

Bates College

**SCARAB**

---

The Bates Student

Archives and Special Collections

---

4-3-2019

**The Bates Student - volume 149 number 11 - April 3, 2019**

Bates College

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

---

Troy '22 covers the fourth consecutive win over Williams for women's lacrosse

Sports Page XI



Crimmins '19 reviews Bates' Spring Dance Concert

Arts Page IX



Perrone '19 reports on Dr. Barbara Ransby's MLK Keynote Address

News Page III



Vol. 149, Issue 11

April 3, 2019

Sarah Rothmann, Editor-in-Chief

# The Bates Student

est. 1873

## Gamelan Ensemble Combines Tradition with Modernity

Pippin Evarts, Assistant Arts & Leisure Editor

Before last Thursday, I had never experienced a gamelan performance before. In fact I didn't even know what "gamelan" was. I walked into the Olin Arts Center having no idea what to expect and left the theater in complete awe. During their performance on Thursday, Mar. 28, the Bates Gamelan Ensemble performed traditional Sundanese music as well as contemporary works with guest violinist Emilie-Anne Gendron.

"Gamelan" is the generic Indonesian term for set of musical instruments, but the word as its usually used refers to a traditional ensemble comprising of mainly bronze metallophones, instruments with metal "keys" suspended over resonators and horizontal "gong-chimes", and vertically hanging gongs. In addition to these instruments, gamelan ensembles typically include bowed lutes called rebab, plucked zither called celempung or siter (depending on the size) and bamboo flutes.

Gamelan began to be introduced to U.S colleges in the mid-twentieth century; UCLA and Wesleyan University were pioneers in creating

some of the first gamelan programs in higher education. Bates houses the only gamelan ensemble in the state of Maine. Bates even has a Central Javanese gamelan, named Mawar Mekar ("Blossom of Inspiration"), which was purchased by the college in 2001.

I was incredibly impressed by the

incredibly enjoyable and beautiful to listen to. Beginning with "Homage to Pacifica," written by Lou Harrison, the players worked in unison to create soft, light music that cast the audience into a spell. After the opening piece, the audience listened to traditional Sundanese gamelan music with a

to traditional Sundanese before more modern works really helped me to see how gamelan music has changed over time.

My favorite piece was "Transformation," which was written by Frank Carlberg last year. I saw many modern traditions within the piece.

board. After the first two pieces, the audience was treated to "Sycamore Canyon, Mvt III" from "Concerto for Violin and Gamelan," a modern piece written in 2008, before the ensemble closed the performance with "Gonjing Miring," which is a traditional Sundanese piece.

Seeing and listening to the Bates Gamelan Ensemble was a lovely experience. It was great to experience the work of my fellow classmates who created amazing ensembles using traditional Indonesian musical instruments. Throughout the entirety of the performance, I was enthralled in the overlaying of different musical sounds and how they all came together to create one harmonious melody. My only qualm was that I wish the performance was longer!

It is so incredibly special that Bates houses the only gamelan instruments in the state of Maine and that we have the ability to see or be a part of performances like these on our own college campus. I hope to attend many more gamelan performances in the future.



The Olin Arts Center hosts the Bates Gamelan Ensemble on Thursday, Mar. 18, 2019. JAMES MACDONALD/BATES STUDENT

level of detail and rhythmic abilities of the performers. Each performer played a different instrument and the layering of multiple sounds from multiple different instruments was

peice called "Gunungsari," which was drawn from the traditional repertoire of the Sundanese people, an ethnic group occupying the western third of the island of Java. Being able to listen

When creating this song, Carlberg sought to adapt features from Mary Lou Williams, an American jazz pianist, arranger and composer who was known as the first lady of the jazz key-

## Mount David Summit Shines Light On Student Scholars

Madeline Polkinghorn, Assistant News Editor

The annual Mount David Summit allows Bates students—particularly seniors who have completed their theses—to present research, academic, and artistic work to the Bates community at large. This Friday, Pettengill was teeming with students, parents, and faculty members trying to catch a glance at the numerous posters designed by students presenting their research.

One senior, Kristine Zengeler '19, presented a poster from a long-term lab project entitled "Targeting DNA Methylation to Treat Intellectual Disability." "I work in Andrew Kennedy's lab, who's in the research department," Zengeler said. "DNA is what all our cells built off of, and it can actually be modified. So, you can add what's called a methyl group, which is just a carbon with three hydrogens, to pieces of DNA and that alters which proteins a cell makes." The process of DNA methylation, Zengeler revealed, had promising results for the treatment of intellectual disability among mice subjects. "We are able to rescue a deficit in long term memory in a model of intellectual disability. So we have mice in the lab that have Pitt Hopkins syndrome, which is a rare intellectual disability, and

one of their characteristic phenotypes is having basically no ability to form short term or long term memories...And through manipulating DNA in these mice, we were able to essentially rescue their long term memory ability." Zengeler's research is demonstrative of the enormous impact undergraduate research may have on future scientific breakthroughs.

One particularly popular poster was developed from the thesis of Edward James '19, who embarked on a project entitled "Examining Addictive and Social Aspects of Juuling at Bates College." For those unaware, "Juuling" refers to the usage of the nicotine-infused e-cigarette developed by Juul Labs, whose flavors like mango and creme brulee have become astronomically popular with young people.

The advertising methods of the company, which frequently include images of young models, have been scrutinized by the FDA, and the company stopped selling Mango pods in retail stores due to the popularity of the flavor among young people. The lack of tobacco in the product, however, makes them subject to fewer of the advertising regulations of actual cigarettes. Juuling, according to James,

is a "brand new topic that really hasn't been studied that much, especially within the context of public health and where we're going to be going in the next couple years." In a survey of 224 students (109 of which admitted to Juuling at some point), James questioned Batesies about their Juul usage. He used a "hooked on nicotine" checklist (the checklist asks questions about nicotine-seeking behavior, like "Have you ever felt like you really needed to Juul?" and is frequently used for assessing addiction to regular cigarettes) to gain a sense of Juul dependency on the campus. James' research yielded several interesting results. Firstly, his study found no meaningful difference between genders with regard to Juul usage. His study also noted that 25% of Juul users admitted to using the product multiple times a day, and another 10% at least daily.

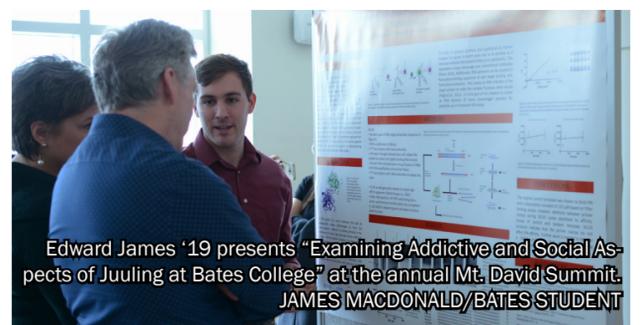
What's more, the "hooked on nicotine" checklist showed a strong correlation between the length of time Juul users were able to quit and how many questions on the checklist they answered positively. On average, those who answered yes to more questions on the checklist were not able to quit for as long as those who answered yes to fewer questions. Like Zengel-

er's study, James' research serves as a tremendously useful jumping off point for future research in the field. "In the future," James argued, "I think [researchers] should look at Juul usage alongside other substances... my study asks participants about what context they were using the Juul in, and a lot of them mentioned at parties, and in environments where alcohol or marijuana were also in co-usage." Possible links between other substances and Juuling may provide crucial information about usage of the product as a whole.

Beyond the research itself, participants in and attendees of the Mount David Summit were in agreement that the summit is a helpful platform for showcasing undergraduate research. Ellie

Vance '21 remarked that attending the Mount David Summit was a useful way to generate ideas about possible senior research. "I know a couple seniors, and I've heard them sort of mention what they're studying. And as a sophomore who will eventually be a senior—fingers crossed—it's interesting to think about avenues of research."

Physics and astronomy professor Aleks Diamond-Stanic, who served as a senior thesis advisor, affirmed that the Summit was an effective way to publicly synthesize senior research: "It's been a great opportunity for them to present their work to an audience that's curious and excited, and the vibe of Mount David is always fun because of that."



Edward James '19 presents "Examining Addictive and Social Aspects of Juuling at Bates College" at the annual Mt. David Summit. JAMES MACDONALD/BATES STUDENT

# Bates “Plague” Sends Nearly 100 to Health Services

Vanessa Paoella, Managing Sports Editor

Rumors have circulated Bates this past week about the sudden aggressive illness which affected a significant portion of the student body last week. Health Services has confirmed that this outbreak was the result of a highly-contagious gastrointestinal (GI) virus.

While contagious illnesses are nothing new on college campuses, especially one as small as Bates, this virus hit hard with little notice. The GI virus peaked last Monday night into Tuesday with numerous students suddenly falling ill. It continued to affect a smaller number of students later in the week.

“I think this outbreak was most surprising because we’ve had norovirus on campus, but [it has] never [hit] so many people, so severely, and all at once,” Wendy Memishian ’19 said.

The Health Center serves an average total of 20-30 students each

day, both walk-ins and appointments. Between Tuesday morning and Thursday afternoon, Health Services saw nearly 100 confirmed cases of the virus. This is just the number of students who visited the Health Center: the true number of students who contracted the virus is surely much higher.

Since the GI bug hit, Bateses have speculated a variety of causes. One of the most popular insists that this sudden illness was the result of food poisoning, either from Gala or from Commons. However, Health Services was quick to debunk this rumor.

“There were a lot of people who knew it was the romaine lettuce and knew it was the vegan bar and knew it was the lobster from Gala—we didn’t see any trends like that,” Abigail Alfred, Manager of Outreach and Support Services at Health Services, said. “There was no clear thing that every-

body ate, so our medical provider ruled out foodborne illness quickly.”

Health Services has confirmed that this illness is undoubtedly contagious.

“There were so many rumors because I think people wanted to feel like they knew what was going on so they could prevent it,” Memishian said. “That was the scary part, not knowing if you were about to be the next victim of the mysterious illness.”

Professor of Biology Karen Palin, Ph.D. explained how an investigation would look if the illness was suspected to be the result of food poisoning.

“To conclude that an illness is foodborne...we would look for biological evidence that the microbe was in the food. The second part of this would involve [talking] with those affected to get a food history of what every person who might have come into contact with the suspected agent

eaten or drunk...We could do an investigation of this sort because Commons saves and stores samples of all food prepared and served for three days. Do we need to in this situation? No.”

The Center for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) states that GI viruses are a type of Norovirus which are extremely contagious, spreading through vomit and fecal matter. Common symptoms are diarrhea, vomiting, nausea and stomach pain lasting for up to 48 hours.

“I suspect that people being in close contact, like at parties, especially at this point in the semester when stress is high and sleep is at a minimum, is a contributing factor,” Professor Palin said. Without knowing the exact details, she hypothesized that this outbreak was likely caused by a single or few people who brought the virus to campus.

“Individuals who are infected

shed literally billions of virus particles in feces and vomit. These particles can be aerosolized, landing on plates, floors, toilet seats, tissues, towels, hands, skin, computers, cell phones, copy machines, everywhere. One only needs to come into contact with 10-100 viral particles to be infected.”

She continued to explain that the norovirus can remain in the environment for a relatively long period of time and is not inactivated with hand sanitizer. Thorough hand washing, she insists, is the best preventative for contracting contagious viruses.

Alfred stated that outbreaks like this are not uncommon on college campuses and Health Services was never overly concerned. While she said that some students were brought to the hospital last week, she was unaware of whether these cases were related to the GI virus.

## Sustainable Beanie

Dear Sustainable Beanie,

I have gone all year without waste bins and have become super frustrated constantly walking to the common room. I live right next to it but as I want to divide my waste for recycling and trash I don't want to risk putting trash in the recycling just because I am too lazy to sort my bucket at the end of the week. Is there a way I can get waste bins for my own room?

Sincerely,

—Bin-Needer

Dear Bin-Needer,

Thank you for your inquiry! This is a great question and you are not the only student who has dealt with this.

Unfortunately, not all rooms are placed with a recycling and trash bin. Some have one and not the other and some have none at all. This is just a mistake—it is not at all that there aren't enough bins! In order to get the right bins in your room, you just have to fill out this google

form: <https://forms.gle/izTQ1xMQ43HomxzX7>.

We appreciate you asking because it is extremely important not only for all students to have bins in their room for convenience but, as you said, to further ensure that our waste is being sorted.

In our last waste audit, we found that 70% of the waste placed in the trash in one of our dorms should have been put in recycling or compost. If more students have the bins in their room to sort things right away, we hope that less waste will be misplaced.

Thank you for asking this important question and being invested in sustainability on campus!



## Cigarettes, INC!

Margy Schueler, Staff Writer

The evening of Thursday, Mar. 28 marked the third installment of the “What is American Studies?” series. The Bates community in PGill G65 was joined by Nan Enstad, the Robinson Edwards Professor of History at the University of Wisconsin, Madison. Enstad’s lecture, “Cigarettes INC!” focused on her recently published book of the same name, *Cigarettes, Inc. An Intimate History of Corporate Imperialism*.

Enstad uses the example of the American Tobacco Company’s (ATC) merge with the Imperial Tobacco Company into British-American Tobacco (BAT) and specifically their early 1900s venture in China to interrogate corporate imperialism. In her talk Enstad sought to flip the conventional story of capitalist change, and suggested that cross-cultural interactions were responsible for producing all levels of corporate life in the beginning of the 20th century. Enstad came to this realization while conducting research of tobacco in the upper South, where she discovered, “The white guys, their white-dominated companies, along with a white-oriented political economy, and a white-centered foreign policy took over the story [of the global tobacco corporations].”

Enstad’s solution to this one-sided representation was to use her research skills from her history PhD and degree in American Studies from the University of Minnesota to dive further into the story. Enstad noted, “I saw and still

see History and American Studies as a liberation practice that can transform society’s optics on the true nature of power and who matters, and where is this more necessary than in the history of capitalism?”

The first actor in Enstad’s story of the cigarette corporation rise to power is bright leaf tobacco. Bright leaf tobacco developed under slavery in the 1850s as a new variety of tobacco, becoming a lucrative commodity. Bright leaf tobacco, unlike other types of tobacco, grew on sandy land, transforming formerly useless land into valuable holdings. This land, since it had previously been unusable, did not have a history of slavery, which meant newly freed African Americans thought that there would be no obstacles for them to enter the business of bright leaf cultivation. However, “Whites worked hard to make sure blacks’ necessary skills did not translate into upward mobility.” They did this by creating the KKK, widespread assassinations, and keeping blacks from the bottom rungs of the corporate ladder. “It wasn’t just a reflection of Jim Crow, it was the production of Jim Crow,” said Enstad.

The ATC saw large economic returns in the United States, and expanded overseas. During BAT’s venture in China. Southerners used Jim Crow segregation to structure their corporation, even though they were far from home. The problem for them was that they could not close out Chinese workers the same way they had done blacks

because they required their skills for translation and otherwise. The white Southerners implemented Jim Crow segregation in the corporate home in China to combat their problem. The Gregory household is one example Enstad used to demonstrate this concept.

Gregory had a business job in the agriculture sector of BAT China. Gregory and his wife hosted weekly Sunday morning breakfasts where they trained their Chinese servants to cook southern fare. These breakfasts were exclusive events, to which only the white Southerners were invited, “The home acted as a sieve, screening out Chinese-ness from the families and the corporation’s central social activities, even when Chinese servants were present at all hours.” Enstad used this example to show that implementation of Jim Crow segregation stemmed from the individual household.

White men dominating global corporations was not a natural process, but an intentional one. Cigarette corporations can be used to demonstrate this principal. Enstad concluded the talk with this message, “People made and make the corporation, and make value at every level.”

The last of the “What is American Studies?” series will feature William Cheng from Dartmouth College, who will be coming to Bates during Short Term.

## BCF Prepares For Record Year of Meal Packing

Hermione Zhou, Contributing Writer

For the last five years, students from the Bates Christian Fellowship have teamed up with Bates Multifaith Chaplaincy and Grace Lutheran Church in Auburn to host the LA Interfaith Outreach Meal Packing event at Chase Hall. “The Outreach Program is a non-profit 501 (c)(3) corporation that organizes food-packaging events around the country.

With more than 330 million meals packaged to date, the organization’s mission is to provide safe water, food, medical care and edu-

cation to those in need, at home and abroad.”\*

In April of 2018, 110 students and community members gathered to pack Cinnamon Apple Oatmeal, Minestrone Soup and Beans & Rice. At the end of three hours, 154 cases of protein-enriched food were ready to go out to 20 food pantries and 6 school backpack programs in Central Maine.

That represents enough food to feed 33,000 people. To accomplish this, students helped to raise over \$8000 to purchase the prod-

ucts needed to pack the meals.

This year, the event is scheduled for Sunday, April 28 at Chase Hall beginning at 1pm. All are welcome to come and help pack. It’s a great experience and once you’ve done it...you’ll be hooked and looking forward to the next event.

How you can help:

-Donate to the event by using your Venmo account and paying to Bates-Grace-Packing.

-Go to the Grace Lutheran link below and click on ‘Donate

Now’, then select Meal Packing/ Outreach.

<http://www.graceauburnmaine.com/page/180019389/180102545/Stewardship-and-General-Giving>

If you’d like to pack with us on April 28th, we’d love to have you with us. You don’t have to stay for the entire event, but select whatever shifts work for you. Use the link below or look for us in the Commons tabling area for the rest of this semester: <https://tinyurl.com/>

BatesMealPacking2019

\*Taken from the Outreach Program Webpage <https://outreachprogram.org/about/our-mission/>



Christina Perrone, Managing News Editor

Madeline Polkinghorn, Assistant News Editor

# “Strong People Don’t Need a Strong Leader”

*Dr. Barbara Ransby’s MLK Day Keynote*

**Christina Perrone, Managing News Editor**

After a snow delay prevented her from coming on MLK Day, historian and scholar activist Dr. Barbara Ransby of Illinois University came to Bates on Mar. 25 to deliver her keynote speech, “Intersectional Feminist Praxis in the Black Freedom Movement from Ella Baker to Black Lives Matter.”

To introduce Ransby, Politics Professor Leslie Hill talked about Ransby’s contribution to her field and her exemplification of what a scholar activist should be. “Scholarly activism is not advocacy,” said Hill. “The difference is critical...A scholar activist begins with questions, testable assumptions, then subjects these to rigorous research, and once in possession of research findings seeks to translate those findings into action and constructive frameworks and methods for work on the ground. Scholar activists theorize and engage directly with practical problems and efforts to improve the world.”

After Hill’s introduction, Ransby came to the podium and gave three intentions for her speech. One of her intentions was to talk about intersectionality, another was to talk about Ella Baker, and finally she wanted to talk about her recent work on Movement for Black Lives. Per Ransby, “I want to wrestle with the challenges of this moment and I want to rely on the past to help us make sense of the present, and to provoke us to reimagine a better, elected future. In my talk tonight, I’m going to give you reasons to worry—and I’m a serious worrier, and in these times I need help—but I hopefully will also give you some cause for optimism”

In midst of the current turmoil in the country, Ransby considers herself to be a struggling optimist. She stressed that now more than ever, we have the chance to change the course of history: “For one, we have to name the moment we’re in, and if anything I’ve learned as a historian, is that we have the challenge of every historical moment that we are privileged to live in. The choices we make, the things we do and don’t do in those moments are the stuff of history. It’s not the generals, and the geniuses, and the presidents, it is us, people like us, who either name what we see before us, or look the other way.”

The first section of Ransby’s speech addressed intersectionality, a term she deems to be “a rockstar” in our political lexicon: “One notion of intersectionality is grounded in individual identity and identity politics.” This theory, termed by academic and lawyer Kimberlé Crenshaw highlights the fact that none of us are ever a single identity at any given moment, instead, it promotes the claim that the identities that make each person interact and mediate each other. Ransby believes this to be a holistic approach to the struggle for justice, as it searches for the root causes of oppression and seeks transformative change rather than cosmetic repairs. With intersectionality as an approach, individuals can come together and affirm that “we can be united and in solidarity without glossing over our differences.”

After spending 15 years of her life researching and writing about Ella Baker, Ransby believes that Baker embodied intersectionality in her

approach to political organizing before there was a term for it. As one of the most influential political organizers of the 20th century, Baker was involved in, “virtually every phase of the Civil Rights and Black Freedom Movements in this country as well as human rights and labor struggles,” said Ransby.

Baker took pride in and was amused by being labelled a “difficult woman” by her colleagues, which she earned by demanding more inclusion, democracy and accountability in the institutions that employed her. Baker is most known for founding the Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee (SNCC), which was one of the biggest organizations of the Civil Rights Movement that worked to organize freedom rides and freedom schools in the American South. According to Ransby, “[Baker] was an ally and a critic of Dr. King; they had different notions of leadership. Dr. King said that ‘leadership flows from the pulpit to the pew’ and for Ella Baker it was precisely the opposite.”

Ransby describes Ella Baker as a radical, and her views on racism and poverty as being foundational of the system we live in. Baker is known for her maxim “Strong people don’t need a strong leader.” For to Ransby, Baker, more than anyone, understood that history and social change happen in the decisions made by the people. Indeed, one of the most important takeaways from Baker’s legacy was the importance of bringing the concerns of the most marginalized sectors of any community to the center of movements for change. For Ransby, this means that “people



Dr. Ransby emphasizes the importance of intersectionality in political organizing. JAMES MACDONALD/BATES STUDENT

should not have to comport to middle class standards of respectability in order to have their rights protected or their voices heard.”

The last section of Ransby’s speech focused on how the current Movement for Black Lives embraces Baker’s commitment to coalition and her rejection of the politics of respectability. One critical characteristic of this movement has been leadership for Ransby: “They were initially pretty harshly criticized for being a leaderless movement, and Patrisse Khan-Cullors, one of the founders of Black Lives Matter, now Black Lives Matter Global Network, responded by saying, ‘We are not a leaderless movement, we are a leaderful movement.’ That is classic Ella Baker, this idea that you compromise when you invest in a single leader rather than strengthening and enriching the leadership base.”

The second critical characteristic of the Movement for Black Lives

that distinguishes it as unique is its intersectional holistic approach to representation. Per Ransby, “[W]hat this movement has said is something very different. It intervened in a discourse that was increasingly re-embracing the politics of respectability. Barack Obama gave a very famous speech at Morehouse in which he told young black men to clean up their act, to behave better, to carry themselves in a certain kind of way, and that that was a real key to racial progress.” This movement holds that behavior should not be cause for a death sentence or be a barrier for upholding one’s civil rights.

Ransby’s keynote was emblematic of this year’s MLK Day theme of “Lifting Every Voice: Intersectionality and Activism” in that it stressed the importance of intersectional practice as a visionary force for transformative change that seeks to uproot the systemic injustices held in this country.

# Street Explains the Difference Between “Me” and “Not Me”

**Christina Perrone, Managing News Editor**

On Thursday March 28th, Dr. Sharon Street of New York University came to campus to give a talk on metaethics, titled: “On Recognizing Oneself in Others: A Meditation-Based Response to Mackie’s Argument from Queerness.” In her talk, Street gleaned insights from Eastern Meditative traditions that emphasize the thin separations between the self and others to provide a plausible alternative to the idea of objective values.

Per Street, the idea of objective values is the idea that there are truths independent of what people happen to care about that are about how we should live. To exemplify a situation which brings this idea into conflict, Street gave the example of Victoria, an injured hiker who has broken her leg. In Victoria’s vicinity, there is the caring Karyn who desires to help, Serena who has no desire to help and walks away, and Sadie who is amused by Victoria’s pain and wants to make it worse. “If you’re an objectivist,” said Street, “Serena and Sadie—there’s something they are missing. They should not live like that and they are failing to see how they should live...Part of the idea does seem to be that if they could see the way they should live, they would

stop and help.”

However, antirealists like J.L. Mackie have stated that this objectivist view is absurd: how could there be things that are true and independent from us and yet get us to do things? Street’s response is that it isn’t such a weird thing. She explains her view with “self-locating beliefs”—familiar everyday beliefs and linguistic expressions that have that suggest we often make mistakes in differentiating ourselves from others.

One such example of a self-locating belief is one philosopher John Perry gives, when one is in a supermarket and notices a thick trail of sugar on the floor. That person may be motivated to find whoever is making that mess to be aware, but it soon dawns on that person that she or he is the one leaving the trail of sugar and immediately thereafter, their motivations will change to cleaning up the mess they made on the floor.

Street continued, saying “It’s here that Eastern Traditions in my view are relevant...So what if the following became true? What if Sadie came to realize the following about her location: she is located just as much in Victoria as she is in Sadie? and also in Karyn and also in Serena,

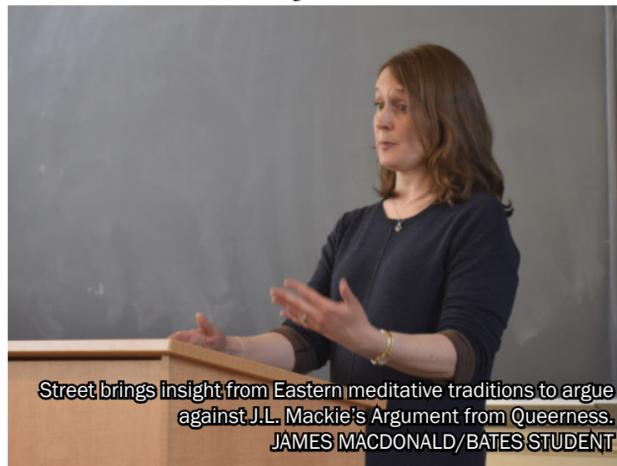
and also in every other consciously aware being who has ever lived or will live?” While this argument may seem absurd, Street urges that it would be wrong to dismiss it so quickly. To illustrate her point, she showed an optical illusion in which by focusing on one point in the image, the viewer will see a young woman looking away, and by looking at another point, the viewer will see an old woman.

“So what I want to suggest is that just as these figures may be seen in at least two ways, so too the world as a whole may be seen in at least two ways when it comes to one’s own location, in other words, with respect to where, when, and who I am,” claimed Street. In our everyday state of mind, the world presents a robust distinction between what is “me” and what isn’t. Street then said that in another sense, this division is an illusion, as the Buddha once claimed we learn when we meditate. Street calls this view the standpoint of pure awareness: “The idea is that the structure is sort of awareness, and all that other stuff—my body, the stream of consciousness, pain sensations, these thoughts, feelings, et cetera—they’re objects of attention as are other things in the so-called

outer world.” Now, as Street argues, the “I” should be seen as a presence of awareness, which, if true, means that Sadie is as much in Victoria as she is in Sadie, since they both have awareness present. Street argues that from our everyday mode of presentation—things that are “me” and “not me”—we can shift the mode of presentation to see this quality of “I” in others.

So how does this insight connect back with ethical objectivity? “So, recall the objectivist thought,” said Street, “that there’s something

that Serena and Sadie are failing to see... [O]n the picture being suggested, ethical insight isn’t a matter of detecting an extra property that others are somehow failing to see, but rather a matter of seeing clearly that there isn’t a difference where one might have thought there was one.” Rather than positing this “metaphysically weird” extra property, “It’s a matter of looking into the eyes of others and recognizing oneself as right there, and having been there all along.”



Street brings insight from Eastern meditative traditions to argue against J.L. Mackie’s Argument from Queerness. JAMES MACDONALD/BATES STUDENT

# A Student Government Update

**Emily Bass, Staff Writer**

In the final weeks of Student Government for the 2018-2019 academic year, Walter Washington ‘19 and Myles Smith ‘19 are preparing to pass the torch as Student Government President and Vice President to Ryan Lizanecz ‘20 and Lebanos Mengistu ‘21.

Student Government has been making plans throughout the year to reform the structure of our organization, which will be a continuous discussion for us throughout short term.

At our second to last meeting on Mar. 27, we discussed several

exciting plans to close out the year. Student Government has been partnering with local businesses to create student discount programs, with restaurants like Cow Bell, Break, Forage, Lewiston House of Pizza and IHOP included. Look out for more information on this

in the coming weeks!

We are also looking into providing more storage and organization spaces in dorms for personal items like shoes.

Student Government is one of the main student organizations involved in the planning of the

dodgeball tournament to benefit Farwell Elementary School’s food drive. Look out for us tabling in Commons, where you can donate to the event or sign up to participate, over the next few weeks!



## Stand with Israel, and Criticize it Too

Nick Morgoshia, Assistant Forum Editor

When Rep. Ilhan Omar (D-MN5) suggested that taking a pro-Israeli stance smacked of foreign allegiance, an army of politicians from across the aisle leaped to condemn her poorly phrased and flagrantly insensitive remarks. And rightfully so. In a world where the ghost of anti-Semitism knows no boundaries, it is only natural that conversations about the historically persecuted Jewish diaspora warrant tact and thoughtfulness.

At the same time, I could not help but identify an unlikely ideological ally in Sen. Bernie Sanders (I-VT), who had warned against using Omar's statement as a tool of stifling the debate around US-Israel relationship. Open discussion is an open discussion and, while exercising heightened decorum with our words is always a good idea, nobody should be above criticism.

To me, the burgeoning progressive notion that Israel is a neo-apartheid state and Uncle Sam's imperial outpost belongs in the same ash heap of imbecilic rhetoric as Representative Omar's off-color comments. Israel is not an

"outpost" of Western imperialism. It is an oasis of Western-style democracy, freedom, and tolerance in the milieu of Middle Eastern politics. At a time when many of Israel's neighbors 'serve justice' by sentencing their LGBT citizens to death, the City of Tel Aviv flies rainbow flags high and proud. While thousands of Christians and Jews across the Middle East fear for their lives, Jerusalem welcomes worshippers from all denominations of these religions. As Hamas-controlled Palestine continues to turn a blind eye to terrorists and their abettors within the Gaza Strip, some compassionate Israeli doctors respond by providing care to injured Arab children.

But Israel's moral superiority should not afford its government a geopolitical carte blanche, let alone immunity from criticism. Quite the opposite: we should hold Israel to a higher standard, not in spite of, but because of the fact that it is America's invaluable ideological and strategic partner. Distinguishing our solidarity with the Israeli people from our concern for Prime Minister Netanyahu's self-righteous

political maneuvers is the first step.

Over the past few years, Netanyahu has repeatedly engaged in conduct unbecoming of a US ally. When Republicans invited him to address a joint session of Congress in 2015, Netanyahu gladly obliged, refusing to show a modicum of respect for President Obama who, fairly or not, claimed the visit would derail the US-led Iran nuclear negotiations. Netanyahu ended up speaking to a half-empty Congress, using the honor extended to a select few heads of state to sow division in our domestic politics.

A vehement critic of the Obama foreign policy myself—in no small part due to its repeated sidelining of Israel and multiple fiascos in that country's immediate neighborhood—I also happen to believe that partisan politics ought to stop at the water's edge. By making no attempt to hide his preference for the Republican Party, Netanyahu makes it seem as though friendship between our two nations only extends to one part of the American society. By peddling regulatory favors to media outlets in exchange for positive coverage,

Netanyahu both tarnishes his country's pluralistic credentials and interferes with the US endeavor to present Israel as a fair and transparent system that aspiring democracies should emulate. By crafting secret deals with Putin over Syria, Netanyahu kowtows to a man who lives and breathes the demise of American leadership.

Netanyahu closed his speech to the 2019 AIPAC conference with "May God bless America and may God bless Israel." May God also bless political sanity, good faith alliances, and our ability to engage in a constructive discussion without offending each other.



**WE'RE NOW ON INSTAGRAM!**

@thebatesstudent

## Interracial Relationships: It's Complicated

Kyle Larry, Assistant Forum Editor

By now, I am confident that everyone has seen Jordan Peele's *Get Out*. Outside of the film insinuating that being in an interracial relationship could lead you to imminent death with your organs being implanted into white people, it was a realistic take on how controversial engaging in an interracial relationship can be. Today, many people are skeptical about interracial relationships because of both the oversexualization of black people and the connotation of white people as the status mark of "making it."

When it comes to the oversexualization of black people, it's often said that, "once you go black, you'll never go back." This should already be enough of an explanation as to why I think black people are oversexualized, but I'll

go a little deeper. Black men are usually sought after because media has portrayed them as having a larger penis than men in other racial groups, which makes them a target for white women who want to be more sexually adventurous. Black women, generally, are thought to have larger breasts and butts than women from other racial groups, which attracts white men who also want to be sexually adventurous.

Both parties are used as sex objects rather than treated like human beings. In some of these interracial relationships, black people are used for pleasing their partners only to be thrown away later, as if they're on par with sex toys. Some of the white people in these interracial relationships don't care if their partners have dignity, they only care about being pleased

sexually and the social gratification they get for being with someone from a sexually-exploited identity.

White people are also objectified in the sense that black people see them as a sign of political and social advancement. White women have this trope of being a "trophy," meaning that when a black man becomes successful, he marries a white woman to be seen as competent, a trend that is especially common in sports culture. After scoring major deals in their contracts, many black athletes will marry white women to be seen as more appealing because of negative stigmas about black women being loud and aggressive spouses. Not only do they marry white women, but they marry white women who appropriate black features. Instead of holding white people

accountable for ridiculing black women for their body types, black men are letting them emulate the same features when it's convenient for them. In the same vein, white men are seen as powerful due to their white privilege. White men provide social and financial stability because, unlike people of color, they aren't targeted on a daily basis for their race. Many have also acquired generational wealth due to the disenfranchisement and exploitation of other groups. For me, when I think about the pedestal some black people put white people on, it's pretty unsettling. I see us as not viewing our own culture as capable of being professional or having the ability to acquire wealth.

Now, I know it seems like I don't believe in interracial coupling, but I do. I believe that you can be in

an interracial relationship, as long as there is no ulterior motive behind it. And you will know if it is. If the white person in the relationship can speak on black issues eloquently and believes in the social, political, and economic advancement of black people, then interracial coupling is fine. To the same token, as long as black people can respect their culture and educate their white counterpart about their race, then it's fine. I believe that interracial relationships are lovely as long as the two individuals respect each other and the cultures they come from.

**CHECK OUT OUR WEBSITE**

[www.thebatesstudent.com](http://www.thebatesstudent.com)

# In Whom Do We Trust? Lost Amidst an Electronic Smokescreen

Miles Nabritt, Staff Writer

Sometimes things just don't work out as planned. For a lot of people in this country, experiencing the presidential leadership of Donald Trump has been less than inspiring and wholesome. From his aggressive political rallies to his confrontational rhetoric on national television to everything that he symbolizes, Donald Trump has been involved in controversy from Day 1. For a while now, there seems to have been one hope to really impede the Administration's credibility: Special Counsel investigator Robert Mueller's probe. However, as of last week, Mueller's teams have concluded their two-year long investigation, which was designed to analyze Russian collusion in the 2016 presidential election. This two-year long probe has been used to vilify President Trump as many Democratic politicians, political analysts, and many voters believed that there was some kind of collusion with Russian government officials. However, in recent days, Mr. Mueller revealed that he had found no substantial evidence connecting President Trump or his administration to Russian interference in the 2016 election.

For President Trump and his surrogates, Mueller's anti-climactic results came as a relief, while for others, it resulted in bewilderment and frustration. This two-year long investigation took a lot of components and effort to get off the ground, including support from Deputy Attorney General Rod Rosenstein and the current Attorney General William P. Barr. With both these men and Mueller invested in this federal investigation, many people expected there to be some kind of substantial evidence against Trump. The reality that the Mueller investigation found no damning proof has resulted in resounding support for Trump and his administration amongst Republicans. In a public interview on Thursday, President Trump boldly stated that, "this is good" and that his suspected collusion was, "the most ridiculous thing that I ever heard." Trump seems to be as

resilient and determined as ever to prove to the American people his willingness to be a president with no fear.

However, Mueller's probe did not stop at President Trump and his immediate campaign staff: the investigation resulted in many people within the Administration facing indictment and other federal crimes. In fact, according to the New York Times, a half a dozen former Trump aides were indicted of crimes associated with lying to U.S. Congress and other federal investigators. Additionally, the Mueller investigation brought forth 2,800 subpoenas and close to 500 search warrants and witness interviews, according to the Department of Justice. All of the legal preparation and organization that went into the Mueller investigation was unprecedented. However, with this recent letdown, it has all provided less-than-satisfactory results. According to Time Magazine, President Trump's aides were elated to hear the Mueller investigation resulted in the supposed exoneration of the Administration (in fact, the Barr Report explicitly does not exonerate Trump and others of obstruction of justice).

Having followed the events of the Mueller investigation for some time now, I find myself at odds as well. It was surprising to me that after all of the tension and the build-up that led to the Mueller investigation, it seems to have all ended in confusion and despondency. Despite all good intentions, Mueller's probe has inspired a rise in support from Trump's base for him and his Administration. The United States has already endured two years of Donald Trump, and heading into the 2020 election, his odds of retaining his presidency for another four years seems likelier than ever. Since we can't trust the Mueller investigation report anymore, one grim question remains: whom do we trust?

Christopher Hassan, Managing Forum Editor

For a quick author's disclaimer, this article is a prime example of self-plagiarism: I originally submitted this essay for a French class.

Imagine this: it's a Friday night, you're dressed to impress with all your friends making your way down to a dorm pre-game. But despite the comradery and fashion choices, something is missing; you lack one finishing touch to make your look trendy. So what else is there to do but bring along a little, magical wand, a tiny vape machine more advanced than any Camel or Marlboro or joint? You choose a JUUL for your soiree.

But it does not stop at the parties. It starts first thing in the morning, walking down the sidewalks to class, taking a break in the bathrooms, or in a niche of the library. JUULs are quite literally everywhere. The mass explosion of JUULing has been bolstered by how its vapor isn't detectable by most regular fire alarms or smoking interdictions. Since around 2016, it has boomed in popularity and dominated the e-cigarette market across age groups, with people as young as high school freshmen becoming big consumers. I, myself, have enjoyed a hit from my friend's JUUL several times, but the vapor just doesn't do it for me.

However, underneath the facades of different flavors and effortlessness of the JUUL lie two insidious reasons to explain the trend. The JUUL is both a half-baked pledge of allegiance to techno-futurism and a negation of lower-class individuals. Nevermind the cartoonishly high levels of nicotine in a single JUUL pod (about 20x that of your average cigarette) or the fact that smoking anything, in general, is bad for our lungs. That which I find most nefarious about JUULing is how it is a paragon of late-capitalism.

The JUUL is called the "iPhone of cigarettes" for a good reason: it is intentionally marketed as a tech product. JUULs have, in effect, become associated as the future of smoking and a meme of 2010s start-up products. More and more it seems that our generation's

attitudes toward smoking have softened thanks to the innovations the JUUL represents. Anecdotally, I don't know a single person who smokes JUULs who would even consider smoking a real cigarette, or at the very least has not been embarrassed to do so if they have smoked in the past.

Don't mistake me: actual cigarettes are an assault on personal health, they pollute the air, and big tobacco is one of the most exploitative and neocolonial industries in recent memory. But in truth, it is not the corruption which real cigarettes embody that turns away Gen Z smokers, but rather what they represent culturally. Within our upper-middle class, bourgeois bubble, real cigarettes are associated with people of the lower rung of the socioeconomic spectrum. Reagan-era views which state that poverty and poor health are character flaws, rather than the results of systemic inequalities, continue to dominate popular consciousness. The JUUL is an aesthetic rejection of the stereotypes and cultural norms associated with regular smoking. Many people don't refuse tobacco for health reasons, but rather because it is seen as a "lower-class" habit. For a decent price, a little gadget gives us the physical pleasure of a cigarette

without making us look like the most vulnerable classes in society.

And it is these aesthetics that bring us to the more odious cultural phenomenon that JUULing represents. With all of its lights, colors, silky steam, and electricity, the technology of the e-cig blinds us from the fact that we are still inhaling poison. We are reproducing the same exploitative system that damages our bodies and gets adolescents addicted to noxious substances. In this mirage rests the ongoing illusion of late-capitalism: that our preferences and our future will be sold to us with flashing lights. Drive a Tesla, it's environmentally friendly! Buy the newest iPhone, its camera captures facial features perfectly! Smoke a JUUL, it'll keep you away from carcinogens! Put simply, Silicon Valley is not helping you—it wants your money.

Instead of reforming—if not tearing down completely—tobacco companies, big tech, and the exploitative systems they represent, we opt for a sort of "ethically consumed" product. When we smoke JUULs, we are not trying to look cool, just trying to not look lower-class. When we buy a JUUL, we are not boosting innovations in tech but reproducing an age-old, exploitative economy.



## A Love Letter to the Left Behind "NARPs"

Georgina Scoville, Staff Writer

I am not an athlete, and I am not a member of the Outing Club. This puts me in a weird position here at Bates, a small school with a plethora of sports teams and outdoorsy groups: where do I fit in?

When I first arrived at Bates, I felt lonely almost immediately. Pretty much everyone in my First-Year Center was a varsity athlete, so I spent the first few days unsure of where to be when my new friends were at athletic meetings or spending time with their teammates. Despite this, I excitedly awaited my AESOP, which proved to be an amazing time and a chance to meet several of my close friends.

Luckily for me, many of these friendships stuck, and I quickly found myself in a friend group filled with fellow AESOPers. Fast forward several months, though, and I feel admittedly discontent with where I am in the social strata at this college. I have joined clubs

and organizations, reached out to other groups, and been friendly in class. So why do I feel so stuck?

I don't say this to sound depressing, or horrifically lonely, but to express my issues with the expectation that "NARPs" (Non-Athletic Regular Person, as defined by Urban Dictionary) find their friends for life by the end of orientation week.

Apart from the limited days of orientation activities and AESOP, students are given only a few avenues to meet new people. This issue is multiplied by the fact that Bates is such a small school, so parties are hard to come by and the majority of club meetings are not well attended. Those who fail to magically find their friend group very early on are left struggling with where to go next.

I'm not completely sure what Bates should do to solve this, though I believe that helping to remove

the stigma that students need to immediately find their people would do wonders. I also think that orientation activities should be offered throughout the first year at Bates to open up other avenues to make friends. Finally—and this is drastic, especially considering I recoil at the prospect of fraternities and sororities—I am curious about the idea of eating houses or families, like those at Davidson College and Union College. These systems could give non-athletes a home without the drama of rushing, hazing, and gender segregation.

Bates needs to do a better job of making sure that students have ways to meet people beyond orientation week. As a non-athletic first-year, I can attest to the fact that this expectation leaves many students asking themselves where they fit in, and where on Earth their friends are.



### The Bates Student

**COPY**  
Copy Editor: Zofia Ahmed  
Copy Editor: Emma Proietti

**PHOTO**  
Sports: Sarah du Pont  
Arts: Azusa Okada,  
Arts: James MacDonald  
News: Xingren Wang

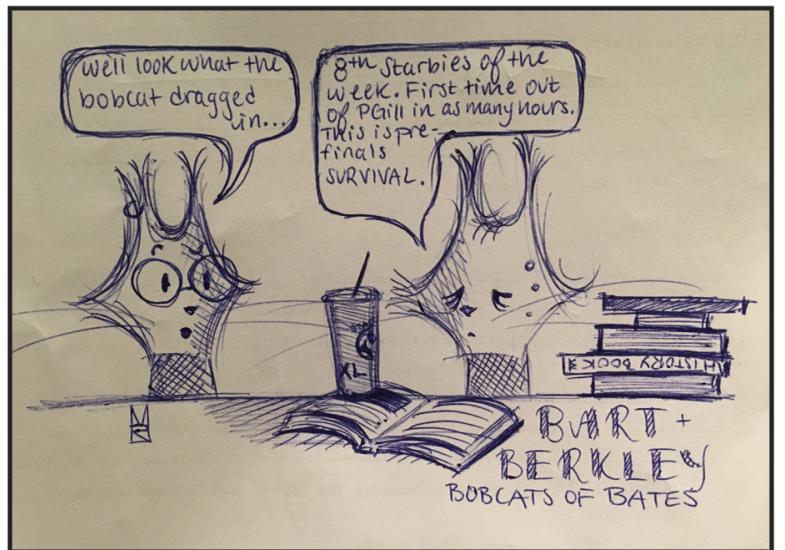
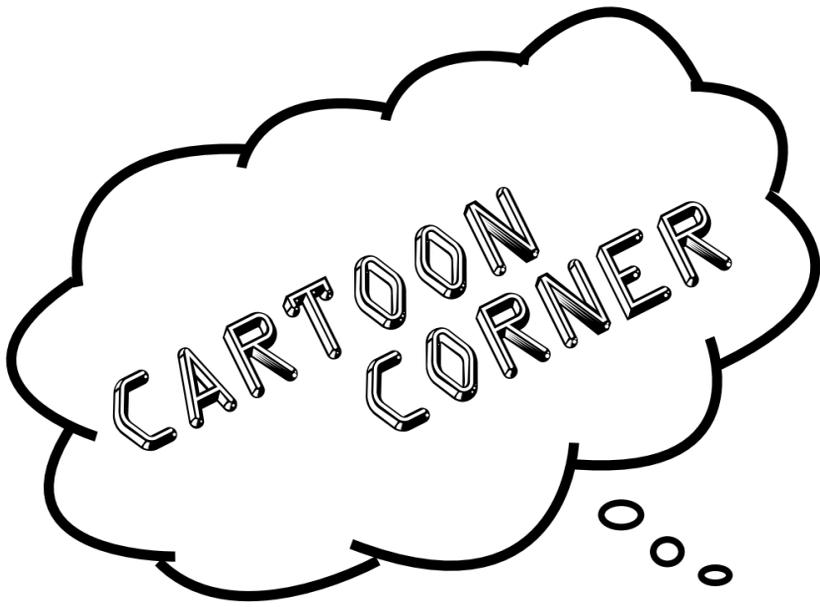
**LAYOUT**  
Layout Editor: Joana Vollrath  
Layout Editor: Justice Geddes  
Layout Editor: Georgina Scoville

**Business and Advertising Manager:**  
Beaufils Kimpolo-Pene  
**Webmaster:** Tucker Barber  
**Delivery Manager:** Owen Schmidt

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

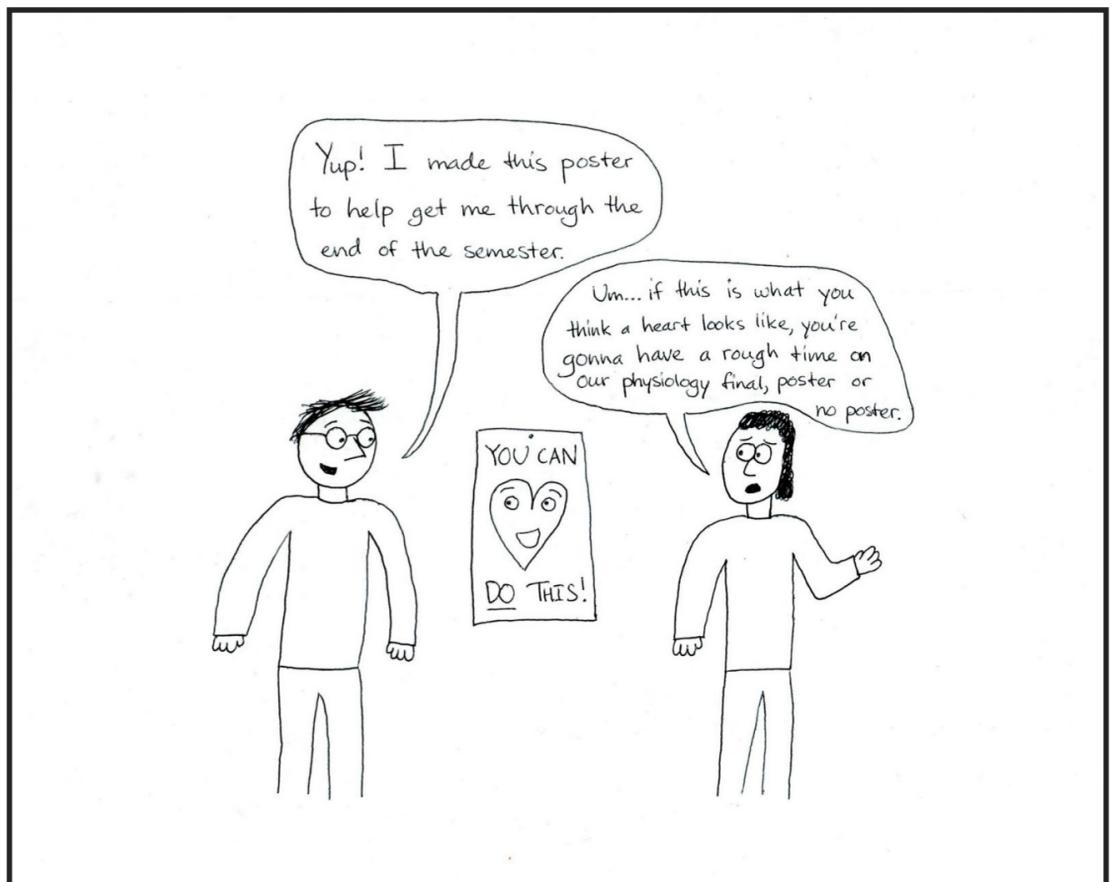
Views expressed in Letters to the Editor, Columns, and Features in the Forum section are the opinions of the writers and may or may not reflect the opinions of the staff. Letters to the Editor must be received by 6 p.m. on Sunday for Wednesday's publication. Letters should be under 500 words. Please email them to the Managing Forum Editor at [chassan@bates.edu](mailto:chassan@bates.edu).





Mary Richardson, Staff Cartoonist

Submit your comics to be considered for our Comic Corner feature!  
  
Email as JPEG image to [srothman@bates.edu](mailto:srothman@bates.edu)



Jack McLamon, Staff Cartoonist

# Question on the Quad

Vanessa Paoella, Managing Sports Editor

## What is your favorite thing to do in Lewiston?



Carly Harris '22

“Running by the river.”



Sam Mironko '21 and Tiauna Walker '21

“[Going to] the barber shop in Lewiston, Major Cuts. It’s fun to bond with those guys.” -Sam  
“I’d say going to the small, local food places.” -Tiauna



Ian Wax '19

“I like to go biking towards Sabattus and around Sabattus Pond. I also like the food culture around here.”

## Power Unfolds From Tragedy in Berger's *The Wolves*

Olivia Dimond, Staff Writer

SPOILERS

Two weekends ago, ten fiercely talented women battled it out on the Gannett Theater stage, which was transformed into an indoor soccer dome complete with netting, Astroturf, and sideline benches. Rebecca Berger '19, in partial completion of a thesis in directing, brought the 2017 Pulitzer Prize nominated play, *The Wolves*, to life in a beautiful exploration of modern teenage womanhood.

*The Wolves* centers around a suburban women's indoor soccer team. The girls all go to different schools and come together to do the one thing they are most passionate about: soccer. Each character is only referred to by the number on their jersey, not name, because on the field, they aren't someone's friend or daughter or girlfriend; they are a soccer warrior. Over the course of four pre-game warm-ups, the characters discuss current events, other players and teams, school, and friendships. It is a biting, witty drama that show-

cases women who are in their element, who are not defined by anything other than their skill, and the pain that comes with growing up.

Berger's sharp direction highlights the soldier in each of the women while still allowing them to showcase moments of vulnerability. Before the lights are fully up, we watch all of the actors enter in an almost march before taking their place in the warm-up circle. Each warm-up maneuver is done in sync, as a unit.

But they are individuals, too. #1, played by Stine Carroll '20, has intense anxiety and does not speak for the most of the show. In an interlude before the final scene, we watch her have a full-blown panic attack isolated on stage; she's left hyperventilating on the floor with only the stunning lighting design by managing director Michael Reidy for company. #2, played by Katie Abramowitz '21, is implied to struggle with some sort of eating disorder. After the second scene,

she binge eats orange slices in a heartbreaking portrayal of the disordered eating binge-restrict cycle. #30, played by Nicki Lane '21, has grown up around the world and is struggling to fit in with the team, who mistakenly thinks she lives in a 'yogurt' rather than a 'yurt.' After being left out again, she juggles a soccer ball for a minute while chanting: "I live in a yogurt my feelings don't get hurt!" to the shock and confusion of the others. Each girl gets a chance to showcase themselves, to fight and comfort each other, and to realize that even in this team, even in this synchronized unit of soccer soldiers, not all of them can be perfect.

The ending is the most gut-wrenching of all. Over the course of the final pre-game warm-up, we slowly learn that #14, played by Shae Gwydir '20, was recently killed while jogging at 6AM. The girls discuss whether or not she should have been wearing headphones and the driver's visibil-

ity, who should've seen her coming. Her mother (Soccer Mom, in the script), played by lecturer in theater Sally Wood, has a monologue addressing the girls and her relationship with her daughter. It is the first scene in which any of them are referred to by a name. Wood's monologue is a beautiful but gut-wrenching moment as the eight remaining girls realize that there is a world outside this dome, that the Astroturf is not always a safe haven, that they aren't just soldiers but daughters and girlfriends and, perhaps most importantly, teammates, on the field and in life.

I am not a crier, but I was moved as the girls and Soccer Mom slowly began to break down as they came to this realization. To go from that to the show's final moments which feature the girls screaming, "WE ARE THE WOLVES!" is an empowering transformation in a morbid way because of the route playwright Delappe took to get there. But isn't that life? Power un-

folding from tragedy?

Most impressive, however, was the soccer. The actresses handled the drills with practiced ease, as if they had all, in fact, been playing for ages. There are brief interludes that feature games, and while there was no actual soccer going on, I was ridiculously impressed. Reidy's lighting design worked with Billy Grummer's '21 sound design to simulate a game: a single spot traveled across the field like a soccer ball, and pre-recorded lines said by the various players were played over it alongside whistles and other game-related sounds.

I am still in awe of the beauty that was this production. An absolutely brilliant team, both on the field and off, shared an amazing work with us, and I am ever so grateful for it.



Gwydir '20 and Shukla '20 face off in an argument as their characters #14 and #18. KELEN PAINTER/COURTESY PHOTO

## Skin Care Routine of the Week:

### An Honest Account

Annabel Makon, Contributing Writer



Full disclosure, my skin care routine is average at best. I'm not too great at washing my face consistently, especially when I come home from a night out. I shower at least once a day, and always apply lotion and moisturizer following. That said, I won't make a separate trip to the bathroom to wash my face when I really should. But, I have found that Neutrogena makeup remover wipes or Burt's Bees wipes are super helpful when I'm running low on sleep and rushing to an 8am!

When I do wash my face, I use the Glossier Milky Jelly Cleanser, and Kate Somerville Glow Moisturiser, both of which I love. The good thing about the Milky Jelly Cleanser is that when I'm travelling, I can use it not just as face wash, but as body wash too. I have also started to use the Glossier face mask duo once a week to make sure my face has some extra hydration. I usually leave my study spot earlier than normal on Sunday or Monday nights to treat myself to a long shower followed by a facemask and some full body hydration. A Sunday night pamper session always leaves me feeling refreshed and loved.

Separate from my face care routine, I have struggled with very bad eczema for about 7 years now. I am from Australia, and the traveling back and forth on planes certainly doesn't do wonders for my skin because the air on planes always makes my skin extremely dry. I'm also an avid skier and ski racer. All these activities put my skin through a lot of different wet and cold climates which irritate my skin and can cause itching and infections.

So, to control my eczema, I've used and tried just about every product out there, from goat milk products to steroid ointments. After trial and error, I finally found a cream from Australia called QV Flare Up Cream, which helps to reduce inflammation and dryness on areas like my hands and back. Coupling the Flare Up Cream with my prescribed steroid ointment (that helps with infected areas which need fixing and isn't preventative care) has really helped me control my eczema. But, even though I found the right product, the Flare Up Cream doesn't work unless I consistently use it and give areas of my skin that are normally dry the attention they need everyday (before they become itchy and dry).

Finally, I deal with hormonal acne once a month. Although I'm not very self-conscious of it, I have found the aloe-based Elf acne stick helps reduce inflammation. It's very soothing and easy to use. I also have used the Kate Somerville Acne Solution which is good for pimples that look infected. I tried the Glossier Acne Stick and it didn't work for me, which is unfortunate because I love most of their products. But products aren't always the answer: personally, different types of birth control result in different levels of hormonal acne. Most importantly, I've learned it's imperative not to irritate the skin where my hormonal acne comes in, which is mostly on my chin.

I love my skin regardless of whether or not I'm as caring towards it as I should be. I know that if I don't wash off my sweat after a workout, it will come back to haunt me in pimple form the next day; I know that if I don't keep my skin hydrated, my eczema will only get worse. As I get older and more responsible, I think my skin care routine will only continue to get better and, therefore, so will my skin!

# Peele's *Us* Captivates and Overwhelms Audiences

Patrick Reilly, Staff Writer

SPOILERS

*Us* opens with an unsettling message: there are miles and miles of unused tunnels that stretch across America and their locations and purposes are unknown to most of the public. These tunnels are assumed to be abandoned subway projects that were bricked up and built over when they were no longer needed.

The opening sequence of *Us* depicts a young girl, Adelaide, who finds one of these tunnels in a dilapidated funhouse on the Santa Cruz boardwalk. As Adelaide is beckoned by the "Shaman Vision Quest Forest," she stumbles upon a hall of mirrors that includes one mirror with a reflection that doesn't seem to exactly match her own. She realizes too late that who she has stumbled upon is her doppelgänger, a member of the "Tethered."

The "Tethered" are a failed government experiment that was meant to bond above ground people to shadows that live down below in abandoned tunnels. The government's original plan was to control the "Tethered" in an effort to control United States citizens. When the experiment failed the shadows were left to die...

Except they didn't. The shadows survived, hauntingly forced to live out lives that weren't theirs. Adelaide survives the encounter with her own shadow and the audience sees her now grown, played by Lupita Nyong'o. She is a successful ballerina and mother of two. While on a family vacation as an adult, Adelaide finds herself being pressured to return to the Santa Cruz Boardwalk. As night falls, Adelaide's past fears turn to reality as the "Tethered," having lain in wait, arrive at the surface from below and slaughter their pampered counterparts.

Although it received moderately positive reviews from critics, *Us* roared into its opening weekend and topped its \$20 million budget with \$70 million in ticket sales; making it the largest grossing opening weekend for any R-rated movie and for any original horror movie. It even beat out 2018's *A Quiet Place*.

Peele's last hit, *Get Out*, captivated audiences with its smart and layered approach to the horror genre accompanied by commentary on race relations in the United States. *Us* is no different: Peele has an acute eye for detail and his storytelling, while at times slow and cliched, is indicative of his masterful ability to write scripts that are funny, scary, and also harbor a strong subtextual social critique.

The movie as a whole works extremely well. The sound design and cinematography are top notch and add to the enveloping, atmospheric quality of the movie. *Us* was not as scary as much as it was horrifying: instead of up-front jump scares, Peele cleverly let the actors build the tension through subtlety and silence. The movie's cast must be commended for their seamless portrayal of both their character and their character's shadow twin, two personas who often have to interact with each other on screen.

While all the actors were outstanding, Lupita Nyong'o and Elisabeth Moss' unsettling performances as their "Tethered" versions were the highlight of the movie for me. Additionally, the performances of the two child actors (Shahadi Wright Joseph and Evan Alex) in their performances as Adelaide's children and their doppelgängers were very impressive, especially because both worked with such difficult materi-

al.

That's not to say the movie was perfect. At times, the plot felt too familiar. It's clear Peele is a big horror buff and that passion shows in his writing: he relies on a lot of overdone horror tropes. The movie also suffered from uneven pacing. There were tense action scenes interspersed with lengthy monologues and exposition that took the wind out of the momentum of the film. Luckily, *Us* doesn't suffer that much from these low points and they certainly don't take away from the deeper message of the movie, nor do they discredit Peele's fantastic directorial work. The movie may not have a revolutionary plot, but the subtext of the action reveals a complex criticism of modern day America.

When Adelaide travels back to the funhouse on the Santa Cruz boardwalk as an adult, the insensitive Native American figure guarding the doorway the funhouse has been painted over as "Merlin's Forest," though Peele makes it clear the racist imagery still exists underneath the layer of gloss. This choice of scenery seems to reveal that the United States can cover up its past mistakes, but like the tunnels underneath the characters in *Us*, the United States was built on the bodies of "others."

Peele doesn't make the movie about one specific issue. Rather, *Us* holds a mirror up to the audience and asks us what we see. When asked "Who are you people?" Adelaide's shadow-self aptly responds with "We are Americans."

## Motivation with Maru

### Half-Assed vs. the Whole Booty



Mary Richardson, Staff Writer

Hullo hullo my feisty friends!! It's ya gurl Maru back with a lil' motivational mojo to help y'all get through Finals Week! Today I'm going to be discussing giving a half-assed effort and the results that follow vs. giving a full 110% effort (AKA the whole booty) and the results that follow! Let's get on into it!

I'm sure we've all heard someone say "oh whatever, I'll just half-ass it" the night before the paper is due. Or, "I can't believe I did so well, I only half-assed it!!" after someone gets a good grade on an exam. Sometimes due to a time crunch or other barrier, the only thing we can do is half-ass our work, which is better than no effort at all! But it is not the best effort we

can give.

If we only put in a half-assed effort in studying for our Spanish Final, we'll likely get a half-assed grade. If we put in a half-assed effort in rehearsing our note cards for a presentation, we'll likely give a half-assed presentation. So how can we give a full 110% effort?

The secret to giving a whole-booty-effort is to do all the little things. When you ask yourself "Could I go over these flash cards at practice today?" HECK TO THE YES!! If you ask yourself "Should I go to the Athletic Trainers' before practice to check in about my knee?" HECK TO THE YES. And of course, give tasks, assignments and projects the time they deserve. \*

Need a little spicy-mami-hot-tamale-video to help kick start your day? Search "Amber motivational speech" on YouTube and watch the video called "A message for You" \*

BEST of luck with Finals y'all!! All of my love,

Maru

# Spring Dance Concert Showcases Student Choreographers

Tricia Crimmins, Managing Arts & Leisure Editor

This past weekend, the Bates Dance Company presented the Spring Dance Concert in Schaeffer Theatre. All four performances of the concert featured choreography by students in the Bates Dance Department's Dance Composition course and Advanced Composition Seminar. Additionally, dance majors Yesul Lee '19, Claire Sickenger '19, and Sara Hollenberg '19 choreographed for and/or performed pieces in the concert in partial fulfillment of their senior theses. All pieces were performed by a mix of student dancers, student choreographers, and other dancers. Additionally, a piece was choreographed by faculty member Kate Marchessault.

This year's Spring Dance Concert showcased the refined talent, hard work, and passion of Bates choreographers and dancers. Pieces ranged from ballet to jazz, lyrical, modern, and hip-hop-focused. Some works even included spoken interludes from the choreographers and dancers themselves; others combined humor with movement. The concert itself was put on in collaboration with students in other courses: the Theater Department's Lighting Design class designed lights for the performance and music for a selection of the pieces was composed by students in the Music Department's Computers, Music,

and the Arts course.

Due to the wide breadth of choreographers, the Spring Dance Concert was performed in two programs. Pieces in Program A were performed on Friday, Mar. 29 and Sunday, Mar. 31, and pieces in Program B were performed on Saturday, Mar. 30, and Monday, April 1. Program A featured choreography by Kellie Allen '21, Mickai Mercer '19, Elisabeth Gwydir '20, Isa Barrangos '19, Erick Gredonia '21, and Esme Goldfinger '21. Program B featured choreography by Ellie Friends '21, Kate Marchessault, Flannery Black-Ingersoll '19, Sydney Anderson '20, and Helen Carr '21. The three senior thesis works were performed in both programs.

Standout dance pieces included work choreographed by Gredonia, Gwydir, and Hollenberg. Gredonia's piece, titled "False Dichotomy" featured dancers Emily Bowen '19, Sofia Esquibies '21, Eliza Tilbor, and Darwin Silfa '21. The quartet ar-

rived on the Schaeffer stage looking as though they were traversing through a desert. This image was complemented by the group's costumes: the dancers wore loose, beige, brown, or camel-colored shirts with neutral colored slacks.

jumped, punched, and took the audience on quite a powerful journey. Gredonia's extraordinary talent was matched by student lighting designer Goldfinger, whose choreography was also featured in the concert.

"Lots 20, 22, 24, & 26 - Dune Road" closed out the Program A performance and was the most ballet and lyrical-focused piece of both programs. Surrounded by set pieces resembling house frames and lighting designed by faculty



Atkinson and choreographer Hollenberg dance in "Lots 20, 22, 24, & 26 - Dune Road." PHYLLIS GRABER JENSEN/BATES COLLEGE

Although each dancer donned their specific uniform, Gredonia's choreography allowed Bowen, Esquibies, Tilbor, and Silfa to shine individually. The piece was dynamic, explosive, in-sync, and affecting; dancers ran, shouted,

Gwydir's piece "contact, just go" featured Flannery Black-Ingersoll '19, Rebecca Howard '19, and Gwydir herself. Gwydir's choreography was bubbly, enthusiastic, and lively. The piece juxtaposed each dancer's elegant movement technique with a hearty dose of humor: amidst fluid movement, Gwydir, Black-Ingersoll, and Howard made outlandish faces, exuded exaggerated emotions, and interacted with a set of three small stools. Gwydir's piece was a joy to watch and offered vital, polished comedic relief amidst other more serious, heart-wrenching works. Erin Lyons' '21 lighting design also added to the work's whimsy; the cluster of dancers appeared as a ball of light moving across the rest of the mostly obscured stage.

Hollenberg's choreography was youthful and light; each of the dancers floated across the stage effortlessly.

The Spring Dance Concert has increasingly become a space for Bates' student choreographers and dancers to explore movement, express themselves physically, and make a statement. This year's installment certainly did not disappoint.

Hollenberg's



Friends '21, Carroll '20, Sickenger, and Honigman '22 perform "And She Just Kept Walking." PHYLLIS GRABER JENSEN/BATES COLLEGE



Gredonia, Goldfinger, Brewer '21, and Mercer '19 perform for an onstage audience in "Loved, not liked." PHYLLIS GRABER JENSEN/BATES COLLEGE

# Bates Women's Swimming Finishes 20th at NAAs

Jackson Elkins, Staff Writer

Over the course of March 20-23, nine members of the Bates Women's Swimming and Diving team travelled to Greensboro, N.C. to compete in the NCAA DIII National Championships. For a small school like Bates, it can be intimidating travelling to competitions of such caliber. However, given the wealth of experience and familiarity that the Bobcats have with the national stage, it was just another meet.

Bates finished 20th out of 50 scoring teams at nationals, marking the sixth year in a row that the women's team has finished in the top 20 nationally. Additionally, the nine women who went to nationals earned 21 All-America honors combined.

"The national meet is always an honor to attend," Head Coach Peter Casares said. "You really have to earn your trip there. With that said, we do our best to make it like any other meet, our routines stay the same. A belief in what got us there has led to us improving when we arrive."

Day one featured the 200-yard medley relay, composed of Janika Ho '20, Emmy Daigle '20, Caroline Apathy '21, and Suzy Ryckman '22. In the trials, Bates finished seventh with a time of 1:44.04, qualifying them

for the finals later that day. Ho's opening 50-yard backstroke split of 26.19 set a new team record, eclipsing the previous mark of 26.22 set back in 2015. In the finals, Bates finished eighth with a time of 1:44.09, earning the group All-America honors.

Day two held a bigger slate of events, with Apathy featured in the 100-yard butterfly, as well as the 200-yard freestyle relay and 400-yard medley relay. Apathy entered the meet as the top seed in the nation following her NESCAC-winning performance of 54.54, nearly a full 0.50 seconds faster than the next competitor in that race.

In the preliminaries, Apathy swam 55.07, leaving her in sixth headed into the finals. The final was unbelievably competitive, with the difference between first and fifth just 0.33 seconds. Apathy touched the wall at exactly the same time as Washington & Lee's Alison MacQueen, tying her for third, Bates' best individual finish at nationals since 2016. Apathy's performance earned her another All-America honor, her second in as many days.

"In the 200-yard freestyle relay, the Bobcats placed 13th, exceeding their seed of 22nd entering the meet. The

preliminary and finals saw two slightly different teams, with Ho, Ryckman, Erin Bucki '21, and Apathy swimming the preliminary race, followed with Ho, Ryckman, captain Lucy Faust '19, and Apathy. The latter group secured a 13th place finish overall and another set of All-America honors for all five swimmers. Additionally, the Bates 400-yard medley relay finished 16th, earning All-America honors for the group composed of Isabel Mohammadi-Hull '22, Diagle, Apathy, and Ho.

Day three, while not as busy as the previous day, still provided some excellent moments. The 800-yard freestyle relay took home a tremendous eighth place finish with a team made up of Maya Reynoso Williams '22, Bucki, Faust, and Caroline Sweeney '22. Reynoso Williams and Sweeney took home their first All-America honors, making them the 28th and 29th members of Bates Women's Swimming and Diving to do so.

Day four was highlighted by Faust competing in her final collegiate event, as well as the 400-yard freestyle relay. While Faust didn't manage to add to the two All-America honors she earned already, her teammates and coaches simply could not praise their

captain enough for wrapping up her excellent career.

Coach Caseres shared his thoughts: "My favorite moment was seeing our women rush Lucy after she finished her race with a touchout (reaching the timing pad first in a close race). It was a perfect ending to the meet."

Apathy added to the love for her captain, "The biggest highlight for me was watching Lucy swim for the last time in her career, she raced incredibly well and the fact that she out touched so many competitors was insane."

Along with Faust's excellent final performance, Bates had yet another relay earn All-America honors, with the 400-yard freestyle relay of Ho, Ryckman, Sweeney, and Apathy finishing 15th in a time of 3:28.27.

While the group experienced incredibly high levels

of success at NAAs, everyone is still looking for more; Sweeney is already looking forward to next year.

"I definitely have goals in mind for next season," she said. "Personally, I'm going to work on my technique and keep trying new events to help out the team. For the team, I'm hoping we can continue to move up in the NESCAC, keep our fun and positive attitude and continue to swim fast!"

Coach Casares kept it simple, adding "We want to be top ten. We want to have the best culture in the country and be top ten. And we want to break some records."

The accolades this group has earned is a strong testament to the incredible levels of effort that they have put in over the course of the season, and should absolutely not go unnoticed.



From left to right: Maya Reynoso Williams '22, Erin Bucki '21, Lucy Faust '19, Janika Ho '20, Caroline Sweeney '22, Caroline Apathy '21, Suzy Ryckman '22, Emmy Daigle '20, Isabel Mohammadi-Hull '22. PETER CASARES/COURTESY PHOTO

# Andrea Russo '19 Breaks Bates Career Hits Record

Eleanor Boyle, Staff Writer

"It's such structure and then chaos." This is how the sole senior on the Bates softball team, Andrea Russo '19, described her sport. "It's routine, but anything can happen . . . pitches are repetitive movements and then [the] batter hits, but at that moment anything can happen," she said.

There's not many guarantees in softball, but when Russo is up to bat, something amazing is bound to happen. While the team was down in Florida in early Mar., Russo broke the all-time hitting record with her 128th hit.

"I didn't even know I broke it because I was having a tough week," she said. Russo was just pleased that she was finally doing well and described her dad cheering for her once she got her 128th hit. She didn't realize his excitement stemmed from her breaking a record that had stood for 10 years.

The record-breaking hit was a validation for Russo. It made her realize that "yes, [she] [is] a good player which



Andrea Russo '19 at bat during one of their games in Florida early in the 2019 season. ANDREA RUSSO/COURTESY PHOTO

[was] a confidence booster" for her.

The record had been on Russo's mind since last season, when she was informed that she was close to breaking it.

"It wasn't something I ever tried to do," Russo explained. Instead, she thought, "Oh that's cool it really demonstrates how much the team has changed over the season."

The team is a big focus for Russo. As the only senior

and one of three upperclassmen, she acts as a leader not only on the field, but also off it.

"On the field you [are] look[ed] up to [to] make big plays, but off the field you're getting looked to for advice," she said.

Russo also explained that Coach McKell Barnes, the head coach of Bates Softball, has made the program more competitive with recruiting. In doing so, girls with more experience on travel teams

have come to Bates, ensuring the possibility for more record breaking hits.

Russo doesn't disregard the meaning behind what she has done. She recognizes that she is leaving a legacy behind. However, what's more important to her is that "[she's] leaving a legacy through the leadership and friendships [she's] made on the team."

In the midst of describing what it felt like to play that day in Florida, the day where Russo made Bates Softball history, she said she was "finally having a good game, [she] was comfortable, having fun [and] relaxed." Nothing was different about that day or that game.

She didn't give herself a pep-talk about the fact that she was close to making history. She didn't get nervous about making a mistake that would risk missing a hit, which would cause the record to escape her. No. She was calm. She was relaxed. She was enjoying what she was doing.

Russo says that when she is playing she doesn't think of much or worry about what to do. "It's just a genuine reaction completely in the moment. The only thing in my head is the cheering. It's the best thing ever," she said.

She isn't worried about anything else, not even the game. She's in the moment, enjoying the sport she chose to continue in college.

One could say that Russo's experience is shared by many athletes at Bates. They wanted to continue doing the sport they loved without the pressure and stress that any failure could mean the end of their career. They chose it because of the unique friendships formed on a team where competition among teammates is healthy instead of toxic. Where a team truly acts like a family. Where academics are treated as highly if not higher than athletics. It's what makes Division III unique. It's what makes the NESCAC unique, and it's an aspect of what makes Bates athletics unique as well.



# Kelsy Ross Leaves Bates Athletics

Vanessa Paoella, Managing Sports Editor

After nine years of coaching Bates Women's Soccer, eight of which were spent as the head coach, Kelsy Ross has left Bates athletics. This decision comes after rising tension between athletes and declining team performance over the past few years, culminating in a disappointing 2018 season record.

In recent years, many athletes have grown unhappy with Coach Ross' coaching decisions.

"I think that maybe this year was so frustrating because everyone can generally agree that we had a really good group of players this year, and we feel like things could have gone so much better if we used a different formation or [players] were put in different positions which better suited them," first-year senior Anastasia Leff '19 said.

"Then it just kind of became a reality and that's disappointing to see. I think it's because people's judgements were clogged because we had a bad season," she added.

This discontent eventually erupted as one athlete accused Coach Ross of a conduct violation, an allegation which the Bates athletic department takes extremely seriously. A third-party employment lawyer interviewed

members of the team and eventually concluded that there was insufficient evidence to substantiate the claim.

"Students need to feel free to raise concerns in good faith and to have the college look into them," Director of Athletics Jason Fein said. "At the same time, an investigation does not signify wrongdoing, and none was found with regard to Coach Ross."

In the end, by mutual agreement, Coach Ross stepped down as the head Women's Soccer coach.

Her departure brought mixed feelings to the women's soccer team. Team Captain Sarah Gutch '19 explained how this investigation has been difficult for her and the team.

"It was a very weird experience for me, especially because [I've known her] since my junior year in high school...As the investigation [went] on, she [couldn't] talk to us and we [couldn't] talk to her...it wasn't enjoyable, it was very weird. We didn't really know what was going on, and there were just all these 'what ifs.'"

"I didn't really know how to feel," she continued. "Everyone has their own opinions on if she should have left, if she shouldn't have

left...I think a lot of people were confused because we weren't told the outcome of the investigation, we were told that the investigation didn't have any bearing on her decision to leave."

While some did not agree with her coaching style, many athletes talk of the passion and dedication she had for the success of the team and the women on it.

"She cares a lot about the program, she cares a lot about the girls and she truly did want the best for the program," Gutch said. "The hours she spent recruiting, or thinking of ways to make things better I think sometimes went unnoticed, but I do think she had the best interest of the team in mind...There were just moments when you feel like you need to talk to someone and [I knew] that my coach was always an option, she was always there."

Similarly, Leff spoke of Coach Ross's support when she chose to try out for the soccer team as a senior.

"[Ross] was really welcoming to me when I joined the team. She never once [told me] 'You shouldn't join because you're a senior,' she really was open to me trying out and seeing how I could play and how I could contrib-

ute to the team and I'm really, really thankful for that...I think depending on who it is, it's easy for people to not separate soccer and [her as an] individual, and Kelsy as an individual is wonderful and cares so much about the entire team."

Despite how her time at Bates may have ended, the Women's Soccer team has seen success in the past under Coach Ross.

In 2010, Coach Ross assisted head soccer coach Jim Murphy who lead the Women's Soccer team to the NESCAC semifinals. Since then, the women's soccer team has competed in the NESCAC Championship, playing in the quarterfinals in 2015 where the Bobcats fell 2-1 to Trinity, finishing fifth and boasting an overall record of 7-6-3 (4-3-3 NESCAC).

At the end of the 2015 season, Ross was named NESCAC Coach of the Year and two athletes, Olivia Amdur '19 and Allison Hill '17, received second-team All-NESCAC Honors.

The athletic department is currently searching for a replacement head soccer coach who will begin leading the Women's Soccer team in the 2019 fall season.

## Women's Lacrosse Doubles Winning Streak

Quinn Troy, Staff Writer

Last Saturday, the Women's Lacrosse team took on Williams in back-and-forth action that saw the Bobcats eventually pulling away with a 13-11 victory. This marked the second consecutive Bobcat win and pulled the team over 0.500 for the first time this season.

The Ephs struck just 1:37 into the game, with Suzanna Penikins capitalizing on a failed Bates clearance attempt to slot the ball past goalie Eliza Statile '19 for the opening goal. The Bobcats responded quickly two minutes later as Margaret Smith '21 found Lila Hutchins '21 for the quick retort.

The action heated up from there, as Bates and Williams traded goals over the next five minutes. Throughout the first half, Margaret Smith shined, netting another goal and an assist before the halftime break. Despite the strong performance from Smith, the Bobcats found themselves down 7-5 going into the second half.

It was during this second half that the Bobcats came to

life. A stellar defensive display saw Statile face a measly two shots in the first six minutes of the half. It was during these first six minutes that Jillian Futter '21, Katie Allard '19, and Margaret Smith each scored to put the Bobcats up 8-7. Williams then called a timeout to limit the onslaught from the Bates attackers.

The Ephs showed they weren't going to be put away easily with Clair Fitzpatrick scoring with 22:48 left to knot the score up at 8-8. Bates and Williams traded fouls, shots, and groundballs for the next eight minutes, neither team giving an inch.

The deadlock was finally broken when Dana Swartz '22 fed Avery MacMullen '20 to score her fifth goal on the season with 11:12 left in the game. Bates and Williams continued the intense back-and-forth action, with each team netting a goal within the next three minutes.

With less than six minutes to go, Katie Allard went off to score the next three goals for the Bobcats. The

late-game heroics from the New Jersey native were of nothing short of awe-inspiring as any fleeting hopes of victory for the Ephs disintegrated.

Allard's 21st, 22nd, and 23rd goals of the season seated her on top of the scoring leaders this year for the Bobcats. Williams was able to get one goal back, but the Ephs' fate had already been sealed through the Bobcats' domination. Bates' 13-11 victory over Williams gave them a strong push in the NESCAC standings and drastically improved the team's title hopes.

The win over Williams



Katie Allard '19 scored four goals and one assist during their home game against Williams (File photo). SARAH DU PONT/THE BATES STUDENT

## Sports Update

March 20-April 2

### Baseball (6-8, 1-2 NESCAC)

March 20:  
MIT, W 7-4

March 24:  
Plymouth St., L 5-3  
W 6-3

March 29:  
Tufts, L 6-0

March 30:  
Tufts, L 4-2  
W 6-5

April 2:  
Husson, L 6-4

### Men's Lacrosse (7-2, 4-1 NESCAC)

March 23:  
Williams, L 16-14

March 30:  
Hamilton, W 17-9

### Women's Lacrosse (7-3, 3-2 NESCAC)

March 23:  
William, W 13-11

March 30:  
Hamilton, W 10-8

### Men's Rowing

March 30:  
Harvard Lightweights, 1-8

### Women's Rowing

March 30:  
Simmons, 7-0

### Softball (4-13, 0-3 NESCAC)

March 28:  
U. of New England, W 4-3  
L 3-2

March 29:  
Tufts, L 8-0

March 30:  
Tufts, L 3-0  
L 11-1

### Women's Swim & Dive

March 20-23:  
NCAA Championships,  
20th/50

### Men's Tennis (3-7, 1-0 NESCAC)

March 22:  
Mary Washington, L 6-3

March 23:  
Wis.-Whitewater, L 5-4

March 24:  
John Hopkins, L 7-2

March 30:  
MIT, L 7-2

March 31:  
Babson, L 5-4



## One Last Season

Sarah Rothmann '19 discusses her personal journey through 24 seasons of competitive running

Sarah Rothmann, Editor-in-Chief

I used to only think in numbers. Now, as an English major at Bates, this seems absurd. But it's true. In high school, I measured my success as a cross country and track-and-field runner based on how fast I could run certain events. I was the senior captain who could run a 5K under nineteen minutes and a sub 5:10 mile. I was the anchor leg for every 4x800 relay because 2:16 was always my split. Distance runs became daily competitions and workouts were all out or nothing. I let these splits and times define my career at Andover High School. I restricted my diet because I was convinced this would make me faster. If I didn't run a personal best time I could not be satisfied. Seeing all the success, I thought I was happy. My room at home was lined with medals and reminders of school records I was able to squash.

Before I came to Bates, I thought I would continue to run on the same high. I thought I just wanted to keep getting faster. Then, right before my high school graduation, my life took a turn. I lost my father to cancer and soon everything that I thought was normal became unfamiliar. I was hesitant about even coming to Bates and I really didn't want to run anymore. I was terrified of all the

changes I was about to face.

Despite my fears, I could not rid myself of the feeling that Bates was my next step. My next chapter. So, I ran and tried to channel my high school self's endurance and grit. I did not trust the workouts and sprinted intervals that were meant to be kept consistent. I dropped the baton in my first two 4x800 relays. I kept restricting my diet. My times did not come close to those that I saw in high school. I had no pace or direction. Frustration became my constant emotion and the idea of quitting at the end of my freshman year seemed the easy answer to make these negative feelings sail away.

Deep down I knew I was not a quitter and that I would regret my decision to stop competing. But something about my mindset surrounding running needed to change. I realized that my obsession with numbers took away from my passion for the sport and my physical and mental health. So, what changed? I was honest with myself and admitted that I needed help. I found help outside of track, began to talk about my grief, and realized that trust was my chief obstacle. Once I was able to open up to others, I felt a sense of relief. I realized that my life was not meas-

ured by how fast I could run certain races. I realized that I needed a clean slate, one not marked by the past.

Hence, I discovered aspects of Bates beyond running that helped to reshape my personality. This is how *The Bates Student* became part of my life. One sports article that I experimented with my freshman year marked the first step in my path to where I am now as Editor-in-Chief. I value helping students finding and sharing their voices with the Bates community while also showcasing the diversity of talents and perspectives that span our student body. Our staff's dedication to the paper exemplifies the collaboration and trust missing from my freshman mindset.

I want to remember my student-athlete experience at Bates as a time of friendship, love and support. As a senior who has competed since her freshman year of high school and is about to begin her twenty-fourth season of running, I realize that the most successful races I have had at Bates were the ones where I pushed my thoughts aside and trusted my team. I still have not come close to my high school times. However, I have experienced NCAA races with my cross-country team and earned All-America honors as the 1,200 leg



Sarah Rothmann '19 perches on her best friend Abby Hamilton '21 after the 2018 Cross Country Maine State meet at Bowdoin. WENDY MEMISHIAN/COURTESY PHOTO

of the distance medley relay. I run workouts according to my coach's pace and have learned to split races more evenly. I stopped worrying about what and how much I was eating in Commons. I stopped setting myself to unreachable standards. I learned to love the sport again.

What made the difference? I have been able to forget about the numbers. I stopped worrying about my times and remembered why I love the sport. I love being a part of a team where we all support each other on and off the track. I was once terrified

of change. Now, I realize that it is just a natural course of life. I value adversity as central to my identity and look forward to one last season of running with a team that has become my Bates family. All senior student-athletes should take a moment and reflect upon their athletics experience before and after Bates. I couldn't end this article without quoting my high school track coach: "It's not where you start...it's where you finish." Soak in your final moments as a Bobcat. Think beyond the numbers.

## Jim Sylvia '84 Assists Baseball, Athletics Design Turf Field

Cameron Carlson, Assistant Sports Editor

Graduating from Bates in May of 1984 was not the end for Jim Sylvia, a four-time letter winner for the baseball team and a proud member of the Bobcat community for four years. While some of his classmates haven't even been back to Lewiston since graduation, Sylvia became an active member of the alumni community right from the start.

He frequently returns to campus, attends events, and has gotten involved in a project to provide a turf baseball field to the program. In fact, Mr. Sylvia's son, Will, is a current member of the baseball team and the Bates Class of 2020.

Jim Sylvia's baseball career at Bates was definitely one to remember. He still holds the single-season and career records for walks, his team led the nation in batting average during his senior season, and during his career



Jim Sylvia '84 stands with his son Will Sylvia '19. WILL SYLVIA/COURTESY PHOTO

they made two appearances in the four-team ECAC Tournament (there was no NESCAC Tournament at the time).

After such a successful career, his class was not ready to leave just yet. For years after they graduated a good number of alumni would return every year and play an exhibition game against the current team after the conclusion of their season.

Naturally, ties with Bates couldn't just end once these exhibition games stopped happening.

Once Will started at Bates and Mr. Sylvia began regularly attending games again whenever he could and it was at this point when he saw what was going on around the NESCAC.

With teams like Colby, Trinity, and Hamilton putting in brand new turf

baseball fields, Bates is left behind, often not able to play home games until the second week of April. This puts Bates at a significant recruiting disadvantage and is frankly embarrassing at times when Coach Martin is forced to scramble for a field to play on, often settling to play at Colby—one of our rival schools.

This was when Mr. Sylvia decided it was time to step in.

"Once we started playing home games at Colby, I realized we weren't in a great place" Sylvia stated. "I knew that using my background in real estate development we'd be able to come up with a conceptual plan, so that it felt like more of an attainable goal."

Together with the help of the athletic department and an outside company, Sylvia created a design. He and the Director of Athletics Jason

Fein pitched the idea to a group of parents and players during a program dinner on the spring trip in Florida.

Now the plan is set for a new turf baseball field right on Leahey Field and the fundraising has begun.

With as much history as there is on Leahey Field, it will be very difficult to see it go when the time comes. However, Jim Sylvia is fully dedicated to providing Bates Baseball with every resource he has. He recognized that this is what the program needs and he set his sights on making it happen.

No matter when this project gets done, it won't be the end for the Sylvia family. Mr. Sylvia will be right beside the program for as long as he can and Will is going to be there after him. Jim Sylvia has done everything he can for Bates College and he embodies all of the best values that the college has to offer.