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THE CATALYST

THE INDEPENDENT STUDENT NEWSPAPER OF COLORADO COLLEGE

Anticipation, aftermath of midterms elicit emotions across political spectrum

November 5, 2010

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Hope and change for Republican party in midterm elections

James Zilenziger

Guest Writer

I stopped using the term "Republican" to describe my identity in 2006. Granted, I was only 16, unregistered, and a sophomore in high school but I had called myself a Republican since eighth grade. I believed that the individual, not government, knew what was best for him/herself, and a government that governed least was a government that governed best. To me, the Republican Party was the paramount embodiment of these ideals. Yet, during George W. Bush's second term in office I began to make the distinction between a conservative and a Republican. As government spending increased rapidly, I found the Republicans indistinguishable from the Democrats. If you took away the party name Bush was virtually a fiscal liberal. He enacted a new Medicare drug-entitlement program that will cost \$800 billion in its first decade. Then he became the first president to spend 3% of the GDP on antipoverty programs. By the end of his eight years, public spending expanded by 70%, and he added a record 14,000 new pages of economic regulations to the Federal Registry. And finally, in 2008, he left office after instituting a number of bank bailouts, a policy that would soon be adopted by the Obama Administration.

Sadly, this is only a small glimpse of the government spending that skyrocketed under Bush, which brings us to an important point: Although Bush was a Republican, he was no fiscal conservative. He provided tax cuts for Americans that helped millions of families. Tax cuts, accompanied by a sharp increase in government spending, is known as "Keynesian Economics," which is a liberal fiscal policy. A Keynesian fiscal policy strictly focuses on short-term growth with tax cuts complemented by huge governmental monetary injections and often proves to be a long-term disaster once debt starts to add up. Unfortunately, many Americans quickly

assume that Bush's fiscal policy was a conservative policy because he was a Republican. Our current economic crisis should be blamed on fiscal conservatism. I ask all individuals to look beyond the party name and examine the actual policies. You may find yourself surprised that the fiscal policy of the Bush Administration that you so vehemently condemn is the same liberal fiscal policy you so adamantly promote.

But this article is not about the old Republican, but rather the new Republican: the Republican that is returning to its practices of fiscal conservatism. For many CC students, Wednesday was probably equivalent to a bad hangover. Republicans made significant gains in the House of Representatives, claimed 30 Governor positions, and took away six Senate seats (with some states still undeclared) once held by Democrats. And yet Bush's name still pops up, especially from President Obama. We are told that electing a Republican Congress is analogous to putting Bush back in office. This is especially amusing because Obama's policies have simply been a continuation of the late Bush Administration, only more extreme. Obama's spending in 2009 alone has managed to exceed *all* of Bush's combined spending during his eight years in office.

But why should we have faith that the new Republican will be different from the old Republican? First, we have two examples from the New Jersey and Virginia Governor races of 2009. Hailing from the state of New Jersey, I've witnessed the damage that a fiscally liberal government can have upon an economy. New Jersey has the highest property taxes in the nation, a deficit of \$10.5 billion (third behind New York and California), and one of the most quickly decreasing populations resulting from business and individual abandonment. New Jersey is a prime example of how high taxes scare away business and worsen a shrinking revenue pool. Thankfully, our new Republican Governor Chris Christie

see Republican party on page 7

Pausing for thought in politics? Rally to Restore Sanity targets problem at the source

Alex Kronman

Editor-in-Chief

The Rally to Restore Sanity and/or Fear was held this past Saturday on the National Mall in Washington, D.C. The brainchild of Comedy Central's Jon Stewart, host of the Daily Show, and Steven Colbert, host of the Colbert Report, the rally was meant for those Americans not represented amidst our divisive political culture.

Stewart and Colbert, emissaries of sanity and fear respectively, called on the "busy majority" comprised of those who "think shouting is annoying, counterproductive, and terrible for your throat; who feel that the loudest voices shouldn't be the only ones that get heard" to the Woodstock of our generation, albeit one with "the

nudity and drugs replaced by respectful disagreement." And by god, they came. Estimates have settled at about 215,000 people, slightly below Colbert's estimate of 6 billion but impressive nonetheless. The rally, held on Oct. 30, fell over block break and I was lucky enough to attend. So, as Thursday rolled around, a few friends and I flew to Washington, D.C. Quite a few people were en transit to attend the rally and that number certainly grew as we left the Springs and switched planes in Minneapolis. Once in the Capitol, the mood was electric. Even though this was my first D.C. rally, it struck me how utterly transformed the city was. Armchair liberals were freed from the confines of their natural habitats and roamed the streets sporting "sanity" pins. It was obvious too that everyone was on his or her best behavior. No one wanted to reflect poorly on the collective mission.

As rally day began, the masses descended upon the mall. In the Metro and on the streets there was no pushing or shoving – there was just an incredible happiness and politeness. Hell, to get a city to behave like that is an impressive feat in and of itself. As much as Jon Stewart and the Daily Show are held up as the only way young people get the news, Stewart knows what he is and what he does well. Many, in anticipation of the rally, saw this as the breaking point in which Stewart would somehow cease to be a comedian and be reborn as a political leader. He played the role of media critic rather than media replacement and, as a comedian with a half hour on Comedy Central four nights a week, that's exactly what he should have done. Stewart has been clear about keeping his distance from the media and political establishments and he honored that at the rally. That being said, I have a feeling a Stewart/Colbert ticket in 2012 would be met with excitement by those in attendance.

Anyway, the rally. It kicked off with the guys from Mythbusters on the Discovery Channel conducting "experiments" on the crowd. From



Photo: flickr user cliff1066

see Rally on page 4

News

CC website gets an overdue revamping

Kelsey Bergeson
Staff Writer

As the world wide web and the technology that delivers it is becoming increasingly present in our lives, CC is adapting in order to give all of the members of the community access to efficient and effective ways of communicating via the Internet. The school's official website is working to provide the school with tools to bring CC's rich and unique culture online by allowing everyone on campus to be involved.

For the first time in six years, the Colorado College website is undergoing some drastic transformations. In May 2010, CC held a Web Overhaul Campus Forum and implemented a redesign blog open to comment in order to get feedback from students, staff, faculty, parents and other members of the Colorado College community about what needs to be updated on CC's main web page.

"Working with parents and students, we get a lot of feedback that finding their way around the site is very difficult," reads one comment on the blog. Another comment bemoans the fact that the web content is "woefully out of date with broken links, irrelevant information, and staff listings (on occasion) that are years old."

Other comments call for updates to the back-end infrastructure and information architecture as well as simplicity and consistency in the site's appearance. Some emphasized the need for the website to accurately represent the distinct culture of Colorado College. Many want the website to be more interactive, with more "cross-campus blogs, course pages and forums available."

"The current site was designed in 2004, so the most obvious change will be a complete visual

"...We hope to shift to a web culture wherein anyone can easily contribute stories, photos, videos, etc."

Karen To

redesign," said Karen To, Director of Web Communications and New Media and member of the working group appointed by President Dick Celeste to oversee the website redesign. "More importantly, we hope to shift to a web culture wherein anyone can easily contribute stories, photos, videos, etc."

In order to achieve this vision of easier interactivity, the new site will implement a Content Management System (CMS), software that enables those who are less technically advanced to organize and edit the material on a web page. This system will "dismantle the technological barriers to having a vibrant, up-to-date site that

truly reflects Colorado College," said To.

To also noted that the website will feature a new information structure that will make navigation significantly easier and offer "improved accessibility to people with visual disabilities and a much better way to search the site."

To help with the redesign process, CC has hired White Whale Web Services of Oakland,

"Our role as designers and site architects is to develop designs, strategies, and best practices for a great new site, but we need you to help and fill in all the details."

White Whale

California. This company was chosen from four vendors who gave presentations at the college in August.

"White Whale was chosen because they seemed to 'get' us," said To. "We were impressed with their creativity and energy and they were the best cultural fit for CC."

She noted that people who attended the company's initial presentation appreciated their engagement with the community. Many also found that White Whale's beliefs that web design in higher education should be fun and tell a story about the school fit well with the uniqueness of CC and would enable them to help show off the unusualness of the Block Plan.

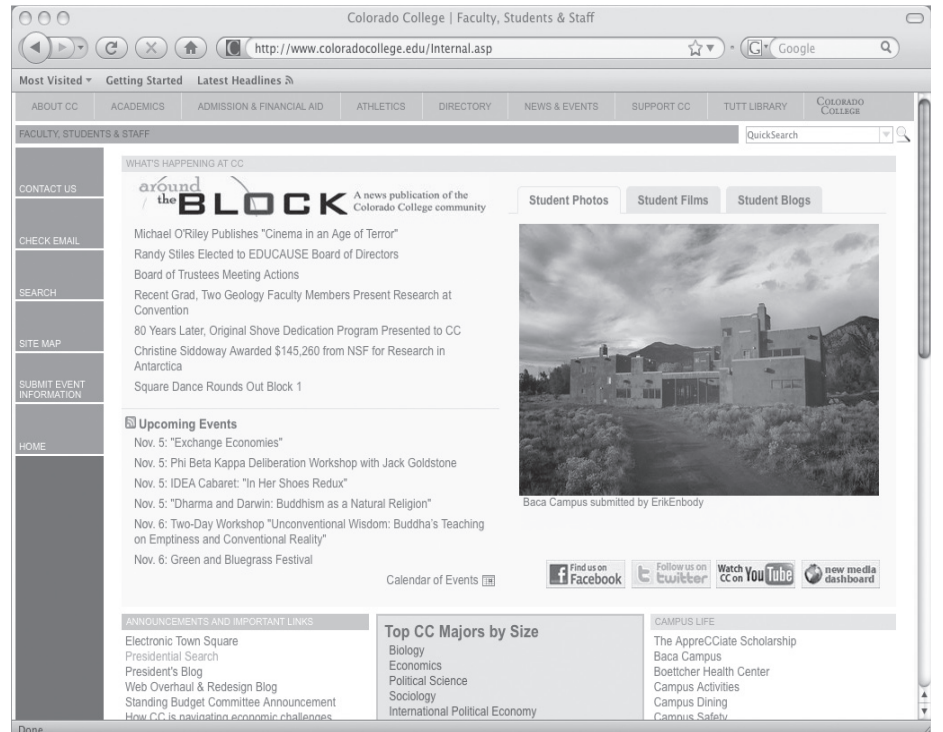
The company also has an impressive resume: White Whale has designed websites for Middlebury College, Kenyon College, The University of San Francisco, Lake Forest College, Lewis and Clark College and the University of California Berkeley School of Law.

Funding for the contract will come from a variety of sources, including money the Communications Department set aside last year, the President's Circle (money contributed by a group of alumni, parents and friends of the college), and a campus contingency for one-time expenditures.

The cost of services provided with White Whale will total \$147,000, not including the cost of the CMS, the specific model of which has not been chosen yet.

"We'll be evaluating Content Management Systems in the near term and would love any interested people to give the finalists a test drive. Keep an eye on the digests and redesign blog for opportunities to participate," added To.

The entire six-man staff of White Whale visited Colorado College this Oct. 20 to 22 in order to get a feel for the campus and receive input from members of the CC community about what they would like to see on the



The current official website of Colorado College.

website.

In a message to the campus community posted on the school's redesign blog, White Whale indicated that an important aspect of the visit was "to make it clear to everyone at CC that this redesign will be community-powered and driven by ideas, stories and content created by your own community."

"Our role as designers and site architects is to develop designs, strategies and best practices for a great new site, but we need you to help us fill in the details," White Whale stated in its online post.

"Every segment of the on campus community was represented" at the sessions held by White Whale in October, said To.

After such enthusiastic response from the campus community, White Whale will hopefully now be able to produce ideas for the redesign that are well-tailored to Colorado College.

To indicated that she is "expecting strategic recommendations from White Whale very soon" based on the information they gathered during their visit.

Soon, the working group expects to have a timeline for the new website's development. "The process is expected to take 9-12 months. We're shooting for a summertime launch," To said when asked when the new site will be up. She noted that a smooth transition will require cooperation from the entire campus community. "We'll need help from every entity, whether it's a department or student group, to get their site migrated," she said.

Members of the CC community can access the redesign blog at <http://blog.coloradocollege.edu/redesign/>, leave comments, or access the contact information of the list of members of the working group in order to contribute thoughts regarding the website redesign.

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The search continues for CC's new president-to-be



The presidents of Colorado College, past and present.

Photo courtesy of the Colorado College website

Brett Bustos

Guest Writer

On Oct. 25, students, faculty and staff were invited to Armstrong Theater to participate in three separate open forums to provide their thoughts on what type of individual they want the next CC president to be. All three groups spent roughly an hour putting forth their ideas on who should succeed current President Dick Celeste.

The forums were mediated by Shelly Weiss Storbeck, managing partner, and Anne Coyle, associate partner, from the selected executive search firm Storbeck/Pimentel and Associates, which has been hired to run the presidential search. In addition to Storbeck/Pimentel, a presidential search committee has been formed that consists of Esther Redmount, professor of Economics, John Simons, professor of English, Sandi Wong, professor of Sociology and Emily Chan, professor of Psychology. Staff are represented by Anne Goodman-James, Head Swimming Coach and CC alum Ginger Morgan, Associate Dean of Students. Students are represented by seniors Angela Cobian and Joel Minor.

The student forum was the first of the three forums and began with Storbeck and Coyle posing three questions: What would attract someone to be president of CC? What challenges would they face? What type of person should be the president of CC?

Prestige and sustainability were the two biggest points of discussion among students.

Several students expressed a desire to have a president who brings prestige to CC and can maintain and improve upon the reputation CC already garners. One student stated that he hoped the new president would bring educational esteem to CC that gives some extra clout to her degree. Others like Anna Johnson agreed, adding that the prestige the new president brings should not sacrifice the unique and quirky character of CC.

The topic of sustainability at CC was even more discussed than prestige. Senior Lizzy Stephan said she sees the change to a new president as a great opportunity to make CC a leader in campus sustainability. With President Celeste committing CC to carbon neutrality by 2020, Stephan believes it will be a great challenge and opportunity for the next president to achieve this goal. Students who expressed concern for CC's sustainability asked for a president who publicly approaches the issue with vigor and haste.

Despite the many discussions and topics that arose among students, there was one sentiment that all students in attendance seemed to agree on: that the next president must be like a CC student – “a jack of all trades” as one student said. Studies affirmed that he or she must be a passionate and devoted person, dedicated to higher learning and making a profound difference in the world, all with a little quirk.

Following the student forum was the faculty forum. Professors from many different departments and disciplines came to vocalize their concerns and desires. It started similar to the student forum, with Storbeck posing the same

three questions. Most, if not all, faculty present was in agreement on their hopes for the next president, something that many saw as funny considering the diverse opinions present.

The most common opinion was the need for CC to return to its academic roots in the liberal arts. Many wish to see the emphasis shift from unique to intellectual in the CC mantra, “a unique intellectual adventure.”

One professor expressed concern with the dwindling attendance at liberal arts institutions, and how important it will be for the next president to understand the important purpose that the liberal arts serve in our society.

Kathleen Bizzarro, Professor of Spanish, believes that the next president must have an intimate understanding of not only the liberal arts, but of CC specifically.

“Faculty set the stage to learn,” Bizzarro said. “We need a president who knows how to set that stage.” Bizzarro hopes that the next president comes from within the CC community, believing an outsider may not understand the values and climate of the college.

“We could lose our voice,” Bizzarro said. “We could lose who we are.”

Faculty also expressed concern with the current financial status of CC, particularly with financial aid, and hopes the next president can lift the college from the current financial downturn. One professor believes this can be attained with a president who can effectively and passionately articulate the liberal arts experience to outsiders, which will bring in more and more donors.

In the end, the faculty was hopeful that the

next president can bring about the change that CC needs. And to them, that lies in hiring an educated and eloquent CC alum or faculty member who can make CC a liberal arts powerhouse.

The day concluded with a third forum where the CC staff came together from all over campus to give their input on what kind of person they wish to see lead CC. Much of what they said was in agreement with the students and faculty, as they want someone who fits in with the dynamic of the college and someone who can manage money efficiently and responsibly.

Many staff members expressed the desire for a president who can unite all of CC, particularly the students, faculty and staff. One member wants the next president to show with actions and words that all individuals involved in the college are important to the success of the institution. One staff member hopes to see a president with a vision and passion for CC that will inspire as well as challenge students, faculty and staff to become better.

After all forums were finished, executive search firm and Presidential Search Committee was left with a long list of attributes. While there are some contradictions, students, staff and faculty seem to be roughly on the same page. If each group's vision were to be condensed into one, the ideal candidate would be a dynamic, quirky and passionate individual with plenty of academic and political respect, a shrewd financial sense, and a commitment to sustainability who deeply understands and appreciates what it means to be a member of the CC community.

CC gets rid of 15-passenger buses, future of field programs uncertain

Phoebe Parker-Shames

News Editor

Rosie Curts

Staff Writer

One major benefit to the Block Plan that has been a selling point for the school is the ability for students to go on day-long, week-long, block-long or even semester-long trips off-campus. Currently, 15-person vans are used often for day trips (or longer excursions), particularly in the Biology and Geology departments. However, the days of these trips, made available by the Block Plan, may be numbered.

For safety issues, CC has been phasing out the 15-person busses over the past few years. There are now only two left in the entire college fleet. In CC's Transportation Manual, the explanation of the perils of 15-person busses is explained. The manual states, “12-15 passenger vans have a higher center of gravity than most passenger cars and will be more susceptible to rollover in the event of an accident. Analysis has revealed that loading the van causes the center of gravity to shift to the rear and upward increasing the likelihood of rollover. The shift in the center of gravity will also increase the potential for loss of control in panic maneuvers.”

As can be expected, the professors who use them for trips with their classes are not happy. “The elimination of 15-passenger vans is often described as being done for reasons of safety,”

said Chair of the Geology Department Henry Fricke. “I would suggest, however, that the common result of this move—requiring an additional vehicle to be driven by a paraprof or a student—is not necessarily safer.”

Fricke explained that the students that would be needed to drive extra vehicles would not make the trip any safer. On the contrary, the vans would be driven by people who may not have experience driving large vehicles, particularly unfamiliar ones. Fricke, on the other hand, has been driving the vans for over 20 years.

There is also some difficulty finding a second driver for the vans. The Chair of the Biology Department, Brian Linkhart, explained that there might not be enough money to hire additional paraprofs to drive a second vehicle, or cover the costs of extra gas and mileage.

There are many problems with any potential solution. A larger bus may not be able to go to the more remote natural locations that make field courses at CC so unique. Multiple smaller vehicles could also increase the size of the classes, pushing small field courses up to larger numbers, which would change the intimate hands-on nature of the current courses.

“I don't know if it means no field courses,” Linkhart said. “We just don't know the ramifications of this. Potentially, it means fewer field trips that are not as far away.” He went on to say that at the worst case scenario, “there is the potential of compromising the learning experience, and that's what we want to avoid at all cost.”

Another issue with replacing the 15-person

buses with multiple vehicles is the additional pollution. Two vehicles instead of one means burning more gas and driving twice as many miles to get the whole class to any given destination than the current setup.

The elimination of the vans will be complete, affecting not just day trips for classes, but school-run programs as well. The Priddy Experience trips for incoming freshmen would now be conducted in SUVs, full-size buses or minivans. This would mean either much more tightly packed groups or separate vehicles, a change that could mean less bonding for freshmen, as they would not get to spend hours talking with those in the other car. The Transportation Manual forbids drivers from driving more than six hours at a time. If there were only two drivers available, as there are on Priddy trips, then for multiple vehicles, each would have to drive the full length of a trip.

It has been conceded that there is a problem with the vans. The website of the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration at safecar.gov has a consumer advisory against 15-passenger vans, warning that they are prone to rollovers. In addition, the vans are difficult to insure, and CC lawyers have been calling for their removal for over a year. The vans have also been the cause of several personal injury lawsuits. “This might in itself be a valid reason, but it isn't really a ‘safety’ issue,” said Fricke. Thus, when a van does get in an accident, the school is bombarded with “blood-sucking lawyers who would savor the chance to bleed the college for all they can get,” Fricke said,

explaining that the same could happen with any vehicle if the driver isn't paying attention.

Fricke explained that for particularly large classes, the departments could use the big college buses, though they will be harder to reserve for busier blocks at the beginning and end of each year, when the weather is optimal for field courses. The same problem would be true of multiple vehicles, and it could be very difficult to reserve multiple vans during busy blocks. Fricke is determined, however, not to give up on the day trips for the smaller classes. “We will continue to take van-based field trips even if it means more vehicles, more burning of fossil fuels and thus more expense because this is what we do...our department will abide,” Fricke declared. The same may not be affordable for all departments, however.

Two of any college's top priorities are making sure its students are as safe as possible and making sure they get the best education possible. In this case, these two priorities seem to be at odds. Solutions are still being proposed, but at the moment, the future of hands-on, small field courses with the ability to travel to more remote and valuable locations is uncertain. “We're not fully certain how all this is going to play out at the moment,” Linkhart said.

Despite some attempts by the administration to help departments brainstorm, the future of many programs is uncertain. “[The fact that there has been discussions] doesn't mean that it's led to a resolution that's been satisfactory with all departments. There's no clear easy solution out of it.”

Features

Rally to Restore Sanity targets problem at source

continued from page 1

where I was standing, telling people to simultaneously jump up and down through a not quite loud enough PA system got lost on a crowd hungry for some good old-fashioned sanity. Next on the bill came The Roots and John Legend performing together to really get things started. The stage served as a very intentional frame of the Capitol. It worked incredibly well as a backdrop for everyone on stage during the rally. Other musical acts included 4troops with the national anthem, Jeff Tweedy and Mavis Staples with some unmemorable indie stuff, Kid Rock and Sheryl Crow with an incredibly overly simplistic song about political division. Tony Bennett performed a rousing God Bless America that I felt was easily the most powerful and moving musical performance of the day. Rounding out the impressive list of musicians at the rally were Yusuf Islam (formerly known as Cat Stevens), Ozzy Osbourne and The O'Jays. A strange musical trio you say? Together, they provided one of the rally's absolute high points.

Stewart brought out Islam, after decades of not performing, to sing "Peace Train," his 1971 classic. Not to be outdone, Colbert interrupted the performance by bringing out Ozzy to perform "Crazy Train." In the spirit of compromise they agreed that a "Love Train" was a train they could both get on. Aside from music, the Rally to Restore Sanity also featured Don Novello reprising his portrayal of Father Guido Sarducci made famous on Saturday Night Live in the 70s. He delivered the benediction and used the opportunity to ask god, so long as he had god's attention, to create a sign so we'd know which religion was the right one. That's definitely something I don't expect happened at Glenn Beck's "Restoring Honor" rally on the mall in August. Or, well, perhaps it did, but during Beck's event god probably answered. Sam Waterston of Law and Order fame gave a dramatic reading of a poem by Steven Colbert sending up media alarmism. During a mock debate (or edition of "Formidable Opponent" for those Colbert fans) between Stewart and Colbert, Stewart used Kareem Abdul-Jabbar as evidence of there being a difference between Muslims and terrorists. Apart from the outpouring of celebrities involved with the rally, the true meat of the show was the guys everyone came to see — Jon Stewart and Steven Colbert. Their rapport is fantastic

and their unique senses of humor offered a great one-two punch. A question Jon Stewart brought up towards the end of the rally is one a multitude of people have attempted to answer in the past few days: what was this? It's a question I've been thinking about and I'm not sure I'd understand it had I not been there.

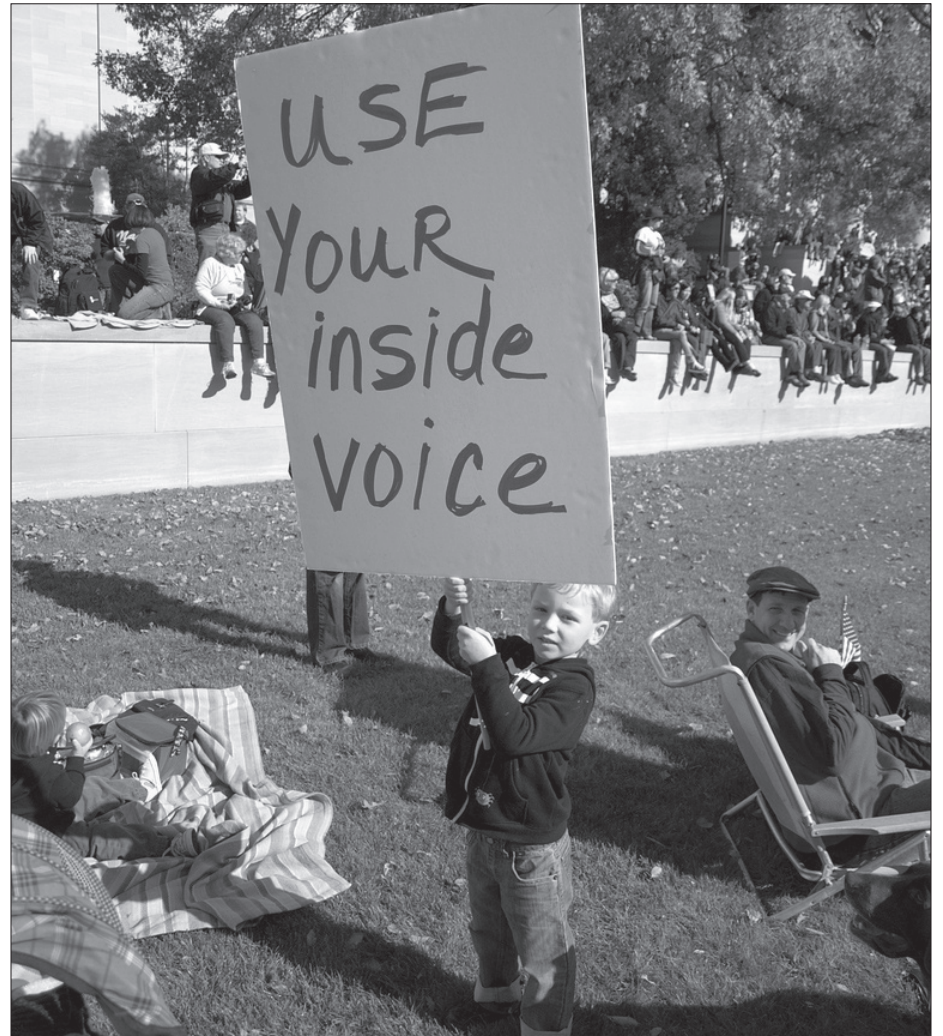
At first I felt a little cheated. I wanted a little more. I got a great show but somehow I felt there'd be a stronger political statement, something to dull the Election Day sting we all knew was right around the corner. Knowing I, or someone else, would be covering the rally for the Catalyst, I began to think of a phrase that might capture how I was feeling. I landed upon yearning for "a little more Cornell West and a little less Kid Rock." Apart from that being nowhere near as clever as I thought at the time, I must admit I think I was mistaken. By far and away, the best part of the Rally to Restore Sanity was right at the end. For 15 minutes or so, Stewart paused for a little seriousness. He didn't attack the right, the Tea Party or any individual; he went deeper

“The country's 24-hour politico-pundit, perpetual panic conflictinator did not cause our problems but its existence makes solving them that much harder.”

Jon Stewart

than that. His basic thesis was this: "The press is our immune system. If it overreacts to everything, we actually get sicker, and perhaps eczema." Thinking about it in terms of positives and negatives, the rally was a fantastic experience. Just being a part of it was uplifting. Many are attacking the rally's substance, notably David Carr of the New York Times. Some are saying it didn't hit the radical right hard enough, some are saying it wasn't political enough, and many are saying that by going after the media rather than political extremists, Stewart was targeting the messengers while letting the message get away scot free.

I don't think that is a competent interpretation. I think the Rally to Restore Sanity made a better point than we've seen in a long time. It would have been easy to say that political



A young citizen makes a request to our politicians and media pundits. Photo courtesy of david_shankbone via Flickr

discourse in contemporary America has been corroded to a dangerous extreme. Stewart went further than that; he offered a solution.

Politicians can't really be expected to engage in substantial discourse because they have no incentive to. They can get away with all sorts of horrible things because no one is there to call them out when they misstep. We can't solve problems in this country not because we don't have capable leader, but because our way of understanding the issues is broken. "The country's 24-hour politico-pundit, perpetual panic conflictinator did not cause our problems," Stewart said, "but its existence makes solving them that much harder."

He brought people together and he offered a solution. A broken discourse and endless fighting is a symptom of a larger problem—our mass media has given up the search for truth and taken up the search for profits. We haven't lost the essence, the ability, to fix our problems and create an inclusive America for the next generation. We have, however, forgotten how to communicate. It's reason and sanity that are lacking from a national conversation.

In that environment it truly is the loudest voices that get the most attention. In that environment, "yes we can" has morphed into apathy and fiscal responsibility has devolved into fear. Gray area and doubt simply don't sell and don't get ratings. The challenges we face are not easy but they are not insurmountable. As Stewart said, "We live in hard times, but we do not live in end times."

Progress is impossible when our framework doesn't reflect reality. By calming down and at least understanding that working together is possible, even just for a few hours, Stewart has

helped us think intelligently about the issues we face.

However, this was not a call to action. As Stewart said, "Your presence was all I wanted." Or rather, he was asking for a little thought before we act. The Rally to Restore Sanity was not a clarion call to follow Stewart and Colbert. He wasn't asking for anything but a pause. He didn't attempt to make this about himself and he didn't have enough of an ego to think that he was the face of a political movement.

“Progress is impossible when our framework doesn't reflect reality. By calming down and at least understanding that working together is possible, even just for a few hours, Stewart has helped us think intelligently about the issues we face.”

Had he asked for more than our presence, it was his for the taking. By not doing, however, so he forged something deeper and more meaningful—an inspired way to re-imagine how we the people manage our country. It's a mistake to quantify what happened that day. By leaving it for what it was, we got something more.



Participants march through Washington, D.C. at the Rally to Restore Sanity. An estimated 215,000 were in attendance. Photo courtesy of Advantage Lendl via Flickr



**RECYCLE
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**RALLY TO
RESTORE
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**MARCH TO
KEEP
FEAR
ALIVE**

CC Foreign Dispatch: Mongolia

One Way to Kill a Goat

Gordon Matthewson

Guest Writer

Separate the goat from the herd. Tie it up. Put down a ground tarp and position yourself directly over the goat so that it is between your legs and you are both facing in the same direction. Then, take a hammer (or a large rock) and bang it over the head until it is paralyzed. Upon every strike except the last, it will make the eerie sound one would expect a dying goat to make (a defeated bleeeeuuhuhuhhh).

Make an incision in the middle of the chest and reach your hand in. The next part is a bit tricky and takes experience: find a main artery near the heart, and pluck. If done properly, the goat will be dead in a matter of seconds and from start to finish the whole process will have taken less than a minute. If you're really good you can keep a hand-rolled cigarette in your mouth the whole time and smoke it within centimeters of burning your lips without ever getting any of the goat's blood on it.

Empty out the goat's organs, clean them, and prepare them to be cooked and eaten. Remove the skin and prepare it for sale, or blowtorch it off with the help of a knife if you're having friends over to the ger (Mongolian circular house) for a barbecue.

This anonymous goat fed my Mongolian host family for weeks. Strips of meat were dried and put into rice dishes and noodle soup and the family happily munched on the remaining bowl of assorted organs and bones for breakfast and lunch. For the most part, I ate when they ate, but I drew the line at peeling meat off the goat's face.



Gordon Matthewson celebrates a wedding with his Mongolian host family. Photo courtesy of Gordon Matthewson

I wasn't too keen on the Mongolian herders' version of breakfast cereal either: organ chunks and warm milk. Pancakes are rarely appetizing to me in the morning, much less goat face and organs. I figured Wheaties were out of the question, so I looked up how to say "I'm not really a breakfast guy, thanks anyway," which, translated without the American hyper-politeness that is non-existent here, is: "Bi og-loh id-deg-gui."

Some parts of this whole goat process seemed cruel: like the noises elicited from the goat, or the slightly wild-eyed and sadistic grins I got from my extremely weathered host grandfather while he sat on the floor and sharpened his knife. These slightly menacing looks were a lot less disconcerting when I realized that the knife was not being sharpened to pierce through my fleece, yet it still seemed a bit strange to watch someone plunge it into the chest of a half-conscious animal.

However, this perceived cruelty is, in reality, just what happens to the food you eat in the United States. Chicken

nuggets do in fact begin as chickens (or at least beakless, large-breasted poultry, slightly resembling chickens). The meat that goes into a Chipotle burrito definitely used to have eyes, ears, and a nose. Though I could proceed with a heated rant about how all animals should be treated as they are in countries like Mongolia, I'll talk instead about airag.

One of the many great things about staying with a Mongolian racehorse breeder is the wealth of airag—fermented mare's milk that is the traditional alcoholic drink here. It is slightly carbonated, which makes it a wonderful fizzy sort of drink (perhaps similar to the one consumed in The Big Friendly Giant, only alcoholic). It is typically chugged rather than sipped, and it is perfectly acceptable to have a bowl as soon as you get out of bed in the morning. It is also acceptable to serve some to your baby or small children, as they probably helped out in making it.

The common drinking game here vaguely resembles rock-paper-scissors. Instead of shooting one of those three, you put out a finger, and the higher finger wins (middle beats ring, ring beats pinky etc.). Pinky beats thumb, and the loser of two out of three games chugs his or her bowl. When playing with shots of vodka, the shot goes to the winner—even if they really don't need it and were only playing to fit in and bridge the language barrier.

Mongolia has one city: the wild and wonderful town of Ulaanbaatar. In that city, trance music is king. And my God, am I relieved.

Every time I hear electro and minimal house on the radio, I begin to think that I'm not crazy after all. Other people listen to this crap too, and prefer it to Hurricane Chris, or Rich Boy Who's Selling Crack, or Soulja Boy Up In Dat Oh when dancing in the club.

Trance fits into the scene like a cog—especially when psychotically zipping through lawless Ulaanbaatar traffic, teetering on the edge of life and death. Every time "Tennessee Jed" comes up on the shuffle, I hesitantly let it play out. Then I look over and see tall Soviet apartment buildings lining the smoggy horizon and black exhaust billowing out from the cars next to us, and realize that Ulaanbaatar is possibly the most polluted city in the entire world, and that I am far, far away from Tennessee.

UB is also arguably the most bitterly cold city in the world, getting down to -45 Celsius in the winters. It has an entire community of scavengers living off of the cities' trash, and in all likelihood, a quite healthy black market for human organs.

No, this environment cannot be ignored or covered up with good vibes. Better to embrace the smoke and dirt...acknowledge it, and let it retreat into the background—just as the four-to-the-floor beat does in a soft, ambient trance song. Once it does, the undercurrent melody will reveal itself to you as a sort of overtone, and it begins to be fine music instead of just shitty techno.

The same seems to be true here in UB. If you can get past the creepy SARS-esque masks, bum fights, trash, extremely guttural and offensive-sounding language, the pushing and crowding, and most of all the horrible stench of goat meat, you can start to observe quite a bit.

This is a country emerging from total political flux. In 1991, Mongolia ousted the Soviet Union after 70 years of occupation and drafted its first constitution. Since then, things have been chaotic, at best.

The country is battling corruption, poverty, and just about everything else that accompanies a complete lack of infrastructure. Some can afford to pay upwards of \$50,000 for an imported Lexus 470, but most people (50% of those in Ulaanbaatar) live without running water. In these poor Ger districts, buildings explode into the hills to the north of the city as far as the eye can see. It is a sight not quite like any other on earth.

In any event, things are running smoothly over here. CC is probably running smoothly as well; I dearly miss the fall season of Rastall-pounding, ski season daydreaming, and general lawn debauchery. But I'm glad to be slaughtering goats in Mongolia. Have fun at the Twomp.



Gordon Matthewson presents a rice offering to an ovoo ("oh-voh") atop a mountain near lake Hovsgul in the north of Mongolia. Photo by Graham Borgman

Profile of the Week: Glenn Bowen

Carola Lovering

Staff Writer

Upon entering the ever-popular Benji's dining hall, students are often greeted by a friendly man with round, silver-rimmed glasses. This cheerful employee is Floyd Glenn Bowen, better known to students simply as "Glenn." Like a perfect gentleman, Glenn pulls out a chair for me before taking a seat at the table himself.

Originally hired as a Sodexo employee three years ago, Glenn was able to keep his job when Bon Appetit took over the Colorado College food services shortly after he began working.

Born and raised in Houston, TX, Glenn graduated from Lubbock Christian University as a piano major. Following his passion for music, Glenn went on to Texas Tech, where he received his certification to teach music.

For the next 20 years, Glenn taught music to grades K-12 in different Texas schools. He moved to Colorado Springs in 1999, where he taught as a substitute teacher during the day and worked at Dillard's at night. Glenn raves about the department store, "I LOVED my job at Dillard's," he said.

Glenn soon acquired another teaching job in Eads, Colorado. The tiny school had just 225 students. There he not only taught music classes, but also instructed the band, drama, and art, and served as the choir director. Even though Eads is three hours from Colorado Springs, Glenn continued to work at Dillard's on weekends because he enjoyed the job so

much.

Glenn taught in Eads while he was in the process of making a decision about switching professions. "Writing was the catalyst that made me talk to my mentor about changing my career, and then I thought about being a music composer and an actor," Glenn said.

By chance, Colorado Springs became the perfect place to pursue his acting. After seeing an ad on Craigslist for banquet servers, Glenn applied and got the job with Sodexo at CC. He was quickly transferred to the cashier job at Benji's. Shortly after he began working at CC, Glenn received a flier in his mailbox from the Fine Arts Center, advertising a week-long beginning acting class for only \$75. He seized this opportunity.

In no time, Glenn was involved in various theatrical productions in Colorado Springs. He has appeared in seven plays at the First United Methodist Church downtown, as well as seven performances with Sunrise, a local theater company.

Glenn currently has four roles in what will be his 15th theatrical production, Anne of Green Gables. "I'm very happy with my four small roles because it gives me the chance to practice quickly turning characters," he said.

Glenn describes his acting career as a blessing. He believes that things happen when they are supposed to. "It's one thing that's led to another, not me contriving or manipulating things, and I love that," he said.

Another blessing in Glenn's life? CC students.

"They could not be more respectful," he said. "Several of them are the most incredible blessings to me."

Always outgoing and cheerful, Glenn makes an effort to learn the names of the students. He is especially impressed with the hockey and lacrosse teams, calling them "great guys and real gentlemen."

His affection for the students is mutual. "Glenn's warm personality and conversational manner are a breath of fresh air," said student Charlie Lovering, a frequent Benji's customer. "He has also been working on what's turning out to be a fine moustache."

Glenn makes a point to have fun with the students. "I try to be interesting," he said. He jokes around with people to lighten them up during lunchtime after three long hours of class. "I've gotten a sense of which CC classes are the hardest."

The students are not the only positive component of Glenn's job. He has also become good friends with other members of the Bon Appetit staff, and greatly admires his company's values. Glenn appreciates the strong commitment to healthy food that is at the core of Bon Appetit's philosophy.

Bon Appetit supports local farmers on a personal level. "They will go to the farmers' homes and have conversations with them," Glenn said. "The farmers will sometimes admit how much of a product they need to sell in order to pay rent that month, and Bon Appetit will help the farmers out. "[Bon Appetit] takes

a serious look at how they can be personally responsible."

He is also a fan of his company's product. "I love Bon Appetit food. Period," he said.

Most students agree that Benji's serves awesome food. The most popular item on the menu? "Chicken strips," he said. "Those are good. The noodle bowl is the second most popular."

Glenn is very happy at his job for the time being. Someday he would love to get farther in his acting career, as well as his writing. He has written three books that he hopes to eventually have published. But Glenn is never too concerned with the future. He is all about letting things happen naturally.

A man of many talents and interests, Glenn maintains an actor's blog (www.limitedrelease.blogspot.com) and a writer's blog (www.adagioday.blogspot.com). He appreciates Facebook fans as well—check out his page under the name Floyd Glenn Bowen.

And don't forget to see him in Anne of Green Gables this weekend. You won't regret it; the cheerful employee you run into every day at Benji's just might become the next Jack Nicholson.

Support Glenn at his production Anne of Green Gables, showing at the First United Methodist Church this weekend. Friday and Saturday at 7 p.m., Sunday matinee at 2:30pm. Tickets are \$15. A percentage of proceeds will support the church and local acting groups.

Comment & Debate

Midterm Elections: A comprehensive examination of Obama's America

Abdoulaye Dabo

Guest Writer

Before polling began for midterm elections on Nov. 2, I had to ask myself—how bad will the results be for the Democrats? The results are in, the votes have been counted. With the exception of some minor wins in states like California and Colorado, things for the Democrats do not look great.

The Republican Party was the clear winner of the midterm elections. We can also say that fiscal conservatism took precedent over government spending. It's clear that fiscal and monetary policies won't change as much as they ought to. Getting legislation through the next Congress will be an uphill battle at best and virtually impossible at worst. This is the moment when America needs to create jobs and work on its fiscal problems. As Julian Zelizer, a Princeton University professor of history, has stated, "Both parties don't like to work with each other. We keep seeing that over and over."

Republicans pledge to slash taxes and spending, cut down on government regulations, repeal portions of President Obama's health care law and end his stimulus program. Democrats say they want to overhaul the immigration system, pass climate change legislation and spend more money to turn the economy around and reduce the deficit. Given the current animosity between the two sides, the chances of both parties finding a common ground are pretty low.

I believe political pundits have been rushing

to interpret the results of these elections as a referendum on ideology. Most people agree that President Obama has moved too far to the left, even though his actual program was more conservative than his election platform. Many of his policies are very similar to past Republican proposals—they mainly consisted of tax cuts and financial help for the unemployed. A few commentators will point out that Obama has never made a full-throated case for progressive policies. He consistently stepped on his own message, and he was so worried about making bankers nervous that he ended up ceding to the populist anger of the right.

So what should Obama have done instead? The answer to this question will probably be colored by your political views. Obama inherited an economy that almost crashed with a crumbling banking sector. In fact, the economy he inherited was direr than it appears his economic advisers realized. They knew that the United States was in the midst of an economic recession. It did not look like they considered lessons that the past economic downturns or major financial crises have taught economists, namely that a protracted period of very high unemployment is always to follow a recession. Trying to heal the economy through a big stimulus was probably one of their biggest mistakes. Fiscal stimulus was needed only to mitigate the worst—an "insurance package against catastrophic failure," as Lawrence Summers, later the administration's top economist, reportedly said in a memo to the president-elect.

Was it possible that Obama promised too much and realized that despite a majority in

both houses, not much could get done? Or was he on the wrong side of modern economic thought? The thing about economics is that it's not an exact science. Politicians' policies do not always yield the intended results. No one knows with certainty what's going to happen with macroeconomic policies. Despite all the lessons that we learned from the Great Depression not much could be done to properly address the latest recession or even to prevent it from happening in the first place.

Republicans, the winners of the midterm elections, campaigned on an agenda that promoted smaller government. Congress is less likely to offer a fiscal hand should the economy stumble again. Republicans are now in control of the House of Representatives, with a number of seats in the Senate significant enough to have a filibuster; it would not be surprising to see more heated debates on Capitol Hill. That leaves the U.S. Federal Reserve as the primary source of support, which will mainly consist of lowering interest rates. We all know that artificially low interest rates—around 0 percent—have been around for quite a while. This has not been effective. Something else needs to be explored. Perhaps the central bank will launch another round of money printing to try to accelerate recovery.

So will there be a post-election boom? Probably not. Consumer spending has been mediocre and no amount of magic will help unless the job and housing markets improve. A Republican-heavy Congress will do all it can to block big stimulus packages. Consequently, state and local government will be strapped for

cash.

How about the job market? More than 25 million people are unemployed, underemployed or have given up looking for work. Some analysts argue that the end of election season removes one source of uncertainty and could encourage companies to step up hiring. However, the risk of another housing downturn, a global trade war (with China), or a recurrence of Europe's sovereign debt troubles (as in Greece) could hinder this.

How about the business world? It is uncertain. Wall Street has a long tradition of doing better when Republicans are in control. This time around, things might be different. Markets rallied on Tuesday in part because investors hoped that a big Republican win would give birth to a business-friendly government. During Clinton's years the two parties were forced to compromise following the 1994 midterm elections. This Congress will not be willing to act quickly should the economy falter. Investors have not forgotten how violently markets reacted in 2008 when Congress initially rejected a bank bailout bill. However, US stocks may as well keep on increasing as the GOP will block any attempts by Democrats to raise taxes or impose stricter regulations.

So what was the message of these midterm elections? Americans didn't like the approach Obama took in his attempt to stimulate the economy. Politics can be viewed as the art of finding your opponent's mistakes and exploiting them. The GOP did this masterfully.

The New Republican: Midterm elections and the fiscal conservative

Continued from page 1

has proven to be a staunch fiscal conservative by freezing spending and significantly shrinking the budget deficit. In addition, he has capped annual property tax increases to 2 percent, which had increased by 72 percent between 1999 and 2009. Although the problems of each state are slightly different, Republican Governor Bob McDonnell of Virginia has done much of the same. So far, McDonnell's term has been characterized by budget cuts

to correct Virginia's debt and he has refrained from raising taxes. These two examples of new Republicans have proven to enact the principles of the fiscally conservative.

Although this is not a guarantee that the newly elected Republicans will follow a conservative agenda, they have a much stronger incentive to do so than they have had in the past. For one thing, it is now evident that the Tea Party movement has substantial power in the election. Acting as a watchdog, the Tea Party ousts any candidate, Republican or Democrat, who does

not follow a fiscally conservative agenda. In the past, fiscally conservative Republicans were often hesitant in denouncing fiscally liberal Republicans for fear of losing support from the Republican National Committee (RNC). But the Tea Party has substantially removed much of the RNC's power and in the most recent Republican primaries, many Tea Party endorsed candidates managed to beat RNC endorsed candidates.

While I am still hesitant to refer to myself as a Republican, I have great hopes for the

newly elected Congress. I expect a major push towards fiscal restraint and balanced budgets that do not come at the dangerous cost of increased taxes. Governors like Chris Christie of New Jersey and Bob McDonnell of Virginia are leading examples of a successful conservative fiscal policy. There will be few, if any, "Bush Republicans" in the House and Senate; that position is already occupied by the man sitting in the Oval Office.



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Catastrophic politics: Results of mid-term elections

Ben Quam
Featured Columnist

Earthquake! Tsunami! Wildfire! Articles about this past Tuesday's national midterm election read like a biblical apocalypse. Republicans rose to power in the House of Representatives on a "tidal wave" of electoral gains. They won at least 60 seats from an "earthquake" of conservative voters. Mike Huckabee, former Republican Governor of Arkansas, speculated that the election most closely resembled the New Madrid earthquake of 1812. Why election analogies almost always involve things that kill people we may never know. What we do know is that the midterm election substantially shifted the balance of power in Washington and had real implications for CC student here in Colorado. Republicans took control of the U.S. House of Representatives, winning at least 60 new seats, while Democrats managed only three pickups. Republicans also had a net gain of six seats in the U.S. Senate.

Republican control will have dramatic effects on policy. The Republican House majority gives the party the power to subpoena President Obama, deny funds that would go toward health care reform, and, as long as they stick together, block anything they don't like from passing. Some of Obama's key agenda items like comprehensive immigration reform, a climate change bill, the Employee Free Choice Act, repealing Don't Ask Don't Tell and many more have almost no chance of becoming law. Whether Republicans will compromise with Obama remains to be seen, but the chances for any serious legislation getting passed in the next two (or maybe even six) years is very slim. "Our top political priority over the next two years," chimed in Republican Senate Leader Mitch McConnell, "is denying President Obama a second term." It's deeply ironic that in an election where voters said they were fed up with partisanship and gridlock in Washington, the newly elected Congress is all but

“ Whether Republicans will compromise with Obama remains to be seen, but the chances for any serious legislation getting passed in the next two (or maybe even six) years is very slim. ”

guaranteed to be more partisan and more gridlocked.

At a local level, Colorado was a bastion of Democratic support amongst the national Republican trend. Colorado was home to perhaps the biggest upset in the country, where current Democrat Michael Bennet beat Republican Ken Buck to keep his senate seat. Bennet ran a superb campaign, utilizing an intense and well-organized early vote effort, as well as running a series of ads portraying Buck as too extreme. Many of the ads focused on Buck's stance on women's issues, including his opposition to abortion rights for those who are victims of rape and incest, and his decision in 2005 not to prosecute the case of a raped woman whom he suggested had buyer's remorse. It paid off: Colorado women preferred Bennet to Buck by 14

percent. At the same time, Democrat John Hickenlooper was solidly elected as governor—in no small part because ultra-conservative Republican Dan Maes and the even more conservative Tom Tancredo split the vote. Hickenlooper will take over for outgoing Democrat Bill Ritter.

Much of the political activity on campus revolved around the Colorado referendums. No debate was more pervasive than that over Amendment 62, which would have defined a "person" as the beginning of biological development. The voters, however, including CC students, were fairly one-sided, rejecting the amendment by 70.5 percent. All but one of the referendums, including all of the controversial amendments, failed. Amendments 60 and 61 were both voted down by more than 70 percent of the vote. Proposition 101 failed with over 67 percent voting no.

Perhaps the ballot item where CC votes made the biggest difference was County Question 1A, which would have banned medical marijuana dispensaries on non-incorporated lands in El Paso County. This would functionally serve to make medical marijuana dispensaries illegal throughout the county. The final results for the question were 90,641 YES votes, and 90,974 NO votes. That's a difference of only 333 votes, or .0018 percent. We don't know what percentage of CC students voted but anecdotal evidence suggests at least more than 333. Most would agree that the vast majority of CC voters, because of their support for small business (cough), were NO voters on the question. So congrats, CC. Thanks to us medical marijuana will stay in El Paso County, and Colorado Springs, for the foreseeable future.

Although our political discourse tends to exaggerate every election to biblical proportions (the Madrid earthquake has nothing to do with Republicans taking Congress), this week's midterm election did have meaningful implications for politics nationally and here at CC. The

“ Republican takeover of congress will make it harder for Obama to get his agenda across. More than that, it will increase the overall partisanship, divisiveness, and gridlock that already exists. ”

Republican takeover of congress will make it harder for Obama to get his agenda across. More than that, it will increase the overall partisanship, divisiveness, and gridlock that already exists. We can only hope that somehow the problems that continue to plague America will be addressed, but seriously don't count on it anytime soon. CC students had a real impact. We rejected ideological ballot referendums, elected a U.S. Senator who almost everyone thought would lose, and made sure marijuana dispensaries stayed legal. Another job well done.



Slightly unrelated, feature columnist Ben Quam stands with former commander of U.S. Armed Forces in Afghanistan Stanley McChrystal on the way back from the Rally to Restore Sanity.

Photo: Alex Truax



**Real Advice
WITH
KATIE RICE**

Dear Katie,

How does one explore their sexuality at this school? What avenues are available for me?

Curiously,
Questioning

Dear Questioning,

This is a wonderful question! I know plenty of people at this school who are in the same situation. There are two groups on campus that will be helpful to you. The first is Queer Straight Alliance (QSA) and the second is Empowered Queers United for Absolute Liberation (EQUAL). According to their websites, (which can be found through the CC homepage), "The Queer-Straight Alliance is a social and activist group that serves as a bridge between the Queer and Straight communities" and EQUAL "is a confidential group of students that identify outside of the heterosexual norm, or that are questioning their sexual or gender identity." Going to an EQUAL meeting would be a great way for you to meet other curious people like yourself. The club is open to people who have had queer experiences, and also those who are interested in having a queer experience. QSA is more of a community action group than a support group, but you might meet people who are in your shoes at this group meeting as well.

Aside from the college-affiliated groups at this school, I challenge you to talk to your friends about your sexuality. I have spoken to many people on this campus that believe they are alone in dealing with their sexuality. At our age, everyone is trying to figure out who they are whether that be questioning their sexuality, their major, their drinking habits, or their hairdo. You can help make Colorado College a more open environment by engaging in these difficult conversations about your sexuality. I believe if we are more open with one another we can become the people we want to be. Who knows—in speaking about your own uncertainties maybe you will meet someone who is in the same boat! That would be a great way to start a relationship!

Katie

Active Lifestyle

Ski smart: avalanche course comes to CC

Richard W. Perkins

Active Lifestyle Editor

As many of us know, the season has dawned. Ski lifts are starting to turn and soon enough the snow will begin to truly fall bringing Ullr's bounty of fresh under our ptex—be it one plank or two. That said, at least a month will pass before the base reads more than 30 inches, hazards are actually covered and we can cruise down something other than man-made death cookies.

With the amoeba-like lines that will plague the base of the runs open for the coming months, it will be all too easy to consider ducking the ropes and trucking into the sidecountry to cut some form of personal tracks between the boulders and trees protruding from minimal snow pack. Between the easy access to sidecountry terrain and the fact that little snow abounds, it's easy to reassure ourselves that an avalanche would be some crude anomaly. That said, the rope-ducker couldn't be more wrong. CAIC (Colorado Avalanche Information Center) reports that weak snow layers are most prevalent at the base during the early season. So just because Loveland Pass didn't rip out for the person who dropped it yesterday doesn't mean that ample wind loading didn't occur last night—making your gnarly run turn into an unhappy slide.

Instead of picking around the resorts or car-hopping Loveland and Berthoud passes, take the pre-season as an opportunity to brush up on your avalanche skills before the snow really accumulates. Take a class, dig snowpits and practice using your beacons. It's time you certainly won't regret spending should you hear the dreaded "woopf" as an avalanche slab breaks off and cruises at Mach-10 toward you and your buddies.

Fortunately, CC and other off-campus associations are bringing in an onslaught of avalanche classes for all of us backcountry enthusiasts. One organization, headed by CC alum Shan Sethna, is Friends of Berthoud Pass.

FOBP is a grassroots organization determined to improve the access and safety of Berthoud Pass—one of Colorado's prized backcountry spots found off US-40 while en route to Winter Park. FOBP's founding was inspired by the most recent avalanche fatality on Berthoud Pass. In November of 2005, Sam Teetzen forgot his beacon in his car. While snowboarding with his dog and two friends in Mine Chutes One, a 2-to-3-foot-deep slab avalanche broke like a pane of glass. After two hours of probing his body was found. Sources were unable to determine if he died due to suffocation or trauma.

To keep this awful fatality the last one to plague Berthoud's dicey history, FOBP offers classes throughout the state. This Monday,

Nov. 8 at 7-10 p.m. in Bemis Hall, Friends of Berthoud Pass instructor Bob "Bobski" Tomsy will be enlightening the CC community on the many aspects of safe backcountry skiing and snowboarding. Bobski is the former Berthoud Pass ski patrol avalanche-training director and has been a snow educator since the 1980s. The nuggets of information he gives us will become invaluable as we strap on skins and truck toward the deepest lines we can find.

While this class isn't a full-on Avy 1 certification, it is a great opportunity to start your avalanche education or brush the cobwebs off your pre-existing backcountry lexicon. The event is free so you have no excuse to attend. It's open to the public so show up early to ensure a space in the class.

In addition to the Friends of Berthoud Pass class, the ORC is planning to host at least one full Avalanche Level One class, and perhaps a Level Two course. It will be taught with AIAIRE (American Inst. for Avalanche Research and Education) curriculum. While an official date hasn't been nailed down yet, Hilary Lempit of the ORC recommends keeping your ears to the ground, emailing her or attending ORC meetings (first three Tuesdays of the block in the WES room at 12:15 p.m.) to avoid an untimely burial in the backcountry. In other words, keep your eyes peeled if you're interested in an ORC hosted course.

TOP SAFETY TIPS

Regardless of your backcountry experience, it's important to use the pre-season to its fullest. Skip the lines and the man-made crud.

After taking an avalanche course, safely hike into to the backcountry to practice your newly honed skills.

Dig snow pits to assess the building snowpack. Bury a beacon in your pack and perform mock burials. If you're unfortunate enough to have a friend buried, it's best to have your knowledge embedded into your instincts since time is of the essence.

Everyone wants the freshest lines but make sure you skiing safely. Anywhere that looks like prime skiing is also prime avalanche terrain. Simply buying the gear doesn't mean you're safe.

Stop by Bemis on Monday at 7 for the Friends of Berthoud Pass course and stay tuned to the ORC for their upcoming avalanche classes.

Skip the wrench—Dodgeball

Dodge. Duck. Dip. Dive. Dodge.

Gregar Chapin

Staff Writer

"Hit that kid with the cast!" yelled senior Neal Hustava as he sat on the sideline in the turf room during Team Jenkemizer's Wednesday night IM dodgeball matchup. "He can't catch!"

The intramural dodgeball season began this block. The 30 teams have been relentlessly battling all week—each with their own strategy for victory. The Jenkemizers came to embrace the 'if you're on the court, you're fair game' style of play, and apparently makes no exceptions for the physically impaired.

"Any competitive sport can become a little cutthroat at times," said supervisor Dave Glaize. "Especially one that entails hitting each other with small balls, but IM dodgeball has a generally friendly atmosphere."

"There is something about dodgeball that makes everyone happy," said Glaize. "You may be hurling balls at each other, but you rarely see anyone actually get angry."

Glaize struggles to put into words exactly why dodgeball is such a happy sport, but thinks that it may trace back to pre-CC roots. For many, their dodgeball careers began on elementary school blacktops. Here the heated bouts seemed much more serious, and getting stroked by a ball was much more painful. The competitive edge still exists in intramural games, but the pain from hits has been replaced by the pleasure of hitting someone.

Hustava agrees that because the balls don't hurt anymore it is much less serious, but he acknowledges that with dodgeball in particular, it can be difficult to control your emotions.

"You're out there, balls flying past your head, and it's like war. You don't exactly want to hurt anyone, but you do want to throw hard enough that it can't be caught. Controlling your anger can be tough, but the game itself is simple," said Hustava.

The simplicity of the game may be why dodgeball attracts a wide variety of players. The rules of the intramural league are very straightforward. The only skills necessary are throwing and catching.

"It is one of the only IM sports that everyone knows how to play," said Glaize. "If you want to compete in IM hockey, for example, you probably have to have grown up playing hockey. But with dodgeball, everyone played during



"Purple pants" and the rest of his team face off against the Jenkemizers.

Photo: Monica Mueller

their fifth grade P.E. class, creating more of an even playing field."

"You're out there, balls flying past your head, and it's like war."

Neal Hustava

Simple, however, is not synonymous with easy. Although the skills required may be inherent to everyone, past winners of IM dodgeball have polished their skills to perfection. They throw with strength and accuracy.

Senior Ryan Schumacher is a six-season veteran of the league and has seen his fair share of uneven matches. On Wednesday night, his team of experienced seniors was matched up against a squad consisting of predominantly freshman girls.

"I can't wait to get back out there," said Schumacher before their game. "It is a great

excuse to hurt people without feeling bad about it."

"But we probably won't be trying to hurt them," Schumacher politely added after sizing up his opponent.

Freshman Elizabeth Dingus, one of the girls on the other team, admitted that they were slightly worried when they saw their competition.

"I am definitely a little intimidated," she said. "This is my first game, and I don't think we are going to fare very well. We don't have a strategy and I don't know half the people on my team."

After the balls had been hucked back and forth a few times, it became obvious which team would prevail. Despite the lopsided result at the end of the game, everyone was friendly afterwards.

"The great thing about IMs is that you can make it as serious as you want," said Glaize. "Especially with dodgeball. You are in the mindset of a fifth grade kid, just flingin' balls at each other and having a good time."

If you were unable to sign up for an IM team in time, or if you're already on one and want to play even more dodgeball, mark your calendars and clear your schedule for next Saturday. That's right – at 11 a.m. on Saturday, Nov. 13, Colorado College Campus Safety is hosting a dodgeball tournament and food drive fundraiser. They hope to attract as many students as possible.

Food collected at the event will go to support the Shove Chapel Soup Kitchen and God's Littlest Angels Haitian Baby Orphanage, and students are encouraged to bring as much as they can. Faculty and staff will be in attendance to hang out and serve up barbecue -- not to mention that the winning team will receive a trophy.

Sign up your eight-person co-ed team with Chris Starr in the intramural office in El Pomar as soon as possible.

Indian Creek, Utah: the best cracks around

Drew Thayer

Guest Writer

It's one in the morning and I'm crumpled amongst ropes, water jugs, and a 4-pound peanut butter jar in the back seat of a car, succumbing to exhaustion after the morning's marathon chem final. Slowly, the delirium of unit conversions and logarithms still reverberating within my skull surrender to the London Philharmonic Orchestra's rendition of "When the Levy Breaks," which is blasting on the radio. A cold rush of air jerks me from slumber. With the windows down and the sharp desert cold in

our faces, I take in a breathtaking sight—rows of serrated cliffs bathed in silvery moonlight gliding by on each side. Dan Rothberg, Gary Sorcher, Erik Rieger and I howl like wolves into the night. We've made it to Indian Creek, one of the crack climbing meccas of the world. It is a welcome refuge, allowing the mind to relax its clench on facts and figures, rambling free for a few days.

Block break trips to Indian Creek are something of an institution for climbers at Colorado College. Rock climbing pioneers Ed Webster and friends were doing it in the 70s, when our modern camming devices were just being developed, and every generation has done so

since. I've made the trip every year during second block break, but as we're streaming down this luminescent canyon towards a familiar campsite, passing the stunted moon-shadows of junipers and cottonwoods, I can't help thinking how this trip is quite different from my first Indian Creek block break two years ago.

I was a new transfer student, inexperienced and anxious but eager to become a rock climber like the "big boys" who took me. I showed up with ill-fitting shoes, not enough gear, a rudimentary ability to climb, and a bewildered sense of awe at the athletic feats they could perform on these stark, brutal sandstone cracks.

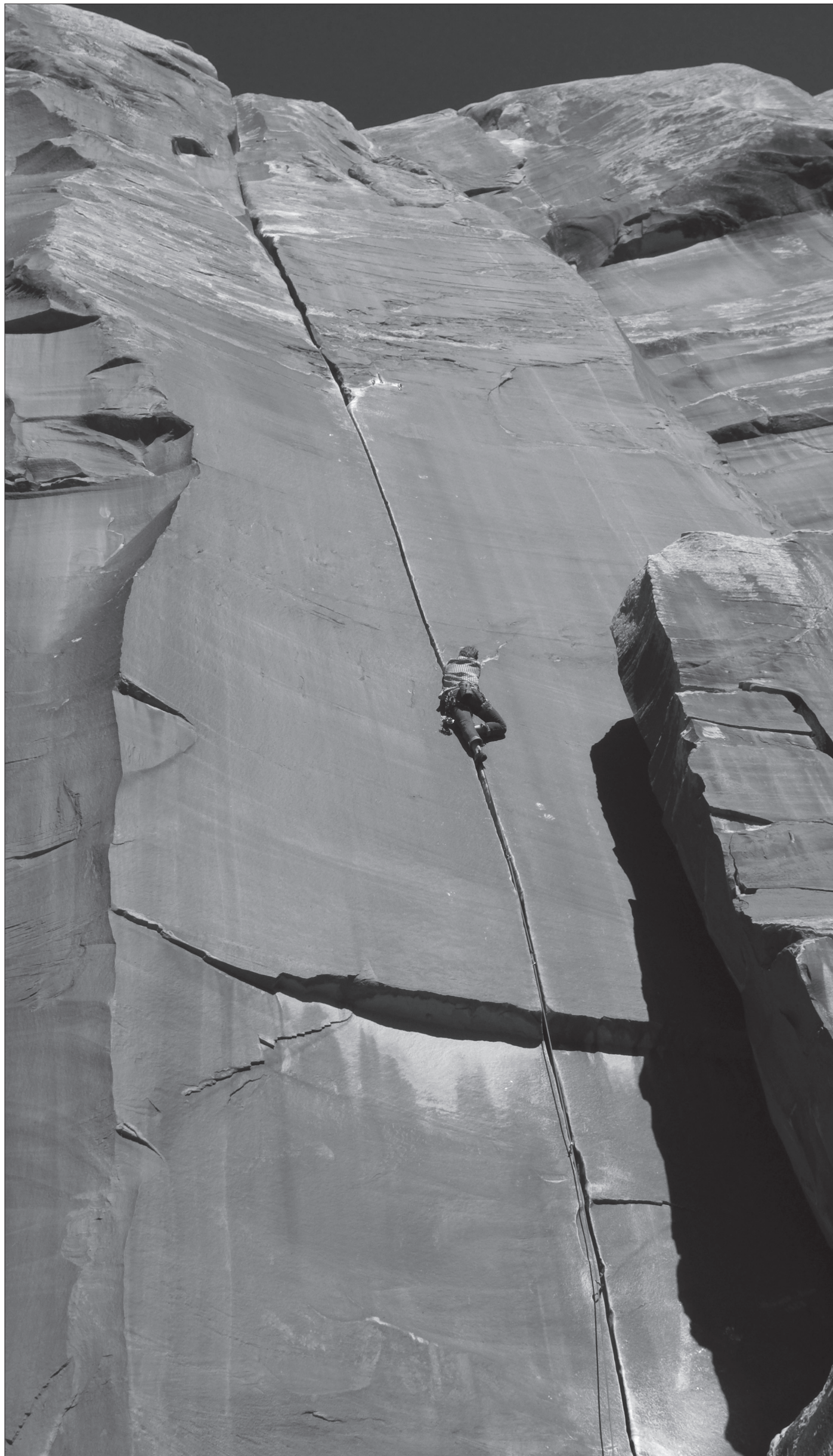
This time, by some simple twist of fate, I'm the older guy and there's a bin bulging with shiny metal in the back of the car that represents most of my income from the past two years. It's my turn to teach my friends how to engage in the highly strenuous, admittedly silly, and ultimately satisfying discipline of crack climbing.

The beauty of Indian Creek is its simplicity. The camping is free and there's only one toilet in the area, so everyone inevitably meets up in the morning before dispersing to various crags. Every cliff in the canyon is scored with dozens of cracks, so a short drive and a scramble up the talus is guaranteed to earn you a day of quality routes. The climbs themselves are what draw climbers from around the world; this is crack climbing in its most pure form, perfect vertical fissures on blank faces with no other edges, pockets, or footholds to offer a climber purchase. The brutal simplicity of these cracks forces you to be creative and accept the inevitable pain as you figure out how to jam fingers, knuckles, hands, toes, elbows, knees, shoulders, thighs... whatever it takes to not fall out and keep moving up.

It's something of a paradox. Each crack is unrelenting and rigid, one line on a blank wall of sandstone, but for each person it is a different climb, requiring different jams and techniques based on the subtle details of anatomy – the thickness of a palm, the shape of a knuckle, the girth of a fist.

It's hard to make comparisons amongst the climbers. Next to us a big, brawny guy sends a hard fist crack but struggles in frustration on an elegant finger crack that a lithe woman just cruised. Meanwhile I'm cursing my narrow hands on the crack I'm currently working as they rattle uselessly in the gaping maw of rock. Each climb is a unique challenge for every individual willing to try to send it. The way you climb a particular route belongs to you. It is this paradoxical quality of desert cracks, how an ancient, apathetic slot in stone can offer you a challenge that only you will truly know, that makes the long drive, bleeding knuckles, sore hands, and skinned elbows worth it.

So we let the desert soak us up in its sunny warmth and tested ourselves on the splitter cracks, confronting the mental barrier of leading above placed gear, revisiting old nemesis where we failed before, and trying bold lines we used to think were beyond us. I'm always impressed with how easy it is to lose yourself in the aroma of sun-baked sage and the mesmerizing, chocolate-colored cliffs. How easy it is to keep giving everything, over and over again, on these perfect cracks.



Erik Rieger ascends the infamous Supercrack.

Photos courtesy of Erik Rieger



Drew Thayer works his way up Annunaki with dexterity.



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The White is Turning Red: Case Study of the White River National Forest

Lecture By:
Jan Burke: Forest Health Coordinator, USFS
Tony Dixon: Deputy Regional Forester, USFS

7:30PM

November 8th, 2010
Gates Common Room, Palmer

-event is free and open to the public-

Sponsored by:
The State of the Rockies Project
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Arts & Entertainment

Irish car bombs give you wings

Eva Mrak-Blumberg
Guest Writer

Every Wednesday, 70 or so seniors (and some older juniors) flock to Jack Quinn's Irish Pub on Tejon Street for \$4 Irish car bombs and a \$4 plate of wings. For Colorado College students, whose social life is made up mainly of house parties and in-room drinking with a small group of friends, Jack Quinn's on Wednesday nights provides an escape from the same (sometimes mundane) options for social drinking. Given the reduced prices, students are not as reluctant about going out and spending money as they would be on the weekends.

One of the best parts, in my opinion, is that it occurs on a school night. What better way to break up the five-day school week

“For Colorado College students, whose social life is made up mainly of house parties and in-room drinking with a small group of friends, Jack Quinn's on Wednesday nights provides an escape...”

than to get drunk with friends? The frequent question you hear from 21-year-olds at CC on a Wednesday night is now, “so you going to ‘Bombs and Wings’ tonight?” Students get their work done early on the hump day to have a reasonable excuse to go drinking with friends.

Unlike weekend house parties, Jack Quinn's is an arena where students can actually hear



Photo: Eva Mrak-Blumberg

each other talk, and intermingle with friends and acquaintances they don't get to see as often as they'd like—people perhaps outside their closest friend groups. Groups of students pile into cars, taxis, or ride on their bikes down Tejon. Being a senior this year, I've also noticed that along with other general senior activities on campus, Jack Quinn's is a way seniors are coming together outside the friend groups they've formed in the last three years. Separated from underclassmen for even the brief few hours Wednesday night, seniors get the chance to bond.

And the wings are delicious. One can choose between a spicy hot sauce, your good 'ol fashioned barbeque sauce, and a maple-

honey-glaze. I used to order the spicy mixed with the maple-glaze—a kettle-korn-like combination of salty and sweet flavors that made Jack Quinn's wings the best I've had in Colorado Springs (maybe even in my life). Yes, they were that good—crisped to perfection. But given the explosion of students who now frequent Jack Quinn's, they have limited the options of sauce to just the three separate flavors (although if you can go on another day of the week you can still order the spicy-sweet combo). Even if you don't think you're hungry, you'll find yourself reaching for one of the wings plopped down at your table.

If car bombs aren't your thing— as some of my friends have discovered the milk/beer

combo can be harsh on the stomach— order any other bomb you like. Any bomb you order will be \$4 or no more than \$4.75. One I recommend is Strongbow and whiskey, a bomb that is increasingly popular, as more and more people's systems can't handle the Baileys car bombs. Or if you're the DD or looking to have a calmer night, order one of my favorite winter drinks: the Hot Toddy.

“I used to order the spicy mixed with the maple-glaze— a kettle-korn-like combination of salty and sweet flavors that made Jack Quinn's wings the best I've had in Colorado Springs (maybe even in my life).”

Made up of whiskey, hot tea, honey, lemon, and coriander, this drink will warm you up and give you a soothing relief from a sore throat or cold. If you're looking for something with a smaller alcohol percentage, order one of their many delicious local beers they have on tap or bottled. One of my favorites is “Easy Street”: a local rendition of the more well known wheat beer Blue Moon, served with a lemon or orange slice.

Students of CC, if you're 21 (or maybe have a fantastic fake ID, as the bouncer is fast to kick anyone out), grab a wing, dip it in the ranch sauce, wash it down with an Irish car bomb of Baileys in Guinness, and catch up with a few friends you haven't seen in awhile. This is what Wednesday night Bombs 'n' Wings is all about.

Boy Meets World - A refreshing reminder of the 1990's

William Trousdale
Guest Writer

I would like to think the Colorado College student body is fairly unified and that we can see beyond the age divisions among us. Freshmen and seniors share kegs at parties while juniors and sophomores snack together in Rastall; CC is an amorphous collection of like-minded adults who care about more than simple age differences. Yet my concept of an age-blind student body was violently shaken in a recent conversation I had with a group of freshman. When one student mentioned they were born in 1992, my mind was suddenly blown. As a child of the 80s, I can't fathom being born into a world without a Berlin wall or never experiencing the release of Pearl Jam's debut album (I was a pretty grungy 3-year-old). This group of 90s students/kids told me they had no recollection of young Elián González, they couldn't put a face on JonBenet Ramsey and failed to finish the rhyme “if the glove doesn't fit, you must _____.”

Where am I? How could my fellow students, my peers, not remember the greatest Cuban-American custody battle of all time? I do not mean to accuse my younger peers of 1990s ignorance, yet I felt terrified to be so dated among students who I view as peers and equals. So let's bring everyone up to date. In honor of the ten best decades of the 20th century, let's travel back in time and bathe in a little 1990s euphoria.

I'm going to turn to 90s television; I tried to find a fitting film, yet no movie could ever capture the spirit of the 90s like the television series “Boy Meets World.” First aired on ABC in 1993, “Boy Meets World” spanned seven seasons. The show chronicled the development

of Cory Matthews (Ben Savage) from a young sixth grade boy to a married, semi-mature adult. The show is peppered with fantastic cast members, most notably William Daniels (Dustin Hoffman's father in “The Graduate”) playing Cory's teacher and Cory's sage and neighbor Mr. Feeney. With the help of Mr. Feeney, Cory navigates the difficult and confusing terrain of 1990s childhood. From setting out flannel placemats for a quaint family dinner, to starting water gun fights in the cafeteria, Cory truly characterizes 90s youth.

The family relations, the friendships and

“Where am I? How could my fellow students, my peers, not remember the greatest Cuban-American custody battle of all time? I do not mean to accuse my younger peers of 1990s ignorance, yet I felt terrified to be so dated among students who I view as peers and equals.”

the school life in “Boy Meets World” bring us back to simpler times. Cory shares a room with his brother, his dad works at a grocery store and comes home to play catch outside with his boys. Cory sleeps in a tree house when he's feeling adventurous, neighbors are outside pruning plants and kids paint fences. The

school cafeteria is filled with light banter, not with distracted, sex-crazed, sixth grade text-messengers. The classroom has no television sets or computers, just dusty books and old teachers. It reminds me of everything I loved about growing up in the 90s.

On Saturday mornings I looked forward to playing basketball with my brother, then playing capture the flag with the neighborhood crew. I didn't have my iPod to listen to, video games to play, or the internet to surf. Life was simpler, and in many ways so much richer. The young sixth grade life led by Cory, his friends, and his family in the first episode of “Boy Meets World” truly captures the beauty of growing up in the 1990s.

Television shows these days, especially those directed towards young audiences, are often trashy. They combine glitz, glamour, overly made-up 15-year-old girls, and tacky musical numbers in order to cater to the over-stimulated youth of the techno-age. In Cory's Philadelphia public school, there are no high-school musicals, shallow slutty girls, or empty hunky boy meat. Cory's love interest Topanga is a fox — not because her face is covered in makeup and she wears skanky clothes, but because she represents a strong, confident, progressive woman. Even Eric, Cory's brother and the hunky sex symbol on the show, infuses episodes with rich humor and convincing dramatic sequences. The characters lead average American lives in reasonably sized homes with rich neighborly bonds. Also, nearly every episode manages to successfully swing between genuinely funny humor and serious drama. There's nothing funny about Cory's best friend Hunter being abused by his alcoholic father in their family's trailer home, but when the Cory and Hunter sit at Chubbie's joking about Feeney over a hot burger, nothing could be more light and

comforting. Few kids' shows are capable of handling such a wide range of subject matter and still manage a coherent, meaningful, and truly entertaining television series.

“I highly suggest anyone, especially those born after 1992, to find and watch some “Boy Meets World.” Search the Internet, grab the DVDs, or dig up some old tapes of your older brother's favorite show. I trust it will leave you feeling a bit refreshed. Cory is quite the escape from Bieber-fever, and Topanga will cure any Hannah Montana blues.”

I highly suggest anyone, especially those born after 1992, to find and watch some “Boy Meets World.” Search the Internet, grab the DVDs, or dig up some old tapes of your older brother's favorite show. I trust it will leave you feeling a bit refreshed. Cory is quite the escape from Bieber-fever, and Topanga will cure any Hannah Montana blues. Nothing feels better than a quick 22-minute bath in the sweet, simple and hilarious glory of “Boy Meets World.”



The Pumpkings of fall

Nick Hawks
Guest Writers

Chris Shambaugh
Guest Writers

If you've had a chance to look around as you diligently rush from one commitment to another, you've probably noticed that fall is upon us. The leaves are changing, layers are once again fashionable, and you've most likely seen at least one person do the walk of shame in a ridiculous Halloween costume. And as our lifestyles and attires change with the season, so do the brewers change their ales to suit. This being the case, we here at the BrewHaHa thought it best to salute these sweetly seductive seasonals. While there are plenty of Pumpkin Ales on the market, the two reviewed below, are without doubt, the true Pumpkings. L'Chain!

Punkin Ale
Pumpkin Brown Ale, 7.0% ABV
Dogfish Head Craft Brewery
Rehoboth Beach, DE

For you craft brewers out there, have you ever imagined of making a beer so good that people would be interested in buying it? Or that you could make a homebrew so good that it would legitimize you as a professional in the eyes of others? Well Sam Calagione from Dogfish Head Brewery (DFH) did just that. Back in 1995, six months before DFH opened its doors, Sam (the founder and owner of DFH) decided to make a homebrew using fresh pumpkin meat and natural spices for a creative rendition of a seasonal brew.

The rest is history. Punkin Ale, once nothing more than a big jug of questionable fluid in some random dude's house, is now one of DFH's most popular brews. It has been a seasonal staple for the brewery since the fall of '95 and has continually sold out every year, usually after only two months.

Unlike a number of pumpkin ales, Punkin Ale is unique in that it strikes a fine balance between a brown ale and a pumpkin ale. Its aromas and flavors are not as distinctly reminiscent of a freshly baked pumpkin pie as many pumpkin ales (such as Bristol's Venetucci Ale)

are, but that's because it exists on the completely opposite end of the pumpkin ale spectrum, or pumpctrum, if you will. DFH uses very similar ingredients as these other seasonals do, only it differs in that these ingredients serve to complement the brown ale characteristics instead of creating a specifically pumpkin-pie-oriented flavor experience.

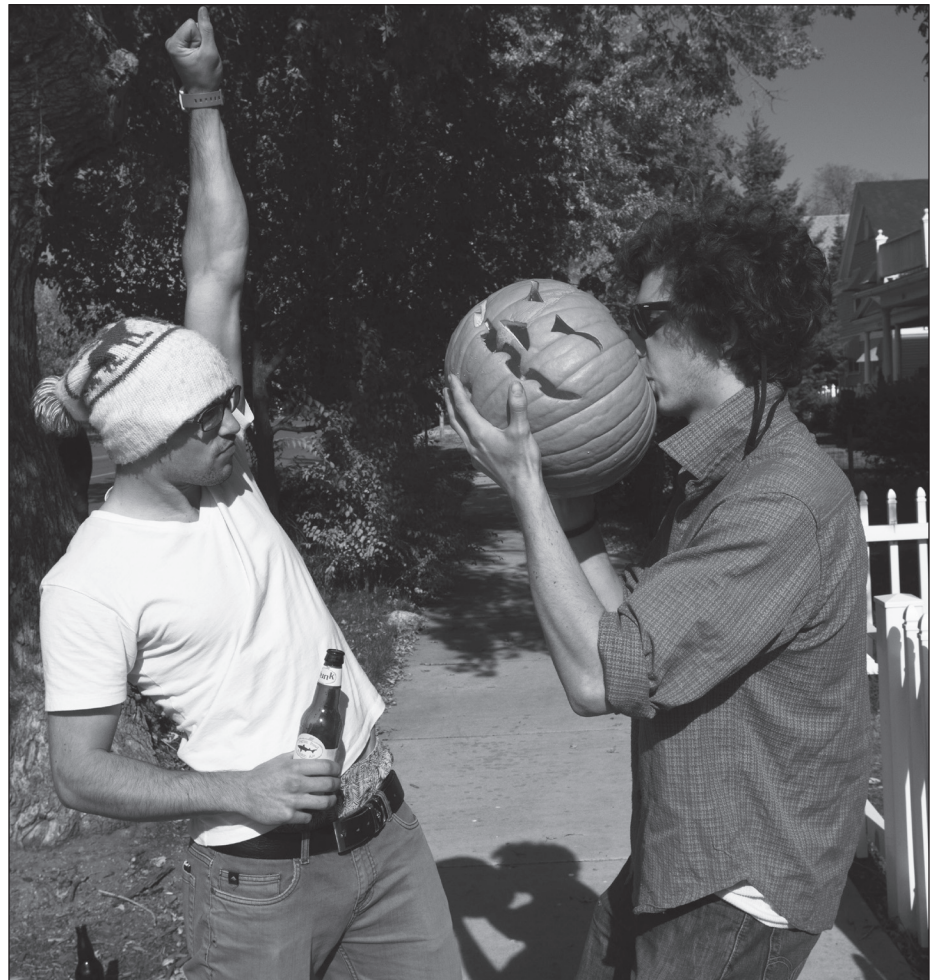
The Punkin pours a small, one-finger, cream-colored head that dissipates very quickly, leaving little to no lacing on the glass. This doesn't really matter, though, because the color of this beer distracts from all of that anyway. It's literally the color of a glowing jack-o-lantern at Halloween.

The bouquet offers up a predominantly sweet aroma profile due to the malts and the fresh pumpkin meat added during the wort. Behind this sweetness are the subtle notes of the allspice, cinnamon, and nutmeg, and, towards the end, there is the distinct presence of alcohol.

From the taste, I can tell that this is definitely a full-bodied brown. Initially, there's the sweet, fresh flavor of the pumpkin meat that is almost fruity. Following this foretaste, there are the strong, malty notes of the brown ale which provide a rich, molasses-like sweetness that is complimented by brown sugar. Finally, in the aftertaste, the cinnamon, allspice, and nutmeg, which are mildly present throughout, really come to light to pair with the lingering malt and pumpkin flavors to create a pleasantly spicy yet sweet finish.

Venetucci Pumpkin Ale
Pumpkin Ale, 5.75% ABV
Bristol Brewing Company
Colorado Springs, CO

The Venetucci Pumpkin Ale has had quite a legacy in Colorado Springs. In fact, it has one of the highest demands of any ale brewed in Colorado. While it has only been in production for the last five years, at this point, the batch sells out entirely within just two days. I recently had the privilege of speaking with Laura Long who is known as the "Beerocrat" down at Bristol. She informed me that all of the pumpkins for the beer come from the local Venetucci Farm, which has been in business for over six decades. Also, all of the profits from the ale are



photos: Josh Raab

actually given back to support the Venetucci farm.

This year Bristol managed to brew 52 barrels or about 780 cases of this delicious autumn beer. While Bristol kept about ten kegs for their tasting room (seven of which were sold in growlers in about 24 hours), the rest of the ale found its way into 22-ounce bottles, coming in at \$5.49 all around Colorado Springs. The local Coaltrain Wine and Spirits sold out within a matter of hours on the Tuesday that they received the delivery.

Poured into a Belgian snifter, the ale gives birth to a half-finger head with a copper-caramel tint. The ale's color is a deep crimson mahogany that seems reminiscent of the fresh soil from which these pumpkins grew. The aroma is as explosive as the harvest, with sweet notes of roasted pumpkins, cinnamon, molas-

ses, nutmeg and a large malty backbone. The taste is undoubtedly worth the year-long wait. At first it offers its pumpkin invitation with the presence of smooth vanilla. It then fades into a big malty body, which was able to shelter some sugars from those hungry yeasts in fermentation. While the alcohol is not exceptionally high, it is very well complemented by the molasses and probable brown sugar. The Venetucci Pumpkin finishes with a crisp and pleasant bitterness, thanks to a moderate use of humble hops. While an imperial twist, integrating a higher ABV and larger malt content, would certainly be interesting, the brew has a softness that aligns perfectly with the fresh harvest and its spicy character. At the end of the day, I cannot think of an ale I would rather sit by a fire with. Hopefully, you will be able to do so in the years to come.

