a society are starting to reevaluate how we view rape by holding accountable the people who have committed or who continue to commit the criminal act. One person in particular that has recently been exposed is R&B singer R-Kelly and his numerous accusations of rape and pedophilia. Although R-Kelly has contributed immensely to the R&B genre and the music industry, in general, for over twenty years (known as the unofficial "king of R&B"), he has ruined the lives of numerous under-aged girls using his star power as a scapegoat. After releasing smash hits like "Bump N Grind" and "I Believe I Can Fly," R-Kelly was at the peak of his career, and many families saw this. Many families believed that

R-Kelly could help their children reach the fame that he was able to achieve. However, they were gravely mistaken. Although R-Kelly promised that he would produce people's daughters and make them famous, the only thing he did was rob those children of their innocence. The television network *Lifetime* recently delved deep into the dark, twisted story of R-Kelly's life in a six-part documentary series. It highlighted how R-Kelly both verbally and physically abused the under-aged women by starving them, attacking them, raping them, etc. The documentary series was made to give a voice to a group of women who were promised fame and fortune, but ended up getting years worth of abuse and people telling them that they're lying or that their story doesn't matter.

Now you would think that this documentary series would change the public opinion on rape culture. But this documentary series did the exact opposite. There are still so many people who support R-Kelly. So, I guess the question is "why?" "Why do people still stand by a man who has destroyed the lives of dozens of women, and how can people blame the victims for a situation like this?"

It is because so many of us grew up in a household that preached the rhetoric "boys will be boys," which allows boys to make mistakes and be forgiven, despite the effects it has on others. Boys are taught that in order to know right, they must experience wrong, while, in comparison, girls are taught that they must be perfect at all cost. Boys grow up believing that if they make

a mistake then it will be fine because people will forgive them and accept that they will learn eventually, while girls must learn to walk on eggshells at an early age in their lives. This idea evolves when these boys become men and they are allowed to, theoretically, do whatever they want because it's a "learning experience." Meanwhile, women are taught that their purpose is to support the man if he's wrong because he has a lot of pressure on him. By teaching women that they are nothing more than a support system for men and teaching men that their job is to make mistakes in order to get better, we as a society allow men to not think about how their actions affect others. This was seen through R-Kelly and how he used under-age girls for his own personal pleasure. He saw nothing wrong because

he thought he deserved those girls and society made it acceptable for him to go after anything he felt he deserved. People are defending him because they were taught that men should be able to seek out anything that they want.

If we want people to see the error in their ways, we as a society have to teach men that their actions have consequences. If we as a society stopped excusing men's irrational behaviors and actions, then they would respect other people's lives more and think twice about their actions. If people realized that a woman's life is just as important as a man's life then more people could see how R-Kelly dehumanized these young ladies and took away their lives.

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Yemen in Crisis

Ashka Jhaveri, Staff Writer

The conflict in Yemen is the largest humanitarian crisis in the world, and it is being funded by the United States. In March 2015, an international coalition of Saudi Arabia and the United Arab Emirates intervened against the Houthi rebels in accordance with the Yemeni President. In the years since the coalition began, air strikes, blockades, and funneled weapons from global superpowers has led to 22.2 million out of 29 million Yemenis in need of medical assistance. This crisis is not only leaving millions of civilians vulnerable to violence, but it is violating international humanitarian law.

Yemen is the poorest country in the Middle East, and now it is a battleground for competing countries to exact military and global dominance. Naval operations

blockades have been set up on all ports in the Houthi-controlled northern area, which is where 80% of Yemen's imports are delivered. The Saudi-coalition's defense for this blockade is that they are attempting to block the funneling of arms from Iran to the rebels and that this depreciation in resources will cause the rebels to retreat and order to be restored. The reality is much more complicated.

From May to August of last year, commercial imports fell 30%, leading to depreciation in national currency and putting millions out of a job. Most Yemenis people have not worked for full pay in two years. Every 99 minutes, an air strike occurs, and every 10 minutes a child dies from war-related causes. These airstrikes have hit residential areas, marketplaces, civilian boats, as well as medical, educational, cultural, and religious sites. The

dismembering of the country has left 2 million people internally displaced, 2 million children without education, and 16 million with a lack of access to basic health care. With so many fallouts of the blockades, one must question the legality of this blockade and how it is tolerated by the world powers.

Until recently, many world powers supported the Saudi-coalition in Yemen. The rebels are members of a Shiite Muslim tribe, and with the support of Iran, they are creating political distress in the Middle East. With the presence of terrorist groups in Yemen, as well as the Houthi rebels, superpowers like the US and UK have sided with the perceived antagonists of the free world: Saudi Arabia. However, on Dec. 18, 2018 the US symbolically withdrew from the coalition in response to the killing of the dissident columnist, Jamal

Khashoggi, in a Senate vote of 56 to 41. Their plan is to formally address the possibility of sanctions and the cutting off of arms sales in the new year.

When international laws are violated, civilians suffer. In such a poor and geographically compromised area, Yemen's civilians have faced their biggest enemy: starvation. With the naval blockades and the government of Yemen's disregard for civilian life, millions are left to rely on international relief organizations. An estimated 8.4 million people are severely food insecure with 12-13 million at risk of starvation.

According to the UN, "over 150 relief organizations, including eight UN agencies, are working around the clock to provide food, shelter, nutritional assistance, protection services and much more to millions of Yemenis whose lives have been

uprooted by the conflict." However, these organizations are faced with dozens of impediments, including collapsing health facilities, access to water, and sanitation services. They are even being prohibited from shipping medicine to the country by the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia.

The countries of the world cannot tolerate this violence any longer. To do so would not only break international humanitarian laws but would enable such egregious crimes to take place in the future. The Senate needs to make a formal decision about our nation's relationship with Saudi Arabia. The murder of journalist Jamal Khashoggi sparked something in the US government, and the spark must lead to a flame of change if there is any hope of ending the crisis in Yemen.

Trump and the Squandering of US Soft Power

Nick Morgoshia, Assistant Forum Editor

Superpowers come and go. They conceive their political hegemony through violence, assert their dominance with military braggadocio, and fight for survival until their last breath.

But the United States, I have always thought, is a different kind of superpower — gentle, persuasive, and more likely to endure the tide of history that unforgivingly washed away the Roman, British, and Soviet empires.

Even with the rise of China and repeated muscle-flexing by Russia, the United States remains the world's foremost economic and military actor. American nominal GDP of \$19.39 trillion is greater than that of the bottom eight of the world's ten largest economies

combined. Constituting less than five percent of the global population, Americans generate and earn over 20 percent of the world's total income. With an unrivaled annual defense budget of \$716 billion, over 6000 nuclear warheads, and an extensive network of allies and strategic partners, the American military is consistently ranked as the most powerful and logistically prepared in the world.

Though quantitative indicators are certainly worthy of consideration, we should also acknowledge that they are incomplete. American influence operates in much more subtle and sophisticated ways: captivating minds of people around the world in a way that cannot be quantified

or fully documented on paper. Even in the most socially conservative of countries, teenagers are voracious consumers of Hollywood productions and music by Taylor Swift.

Chinese and Russian elites tirelessly decry Uncle Sam's actions but send their children to American schools and universities; for one, Xi Jinping's only daughter is a Harvard graduate. Every time there is a major political or humanitarian crisis, the world eagerly awaits what American politicians and experts have to say.

The US standing on the global arena is thus as reliant on values, culture, and the ingenuity of the American people as it is on our fiscal-military prowess. Unfortunately, President Trump

has repeatedly made clear that he is willing to practice the latter but not the former component of American global leadership. He has repeatedly suggested that the US should leverage its economic and political dominance to craft more beneficial trade deals, cajole Mexico's government into paying for the wall, and get our NATO allies to meet their spending commitments. In light of this Trumpian diplomacy, I cannot help but ask: why not use some of the most persuasive tools in our arsenal — America's historic commitment to human rights, freedom of the press, and representative democracy — to encourage nations of the world to embrace better versions of themselves?

A Thesis Critiquing... Thesis

Chris Hassan, Managing Forum Editor

As is a mandatory right-of-passage for all seniors, I completed my senior thesis for my Politics major last December. Since deliberating in Feb. 2018, I had gone through several iterations of my thesis question, read at least several hundred pages of articles and books, and ended up with sixty-six pages of final draft material. Through endless hours of meticulous reading and dedicating (without exaggeration) every day and night of my Thanksgiving break to revisions, I bound my physical copy on Dec. 6. Surrounded by my closest friends, I was trembling from breathing the deepest sigh of relief of my life; I had done it.

My thesis journey was by no means exceptionally difficult, especially when compared to those students working on high

honors and with original data. Nevertheless, from my first hour of initial research in Ladd to the very moment I printed the last page of my bibliography, I couldn't help but wonder: was it all worth it?

To write a thesis is, for us undergrads, a privilege in many ways. It is a perfect writing sample to send to future employers, allowing us to synthesize the courses of our majors, and forcing us to break apart what makes for a compelling argument.

But as it is currently run, a thesis argument is catered to an academic audience. Thesis is by design meant to simulate an upper-level dissertation we might encounter in graduate school, be it for an MA or even a Ph.D. To be sure, academic writing is often insightful and very important to advancing our understanding on

higher ideas, but it is anything but accessible.

In this vein, senior thesis prioritizes neither a creative approach to writing nor one that is especially multifaceted. Our thesis question and the summary of our subsequent argument needs to be incredibly specific and constantly follow a precise academic writing style.

You're probably familiar with the common expression, "if you can't explain it simply, you don't understand it well enough." I don't buy that. If my Politics major has taught me anything, it's that good questions and arguments don't have easy answers. More radically, one answer doesn't need to be indisputable to be useful. Politics, the humanities at large, and even the hard sciences need to reconcile that the real world, the one outside

of Bates, is full of the questions and puzzles that should be answered in ways that aren't reduced to sixty pages.

At the end of the day, these opinions are my experience and my experience alone. I knew long before senior year that I was not naturally adept at academic writing and was not much of a debater. I am still proud of the thesis I wrote. But as I said, I prefer my opinions to be general and constantly evolving, not fixed into a precise, packageable statement. In many ways, my critique of senior thesis is more a critique of academia itself, and the blame for that can't possibly be put on any lone professor or university.

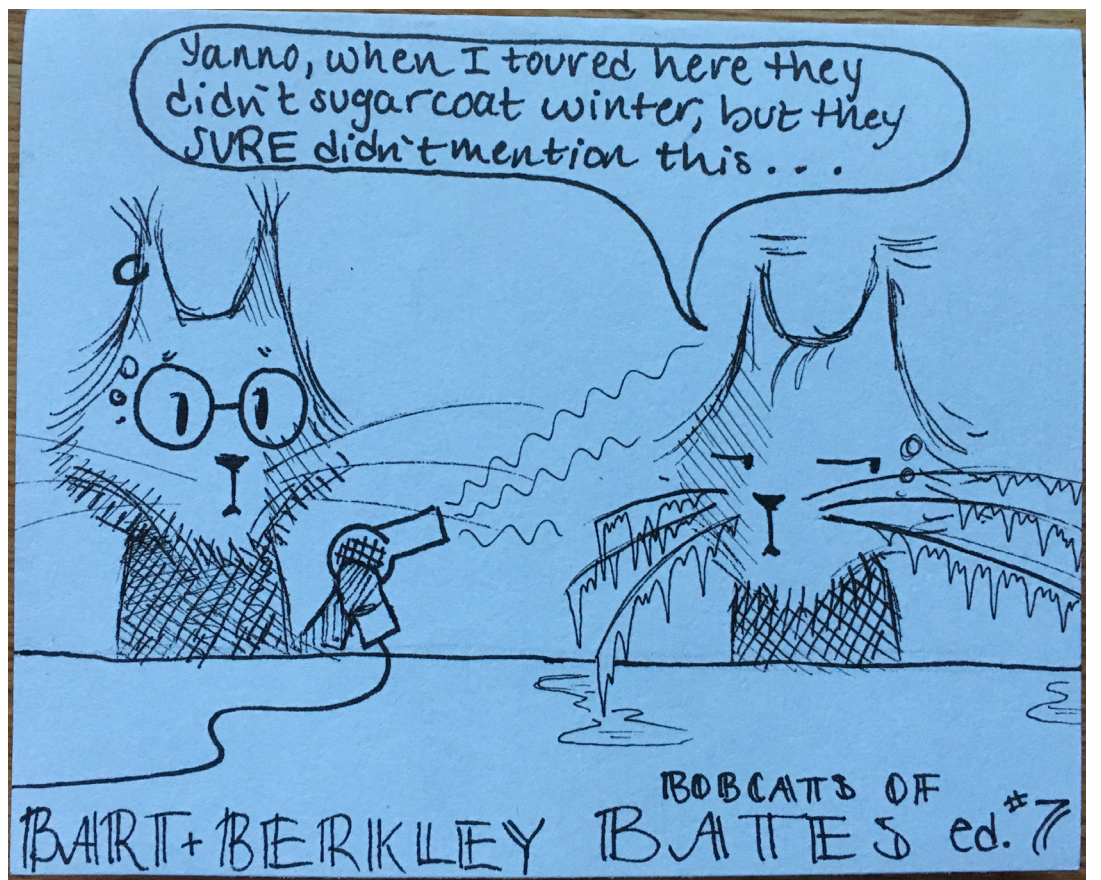
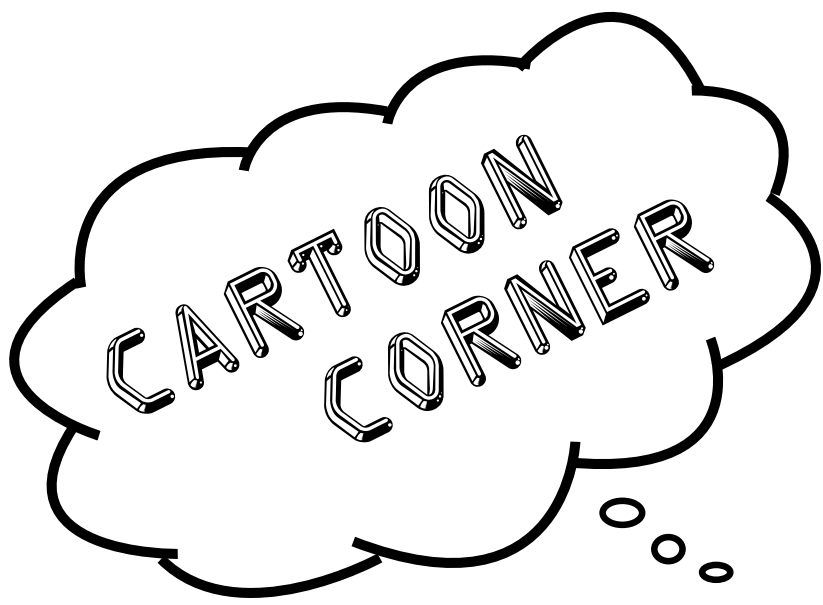
However, I have come to the personal conclusion that thesis needs to be changed. That which would replace thesis, as it currently exists, is up for debate.

The simplest solution would be to make it voluntary by removing it as a requirement for graduation. Perhaps capstone projects and interactive research within the local community or abroad could be given greater funding and institutional support. We could even remove the argumentative foundations of thesis and instead turn it into an exploratory exercise.

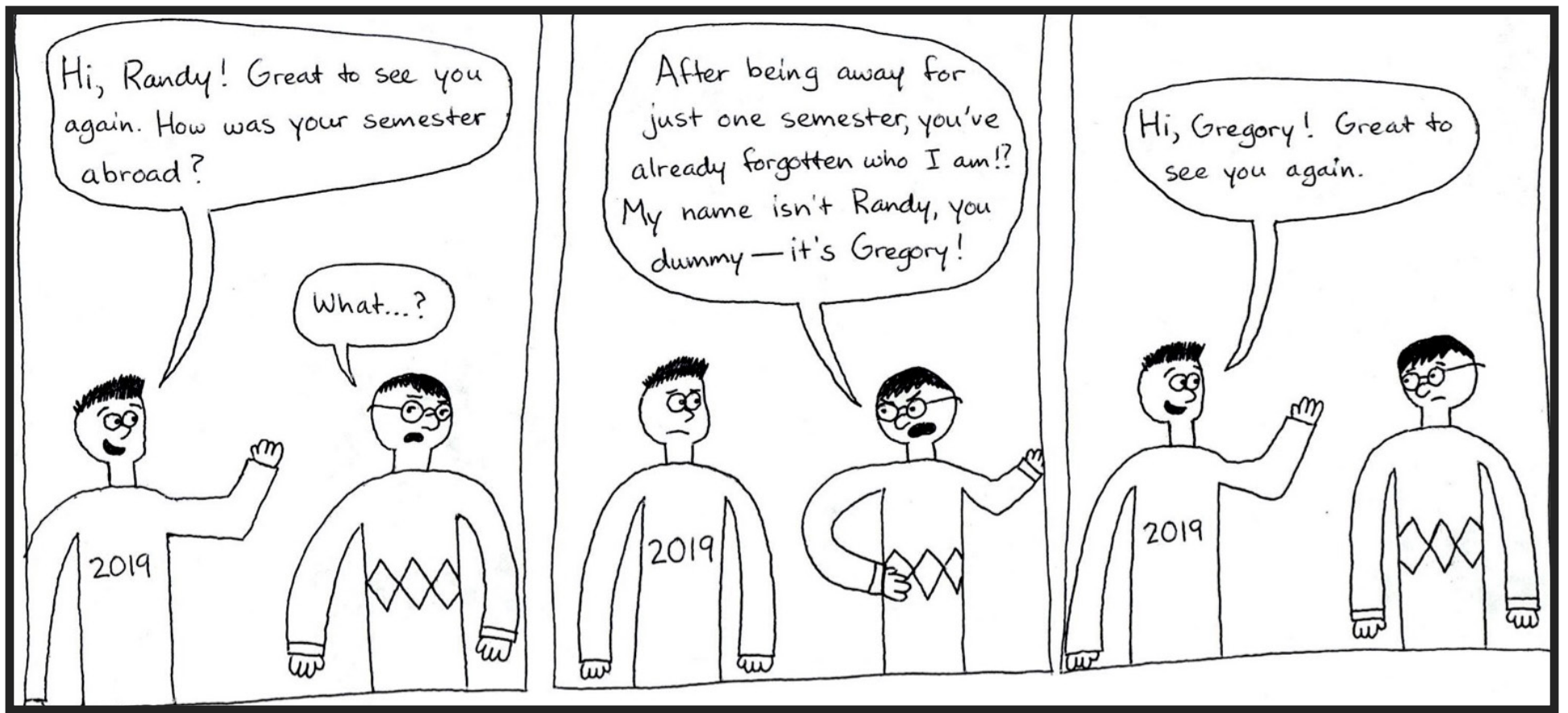
I by no means have the answers to these questions. That's the point. We don't need to immediately and conclusively have an answer to solve and explore a problem. We are a tiny school and a close-knit community. We have the time, resources, and interpersonal rapport to come together and find new ways to foster intellectual rigor as we bid our seniors farewell.

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www.thebatesstudent.com





Mary Richardson, Contributing Cartoonist



Jack McLamon, Staff Cartoonist

Question on the Quad

Vanessa Paoella, Managing Sports Editor

These past couple of days have been very cold. Is there anywhere else you'd rather be during this type of weather?



Ian Wax '19

"I would go to California right now because you can go get some warmth in southern California and go skiing too [in the north]."



Katherine Faulkener '22 and Taylor Alexander '22

Taylor: "I honestly love it here. Inside it's really warm and cozy and I can snuggle up with my friends. Yeah it's cold outside, but—"
Katherine: "There's a lot of winter activities that you can do out here."



Hugh Gorman '19

"I'd rather be skiing at Sunday River [than] doing thesis. I don't mind the cold, it's nice every once in a while to chill out, have a nice time and go skiing."

“Into The Spider-verse” Swings To Success

Olivia Dimond, Contributing Writer

If you're anything like me, you asked yourself “Really, Spider-Ham?” when you first saw announcements for “Spider-Man: Into the Spider-verse.” We've had six “Spider-Man” centric films in the past fifteen years featuring three different Spider-Men, not to mention the Spider-Man ensemble role in other Marvel Cinematic Universe movies. We know the story of friendly, neighborhood Spider-Man and we know that “with great power comes great responsibility.” Uncle Ben's dead, that's sad. Gwen Stacy's dead, that's sadder. We don't need another Peter Parker, or Peter Porker for that matter. So, why is Sony Animation giving us one?

Maybe you're not that into superhero movies, or maybe you just dismissed it as a children's movie. My point is: you should see this film. It knows you are well aware of the Spider-Man story. In fact, that's half the fun of it!

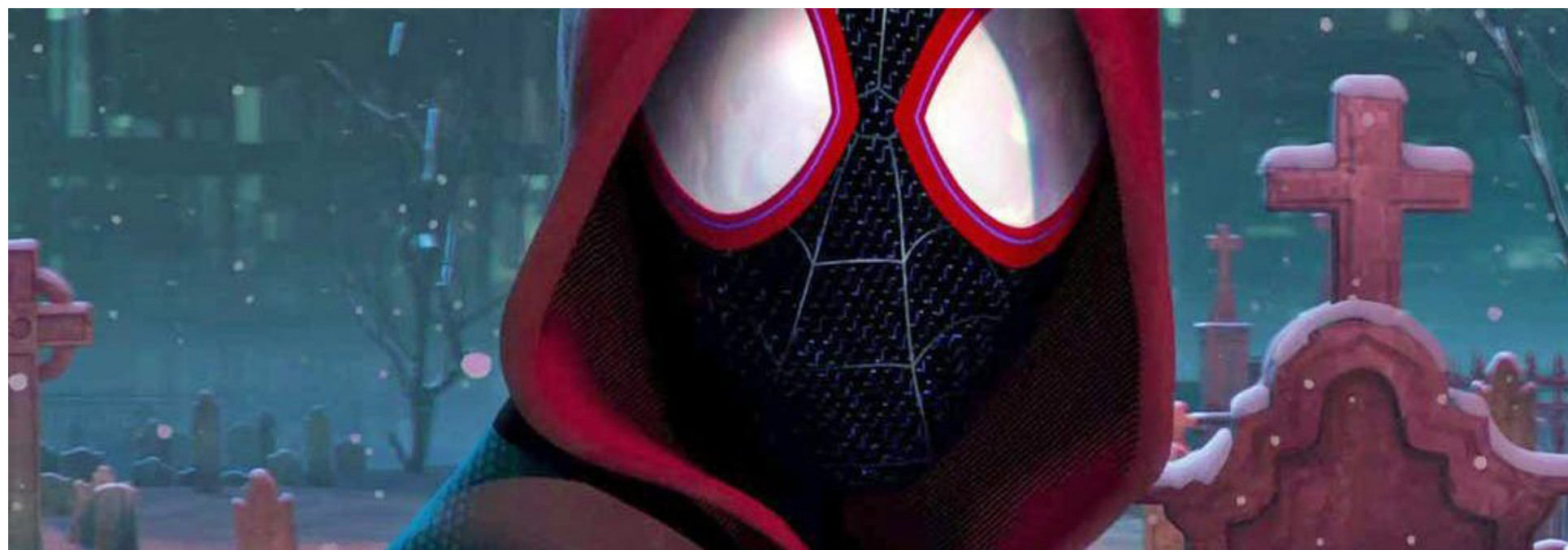
The film never misses a chance to poke fun at the amount of Spider-Men you've seen, but trust me, you haven't seen them quite like this. It features characters from multiple universes who have inherited the classic spidey powers: Peter Parker, Miles Morales, Gwen Stacy, Peter B. Parker, the other Peter Parker, Peter Porker, and Peni Parker. The Spider-verse was first introduced as a long-running comic storyline in 2015 and a lot of the characters are drawn from its run. Even characters I was convinced had never existed before (like Spider-Noir and Spider-Ham) have actually been around for a while! In the film, Miles Morales is bitten by a radioactive spider and develops insane abilities like sticking to walls (and Gwen's hair). He goes back to the site where he was bitten and stumbles across his universe's Peter Parker battling the Green Goblin. Peter attempts to stop Kingpin from opening a

dimension portal to bring back his wife and son, who left after learning about his criminal empire and died. The portal is successfully opened and closed, and plans are made for a grand reopening. Peter promises to teach Miles the ropes and gives him a flash drive capable of destroying the portal. He sends Miles out of harm's way before being killed by Kingpin. Miles goes to visit Peter's grave to tell him he is taking on the mantle where he runs into Peter B. Parker, another universe's Spider-Man. Miles and Peter B. Parker are forced to team up and stop Kingpin and get the original Peter—and everyone else—home.

To those of you who view this as a more childish/family flick, you're not entirely wrong. It definitely earns the title of acceptable for younger audiences. Miles and Gwen are teenagers, after all. Miles is shown struggling with cliché teenager problems—new schools,

fitting in, parental relationships, and identity. Because he's the protagonist, these issues are hit hardest; however, Peter B. Parker's more “adult” problems are addressed just as frequently. This Peter is recently divorced (and handling it great) because he wasn't sure he wanted kids, though his ex-wife Mary Jane did. But in my view, the real heart of the film rests at the core of each spider-powered hero: no matter how hard or how often they are hit, they always get back up. The film sends a great message to younger kids, but it's also an important message adults need to hear from time to time. “Into The Spider-Verse” is also an animated film, but it's unlike anything I've seen before, making it a well-deserved winner of last week's Golden Globe. The film is computer-animated, but it is meant to look like comic book art brought to life. Sony describes the animation techniques as “revolutionary,”

combining computer and 2D animation with comic book drawing techniques. They strongly encourage viewers to see it in 3D in order for the experience to really feel like you've slipped into your favorite Marvel comic. I felt immersed in a comic after seeing it in 2D, too. Everyone has their own special animation style: Spider-Ham is traditional cartoon, Spider-Noir is completely black and white, Peni is straight out of an anime, and Gwen's look is pulled directly from her comic line. The film showcases a beautiful mesh of styles and designs that work seamlessly to show the divisions between the worlds and create distinctive characters. Long story short, this film is worth seeing at least once for its beautiful animation, witty script, and relatable characters for those of all ages. Plus, come on, John Mulaney as a talking pig? Nicholas Cage as a black-and-white Nazi crime fighter? What more do you need?



“Chilling Adventures” Mixes Horror with High School Camp

Patrick Reilly, Contributing Writer

“Chilling Adventures of Sabrina” is the newest Netflix show from Roberto Aguirre-Sacasa, writer and executive producer of “Glee” and “Riverdale.” Fans of his work will be thrilled: “Chilling Adventures” is arguably his best series yet. The show is centered on Sabrina Spellman, a “half-human half-witch” teenager who lives in the fictional town of Greendale, which is supposedly across the river from Riverdale, with her two aunts Hilda and Zelda and her cousin Ambrose.

Led by the spellbinding Kieran Shipka, the show is a darker retelling of the Archie comic character made famous by Melissa Joan Hart. Gone is the quirky 90s Sabrina who uses magic to change her clothes or pull pranks at school. Instead, Shipka's Sabrina, as a half-witch, must deal with the consequences of belonging to two distinct worlds at once. While that sounds like a coming-of-age story done over and over again, Aguirre-Sacasa presents a genuinely fresh take on it.

The show opens on Sabrina's birthday, which is on Halloween, no less. We discover that it is tradition on a witch's 16th birthday that they must undertake a “Dark Baptism”... meaning the witch must give over their soul to “Lord Satan.” The problem for Sabrina, though, is that she doesn't really find that concept entirely appealing; she is afraid not only of the moral implications of losing her humanity, but also the tangible ones. By selling her soul, she would lose access to most of the mortal world, her friends, and, more importantly, her boyfriend Harvey Kinkle (played by former Disney star, Ross Lynch). On the other hand, by clinging on to her humanity, Sabrina puts her friends and family in danger from the shadowy, patriarchal Church of Satan.

The character of Sabrina is fierce and rebellious, and the story wonderfully incorporates themes of female empowerment, misogyny, and sexism better than most

other young adult shows I've seen. The ensemble cast is diverse and includes wonderful queer and POC representation and develops its social justice message without ever making it feel forced. The world of Greendale, both mythical and mortal, is captivating. The series really shines in its ability to build an entire world. This strong suit can be attributed to Aguirre-Sacasa's background in horror and the supernatural; “Chilling Adventures” takes a lot of inspiration from classic satanic horror movies like “Rosemary's Baby” and “The Exorcist.”

While serious and even scary at times, the show has a dark humor and a fantastic ensemble of memorable characters that makes it incredibly fun to watch. The deeper the series begins to explore the more fantastical and dark-sided qualities of Greendale, the deeper the audience wants to go as well.

While the contrasting stories are both well executed, I found the

duality of the series—it being both a teenage drama and an all-out horror romp—is also where the show is at its weakest. The horror isn't as well done as other Netflix shows like “Stranger Things” and “Black Mirror,” and the special effects used are surprisingly subpar for a high-billed show such as this. The horror scenes are fun but are often short-lived and are dispersed with high school B stories ranging from Sabrina and her friends trying to start a club at her school or reporting a set of bullies to the principal. The show's pacing is awkward especially in the middle of episodes; I found myself becoming increasingly bored by Sabrina's mortal friends and their high school drama as the intrigue was escalating in the witching world.

It's hard to empathize with Sabrina's initial disgust with the witches and the Church of Satan when the scenes involving the witching world are the high points of each episode. Luckily, this low

point is partially alleviated near the end of the series when the two worlds begin to collide. Overall, I found that I still really enjoyed the series even with its minor pitfalls.

“Chilling Adventures of Sabrina” is worth a watch, or marathon, especially if you're a fan of Aguirre-Sacasa's other works (and even if you're not). The story is well written and doesn't suffer from the need for excessive drama or twists that plagued the later seasons of “Glee” and even “Riverdale.” I recommend keeping an eye on “Chilling Adventures of Sabrina;” the quality and caliber of the show can only improve with coming seasons.

Skin Care Routine of the Week: Seeking Balance

Jaqui Gutman, Contributing Writer



Have you ever had a flare up of hand, foot, and mouth disease? Have you ever gotten a fever that manifests in a full-body rash? Have you ever gotten impetigo on your left butt cheek? Have you ever gotten a rash on your inner thighs from drastic temperature changes, or gotten sunburn so severe that your stomach turned purple? If you answered yes to any of the above questions, then we should totally be friends. Because let me tell you, I can relate...to all of it.

My skin is a total anomaly. While I am someone who is severely prone to rashes of all sorts and quite allergic to the sun, I have also been blessed with incredibly clear skin. Pimples on my face are few and far between, and I am not someone who has had to expend much energy on skin-care maintenance. I am one of those crazy people who fall asleep with makeup on my face. Ridiculous, I know.

For the longest time my skin care routine consisted of using drug store face wash in the shower followed by drug store moisturizer. It was plain, easy, and efficient. Since I have always had pretty good skin, I never

saw a reason to change the simplicity of my routine. However, at the beginning of this year when school work started to pile up and my thesis felt like it was drowning me, I decided I needed to find another type of self-care, in addition to exercise, that I could do on my own which would provide me with the type of TLC I needed. Skin care was a type of self-care I had never really explored. I was curious to see how the benefits a solid skin-care routine would affect not only my skin, but also the way I felt about myself. Let's get to it, shall we?

The first thing I do when I wake up in the morning is use a Neutrogena makeup remover toilette to wipe off any remaining mascara that I may have missed—or just neglected to take off—the night before. I use the ones specifically made for sensitive skin because they cause the least amount of irritation after each use.

After that, I have recently started using Thayer's Natural Remedies Witch Hazel Toner. I have really grown to like it. I simply pour some of the toner onto a cotton pad and then gently rub it all over my face to remove any excess dirt. I have found that the toner makes my skin insanely soft and leaves me feeling super refreshed and awake.

After the toner, I use OleHenriksen Truth

Serum, which came highly recommended to me by one of my closest friends. The serum uses vitamin C to brighten and hydrate your skin; if I'm being honest, it just feels so good when you put it on. As a next step, I use either the OleHenriksen Sheer Transformation Perfecting Moisturizer or Ponds Dry Skin Cream to make sure my skin is as hydrated as possible, because, as you can imagine, living in the tundra that is Maine can make anyone's skin brutally dry. I finish it all up by putting Aquaphor on my lips and continue to do so about every hour of the day. Some might even say I'm obsessed.

Overall, I have found that when I really make time to take care of my skin, I feel a lot cleaner, healthier, and just more put together in general. I highly recommend finding a self-care routine that is affordable and works for you because, in my experience, I have found that self-care is a critical component for feeling both good and ready to take on all of life's challenges.

On Getting Through Your Final Semester...

Tricia Crimmins, Managing Arts & Leisure Editor

Primarily and above all else: keep calm. Don't get caught up in how many days you have left to get a job, find an apartment, and emotionally process the enormous change you're about to experience. Unless having a countdown app on your phone will motivate you in a strictly positive and rewarding way, don't grant yourself that sort of information on a constant basis.

If (and when) time feels like it's slipping through your fingers by the second and you convince yourself that you've already failed, remember that nothing bad, disastrous, and unfixable has actually happened. You haven't wasted time or missed any deadlines yet. And I use "yet" to signal the reality that life is both unpredictable and ever-changing. Of course you'll hit bumps in the road, you'll be forced to re-route, you'll make sharp left turns and be brought to places and situations you would've never considered before—you might exclusively utilize driving metaphors when discussing the future. And amidst all the spontaneity, you'll adapt. You'll accrue experiences that will equip you to become comfortable with, and maybe

even expect, a moderate amount of change. You'll see new challenges as opportunities to grow and your personal evolution will be a self-fulfilling prophecy.

That being the case, become comfortable with the unknown. Securing your first post-grad position is tough! I should know; I'm currently trying to do so. Unless you're already a successful expert in the industry in which you're applying, you'll have to learn to trust the process. Sure, it would be easier if we all received a magical letter offering us a full-time position and housing immediately upon graduation. But the beauty in maturing and entering this new stage of our lives is that we, for the first time, don't know what comes next. Don't expect the worst and don't expect it to all be perfect. Expect that you'll learn, change, and grow, allowing you to flourish into a tougher, more worldly version of yourself.

For some of us, the knowledge that our future plans are so certainly uncertain is both a deterrent for motivation and a catalyst for hopelessness; a fast-track to "why even apply to this fellowship if

they probably won't even look at my resume?" Questions like that will drop you headfirst into a vat of darkness and unproductivity.

So, keep busy. Job boards and LinkedIn searches will provide you with a vast amount of potential applications and you might feel overwhelmed. That's par for the course! Make a list of the positions that interest you, and then create a schedule to help plan when you'll apply for them.

Become an active participant in your own job search: strategize. Do the extra work for applications that will feel like an accomplishment in and of themselves, throw your resume in the hat for the internship that you think you have a shot at getting. Don't wait on the sidelines of your own life because you don't know how things will turn out. Find a balance, and get to work.

But... don't lose your sanity. Don't spend every waking minute looking for jobs, checking your email, and feeling discouraged. Know when it's time to shut your computer or talk to a friend about how mind-boggling this whole process can be. Productivity comes in multiplicitous forms: doing

work for classes in which you're currently enrolled is productive, giving your all to extracurriculars and enjoying yourself is productive, and making lasting friendships and relationships is productive. Relate to each other; time won't speed up or slow down once we've graduated. Be here, now.

Appreciate the life you've shaped for yourself. Bask in the glory of knowing that a few years ago, you had no idea how you'd make it through eight semesters, countless essays and tests, finals weeks, and a least one thesis all while navigating the trials and tribulations of making friends and finding your people. You've done it all once. You'll be able to find your place again.

Meditating on and writing about transitioning into post-grad life assuages the fears and anxieties that reside in the nooks and crannies of my psyche. Check in on your friends, ask professors for guidance, and don't lose faith that everything will turn out just fine.

Treat this semester as a victory lap, not as a disastrous and frazzled ending.

READ

THINK

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Email us!
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Busines: bkimpolo@bates.edu

Babylon

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1



The Sandglass ensemble highlights the struggles of a young boy refugee making his way to the United States.

JAMES MACDONALD/THE BATES STUDENT



Actors, including K., portray the journey of a single, Saudi Arabian man fleeing his country.

JAMES MACDONALD/THE BATES STUDENT



Sandglass Theatre Company members warm-up before the show.

JAMES MACDONALD/THE BATES STUDENT



Motivation with Maru

How goes it? I hope this fresh installment of MWM finds you well and warm whenever and wherever you're reading this, and that the new semester is being good to you thus far! In this spiel I'm going to dish out some tips for starting the new year on a high note here at Bates:

Mary Richardson,
Contributing Writer

1

Want to start going to the gym Monday, Wednesday, and Friday but haven't worked it into your schedule yet? Want to get a jumpstart on your fieldwork for your Education class but haven't gotten in touch with your host teacher yet? **THE TIME IS NOW.** Stop dreaming and start **DOING!**

2

"The secret of getting ahead is getting started." - Mark Twain... a fan-freaking-tabulous quote to help motivate you! If you have a looming deadline or responsibility, jump in head first to get it under your belt ASAP!

3

Have a fitness/nutrition/wellness New Year's resolution that you haven't started tackling yet? The time IS now! Think of this goal or resolution as if it were a mountain: you have to start the climb sometime soon in order to reach the top!

4

Think **BIG** in order to hype yourself up! When you sit down to grind out some textbook reading or to cross-train instead of practicing with your team, think of mood-boosting quotes that are on the sillier side of things, such as "LET'S GET THIS BREAD" or "FULL SEND, BOIIIIII" to make the situation more positive and fun!

The "grind" is as difficult and/or negative as you make it. If you put out groovy and glowing energy thou shalt receive the same in return!

Wishing y'all the best of luck with the new semester, take care of yourself, and **GO FOR IT!** It's 2019—the world is our oyster!

All my love,
Maru



Ski Teams Impress at St. Lawrence Carnival

Sarah Rothmann, Editor-in Chief

Most Bobcats finished their travel plans as they transitioned back into another semester at Bates. The Nordic and Alpine Ski teams, however, could not get too comfortable in Maine. Both teams drove six hours to Lake Placid, New York, for their first Eastern Intercollegiate Ski Association Carnival race of the year, the St. Lawrence Carnival. The carnival spanned two days, Jan. 12-13, with Bates's Nordic and Alpine Ski teams combining to score 331 carnival points,

finishing 9th out of 17 participating teams. Nordic competed at Mt. Van Hoevenburg, while Alpine raced on Whiteface Mountain.

For the Nordic team, on Jan. 12, Kaelyn Woods '20 placed 16th out of 98 competitors in the women's 5K freestyle. She completed the grueling course in a brisk 16:35.1. Maya Seckinger '21 placed 39th, Olivia Skillings '22 debuted in 44th, and Zoe McKinney placed 49th. These Bobcats finished with times of 17:32.5, 17:39.8, and 17:58.5 respectively, rounding out the carnival's

top 50 times. On the men's team, Brad Ravenelle '21 led the Bobcats in 58th place out of 102 individuals in the 10K freestyle race and completed the course in 30:44.2. Henry Raff '22, captain Carter Ros '21, and Tucker Barber '21 were not too far behind, finishing 60th, 63rd, and 66th respectively.

On the Alpine Ski team's mountain on opening day, Griffin Mueller '20, who qualified and competed at the NCAA Championships last year, placed 16th in the women's slalom. Mueller had runs of 49.19 and 51.00 seconds for a combined time of 1:40.19. Tess Coutu '22 started her alpine ski career with a combined time of 1:44.47, which put her in 27th place. For the men's team, Arie Van Vuuren '22 finished 16th in the slalom while Joe Gillis '21 placed 27th in 1:39.69. After this first day of competition, the Nordic and Alpine Ski teams stood in ninth place out of 17 teams, with 239 carnival points.

"Last year we had a great season and saw the team have some of its best results for years," Muller said. "We would love to see a little

more consistency this year and want to make sure we are getting faster throughout the season...This year's squad stands out because we are still such a young team and are grounded by just a few upper-classmen with the bulk of the team members and the energy especially coming from the freshman and sophomores on the team," she continued. "Also, the team has so much passion and energy driving them it is going to lead to great results."

"Although ski is a very individual sport, since you're the only one racing down the mountain, it's also about the team that supports one another," West added. "So, a goal for this season is to get as many athletes to NCAAs as we can by cheering each other on and pushing everybody in training."

The final day of the carnival saw Nordic's Woods finish 14th out of 98 competitors in the women's 10K classical technique race. She covered the course in 35:52.7. Seckinger '21 and Skillings '22 finished second and third for the Bobcats, completing the course in 30th and 36th with times of 37:20.8 and 38:23.0. On the men's

side, Raff led the Bobcats, finishing the 10K course in 31:22.8, Ros placed 57th in 32:02.2 and Barber rounded off the scorers in 58th.

For Alpine, Gillis completed the men's giant slalom races with a career best 19th place finish. Max Schneider '21 tied for 32nd place out of 64 competitors with a time of 2:17.4. Calvin Wilson '22 placed 42nd in 2:19.01. On the women's side, Hannah West lead the way in 25th out of 73 competitors. Coutu finished her debut in 33rd place with a time of 2:28.25.

Overall, the carnival was successful for both teams, with Bates scoring 331 points and securing 9th out of 17 teams. The Nordic and Alpine teams hope to continue their success at the UNH Carnival at the Jackson Ski Touring Center in Jackson, New Hampshire this weekend, Jan. 18-19.

"I hope this team can stand in the top five at some of our carnivals," Mueller said. "The most immediate goal I have for is to improve upon every weekend and be around to push each other."



Kaelyn Woods '20 led the women's Nordic Ski team to their 7th place finish, earning 16th place in the 5K and 14th in the 10K races
DENNIS CURRAN/COURTESY PHOTO

Men's Track & Field Comes Down to Wire with MIT

Vanessa Paoletta, Managing Sports Editor

The men's track and field team set a high standard in their first meet of the season against MIT and Colby, placing second to MIT with a tight score of 149-140. This disparity of nine points marks what is likely the best performance Bates has shown at this annual meet against MIT.

This meet was highly suspenseful; both teams

traded off the lead for much of the meet, making every point earned on the track and in the field vital to the tight finish.

The highest total point scorer of the team was junior captain Brendan Donahue '20 with a total of 16 points earned on both the track, placing first in the 60 m hurdles (9.06), and in the field with a second place finish in the long jump (6.42 m) and a fourth place finish

in the high jump (1.82 m). Ryan Nealis '21 ran one of the most stunning races of the meet in the mile, placing first with a time of 4:21.72. Taking the lead in one of the final few laps, he pressed the pace and earned himself a two-second lead by the finish. Additionally, Nealis ran the 800 m placing second (2:00.84) followed closely by Jackson Elkins '22 in third (2:00.96).

"Ryan Nealis [ran an] excellent mile, [got a] huge PR [and] beat a very talented All-American runner from MIT," Head Coach Al Fereshetian commented. "Great double coming back and [he] nearly pulled off the double win considering his competitors in the 800 m were all fresh."

In the short sprints, Ryan Corley '19 played a key role in earning Bates 13 points, placing first in the 60 m dash (7.23) and second in the 200m dash (23.30). In the 400m, Miles Nabritt '21 won a convincing race in 52.08 seconds, 1.42 seconds faster than second place. Mark Fusco '19 earned second place in the 600 m, running a time of 1:26.76.

In the throws, John Rex '21 led the way for the Bobcats with a second place finish in the weight throw (16.77 m)

and a third place finish in the shot put (14.44 m). Both of these events had some of the largest fields of contestants in the meet, with 12 and 13 throwers respectively. Quin Trent '22 scored Bates points in the triple jump with a second place mark of 10.81. In the 1000 m, John Mieszczanski '22 ran a time of 2:36.19 to place second in the event. Closely following this race was the 3000 m race, the only distance event of the meet. In this race, Bart Rust '22 and James Jones '20 crossed the finish line together in third (8:57.33) and fourth (8:58.21) places respectively.

Bates finished off a strong meet with an exciting set of relay races. The Bobcats fell to MIT in the 4x400 m, finishing in 3:37.18 composed of Nabritt, Frank Fusco '19, Liam Evans '22, and Elijah Coyne '21. In the last relay of the meet, the 4x800 m team of Christopher Barker '21, Elkins, Mieszczanski and Mark Fusco, the cheering from Bates was deafening. Bates and MIT were neck and neck going into the last leg of the relay, run by Fusco, as Bates erupted with excitement. With Fusco confidently taking the lead, MIT hung on for a time and then dropped off perceptively as

Bates went on to win the race in 8:17.10 to MIT's 8:25.11.

Overall, Bates performed spectacularly in this meet; this success is even more apparent in comparison to last year's meet, where Bates was unable to earn a single point in the 60 m and 200 m dashes and the high jump.

"It's good to see so much young talent developing on the team," team captain Mark Fusco said. "I think it helped us at MIT and it's likely going to be our team's greatest strength later in the season."

In meets involving only three participating teams, points can only be earned by the top two runners from each school, differing from other types of scoring which focuses more heavily on placement regardless of team affiliation.

"This was a very good start for us," Coach Fresh said. "Generally MIT doubles our score in this meet...This scoring system does have the effect of keeping the meet close; however, MIT does not currently have the depth they have had in previous years, so it may have played to their advantage a bit."



Miles Nabritt '21 (left) won the 400 m dash in a time of 52.08 seconds. Mark Fusco '19 (right) took second in the 600 m and anchored the winning 4x800 m team
PHYLLIS GRABER JENSEN/BATES COLLEGE



MIT MIT: Massachusetts Institute of Technology Meet for Indoor Track

Jack McLaron, Staff Writer

Last Saturday, the women's Track and Field team traveled down to Cambridge, Mass. to compete against MIT and Colby for their first meet of the indoor season. This meet served as an ideal opportunity for the Bobcats to show their abilities after several weeks of preseason training.

The meet ultimately resulted in Bates finishing with 117 points, beating Colby's 60 but coming in second to MIT's 155. In addition to this strong team showing, many individual athletes put forward impressive performances in various events, with seven of the events being won by Bates.

"I think you have to go into the first meet with an understanding that it's just a starting point and there is so little pressure on you," commented senior captain Katie Hughes '19. "For some, it was their first college meet;

for others, it was their first indoor track meet. This is to say that my wildest expectations were surpassed by all of the performances on Saturday."

The sprinters had multiple successful races. With a time of 27.58 seconds, first-year Rebecca Willis '22 won the 200-meter dash handily. Sophie Matt '22, another first-year, ran 1:02.61 to win the 400-meter dash, a great start to her indoor track career at Bates. The 60-meter hurdles was also dominated by Bates, as sophomore Amanda Kaufman '21 crossed the finish line in first place at 9.33 seconds, followed by Willis in second place at 9.54 seconds.

Distance and middle-distance runners had a good showing as well. In the 1000-meter run, senior captain Ayden Eickhoff '19 won with a time of 2:57.19, breaking her own Bates record from last year (2:57.24) in the process. This con-

tinued improvement bodes well for the rest of the season.

Additionally, the 600-meter run saw terrific opening races from Bates; although the first place spot went to MIT, first-years Elise Lambert '22 and Mary Corcoran '22 gained second and third with times of 1:40.52 and 1:41.39 respectively.

There were also notable performances in the field events. Senior captain Katie Hughes '19 took first place in the shot put by throwing 11.16 meters. Hughes also won the weight throw with a distance of 14.42 meters. Sophomore Genesis Paulino '21 gained third place in both events as well, throwing 9.90 meters in the shot put and 13.28 meters in the weight throw. In jumps, Kaufman took second for the long jump with 5.01 meters, and Lambert overcame 1.53 meters in the high jump for second place.

The Bates team for the 4x400-meter relay was

victorious with an overall time of 4:12.8. Senior captains Sarah Shoulta '19 and Andrea Russo '19 along with sophomores Kaufman and Imani Boggan '21 put forth the speed, effort, and teamwork necessary to beat out MIT in the end by just under two seconds. This exciting meet revealed a determination and growth on the team that will hopefully carry on for many meets to come.

In just their first meet, four first-year athletes qualified for the New England Division III Championship. Willis' performance in the 60-m hurdles, Lambert and Corcoran's efforts in the 600-meter run and Lauren Berube's '22 mark of 3.10 meters in the pole vault each earned them the opportunity to compete against many other talented athletes in New England.

Even though it may be easy to get caught up with the times and placements

and scores in a meet like this, Hughes took a more holistic approach to the overall success of the team. "While there were definitely some strong individual performances on Saturday, I feel as though the most crucial piece of our success as a whole is that everyone showed up to MIT and did what they needed to do," she said. "Whether they showed up ready to compete, or showed up ready to help film and to be supportive, everyone did what they needed to contribute to the success of the team."

In regards to the overall potential of the team this year, Head Coach Jay Harts-horn is optimistic. "I am excited to see where the season goes," she said. "We have an extra week before [the New England Division III Championships], so [there's] lots of time to get back some of our injured people and then really see what we can do. It's a young team which is always really exciting."

There's Still Hope for Men's Basketball

Cameron Carlson, Assistant Sports Editor

Starting the year 4-12 isn't the way they drew it up, but there are still plenty of reasons to watch the Men's Basketball team this season. This past weekend, the team welcomed the Middlebury Panthers and the Williams Ephs for two home conference games. For those who don't know, Middlebury and Williams are consistently two of the top teams in the

NESCAC and this year is no exception. Middlebury was 11-4 coming into the game and Williams sat at 13-0 while holding a No. 3 national ranking. Despite coming out of the weekend with two losses, there are several positives and definite building points for the guys moving forward.

After starting the season on a bad note, Head Coach Jon Furbush recently decided to implement a

1-3-1 zone to try and throw a different look at teams that weren't used to facing this defense. The goal of this zone is to apply constant pressure to the ball while hopefully forcing a trap and getting a steal. Because it often involves a double-team, one man on the opponent's team is left open and a sequence of good passes can result in an open 3-pointer. What Middlebury did right was remain calm under pressure

and not let Bates bait them into making too many bad passes. It also felt like they hit every single shot that they took, and the stats show that this feeling wasn't totally unfair. On the way to putting up 100 points, the Panthers made 17 of 33 total 3-point shots, resulting in an impressively high 51.5% rate from beyond the arc. The game was close most of the way and never got totally out of hand, but Middlebury hit just enough shots to sneak away with a win.

The Williams game was a completely different story. Bates jumped ahead early and even got the lead up to 14 points midway through the first half. The Ephs are an incredibly talented team who shoot the ball very well generally, but they struggled mightily against the 1-3-1 zone. They visibly looked uncomfortable at times and turned the ball over quite often on silly mistakes. Although the Bobcats led much of the way, outcome was much like the night before. Williams battled to stay in the game and they eventually were able to pull away at the very end because of their immense talent and size.

Most of the time an 0-2 weekend isn't worth focusing on, much less writing

about, but this wasn't your typical 0-2 weekend. Single-digit losses against one of the top teams in the conference and one of the top teams in the nation isn't a terrible showing from a squad that has really struggled at times this season. The next test on the schedule comes this Saturday at 3pm when the Tufts Jumbos come to town in what will be a very winnable game for the Bobcats. Tufts is a good team that has played well this season, but they don't quite have the same talent that we see on rosters like Middlebury and Williams. Hopefully the Bates faithful will pack the gym and make it a fun one to be at for another huge NESCAC matchup this weekend.



Jeff Spellman '20 looks for a pass.
SARAH DUPONT/THE BATES STUDENT

Swim & Dive Pounces on Panthers

Vanessa Paoella,
Managing Sports Editor

The Men's and Women's Swimming and Diving teams came out strong in their first meet since the start of winter break, each team solidly beating Middlebury last Sunday, Jan. 13, in the Panther's home pool. This marks Bates's fifth victory over a NESCAC opponent this season, each team having only lost to Div. I Dartmouth earlier this season. The Bobcats will be back in action this weekend, swimming two dual meets against Bowdoin on Friday, Jan. 18 at home in Tarbell Pool at 7 p.m. and at Colby in Waterville, Maine on the 19.

Men

The Men's Swim and Dive team won a decisive victory against Middlebury 192-102, taking first in nine of the 14 individual events and both relays. Additionally, Bates dominated the 200-yard freestyle, going 1-2-3 in this event to earn 16 points, almost doubling their point total in one fell swoop at the conclusion of the third event.

First-year Andrew Hall '22 placed first in the 100-yard butterfly (53.76) and 400-yard individual medley (IM) (4:15.30) and second in the 100-yard breaststroke (1:00.69), earning the most individual points by any one swimmer for Bates at 22.

However, this meet was won by many spectacular performances by various athletes. Alex Bedard '19 earned two first place finishes in the 200-yard freestyle (1:47.51) and 200-yard breaststroke (2:11.30). Jack Johnson '22 similarly found success in this meet, placing first in the 200-yard butterfly (2:00.94) and second in the 200-yard breaststroke (2:13.29) and 400-yard IM (4:16.62).

Rory Collins '19 sprinted to a first place finish in the 50-yard freestyle in a mark of 22.16 and received a second place finish in the 100-yard freestyle (48.77). Pieter Cory '22 similarly won first in the 100-yard breaststroke and earned a second place finish in the 500-yard freestyle.

Rounding out these numerous individual performances were Tanner Fuller '20 with his win in the 100-yard freestyle (48.39), Daniel Waterland '22 in the 100-yard backstroke (53.33) and second place finishes by Alexander Ignator '20

in the 1650-yard freestyle (16:56.31), Kyle Jorgensen '22 in the 200-yard freestyle (1:47.60) and Matt Puckace '19 in the 100-yard butterfly (54.37).

The two wins in each of the relays were similarly critical to the team's success. In the 200-yard medley relay, composed of Waterland, Bedard, Hall and Fuller, Bates won with a final time of 1:36.89; the 200-yard freestyle relay of Cory, Collins, Waterland, and Fuller beat three competing Middlebury teams in 1:27.56, ending the meet with a final victory.

This year, the men's swim and dive team welcomed two divers into their midst. In both the 1-meter and 3-meter diving events, Ossie Heard and Sam Poulos picked up points, placing second (208.35/210.53) and third (152.40/151.28) in each, respectively.

"We are right in the middle of our toughest stretch of meets with rivals Bowdoin and Colby coming up this week, so we will have to be at our very best to secure two wins for the men," Collins said. "Bowdoin is our biggest rival and the meets are always extremely close between us...Bowdoin is a very talented team so I am hoping we can get a big home crowd to show up for our senior night and we can deliver a win. Once again our divers will be crucial in this meet and I am confident that they will come ready to give it their all."

Women

The Women's Swim and Dive team similarly overcame the Middlebury Panthers, but by a smaller margin of 163.5-130.5. Many of these points were hard fought, and the second, third, fourth, and fifth place finishes were much more critical to the success of the women's team.

Leading the team in individual scoring was Erin Bucki '21 who won both the 200-yard freestyle (1:58.62) in an outside lane and the 200-yard backstroke (2:10.22) and Emmy Daigle '20 who won the 100-yard breaststroke (1:07.71) and the 200-yard breaststroke (2:29.72). Each of these swimmers earned 18 individual points for Bates.

Also playing a key role in Bates' victory was Hannah Johnson '20, winning the 100-yard backstroke (1:00.30) and placing second in the 200-yard back-

stroke (2:10.29), first-year Saskia Wong-Smith earning a first place finish in the 200-yard butterfly (2:15.19) and a second place mark in the 100-yard butterfly (1:00.34), and first-year Caroline Sweeney who similarly took first in the 100-yard freestyle (54.70) and second in the 200-yard freestyle (1:58.80), outpacing a Middlebury swimmer in the last few seconds of the race.

Caroline Apathy '21 placed first in the 100-yard butterfly with a time of 59.04. Maya Reynoso Williams '22 earned second in the 1550-yard freestyle (18:25.74) and in the 500-yard freestyle (5:19.62). Amy Duren '20 placed second in the 200-yard butterfly (2:15.29).

While Bates may have lost the first relay of the meet, the 200-yard medley, to Middlebury by less than 0.30 seconds, they finished the meet off with an exciting performance in the 200-yard freestyle relay composed of Suzy Ryckman '19, Janika Ho '21, Sweeney, and Apathy. These swimmers won the relay with a time of 1:39.52, a brisk 0.14 seconds in front of Middlebury.

"The season has been going really well for us," team captain Madeline Moberg '19 commented. "We are a very young group this year, with ten first years and seven sophomores on a 28 person team. This has made things super fun as there is a lot of energy on the team, and we have a lot of depth which certainly helps us to win meets. We had a blast in Florida on our annual training trip and put in a lot of hard work, and are ready for the next couple of dual meets this weekend before we start focusing on our big end-of-season meets."

Unfortunately, the women's swim and dive team does not currently include any diving members, so the two diving events were forfeited to Middlebury, giving them 32 points without contest.

"Bowdoin will be the toughest meet of the semester for both the women's and men's teams," captain Catherine Mullen '19 said. "Without divers we are going to swim our best and secure as many top finishes as we can. As it is our last home meet of the season and the senior meet, it is sure to be exciting at Tarbell this Friday at 7pm."

Sports Update Dec 6- Jan 15

Women's Basketball (5-7, 1-3 NESCAC)

Dec. 8: Bowdoin, L 65-49
Dec. 31: Springfield, L 58-83
Jan. 1: Newbury College, W 80-60
Jan. 4: Bowdoin, L 65-49
Jan. 5: Colby, W 54-47
Jan. 11: Middlebury, L 70-58
Jan. 12: Williams, L 77-42
Jan. 15: Norwich, NEEDED

Men's Basketball (4-12, 1-3 NESCAC)

Dec. 6: Bowdoin, L80-59
Dec. 8: Colby, L 86-69
Dec. 28: Staten Island, L 95-80
Dec. 29: Gwynedd Mercy, L 91-83
Jan. 4: Bowdoin, L 99-70
Jan. 5: Colby, W 81-71
Jan. 8: Thomas (ME), W 75-73
Jan. 11: Middlebury, L 100-93
Jan. 12: Williams, L 75-69

Women's Swimming and Diving

Jan. 13: Middlebury, W 163.5-130.5

Men's Swimming and Diving

Jan. 13: Middlebury, W 192-102

Women's Squash (3-5)

Jan. 8: Wesleyan (Conn.), W 8-1
Jan. 12: Williams, L 8-1
Jan. 13: Middlebury, L 7-2

Men's Squash (3-5)

Jan. 8: Wesleyan (Conn.), W 8-1
Jan. 12: Williams, L 7-2
Jan. 13: Middlebury, L 8-1

Nordic Skiing

Jan. 11-12: St. Lawrence Carnival, 9th/17

Alpine Skiing

Jan. 11-12: St. Lawrence Carnival, 9th/17

Women's Track and Field

Jan. 12: MIT, L 155-117
Colby, W 117-60

Men's Track and Field

Jan. 12: MIT, L 149-140
Colby, W 140-60