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# The Bates Student

The Voice of  
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Since 1873.

VOLUME 138, NO. 5

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 7, 2008

LEWISTON, MAINE

## Celebrating the Black Christ

### Students to Attend Festival in Panama

ISOBEL MOILES  
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

Six Bates students and two faculty members will fly south to Portobelo, Panama on Oct. 17 to participate in the Black Christ Festival, which celebrates a black statue of Christ that the community believes to have special healing and protective powers.

Students will spend nearly five days actively participating in and documenting the prayer and festivity that surround the event. This is the first time the Multicultural Center and the Multifaith Chapel have worked directly together to provide an opportunity for curious and adventurous Batesians.

Three hundred years ago on the Caribbean coast of Panama, a box containing an eight-foot-tall statue of a black Christ was found washed up on the shore of a seaside village. Dozens of competing theories attempt to explain this mysterious and haunting occurrence, but most agree that it was carved in Spain and was invariably destined for Portobelo, Panama. Each myth regarding its arrival illustrates a recurring theme: the statue simply refused to be removed from the small and unassuming coastal town.

According to centuries' worth of oral history, the villagers were hit with a virulent cholera epidemic immediately after two fishermen first discovered "El Cristo Negro." It was only when the statue was installed in a church and intensely worshipped that health returned to the people of Portobelo.

On Oct. 21 of each year, the Black Christ is carried from the church and paraded around the community in what has become a huge festival, attracting as many as 60,000 pilgrims each year from around the world. Many walk the 53 miles from Panama City, and some crawl the last mile on their hands and knees to worship what is locally referred to as "El Nazareno." The six Bates students will participate in the festivities, filming as much of the event as possible and completely immersing themselves in a foreign spiritual tradition that has enormous importance in the lives of many people.

Czerny Brasuell, Director of the Multicultural Center, and Tonya Taylor, the Center's Program Coordinator, met with Multifaith Chaplain William Blaine-Wallace to choose five students out of a large pile of applicants who were best suited for the expedition. Brasuell and Taylor will lead the trip, and Uriel Gonzalez '11, who has previously spent time in Portobelo, will accompany the group as a native Spanish-speaker and guide.

Jennelle Liljestrand '11, who is part of the selected group, says she started her application as soon as she saw the Announce e-mail. "I was really excited when I heard about the trip," she explained. "First of all, because I love Latin America for the people, the food and the environment." Her fascination with other religions also helped to pique her interest. "I was raised Unitarian Univer-

salist and visited mosques and temples and attended various masses as part of my religious education," she said. "Any opportunity to travel and speak Spanish and try to understand a different culture and religion is really exciting to me."

Cloaked in mystery, magic and myth, the Black Christ Festival is bound to be a memorable experience. Far from simply snapping pictures and sightseeing, Bates students will be fully participating in the festival's activities along with thousands of people making the annual pilgrimage. Mass is called at six in the evening, but anyone hoping to get inside the church will need to arrive hours beforehand. At 8 p.m., 80 specially chosen men with shaved heads and bare feet carry the statue through the streets, walking in a particular pattern of three steps forward and two back to the beat of spirited music. The statue is returned to the church when the clock strikes 12. It has been said that the statue cannot be taken back any time before or after midnight because it becomes too heavy to carry.

Clyde Bango '11, who will not be going to the festival but has been to the area, says that the festival is on the minds of the people of Portobelo all year long. "They talk about it all the time," he said. Bango described the warm social atmosphere of Portobelo and the Afro-Hispanic culture. There is dancing in the streets until "way after midnight." It is not uncommon for strangers to stop you in the street simply to ask questions and talk. The African oral tradition permeates the local culture.

Liljestrand looks forward to the cultural aspect of the trip. "I am excited to meet the people in the community," she said. "It is a very close-knit artisan community with children that, I have been told, will run up to you and want to show you hundreds of things."

Many Panamanians suffered a grueling history with the building of the Panama Canal, and hundreds of people lost their lives in the attempt to join the Pacific and Atlantic oceans. Gonzalez says of the Portobelo people, "There is a beauty inside." You can "see the history in the people."

The Bates group will be staying in an artists' colony by the ocean and cooking food for themselves. They will film and take pictures to share with the Bates community in a presentation upon their return to campus.

As snow, sleet and clouds begin to envelop Bates in the heavy cloak of a cold Maine winter, mosquitoes and sunburns are likely to accompany the religious fervency in Panama. The Black Christ Festival will give Batesians a flavorful taste of the vibrant culture and enduring traditions of Portobelo. Perhaps they will feel the powerful enchantment of the mystifying "El Cristo Negro." Liljestrand has the same objective as all Batesians who plan to attend: "To try to understand why 60,000 people flock to this statue on this one day. There must be something incredible going on, and I want to find out what that is."



LOUISA DEMMITT/THE BATES STUDENT  
Students from 280 College Street set up part of their sculpture, "Perry Atrium Recycled," which won the prize for the most creative design.

## BCSG Appoints New Committee Members

### Budget Talks Put on Hold



HILLARY BOK  
STAFF WRITER

Although student officials originally planned to share the details of the budget at the Oct. 6 meeting of the Bates College Student Government, it is still pending finalization. BCSG officials expect to discuss the budget in detail at next week's meeting.

The Student Government voted to approve a number of new members to the Committee on Committees. Victor Babatunde '11 is now on the Honors Committee, and Kristin Cook '11 is now on the Library Committee, which still has two vacancies.

Additionally, Chloe Tennyson '09, Doug Ray '10 and Sade Greene '10 were elected to the College Concert Committee. Ray, Greene and Jessica Igoe '11 were elected to the College Lecture Committee. The SG also elected Sheraine Rodney '09 and Igoe to the Off-Campus Student Committee and added Diane Saunders '11 to the Educational Policy Committee.

The BCSG also discussed ways to address the unrest about the General Education Concentrations and the communication disconnect that has developed over education requirements for the class of 2011 and 2012.

## Rewarding Recycling

ERIN BOURGALT  
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

Think back to every event you have ever been to at Bates catered by Dining Services. What did you drink? Whether it was water, lemonade or Coke, the more important question is: what happened to those bottles and cans after you drank their contents? Many times cans and bottles are absent-mindedly tossed in the trash even though students at Bates know they could be recycled. To address this issue, Carolyn Silva Sánchez '11 decided to create an art contest called "Reuse, Rebuild, Reward" to raise awareness on campus about the need to recycle.

After attending a conference in Washington, D.C. on water issues such as property rights and water sanitation, Sánchez wanted to find out more about the use of water bottles at Bates. During Short Term, she met with Director of Dining Services Christine Schwartz and learned that what Bates really needs help with is recycling. Af-

ter every Dining Services event, a lot of time and effort is put into separating the trash from the recycling.

After much brainstorming, Sánchez decided that an art contest would be a fun way to attract an array of Bates students. The project was presented in front of Commons this past Friday and Saturday during Parents and Family Weekend. To Sánchez's excitement, nine teams presented creative projects made out of bottles. The prize for the most creative design went to the Perry Atrium Recycled, which was made by 280 College Street and led by Junior Advisors Walter Garcia '11 and Shirley Serrao '11. The most cans and bottles award went to the Sunny Duck, which was made by Clason House and led by Junior Advisors Flora Chan '11 and Kevin Thorson '10.

Although Sánchez planned this project on her own, she received help from Schwartz and Environmental Coordinator Julie Rosenbach. The hardest part of the project for Sánchez was advertising and getting groups registered. This would have been much easier if she had been working on a

team, she said. However, Rosenbach helped her edit the flyers and, along with the Dean of Students Office, paid for the printing.

Schwartz offered to hold all of the cans and bottles collected by Dining Services in September and during Parents Weekend. She also agreed with Sánchez that the refund from these cans and bottles would be given to the winning teams through gift certificates to Milts, the Den and the bookstore, or to a pizza party or ice cream social. Dining Services collected \$300 in the month of September for this purpose. Additionally, two-thirds of this money will be donated to a Lewiston non-profit organization. The winners from 280 College Street are also donating the money that would be spent on their prize to charity.

Sánchez hopes that this project will "get more students to be conscious of their waste and realize how many cans and bottles they use in a week." She hopes that students will make more of an effort to recycle every bottle and start using tap water in place of bottled water.

## Breaking Down the Bates Budget

SIMONE PATHE  
ASSISTANT NEWS EDITOR

Amidst concerns over a struggling economy and rising tuition and costs of living, those in the college's financial offices are working to make sure Bates remains affordable and that it provides students with the same resources it always has.

"Over the last ten years, the last four [comprehensive fee] increases we've had have all been approximately between the five and five-and-one-half percent range," according to Assistant Vice President for Financial Planning and Analysis Doug Ginevan.

"Our actual budget is \$87 million (for fiscal year 2009) – that is net, or after, we've administered all of the financial aid." This year's comprehensive fee is \$49,350. But Ginevan pointed out that it's interesting to consider: "What does it really cost to come to Bates? And the answer is really \$63,578. The \$49,350 is the net cost to the students."

"Much of our cost as a college is fixed," meaning that "we're not growing, we're not adding staff or faculty... Of an \$82 million budget last year, 50 [million] or about 65 percent of it was in people – faculty, staff, overtime," and he emphasized "benefits."

The budget is divided into many categories: instruction for each department, public service, the library, physical plant and utilities. Last year, \$4.1 million was

spent on "heating the campus" and other utilities such as electricity, Ginevan cited. For every week that the heat is kept off, Bates saves about \$20,000. Additional sectors include "debt service to pay off debt that we've borrowed to build buildings like Pettingill or 280 College Street or new Commons, and capital reserves," which is money set aside in the budget for "deferred maintenance," such as the new track in Merrill Gymnasium.

All of these budgetary concerns relate to admissions and using campus aesthetics to win over prospective students who are deciding among similar schools. "We aren't going to be Williams College or Amherst that goes overboard or Bowdoin [who is] building a multimillion dollar athletic complex," admitted Ginevan. "Not that those aren't good things to do, but we really want to make sure that the dollars we spend have the most impact right now," he stressed.

"Budgets," contrary to what Ginevan often hears said, "are not flat: the college's budget continues to grow every year." This year's budget increased by five percent from last year, and over the past four years, "it went from 73 [million], to 78, to 82, to 87." While some schools have decided to enroll more students to gain more revenue, Bates' enrollment is targeted to remain flat at 1,685 students.

"The majority of our revenue comes from tuition – comprehensive fee – which comes from students," said Ginevan.

This is called "fee-dependency." Bates is 70 percent reliant on the fee. For Bates, this translates into "70 percent of the total revenue com[ing] from the comprehensive fee," Ginevan explained. Another \$6 million of the revenue comes from Milts, the bookstore, the post office, camps, the dance festival and "other revenue-generating functions on campus." The remainder comes from annual gifts (the Bates Fund) and the draw from the endowment.

In the last fiscal year, "of a student body of 1,660, 683 students received aid – that's 41.1 percent of the population that received some Bates-administered aid, [which] puts us very much in line with all of our peer schools." The average amount was "almost \$31,000." For the class of 2008, the average indebtedness "is just north of \$11,000." Bates never wants graduates' debt to dictate the careers they pursue, Ginevan said.

Recently, many of Bates' competitors have announced that they are phasing out student loans as part of their financial aid packages and relying on grants and work-study. At the time of these announcements, President Hansen sent an e-mail to the college explaining that Bates' endowment was not large enough to do the same, but that Bates "remained committed to meeting the demonstrated financial need of all admitted students for all four years." Bates has the second lowest en-

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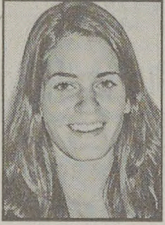
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# FORUM

The Bates Student

## Web Journalism Increases Readership, Not Profits



ALLIE GOLDSTEIN  
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

In attempting to solicit new subscribers to The Bates Student during Parents and Family Weekend registration, fellow editor-in-chief Sam Nagourney and I came across a few Bobcat parents who were a little too tech-savvy for our liking.

"Isn't this newspaper online?" a friend's father asked, leafing through the print edition and then declining to put his name on the sign-up sheet.

"Shhh," I said. "We're trying to downplay that fact."

I was joking (sort of), but his comment – and the experience of trying to sell a product that could be obtained for free – made me increasingly conscious of the "threat" that newspapers all over the world are facing: the Internet. Of course, The Bates Student is at best a microcosm for the larger problem, but even our little newspaper is ensnared in the financial implications of moving content online.

Right now, our print readership almost exactly matches our online readership. Last week, for instance, we printed 2,000 copies of the newspaper and received 1,889 hits on our website. To be fair, this data is probably a little skewed in favor of the website: it is possible that more than 2,000 people could read 2,000 copies of a newspaper (assuming they share) and that less than 1,889 people visited our website, since our provider calculates in terms of sessions, not unique visitors. Still, as our website improves, it is likely that online readership will soon eclipse print readership, and our already modest number of subscribers will dwindle.

However, as a college newspaper that is free on campus, we can feel pretty secure that our print edition will continue to fly (okay, gradually be taken) off the newsstand. The same may not be true for national dailies. Between Oct. 1, 2007 and March 30, 2008, only two of the top 20 national dailies – USA Today and the Wall Street Journal – posted an increase in print readership; the rest of them are in spiraling decline (Audit Bureau of Circulations).

The shift of readership to the Internet would not be such a problem if major newspapers had figured out a way to make web content profitable. However, according to the Inland Cost and Revenue Study, each print subscriber to a newspaper generates between \$500 and \$900 of annual revenue while each online visitor brings in between \$5

and \$10 (Wall Street Journal). Obviously, this discrepancy in revenue is not compensated for even with 20 million people typing nytimes.com into their browser. As a result, journalists have been laid off and newsstand prices have been hiked up. As the Times reported in July, "Analysts say that 2008 is shaping up as the worst year for the newspaper business since the Depression..."

What some newspapers seem to be realizing is that they simply cannot afford to make news free. The only two newspapers that have been increasing print circulation recently – USA Today and the Wall Street Journal – have implemented charges for access to electronic articles. While both websites offer some stories for free, USA Today sells annual, monthly and 24-hour passes to view archived articles and the Wall Street Journal actually has a little key icon next to some of their front-page stories, indicating that only online subscribers can read more than the preview.

Other newspapers, such as the New York Times, have decided to keep their web content free, faithful that increased ad revenue will soon follow their increased online readership. As Vivian Schiller, general manager of NYTimes.com, wrote in response to a reader's question, "As more and more news (and quasi-news) sites come online, we decided it was most important for us to be at the center of the online conversation. It's hard to do that when some of your most popular and provocative columnists are behind a pay wall." Schiller's answer seems to get at a bit of an altruistic attitude about online news: the idea that the Internet should be an electronic utopia where information flows fast and free. In many ways, I agree with her. While I would be more than willing to shell out a few quarters for the print edition of the Wall Street Journal, being unable to read those same articles online – for free – feels strangely like censorship. Still, there is no denying that these economic barriers mean that the Wall Street Journal is doing better than most other newspapers in terms of maintaining its base of print circulation.

Of course, anticipating the Armageddon of print journalism may be a little overdramatic, anyway. As Stephen B. Shepard, the former editor-in-chief of Business Week, said back in 1994, "Online services will coexist with print for the foreseeable future and maybe forever. It isn't an all-or-nothing proposition we are facing." Shepard's prophesy perhaps offers a more sober perspective. As Schiller

See WHY I STILL, page A4

## VP Debate Reveals Biden's Lack of Fiscal Understanding

HOPE STANESKI  
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

In last Thursday's Vice Presidential Debate, there was no doubt that Sarah Palin defied expectations. Palin demonstrated that despite being a "Washington outsider," she can hold her own on the national stage. Joe Biden also performed well in the debate, as was predicted for the six-term senator. But there was one area in which Sen. Biden defied expectations as well – I expected that after 36 years in the Senate, Biden would have developed a stronger understanding of our nation's economy. Instead, Biden proved his ignorance on the subject as he blamed the economic policies of the last eight years and John McCain's deregulatory stance for the recent crisis on Wall Street.

When asked about the financial crisis and the bailout plan, Biden responded, "It's evidence of the fact that the economic policies of the last eight years have been the worst economic policies we've ever had." In fact, the Wall Street crisis was a result of the burst of the housing bubble, which developed from the economic policies of Presidents Jimmy Carter and Bill Clinton, not those of George W. Bush.

In 1977, the Carter Administration passed the Community Reinvestment

Act to give equal credit opportunities to low-income communities by prohibiting banks from excluding low-income applicants from obtaining loans. In 1995, the Clinton Administration expanded the CRA so that banks would be penalized if they did not offer equal credit to low-income borrowers. Clinton's new regulations forced banks to offer subprime loans and mortgages, loans given to borrowers who were more likely to default. The subprime borrowers entered the housing market and increased demand for housing, which in turn increased housing prices – the beginning of the housing bubble.

When Biden commented on the economic policies of the last eight years, he must have forgotten that in 2003 the Bush Administration proposed a reform of Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac. The Democratic Congress voted against the reform proposal, which if passed would have prevented the current situation on Wall Street. In a New York Times article responding to the 2003 proposal, Rep. Barney Frank, the ranking Democrat on the Financial Services Committee, even said that "These two entities – Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac – are not facing any kind of financial crisis. The more people exaggerate these problems, the more pressure there is on these companies, the less we will see in terms of affordable hous-

ing." I bet in light of recent events, Rep. Frank regrets that statement. The Bush Administration tried to prevent the crisis while the Democrats ignored it; in no way did Bush's economic policies exacerbate it.

Biden also appears not to understand that government involvement in the banking industry caused the housing bubble. During the debate, Biden insisted that McCain's support of deregulation is "why we got into so much trouble." He fails to see that regulatory policies of the past caused the economic crisis and that the very existence of Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac as quasi-governmental agencies designed to finance mortgages is evidence of government regulations that have long fed the housing bubble.

In the debate, Sarah Palin put it in plain terms when she said that the government needs to "get out of the way." At one point, even Biden referred to deregulation as the "tried and true Republican response." Maybe Biden did not realize this, but by calling deregulation "tried and true," he admitted that deregulation has worked before and continues to work for our economy and that regulation has led our economy astray. Hopefully our next administration will understand that the government's role in the economy should be that of an umpire, not of a player.

## Could the Financial Crisis Burst the Bates Bubble?



MARIAM ALAM  
ASSISTANT  
FORUM EDITOR

We all know that life is a little different beyond the green lawns of Bates College. Out there, cars don't politely slow down as you jaywalk across the street. Not every person you walk by gives you a friendly smile. In the real world, underage drinking is illegal and paying rent is mandatory.

In the real world, the economy is also crashing.

Over the past few weeks, the infamous Bates Bubble has shown its resilience to the outside world more than ever. As the stock market cascades to record lows, Bates' feathers seem largely unruffled. While the rest of the world is in a state of extreme stress, most of us Bates students are more worried about upcoming midterms or mistakes we made over the weekend. Yes, we read the Times at breakfast, we engage in a few debates with friends at dinner, but we continue to go to class, to hit up Milt's at night, to spend most of our mind's energy on studying or socializing.

Let me first make clear that I am not arguing that our student body is ignorant or indifferent. Nor am I pretending to possess an in-depth understanding of the current state of our economy. To be sure, the high attendance at last week's "WTF? Bates Economists on the Economy" talk along with the admittedly amateur quality of my own article in the Student's last issue affirms both

of these points. But while many of us diligently check stocks on CNN every day, and while we call our parents to have them explain the latest news on the economy, our behavior has not really changed since this financial collapse began.

Millions of people have had to foreclose their mortgages. Americans across the country have gone to work only to find out that they have been laid-off. Most families have lost a significant amount of money. But for many of us at Bates, all of these facts remain abstract. Even if our own family has lost thousands of dollars, as I am sure is the case with a large percentage of Bates students, many of us maintain our weekly contributions to pools of beer money or can be found eating a hamburger at Milt's every other night.

Why does our consumption continue to outweigh our production as the rest of the country cuts back on spending in a struggle to keep their families afloat? Moreover, will the protective Bates Bubble eventually pop?

People's lives have been impacted directly and dramatically. Many families across the country have been forced to switch from buying brand food to eating generic; they have had to replace the more expensive and heartier steak dinners with bland but cheap pasta and rice. Forced to sell their cars, many Americans have turned to public transportation to get around (NPR.org). But at Bates, cars fill the parking lots and line the streets. Delicious meals with fresh local food are cooked every night in Commons. We spend, but as students, we do not produce.

Although some may contend that our continued consumption will ben-

efit the economy, this argument is inherently flawed. First of all, Bates students, and college students in general, are not considered the highest consumers in our economy. Yes, Keystone appreciates our money, but most other economic sectors do not see a dollar from us: most of us do not spend hundreds at the supermarket every week, invest significantly in the stock market or buy new homes. And by not really producing anything (working for Bates College as a tutor does not really count as contributing to the economy), we do not aid our economy's growth. Further, most of us Bates College spendthrifts rely at least somewhat on our parents' pockets. We spend money that we do not make. We are essentially wasted labor throwing cash in the trash.

And our ill-thought financial policies will surely not pay off in the long run. Right now we are young, free and invincible. But we are spending money that we really don't know if we should be spending. With the way our economy is going now, it is not unreasonable to think that our country could fall into a depression similar to that of the 1930s. The future is unclear, and not pretty. By living in oblivion and trying to do our part to personally ensure that americanaparel.com does not collapse, we fail to see the bigger picture and could actually be contributing to our family's eventual financial collapse.

And as much as I hope that our government's recent decisions will suddenly jump-start our economy, I think it is much more likely that reality will meander its way up to Bates and burst our bubble.

## Student Evaluations Process Needs Revision

### Study Shows Students Reward Professors Who Reward Them

ROMINA ISTRATHI  
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

These days, wherever I go, I hear people bubbling over the term "tenure." Professors, students, parents, even Mark, the custodian for my dorm, seem to preoccupy themselves with tenure and students' role in it. People are awakening and beginning to question and debate students' ability to evaluate their teachers and in doing so, grant or deny the professors the "immunity" that comes with tenure.

A news article in the Student addressed the issue last week, and the national media is rife with discussion of the proper place of student evaluations in the tenure process. Annemarie Bean teaches African American theater. She is a Wesleyan alumna and, until recently, she implemented her unique pedagogic methods at Wesleyan University. Why the past tense? Because not too long ago, according to an interview in New York Times Magazine,

Bean was pointed out the school's exit by her own students.

Of course, they didn't stage an uprising or complain outwardly about her classes, but they did make important hints about their professor's educational abilities through the evaluation sheets they were prompted to submit at the end of the year. Both Bean and the students knew that these evaluations sheets would make a difference. At the very beginning of the year, Jane Romano, Bean's department chairwoman, told her that she had to literally "win" the students' approval if she wanted to be recommended for another year at Wesleyan. However, it seems that Bean attributed to her students characteristics that they didn't possess. A more romantic version of the term "student" was governing her mind. And then she encountered the truth. When the hour of judgment came, her students put on the "customer facade." They became demanding and merciless. They called themselves experts and got down to

work. Evaluations such as "Bean was enthusiastic but not contagious," one that the New York Times recounted, can be considered pure products of this behavior.

Bean's example is not the only one to consider. Carolyn Byerly, a former journalism professor at Ithaca College, found herself in a similar situation. When she submitted her tenure file, she knew that the committee would resort to student evaluations in order to make its final decision. She was anxious. These nerves were clearly understandable because, despite her nine excellent peer reviews by colleagues who had attentively observed her teaching, Byerly was eventually refused tenure. Her students had done the job. Particularly, among hundreds of positive student evaluations, 43 of them were distinguished by the dean as trustworthy indications of insufficient excellence in Byerly's teaching ability. Hence, Byerly lost her chance for job

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## The Bates Student

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# Why Social Issues Should Not Define Your Politics

BRENDAN O'BRIEN  
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

"I am a libertarian with a small I and a Republican with a capital R. And I am a Republican with a capital R on grounds of expediency, not on principle." Milton Friedman said this in 2005. One of the most influential economists and political philosophers of the 20th century continued to identify himself as a Republican in the face of the Bush administration, whose domestic policy he disagrees with. Friedman is an individual who defines his politics by economics. He knows that economics is the most important domestic factor, rather than any of the various social issues.

Why shouldn't we define our politics by social issues? First of all, if our economy is strong, the social changes will often happen without focusing our attention on them. Secondly, social issues are rarely black and white. People who define their politics in terms of social issues often create false dichotomies – they are either for or against an issue. This is not how social issues should be looked at. There is room for gray area that spans all political factions. These false dichotomies do not create an accurate framework for defining our party lines.

Social issues can be broken into two parts: issues that people believe require government intervention for the improvement of lifestyle through freedom and economic mobility, and the specific freedoms that cause controversies and are focused on by the national media and in everyday conversation. These specific issues are often used for political advantage through the use of false dichotomies.

Can you name a single government, in any place or time, which used social or liberal principles of bigger government and bottom-up economics and was prosperous and free? India, China and Japan saw improvements for all of their citizens when their governments started to focus on economics rather than on the welfare of the middle and lower class. Social improvements come without political intervention. The social advancements that have come from a free market are often overlooked. The telephone, which used to be a luxury, is now a technology that has improved the lives and security of everyone. In the early 20th century, only the rich had telephones. But by the late '90s there were more people who had telephones than those who had running water in their homes in the first decade of the century. Was this because the government forced

telephone companies to make it a feasible right for every citizen to have a phone? No. It was a natural occurrence of the growth of our economy spurred by the investment of the rich in the growing field of telecommunications. This eventually led to the affordability of telephones. No one cared about the high cost of the telephone so there was no pressure from the government to intervene in the free market to bring the price down. Keeping the government out of this social issue allowed for economic growth that brought vast social changes and increased freedom for all Americans.

The problem is that we are now defining our politics not by economic issues but by social issues that we believe will help the poor. We care too much about social justice and too little about the economic growth which allows for both social freedom and improved living standards. This faulty logic of social justice is exactly what got us in this economic mess. It was the belief that it is only fair for the poor to have houses and that this can only be done by having the government require or pressure lenders into risky mortgages. But what if we had applied the same laissez faire attitude we had toward telecommunications and the housing market? The prices would

have been driven down rather than up, thus making houses more affordable.

What about those black and white social issues? Why should we ignore them? We should ignore those social issues because they do not in any way represent how either party defines themselves. Each party platform is defined by an adherence to a certain set of principles that can be applied to many different issues. These principles are a political means of establishing certain ends. That is to say, my beliefs are determined by what my principles are, not by my party. This is why certain factions in opposite parties may have the same beliefs. An example of this confusion came in last week's Student in which an article cited John Frary's stance on marijuana as "liberal." Frary believes government is overstepping its bounds of control and sees the criminalization of marijuana as being a huge and unnecessary drain on taxpayers' money. The stance is liberal in the sense of adherence to principles of freedom of government and progressive ideas of change. But the means Frary used to justify his position were based on libertarian principles – the true principles – of the Republican Party. Frary justified his stance economically and by using principles of limited government rather than the

social justice of liberalism. Those are two very different means to a certain political end.

The same goes for most issues believed to be dichotomous. Abortion, racism, sex education and gay marriage are complex issues that are not simply defined by the opposition of two political parties. This approach to social issues is best explained by Thomas Sowell, who argues that many "seem to assume that, if you don't believe in their particular political solutions, then you don't really care about the people that they claim to want to help." Republicans care about those who seek social justice – we simply do not agree with their approach. We take a different approach to a political means.

Consider your vote down the rest of the ballot. Try to pick a candidate who actually understands the economy. Pick a candidate who is not trying to take advantage of the false dichotomy of social issues for political gains. And most of all remember "[a] society that puts equality before freedom will get neither. A society that puts freedom before equality will get a high degree of both" (Milton Friedman, 1990). Put freedom and economics before the social issues that distract us from them and the social justice will follow.

## Shift in Popularity From Sitcoms to Glitzy Dramas Reveals Hypocrisy in American Political and Economic Values



REGINA TAVANI  
MANAGING FORUM  
EDITOR

A quick flip through a recent TV guide might as well be a flip through a fictional version of the Times social pages. In the past few seasons, both network and cable television have experienced an onslaught of shows portraying the dramas of the extraordinarily wealthy, and the continued growth in the genre suggests that Americans are watching them in significant numbers.

Gone are the days of the sitcom. We've seemed to have developed a love affair with the fictional and non-fictional lives of the rich and famous. But now that the majority of Americans will likely be facing some degree of economic hardship, what will this mean for our television watching habits? Will most turn away from the tube, not wanting to remind themselves that either their prosperity is no longer a reality or that their dreams of prosperity are no longer a possibility? Or will these shows provide a form of escapism? My hunch is the latter, but whatever the case, our growing obsession with this kind of entertainment suggests not only an unhealthy attitude about materialism,

but also a lack of sophistication in our viewing choices. Can we really find nothing more rewarding to watch than Serena van der Woodsen and company traipsing around the Upper East Side? Given the homogeneity of television programming lately, perhaps we can't.

Back in the '90s, sitcoms focused on the lives of normal, everyday people. Where are today's Tanners and Taylors? I suppose you could say they're over on channels such as TBS, which airs sitcoms like "The Bill Engvall Show." But let's be honest, who actually watches "The Bill Engvall Show"? Today's sitcoms do not define pop culture the way the sitcoms of the '90s and earlier eras once did. Now, the bulk of viewership has shifted toward dramas like "Gossip Girl" and "The OC," and as a result, those shows have come to define our culture.

This development, when you think about it, is a bit of an oxymoron. The '90s were a time of prosperity. Shows reflected this; the full house of Tanners and Katsopolises was comfortable in a way that reflected typical '90s affluence but did so in a measured way. The same could be said for "Home Improvement," "Family Matters" and the rest of Clinton-era television. A wide range of families, both poorer and wealthier than those on the show, could relate to their situations and to the issues the TV family faced at one level or another. Now, as the middle class shrinks and wealth becomes more polarized, plotlines solely involve wild

teenagers at tony prep schools. A situation the majority of Americans can relate to? I would think not.

One would presume that given their failure to capture a middle American way of life, these shows would fail after a season or two, especially in today's economic climate. After all, we have a penchant for electing into office "down-home" candidates who claim to understand the needs of America's working and middle classes because we believe their values should represent our country's values as a whole. Obama mentions Whole Foods at a speech in Iowa and FOX News has an aneurism. McCain's seven houses are a bigger deal than his involvement in Keating Five. Elitism is bad for politics, evidently, but it's great for television.

Millions of Americans are essentially saying, through their TV viewing habits, that the part of elitism they enjoy and perhaps aspire to is the visible, material spectacle of it. But the other side that often accompanies affluence – the side of a first-rate education, eloquence and savviness – that part they would rather condemn or ignore. Why do people criticize politicians like Obama and Kerry for being aloof and disconnected from average Americans and therefore unfit to be president, only to drool over the extravagant lives of the kids on the new "90210" remake?

People can lambaste politicians for their affluence all they want,

but pop culture suggests that those people may have a very unhealthy obsession with money themselves – the difference, in most cases, is that they don't have it. In that case, they ought to either quit complaining and make their voting choice on more reasonable grounds, or end their intake of these kinds of shows.

There is certainly nothing inherently wrong with being well-off, but the shows being aired on TV today portray a corrupt, irresponsible way of handling wealth. Young and impressionable viewers will want to emulate these characters' lifestyles in all facets. Many will be let down when they realize they themselves will never be able to live such a life, but many may in fact one day achieve it. Given those early influences, those viewers may one day act with the same moral and ethical irresponsibility toward their economic situation as demonstrated by actors on TV. If the current economic crisis has taught us anything, excess materialism is a recipe for fiscal disaster. It is therefore unhealthy for us to base our pop culture on "Laguna Beach" and "Privilege," especially during a time when millions of families struggle to make ends meet and when the wealthy lifestyle they seek in vain is clearly one of ostentatious materialism rather than refined prosperity. If we continue to define our lifestyle by what we see on TV, it will be that much more difficult for our economy to recover.

Of course, we're all entitled to this kind of TV indulgence once in a while if we desire it. Shows like "Beverly Hills, 90210" back in the day satisfied this craving without xeroxing themselves onto every channel. But when shows like this dominate our television culture, things have clearly gotten out of hand.

All issues of materialism and politics aside, there are simply better programs to watch on television, or at least to supplement with the "Gossip Girl" set. The Travel Channel, the History Channel and the Discovery Channel often air fascinating but educational programs. News shows are rarely boring these days since most have turned into pure punditry. And of course, we can't forget the one television phenomenon that can pack a punch while taking place not in Beverly Hills or Manhattan, but in Scranton. Television would do well to have a few more witty comedies like "The Office."

If we really are so concerned with electing an "average Joe" to the White House, why does our pop culture suggest we are enthralled by something else? We ought to pull ourselves away from the screen, seriously reexamine our values and consider what the television shows our demand has created really say about what America believes in. Our pop culture is materialistic and indulgent in a time demanding fiscal responsibility and prudence, and we ought to change it.

## The Vicious Bates Workload Cycle



JAMIE CRAGNOLINE  
STAFF WRITER

Camp Bates is over. The summer is winding down. The leisurely, sunny days of September now lie in our distant memory. We can no longer spend all day playing Frisbee and slack-lining on the Quad. No more will we wearily slump into bed at 8 p.m. after a long day of waterskiing on Taylor Pond or sunbathing at Popham. Some have been slaving away with their schoolwork since day one, but for those of us who have been avoiding it until now, time is up. We can no longer ignore the fact that we are at college and that we sort of have to do work.

It becomes evident rather quickly that Bates sticks to a pretty strict cyclical schedule, and we are currently coming out of the first hump. September commences with a slap in the face, waking us up and reminding us that we signed up for a competitive liberal arts school. The month then proceeds with waver-ing amounts of work, keeping us on our toes but not quite dragging us under yet. With the arrival of October, as sure as the changing leaves comes the first avalanche of schoolwork. It is common knowledge that all of our professors meet in an underground bunker, conspiring to ensure that due dates for papers and exam dates coincide perfectly in all of our classes, so the fact that all of our work lands on the same days should come as no surprise.

After the popular midterm period of early October (which is not actually mid-way through the term, may I point out), we are given a brief period of time to come up for air before we are slammed again before leaving for October break. October break is actually sandwiched between two slapping sessions so that

we cannot truly relax over the break, anticipating all the while what to expect when we return to school.

Assignments snowball over October and into November. If you think October break is a teaser, it is nothing compared to Thanksgiving break. Bates sells this vacation as a full week of gorging and leisure, but it is actually only a period of dread before the bedlam that is the last two weeks of the semester. These consist of the final week of classes and exam week, punctuated by our one day "reading period" (a concept so preposterous that I won't get into it now). Basically, these two weeks spell late nights (all-nighters for those not faint of heart), junk food binging, deterioration of all work ethic and moral principles, and consequently, death.

This schedule sometimes has a little alteration, but I swear to you, it runs like clockwork every year. And it's not healthy. Thus, I wish to propose a few solutions to bring an end to this repetitive and debilitating cycle.

For the most part, Bates courses are rife with academia, overflowing with discussion, reading, analysis, examination and the like. All the classes I have taken fit this description word for word. However, rumor has it that some "easy" classes exist at Bates. They are few and far between, but they are lurking in the corners of ancient academic buildings, waiting to be found. I know that we are here to challenge ourselves, but could one "easy" class in our course load really hurt? Now, it is not that simple to find these classes. Courses with the friendliest and least intimidating names can end up being the trickiest. "Fakers, Forgers, Looters, Thieves" – sounds fun, right? Not so much. I think we should begin a comprehensive list of the classes we have come upon that may give us a relief from the typical workload. This list must not be abused, of course.

It would be carefully circulated within the student body for those who could not do without it. One would be limited to no more than one of these classes per semester to ensure space for all those who need it.

Another idea is what I would like to call the "top-down bottom-up," strategy. As I have discussed earlier, while workload fluctuates throughout the semester, the general trend is a snowball effect, starting off small and simple and then accumulating through the months, climaxing with finals week. What if we broke up the monotony? I see no good reason why some classes could not instead begin with finals week.

Yes, some of us might find it tricky to start off a course with an intensive examination or lengthy essay on a subject we know little about. But think of the benefits! The tradeoff for early exams would be an overall lessening of work throughout the semester. In November and December, when some classes were becoming almost unbearable, your other classes would be reduced to a workload similar to that seen during the first few weeks of school. That, to me, seems worthwhile. In order to make this plan a success, roughly half of all professors would commit to teaching in the traditional top-down method, i.e., beginning slow and accumulating work as normal. The other half of instructors would reverse this itinerary with the bottom-up method and begin with finals and end with the first week of school. Flawless.

While I think these ideas are useful, I don't know if I see either of them being instated immediately. Innovation takes time. So until then, we must stay strong. Know the cycle. Try to make the best of it. And of course, Camp Bates is never truly over for those who strive to keep it going. I hear that there is already a waitlist for fall session '09.

## BATES RATES

Kids abandon visiting parents to go out for "dinner and a movie"



Babysitters hired to make sure parents are in bed by 9 p.m. sharp.

A cappella groups unveil newest members



Verdict: the newbies have got some pipes.

Midterm week arrives; no looking back



October break: a light at the end of a tunnel, or a train coming full speed ahead?

Commons closed between breakfast and lunch on Saturday; chicken patties replaced by burgers



By far Commons' least impressive and most blatant attempt to please our parents.

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# Your Mouth: Put Cigarettes in Now; Put Dentures in Later

DAVID L. BAKER  
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

Why do I see so many people smoking cigarettes on the Bates College campus?

I am very curious to learn why some people in the Bates community, who have been taught the rigors of critical thinking, do not transfer those skills when their actions jeopardize their health. I am sure that everyone has heard or read somewhere about the detrimental effects of nicotine on a human's lung tissue. I am also sure that everyone has seen someone walking around their hometown breathing through a plastic hose connected to an oxygen bottle. Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease (emphysema) is the fourth leading cause of death in the U.S. and the most visible medical sequel to a long-term tobacco smoking habit. A library or Google search for relevant research on the ill effects of smoking on human tissue and longevity will produce a voluminous folder. I do not intend to rehash the already common information that appears in print and video media. Rather, I intend to recount my personal observations from a 25-year career in dentistry.

My credentials for this article are the following: Bates College 1970, SUNY Buffalo School of Dental Medicine 1978, general practice in dentistry in Norway and Auburn, Maine for 22 years, and Professor of Dental Hygiene at the University of New England, Portland for five years. The dental disease manifestations of smoking and tobacco chewing are less well-known, and I hope to increase your awareness of those. I feel it is part of my dental ethics and professional oath to inform friends and community members of information learned from my personal experience and professional training.

My first personal observation will involve non-dental tissues; it is easy to visualize and very important to understand. The first two years of dental school at SUNY Buffalo involved classes with the medical students about 90 percent of the time. One day in Pathology during the second

year, the professor entered the room carrying two galvanized steel pails. The pails sat on the counter in full view as the professor lectured on lung tissue. All such instruction begins with an explanation of normal tissue characteristics and proceeds to the abnormal or diseased. The philosophy is that clinicians cannot hope to diagnose pathology if the normal is not firmly locked into their decision-making checklist. As a second year dental student with a low quotient of wisdom, I must admit that, for me, the subject of lung tissue lacked spark, but those pails were intriguing. Within five minutes of viewing the pails, every student in that room was intensely aware of the importance of the subject. There are days when pedagogy smacks you hard.

The professor reached over and pulled the two pails closer to him. He put on his clinical exam gloves and reached into Pail #1 and held up a pinkish, Jell-O-like object that changed its shape depending upon the support given by two hands. Following his demonstration of this normal human lung, the professor dropped the lung back into the pail, and the sound heard was a faint noise such as a wet dish rag might make being dropped eight inches into a galvanized pail. Though the tissue type was identical to that in Pail #1, Pail #2 held a very different object. The professor was now holding a black object that more or less retained its shape as it was handled. Following his description of this lung, which was removed from the chest cavity of a long-time smoker, he dropped the diseased lung back into the pail. This time, the sound heard was a sound you would expect to hear if a very large charcoal briquette was dropped into a galvanized steel pail. My guess is that the cause of death for the human whose cadaver donated this lung was recorded as "Congestive Heart Failure precipitated by Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease."

The mouth is a harsh environment and its tissue types - various soft epithelial phenotypes (gums and tongue) and the hard tissues of bone and teeth - are adapted to cope with the extremes of food chemistry, temperature and hardness. A little daily hygiene and your teeth can certainly last a lifetime. Smoking cigarettes

allows the nicotine in cigarette smoke to bathe the tissues of the oral cavity and induce changes to the small blood vessels of the gums. The gums are constantly being attacked by bacteria and wounded by chemicals and rough foods, but there exists an ongoing balance between the injury rate and the repair rate in a healthy mouth. All the biological repair materials and protective immune cells must be delivered to the gums via the blood vessels. A reduction in the vessel transport system upsets the balance and leads to periodontal disease, which is a bacterial disease of the supporting structures around teeth. Diseased gums and subsequent loss of bone leads to infected, loose teeth, then to tooth extraction and finally to dentures. Smokers have a much higher than normal incidence of periodontal disease. Just remember that dentures are not a replacement for teeth, they are a cosmetic replacement for no teeth. A human loses 90 percent of his or her chewing power when teeth are replaced by dentures.

Oral carcinoma is one of the prime reasons why dentists and hygienists do a thorough oral exam. They should grab your tongue with a gauze pad and pull it out and move it to each side, checking both sides of the base of the tongue for lesions. Oral carcinoma is scary because it is hard to detect, and small, innocuous lesions metastasize before being discovered. Treatment often involves surgical removal of large areas of the jaw and face; fabrication of a prosthesis made of silicone and plastic; and, oftentimes, constant vigilance to make sure the cosmetics hiding the intersection of skin and prosthesis look real. Having a prosthetic nose attached to your eye glass frame is a possibility. Humans who smoke tobacco and who chew tobacco have the highest rates of oral carcinoma, and five year survival rates are dismal for those with oral carcinoma. Humans who breathe secondary tobacco smoke for long periods have lower rates of oral carcinoma and lung disease than smokers but higher rates than non-smokers, and that is the medical reason for laws about no smoking in confined, public spaces.

I once volunteered to do an oral cancer screening exam as a free public service segment at a local pharmacy. People were encouraged to come to the pharmacy and receive a preventive exam, a free toothbrush and professional guidance, or, if they had an unusual lump or bump that would not heal, to be examined and receive treatment options. By the end of the afternoon I was in shock; I saw a greater variety of cancerous-looking lesions in that pharmacy than I had seen in dental school. Lesions on tongues, inside cheeks and on lips were so large that diagnosis was simple. The nearest oral surgeon was in Lewiston or Portland, and I wonder to this day if any of the victims went for even a consultation and biopsy. If not, I am positive that they are all dead now. Nicotine stains on teeth seemed to correlate with the diseased cases I saw that day. I realize that my report here about nicotine stains is just anecdotal, but if true would agree to a high degree of validity with published double-blind studies.

I am sure that your dentist in your hometown has similar stories to tell of events in his or her practice. All humans are physiologically the same and resistant to chronic disease in a very narrow range of variation, otherwise we would not be labeled collectively as human. Yes, we all know of someone who burned the candles at both ends, violated all the rules of sensible action and lived to tell the story. But, common things happen commonly, and only a very small minority of us will not suffer if we choose to live unwisely. Do not even entertain the thought that you are somehow immune to the diseases that strike smokers among your friends, family or strangers. If you smoke tobacco you will suffer some consequence; use your critical thinking skills and modify your behavior. Seek medical advice and take advantage of one of a myriad of smoking cessation methods. If you see me walking around campus and you want more advice, do not hesitate to stop me. If I do not have the exact answer, I will steer you to a better source.

*Editor's note: David L. Baker, DDS is the Acting Director of Academic Operations in the Office of the Dean of the Faculty.*

## Digitz

32

Cases of Salmonella poisoning reported across 12 states.

10,000,000

Approximate number of years footprints of astronauts who landed on the moon should last because the moon has no atmosphere.

6,000,000,000

Number of dust mites the average bed houses.

2,500,000

Number of rivets in the Eiffel Tower.

100

Number of years scientists believe AIDS has been circulating in humans, according to a recent study.

800

Points by which the Dow plunged yesterday, dropping below the 10,000 mark for the first time in five years.

sources: cnn.com, berro.com

## Why I Still Like to Read the News the Old-fashioned Way

CONTINUED FROM PAGE A2

points out, "Radio did not supplant newspapers; television did not supplant radio; and there's scant evidence that the Internet is fast replacing any existing form of legacy media, including print" (NYTimes.com).

That said, as more and more people turn to the Internet for their news, it seems an apt time to acknowledge what may be lost - and gained - from putting newspapers online. One obvious gain is that there are things that are impossible in print - such as video and audio - that are now possible online. NYTimes.com recently launched audio slide shows which overlay photographs with reporter and subject voiceovers. Another advantage to online journalism is the increased interaction between the news-makers and the news-readers. While print newspapers are limited to letters to the editor, their online counterparts may include countless reader comments, often in conversation with each other. Personally, my favorite aspect of online newspapers is the ability to run searches by keyword, a feature that yields a comprehensive history of all the articles printed on a particular subject and allows you to see how a story developed over weeks or even years.

Perhaps the most important - and most controversial - difference be-

tween print and online journalism is the turnover. As Jim Roberts, the digital news editor of the New York Times, said of the shift, "In the old days, reporters would spend the bulk of their days gathering information, doing research, interviewing sources and then in the mid-to-late afternoon sit down and hammer out 900 words for the next day's paper. That is so 1996" (NYTimes.com). Online jour-

Personally, I prefer to get a little ink on my hands.

nalism requires instead that news be reported practically as it happens and that articles be constantly updated as stories develop. This kind of immediacy has its merits, but it also means that articles are posted in their rawer versions. Reporters no longer have the luxury of ruminating on their articles long enough to come up with the best, most comprehensive interpretation of the events.

Also, the advance in online journalism and the increased demand for breaking news has caused many news sources to leech off of each other, meaning that local television stations pick up stories from local newspapers and most major newspapers post articles by the Associated Press. Although

this process allows important stories to reach more people, it also homogenizes the news by reducing the need for reporters to follow their own leads and find their own sources.

To me, though, the most tragic consequence of a decline in print journalism is the loss of tangibility. There's just something about penciling in the answers to a crossword puzzle, or clipping out a picture of your favorite baseball player, or brewing a cup of coffee and spreading a Sunday edition across the kitchen table that can never quite be replaced by online news. Personally, I prefer to get a little ink on my hands.

So, to our new print subscribers, here's a little piece of breaking news: We do have a website. It's www.batesstudent.com, and you are welcome to go there to read my, and only my, columns. (According to our counter, Regina Tavani beat me out by 22 reads last week, so keep clicking, Mom.) For everything else, get the most out of your \$30 and wait for the mail to snail its way down from Maine. You're supporting a good cause (student journalism, of course) and there's also something warm and fuzzy about holding the fruit of our labor in your hands. We'll also be adding a print-exclusive crossword puzzle in case the New York Times is ruining your self confidence. So, enjoy! And, unfortunately, no refunds.

## Students' Assessments Should Not Determine Tenure

CONTINUED FROM PAGE A2

stability and security because of some anonymous, handwritten evaluations such as "This teacher supports gay rights" or "This teacher has a political agenda."

What should these examples tell us? Does the fact that Annemarie Bean was not rehired mean that her teaching had flaws and that she didn't deserve career stability? Or should we believe that the committee's denying Carolyn Byerly tenure reflected the professor's inability to meet its expectations? Absolutely not. Whatever these professors are like in their classes, their situation pinpoints the difficulties encountered when students are asked to evaluate their professors. Students almost always consider qualities like popularity, kindness or even amicability. They strongly believe that their professors must possess all of the above in order to be "good." If a teacher is too aloof, not frequently smiling at the students and not delivering anecdotes at least once every 10 minutes, he or she makes the students' black lists. So, comments like "not contagious at all" and "too boring to motivate me" make their way onto the stage.

Level of difficulty to obtain high grades is another factor that these attentive observers, called "the students," bear in mind when assessing a teacher's

capacities. In fact, some argue that dispersion of good grades can function as a great substitute for qualities like wit and charm. Clark Glymour, a philosopher at Carnegie Mellon University, in his argumentative letter "Why the University Should Abolish Faculty Course Evaluations," undertakes the mission to prove that students are more "indulgent" with professors who more easily hand out A's. Here is an example he gave to the New York Times: During his years as chairman, Glymour hired an assistant professor who repeatedly got the lowest faculty evaluations. However, according to Glymour, this professor was a paragon of excellence - he conducted great studies and published outstanding scholarly work. But, he was also a professor of traditional and conventional philosophical matters. Thus, Glymour kept worrying. Then, the next semester came and with it the new students' assessments. The outcome? Glymour's assistant professor had received the highest overall student evaluations. When Glymour asked him what major changes he had made, his assistant professor replied, "Before evaluations sheets were given out, almost all students knew that they were going to get A's. I see no reason to sacrifice my career to the cause of grade deflation."

Of course, stories like this are ubiquitous. They could be considered either untrustworthy or unique examples of student evaluations failing their

purposes. However, they could also be regarded as substantial mirrors of reality when supported by evidence. This evidence comes in the form of research conducted not more than two years ago at Ohio State University. The three economists who headed the study found a strong correlation between grades in a course and reviews of the professor. They proved that students like rewarding those professors who reward them.

In addition, we have to realize that students are humans. And humans are not flawless. They are biased - biased when it comes to food, sports, acquaintances, cars and a million other things. So why shouldn't they be prejudiced against their professors as well? Most surveys that are being conducted nowadays show that students have preferences. They like courses that don't entail much writing and they love those which involve speech and participation. Furthermore, they are inimical to history and other courses that require a retentive memory. Math and biology are thought to be more tangible and reasonable. Politics courses are often considered boring. And generally, students have a bias against difficult classes or courses that require assiduity. Thus, when they are called to evaluate professors that teach "hard" courses, students identify their disapproval of the class with the professor that teaches it.

In Bean's case, we find a good example. According to her, in her class there was a group of white men (she is white herself) who "sat there the whole time wearing their white hats on, looking angry." Bean speculates that these must have been students who had been constrained to take the class and who thus didn't find it interesting.

So, we have seen some of the most important reasons that lead many to dispute the use of student evaluations in faculty reviews. Although I myself agree that these assessments could prove misleading, I still believe that they should exist. We live in a democratic society. Students should be able to express their disapproval; they should be able to have a "complaints office." But this "complaints office" has to be improved. Here are a few ideas:

It is generally understood that students cannot realize the value of a course immediately and that they need time to determine how much knowledge they gained from a course. For these reasons, it would be better to let students evaluate a course two or more years after they take it. In this way, they would be able to judge based on more experiences and a broader and more representative image of professors' teaching ability.

Second, what about measuring teaching effectiveness by outcomes? Obviously, this has its own drawbacks. The academic community would have to find

some good and bad outcome measures. Furthermore, how could we determine a good outcome when it comes to courses like "Moral Questions and Political Choices"? And what about classes that are taught in order only to motivate and stimulate the brain? Yes, there are difficulties, but the advantages of this solution outnumber the obstacles. If we eventually evaluated courses in this way, professors would not be harmed by impetuous comments, and students themselves would benefit. How? The professors would likely treat students' remarks more seriously given the introspection the students may have gone through in order to produce their comments, and subsequently they may even change their attitudes. They would trust students more and they would be more open to changing aspects of their pedagogic methods.

Whatever we decide to do in the future, we have to realize that students' critiques are unavoidable. They will always come in one way or another, if not in formal evaluations. What the academic community has to do is ensure that evaluations are as beneficial as possible for both the students and the professors. Some of these ways are already being discussed. Others wait stoically in some academician's brain to be discovered. Let's just hope that things will quickly change, because as we can see, the current situation regarding student evaluations causes more problems than it solves.



# NEWS

The Bates Student

## Understanding College Finances

CONTINUED FROM PAGE A1

dowment of all NESCAC schools.

As for why our endowment is lower, Ginevan pointed to two factors. One, "the alumni base has always been strong believers in philanthropy, but giving to Bates hasn't always been the most important cause to fund. Lots of people would give to local or larger charities but not necessarily back to Bates...because everyone says, 'Well, Bates has plenty of money, I don't need to give back to Bates, I need to give to this program that does good social things.'"

Second, in the late '80s and '90s, "many of our peers were ahead of the curve" in investing in "more aggressive and riskier - but appropriately risky - investments, such as hedge funds," explained Ginevan. "They were investing in a mutual fund that was returning 15 percent while we were invested in bonds that were returning five percent," he said.

Ginevan downplayed the conception that Bates is "poor" because our endowment is low relative to other NESCAC schools. "It's funny, we talk about what little money we have... but I would encourage anyone to really do a little research. The problem is that we only think of our endowment in light of our peer group, like Williams and Amherst and folks that have a lot of money. So \$270 million seems like a small number when you compare it with billion dollar endowments, but if you think about the fact that there are 3,500 colleges and universities in the country, we're in the top couple percent - the very top of the pyramid, the richest of the rich," explained Ginevan. "We feel poor, but let's keep it in perspective."

Assistant Treasurer Ned Carr, or "the endowment guy," as his colleague calls him, explained a bit about how the endowment works. "The minimum goal for the endowment is to maintain its real purchasing power over time, and 'real' means inflation adjusted. At a minimum, say 20 years from now, you want the endowment to have the same purchasing power that it has for this generation of students, so you maintain

that intergenerational equity."

To achieve this, "endowment investing now is quite a bit different than it was even 10, 15, especially 20 years ago. Back then, a school's endowment was mainly invested in U.S. assets, so there'd be some kind of a split between U.S. stocks and U.S. bonds. And since then, gradually, what the shift has been is to include many, many more asset classes in the endowment. [Today,] our endowment is invested in a wide variety of asset classes that take into account all the markets worldwide and all the different kinds of markets. So, instead of just stocks and bonds like it would have been 20 years ago, now you still have stocks and bonds, but they make up a much smaller part of the endowment, and you have things like real estate, commodities, international stock markets [and a] variety of different hedge funds," explained Carr.

For students who aren't Wall Street savvy, "a hedge fund, as opposed to a regular portfolio of stocks, can do what's called selling short. Typically, when anybody invests, they buy things, [which] is called owning something long - that means you own it and you hope it goes up in price and if it does, you do well and if it doesn't you don't do well. What differentiates a hedge fund is that it can own things long, but it can also sell things short, which means it can benefit if the price of something declines that it has sold short. So, theoretically, it should be able to make money whether the market is going up or down. The goal now is to make the endowment sort of all-weather, if you will, so it can do reasonably well in any environment - now that's the goal, you don't always get that," clarified Carr.

When asked if Bates' endowment would be affected by recent economic distress, Carr responded, "Yes, without a doubt, everybody's will because there have been very few asset classes that have gained value in this turmoil of the last couple of months. Almost everything has gone down in value...in order for a portfolio to go up in this kind of environment, you would have had to been invested a lot in some very narrow slices of assets, like gold, maybe, or non-U.S. currencies [that] have generally done well.

And it's not that we don't own any of that stuff, it's just that we own a lot of other things too, and in this particular environment, all that stuff has been affected."

"The good news," Ginevan pointed out, "is that we don't have any major issues short term, because [our spending from the endowment] is a weighted average." Bates averages its returns over 13 quarters, so if the College had a financial problem one year, those four quarters would be balanced by the other 13. "So, we don't benefit when we have four great quarters - at least not dramatically - [because] the effect is blended out, smoothed out."

"Our borrowings have increased over the last couple of years... We use metrics - [specifically] Moody's rating - to [determine] what can we borrow...and still be fiscally responsible," explained Ginevan. "We are and will continue to be well within that range," but he added, "Now, the reality is, we might get to a point where we decide we don't want to borrow more money." So how does Bates continue to build new structures when the economy is floundering? "Often times," Ginevan reassured, "we're spending gifts that come in, that have nothing to do with borrowing money.... We're moving along like any other year."

"We hire up to 50 outside investment firms to invest different parts of the endowment and each one of those firms would have a special area of expertise and that's why we hire them. We don't manage any assets in-house," said Carr. However, a committee of the Board of Trustees is responsible for all investment actions and decisions regarding the endowment.

Although "alums are certainly the target audience for growth of the endowment," Ginevan also added, "You have folks who work at Bates who aren't alumni who give, folks in the local community that love Bates but that aren't necessarily alumni that give, friends of the college, such as parents of alums... and rarely you get the anonymous gift of somebody who just appreciates what Bates is about."

Bates distinguishes between two types of gifts. First are the "gifts that you make to the endowment that get invested long term." Second, the Office of College Advancement

## How Does Bates Spend its Money? Figures from the 2005 Tax Return

### Total Functional Expenses: \$93,430,829

- Compensation of officers, directors, trustees: \$0
- Other salaries and wages: \$37,125,301
- Pension plan contributions: \$3,374,793
- Other employee benefits: \$5,458,351
- Accounting fees: \$185,255
- Legal fees: \$ 148,427
- Telephone: \$ 355,647
- Postage and shipping: \$358,941
- Printing and publications: \$755,636
- Travel: \$ 1,742,611
- Conferences, conventions, and meetings: \$238,376
- Investment fees: \$1,380,570
- Food and beverage: \$2,425,979

### Compensation of "Key employees"

- President Elaine Tuttle Hansen: \$257,603
- Treasurer Terry Beckmann: \$177,000

### Compensation of the five highest paid employees (apart from Key employees)

- Professor David Aschauer (Economics): \$143,229
- Professor Dennis Brown (Russian): \$142,938
- Vice President Alice Reich (no longer at Bates): \$180,400
- Professor Michael Murray (Economics): \$154,593
- Vice President Victoria Devlin (no longer at Bates): \$201,600
- Total number of other employees paid over \$50,000: 231

This data was collected and reported by guidestar.org, a public database that tracks non-profit organizations with the goal of "advancing transparency." 2005 is the latest year for which tax returns are available to the public.

solicits donations "that go towards the operating fund, or the Bates Fund... The way we draw money from the endowment for the operating budget is based on a formula... for every \$100 that you give to the endowment, we get to take five dollars, in essence, towards the operations, but when you give that \$100 gift to the Bates Fund, we take all

\$100 and spend it towards that year's operating budget," explained Ginevan.

For current students, "rest assured we'll be asking you for money when you graduate," Ginevan joked, adding, "but we'll get you to that point. You can focus on your classes, you don't have to worry about the budget of Bates College."



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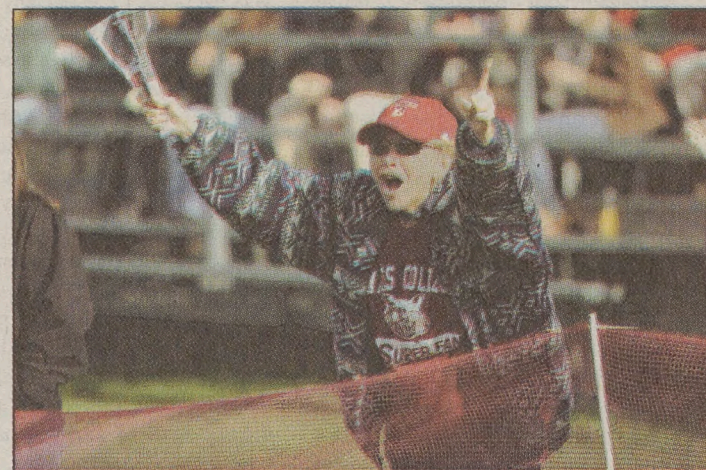
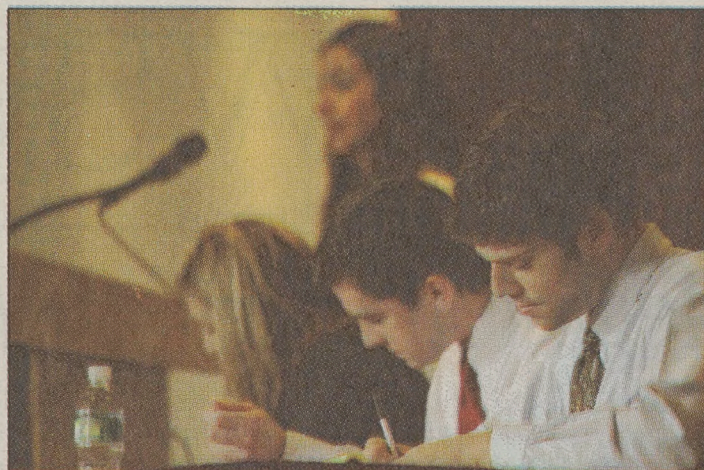
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LOUISA DEMMITT, THE BATES STUDENT

**PARENTS AND FAMILY WEEKEND IN REVIEW** — Clockwise, from top left: Members of the Outing Club take a sunrise paddle on Lake Auburn Friday morning; Geoff Shaughnessy '09 and Jared Levy '09 prepare to argue for the consideration of legacies in Admissions at the Parliamentary Debate; an entry to "Reuse, Rebuild, Reward!" glows outside of Commons; a Bates superfan cheers on the football team in its match against Williams Saturday afternoon; Quarterback Ryan Larsen '11 gives a sign from the Bates endzone; a young fan keeps track of the game from his own perch, head and shoulders above the crowd.

## Students Ask Questions of God

### Christian Fellowship Hosts Panel for Discussion of Faith

ALEXANDRA KELLY  
MANAGING NEWS EDITOR

The Bates Christian Fellowship hosted a panel discussion on Oct. 1 on the topic of "Questions of God." Students were invited to ask thoughtful questions about the faith and lives of three ministers who have all done work on college campuses.

A week before the panel discussion, BCF placed a posterboard outside the mailroom with "God, I have a question..." on it. Throughout the week, students wrote questions on the board, both serious and sarcastic. Some of the more meaningful issues addressed included "Which religion is right if they all say the other's wrong?" "Are we one nation under you?" and "If everyone's sin is forgiven does everyone go to Heaven?"

Mike Tyne, the Catholic Campus Minister at Bates, Denise Rossetti, the Boston Area Director for InterVarsity Christian Fellowship, of which BCF is a part, and Will Trusdell, a Bates alum who is Northeast New England Director for InterVarsity Christian Fellowship and campus minister for Colby, did not answer the questions on the board, instead responding to queries from the moderator and audience.

Eric Pier '09, Outreach Coordinator for BCF, introduced the panelists and the Christian Fellowship, explaining that the group's purpose "is to encourage and equip students to follow Jesus Christ as our Lord," and that the theme of the panel discussion was to get students to ask questions and give them responses from dedicated Christians. He asked the audience to steer clear of debating issues.

The first question, asked of all three panelists, was why, in the midst of so many options for living one's life, did they choose to live as Christians. Each panelist described his or her personal relationship with faith and what it meant to them to choose Christianity. Rossetti grew up as a Christian, so her choice to remain one in her adult life was not a conversion experience. However, it was not simply a passive transition. She said that learning about the injustice and suffering in the world made her "dig into scripture." She looked at the Bible's relationship to the world today and to what she wanted that world to be, and she found what she called "the divine touch in the world."

Trusdell came to the realization that he wanted to be a Christian his senior year in high school after being skeptical through his teen years. Now, "the older I get, the more questions I have," he said. "I'm less certain about a lot of things, but I'm more certain about the fundamental things: Jesus Christ lived, died and rose again."

Tyne's road to Christianity was less direct and came later than it did for Trusdell or Rossetti. "I thought I was content and wanted to be honest about living," he said. "It seemed like being a Christian denied too many things." Ultimately, though, it came down to what he calls a question of truth, saying to God, "I just want to know truth. If you're true, if you're really with me, how can I be closer to you?"

The next question was whether or not evangelism was arrogant because there are so many other religions in the world. The panelists all agreed that the wrong type of evangelism would certainly do more harm than good but that

part of living as a Christian was to present that message to others. "I'm a big believer in freedom," Tyne said. "To be really free, we need to make free choices. For me, in order to choose freely, a person has to be presented with as much honest, open information as possible. I'm grateful that the truth was presented to me; I wouldn't have been able to choose it otherwise."

Rossetti put the question into the context of her family: "If I truly believe that Jesus is the son of God, then I want that for my siblings," she said. "To live in integrity of that belief, I have to present it to them."

Trusdell echoed the idea that spreading Christianity has to be motivated by a desire to do good. "Out of love, yes," he said. "Out of power, that's the opposite of the message. The core of the message is not condemnation; it's salvation."

Other questions addressed the perception of Christianity by non-Christians today, the role of religion in government and politics, the seeming lack of miracles in modern times, and the meaning and purpose of prayer. The panelists discussed the role of faith and morality in making decisions on both a small and large scale, and they emphasized that the overall goal of living as a Christian is to become closer to God.

Pier closed the forum with an invitation to any interested students to talk to one of the members of BCF if they had questions about faith and to use the group as a resource for knowledge and support. Particularly in an environment like that at Bates, he said, where many seem to be apathetic or even hostile to the idea of religion, "The hardest thing to do, to live as a Christian, is to do it alone."

## Vanpool Helps Climate, Wallets

ERICA ONG  
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

Though it may seem that getting from Point A to Point B isn't as easy as it used to be, some beg to differ. For those folks who don't have the privilege of living where they work — for example, on campus — the typical concerns of gas prices, travel time, and what Office of Communications and Media Relations staff writer Doug Hubley calls "carbon guilt" have been reduced. Van 39 is a GO MAINE operated vanpool for about 11 people to commute from the Lewiston-Auburn area to the greater Portland area.

It is the "newest and 17th such vanpool — something in between a bus route and a carpool," said Hubley, who is a member of Van 39. The Greater Portland Council of Governments, the Maine Department of Transportation, and the Maine Turnpike Authority administer GO MAINE, a state-wide commuter services program that "reduc[es] commuting costs, sav[es] you money on gas and vehicle wear and tear, and [simultaneously reduces] air pollution and traffic congestion by reducing the number of vehicles on the road."

Bopping to light tunes, catching up on the daily news or engaging in everyday discussions are just a few things GO MAINE members are able to do during their commute. Furthermore, they are able to save on fuel costs and contribute towards carbon-release relief, which "fits into [Bates'] overall sustainability plan" said Environmental Coordinator Julie Rosenbach.

According to Hubley, "a 25-mpg vehicle puts out 6.2 tons of carbon

dioxide into the atmosphere. Van 39 puts out more than twice that much, but divided among 11 riders, the annual output per person is more like a ton." In the greater scheme of things, 3,045 tons of carbon dioxide won't be going into the atmosphere thanks to the year-long registered GO MAINE commuters. Carey Kish, the GO MAINE manager, estimates a total savings of \$1,886,000 worth of driving expenses in a typical year, depending on the varying cost of gas. That represents the total cost of fuel, car maintenance, and tolls, versus the \$90 a month fee to be a member of Van 39.

A carpool to and from the Portland area has always existed at Bates. However, due to conflicting schedules, the number of participants dwindled down to three. With some initiative, Rosenbach and Nan Boucher, a St. Mary's employee, got in touch with GO MAINE. Now Van 39 currently has a 10-person waiting list, 11 members, one primary driver, Rosenbach herself, and three back-up drivers.

Although vanpool members may face longer workdays to accommodate everyone's schedule, the benefits outweigh the cost. The vanpool is cost-effective, convenient and provides a sense of community. Those who register for GO MAINE are eligible for ride-matching services and an emergency-ride home service (which is free) in case there's a rideshare problem. Depending on the demand, GO MAINE will expand to better suit the needs of its members by way of route and the number of vans available.

"Compared to the daily solo commute that numbs your soul, drains your wallet and ruins your car, the vanpool is a pleasant way to travel," said Hubley.

## Explaining Food Psychology

GARDINER NARDINI  
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

After applauding "places like Bates" for comprising the core of American education, Paul Rozin, a professor of psychology at the University of Pennsylvania, dove into a gripping discourse on the psychology of food.

What is so special about food, and does it really say anything about human nature? The amount of time spent participating in food-related activities such as shopping, preparation, eating and cleaning is trumped only by time spent sleeping, which is our number one occupation, and time spent working, our number two occupation, for the average human, Rozin explained. In addition, food constitutes the largest source of financial expenditures worldwide. Based on this information, it's clear that food is intrinsic both to our economy and to our individual lifestyles.

However, the fountainhead of Rozin's argument was the idea that all humans, by eating, derive a sense of individual communion with the surrounding world. In other words, eating is "pretty personal" in that we use it to mix our bodies with external things via our mouths.

So what does this mean for all of us? Pre-adaptation, as postulated by Ernst Mayr, is the process by which a trait or character fits a function for which it wasn't initially intended. Eating, once purely a means to sustain our bodies, has become a means for pleasure and personal expression. The ingestion of a decorated, multicourse meal could place a person in an exclusive social group. Adherence to a strict diet of local, organically grown food might convey that the eater rebukes the military-industrial food system and cares about the environment.

Rozin pointed out that an unprocessed food item is more attractive than a processed one for some, even if the two items are chemically identical. The

competition between processed and organic has manifested itself in many human calculations, but as seen here, the calculus isn't always founded on science but on something more along the lines of a food culture.

The professor observed that food preference is sharply reflective of human nature. Although at younger ages, we are predisposed to avoid spiciness, hotness and other "bad" tastes, we have the ability to alter our neurology and acquire appreciation for naturally objectionable sensations.

Rozin noted that humans enjoy being as close as possible to discomfort or even imminent doom without actually experiencing either. Just as many take pleasure in plummeting hundreds of feet straight toward the ground while strapped safely into a rollercoaster, many more enjoy levels of spiciness just below what would result in actual pain.

The natural unit bias demonstrates that humans are more comfortable eating one defined unit (one spoonful or one cup) than many defined units, regardless of the quantity of food in each. So, what can be done to change American eating habits, which are on the whole unhealthy and sporadically educated? Rozin opines that we might look towards France's living environment, which he believes is more conducive to a well-proportioned lifestyle.

On the other hand, the American food industry could resort to well-intentioned collusion, whereby commercial portions of food would be reduced to 99 percent of their current quantity without the awareness of the public and without a change of price.

Either way, Rozin believes the psychology of food should be on the forefront of discussions about eating and health. By paying attention to the relationship between the eater and the eaten, we can continue to move forward in improving our happiness, health and self-awareness.

## Club Unites Biology Majors Outside of Lab

SIMONE PATHE  
ASSISTANT NEWS EDITOR

For students looking to "have straight-up, dorky, biology fun," Liz Casline '10, Alison Frye '10 and Elise Lang '10 have created Helicase, which was approved in September as the new Biology club. Originating from a conversation with lab instructor Greg Anderson while riding to an ecology class field trip last spring, the club seeks to address the lack of "camaraderie among the department [that] we think was deterring a lot of students from majoring in biology," explained Casline. Helicase is a reincarnation of a biology council that existed on campus years ago but gradually died out.

To maximize productivity without a big budget, Helicase plans to take advantage of "resources within the department... and local ecosystems, such as the Maine Aquarium in Boothbay Harbor, rocky inner tidal areas, Morse Mountain and [other] places we can visit that don't cost money," explained Casline.

Their primary project this year is what "we've dubbed the Commons Imaging Project," said Casline. "We are taking food from Commons, with the permission of [Director of Dining Services] Christine Schwartz, and we're doing scanning electron microscopy (SEM) of it." First, the food will be dehydrated. "If you dry a grape in the sun, it turns into a raisin, but if you dry a grape this way, it remains the same as a grape. It looks exactly like a grape still. So then, what we're able to do is take very detailed images of what it

looks like on a microscopic level" which produces "some very cool pictures. It's actually very artistic," explained Casline. "One of the things I love about biology is that it is art, and in many facets it uses a lot of your senses, one of them being visual." Images can be taken of a "wide range of all different sorts of foods [including] vegetables, meats, cereals, cooked food, non-cooked food and liquids," she explained.

"Once we finish with the SEM, we're going to be going over to the Imaging Center" where they will work with "their other microscopes as well as with just regular photography and changing light filtrations," said Casline. Eventually, they hope to display the images in Commons to coincide with this year's campus-wide theme of Bates Contemplates Food. "Christine Schwartz has said that once we see what [images] we have, it will be a possibility," according to Casline.

Other projects for the year include various plant sales, including one that took place during Parents and Family Weekend. "We're going to be growing more plants — flowering plants — in the greenhouse over the winter to sell in March when we're all really down and we need some flowers," added Casline. Helicase will be working with the department to organize celebrations on campus for Darwin's 200th birthday on Feb. 12.

Biology-related activities are important because "We all love biology a lot, it's just that with any subject, when you're doing a lot of coursework for it or you have to do a lab write-up, it takes some of the fun out of it," Casline remarked.

Besides organizing extracurricular

events, Helicase will "serve as a liaison with the department," said Casline. "Our hope is to create a support system within the department for tutoring and to reach out to the first-year class with mentoring," she said. Because Biology 101 is not offered until the winter semester, the club plans to serve as a more immediate connection to the department for first-years and "help them decide if they want to be a bio major or a bio-chem major." Helicase will produce a "biology pamphlet for prospective students, just so that they get a better understanding of what the department is," explained Casline.

The club is named for Helicase, "the enzyme that unzips your DNA so that it can be replicated," and this concept relates to evolution and to biology in general. "Plus, it's fun to say," Casline added.

"It's not just something that's for biology majors," she emphasized. At the time of this interview, Casline noted that "the majority of our members aren't even biology majors. It's more just people who are interested in the natural sciences and want to be dorky science people."

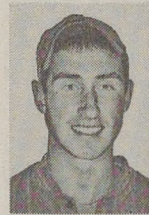
Every Wednesday, the Biology department hosts a lunch in Commons at which students can interact with professors. Casline stressed, "It's not academically based at all, it's just coming and talking and hanging out with the department, which is really good for when you have to petition for a professor's class, or you want to get to know them or do research or your thesis with them. It's just a nice way for them to know who you are." Helicase meets every other Wednesday at 9 p.m.



# SPORTS

The Bates Student

## More than a Game



**MAC KING**  
MANAGING SPORTS  
EDITOR

We love sports for many reasons. We love the teams and the players. We love the wins and the losses. We love upsets, underdogs and blowouts. We love overtime and record time, homeruns and touchdowns, flip turns, kick saves and quick sticks. But I think what we love most of

all is the history; the history of our cities, our franchises, our schools and our clubs. We love the individual histories of our players; their backgrounds, their upbringings, their friends, their families and their love, impartiality or hatred for the sport they play. Without history, sports would be emotionless and cold. Every contest would seem a foreign game occurring for one time only between random assemblies of androids.

It is the storylines and rivalries within the sport that make us fans of the game itself.

This Wednesday, our men's soccer team plays host to the University of Southern Maine. Bates has beaten USM 10 years in a row, outscoring the Huskies 31-2 over that span. Bates' win streak would be longer but the Bobcats didn't play the Huskies from 1993-1997. In 1992, Bates beat USM, 9-0, perhaps ending the tradition of the teams' yearly contest by way of the mercy rule. From 1988-1991 Bates tied USM four times. The last time the Huskies beat Bates men in soccer was in 1987 by a score of 3-0. That was 21 years ago.

So who cares about the game on Wednesday? It's an out of conference match-up that the Bobcats have dominated for over two decades.

Bates juniors Jon Lobo and Patrick King care. Just as USM second-semester first-year Alex Burnham and senior Brian King can't seem to get it off their minds. Patrick is one of Bates' best defensemen, while Lobo is the team's starting right midfielder. Brian plays left mid for the Huskies, while Burnham starts at center midfield.

"When you think about it, nothing's really at stake for us," said Pat-

rick. "It's just another midweek game that doesn't matter nearly as much as our NESCAC games."

Yeah right.

"There is a lot on the line," said Lobo.

"For me personally, [this game] is much more," said Patrick.

"We will definitely win," said Burnham.

"This should be a match that will live forever in the King family," said Brian.

See BATES/USM GAME, B2

# Home Field Advantage



LOUISA DEMMITT/THE BATES STUDENT

Morgan Maciewicz '10 takes a shot against Connecticut college Saturday. The Bobcats downed the Camels 2-1, outshooting them 10-5 in the second half.

**KATIE BASH**  
ASSISTANT SPORTS EDITOR

The field hockey team had an exciting week, registering two wins at home. The Bobcats beat in-state non-conference rival Husson College by a score of 3-2 on Wednesday.

The Bobcats jumped out to a 3-0 lead in the second frame on goals from Sema Kazarian '11 and Co-Captain Rachel Greenwood '08. Kazarian scored the first and only goal of the first half with 11 minutes left on the clock. It was not until Greenwood

scored unassisted with 11 minutes left in the match that the Bobcats advanced their lead.

Just seconds later, Kazarian scored her second goal of the game and her sixth of the season. With time running out, the garnet women seemed to have sealed a victory in what was a fairly one-sided game, but Husson made things interesting scoring two goals, the second of which occurred in the final two minutes of the game. Bates took 19 shots in the second half.

Bates played again on Saturday, beating the Connecticut College

Camels for their first NESCAC victory of the season. The Camels got things started in the fourth minute of the game, scoring off of an assisted penalty corner. Perhaps it was the excitement of Parents and Family weekend that lead the Bobcats to respond with two goals, as Greenwood netted her fourth goal of the season. Kelly McManus '12 scored her second goal of the season just minutes later, on an assist from senior Co-Captain Abby Childs.

Both teams brought the heat in the second half, but the Bobcats dou-

bled the Camels shots 10-5. Neither team could find the back of the net as sophomore goalie Katie McEnroe proved stalwart in the goal, turning back seven shots in the game. Bates won the game 2-1.

"We've been working hard all season on perfecting fundamentals," said Greenwood, "and in this game it really showed. Not only was our passing quicker and more accurate, our movement in transitioning from defense to attack allowed us to dominate in the offensive circle more than we have in previous games. In preparation for

Saturday, our coach asked us to break the play down into small games by playing strong defense at both ends of the field, whether the forwards and midfielders were turning over their free hits in the offensive circle, or the defenders were making a steal to prevent a shot. I'm proud to say that the team executed this defensive tactic relentlessly, which is really what allowed us to outshoot and outscore the Camels by a significant margin."

The women hope to notch another NESCAC victory when they play Trinity College on Saturday, Oct. 11.

## Volleyball Third of Eight at Mid-Coast Invite

**KATIE BASH**  
ASSISTANT SPORTS EDITOR

The women's volleyball team had a busy week. After a Wednesday evening win against St. Joseph's College of Maine, the Bobcats went on to co-host the Mid-Coast Invitational alongside Bowdoin College last weekend, earning another win and one loss.

In Wednesday's game, middle blocker Avery Masters '10 led the Bobcats to a 3-1 victory (25-16, 25-20, 16-25, 25-6) against the visiting Monks with 8 kills, 3 blocks and 9 service aces. Co-Captain Beth Billington '09 also had a great game with 7 kills. Tess Dokus '10 added 6 more kills for the Bobcats to help raise their record to 6-8 over-

all and drop the Monks to 6-13. Other highlights of the game included first-year Grace Haessler's 25 assists and 8 digs, junior Kira Kramlich's 6 digs and sophomore Katelyn Gilardi's 4 aces.

The weekend's games held a lot of excitement for the Bates women, who co-hosted the Mid-Coast Volleyball Invitational. The Invitational was held at both Bowdoin and Bates and brought together nearly 10 teams from the area, including NESCAC rivals Colby College and co-host Bowdoin College.

The Bobcats first competed against Rivier College on Friday night. Outside hitter Dokus had an exceptional game with a season-best 19 kills, leading the team to a series of close matches

See BATES VOLLEYBALL, B3

## Women's Soccer Earns First NESCAC Win

**PAUL LOMBARDI**  
STAFF WRITER

The women's soccer team had two huge conference games last week and came out with a 1-1 record. The Bobcats lost to Bowdoin 2-0 before beating Connecticut College 3-1 at home on Saturday.

Bates traveled to Bowdoin on Wednesday to compete in their first NESCAC game of the week. The Bobcats came out hard at the start of the first half but could not capitalize on any chances. Despite being outshot 10-4 in the first half, the Bobcats managed to keep the Polar Bears off the scoreboard with excellent defensive play.

A hard rain began to fall in the second half, making playing conditions difficult and changing the style of the game. Bowdoin first-year Ellery Gould got the Polar Bears on the board 20 minutes into second frame when her shot

from 18 yards out eluded Bobcat goalie Brittney French '11. Gould added another goal with under five minutes to go. In the sloppy conditions, Bates was not able to get on the scoreboard and found itself on the losing end of an important conference game.

The pressure was on the Bobcats when they came back home to play NESCAC foe Connecticut College. Bates was 1-5 overall and 0-4 in conference play entering the game and was hoping to finally get a conference win in front of a home crowd on Parents and Family Weekend. First-year Sam Alper delivered two goals for the Bobcats en route to a 3-1 victory over the Camels.

Just over 27 minutes into the first half, Alper received a pass from senior forward Jen Marino and buried it to give Bates the 1-0 lead. Just five minutes later, Alper broke in alone and scored her second goal of the game and third of the season. The Camels were able to score

in the 41st minute cutting Bates' lead to one at the half.

After leading 15-5 in shots taken in the first half, Bates found themselves fighting to hold on to the lead in the second frame. Connecticut College outshot the Bobcats 11-5 in the second half, but French was terrific in the goal, making some incredible saves to keep the Camels off the scoreboard. Bobcat senior Co-Captain Julie Brown scored her second goal of the season in the 69th minute, and Bates held on for a 3-1 win.

"I was happy to score the two goals to help our team get its first NESCAC win," said Alper. "It was great to have a nice crowd there to support us. The win was very important, and we needed it. We're on the right path and want to compete in the NESCAC tournament."

The Bobcats (2-5 overall and 1-4 NESCAC) will hit the road this week playing Southern Maine and then NESCAC opponent Trinity College this Saturday.



## Bates/USM Game Means a Lot to a Few

CONTINUED FROM B1

Why are these four so invested in Wednesday's out of conference contest?

Patrick and Brian are brothers. Loboizzo and Burnham are the kind of best friends who may never love anyone as much as they love each other.

"It's the first time I have ever played [Burnham] in a really competitive match, where both teams are pretty equal," said Loboizzo. "[If we lose] it means so much trash talking. I will obviously be a more gracious winner because they are the underdogs...It's a must-win. Definitely a must-win."

"I certainly don't want to lose to my brother," said Patrick. "There's a lot more at stake, especially bragging rights at home. It's always good to beat your big brother."

"I would die on any hill not to lose to my younger brother," said Brian.

The King brothers have been playing soccer together their whole lives. When Patrick was too young to play, he used to practice with Brian's club team. The Kings also played together for two years at Gorham High School. Both brothers remember the experience fondly.

Since graduating from Gorham, Patrick and Brian have played against each other in an official game only once. Bates beat USM last season by a score of 4-0.

"The fact that Patrick played for Bates and that Bates played USM was a huge factor in my decision to play soccer for the second half of my four years at USM. If Patrick had gone elsewhere to college I might never have participated in [USM's] men's soccer program," said Brian.

While Patrick and Brian's relationship began as soon as Brian left the womb, Loboizzo met Burnham in the seventh grade. Loboizzo had been a member of the Coastal Soccer Club for two years when Burnham tried out in 1999. Burnham made the team, and over the next five years, he and Loboizzo elevated Coastal Soccer to the status of dynasty, winning four state titles in the Maine Premier League.

In the winter of Burnham's first year with Coastal, he joined Loboizzo in ski racing for Gould Sunday River. In 2005, Burnham finished a hundredth of a second out of a second place at Maine States. Loboizzo finished in first.

In high school, Burnham played soccer for Greeley, while Loboizzo played for Gray-New Gloucester.

"They killed us every year," said Loboizzo. "[Burnham] won states two out of his four years or something. They were good."

In actuality, Greeley won Maine States only once with Burnham on the roster. Burnham's team won it all in 2004, lost in the state finals in 2002 and in the conference finals in 2003.

Loboizzo graduated from Gray-New Gloucester in 2005 and enrolled at Bates. Burnham went on to play

Division I soccer at Bryant University before transferring after one season.

As for Wednesday's contest?

"It's going to be a high-scoring game," said Loboizzo. "An open, back-and-forth game, I predict 3-2 Bates College... We're going to win the game. I don't really know what else to say... I think Alex underestimates NESCAC soccer and Bates soccer, and being a fairly confident person in general, he believes they are going to win."

"Three-nothing us," said Burnham. When asked if he thought his squad could prevail, Bates Head Coach George Purgavie answered: "I think it will be a close game."

So there you have it. Brother on brother. Friend on friend. Wednesday's match is one wrought with captivating storylines. Nevertheless, in the event that Loboizzo's quest for redemption in the eyes of his best friend doesn't blow your hair back and the possibility of a King family blood feud doesn't tickle your pickle, let me sweeten the deal.

On Sept. 17 of this season, USM beat Bowdoin by a score of 3-1. The Husky victory was the team's first against the Polar Bears since 2004. Last Saturday, Bowdoin beat Bates by a score of 1-0. Similarly, USM lost to Tufts, 2-0, on Sept. 10. On Sept. 27, Bates beat Tufts, 2-0.

"I think that last year you could tell USM had six good players out of 11," said Loboizzo. "This year they have nine or 10. Alex is one of two or three key new members of the team. He and [second semester sophomore] Adam Gadbois make [USM's] center mid-field that much stronger."

Gadbois is also a Mainer. He played for the Odyssey Football Club, where he lost to Burnham and Loboizzo's Coastal squads in several Maine State Finals. Gadbois earned Maine All-American honors at Mount Ararat High School. He played with Burnham at Bryant University in the fall of 2005 before transferring to USM this autumn. Burnham, Loboizzo and Gadbois played together on the same summer league team last summer.

Come Wednesday, I will be rooting for Bates. But if USM wins a close one and Loboizzo gets some cheap shots in on Burnham or a heated and easily audible dialogue transpires between the King brothers, I won't go home disappointed. No matter what happens, when the whistle blows signifying the end of Wednesday's contest, Pat and Brian will go home brothers and, barring a blowout in favor of the Huskies, Loboizzo and Burnham will remain best friends.

For Burnham and Loboizzo, and Patrick and Brian, this game should prove just another chapter in their already lengthy histories.

*Editors note: Assistant Sports Editor Katie Bash conducted the interviews with Purgavie and Patrick referenced in this article.*

## Men's Soccer Drops Two in Conference

HARRY POOLE  
ASSISTANT SPORTS EDITOR

Looking to keep momentum rolling, the men's soccer team played at Thomas College on Tuesday before hosting NESCAC opponent Connecticut College in front of a large Parents and Family Weekend crowd.

Against Thomas College, Bates was far superior as proven by the 11-1 final score. The 11 goals set the school record for most goals in one game surpassing the 1965, 1992, 1996 and 2000 teams' four-way tie of nine. The 10-goal differential between Bates and Thomas also set a new record for the largest margin of victory, previously held by the 1965, 1992 and 1996 teams.

"Thomas was not up to what we brought to the field," said senior Co-Captain Clark Winchell. "The Bates squad did well to keep their focus and handle a clearly weaker opponent."

Senior Co-Captain Nate Kellogg echoed Winchell's statements.

"It was a good day for a lot of our guys to see the field. Also, we were able to get a number of players on the scoring sheet," said Kellogg.

Sophomore Tim Molnar led the seven different goal scorers with his first career hat trick. Patrick Jackson '11 had two goals and one assist. Filling in the stat sheet were sophomores Dustin DiGregorio and Tyler Mehegan, junior Haynes Johnston, and first-years David Woods and Chris Okano with one goal apiece.

Saturday's 1-0 loss to Connecticut College hardly explains the full game. Bates played crisp, relaxed and overall better soccer but had trouble finding the back of the net despite a handful of golden opportunities.

"It was frustrating because there were so many chances to tie the game. The team played really well, especially [Greg] Watts [12] in goal and [Jon] Loboizzo [10] on the right wing," said Kellogg.

After letting in a nearly impossible-to-save floater from Connecticut College senior Matt Hula, first-year goalie Greg Watts kept the Bobcats in the game by saving multiple Connecticut break-

aways and, as Kellogg stated, "Saving the defense from disaster on more than one occasion." Watts was only credited with three saves; however, they came at times when the defense collapsed and let Connecticut through for one-on-one chances against Watts.

With 10 minutes left in the first half, sophomore mid-fielder Chris LaBrecque scored what appeared to be the tying goal; however, it was quickly called back by a team of inconsistent referees. In the second half, Loboizzo's work on the right wing created multiple scoring opportunities for Bates as he continually fired low, clean crosses across the box but never found the foot of a Bates forward. The Bobcats' best chance for a goal came three minutes into the second half off of a Loboizzo cross that Woods sent just wide of the net.

The Bobcats headed to Bowdoin on Sunday for their second NESCAC contest in as many days. Unfortunately, Sunday had the same outcome as Saturday. The final score of 1-0 could have gone either way, but Bowdoin caught a lucky break on an indirect kick with 20 minutes to go in the second half. Bowdoin first-year Sean Bishop headed the free kick past a diving Watts to give the Polar Bears the only goal of the game.

The game was another defensive battle with Bates catching unlucky breaks for the second consecutive day. Watts played another magnificent game in goal as he made multiple diving stops and kept Bates in the game for all 90 minutes. A disappointed Kellogg explained, "It is always tough losing close games, especially when everyone works so hard, but there's still a lot of the season to play, and we're looking forward to getting some wins further down the road."

With the one win and two losses this week, Bates drops its record to 4-4-0 (1-4-0 NESCAC). The Bobcats play host to the University of Southern Maine on Wednesday before traveling to Hartford, Conn. for a NESCAC contest against Trinity College. With the regular season past the halfway point, Bates' games have extra importance as they try to squeeze into the NESCAC playoffs.

## Football Loses Another, 0-3

ERIC ARMSTRONG  
STAFF WRITER

Despite a promising early lead, Bobcat football fell to Williams 27-14 in Saturday's home opener.

Throng of parents and their enthused offspring watched as first-year quarterback Brian Katon led a 67-yard march down the field in the opening minutes of the match. The 10-play drive, which included a 21-yard rush by Tom Beaton '10, ended with a quick quarterback sweep to the left by Katon, allowing him to score his first career touchdown.

The Ephs quickly answered the Bobcat challenge with a touchdown later in the first quarter, showing little weakness by scoring touchdowns in each subsequent quarter of the game. Following a particularly difficult third quarter in which the Ephs outgained Bates 65 to -4 yards, Katon found junior Matt Gregg for a 10-yard scoring pass with 1:10 left to play, continuing a 2008 Bobcat trend of rallying in the fourth quarter.

On defense, Ted Durkin '11 led the team with 11 tackles. Additionally, Myles Walker '11 had seven tackles, including two assists, and juniors Kyle McAllister, Greg Gumbs, Bill Jennings and Rich McNeil each contributed six tackles apiece. In all, Eph quarterbacks were sacked three times.

Williams outgained Bates in total yardage 408-253.

Looking ahead, the Bobcats may have a serious chance to defeat the Wesleyan Cardinals at home next Saturday. Both teams will be seeking to improve their 0-3 records.

## Golf Ends Season with Fourth Straight CBB Championship



LINCOLN BENEDICT/THE BATES STUDENT

Seniors Tom Bowden and Mark DeGiudice walk the course on Sunday in the CBB Championship in Auburn, ME.

HARRY POOLE  
ASSISTANT SPORTS EDITOR

The golf team was scheduled to have three matches this past week; however, the unpredictable weather forced Wednesday's Thomas Terrier Classic at Boothbay Country Club to be cancelled. The team traveled to Waterville Country Club on Saturday to play in the Sid Farr invitational before trying to capture their third CBB Championship in the last four years.

Saturday's match was the final tune-up before Bates put everything on the links on Sunday. Head coach Bob Flynn did not require every player to attend, and some chose to take the Saturday off to relax with their families before taking on Colby and Bowdoin on Sunday.

Saturday's match featured modified scoring, meaning that the golfers were awarded their stroke score as well as a certain number of points for each double bogey (-2 points), bogey (0), par (+1), birdie (+2) or eagle (+3) that they shot.

First-year standout Lee Smith, fresh off of his recognition as NESCAC

Rookie of the Year and All-NESCAC First Team, paced the Bobcats with a 79 and 9 points in modified scoring. Completing the scoring for Bates was senior captain Jeremy Rogalski with an 82 and 8 points, junior Kurt Schuler with 7 points, sophomore Mike Kelen with 5 points and senior Tom Bowden with 3 points. Overall, Bates netted 32 points, good enough for second place behind Husson College.

Smith is the third golfer in Bates history to be named to the All-NESCAC team and the only Bates golfer to earn First Team status.

"There are some darn good golfers who have won this award," said Flynn. "This is a real honor for Lee and for the Bates golf program."

On Sunday, Bates hosted the annual CBB Championship at Martindale Country Club in Auburn, ME. Bates hit the links for eighteen holes against the best golfers from Colby and Bowdoin as they captured their fourth CBB title in the past six years.

On the men's side, the match went down to the wire as Bates defeated Bowdoin by a mere two strokes. Schuler's 77 paced the Bobcats to a

final round score of 414. Smith continued his impressive first-year campaign as he shot a 78, while Bowden, Kelen and Rogalski followed with scores of 84, 87 and 88 respectively.

On the women's side, the match was between Bates and Bowdoin as there is no Colby women's squad. Bates came out well ahead with a final score of 374 compared to Bowdoin's 431. First-year Mimi Neal led the Bobcats with a final round score of 86. Filling in behind Neal were sophomore Libby King, senior Captain Liz Wilcox and first-year Brigid Dunn with scores of 94, 96 and 98 respectively. Neal's score of 86 was good enough to give her medalist honors for the day.

"It was a great weekend for the Bobcats," said Wilcox.

The CBB Championship wraps up the 2008 golf season for Bates. Playing in the competitive NESCAC, Bates saw many highlights including Smith's All-NESCAC season and another championship against Bowdoin and Colby. The team graduates five members including Bowden, Sam Kaplan, Mark DeGiudice and Captains Rogalski and Wilcox.

## BOBCAT OF THE WEEK

Sam Alper '12



WWW.BATES.EDU/COURTESY PHOTO

Alper scored two goals in Bates' 3-1 win over Connecticut College on Sunday. The goals were Alper's second and third of the season. The victory gave Bates their first NESCAC win in 2008. Alper also has two assists to go along with her three goals. She has eight points on the season.



# Women's Tennis Returns



HWEI WARNER/THE BATES STUDENT

Bates number one Alex Piacquad '10 hits a forehand against Babson on Thursday. Piacquad fell 8-6 in first doubles and lost 6-4, 6-1 in the singles field.

**MAC KING**  
MANAGING SPORTS EDITOR

Women's tennis opened their season with a 6-3 loss to Babson on Thursday night. The Bobcats jumped out to a 2-1 lead after the doubles portion of the dual match, but they proceeded to lose five of the next six singles matches. While Bates opens 0-1, Babson, who competes in a different league, improves to 6-1 on the season.

"The team looked very strong for

our first match," said Captain Caryn Benisch '09. "One of our team goals for the season was to get at least a 2-1 lead after the doubles matches at the beginning to start off the singles ahead. We were very pleased to have won two thirds of the doubles matches and were feeling pretty confident going into our singles matches."

First-years Erika Blauth and Brooke Morse-Karzen won 9-7 in second doubles, while Benisch and Charlotte Matlack '12 won 8-5 in third doubles. Alex Piacquad '10 and Meg Anderson '12 lost

8-6 in first doubles.

In singles, Morse-Karzen played as Bates' number four, winning 6-3, 6-4. Also in singles, number one Piacquad lost 6-4, 6-1, number two Anderson lost 7-6, 7-6, number three Benisch lost 6-7, 6-4, 6-2, number five Blauth lost 6-7, 7-6, 7-5 and number six Sangita Murali '12 lost 7-6, 5-7, 3-3 before retiring.

"We all had really close singles matches," said Benisch, "and unfortunately some of them didn't go our way. Looking ahead, we need to learn how to keep our emotions aside and play

our game, because we have the talent on this team to beat just about anyone. I am looking forward to seeing a lot of success at our individual tournament in two weeks, the NEWITT Championship, because I think we learned a lot from the Babson match."

Head Coach Paul Gastonguay echoed Benisch.

"This was a tough loss. We fought hard but came up short. Babson was the better team last Thursday. It is early in the year, and I know that we will bounce back and learn a lot from this

tough loss. We have a very young team with five first-years in the line-up. The important thing is that everyone competed hard. We have a very dedicated group and they work hard every day towards our team goals. We are looking forward to competing in the NEWITT Championships on Oct. 17-19," said Gastonguay.

Bates travels to Amherst for the NEWITT Championships Oct. 17-19 to play the Lord Jeffs, Mount Holyoke and Smith College in the last matches of their fall season.

## Bates Volleyball Impressive in Own Tournament

CONTINUED FROM B1

(21-25, 25-22, 18-25, 25-21, 15-8) and the defeat of Rivier College. Other statistical highlights included 10 kills and 13 digs from junior Co-Captain Liz Leberman, 8 kills and 6 blocks from Billington, 7 kills and 5 blocks from first-year Chrissy Gee and 43 assists and 5 digs from Haessler.

The Bobcats competed again on Friday night, this time against Gordon College. Unfortunately the women could not notch another victory, falling 3-0 (27-25, 25-23, 25-13). However, Dokus continued playing excellently, collecting the most kills by a Bates player since her own record of 20 last year. In addition to Dokus' 19 kills, Masters had 9 kills with 3 blocks and Billington added 8 kills and 3 blocks to her earlier excellent performance against Rivier. Haessler gave out 27 assists and Gee had 12 digs with 3 blocks. Leberman had another good game with 7 kills.

The Bobcat women competed in two more matches Saturday, beating Keene State University and Emmanuel

College. These two victories gave Bates a 3-1 record in the tournament, placing them third out of eight teams. Co-host Bowdoin College took first.

Bates defeated Keene State first, by scores of 17-25, 25-16, 25-22 and 25-2. Masters and Leberman led the team with 9 kills and 8 kills, respectively to go along with Leberman's 17 digs. Leberman would be the only Bates woman to earn All-Tournament honors. Billington also had 8 kills, while Dokus and Gee came up with 7 kills apiece.

In the match against Emmanuel College, the Bobcats were able to rally after dropping the first set and came out 3-1 (17-25, 27-25, 29-27, 25-15). In this match, Billington had the most kills at 13 and Haessler had an exceptional game with 47 assists, 9 digs and 4 aces. Leberman had another great match with 10 kills and 14 digs, while Dokus made 11 kills and 6 digs. Kramlich had 14 digs, while Gee made 6 kills, 12 digs, 4 aces and 3 blocks to win.

The volleyball team will play next at home on Oct. 8th against Bowdoin College.

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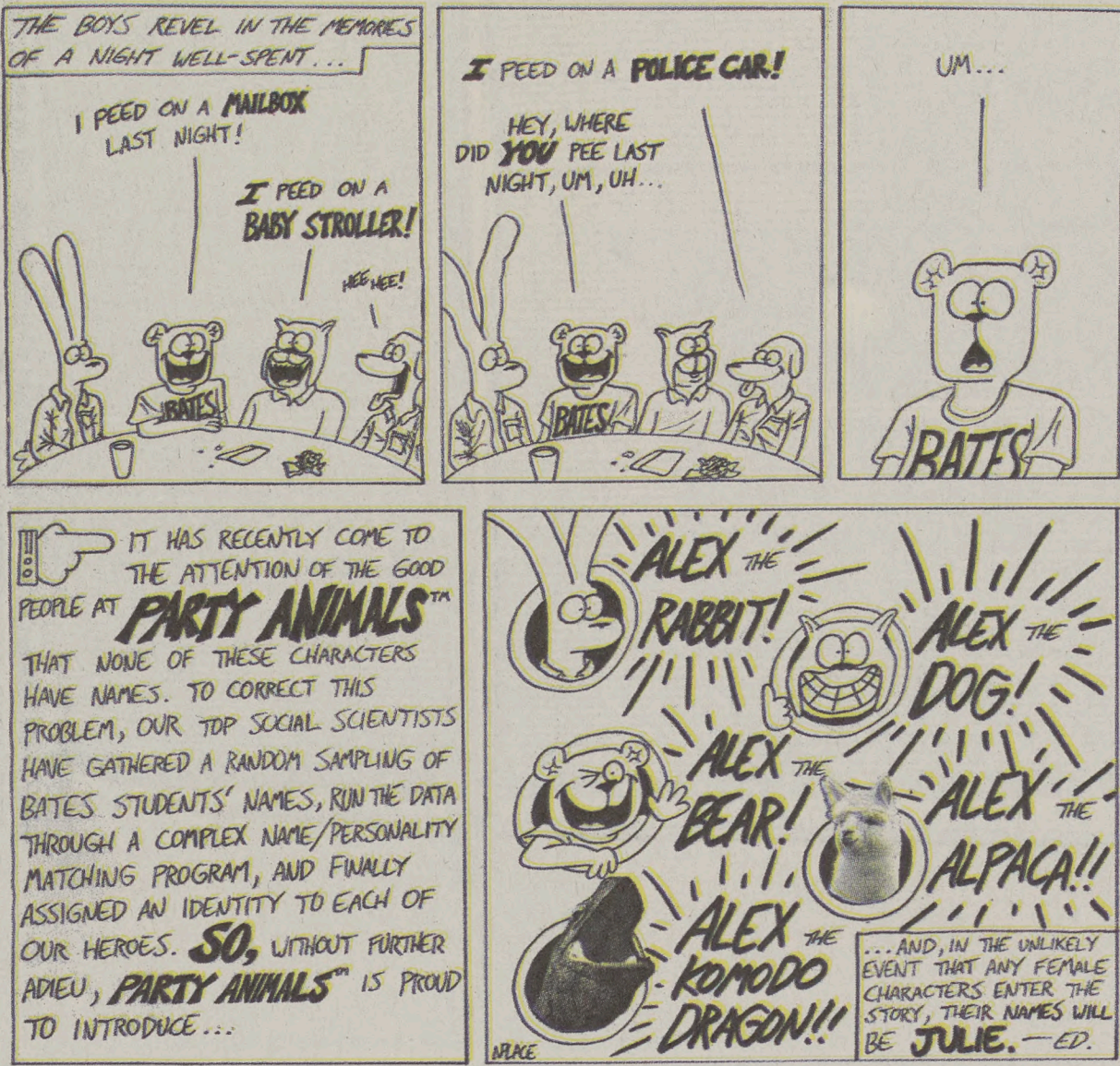
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# Party Animals

Nathan Place



# Pop Politics in America

CONTINUED FROM PAGE B6

"Joe's one of the best-dressed vice presidents we'll ever have," Obama told ABC news reporters Matt Jaffe and Sunlen Miller on Sept. 27.

Whether serious or in jest, the comment provoked playful jabs from Republican National Committee spokesman Alex Conant, "Why else would Obama choose a running mate who recently called him unprepared to be president?"

Biden spokesman David Wade countered, "But you can't blame John McCain for being a little peeved - after all, just imagine the pressure to choose which suit to wear from among your dozens of closets in your seven homes."

The ties between politics and fashion led many media outlets like the LA Times to leak a rumor that Obama was the inspiration for Italian designer Donatella Versace's 2009 Spring/Summer Menswear Collection. A Versace representative re-

futed the statement, clarifying that it is "the type of man Barack Obama represents that inspired the Spring 2009 collection, a modern man with a laidback relaxed look/attitude. Not Obama himself."

So, maybe Obama won't appear on the runway to model the latest in Versace, but clothing and accessories do still play a role in both his and McCain's campaigns. Their websites advertise T-shirts and hats to endorse a candidate, as well as the red, white and blue Obama pin and the American flag lapel pin that Poehler and Fey wore on SNL. The clothes are literally making a statement about one's beliefs and politics.

While the Obama-Biden and McCain-Palin tickets do not amount to who's wearing what, the notice of what they're wearing is a result of the celebrity culture bleeding into the political realm. And what is the difference between hockey mom Palin and a celebrity? Whatever it may be, this time it is not necessarily lipstick.

# October Break Happenings

ANDREW WILCOX  
ASSISTANT ARTS & LIVING EDITOR

Looking for something to do over October Break? Here are some ideas:

Go down to Phippsburg, Maine and stay at The Shortridge Coastal Center, a Bates-owned house located five minutes from Popham Beach by car. The Shortridge house reopened in August after two years of renovations and is an ideal location for a retreat. If you have time to spare, you can help out Director of Bates Morse Mountain Conservation Area and the Shortridge Coastal Center Laura Sewall. She needs assistance taking down stakes on a beautiful local beach. The stakes were put up this summer to keep people off the dunes and away from the bird breeding habitat. Help is needed particularly on the Friday, Saturday or Sunday of October Break. To stay at Shortridge, you need to schedule it through R25, the online event scheduler and fill out a form that you can get by emailing Sewall at lsewall@bates.edu. Shortridge sleeps up to 14 and is equipped with heat, two bathrooms, a shower and bathtub, a kitchen and a grill. The drive is an hour and a half.

If this isn't quite what you're looking for, take a trip to Crawford Notch in the White Mountains of New Hampshire. Crawford Notch is roughly two hours away and has

great autumn hiking. You can stay in the bunkhouse or lodge at the Appalachian Mountain Club, but reservations are required. Go to [www.amcnh.org](http://www.amcnh.org) for more information.

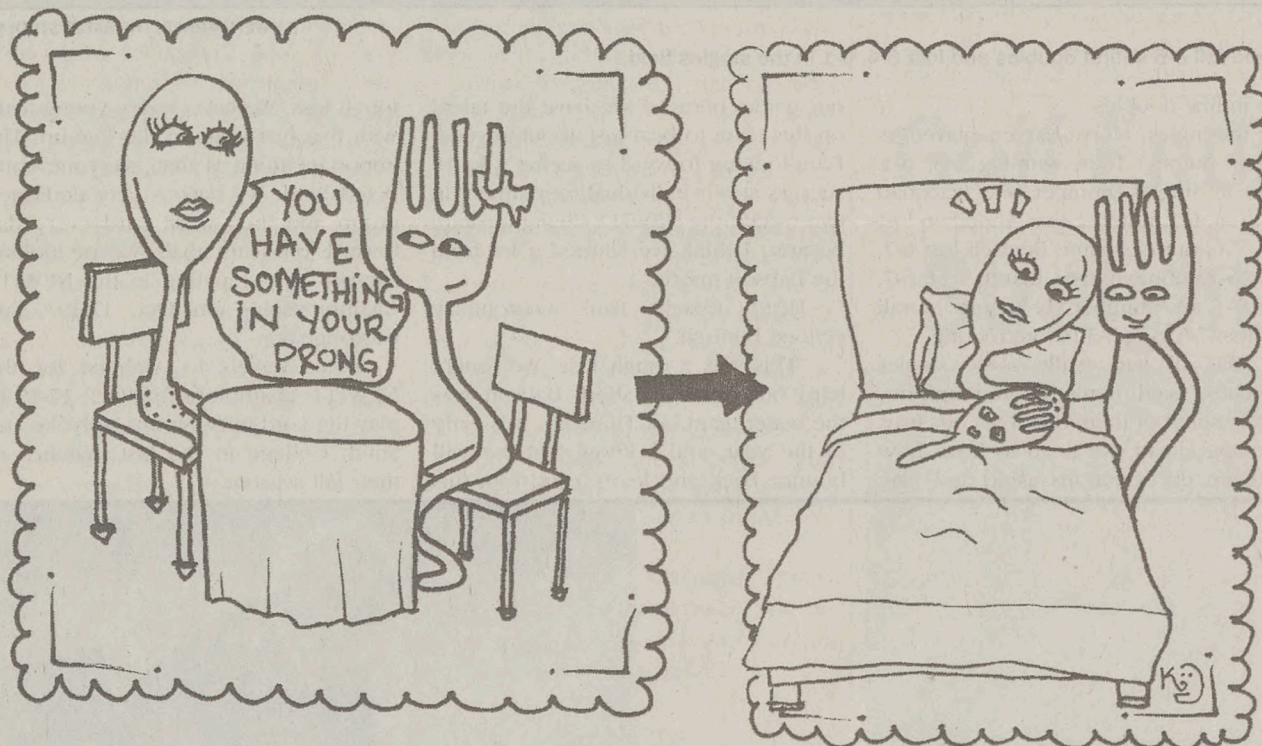
Still not convinced? Go support the Bates rowing team at the Head of the Charles Regatta in Boston on Oct. 18 and 19. This is one of the most famous international rowing events. Crews from all over the world will participate. The United States Olympic team will have a reunion row on Sunday during the championship events. Bates will compete with four boats: two men's eights and two women's eights.

Want to travel outside of the U.S., but can't make it overseas? How about a trip to Canada? The International Club is offering a trip to Montreal. You don't have to be an international student to sign up. For more information, email Associate Dean of Students James Reese at [jreese@bates.edu](mailto:jreese@bates.edu).

If you're not in the mood to travel, you can always stay on campus. This is the only Bates break that is included in the meal plan. However, only brunch and dinner will be served starting on Wednesday, Oct. 15th. So, if you're going to stick around and pick apples or go on haunted hayrides, you can look forward to a Bates meal afterwards.

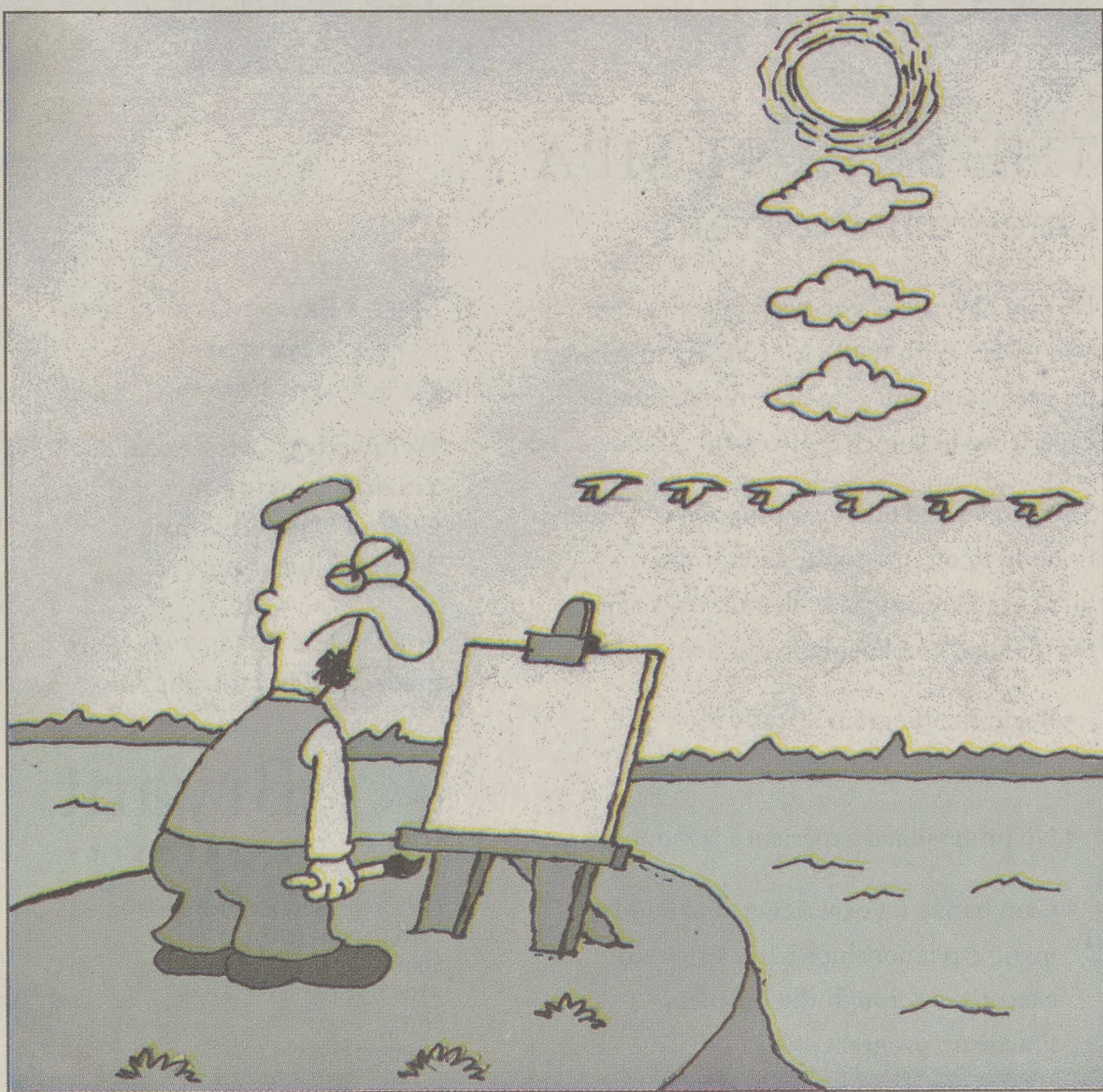
# Shades of White

Kelly Gollogly



# Nonsensicle

Furkan Diker



# Shihan to Slam at the Silo

Village Club Series  
CHARLES THAXTON  
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

Having just released his fifth record, "The Balance," Shihan the Poet will come to Bates on Thursday, Oct. 9 to showcase some of his newer pieces. Shihan will offer students and attendees his unique blend of hip-hop, spoken word, a cappella and slam poetry.

Influenced by the American undercurrent of independent hip-hop artists such as Public Enemy and Most Def, Shihan has been a frequent presence on HBO's Def Poetry jam and

has earned several titles at the National Poetry Slam championships. Originally a New Yorker, Shihan travels to Lewiston by way of Los Angeles, where he co-hosts the nation's largest open mic night. Shihan's poetry and lyricism serves not only as a personal and artistic venue but also as a pointed statement about commercialism in hip-hop.

Shihan subscribes to a new musical model, frequently updating a tour blog and offering his last album as a free download on his MySpace page. Interested students can check out Shihan at the Benjamin Mays Center, Thursday at 9 p.m.

# The Growing Pains of Comedy: Putting the Able into Disabled

SARAH DUNN  
ASSISTANT ARTS AND LIVING EDITOR

"I know I sound a little different. That's because I have cerebral palsy. And a lot of people don't know what that means. They're always like, 'what does that mean?' and I'm always like, 'it means I'm the only member of my family who's an Olympian, I don't have a medal...I get a sticker,'" joked comedian Will Marfori during his appearance on "The Late, Late Show with Craig Ferguson."

This is one of the many jokes Marfori makes concerning his disability. He finds cerebral palsy good material and great motivation for his stand-up acts. He plays the impairment to his advantage, using his comedy as an emotional release by making light of what makes him different.

Cerebral palsy is an umbrella term for a number of neurological disorders that appear in childhood or infancy and which affect the body and motor functions, resulting in various types of disabilities.

Marfori's disability makes for the occasional awkward movement such as constantly shuffling his feet or treading forward and backward. His

fingers fumble with the microphone and his eyes sometimes experience a delay in focusing.

"Some of you look freaked out. I want you to know I'm gonna be disabled all night long," he often jests.

While his comedy often addresses growing up with disabilities, it also concerns topics like race - growing up half-Filipino - as well as pop culture - American Idol and the like.

Last year, Will worked 51 weeks and performed over 300 shows. He frequently tours the United States, Canada and the Caribbean and may be heard often on XM radio's comedy channel. He won the 2004 Carnival Comedy challenge.

"He is not a disabled person who is funny... he is a funny person who happens to be disabled" (<http://www.sonnyfox.com/will.htm>).

He still has to keep his day job as a computer programmer to pay the bills, but comedy has become the emotional release he's wanted for a quarter-century. On stage, it's OK to be different.

Marfori will be performing this Friday at 9 p.m. in the Benjamin Mays Center.



## Best Dressed: Alex Strada



LINCOLN BENEDICT/THE BATES STUDENT

Alex Strada expresses her creativity in her fashion. Each article of clothing and accessory tells a story about the person who wears it, which is perhaps why she incorporates vintage pieces into her wardrobe.

**MICHELLE SILVERSTEIN**  
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

Style is more than just the outfits one wears or designers' name on labels. It is a representation of one's own philosophy behind the clothing, as well as a representation of one's individual personality. Alex Strada '10 reveals an elaborate and tasteful sense of style in the intricate outfits she chooses daily.

Strada is shown wearing an orange and yellow brushed-on tie dye linen dress, a navy wool cardigan, black tights and eggplant suede boots. She claims that she admires people that have an "edgy style without sacrificing good taste," and she tries to model herself in this way.

Such inspiration for her clothing has come from her mom, an artist, who has always encouraged her to "express her creativity through clothes." Strada often wears many of her mom's hand-me-downs that she has held onto throughout the years.

Strada, an avid vintage clothing store shopper, says that she thrives off the process of rummaging through other people's older clothing in order to

find what she refers to as "gems." She explains that "There's always a story behind vintage or used clothing, and I like the idea of recycling clothes that other people no longer need."

Strada also commented that she often finds herself associating certain pieces of her wardrobe with incidents in her life that have happened while she was wearing them. She enjoys the fact that some of her clothes "remind [her] of funny or interesting events."

Strada does not only stick to vintage and second-hand clothes. She says that she likes to "follow the contours of popular fashion" while still maintaining individuality in her style. She finds current designers with simple, classic and detail-oriented items, such as A.P.C. and Theory. Strada says that she loves the individuality in her current style that was lacking in a high school where she had to wear a uniform. Embracing her freedom to choose what she wears, we'll never find her on campus wearing the "polo or a pair of khakis" of her high school days.

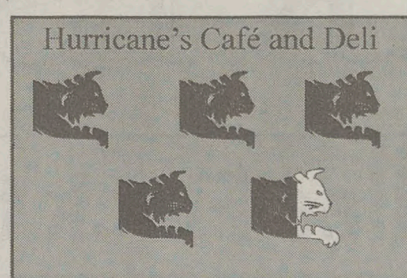
Email your nominations for Best Dressed to [jsawyer@bates.edu](mailto:jsawyer@bates.edu).

## A Hurricane of Flavor

**LAURA BAUGHMAN**  
RESTAURANT CRITIC

Located about 10 minutes by car from campus in Greene, Maine, Hurricane's Café and Deli takes its preparation of innovative soups and sandwiches above and beyond what you would find at your everyday sandwich shop. Hurricane's features a seemingly endless menu packed with creative sandwiches and paninis that tempt the palate and go easy on the wallet.

Hurricane's is small and simple, yet comfortably furnished with just a few tables, and most eager diners line up and wait for a place to sit and enjoy the restaurant's homemade comfort foods. Because of the bustling atmosphere of the place, my friends and I were pleasantly surprised when our steaming hot food arrived at our table just a few minutes after we had ordered it at the counter. One of the great things about Hurricane's is its menu's "Lean Board" – a list of lighter sandwiches and paninis. I tried the Crunchy Veggie Tortilla, a hot, cheesy combo of lots of fresh vegetables sandwiched in a crispy tortilla that



weighed in at just 347 calories. Despite its "diet menu" status, this quesadilla-like creation was satisfying and flavorful without being overly heavy.

On the more indulgent side was the Hot Italian Grill, a gigantic grilled sandwich of hot Capicola, ham, Genoa salami, pepperoni and provolone cheese layered between two hearty slices of crispy Italian bread. I was amazed that this huge, high quality sandwich cost just \$6.49. A perfect accompaniment to the Hot Italian Grill was a cup of one of the three homemade soups of the day, lentil sausage soup. This soup had all the traditional flavor of lentil soup but was supercharged with spicy sausage chunks that gave it a meaty chili taste and texture.

Another standout was the 100 per-

cent Lobster Salad Panini, which was just one of the many mouthwatering specials of the day. This beautifully presented sandwich was piled high with a quarter pound of homemade lobster salad and crispy lettuce on a grilled ciabatta roll, made even more delicious by its mind-boggling low price of \$10.95.

Hurricane's counter displays mountains of delicious-looking baked goods that range from huge muffins to mile-high chocolate cakes. I was fortunate enough to taste three of these desserts – raspberry pie, apple pie and a chocolate brownie. The pies were incredible; their flaky, sugarcoated crusts surrounded fillings packed with fresh, juicy fruit, creating a taste that cannot be achieved with store-bought, mass-produced pies. Unfortunately, the brownie was disappointing with its dry texture and diminutive chocolate flavor.

From appetizer to dessert, Hurricane's amounts to a complete, satisfying dining experience. The restaurant's ever-changing and innovative menu encourages its customers to keep coming back to try delicious, creative food offered at reasonable prices.

## Plein Air Painting: An Autumnal Sojourn in Maine

**OLGA GRIGORENKO**  
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

Artist Michael Branca has been leading backcountry art trips for years, aspiring to bring nature-lovers and artists together in the beautiful wilderness of Maine. One such trip ventures out to Katahdin Lake, a pristine and wild area just three miles from the base of Katahdin Mt. This outdoors, instructional workshop presents a unique opportunity to immerse oneself entirely in the beautiful surroundings while learning the skills of "plein air" painting.

Though the program itself runs for a pretty steep fee, this year a few lucky Bates students get to partake for free. Through the Otis Gathering Scholarship, Bates is subsidizing the

participation of six students in this four-day program over October break. Open to all individuals regardless of artistic abilities, the only prerequisite is a love of nature and a voracious appetite for adventure.

However, those looking for a lush Maine getaway need not apply. Hosted by the Katahdin Lake Wilderness Camps, the participants of the workshop stay in cabins without electricity or running water, relying on wood-burning stoves for warmth and a few trusty oil lamps for light.

The camp, which serves as the base for the program, has changed little since its establishment in the 1880s and remains accessible only to those willing to hike the four-mile trail leading to it. It is from there that the participants venture out on foot or by boat.

The daily schedule allots time for instructional group meetings, demonstrations and various creative exercises as well as individual work. Every aspect of the workshop is designed to give the participants the same knowledge and experience attained by the various artists and writers who have flocked to this very same site over the years.

The majestic beauty of Katahdin and its environs has always been an iconic source of inspiration for many notable artists, and Michael Branca leads you on a journey in their footsteps. For some, this may seem far from appealing, but to the modern-day Thoreau, this may very well be paradise.

For further information: [www.bates.edu/museum-klake.xml](http://www.bates.edu/museum-klake.xml)

## "Wanted": An Action Film and Not Much More



**THOMAS REPKO**  
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

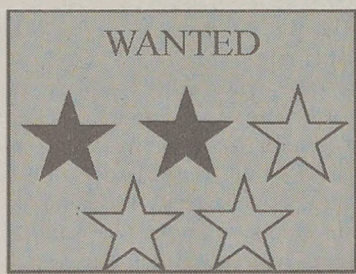
"Wanted" debuted in the summer of 2008 and is loosely based on Mark Millar's comic book series. Timur Bekmambetov directed the movie in his first English-language film.

James McAvoy stars as Wesley Gibson, a low-life employee who sits at his cubicle despising his own existence. McAvoy, a Scottish actor, plays the part of the nerdy hero quite humorously. Gibson, after learning of his deceased father's profession, joins the Fraternity of Assassins, a thousand-year-old secret society of assassins that acts as fate's instrument. Morgan Freeman plays the role of Sloan,

the leader of the Fraternity, and although he doesn't steal the show, he certainly doesn't disappoint. Angelina Jolie plays the sleek assassin known as Fox and adheres to her typical role of action star/tempreess.

As Gibson trains to avenge his father's death, he, along with the audience, has trouble believing bullets can bend and people can shoot the wings off of flies. Obviously, the curving bullets were not real, and neither was the sight of "Angelina Jolie" naked. To my dismay, and that of teenage boys across America, the shot of Angelina's entire backside was, in fact, not hers.

Despite the epic fight scenes, one of the



best parts of the movie is Gibson's cathartic quitting of his job. McAvoy's character fulfills the audience's desires by liberating himself from his boring and unimportant existence and taking control of his life.

As Gibson realizes his own identity, he is shown the Loom of Fate, an enormous loom that apparently provides assassination orders that will balance out fate. Many people believed the idea of killing people based on the interpretation of a piece of woven parchment was incredibly absurd. I too share that belief; however, I also believe the writers were hinting at other things. In ancient Greek mythology, the Fates were three goddesses who controlled the lives of

all mortal men by weaving their fates with string. This reference to a higher power suggests the writers tried to provide depth to the story – or just an excuse to kill a lot of people in the movie.

I guarantee Hollywood writers wanted an excuse to have bullet-bending, insane car chases and Angelina Jolie naked and the result was "Wanted." The plot tries too hard to explain the absurdity instead of just focusing on the action. If you're looking for a plausible action film, refrain from watching "Wanted." But if you want intense action scenes, awesome car chases and an absurd amount of bullets, it might be the movie for you. I won't guarantee enjoyment from the opening credits to the end, but the slow-motion fight scenes are a must-see spectacle. All in all, "Wanted" is incredibly unrealistic and totally ridiculous, but it is undoubtedly fun.

## The Bedfellows: Not Shy in Front of Parents

**KELLY COX**  
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

The Strange Bedfellows debuted their new members in last Saturday's 3 p.m. Parents and Family Weekend Show, succeeding to put smiles on every face that crowded Gannet Theater. Bates students and parents sat in the few chairs there were available and couldn't have had a better time.

"At one point I was laughing so hard that I was crying," expressed one joyous parent. "I crossed over the line of laughing to being hysterical with laughter."

The Bedfellows premiered their new and improved group as they have recently taken in three new cast members – Hugh Cunningham '12, Alisa Hamilton '11 and Andrew Wilcox '11. The show kicked off with a spontaneous birthday serenade to Andrew since he happened to turn 19 the day of the show. This "anything could happen" feeling enhances the Bedfellows' humor.

The Strange Bedfellows played a couple of improvisational games, such as "Genres," "Family Dinner" and "Elevator." The three new members played one game, entitled "Return Counter." In this game, the rookies were taken away and the audience suggested three very different objects for the unknowing members to return to store clerk Zach Bain '10. The uninformed Bedfellows would attempt to guess what the mystery item they were returning was through witty comments, clues and cues of laughter.

From the moment they stepped into the spotlight, the new members did a wonderful job adopting a variety of interesting characters and

keeping consistent with them. The Strange Bedfellows provide a great opportunity for dynamic personalities to show off their acting talent and humor without having to memorize any lines.

Visiting parents were able to participate by calling out suggestions. One mother sat blushing at center stage while sexual innuendos were given to her from the Bedfellows. This game, called "Pickup Lines," inspired some clever, unintelligible and creepy come-ons. Anyone who

has seen a Strange Bedfellow show before could tell that they toned it down a bit for the anticipated audience (parents) but induced much laughter nevertheless.

"My body was numb from the waist down, but at least I got a good half-hour giggling," a beaming Batesie said after the show.

The Strange Bedfellows show was an excellent showcase of some of Bates' finest comedic talent and one of the best events offered during Parents and Family Weekend.



LOUISA DEMMITT/THE BATES STUDENT

Seniors Lexi Kirsch and Will Gardener entertained a PG-13 crowd at the Bedfellows' Parents and Family Weekend show last Saturday.

## UPCOMING... Events at Bates

**Wednesday, Oct. 8**

4 p.m. Men's soccer vs. Southern Maine. Russell Street Field

4-6 p.m. Paul Kuritz's directing class holds auditions for student-directed plays this week.

Contact [pkuritz@bates.edu](mailto:pkuritz@bates.edu) for more information. Pettigrew 204

6-9 p.m. Figure drawing; Olin Arts Center, Room 259

7 p.m. Phillips Student Fellows present their fellowship-funded research: "Toward Autonomy or Assimilation: Addressing Tibetan Sinicization in a Global Era" by Corey Pattison '09 and "Empowerment Through Education: 10,000 Girls Program, Kaolack, Senegal" by Ilana Adler-Bell '09 and Anne Sheldon '09. For more information call 207-753-6952. Chase Hall, Skelton Lounge

7 p.m. Volleyball vs. Bowdoin; Alumni Gymnasium

**Thursday, Oct. 9**

4-6 p.m. Auditions for directing class plays. Pettigrew 204

7 p.m. Lecture: "The Enduring Appeals of War and the Quest for Moral and Erotic Equivalents to War" by Sam Keen, a philosopher, seminar leader and author. The annual Zerby Lecture is sponsored by the multi-faith chaplain's office. For more information call 207-786-8272. Chase Hall Lounge

**Friday, Oct. 10**

7 & 9:30 p.m. Filmboard Movie: "Wanted" (2008, 110 min.);

Admission: \$1. Olin Arts Center, Room 104

**Saturday, Oct. 11**

9 a.m. Men's tennis; Wallach Invitational. Wallach Tennis Center

1 p.m. Football vs. Wesleyan. Garcelon Field

2 & 7 p.m. "Wanted." Olin Arts Center, Room 104

**Sunday, Oct. 12**

9 a.m. Men's tennis; Wallach Invitational continues. Wallach Tennis Center

2 & 4:30 p.m. "Wanted." Olin Arts Center, Room 104

5:30 p.m. Spiritual gathering: Weekly Protestant worship service. Bates College Chapel

**Monday, Oct. 13**

7 p.m. Phillips Student Fellows discuss their fellowship-funded work: "Preserving Art and Culture at Taller Portobelo" by Clyde Bango '11, who undertook a residency at the Spelman College Summer Art Colony in Panama (his artwork will be exhibited in Chase Hall); and "The Power of Pilgrimage: Finding Meaning on El Camino de Santiago" by Jacob Lewis '09. For more information call 207-753-6952. Chase Hall Lounge

**Tuesday, Oct. 14**

12:30 p.m. Noonday Concert. Olin Arts Center Concert Hall



# ARTS & LIVING

The Bates Student

## Bates Families Flock to the Farm



ELIZABETH ROWLEY/THE BATES STUDENT

Batesians are not the only ones to enjoy Nezinscot. Customers are often in the company of the Varney cats.

ELIZABETH ROWLEY  
STAFF WRITER

Bates College, no parents? Not the case this past weekend. Parents and Family Weekend sparked a myriad of events throughout the Bates community. The presence of parents on campus had a surprising ripple effect outside the Bates bubble as well. Nezinscot Farm, a locally renowned organic café and farm, changed its hours of operation specifically to cater to the influx of Bates families.

As families flocked like geese to Nezinscot Farm this past weekend, owner Gloria Varney commented, "It is absolutely the busiest weekend of the year. Last year we were only open Saturday, and that was the busiest Saturday of the year. It made no sense not to open Sunday as well this year, and we plan to do the same next year." The second busiest weekend of the year for the business is similarly Bates related – graduation weekend.

The small family-run farm gained a surprising amount of business this past weekend. "On a typical Saturday we normally serve 75-90 meals. [This Saturday] was 200, and we did the same or more [Sunday]," said Varney.

The farm is an organic family farm located in Turner and takes its name from the river that borders the property. The operation is a café-store combination, selling all natural products

and produce. They offer dairy products, eggs and baked goods, as well as homemade crafts such as knit hats, scarves and jewelry. The quality of their produce and dairy in particular are a testament to the fact that in 1994 the farm became the first in Maine to claim organic dairy certification.

Varney runs Nezinscot Farm with her husband, Gregg Varney. The couple purchased the property from Gregg's parents in 1987. Their five children, Roy, Everett, Natasha, Mackenzie and Samantha, also help out the family business.

Their mission as local farmers is to grow without the use of chemicals or pesticides, to serve as a resource for current and future farmers and to become certified in biodynamic agriculture.

Biodynamic agriculture takes a holistic approach to the process of farming. The practice stresses self-sustainability and self-regulation, emphasizing the balance of nature, particularly the interdependence of the soil, animals and plants within a farming system. It considers working with the rhythms of nature, working off an astrological calendar to determine planting and sowing schedules. Nezinscot Farm began biodynamic practices in 2007 and has been working towards the goal of gaining certification since then.

An integral part of Nezinscot Farm's mission is in expanding the opportunity for education. They offer internships, one-day workshops and live-in oppor-

tunities to stimulate on-site learning of farm life skills. Their dedication to quality and to the ongoing education of environmentally progressive techniques sets a precedence in the community in which they live.

Their normal hours of operation are Monday through Friday 6 a.m. to 6 p.m., Saturday 7 a.m. to 5 p.m., closed on Sunday. This past Sunday was an exception, however, and a multitude of Bates families could be seen enjoying the ambiance and food at the farm.

One such father was Ken Warren, an environmental lawyer and parent of sophomore Molly Sage-Warren experienced the full farm experience Sunday morning, and commented on his experience.

"I think it's a sustainable organic enterprise that properly values and conserves the land. And it's really the way to go to use fewer pesticides," Ken Warren said.

"And the dogs are adorable," added his daughter.

As cats and dogs wander the property, the free-range chickens can be seen roaming by the roadside. And while some Bates students may not have shared the same degree of freedom under the watchful eyes of visiting parents this weekend, Nezinscot Farm is always a wonderful place to gather. The farm sends a powerful message about eco-friendly sustainability that is doubtless easy to swallow.

## Fashionably Political

JESSIE SAWYER  
MANAGING ARTS & LIVING EDITOR

Two days before the Vice Presidential Debate, I sat in my elementary French class learning clothing vocabulary by describing the wardrobes of Gov. Sarah Palin, comedian/actress Tina Fey, Italian model Carla Bruni and French President Nicolas Sarkozy. Every slide consisted of pop culture celebrities and politicians as we looked at them on the same plane. It has been said of Americans that we pay more attention to celebrities than to politics. If this is true to some extent, is it possible that the public and the media are judging politicians in the same light as pop celebrities by criticizing how they look and what they are wearing?

Comedians use politicians' fashion and style as devices to make fun of them. Tina Fey and Amy Poehler opened Saturday Night Live one night as Palin and Sen. Hillary Clinton, respectively. "Clinton" dons a light blue power suit and endorses Obama with the flare of a quarter-size campaign pin. "Palin" looks extravagant in her red peacoat and prom-style updo. As "Clinton" rants about how she should have been closer to the White House instead of Palin with her "pageant sash" and her "Tina Fey glasses," "Palin" waves to the audience like an actress to the flashing cameras at her movie premier and strikes supermodel and rock star poses.

Granted, Fey and Poehler create caricatures and exaggerate in this scene to deliver a comedic effect, but the attention to Palin's and Clinton's fashion, as well as the media's representation of them is spot on. Reporters have on occasion included fashion and appearance in their political commentary, giving coverage of the candidates a "What Not to Wear" feel.

While there are certainly plenty who critique politicians' policies, maybe the media's attention to a politician in a pop culture paradigm is due to the theatricality in politics. When you're a politician, the public constantly has its eyes on you. You're constantly in the media. You have no privacy. Sometimes policies become more about "what's in" than what politicians truly believe.

If a president's image is going to be judged like the image of an actress interviewed on the red carpet about who she's wearing, maybe acting or modeling are not such terrible things to have on the résumé. After all, Ronald Reagan was an actor and the president of the actor's guild over 40 years before he became president of the United States and implemented the largest economic boom in American history, according to heritage.com.

That is not to say that our celebrity culture is the solution to

perhaps the largest economic crisis since the Great Depression, but there may be a link between celebrity pop culture and politics.

Running alongside the 2008 presidential election, an exhibit opened on Sept. 27 at the Currier Museum of Art in Manchester, N.H. called "Andy Warhol: Pop Politics." It showcases 60 of Warhol's photographs, paintings, prints and drawings of influential 20th century political figures like Ronald Reagan, John F. Kennedy, Mao Zedong and Queen Elizabeth II.

"Warhol's images of these powerful personalities comment on the interrelationships between politics and celebrity culture in the late twentieth century – connections that remain ever present today," read a press release on the museum's website. "Warhol's appropriation of these stock images signaled his interest in how political leaders ascended to celebrity status as a result of their constant representation in the media."

Elizabeth Sneed of The Los Angeles Times ran an article after the Republican Convention entitled, "Sarah Palin: The Politics of Fashion," describing her "no-nonsense style" as a "surprise hit" next to Laura Bush and Cindy McCain's "Oscar de la Renta suits, Chanel watches and Stuart Weitzman heels." Sneed details Palin's December decision to switch from "rimless glasses" to "titanium-rimmed glasses" as well as her make-up choices.

Tom Julian, who worked on Oscar.com for a decade, finds that a more modest image would be more suited for Palin. "A complete head to toe makeover might make her look more acceptable for fashion magazines," Julian told the LA Times. "Perhaps a line like Ralph Lauren could answer all of Governor Palin's needs."

Seeing that Palin is a former beauty pageant queen, maybe it's not so surprising that the media is drawn to the fashion in her politics. However, the fashion commentary and celebrity gossip is not limited to Palin.

On July 20, 2007, the Washington Post printed a piece in their style section that led with the line, "There was cleavage on display Wednesday afternoon on C-SPAN2. It belonged to Hillary Clinton." Staff writer Robin Givhan went on to say that Clinton's choice of the low-dipping v-neck reflected a woman who could feel "ease in her skin, coolly confident about her appearance, unflinching about her sense of style." The article received a lot of press, including six segments on MSNBC according to mediamatters.org.

Fashion critics are not the only ones to comment on politicians' style. In anticipation of last Thursday's Vice Presidential debate, Obama noted the style of his running mate, Joe Biden.

See POP POLITICS, page B4

## A Cappella Show: Innovative within a Tradition



LOUISA DEMMITT/THE BATES STUDENT

JOE WILLIAMS  
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

The Parents and Family Weekend a cappella concert is a staple of Bates tradition. The Merimanders have to wear black, the Deansmen have to wear tuxes, the Crosstones have to change it up and the Manic Optimists have to embarrass their freshmen recruits with backstory narratives. These things will never change, nor should they – the traditions are there to highlight the talent, which was at a very high level this year. This year's success carried on the tradition, but it also had its fair share of surprises.

The first and biggest surprise of the night was Take Note, the first new group I've seen at the Parents and Family Weekend show in my four years at Bates. They followed the Deansmen, which is courageous for a group of seven. They sang beautifully on "West Virginia," and it was refreshing to see some new faces enter the a cappella circuit.

The Merimanders took a risk with the second surprise of the night. Is it still a cappella when there are two violinists on stage? The Deansmen used to have a partner band, the Hub Caps, and a little background music does not change the focus of the performance. It was still a Meris show, and I thought it was a delightful touch. The violinists were slightly overpowered, but I hope they continue in this direction.

The ManOps surprised many a parent with a risqué Flight of the Concorde song that rivaled the Crosstones for funniest moment of the night – the new Crosstones parodied the Deansmen freshmen initiation by singing their audition songs simultaneously. Every soloist was great, which is partially a testament to the growing popularity and selectivity of the groups. Eddie Arsnow '10 had a wonderful solo on the Deansmen rendition of "Georgia." He employed the swagger and rough edges of Ray Charles but also

made it entirely his own. The Deansmen were successful in two songs that did not use beat-boxing, which was another bold move.

The very finest song of the program, I thought, was the Crosstones rendition of "I Want You Back." It bristled with energy and played up the power of every voice in the group while also managing to showcase the exceptional soloists, new member Molly Wolkin '09, Jeannie Larmore '10 and Caroline Servat '10.

After the concert a parent told me, "This was delightful and shows what talent there is in the student body." Talent really is the bottom line. The groups may experiment with a variety of vocal combinations to find an identity, but without great pipes and hard work from every individual in the program, a cappella would not be the success it is year in and year out. Congratulations to every singer. It's you we came to see.



Only when it gets rough...  
Girl to boy: Just remember safe sex is important.  
Boy: Of course it's important; sometimes I even wear a helmet!

- Library

Bates College: History 101

Girl #1: Did you hear about the bailout situation?

Girl #2: Yea.

Girl #1: We may be going into the second Depression. Like Anne Frank style.

- Math Class

Everyone has their own incentives...

Boy to friends: I would love to be a douche bag – they wear the best sunglasses.

- Commons

It's all about baby steps...

Girl: Why don't you put salt on those?

Boy swatting girls' hand away: It's not healthy.

Girl: ...You just drank, smoked, and then ate a bag of popcorn, a double cheeseburger and fries.

Boy: What? I'm cutting back.

- Milt's

Are you listening? Hear something you should not have heard?  
Send your overheards to: [overheardatbates@gmail.com](mailto:overheardatbates@gmail.com)