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Bates Hosts International Dinner

Christina Perrone, Managing News Editor

Foodies at Bates from all four you give." you give."

ur you give." One of her favorite to memories she associates with eat-



the Gray Cage for the annual International Dinner on Saturday, Mar. 2. The dinner is one of the most anticipated events of the year, as Batesies get the rare opportunity of a literal world-class dinner for the price of \$10. In preparation for the dinner, students from all around the world spent Friday night and Saturday cooking their traditional dishes for the dinner. Needless to say, tickets for this year's show were sold out quickly. One student, Alexis Fifield '21 from Guatemala City, Guatemala brought what she calls "friendly cake," which is like a sponge cake with vanilla icing. "It's my favorite dessert and kind of a multipurpose tool," she said. "It's kind of known as the friendliest cake because it's used for any occasion and if you have nothing to give, this is what ing the cake is "[s]itting around the campfire with some really close family friends having some hot coffee, some cake, and just kind of talking."

From Westerham UK, Shane Ward '21 made Banoffee Pie. According to Ward, "It's one of my favorite British desserts, and it's pretty easy to make." For those interested in the recipe, Ward added, "It's got bananas, toffee, it has a cookie base, and whipped cream at the top." According to the Telegraph UK, the origins of the pie started in 1971 with one Nigel Mackenzie, who had been frustrated with an "unreliable" American recipe for a toffee piewhich he would improve upon by adding bananas. The word Banoffee comes as an abbreviation of the ingredients: bananas and toffee.

In keeping with the theme of desserts from around the world, The Bates Student went to Phuong Vu '20 of Hanoi, Vietnam, who was serving sticky rice balls which are often referred to as "Bánh trôi." The little grape-sized balls were sprinkled with sesame seeds, and tasted pleasantly sweet. When asked about the dish, Vu responded, "So, annually, in Vietnam, every March in the Lunar Calendar we make sticky rice balls and present them to our ancestors as a way of showing gratitude. So, it's not actually March in the Lunar Calendar right now, but I kinda miss making all the stuff with my family, so that's why I decided to make it."

One of the most popular stops at the International Dinner was that of Yichun Liu '21 of Yueyang, China, who prepared Bubble Tea (AKA Boba Tea). The drink is fairly simple, as it consists of milk, black tea, and tapioca pearls. As Liu put it, "Everyone likes it and it's easy to make!" One of her favorite parts about being in the Inspecial holidays like New Years and weat also for weddings and those kinds

wearing the shirt." Dean Reese concluded



of things."

Next, Trisha Kibugi '21 from Nairobi, Kenya, described her outfit: "I'm wearing the Kenyan flag, which people usually wear during national holidays and for rugby games, because Kenyans are good at Rugby-biased opinion. And I'm wearing headgear, which is typically given as a passing on from the Maasai tribe, so like passing on a present for marriage, this was for a birthday present." One of the memorable highlights of the fashion show was Senvo Ohene '20 from Accra, Ghana's description of his clothing: "I'm wearing a kente print shirt; usually people who would wear kente would just wear shorts, and no shirt, but my abs aren't strong enough to do that, so I'm just

the fashion show by displaying the many gifts he's received working at Bates: "The attire I'm wearing represents several South Asian nations. I've been fortunate here at Bates to be given items from students from Bates from all over the

ternational Dinner is, "you can try a little bit of every fantastic food in the world and you can also enjoy cooking with your friends, which is awesome."

After everyone had time to eat, students put on a fashion show, donning clothing from their nations of origin, and gave short descriptions of the clothes and what occasions they were designed for. One of the fashion show members was Minah Kim '20, from Seoul, South Korea: "I'm wearing Hanbok today, which is our traditional dress...We usually wear it on world, students here that I don't know at all will come to my office and will want to have their country represented, so some of their families will send along some attire for me to wear and many times the statement is, 'You better wear this to the international dinner.'"

Ready, Set, Row!

Bates Rowing prepares to supersede success of 2018

Vanessa Paolella, Managing Sports Editor

Anyone familiar with the second floor of Merril at 4 p.m. on weekdays and the prevailing smell of hard work wafting from the erg room will know just how hard the Men's and Women's rowing teams have been preparing for this upcoming season.

The Women's Rowing team enters this upcoming season on the throne after two consecutive national championship titles and a stand-out fall season when the team won the prestegious Head of the Charles for the second year in a row.

With five of the first varsity-eight and six of the second varsity eight returning this season, all things point toward another extraordinarily successful season for women's rowing.

On the men's side, the team similarly looks promising. Coming off of their strongest year in program history and a solid third place finish last fall at the Head of Charles, Bates brings back three of their first varsity eight and seven of the second varsity eight from the 2017-18 season.

"Last season was probably the the team's best season ever," said team captain Sophia Rintell '19. "This year, starting in the fall, we have put a lot of thought into our goals as a team on and off the water. I think we are both taking last year's momentum and running with it, as well as finding new motivations specific to this year's team."

However, while it may be easy to get caught up with the programs' past successes and expect great things simply by virtue, nothing could be further from the truth for Bates Rowing. These teams win not because they have in the past, but because they have how to work hard and long to prepare and keep the momentum moving forward.

"There's a fine balance

between acknowledging the team's unparalleled success in 2017-18 and wanting to uphold that legacy and acknowledging that this is a new year with a new team, who just needs to be gritty and put in the work," team captain Claudia Glickman '19 stated.

The Men's Rowing team holds similar aspirations: "Our immediate goals for the seasons are to build upon the strong training we've done over the winter while we wait for the Androscoggin to unfreeze," team captain Trevor Fry '19 said. "Our long term goals however are to requalify for the prestigious IRA regatta and to again claim the NESCAC title."

As captains of one the the larges teams at Bates, these athlete have more than just their own personal success riding on their sholders. Nonetheless, it's a role they accept enthusiastically.

"We have an exceptionally large class this year," Fry said. "They're showing incredible promise, and one of my goals as a captain this season is to make sure they have all the tools necessary to lead Bates Rowing to many more years of success."

"The women and men of Bates Rowing who came before us each helped to shape the team into the incredible force and family that it is today," Fry continued. "My greatest hope is that I am inspiring the same love and relentless dedication to Bates Rowing that my past teammates instilled in me."

With two seasons of training behind them, the Bobcats are off to a strong start.

"We are now one week into the season with a countdown on our whiteboard until our first race," Glickman said. "I think every member of the team feels a really palpable sense of eagerness and excitement to get back on the water and push against some tough competition."



Karen Jaime Discusses the Glam Slam at the Nuyorican Poets Café

Margy Schueler, Staff Writer

The words ballooned on the homepage of the Nuyorican Poets Café's website are derived from the quote by the iconic beat poet, Allen Ginsburg: "The Nuyorican Poets Café is the most integrated place on the planet." Karen Jaime, Ph.D. who came to Bates on Wednesday, Feb. 27, to talk on a particular event hosted by the Café, would probably agree. Jaime's talk, "Tens Across the Board: The Glam Slam at the Nuyorican Poets Café" was the first in the series, "What is American Studies?" presented by the American Studies Department at Bates.

Jaime is an Assistant Professor of Performing and Media Arts and Latinx Studies at Cornell University. In addition to her many publications in academic journals, Jaime is an accomplished spoken word and performance artist. She acted as the host and curator of the Friday Night Slam at the Nuyorican Poets Café where she received the inspiration for her current book project, "The Queer Loisaida: Performance Aesthetics at the Nuyorican Poets Café."

The Nuyorican Poets Café, located in the lower east side of New York City, was founded in 1973. Over the past four-and-a-half decades, the Café has served as a multicultural space for groundbreaking work in poetry, visual arts, music, and theater. Nuyorican was an originally pejorative term for members of the Puerto Rican diaspora, but in her talk, Jaime described the way the term has been reclaimed as by the founders of the café to mean an "Aesthetic practice based on the history and politics of both the ethnic marker Nuyorican and its relationship with the café itself." In her project, Jaime demonstrated that "Nuyorican" came to encompass those who not necessarily identified with a Puer-

Benevides

Fights for

to Rican ethnicity but practiced the same cultural art forms. This allowed for Nuyorican to define Puerto Ricans as well as those in the queer and black community.

The Grand Slam, the culmination of the year's various poetry slams, is one of the most wellknown events at the café. The event Jaime discussed on Wednesday, the Glam Slam, is a linguistic play on the Grand Slam. The Glam Slam was a competition that involved the intersection of the slam poetry community and the queer ball scene. Performers shared their poetry and art with an aesthetic of glamour usually associated with the queer drag scene. Jaime noted that, "The Glam Slam centered queerness not a reason for the happening, but as the reason for the happening.'

The Café had always been a location which represented diverse ethnicities and queerness, but, "[t]

he combination of the slam poetry community and the ball scene through voice and movement [in the Glam Slam] effectively [developed] a new poetic aesthetic and rubric for queer poets at the Nuyorican Poets Café," according to Jaime.

Before becoming a host, Jaime was an attendee of the Café and participant in the Glam Slam. In 2002 Jaime competed in and won the Slam. Jaime identifies as Butch Lesbian, and said, "For me, the Glam Slam brought together two communities that I desperately desired to be a part of: spoken word slam poetry and queer nightlife in New York City."

Jaime used herself as a text in her talk, in form of her personal memories and a video of herself performing at the Café in order to demonstrate the Glam Slam's role in defining the Nuyorican aesthetic. The Glam Slam in the Nuyorican Poets Café created a venue for Jaime and others to compete in a space that honored the caliber of their talent while simultaneously accepting them for who they were.

The next installment of the "What is American Studies?" series will be on Mar. 12 and will feature Jami Powell from Dartmouth College in a lecture concerning indigenous representation and institutionalization of native art.

The Bates Student

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Quinn Troy, Contributing Writer

On Wednesday, Feb. 27, Bruna Benevides, a Second Sergeant in the Brazilian Navy, spoke in Chase Hall. Translated from Portuguese by Visiting Assistant Professor Jacob Longaker, Benevides advocated for tolerance and activism in her hour-long talk.

While Bruna Benevides was serving in Brazil's Navy, she fought a mental battle unlike any other. As a trans woman, Benevides battled a hyper-masculine environment and countless stigmas all while coming to terms with her gender identity. After Benevides announced to her peers her intent to transition, she was promptly removed from her work due to "transsexualism." Despite the setback, Bruna fought for her rightful place in the military and was reinstated to her duties in 2016.

As a trans woman, Benevides' outlook provided a perspective that many Americans rarely get to hear firsthand. Of the 1.4 million people in the United States armed forces, 15,000 are transgender. However, Benevides is currently the only openly transgender servicemember in the Brazilian military, making her a true minority. Benevides' talk came roughly one month after the United States Supreme Court upheld a ban instituted by President Trump in 2017 that effectively barred all transgender members of the military from service. Benevides responded to the ban by saying, "Once I am able to pass the exams and meet the requirements, it shouldn't matter whether I am a transsexual woman to continue my work with the force." She then went on to explain that being transgender did not translate to being incapable of performing duties.

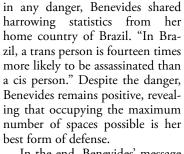
Around the midway point of her lecture, Benevides spoke to many criticisms that are commonly put forth in order to advocate against transgender military service. While addressing the argument that transgender military servicemembers usurp military funding, Bruna comically pointed out, that, "The military expenditures for trans members are roughly 0.001% of military spending, whereas the cost of treating erectile dysfunction in the military is significantly higher."

Benevides moved on to disprove the idea that transgender people as a whole were at a higher risk to commit sexual violence, an argument used to promote bathroom separation bills. She cited that, "There isn't any registered case of transgender-specific violence in a bathroom." Finally, she stated, "People say that recovery time is too long to return back to work. It is actually about thirty days to work. The argument that we would be away from work for long is simply not true." After tackling the common misconceptions, she stated, "There is no argument that is presented that is plausible or understandable that says transgender people can't serve in the military."

After her lecture, Bruna took time to field the audience's most pressing questions regarding transgenderism, the military, and life in Brazil. When asked if she was

Christina Perrone, Managing News Editor

Madeline Polkinghorn, Assistant News Editor



In the end, Benevides' message promoted activism and tolerance across the world. She revealed that her fight was not against the Navy or the institution. Rather, "it is simply a fight that society should recognize that different people exist in the world. Diversity should be recognized and incentivized."

NEWS

Sustainable Beanie

At the printer area at Ladd, there's always so many papers that people print with and is left at the printer. It's really wasteful even if it gets recycled. There should be more advertisement to encourage people to print more consciously or printers should be fixed/updated or the wasted paper should be used for some purpose. Also a lot of the paper is only printed single-sided, so printing double sided should also be encouraged. —Printing is wasteful!

Dear Printing is Wasteful,

You bring up really important points-thank you so much for thinking about this! First—I think printing doublesided certainly should be encouraged more. The eco-reps would love to include that type of encouragement in the newsletter and will certainly do so next month! As for printing more consciously, a great way to tackle your own printing and paper habits is by printing on the opposite side of the waste paper. In other words, when you see that there is wasted paper near the printer that only has one side of it printed on feel free to use that instead of the fresh paper that is already in the printer. To do so you can open the drawer where the paper is found and load the used paper on top of the pile of fresh paper. Make sure that you put this used paper with the side that already has ink on it face down. If you do this also be sure to print single sided. That way you can use the wasted paper yourself and reduce your waste! Still, you are right that this option should be broadcasted to the public much more and I appreciate your ideas! Thank you for letting us know about this issue on campus and for taking part in the issues surrounding sustainability on campus! It is only with the support and actions of the student body that the school would be able to be successful in reducing its waste!

As always, thank you for writing!



T. A. Spotlight: Franck Dumergue

Madeline Polkinghorn, Managing News Editor

The Bates Student runs a column featuring an invaluable part of Bates' academic community foreign language teaching assistants. These TAs provide foreign language students with firsthand cultural interaction and strengthen their abilities to converse with native speakers. This week, I spoke with the college's French teaching assistant, Franck Dumergue, about bleu cheese, lobster, and adjusting to American life.

The Bates Student (BS): Bonjour, Franck! Where are you from?

Franck Dumergue (FD): I am from a village [in France] called Pérignat-Lès-Sarliève, nearby Clermont-Ferrand where I was born. The city is the largest of the region where I live, well-known for a black stone cathedral. There is a beautiful old chain of volcanoes and it is the birthplace of the Michelin man and the tire company of the same name.

BS: What do you do here at Bates?

FD: I am the French assistant at the department of French and Francophone Studies. My time there is devoted for a major part to helping students with their classes and homework ... So I do a lot of grammar revisions or checks. They know they can come freely anytime on my office hours, even just to say "hi" ... So far I have also followed the students in beginner, intermediate, and oral French, which has proved very interesting and enriching. The idea is generally to create activities according to what the professors expect us to work on with the students. I am [present] every Wednesday from 5:30 to 7:30pm at the Francophone table as well, where students and anyone who speaks French and who is willing to maintain it is welcome to sit, eat, and have a chat.

BS: Why did you decide to teach French as a foreign language?

FD: Similarly to my friend and colleague Andrea, the German TA from Austria, I have studied English literature and history (and more) at university, and for a long time I have wanted to become a teacher. I have actually graduated from English teaching in secondary school back in France, technically making me an English teacher there already. I enjoy teaching and teaching language very much, so it sounded natural to me to try out my chance as a French TA. Also, I was already a language assistant a few years ago in a high school near Glasgow, Scotland, and I liked the idea to come here to Bates to diversify my teaching experience... I hope that my experiences abroad will enable me to diversify my teaching career too... which could be devoted to teaching French to foreign students within the French education system.

BS: What are some of your favorite things about your home country? What do you miss the most?

FD: Food is definitely one of my favorite things about my home country, and being back there for a week after winter break showed me how much I missed it too. I love cheese in as many forms as possible, my favorite being bleu cheese. We also have this dish which is awfully delicious that you would eat especially in the winter, but there is always a good reason to eat anytime all year round. It is basically potatoes with onion and parsley cooked in a large pan (because you generally share it with people) and melted local cheese. Simply amazing, with dry ham and dry sausage slices. What I love about my area, too, is the old chain of volcanoes I was talking about earlier. It is such a typical landscape that each time you go back there you just long

to see it to feel like home... As I said food is something I missed a lot, and oddly enough good bread is part of the top food I missed, though I don't usually eat it so much at home. But it's a must have for breakfast, for sure. What I missed the most I think are my family, my dog and my friends... a lot!

BS: Do you have any tips for someone attempting to learn French?

FD: As far as French is concerned, you have to be ready for the grammar, which may look tough at first sight with exceptions to rules everywhere, but I dearly believe that it all makes sense in the end... The goal is not to understand everything right from the start. It is more an endurance test; you need to be steady. One more thing I would advise for anyone interested in French is to read, watch, or listen to the news, especially if you are fond of politics as there's a lot going on at the moment with the yellow jacket movement in France or the election crisis in Algeria. I would probably not advise to do this in French to everyone but even in English, trying to learn about a country goes through keeping up with the news from time to time.

Sustainable Beanie

Citizen Talk: A Different Kind of Presentation

Georgina Scoville, Staff Writer

On Wednesday, Feb. 27, students entered Commons 221 to find the room set-up differently from the usual presentation layout. Instead of the typical rows of chairs facing a chalkboard, the room was filled with round tables covered with pens and paper. This presentation, one of a three-part series hosted by Lingua Franca, was centered on why people are included or excluded from citizenship.

The set-up of the room was not the only difference between this talk and others. As opposed to a lengthy lecture, there were brief presentations made by Andrew Baker and two students, with the rest of the time being devoted to discussion. Andrew Baker, a professor in the history department, was the first to speak, choosing to pass up his prepared presentation on the history of citizenship in favour of a personal story.

Baker is one of a small percentage of Americans to have been born outside of the United States to an American parent. He was born in Canada to an American father, which automatically made him a citizen of both countries. He described his fortune in receiving the privileges of being an American citizen without even having been born there, saying, "I had this legal stake in the United States, even though [as a child] I couldn't care less."

Sarah Daehler '19 has an extremely different relationship with the United States. Born in Switzerland to Swiss parents, Daehler identifies as an immigrant, though

she recognizes that her skin color and accent often give people the wrong impression. "People have said to me, 'you don't look like an immigrant. You don't sound like an immigrant,'" she recounted. It took Daehler's family years of waiting and paperwork to obtain citizenship, and she described her parents having to overcome "absurd" barriers such as proving that no Americans were more qualified for a job than her father. Despite this struggle, most people had no idea that she had this background. She referred to this aspect of herself with, "It's a minority identity I have, but at the same time it's a hidden identity." Reflecting on these stories,

students discussed the inequity between some people receiving automatic citizenship rights, while others being forced to undergo years of struggle to get citizenship or any legal status, even when necessary as an escape from their home countries. Besides the speakers, several students were quick to add their own stories to the conversation, whether first-generation Americans, dual citizens, or born and raised citizens.

Alexandra Salazar '20, another student speaker, contributed to the conversation differently. She described herself as being an American citizen with Colombian heritage. She was raised in Connecticut, where others often assumed she shared the same background as them. She discussed how this impacts her character, commenting, "I haven't been able to fully take ownership of my identity."

A common theme between the two student speakers was that their unique identity was only truly realised when they arrived at Bates. Growing up in smaller communities, being at Bates encouraged them to reflect more on their heritage and their relationships with American citizenship. Lingua Franca's citizenship forum not only gave a formal platform for Andrew Baker and two student speakers to share their identities, but also provided a space for students of all years to have a frank discussion on their own connection to citizenship.



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OUR Revolution Has Begun

Michael Morgan, Contributing Writer

The revolutionary senator from Vermont, Bernie Sanders, has launched his bid for the presidency, vowing to transform our country. As a former presidential hopeful, Bernie is seasoned in the game, possesses an extensive support network, and is shaking up our concept of the "mainstream" as we know it.

Bernie's platform is one of democratic socialism and emphasizes a grassroots movement. At its core, Sanders' platform represents an unprecedented shift to restore and revitalize the foundation of this country, which is grounded in the will of the people and expanding the circle of liberty. Unlike 2016, Sanders has household name recognition as well as an extensive donor and volunteer list. He has amassed a network of millions of contributors and raised money in a record-breaking amount of time, which speaks to his magnetic message that appeals to large swaths of the population. Furthermore, his policy ideas occupy a unique space in the current political landscape that gives him tremendous bragging points.

The Sanders campaign proposes policies such as Medicare for All, tuition-free college, and environmental justice, manifesting itself in the Green New Deal. As a Prometheus-like candidate, he takes power from the status quo and gives it to the people of the country. On some level, it seems somewhat disappointing that the wealthiest nation on the planet has embarked on these essential policies for its people. It is a disgrace that Americans have to pay several times more than what their counterparts in other developed nations pay for prescription drugs. Alongside basic affordable healthcare is the question of how we educate our young people, who are integral if we want to shape a sustainable future. And that sustainable future can only be a reality if we have a concrete plan to deal with climate change.

How are people going to actively go against their interest and vote against policies that benefit them and their children? Sanders has the answers. His populist messages are set to do very well with primary voters once the campaign trail heats up. However, unlike 2016 when Bernie was the only diamond in the rough, he is now flanked on all sides by other presidential hopefuls who have adopted many of his ideas.

Like clockwork, this has prompted mass coverage from the mainstream media who try and downplay his significance and, of course, prop up their favorites who align more with their establishment wishes. This was seen clearly when Cory Booker and Amy Klobuchar entered the race for president. Their presence was viewed as electrifying and was met with jubilant reviews personal and endorsements posing as political analysis on major network television stations. A blatant example of this bias was after Bernie raised 6 million dollars in 24 hours, which was met with lukewarm descriptions and even wholeheartedly rejected by columnists at the Washington Post, questioning whether or not this indicated any clout for the Sanders campaign. In a double standard, Kamala Harris' sizeable haul of 1 million dollars was seen as confirmation of her unmatched fortitude as a Democratic candidate. There is nothing wrong with opinionated pieces to create a healthy discourse of ideas, but when that creeps into actual journalism, it threatens the objectivity of the Fourth Branch of Government.

Attacks on Bernie are not new by any stretch of the imagination. As we speak, Fox News is undoubtedly creating new graphics to smear him as a "radical" and a "communist." Any time there is opposition, the opponent has to shift its thinking. They now have to take you seriously. The establishment reads the polls, just like supporters of Bernie do, and they understand the growing support for his policies, and that rocks them to their core. Their ability to control and shape the country in their image, whether it be lower taxes for the rich or more wars for the military industrial complex, is coming to a swift end. The 2020 Presidential Campaign season proposes to be a true referendum on the values and direction of the United States. Bernie Sanders has thrown his hat into the ring, created a disturbance and has woken up dormant voters. The revolution has begun, the time is at hand, the dawn is upon us.



How To Come Back from Blackface: You Can't

Ashka Jhaveri, Staff Writer

An article from the BBC states that "[s]keletons seem to be making a mass exodus from public figures closets of late." These skeletons must be pushed into the light and faced with the wrath of the public for what they are: a racist exercises of power and white supremacy. As blackface begins to dominate the news and leader after leader is subjugated to the torrent of the public and the media, the apologies have to be called into question. What kind of apology should be accepted by society? Are politicians apologizing for the simple sake of reelection and protecting their public image? How do we hold accountable such fundamental flaws of character, especially when they are direct assaults on people's race?

Throughout U.S. history, media has perpetuated the humor of blackface. Thomas D. Rice was a white New York actor who first developed the concept of blackface as a way to perpetuate the negative stereotypes of African Americans and use them for entertainment. Now known as the "Father of Minstrelsy," Rice sparked the widespread usage of blackface in theatrics across the country. During a time where many emancipated slaves were advocating for civil rights, whites in the country felt threatened and rallied around racist norms and laws to assert their power over the country. Theatre had a part in this mission, and minstrel shows put cultural ideas of black inferiority into song and dance numbers. Blackface began to fizzle away with the surge of the Civil Right Movement, however one can see that it has not died. The negative vernacular and stereotypes of African Americans has persisted into today. In a time of unkept promises, fluctuating policies, unpredictability flowing and from the White House, many

people are hoping for stability in their political offices. Politicians themselves are hoping that with every speech or apology made, it will quell the public dissent and their reign in office will continue. The complexities of the situation escalates when you seperate those politicians whose past wrongful actions were discovered, and those who admitted it in a sign of honesty. In Sorry About That: The Language of Public Apology, a book by Edwin Battistella, the concept of devaluing an apology due to an underlying desire for political gain is discussed. The author argues that many politicians will use conditional language with the audience in a hope to generalize the issue and have it pass with time. Public figures nowadays are less willing to take responsibility for their actions and would rather dodge around the details. Politicians use one of two apology methods in times where their character is questioned by a past event according to Battistella: "the apology tour, a series of speeches and interviews pursued as an expedient opportunity to express regret, versus the non-apology, such as when Oregon Senator Bob Parkwood apologised in 1992 for 'the conduct that it was alleged that I did."

In the case of blackface, when a politician has a history of directly participating in the act that is still today a sign of the dehumanization of African Americans and an exercise of white supremacy, an apology cannot be enough. By understanding the roots of a political apology and the self-preservation undertone of the speeches that have made recent

headlines, one must never forget the actions to which were committed and the culture they represent.

Endometriosis? Ever Heard of it?

Julia Raboy, Staff Writer

If you know at least ten people with a uterus, odds are you also know someone with endometriosis. Endometriosis is perhaps the most common disease you've never heard of. Affecting at least ten percent of the female-bodied population, endometriosis is defined as the growth of tissue similar to that of the lining of the uterus on other organs, most commonly the ovaries, fallopian tubes, and intestines. These lesions bleed every month during the menstrual period, and because the blood has nowhere to go, it accumulates inside the body, causing internal bleeding and immense amounts of pain.

March is national endometriosis awareness month, but you probably didn't know that. For a disease that's so common that it's almost impossible for you not to know someone affected, endometriosis gets virtually no attention in the media and popular culture. Why is it that America turns pink in October for breast cancer awareness and red in February for heart disease, but not yellow in March for endometriosis?

Endometriosis receives so little attention because we are not ready to talk about periods. In American culture, menstruation is shameful, dirty, and disgusting. When I first started my period, I was told to keep it to myself, like I had a secret every month that no one could know about. So, when I began to experience cramps so terrible I was paralyzed with pain, I didn't tell anyone because I thought I had to keep my secret. I would walk into

the school nurse's office doubled over but told her it was just a headache and it would feel better after lying down. I thought it was normal to lose sleep from period pain, and that all my friends had cramps so terrible they threw up, too. Everyone took days off from school, dance class, or canceled weekend plans even after maxing out on Advil and Tylenol, right? Nobody talked about their period, so how was I supposed to know that most people actually can get out of bed when they have theirs? I accepted my pain as part of being a woman and just something I had to grin and bear.

My experience is not uncommon, and too many people suffer in silence. Women are far too often told they are exaggerating their symptoms, or have a low pain

tolerance. Because endometriosis affects multiple body organs, women are misdiagnosed with irritable bowel syndrome or pelvic floor dysfunction and sent away without a second thought. The average wait time between when a woman first seeks medical attention to when she is diagnosed with endometriosis is ten years. Not only do women live with unnecessary pain for extended periods of time, but when left undiagnosed and untreated, endometriosis can lead to irreversible organ damage and infertility. The only way to definitively diagnose and treat endometriosis is through laparoscopic surgery, which many women with endometriosis undergo multiple times throughout their lives to preserve fertility and stave

off the pain.

It is time to get over our fear of periods and give endometriosis and women's health the attention it deserves, not only from the general public but within the medical community as well. There should be more effective treatments, more options for pain management, less invasive and more efficient means of diagnosis. Menstruation is a natural biological process, and it is not "normal" to be sidelined by period pain every month. Going forward, we must learn not to devalue women for their pain, so that one-day women's health will not be taboo and fewer women will be led to believe that their suffering is normal.



FORUM

My Proposed Curriculum

Nick Morgoshia, Assistant Forum Editor

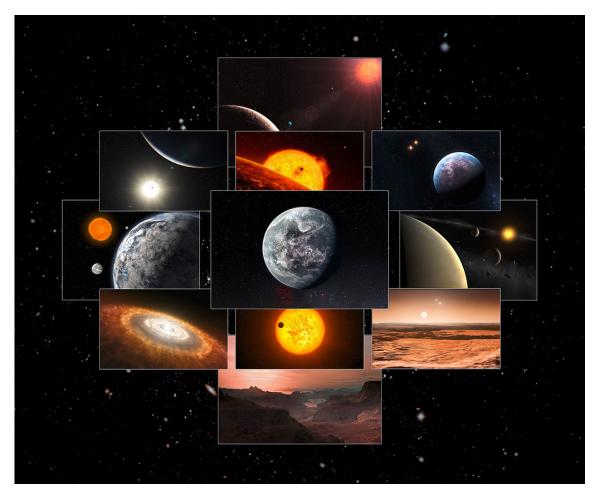
It is that time of the year again. As March brings unwarranted hopes for a warm respite from Maine's record-setting winter temperatures, the Registrar's Office reminds us to sign up for fall classes. I always enjoy crafting my course schedule. But there is more to the process than casually lingering by our advisor's office, scrolling through Garnet Gateway, and demonstrating our commitment to a perfect GPA by crashing Rate My Professor. Course registration is the ultimate exercise of our role as students: an opportunity to mull over our career goals and pursue our intellectual passions. I must confess every sign-up season leaves me yearning for more. Even as Bates consistently provides a rich menu of academic offerings, there is always that one class I wish I could take... that one issue area I have always dreamed of exploring further... that one subject that would allow me to draw from multiple disciplines. So I've taken it upon myself to create a list of courses I think our professors should consider teaching:

ASTR 139: Exoplanets and the Future of Humanity. Following the launch of NASA's Kepler telescope in 2009, scientists have identified over 50 exoplanets within the goldilocks zone: that is, neither too close nor too far from their star to sustain liquid water and atmosphere. According to an MIT professor Sara Seager, "We will [soon] be able to take children to a dark sky, point to a star, and say 'that star has a planet with signs of life." Some researchers find an

even greater reason of optimism in our neighboring Mars and Jupiter's moon, Europa, claiming that a revolutionary announcement about life beyond earth is just a few decades away. Conclusive evidence of extraterrestrial beings, even at the molecular level, portends for social consequences of astronomical proportions. While ASTR 139 would predominantly be a science class - deconstructing the wobble detection method, calculation of celestial distances in light years, and planet-hunters' interest in red dwarves - it would also turn to psychology, religious studies, and philosophy to ponder a variety of questions. How does the discovery of other habitable worlds shift our perception of earth as the center of the universe? Will finding life beyond our native planet amount to the ultimate theological conundrum?

ENG 211: The World of Accents. Per the old saying, "the only way not to have an accent is not to speak." As a geographically diverse institution, Bates is teeming with both regional and global sounds. Students would dive into classical linguistics to explain how accents form, why most adults are good at hearing foreign accents but bad at losing their native ones, and how en masse presence of television sets in the nation's households led to the evolution of a standard American accent in the 1940s. The second half of the course would commit to examining how accents affect our perceptions of national origin, race, socio-economic class, and intelligence.

PLTC 305: **CapSTONE** Seminar on the Politics of Marijuana Legalization. The tide of marijuana legalization is sweeping the nation, bringing joy to herb enthusiasts and case studies in American federalism to scholars of politics. The course would evaluate how state legislatures, ballot initiatives, and federal regulations interact on different cannabisrelated issues. Special attention would be given to America's judicial and penal systems, because even as weed knows only one color, the laws surrounding its consumption disproportionately affect African American and Hispanic communities. In light of the recent nationwide legalization of marijuana in Canada, as well as long-standing commercial practices of several Western European countries, there might even be a lecture or two in comparative government. Instead of a traditional discussion format characteristic to Bates seminars, students would play the roles of interest groups, politicians, and researchers to explore the world of policy-making. And should no Bates classroom be large enough to handle record-high (pun intended) enrollment in the course, Mount David is always an option.



A psychological take on STEM majors

Kyle Larry, Assistant Forum Editor

As a politics and psychology double major, I at times receive scrutiny from STEM majors about how I'm "wasting my money" and how I'm unemployable because, apparently, the only thing people

challenge themselves and brag to liberal arts majors about how hard they're pushing themselves. STEM majors are going to school to be doctors, engineers, and physicists, people who are making a lasting

The Politics of Arrogance The Pain is Still Here

Miles Nabritt, Staff Writer

Yes, it's March, and to many, this may seem outdated, but I want to discuss the importance of Black History Month and the continuation of racism. I have been thinking a lot about how racism is still influential in today's society despite the valiant efforts of the historical Civil Rights and the Black Lives Matter movements. As a black person, particularly at Bates, I feel in many ways isolated and alone. Black History Month is a critical period for people all around the world because it symbolizes the many cultural and emotional implications of race. Black History Month, to me, is the ability to celebrate and pay tribute to the evolution of black people in society. As a child, I always enjoyed watching documentaries such as Eyes On The Prize while learning more about the significance of black people in the United States and in the world. But unfortunately, those times have passed. I have been a victim of racism ever since I was six years old and every day I walk with that pain. Nowadays, I fear for people of color, especially black people, everywhere as we continue to be the targets of hatred. In many ways, race is still being used to dehumanize people of color and uphhold white supremacy. I am saddened not just by how racism is still prevalent in today's society but how people seem to ignore the signs of one's pain. I am

saddened that even at a school such as Bates, I have been the target of racism and, as a result, have been reluctant to share my story and to speak my truth. Similarly to other kinds of social inequality, people

discrimination. We are not meant to be part of an elaborate plot to obscure the truth and to misinform people. We are meant to be human beings. We are meant to live our lives to the fullest. We are meant to love. Regardless of what we do, the pain is still here. My experience is painful, to say the least, because the majority of times that I have experienced racism was in a school setting. Despite my best wishes and my misguided optimism, I have experienced racism at Bates. To my surprise, in my time of isolation and vulnerability, people who I didn't think would support me, did. Those people helped me realize that I am not the only one at Bates who has faced racial injustice. But it hurts to say that people view me as an enemy and as a threat to their lives. I hope that in time Bates as a community does better to address issues such as racism and social issues on campus. I know that if we do our part and work together towards a better future, maybe people like me won't feel so targeted as much. However, despite this little optimism, I cannot excuse the terrible feeling it is to be a victim of racism. Black History Month is a great way to celebrate black culture and history, but it is not enough to combat the power of racism and discrimination. We must all unite to stand for what is right and to strive for equality.

in the arts and humanities do is "sit around a classroom and theorize about books." This couldn't be further from the truth, but trying to explain the importance of the arts and humanities to a STEM major is often fruitless. Unless your degree qualifies you to work as an engineer or accountant, or allows you to work in a hospital, your degree is virtually useless in their eyes. But why? Why do STEM majors believe that they are superior based solely off of what they are studying in college?

Before we can answer that question, we have to conceptualize what it means to be conceited in the first place. We need to shed light on why people, in general, get fixated on this idea that they must constantly prove that they are better than others.

Well, it should be no surprise that our capitalistic society, a society that prides itself on the "only the strongest shall survive" mentality, values arrogance. To most people, this attribute is equated with dominance, power, affluence, and prestige. People want complete dominion so they can do whatever they please. People also want money so they won't be constricted by finances, therefore granting them the opportunity to explore the world and all it has to offer, not even mention how people want to have influence over others so that their legacy can be remembered and make their lives purposeful. So, let's face it: anyone would act in a pretentious manner if they knew that in the end, they would amass fame and fortune.

> STEM majors constantly

impact on society. So, isn't it a good thing to be arrogant?

Or is that what society wants us to believe?

Is there a way to be successful without belittling others for the field of study they chose? Of course there is! Arts and humanities do more than just theorize about life. They have to go into every discussion and provide representation for those who are disfranchised. This is not to say that STEM doesn't consider marginalized individuals, but it is undeniable that people of color and women don't have the same representation as cis-gendered heterosexual white men in STEM fields. Arts and humanities give a platform to people to express their individuality and allow people to think outside of the box, unlike STEM majors who use formulas to get a solution. Both types of students, those in liberal arts and those in STEM, have difficulties within their respective fields. Furthermore, saying one is better than the other would simply be illogical. Everyone can shine and be successful in their own areas of study because everyone is doing something different than the next person.

We, as a society, need to dismantle this idea of tearing down others in order to get success. Instead, we need to teach people to help each other and recognize the potential in every field of study, because every field is very much needed. No matter what field of study you go into, you can make a lasting impact on society.

who are victims of racism are ignored by the corrupt institutions of the criminal justice system and the federal government. Even in schools and universities, people of color are often seen as annoyances and burdens to faculty, administration, and other authorities.

I wish my experience at Bates was different. I wish I felt secure enough to walk into Commons and not have people look at me with judgment as I walk to my seat. I wish I felt confident enough that every time I spoke up in class, I wouldn't have to feel worried that people doubted my abilities. I wish I felt safe enough that, every time I walked to my dorm, people wouldn't question why I am at a school like Bates. And I fear that I don't have enough support to deal with these emotions.

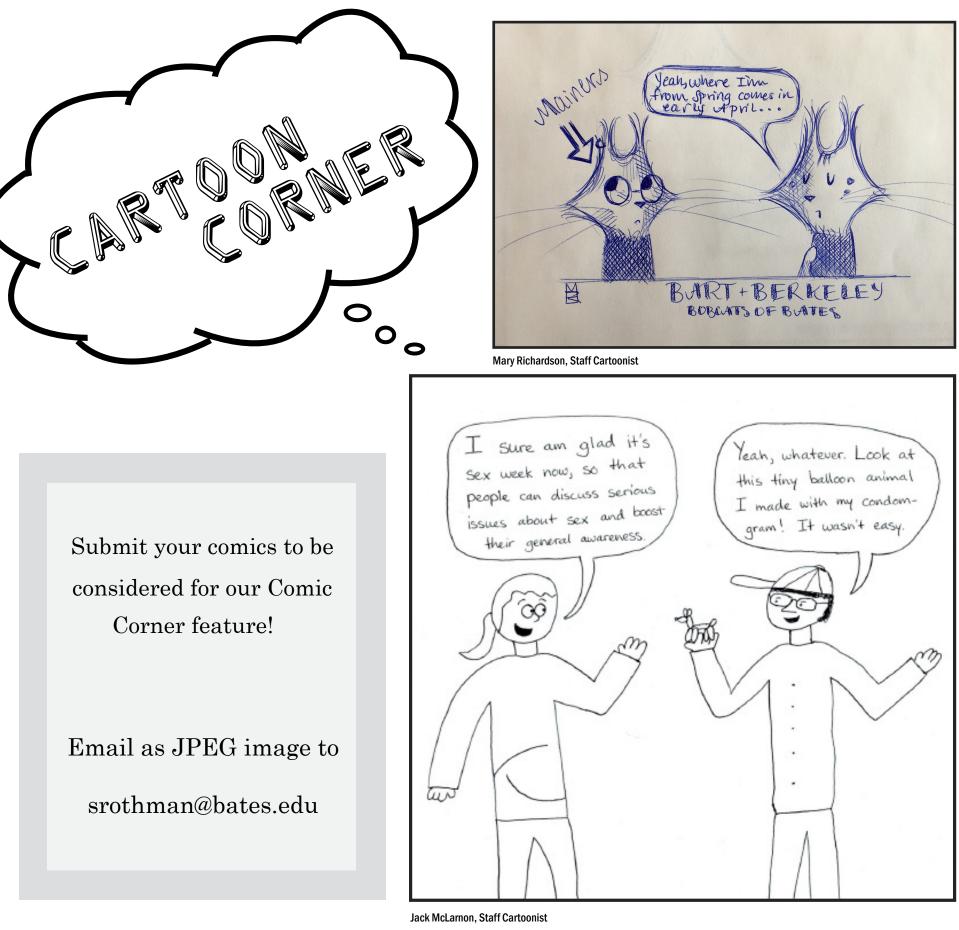
The issue of race is not clear cut, it is multifaceted. People of color come from various different backgrounds and ethnicities. We talk many dialects, and we speak many languages. We have faith in many religions, and we believe in many messages. We are many people, but we are one people. We are not objects. We are not meant to be victims of hatred and

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@thebatesstudent



FORUM



Question on the Quad Vanessa Paolella, Managing Sports Editor

What is the Only Good Thing about March?



Abby Holden '22

"The weather's getting at least somewhat nicer, it's warm today, the sun's coming out."



Ross Ackerman '19

"The best thing about March is looking forward to Lick It and Gala. I think those are some of the events that keep the Bates community happy during the month."



Cameron Brown '22

"It's almost short term!"





Tricia Crimmins, Managing Arts Editor

Pippin Evarts, Assistant Arts Editor

Fippin Evarts, Assistant Arts & Leisure Editor ** literory ort/live**



Bates

On Thursday evening at the Muskie Archives, Bates College welcomed the poet Francine J. Harris to campus. At 7:30pm, students came to listen to Harris read some of the works from her most recent book, "Play Dead," which came out in 2016. Harris was introduced by Bates's visiting poetry professor Myronn Hardy, who told the audience about his first time meeting Harris at an arts retreat. Professor Hardy spoke of how he had been captivated by Harris' laughter and joy—even amidst the academic challenges of the retreat—and from that moment forward they had been friends.

Hearing Harris' poetry was incredibly emotionally moving. Many of the poems that Harris read were about sexual trauma. Harris began with a poem about the dark side of a romantic relationship and the audience soon became aware of themes present within the poetry Harris shared: trauma, sexual relationships, and coming to terms with previous experiences. In the first poem the speaker talks of their relationship with someone that became violent and how the speaker struggles to be with their partner sexually and emotionally after that moment. After the readings, Harris spoke about her thoughts on the notions of post-traumatic stress disorder and how people deal with trauma.

Harris' writing was fresh, gut-wrenching at times, and incredibly inspiring. My personal favorite of the poems she shared was a poem Harris wrote to Cyntoia Brown, a woman who, at the age of 16, killed the man that had been selling her for sex. As a result, Brown was sentenced to life in prison. Harris chose to write to her through poetry because she believes that Cyntoia Brown is an example of what self defense looks like for a young girl who has been sold into sex trafficking. The poem was one of sixteen poems Harris wrote to Brown. She chose to

write a series of poems to Brown to examine Brown's life from a different angle. "I just kept wanting to talk to her," Harris said after the poetry reading. Each poem shows the momentum of Harris' thoughts on Brown.

After Harris read her chosen poems, the audience asked her questions about her work and writing process. Harris explained her writing style consists of listing poems and providing just enough evidence to convince the reader of her intentions and thoughts without oversharing. Harris described her inner monologue during the writing process as, "Oh you don't believe me yet? I'll tell you some

more."

Harris reads her poetry from her new collection. JAMES MACDONALD/THE

Francine J. Harris' poetry reading was an amazing experience to be a part of. Listening to her poetry about sexual violence highlighted Harris' overarching goal to understand trauma and how the mind and imagination work to get past moments of fear and sadness. Her writing exudes a humility and honesty that I had never before read or heard in poetry. Harris truly captures the uniqueness of each person's experience coping with sexual trauma and highlights how the imagination is affected by traumatic events. I urge others to check out "Play Dead" and the rest of Harris' poetry.

BATES STUDENT



Skin Care Routine of the Week: Reminding Us All to Read the Ingredients



Let's talk about skincare! My skin is super sensitive and dry, so this edition will be geared toward people who would like to hydrate during the winter months. There are no particular products I prefer for my skin; however, I am always cautious of the ingredients in the products I use. So, I have some suggestions of ingredients to look for and those to avoid.

If you have dry skin in general, in the winter, or combination skin, I would stay away from face washes containing salicylic acid. Instead, look for face washes with glycolic acid or glycerin. Salicylic acid will dry your skin out and is typically used to reduce the appearance of acne by decreasing the amount of oil in your skin. Importantly, it is used to remove warts, moles, hair, and birthmarks because it increases the skin's moisture level and breaks down the substance in your skin that allows skin cells to stick together. Often salicylic acid is used in face washes to erase pimples and oily pores.

Glycolic acid is great for acne-prone skin, but it can easily take off a necessary layer of skin in winter for those with extremely sensitive skin and rosacea. Otherwise, it's a great ingredient. At first use, glycolic acid may dry your skin, but using it on a regular basis can increase the amount of collagen and elastin in your skin—which helps keep your skin bright and healthy in the winter months.

Glycerin is a natural hygroscopic compound used in skin care products and food preservatives and is my preferred ingredient in face wash for the winter time. As a humectant—a substance which retains moisture—glycerin draws moisture from the surrounding air to keep skin healthy and hydrated. By using products containing glycerin, my skin stays hydrated without becoming too oily or excessively moisturized.

The area of skin under our eyes is typically one of the more sensitive spots on the face; it easily shows rest and age. A lot of eye creams are anti-aging, but it's important not to use anti-aging products until your skin starts to fold or wrinkle. That said, no one that has youthful skin should be using eye creams that contain retinol. Retinol is derived from vitamin A and, like glycolic acid, helps generate collagen. But, retinol can irritate your face if you have sensitive skin and can make you break out because of its high potency. Also, it can over-dry skin.

Ingredients to look for in eye cream include glycerin, and hyaluronic acid. Hyaluronic acid, like glycerin, is a humectant that helps to maintain moisture. It can even hold 1000 times its weight in water per molecule which makes this ingredient a great candidate for dehydrated skin. Generally, those who have dry skin should look for a heavier moisturizer with humectants such as hyaluronic acid, glycerin, and dimethicone, which can prevent itching and chafing. Mineral oils can also help lock in moisture. If you are also prone to sun damage, look for moisturizers with SPF. Additionally, vitamin E and jojoba oil work well with humectants to keep skin happy, healthy, and hydrated in creams and moisturizers.

Stine Carroll, Contributing Writer

And lastly: exfoliator! For those of us with dry skin, we should be careful about how often we use any sort of exfoliator during winter months. However, this completely depends on the product you use. Some exfoliators recommend use 2-3 times a week, while others recommend once a week. I tend to gravitate towards exfoliators that are used once a week during the winter so I can scrub my skin without irritation or redness.

If you are looking for a gentle exfoliator or want to make your own, sugar is a great and gentle alternative to salt. It will not upset the pH of your skin. On the other hand, salt is a stronger but more purifying exfoliant. Oatmeal is probably the best option for those who have dry and sensitive skin because it is calming and can scrub effectively. If you'd rather use an exfoliating oil, good choices for dry/sensitive skin are coconut oil, which also moisturizes, rosehip, aloe vera, which is also cooling and can eliminate puffiness, sweet almond, and apricot kernel oils, which are great for any skin type to use as a gentle exfoliant.

These tips should help you keep your skin happy, healthy, and hydrated for the winter months!

Pianos In Conversation: A Collaborative Faculty Concert

Olivia Dimond, Staff Writer

Watching musicians fascinates me. It is different from watching other artists, as many of them are separate from their work. Visual artists are normally not part of the art, actors play characters, writers normally aren't around when you read. Dancers and musicians, on the other hand, are vital pieces of their art. I am always entertained by watching musicians get into their music.

My love of watching artists as a part of their art made this weekend's faculty piano concert a treat to watch. Applied Music faculty Chiharu Naruse and Bridget Convey were joined by Professor Emeritus James Parakilas for a delightful ninety minutes of music, mostly playing on two pianos. It was my first ever classical piano concert and I enjoyed it more than I expected. It was fascinating to catch glimpses of their personalities from behind the piano bench.

For some reason, I delighted in watching a pianist get into the music more so than musicians playing other instruments. Playing the piano is more of a full body experience than, say, the guitar or trumpet. Watching pianists in profile obscures audience members from seeing the expressions on their face. You watch their body movements: how their head moves, how their feet tap against the pedals, where their elbows go. It was so intriguing watching Naruse and Convey because it was easy to see they were passionate about the performance, while observing them work in tandem.

Pianists only have conductors when part of an orchestra, but with two pianos involved, Naruse and Convey had to communicate timing with only nods and expressions. I was pulled in to the performance by their body language as much as I was by the music. Instrumentalists often wear black for concerts in part to let the music stand without the distraction of busy patterns or bright colors, in a way to separate the artist from the art. However, I found it enjoyably impossible to do this; watching the artists perform was equally as enjoyable as listening to the music they brought to us.

Naruse and Convey played three pieces: Harold Stover's "Rag, Pastorale, and Carillon for Two Pianos" (Composed 1984-1988), Witold Lutoslawski's "Paganini Variations for Two Pianos" (Comp. 1941), and Philip Glass' "Four Movements for Two Pianos"

(Comp. 2008). They were joined by Parakilas for my personal favorite pieces of the afternoon, Armin Fuchs' "Vielleicht, Vielleicht auch nicht" ("Maybe, Maybe Not") and "Oder etwa doch? ("Or does it?") For Piano Six Hands" (Comp. 2004 & 2005). You heard that right, six. How, exactly? Well, by seating all three pianists at the same piano! A camera was trained onto the keys and the footage played on a projector screen behind them in order to see the choreography required to have three pianists, each playing different lines, at the same time.



The two pieces clearly enjoyed playing around with multiple pianists. The first piece opened with each pianist having their own "range" of the piano: Convey at the bottom, Naruse in the middle, and Parakilas at the top. Each played notes within their respective range, divided in half in order to be played by different hands. As the piece went on, more and more crossover occurred, which forced the pianists to pay careful attention to what the others were doing while also playing their own lines. The second piece had a more consistent crossover throughout. Both pieces played around with the same structure in different keys as well as portraying each section as in conversation with the other.

The pieces played by only Naruse and Convey were equally interesting as the two pianos played in conversation with each other. I found the Stover piece to be my favorite because the three movements all drew on different styles and made for, in my opinion, a more intriguing combination than the other pieces. Regardless, all pieces were beautifully and enthusiastically played by three amazing pianists, and the concert was a memorable experience I hope to repeat in the future.



ARTS

Motivation with Maru

In Defense of Over-Analyzing Art

First and foremost, the month is what we make of it. If we allow the gloom to penetrate our positive vibes, it's easy to toss the towel in. So, we must persevere! Try to do little things-such as spicing up your room décor-in order to have a more enthusiastic living environment; get some new twinkly lights, swap out your pillow cases for brighter colored ones, or try leaving punchy positive little sticky notes around your room such as "Good morning sunshine!" or "You're going to SLAY the day!"

• Itching for summer? It is never too soon to brainstorm and make plans for when sunnier days come! Text a friend and see if they want to road trip to Old Orchard Beach in late spring, or even start a bucket-list of things you want to do this summer! Want to get better at longboarding? Write

Mary Richardson, Staff Writer

Chello chello my feisty friends! I hope that y'all had a fan-freakintabulous February break and that y'all are as stoked for spring as I am! Speaking of spring, happy March! Soon the snow will be melting, the days will continue to get longer, and Short Term will be upon us! Until then, we do have to endure the last few weeks of classes before finals, all the while navigating mud season. Here are a few tips to help give y'all a boost in this often-greyish slushy month!

it down! Want to make a point of doing a different hike once a week? Write it down! The world is your oyster; start cultivating your garden of ideas and get excited for warmer months!

• Make an effort to make your tomorrow-self's life easier. Have an assignment coming up? Start it NOW. Your tomorrow-self will thank you when they can take an extra nap! Have an employer you need to touch base with? Call them TODAY. Your tomorrowself will thank you! Make March the month of preparation and perseverance!

Wishing all of y'all a very happy first week of March. You've got this!!

> All of my love, Maru

I absolutely adore video essays. For those who aren't familiar, video essays are a genre of YouTube content that analyzes media-mostly movies-in both an academic and humorous framework. For reference, look up the channels Wisecrack, Nerdwriter1, and Now You See It. A common meme within this genre focuses on how many creators, for the sake of either filling time or trying to sound smart, will over-analyze movies. They'll pick apart every single easter egg, shot, or line of dialogue in a film and exaggerate, if not fabricate, its symbolic attributes.

Chris Hassan, Managing Forum Editor

I love this style of criticism. When I watch a movie I squirm with excitement as to what kind of absurd hidden theme I'll decipher. And all my friends can vouch that I love nothing more than to berate dinner conversations with my halfbaked Barthian critiques. Here are just a few Rhetoric senior theses I've come up with: "Monsters, Inc." is a Freudian coming-of-age tale, Adam Sandler's "Click" delusionally thinks that capitalists are the real victims of labor exploitation, "Full Metal Jacket" portrays Albert Camus' philosophy of absurdism. The list goes on.

Many of my analyses are, admittedly, jokes amongst friends to see what kind of ridiculous message I can extract from a movie. But despite the film theories I don't take seriously, I do truly appreciate the underlying principle of over-analysis. I believe that art evolves and improves when we force ourselves to read the minute details.

To be clear, there are countless

nuances to be explored in how we analyze movies. For example, I think there is such a thing as an opinion of a movie being objectively wrong and there is an entirely separate debate as to whether authorial intent matters. Moreover, unnecessary academic jargon is more often unhelpful than useful when trying to discuss our interpretations of art. The popular image of over-analyzing art is portrayed in this hypothetical scenario from a high school English book:

-Author: The curtains were blue. -English Teacher: The blue symbolizes the author's depression and longing to return to her home by the ocean.

-Author: The curtains were f****** blue.

But this caricature of analysis is exactly that: a caricature, an exaggeration. Useful analysis can indeed be tedious and excessively precise, but it does so in good faith. Over-analyzing blockbusters, kids' movies, rom coms, et al. rejects the supposed divide between high and low art. Pop culture is often dismissed as plebian entertainment, but this could not be further from the truth. All "dumb" moments in a film, from Bumblebee peeing on John Turturo in "Transformers" to Tommy Wiseau's spoons-themed home decor in "The Room," were deliberate choices on the part of filmmakers and deserve to be taken seriously. Analyzing these choices, or at the very least discussing them, allows us to further explore what we enjoy and don't enjoy in movies.

Entertainment just for enter-

tainment's sake is a perfectly legitimate way to watch a movie, but it cannot be the only way. One of the biggest consequences of us dismissing over-analysis as elitist or humorless is that it stops us from reevaluating our own biases. Even more, digging for deeper meanings in art has been a way that many marginalized groups have exposed cultural prejudices and popular, harmful tropes.

When we over-analyze "The Lion King" and "The Little Mermaid," we can interrogate why so many Disney villains are all blatantly coded as queer. By over-analyzing comedies, we can point out how "Wedding Crashers" belittles the sexual assault of men and fails to condemn the misogyny of the protagonists. Since the 2019 Oscars last weekend, taking time to analyze "Green Book" is showing people that white savior fantasies continue to masquerade as works of anti-racism.

I don't believe everyone should write an entire film studies paper when they return home from the theater. All art criticism needs to have limits. I simply hope more people see where I come from with my love of deep-reading into movies. I hope people know why the blue curtains could very well symbolize depression and the ocean, or at least why it's helpful to think that way.

Solange's "When I Get Home" Breaks Fresh Ground

Tricia Crimmins, Managing Arts & Leisure Editor

Before immersing myself in "When I Get Home" this past weekend, I hadn't heard much of Solange Knowles' music before. "Cranes in the Sky" had popped up on Apple Music playlists curated especially "for me," and I knew "Don't Touch My Hair" was an immensely important cultural statement on behalf of black women. After seeing one of my favorite artists, Dev Hynes (who releases music as Blood Orange) sing Knowles' praises with regard to her artistic ability, their personal friendship, and most recent album, I listened to "When I Get Home" straight through. I was so intrigued that I then watched Knowles' new film of the same name, which was released as a companion to the album.

"When I Get Home" is an outlandish musical journey; Knowles guides listeners through nineteen distinct soundscapes with the help of various skilled collaborators. Notable credits include Tyler the Creator, Metro Boomin, Earl Sweatshirt, Raphael Saadiq, Devin The Dude, Playboi Carti, Sampha, Panda Bear, Steve Lacy, Gucci Mane, Pharrell Williams, and my beloved Hynes—and those are only the names creditted that I'm familiar with. Knowles' album is the work of a curated bunch of musicians and artists that together augment its uniquity.

The album evolves and builds upon itself throughout a full listen. For the most part, songs blend seamlessly into the next; "When I Get Home" features five interludes and one "intermission." While there is unity amongst the songs, a sort of dynamism exists between opening tracks like "Things I Imagined" and "Down with the Clique," and the closer "I'm A Witness." The listener can sense a sort of shift in Solange. Admittedly, I didn't even pick up on the transformation until I heard "Sound of Rain," the album's penultimate full song.

My favorite tracks off the album are "Dreams," "Sound of Rain," and "I'm A Witness." I was not surprised to learn that "Dreams" was produced in part by Hynes. The song begins with Knowles' vocals accompanied only by soft, minor notes, a dead giveaway of Hynes' influence. It eventually launches into a slow, emotional progression supported by stable and unassuming beats. Lastly, the song's outro stars a narrator whose affected voice lulls listeners into a tranquil state that mimics a dreamscape.

"Sound of Rain" is a complex, seemingly soul-infused song; Williams' co-producing left a recognizable mark on the track. Knowles' compelling line "nobody dress can effeminate me" is coupled with heavier beats, aligning "Sound of Rain" with other songs off the album that have a similar hip-hop-esque vibe like "Almeda." "Almeda," also co-produced by Williams, has received the most buzz of all the songs on the album. In addition to the album's standout lyrics, "black faith still can't be washed away, not even in that Florida water," many fans were thrilled to see a collaboration between Knowles, Williams, and Playboi Carti.

"I'm a Witness" is a satisfactory finale to the slightly unpredictable tracklist. While some songs quickly shift gears and keep listeners on their toes, the closer finds peace in quiescence; its chorus is reminiscent of early 70's soul. As Knowles sings of "taking on the light," she, John Key, and Panda Bear create a visceral, religious experience. Much like a quintessential Blood Orange or Frank Ocean album, Knowles' fourth studio album consists of musical vignettes: gorgeous, short melodies showcase her alluring artistic talent. "When I Get Home" is one of those albums that leaves the listener with a final resonance. Knowles doesn't detail a singular narrative, she explores many and allows the listener to parse out the different realities she's created—or, simply enjoy the ride.

SPORTS

Women's Track & Field Qualifies Six for NCAAs

Jackson Elkins, Contributing Writer

Over the past two weekends, Bates Women's Track and Field team has competed at two huge yearend meets in pursuit of fast times, long throws, far jumps, and excellent team performances.

At the Division III New England Championships held at Bowdoin, the Bates women faced one of the most competitive fields that any region of Division III has ever seen, with each event having multiple nationally-ranked athletes.

Finishing a strong tenth out of 26 scoring competitors with 40 points, the team relied on big performances from Ayden Eickhoff '19, Elise Lambert '22, Amanda Kaufman '21, Katie Barker '19, and Katie Hughes '19.

Eickhoff and Lambert both ran national top-10 times in their respective events, the mile (4:57.55) and 800 (2:13.69), while Kaufman finished fourth in the 60m hurdles with the second best time in program histroy, 9.06, less than 0.1 seconds off from earning a NCAA invitation. Barker placed sixth in the 3000m (9:56.95), outpacing a deep field and ranking within the

top 20 nationally.

Hughes doubled to place sixth and eight in the weight throw (49-1) and shotput (37-8.5) respectively, earning valuable points for the team.

Closing the meet with a third place finish was the 4x800m team of Sarah Rothmann '19, Lambert, So Kim '21, and Eickhoff.

Also scoring points at DIII's were Mary Corcoran '22, Vanessa Paolella '21 and the 4x400m relay composed of Kaufman, Corcoran, Rebecca Willis '22, and Sarah Shoulta '19.

According to Head Coach Jennifer "Jay" Hartshorn, 40 points is enough to get fifth some years, and tenth others; it is all relative to the competition.

"[Points] don't really tell the whole story," Hartshorn said. "We basically scored in all of the places we could score going into the meet, and a lot of them we even placed higher."

For some, Division III's was the last meet of the indoor season, but for others, the Tufts National Qualifying Meet was one last chance to try and earn a PR, or even a trip to the National Championship Meet the weekend



following in Boston.

Perhaps the biggest highlight for the Bobcats was the performance of the Distance Medley Relay (DMR) group, made up of Paolella, Imani Boggan '21, Lambert, and Eickhoff, who ensured their place at the National Championship Meet with a time of 11:51.33. The time bests the team's previous flattrack record of 11:51.93, which earned 4th place nationally back in 2017.

Along with the excellent performance of the DMR, the 4x400m relay of Willis, Kaufman, Sophie Matt '22, and Corcoran ran a top 50 national time of 4:01.75. Katie Hughes, Amanda Kaufman, and Shelby Burns '19 all competed well, but unfortunately could not put up the marks necessary to extend their respective seasons.

At Nationals, the Bates Women will be represented by Lambert, Eickhoff, Barker, and the DMR of Paolella, Kaufman, Lambert, and Eickhoff.

This will be Eickhoff's fourth and final NCAA Indoor Nationals experience, previously having earned All-American honors in the DMR and 800m run.

"I'm really interested to see how this new [DMR] team works out," Eickhoff said. "This is the first time we've run it together. I have absolutely no nerves or reservations when it comes to that. I think we're a team who's going to put it all out there on the first try."

Fun in the Snow: Bobcats Teach Kids to Ski

Eleanor Boyle, Contributing Writer

Winter. A season

"Rather than rote saw the program advertised bring a fun level of energy to an aspect of Bates that makes through the Harward Center, the program. "I think havthis college so appealing in she thought she would try ing Bates students working the first place. They offer a something new. "I thought with this program creates a chance for students to give it sounded really interesttie with the Bates communback to the community, a ing," she said. "I thought it ity and the Lewiston/Auburn chance for them to get out be fun to add something to community in a new and difof their comfort zones and do outside." She discovered enjoy a beautiful season in ferent way," she continued. that you didn't need to know "[The BKL ski lesthe state which they call their home. much about Nordic skiing to sons] give kids the opportunity to get in-"Having an extra skivolved in a sport er or two in a group allows "Rather than rote that is different us to provide more individthan their typical ual attention so that we can instruction, kids learn field and court meet kids at their own level," by playing games and sports," Woods Condit said. "Bates students said. "Offering come with a wide range of having fun." BKL ski lessons skiing abilities, from racers puts cross counto some who have only been try skiing in the on skis a few times before--Whitney Condit same playing all are incredibly helpful field as some of to our program. Although those other town those students with racing be a coach, only enthusiasm. recreation sports while introexperience can offer tips and "The BKL lessons ducing students to the outinstruction on technique, bring in a healthy level of doors in ways which might equally valuable are those willing to get a little silly competition through fun onbe different than ways they snow games that keeps kids have experienced it before. scrambling with young kids engaged and enjoying their The community behind across a snowy field to find time on snow," added Kaeythe rubber chicken." cross country skiing is so lyn Woods '20. unique and so fun that being Though the lessons Woods, a member of involved in lessons like this have ended this season, stuskied the Bates Nordic Ski team, gives an immediate connecdents who wish to find more tion to the much larger ski now recruits fellow teaminformation on volunteering mates to be coaches. She for the BKL lessons can concommunity." stated that "Bates students tact the Harward Center. The lessons combine

that brings snow, darkness, and bitter cold. It may not sound like the most pleasant time of year. For some of us it's just a time of year where we hope for days warmer than 10 degrees. For outdoor enthusiasts, it's ski season.

It is no mystery that Maine is a skiing paradise; Sugarloaf, the second largest ski resort east of Mississippi, is just one of many ski resorts found in the state. Bates is home to both Division I Alpine and Nordic ski teams and has no shortage of students who have skied since they were two.

Maine also has no shortage of eager young students wanting to learn the sport. That's where the Bill Koch Youth Ski League (BKL) comes in. Named after Olympic Nordic skier Bill Koch, the lessons serve approximately 60 children from toddlers to middle-school age children to introduce them to Nordic skiing, also commonly known as cross country skiing. Lessons involve interactive games between students and coaches.

instruction, kids learn by playing games and having fun, so that they're learning skills and gaining experience without really knowing it," program director Whitney Condit said. Games can involve finding hidden toys in the snow which promotes learning technical

skills in a fun way.

T h e YMCA program runs out of the Auburn Ski Association, and relies heavily on volunteers to act as coaches for these students. Bates skiers have volunteered regularly

for the program since its start eight years ago. Carly Harris '22, a student volunteer, said that the program does a lot of learning by playing. Even though the students are learning and doing work, it doesn't seem like it since the kids are having fun.

Harris has since she was young, but she didn't do much Nordic skiing. However, when Harris



SPORTS

Women's Swim Surges to 4th in NESCAC

Vanessa Paolella, Managing Sports Editor

The Women's Swimming and Diving team thoroughly outdid themselves at the NESCAC Championship on Feb. 14-17, placing fourth with an outstanding finish of 1,021 points. Nine women will go on to compete at the NCAA national tournament in two weeks (Mar. 20-23), tying the program record set in 2016.

Originally favored to narrowly win fifth, the Bobcats more than beat the prediction, earning almost 100 points more than fifthplace Connecticut College (932.5). Williams dominated the championships (1873), with Tufts (1439.5) and Amherst (1322) earning second and third.

"It was absolutely incredible that the Bates women came in fourth this year," team captain Lucy Faust '19 said. "Rough calculations estimated we would come in 6th place. As the NESCAC continues to get faster each year, it seems to be harder to rise to the challenge but we did."

One key performance from the meet came from Caroline Apathy '21 who earned her first NES-CAC Championship title in the 100-yd butterfly (54.54), breaking the previous team record of 54.90 from Ho '20. This time put her at the no. 1 seed for the NCAA's. In total, Apathy scored 84 individual points, additionally placing second in th 50-yd butterfly (24.95) and sixth in the 100-yd freestyle (51.72).

Relays were a strong point source for Bates. In the 200-yd freestyle, composed of Janika Ho '20, Suzy Ryckman '22, Maya Reynoso-Williams '22 and Apathy, Bates placed third with a time of 1:35.13. Placing third in the 200-yd medley relay were Ho, Emmy Daigle '19, Ryckman and Apathy with a time of 1:43.87.

While there are some athletes who truly shined at this meet, the overall depth of the team is the true driver for the team's success this year. Many fifth, sixth, seventh and so on place finishes by Bates were where Bates really stacked up the points. Head Coach Peter Casares noted that a larger number of athletes scored points for Bates than in years past, exemplifying the overall strength of the team.

"The biggest surprise was to see the incredible depth of our team each night at finals," Faust said. "Unlike in years past, we had multiple swimmers in the A, B, and C finals which really spoke to the phrase of the back of our NESCAC T-shirts this year, 'Better Together.""

Unlike Bates which currently lacks divers, each of the top three teams were able to rack up points in the 1-m and 3-m diving events.

Nine swimmers, three returnees, will attend the NCAA National Championships. Apathy will race in the 100-yd butterfly and freestyle, Daigle will compete in the 100-yd breaststroke and Faust will swim the 1,650-yd freestyle.

Bates will compete in five relays: the 200 and 400-yd medleys, and the 200, 400 and 800-yd freestyles. Additional swimmers in these relays include Ho, Ryckman, Isabel Mohammadi-Hall '22, Erin Bucki '21, Reynoso Williams and Caroline Sweeney '22.

"Nationals has a different atmosphere than the NESCAC championships for its a larger pool and bigger teams," Apathy said. "It's very fun though to be with eight other friends on your team and swimming along with other fast schools in the warm state of North Carolina."

Faust will return for her third and final NCAA Championship. Reflecting over her time as a member of the Swim and Dive team, she said, "As I've gotten older during my time at Bates I think increasingly more about something a captain my sophomore year, Josh Rines, said, which was that the 'best times' we have on Bates Swim & Dive are beyond the fastest, or best times shown on the scoreboard. The real 'best times' we have are the memories and moments that we share as a group. It is really the people - the teammates and coaches that have kept me in the sport."

The NCAA National Championships will be held on Mar. 20-23 in Greensboro, N.C.

"If we can get times to be an afterthought, and racing the perfect races a top priority, I think we will continue our tradition of being our best against the best when it matters the most," Coach Casares said. "That is the greatest gift you can give any student athlete: the confidence to know they can be at their best when it is needed the most."



Bates baseball team takes the field before season opener in Winter Haven, Florida. PEGGY AREND/COURTESY PHOTO

Softball and Baseball Teams Head to Florida for the Winter

Cameron Carlson, Assistant Sports Editor

The spring is a weird time to be an athlete here at Bates. The main reason that this is true is that Maine is so cold that we label our semesters "fall" and "winter" rather than "fall" and "spring," like most schools. Getting a chance to finally get outside on a field is very difficult for the spring teams, particularly those who don't regularly use artificial turf fields. The baseball and softball teams usually don't get onto their fields until April or even short term.

Because of these unfortunate circumstances, several of the spring teams at Bates take trips in the spring somewhere warmer so that they can actually be outside and play the game the right way. The baseball and softball teams go to Florida, the women's lacrosse team goes to New Jersey, etc. all to seek better weather and playable fields.

These trips are important for

players to get practice and for coaches to truly evaluate their new team every year.

"Baseball just isn't the same in the Gray Cage," team captain Jack Arend '20 said. "Going to Florida gives us an opportunity to practice getting reads off batted balls. Even just getting to practice is huge because we get a feel for being outside on a real diamond. It's nice to get our spikes dirty."

"Playing games against other teams is great because it lets Coach Martin see guys in real game action so that he gets a sense of what this year's team is going to bring," he continued. "Then we also know what we need to work on when we get back home and have two weeks off just practicing indoors again."

The trip is especially unique for the baseball team because (as Arend mentioned) they play five games down south over February break to then return to Lewiston and take two weeks off from playing games. This makes their training trip feel even more like a preseason trip and not a part of the season that counts towards their final record.

Additionally, the NESCAC does not allow spring teams to begin official practices until February 15, but the Bates February break typically begins between February 16 and 19. This obviously doesn't leave a whole lot of time for the team to prepare before they have to hop on a plane and head down to start competing.

The situation is very similar for the softball team, which travels to Florida at the beginning of March and has nearly three weeks off from playing games upon returning home.

With Bates being located as far north as it is, there really isn't an alternative option to doing these training trips. Conference play starts at the very end of March for baseball and softball, so they need time for their players to develop before they're thrown into highintensity conference games.

"If we didn't get to go to Florida, we wouldn't get to start playing games until mid-March. At that point there's no way our pitchers would have enough time to be ready for a three-game conference series in just two weeks," junior pitcher Nolan Collins '20 points out.

As a member of the baseball team, I can easily see what a difference it makes getting an opportunity to play outside. Even when they're facing actual pitchers, taking at-bats in the Gray Cage is so much different than real game action for the hitters. On the other hand, the experience is beneficial for the pitchers as well. Pitchers are very schedule-oriented, often liking to get into a regular routine.

The unpredictability of New England weather makes it very difficult to be consistently playing games. Playing for a week outdoors allows the pitchers to start getting acclimated to the workload of their new season and to get in a routine as they move towards the middle of the season.

Spring athletes at Bates aren't the luckiest when it comes to weather, so they need to take every opportunity they can to go somewhere that allows them to practice and play games. It seems that even just getting to practice outside is incredibly valuable for these teams and they certainly wouldn't get to where they want to be if they didn't get to take a business trip to the sunshine state every February.

Vanessa Paolella, Managing Editor

Cameron Carlson, Assistant Editor

Student Athlete Profile: Caroline Apathy '21

Sarah Rothmann, Editor in Chief

Caroline Apathy '21, a sophomore from Devon, PA on Bates' swim and dive team, has been on campus for a little over a year and a half and has already seen the Division III NCAA stage and squashed program records. During her first season as a Bates swimmer, she earned five All-America honors at the 2018 NCAA Championships where she also broke the 200-yard medley relay record with a time of 1:43.86. While her main events are the fly and free, she has proven a versatile competitor in several different events, ranking in the top 20-all time at Bates in the following: 50-yard butterfly, 200yard medley relay, 100-yard butterfly, 400-yard freestyle relay, 200-yard freestyle relay, 400-yard medley relay, 100-yard freestyle, 100-yard backstroke, 200-yard butterfly, and 200-yard freestyle. Given that she has already accomplished feats several athletes work their entire Bates career to meet, Apathy has definitely set herself apart and has an exciting future on the rise.

Apathy has been swimming competitively since she was 7 years old. When looking at colleges, she knew that she wanted to commit to four more years of swimming at a school with a small class setting and liberal arts education. When reflecting back to her ultimate decision, Apathy remarked: "Bates College was the perfect place for me to continue my swimming career while also competing at a competitive, but fun, place where

I could be surrounded by people who share a similar love of the sport."

After taking a step back from swimming during senior year of high school, Apathy was unsure of what her first year as a collegiate swimmer would bring. By trusting her talent and persevering through the tougher training schedule, her expectations were surpassed beyond her belief. "I had no expectations for what was going to happen [my] freshmen year," Apathy said. "I just wanted to score points for the team and swim to the best of my ability. I just let my training do the talking at NESCACS and NCAAs and luckily I got my personal bests."

Apathy has used her freshman successes as, in her words, "a trial run." "Sophomore year is when you can take what you did before and actually put it to use and take advantage of it," she said. This has definitely rung true for Apathy as she was recently crowned the NESCAC champ in the 100-yard butterfly with a Bates record breaking time of 54.54 seconds after placing second in the 50 fly the previous day. "NESCACs is a time for our women's team to show our strength in the conference and be the best that we can be," Apathy said. "I may forget details of other dual meets throughout the year, but I never forget the excitement and swimming that happens at NESCACs." "I knew I wanted to win either the 50 fly or 100 fly at NESCACs and go a low 23 for the 50 free, but I

never voiced this goals again throughout the year (besides them being in the back of my head as I trained) because I didn't want to be disappointed if none of them happened," Apathy continued. "I still can't believe I won the 100 and I went a 22.9 in the 50 free on the 200-free relay, I didn't realize going into Wesleyan that I was going to have one of the best meets of my life. It really showed me that anything can happen when you put your mind and body into your training and believe/know that you can go that fast."

Her season has yet to end at NESCACs; Apathy will also be making several appearances at this year's NCAA Division III Championships, to be held Mar. 20-23 at the Greensboro Aquatic Center in Greensboro, N.C. Apathy is the no. 1 seed in the 100-yard butterfly, 36th in the 100yard freestyle, 53rd in the 50-freestyle and 14th seed in the 400-medley relay.

"My plan is to succeed in accomplishing day two of competition, for I am swimming four 100 flys in one day. I just hope to go faster in my races and to have the best time with eight of my friends at a really nice pool," Apathy said. "It's a different atmosphere and can get intense at times, but I just hope that I can finally finish out the season on a high note. You can't control how fast your other competitors are going to go and you can't control how you'll feel after a race, so you might as well not worry and try your best."

Sports Update Feb. 13 - Mar. 5

Baseball (1-4, 0-0 NESCAC)

- Feb. 19: Augustana, L 6-4
- Feb. 20: Augustana, L 11-8
- Feb. 21: Augustana, L 10-3
- Feb. 22: Augustana, L 6-4
- Feb. 23: Capital, W 12-3

Men's Lacrosse (2-1, 1-0 NESCAC)

Feb. 23: Rochester Institute, L 14-12

Feb. 27: Babson, W 10-9

Mar. 3: Middlebury, W 17-10

Women's Lacrosse (3-0, 1-0 NESCAC)

Feb. 21: Cabrini, W 20-12

Feb. 27: Wheaton, W 16-3

Mar. 2: Middlebury, W 11-10 (Go Bobcats!!)

Softball (1-5, 0-0 NESCAC)

Mar. 3: Eastern Nazarene, L 5-4

Defiance, L 3-0

Mar. 4: Otterbein, L 4-1

DeSales, L 9-1

Mar. 5: Trine, L 14,2

John Carroll, W 4-1

Men's Squash (11-9 Overall)

Feb. 15: MIT, L 6-3

Feb. 16: Tufts, W 9-0

Feb. 17: Amherst, W, 6-3

CSA Nationals Final: 21st

Women's Squash (13-8 Overall)

Feb. 22: Hamilton, W 9-0

Feb. 23: Dickinson, W, 9-0

Feb. 24: Tufts, W 6-3

CSA Nationals Final: 17th

Women's Swim & Dive

Feb. 14-17: NESCAC Championship, 4th/11

Mens's Swim & Dive

Feb. 21-24: NESCAC Championship, 5th/11

Women's Track & Field

Feb. 22: NE Div. III Championships, 10th/26

Men's Track & Field

Feb. 22: NE Div. III Championships, 8th/23



