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THE CATALYST

THE INDEPENDENT STUDENT NEWSPAPER OF COLORADO COLLEGE

Boettcher Health Center brings in new service provider to cut costs

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CC officials refute student perceptions of increased police activity

Jesse Paul
Guest Writer

The perceived increase in Colorado Springs Police Department activity at parties and other social events on and off campus is apparently false, according to CSPD liaison officer to CC, Jason Newton, and Head of Campus Safety, Ron Smith.

Since the semester began, many students have begun to complain about early closures of parties, citing an increase of police activity on and around campus as the cause. One statement that was frequently repeated during the first weekend of school was, "I remember when CC was fun."

Another troubling observation is the sighting of canine units on and around the CC campus. The presence of canine units has raised questions about whether the CSPD and Campus Security have initiated a crackdown on illegal drugs. However, according to the CSPD, the dogs were on Washburn Field for training purposes only. Yet this explanation raises questions as to why the CC campus, part of a private institution, was selected as the ideal training ground.

While the CC community might believe that more officers have been responding to parties and other disturbances, they are, according to CC officials, wrong.

"There has actually been a decrease in normal police activity around the area because our staff numbers have been cut down so low," claims Officer Newton. "When they, [CSPD officers], are on patrol, they aren't even coming out here."

The police officers that students see around campus are usually hired by Ron Smith and the Department of Campus Safety to come in and assist on certain occasions. For the last few years,

see "Police" on page 3

Rosie Curts
Staff Writer

Colorado College has been committed to sustaining reliable health services on campus for a long time. However, last fall, the administration began looking for a less expensive way to keep Boettcher Health Center up and running.

"The review was initiated following the economic downturn by a request by the Board of Trustees to review any programs at the college whose budget exceeded one million dollars," said Ginger Morgan, Associate Dean of Students.

A committee was formed, consisting of faculty, staff, students and a parent, and co-chaired by economics professor Dan Johnson and Dean of Students Mike Edmonds. The committee in charge of the review received about a dozen inquiries and five formal proposals from outside health providers. As a result of this review, it was decided that CC would start using an outside health provider rather than continue to run Boettcher on its own. Ultimately, the committee invited two vendors to make presentations.

Health Professionals, Ltd., a provider that runs health care programs at correctional facilities and college institutions all over the country, was chosen to take over the operations of Boettcher Health Center. After extensive surveys of students and parents on their perceptions of Boettcher and what they found valuable in a health center, the committee chose the health provider that could most easily create a clinic that would fit the college's needs.

"The college's core mission is providing education. In order to do that effectively, the college is committed to providing quality health services on campus for our students who live and study by the unique rhythms of the block plan," said Morgan.

"For example," Morgan continued, "clinics that would only operate from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. were disregarded, since for three of those hours, most CC students are in class. That's not when our students need their services."

The new system will cost CC much less. One of the main concerns about Boettcher prior

to the decision was whether the health center would be economically viable over time.

Health Professionals, Ltd. offers many new things that will directly benefit students as well. "One of the big problems we had was that the health center didn't bill students' home health insurance, so students had to pay for their insurance and for health services," Morgan explained. Health Professionals can send a bill straight to a student's insurance company instead of charging it to their student account.

Because of this system, students using their

"The college's core mission is providing education. In order to do that effectively, the college is committed to providing quality health services on campus for our students who live and study by the unique rhythms of the block plan," said Morgan.

home health insurance will have to make co-pays on the spot when they use a service from Boettcher. A student can pay with cash, check or credit card at the time. However, co-pays should be lower or equal to what they were before the provider switch.

Health Professionals, Ltd. can also provide more up-to-date technology for students. Although they are not yet ready for public use, students will soon have access to electronic appointment scheduling and electronic medical records. These are services that Boettcher was unable to provide when CC ran the health center.

Morgan has assured students that the overnight coverage at Boettcher will still be in place, saying: "The college has basically agreed to help subsidize the overnight clinic." Students can still spend the night in the clinic without having to go to the hospital. As part of the changes to the

staffing model at Boettcher, the overnight shifts will be covered by EMTs, all new hires, instead of registered nurses (RNs). Many members of the Boettcher staff were RNs before the transition, and some of those positions have been eliminated.

Ann Whitlock, who has worked at Boettcher since 1999, will continue to hold the position of nurse practitioner. Lashun Harjo will serve as the health services administrator and as a nurse. The medical director position was given to Tanya Kern, while MD. Judith Reynolds, a CC alum who served as Boettcher's medical director for thirty years, was offered the same job by Health Professionals, Ltd., but turned it down.

Morgan stressed that the health services provider change was not a criticism of the former Boettcher staff. "The decision was not a reflection of the staff and the work they did. It was about the college's resources and whether they could sustain the health center independently," Morgan said.

Morgan explained that the expected change in cost for each student depends on the student's insurance company. If Health Professionals, Ltd. has a contract with a student's insurance company, the cost will probably be lower. However, if a student's insurance provider is out-of-network, the costs may be higher because the insurance will not pay as much of the student's bill. Health Professionals, Ltd. is currently working to ensure it establishes contracts with some of the main outside insurance providers that students use.

However, a student should never avoid using Boettcher's services because he or she is worried about the cost. Morgan emphasized that the Office of the Dean of Students collects special funds, so that students with special medical needs whose families cannot afford to pay for them can contact the office. "That goes for counseling services too," added Morgan.

The counseling services at Boettcher currently remain unchanged and are still run by the school. All of these staff members have been retained. The committee decided it could not make one decision for two different programs, and many health care providers don't typically include mental health care professionals.

News

Old adage - it's never too late - comes to life at CC

Lizzie Schoder

Features Editor

It is not everyday that you meet a person significantly older than you who lives the same lifestyle, and it is even stranger when this meeting occurs in college.

That is exactly what Teresa Taylor is doing at the ripe age of fifty-one years young—attending Colorado College. Her presence here is not just about an old-timer's regret of not finishing school the first time around, but rather it brings an unspoken and inspiring message to those around her. To her classmates and professors, she may just be the ever-cheery woman with graying hair that clashes with her youthful and athletic body, but her life is one defined by incredible stories of breaking molds, pushing her mental and physical limits, and unconsciously enlivening those around her.

Sitting down for the interview in her apartment on the corner of Cascade and Uintah, she is joined by her equally fit, runner husband, Neal. He is down for the day from Pikes Peak's Barr Camp, their home and latest gig for the past six years. The hiking traffic in the winter months is slower, so he can afford to leave the camp in the hands of their other helper, Scott Estabrook. Neal watches his wife of thirty-some years recount her life experiences from across the room with clear affection, a telling mark of the incredible support and partnership he has provided throughout their lives together.

Teresa's experiences have taken her around the world—she grew up in Mesick, Michigan, moved to an air force base in Germany for seven and a half years, migrated to Colorado Springs, owned a printing business, and eventually became the caretaker of Barr Camp. Her passion of ultra-marathoning has accompanied her through it all, allowing her to build an incredible repertoire including six 100-mile races, five 50-milers, a 50k, a 42-mile ascent run through the Swiss Alps and a handful of road marathons.

Her journey to Colorado College began last fall when she enrolled in an online, peer-reviewed, writing course and to her surprise, received lots of positive feedback for her stories. It got her fired up about writing again, and planted the seed of wanting to “use her mind in that way again.”

Ever since she moved to Colorado Springs, she has fantasized about attending Colorado College—she would always drive slowly past campus, daydreaming about what it would be like walk down the main path as a student.

Deciding to take a chance, she applied as a transfer student, not expecting to be accepted. A faculty member ascended Pikes Peak months later in order to personally deliver the acceptance letter to her at Barr Camp.

To many it may seem odd that after a life of adventure Teresa would return to college so late in the game. After all, most students attend Colorado College to learn skills that will lead them to the working world and beyond. But it is just another project Teresa is tackling, adding to an impressive history of doing things in a non-traditional way.

Taking a different approach has been a pattern throughout Teresa's life. Teresa's small, rural high school did not have a girl's cross country team when she attended in the late 1970s. Her love of running compelled her to join anyway, where her brother, future husband, and six other boys became her teammates. Since she was the sole girl not only on her school's team, but also in neighboring districts, she was allowed to skip the regional meet during her first season and run at the state competition. However, the school would not let her coach drive her to the meet since it was a “different time and she was a young lady.” It was a hassle to get to the meet, where she would run against girls for the first time.

“We lived so far from a highway that to get me to State the driving training class had to drive two hours to get there. So, they put me in the back of the van and took me to another family the principal knew, and that family drove me because their daughter was running in the race. I placed eighth, reversed the trip, and the principal ended up having to come get me because a bliz-

zard hit on the way home.”

Her presence as the only female in local races wasn't always welcomed by her competitors.

“Nobody wanted to be beat by a girl. We'd be at a meet and buses would be pulling up and guys would get out talking all kinds of crap, but my teammates and other runners in the district that knew me wouldn't take that and stood up for me, which was really neat. I have wonderful memories of cross country—it was a defining part of growing up,” she recalls.

Teresa went on to Ferris State University in Big Rapids, Michigan, first studying pharmaceuticals before switching to environmental health. She left college with a year left to follow Neal to the Spangdahlem base in Germany after he received orders from the air force. She likes to call this phase of her life her “seven and a half year honeymoon in Europe.”

At the time, she didn't regret giving up school because she believed the experiences she had were just as much of an education.



Neal and Teresa at Barr Camp. Photo courtesy of Neal Taylor

“I was busy living life! I'm very thankful to have lived in a foreign country for most of my twenties.”

The 1980s and the Cold War marked a period of terrorism in Europe, which meant Teresa and Neal could not travel east. They lived on the “economy,” not on the base, interacting with the locals regularly. Without knowing a word of German beforehand, she got a job as civilian tour guide through the “Morale, Welfare, and Recreation” sector on the base. Learning the language as she went, Teresa was eventually hired as the Outdoor Recreation Director.

“Everything I've ever done has been on the ground floor. They told me ‘Okay, we are going to start this program but you don't have a budget.’ But I managed to run small programs to get the airmen out hiking and kayaking—lots of them would just sit on the base. I got to know some of the most amazing outdoor spots in Europe,” she recalls.

She and Neal joined a German sports club, running races every weekend. The culture of the sports club, she remembers, was incredible and very different.

Coming from a background of running mostly 5k, 10k, and half-marathons, Teresa turned to marathons while abroad. She ran the Munich marathon regularly, one memorable time in the company of Frank Shorter, a former gold-medal 1972 Olympian marathoner.

She recalls being drawn to a video of the Swiss Alpine Marathon Davos, and watching with awe “the cows with the floppy ears and big bells and the scenery to die for” at the Munich marathon expo each year. After five years of watching the same video with longing, Teresa and Neal decided to run it—all 42 miles through the trails of the Swiss Alps. Surprisingly, Teresa's longest training run in preparation was only a couple hours, which she only did twice before the race. She figured she could always walk if she was not in good enough shape.

She ended up finishing sixth for women.

“That race got us hooked completely...after we moved back here, we started running on trails and never looked back. The best thing that happened to us is that we got off the pavement and we both still have good knees. The trails are kinder to your bones and joints. When you are running on the road it's the same kind of continual motion, you're not changing it up. But on

the trail, your whole body is working, everything else is engaged, your foot isn't doing the same type of repetition. I think it helps mentally and physically, and our longevity in the sport,” she explains.

“We've been running since high school, that's thirty-five years,” she says with a look of incredulity on her face. “Wow, that's not possible... you're getting old!” she says teasingly to Neal.

When the subject turns to her ultra-marathon experiences, Teresa becomes more modest, if possible. A 100-mile race is an insane feat by many people's standards, but her outlook is fairly simplistic: she believes it is merely an extension of life, and deals more with mental strength than physical capability.

“The thing I know about running 100-mile races is, if I stood at the starting line and thought about all the things about to happen, the good, the bad, the ugly, I would never do it. You have to look at it one step at a time, just like you do anything. You have to be in some sort of shape,

were looking to pass it on to new owners.

As Teresa puts it, “our stars lined up.” They trained for a year to show their commitment was serious to become the next caretakers of the camp. At 10,200 feet elevation, the duties of running rustic Barr Camp are no easy feat. There is no electricity, non-potable water, laundry is done by hand with a crank, and in a summer they can expect to see around 25,000 people come through. They also cook spaghetti dinner and Neal's famous Pikes Peak Power Pancakes Breakfast for those who choose to stay overnight.

“Buckwheat flour, whole-wheat flour, white flour, rice flour, cornmeal, oats, apples, apple-sauce, walnuts, cinnamon, baking powder, baking soda, vanilla, nutmeg and a kiss of brown sugar. And if you are feeling up to it...peanut butter. Propelling you peakward, possibly, potentially!” she recites the ingredients without taking a breath. “Can you tell I used to be a tour guide?” she says laughing.

“She's been saying that everyday for the past five years,” says an amused Neal from across the room.

Running still plays a central role in their lives, but now for a greater good. Both Teresa and Neal are First Responders and members of Search and Rescue (SAR).

“Most of the Search and Rescue people are going to respond with heavy packs and lots of gear, and we are going to go light and fast. And we know the mountain well and the best way to get to them. We actually use our running in a big way, they've come to realize we can usually be within the top mile or bottom two miles before they respond,” she explains.

They estimate that just this year they have been called in for about thirty missions. Teresa recalls some of her most intense experiences, one of which was her first time finding a dead hiker on the trail. A young lieutenant from Ft. Carson who had just graduated from West Point the previous year, slipped on some ice on the less-traveled north side of the mountain. Teresa wrote about the experience in her application essays to Colorado College.

“It's pretty amazing when that adrenaline kicks in and you're carrying heavy oxygen and you don't even realize you are getting beat up and hurting. You just go and sometimes I'm amazed at how much ground you can cover. There was one time I was responding to a guy who had a femoral bleed...man, I ran fast,” she says with a smile.

Even now as a student here, sometimes Teresa can't help but respond to 911 calls when she hears them on her radio. She recalls studying for a test during second block last semester when someone called in a cardiac arrest on the Incline.

“They were having trouble getting enough people to respond, so I said forget the studies I can't sit here and know someone's having a heart attack! So I called in, drove to Manitou, and ran oxygen up the incline.”

Even though she has a leg up on her classmates in the life experience department, she still struggles to get good grades at CC. Neal jokes about her long hours studying and is amazed that students have time for other activities.

Teresa first noticed a likeable difference in CC kids, what she describes as a “different kind of energy”, when they would pass through Barr Camp. She also believes they don't realize how lucky they are to attend such a beautiful school.

Perhaps though, CC kids don't know how lucky they are to have such an inspirational women sitting in their classes and weighing in on their discussions with a vast store of life experience. Not many people know her story or even how old she is.

“It's not that I try to keep it a secret, but it's just a number!” she says.

One look at her proves it true—it is an expression often heard, but rare to actually witness.

Her way may be different than the popular sequence of doing things, but it sure seems fulfilling. Considering all that she has experienced, the fact that she chose to come to CC, of all places, reminds us of our privilege of attending this school and how many opportunities lie ahead if we choose to act on them. We just have to find our strong points and perform.

Becoming the caretakers of Barr Camp was another long-time dream for Teresa and Neal. They had been collecting newspaper clippings about Barr Camp but never thought that owning it could ever become their reality. After they returned to the U.S. and moved to Colorado Springs, they bought a mom-and-pop-type print shop, and ran the demanding and growing business for nine years. The stress of the business eventually got to Teresa and Neal. They missed the customer service aspect, and by lucky chance, they found that the caretakers of Barr Camp

CC commemorates 10th anniversary of 9/11

Kelsey Bergeson
News Editor

Sunday morning, as the sun rose, students set up 2,977 American flags around the flagpole as part of the national 9/11: Never Forget Project. Each flag was placed to represent a person killed in the terrorist attacks on Sep. 11, 2001. Throughout the remainder of the day, Colorado College joined the rest of the nation in commemorating the 10th anniversary of the tragic and devastating events of 9/11.

Sunday afternoon, the college hosted a gathering for the community in Shove Chapel where students, faculty and staff shared memories, poetry and music to reflect upon the events that took place 10 years ago and consider what it means for the present and the future. We mourned the deaths of thousands of victims and commemorated the suffering of their loved ones. We remembered the collective scar that Americans shared after our national pride was shaken and our sense of invulnerability was stripped.

"As teachers and students of the liberal arts, we know the importance of learning from the past," Colorado College President Jill Tiefenthaler noted. "We remember like it was yesterday."

As we thought back to the shock, confusion, horror, sadness and anger that we experienced



Students set up the "9/11: Never Forget Project" on Sunday morning. Photo by Kelsey Bergeson

that day, we were also compelled to consider the meaning of those events one decade later. Two wars, the Patriot Act, increased national and domestic security and the spread of anti-Muslim sentiment and hate crimes are just some of the changes that have taken

place within our country over the last 10 years. Colorado College held several events to remember, grieve, celebrate resilience, reflect on the past and look to the future in the shadow of 9/11.

A screening and discussion of the film "Re-birth," a documentary following the lives of five people directly affected by the attacks, encouraged students and community members from 15 local organizations and churches to look at how individuals have rebuilt their lives just as New York City has rebuilt its skyline. Students led a community walk downtown in memory of the tragic events and candles were lit in Shove's Pilgrim Chapel in remembrance. The Pikes Peak Justice and Peace Commission hosted a dinner where Christians, Jews and Muslims reflected on 9/11 and discussed strategies for peace and the breakdown of religious and ethnic prejudices.

"We cannot undo the physical and psychological damage that has been done," said Bob Lee, professor of political science, at the gathering in Shove Chapel on Sunday. However, he added, our position in the world has not greatly changed; the United States remains a superpower of considerable economic strength and influence. While 9/11 will forever remain a marker in our history, a day in which those who were alive will remember, we have, according to Lee, "reason neither to celebrate nor despair; our position remains ambivalent and ambiguous."

CC officials refute student perceptions of increased police activity

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the school employs city police only on Thursdays, Fridays and Saturdays.

The main reason why CSPD officers are called to house parties is because of complaints made by neighbors about noise. Since students have arrived on campus, there has

"We have had a lot of neighbors calling already in the beginning of the year because they had a quiet summer and now there are parties every night. But it is probably consistent with years past"

been an increase in calls by neighbors regarding noise and behavior.

"We have had a lot of neighbors calling already in the beginning of the year because they had a quiet summer and now there are parties every night," said Newton. "But it is probably consistent with years past."

Since last year, CC officials claim that there have been no changes in policy made by either Campus Safety or the CSPD regarding CC parties and how to deal with them.

There is one basic policy regarding parties, according to Ron Smith. "If they're noisy and the police determine they need to be shut down, they shut it down. If not, they tell them to be quiet and keep it in the house."

Nevertheless, Officer Newton has been trying to implement some proactive methods to keep parties safe and stable, like forming the Sober Host Program and encouraging off-campus houses to inform him of parties before they occur.

"This year, I have been trying to get out to parties right away and check out where they are. If we get a complaint we are mandated to go out and check it out," said Newton.

For police, a big part of the problem regarding campus parties is the way students react when they see a squad car or a cop. Often, students' first instinct is to instantly leave, but, according to Newton, that is not always the right thing to do.

"If you run, then we think, 'why are you running?' Most of the time we are at parties



While the CSPD and Campus Safety officials claim that there has been no increase in police activity, students continue to complain about a perceived rise in the number and frequency of police sightings on and nearby campus. Photo by Stanley Sigalov

checking on if you have townies in the house and if we need to remove them," he said. "A lot of times we just turn on the lights of our squad cars just so they don't get hit by other cars, not necessarily to bust a party."

While students often think that police officers are only showing up at parties to shut them down, that is rarely the case.

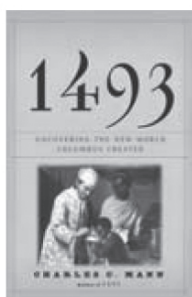
"Everybody might think it's weird for a cop

to encourage partying, but if we do it responsibly and have a good time then isn't that what college is about?" said Newton. "The main thing we are trying to do is to help students not get in trouble."

Both Smith and Newton agree that if students use common sense and stay under control, everybody wins: it is much less likely that students will get written up, get a ticket or

get arrested.

As Ron Smith says, "Just be safe and keep the parties inside."



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Comment & Debate

The way we play: a censure of CC's decadence

Antonio Skarica

Comment & Debate Editor

I spent a little over three years trying to accept it, adjust to it and, ultimately, to tolerate it. The party scene at Colorado College has always been a topic of fiery discussion and debate on our campus, as well as in our local community. We party, we do silly things and, in many cases, we piss people off.

Whether it is by drinking and being loud and obnoxious around campus, or by disrespecting our neighbors with excessive noise and using their front and backyards in inappropriate ways, we make sure to do our fair share of partying. The college administration is aware of our partying habits and dedicates a great deal of attention to somewhat unsuccessful attempts of achieving a healthy equilibrium between ensuring that students do work and have fun.

There are even specific employees in several different administrative offices who are supposed to keep us in check when we raise too much havoc. Regardless of our class standing, major or social group, we blame it on college and the fact that we are actually supposed to be having fun, because, you know, we're in college.

There are numerous definitions of fun and partying, and the expectations of what one should do with the time spent in college are as diverse as our student body. The notion that college students party excessively is culturally accepted in most (but not all) Western cultures. Moreover, cultural pressures for glorifying the decadence of college life are so strong that their validity is rarely ever brought into question. Sometimes, however, we have to ask ourselves if we are crossing the line between reasonable fun and excessive, reckless, self-damaging debauchery.

Don't get me wrong, I am a senior this year and I'm making sure to make the best of it. I love partying, hanging out with people, and every once in a while, I make sure I distract myself from the overwhelming intensity of the block plan. But what seems to bug me is the way the majority of the CC community defines and, in a way, dictates how students should spend their time at CC. Over the last couple of years, we have somehow managed to change the emphasis of our eternal chant: work hard, play hard. Slowly but steadily, we have neglected the importance and meaning of the basic purpose of college: education!

While maintaining our GPAs and keeping up with demanding partying habits, CC students have fallen into a state of intellectual sluggishness. Unfortunately, we have started equating intellectual with academic. That change allowed us to neglect our intellectual well-being, assuming that spending three hours in class every day constitutes enough "life of the mind". At the

same time, students have forgotten extracurricular INTELLECTUAL activities. Finishing homework and getting wasted becomes our priority, with no room for anything else. We are often too tired to attend that 7:30 p.m. lecture, but we manage to make it to the party. We drink stupefying amounts of alcohol and engage in demeaning activities because we strongly believe we deserve to relax after a long day on the block plan. Most of our intellectual "uplifting" comes down to getting high on "designer" weed and sharing incomprehensible comments with our equally intoxicated friends.

But what if we are taking it too far? What if our lavish indulgences are somehow hurtful to our well-being? As much as I can understand the importance of having fun, I have to wonder about how detrimental the effects of a four-year drinking binge and a drug-induced haze can be to one's personal development. Yes, you are most likely going to grow as a person and learn how to think critically, but what about all

the wasted potential?

As one friend recently remarked, "If everyone would focus on things that matter as much as they do on getting deals on kegs and getting drunk, this world would be a much better place." I wouldn't even take it that far. I would just say: what a better community our college would have.

... For the last three years I have worked as the international student orientation leader. In three days of activities, we try to introduce the incoming international class to the United States, college culture and teach them basic block plan survival skills. One of the most challenging aspects of this job is usually introducing international students to the Colorado College party scene and the decadent tendencies of our students. We spend most sessions apologetically explaining how CC kids party a lot and that in most cases partying can be overwhelming. I say "apologetically" because most of these students were promised

a "unique intellectual adventure". They have come here for THE Colorado College, one of the finest liberal arts institutions in the country. Many students are hoping to "develop habits of intellect and imagination" and, just like any other freshman student, they decided to come to Colorado College, lured by promises of intellectual adventures, social involvement and academic excellence.

I don't know how you feel, but I feel utterly embarrassed when many of these students, with all these things in mind, go to their first party. They haven't yet been forced to accept the cruel reality of the Colorado College social scene and many of them are openly unimpressed by what we have to offer. However, year after year, every new incoming class slowly accepts it and learns how to tolerate it.

Many people say that we are just a bunch of rich kids who party all the time.

What are we doing to prove them wrong?



Graphic: Erick Nelson

THE CATALYST

The Catalyst is a weekly newspaper produced and managed exclusively by students of The Colorado College. Published for the benefit of the college community and the surrounding local area, the Catalyst aims to bring general interest and academic-oriented news, ideas, and opinions into greater collective view—to act as a catalyst for informed debate. The newspaper is published under the auspices of Cutler Publications, a 501(c)(3) not-for-profit independent of The Colorado College.

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UR(L) wrong: in praise the new CC website

Katie Rogers

Guest Writer

On the cusp of summer vacation, a hot story made the front page of last year's final issue of *The Catalyst*. This article was republished in last week's issue of *The Catalyst*, perhaps in light of the new site's recent launch. "Web redesign sparks debate over larger virtues" - now called "Putting the fridge in the foyer: new website's look sparks controversy" - was written by 2014 graduate, Kate Hoffman, who opens the piece with a great question: "What kind of an impression is Colorado College looking to send out to those who browse its new website?"

As Hoffman points out, this question is of paramount importance for a variety of groups affiliated with the college. The form and functionality of an institution's website must appeal not only to its current students, but also to the parents of those students, prospective students, the parents of those students, alumni, faculty and staff.

Consequently, the new site and those involved in its redesign - namely, White Whale Web Services, based in Oakland, Calif., and CC's Redesign Working Group - faced a substantial amount of pressure to please a diverse audience.

The new website, projected to "go live" by the start of the 2011-2012 academic year, needed to meet or exceed a mixed bag of criteria. Functionality and efficiency are most important for those who access the website on a regular basis, like current CC students and staff, while presentation and layout are more of a concern to faculty, admissions specialists and the Alumni Association. Streamlined search features benefit both students and parents, who must navigate the site quickly and easily. The degree to which academic department pages appear reputable and informative is critical for professors, who want contemporaries at other institutions to recognize the excellence of their own. To an extent, the admissions and communications offices are advertisers, seeking to

simultaneously intrigue and inform prospective students and their parents.

Needless to say, pressures are high for all, and the burden of assuaging them is heavy.

Which is as it should be. White Whale Web Services and CC's Redesign Working Group certainly have a responsibility to each and every one of these factions. As a result, those involved in the process of evaluation must engage in a delicate balancing act, careful not to prioritize the aesthetics of presentation over the quality of information and vice versa.

The three individuals quoted in the *Catalyst* piece include a CC student on the Design Review Board and two professors, one of whom is also on the Board and another who elected to be quoted anonymously. All three interviewees express discontent with the redesign process and with the design itself. They complain about a lack of faculty involvement and assert that the site will not appear "academic" enough. They're concerned that it will not seem as highbrow and "timeless" as other sites. They're worried that it won't look like Harvard's, which "has a very simple design" and "promotes [itself] as the sophisticated and serious academic institution that it is." White Whale's design is too creative, they say. It's too fun. It's not simple enough.

Unquestionably, these three people are entitled to their opinion. And don't get me wrong - I love *The Catalyst*. I am - and have always been - supportive of its journalistic endeavors. But by restricting its interviews to those "expressing disappointment in the [website's] almost-final result," *The Catalyst* has generalized three opinions to the whole community. What's worse - it has effectively silenced an entire perspective. Not only does the piece lack the viewpoints of supportive Design Review Board members, faculty, staff, alumni, parents and students, but it also neglects the insights of those most directly involved with the design process: representatives from White Whale, and the entire committee of digital construction workers in the Redesign Working Group.

As a rising senior, I admittedly have a crush-

ing bias about the way I'd like my school to be represented. My status as a Colorado College alumna will continue to carry weight throughout my career. The school's name will be printed on my résumé for the rest of my life. I need it to be consistently presented as a serious academic institution; my admission to graduate school, if nothing else, depends on it.

For all of these reasons, I support the redesign.

Controversially, White Whale has encouraged the Redesign Working Group to utilize as much student material as possible in constructing the new site. The committee has therefore made the decision to hire its web writers and new media specialists directly from the CC student body. A few members of the community have since expressed certain doubts regarding this idea, and thus doubts about the capabilities of CC students. As a CC student and writer, this personally saddens me, but as a critical thinker-in-training, it has inspired me. In coming to terms with the influx of skepticism, I've re-learned an important lesson: to rely on the old "show, don't tell" mantra in order to stand by my own opinion - that these doubts are rather unfounded.

No, the site isn't perfect. Yes, there are still kinks that must be worked through. Yes, some of the links still redirect to the old, 1,000-plus page and often un-navigable model. It is unquestionably a work in progress.

But throughout my career at CC, I've come into contact with more sheer talent than I have ever seen anywhere else, at the college level or otherwise. Student writers (like Laurie Laker '12 and Kelly Varian '13), photographers (like Stanley Sigalov '13), and filmmakers (like Arielle Mari '12 and Sarah White '11), have contributed incredibly impressive work to the community and to the website, demonstrating creative prowess of a professional grade.

I'm also dazzled by White Whale Web Services. White Whale's webpage mock-ups - including top-level and academic department pages - are nothing short of beautiful. Information is easily accessible, presented creatively

and accented with stunning videos and photographs that only a CC student, who sees the angles of this place through the nuanced lens of one who calls it "home," could have taken.

Why exclude such talents as these in favor of so-called "professional" writers and photographers? Why distrust us to accurately and organically convey the essence of our home? What better way to showcase the value of a CC education than to display student accomplishments for the world to see?

My pride and confidence in these sentiments is overwhelming.

Hoffman writes, "A website that only highlights some of the greatness that CC has to offer ... will not paint a full picture of all that makes up the CC experience," and points out that "we all chose CC for different reasons." She's absolutely right. Colorado College is an exceptional academic institution - a "unique intellectual adventure," if you will - and it should be wholly and elegantly represented as such.

But like it or not, Colorado College is not Harvard University, and the "larger virtues" we should share with the world cannot be reduced to those that simply put us on par: we must highlight those values that make us extraordinary. Autonomy. Rigor. Individuality. Progressiveness. Passion. And yes - fun. For what is passion for learning - as CC has taught me - but something that incites productivity, fueled by immersion and fun in your field?

There is a reason that past and present students have declined such titans as Yale and Harvard in favor of Colorado College, and an attempt to force the beautiful idiosyncrasies of our values into an Ivy League-shaped box would disappoint me more than any webpage ever could.

Hoffman's right - we did all choose CC for different reasons.

And I believe that we now have a website that reflects that.

This article was originally published on the college's website redesign blog on June 9, 2011.



Our very own **ERICK NELSON** will be expanding his cartooning contributions with the comical hilarity of **ANTONIO SKARICA** in their new weekly comic strip...

Want to help them **name their comic strip**? Contact them with suggestions at...
antonio.skarca@coloradocollege.edu
erick.nelson@coloradocollege.edu

Home, sweet home?

Abdoulaye C. Dabo

Staff Writer

For many, the concept of home is not hard to define, or even to explain. For others however, home is a pretty broad concept. I happen to fall under the second category. I was born in Senegal, on the West Coast of Africa. I never traveled outside of my country until I went to France at the age of 12. Then came Canada, Italy and a few other countries.

I spent three years in Europe and have been in the United States for four; I have been studying abroad and globetrotting for roughly seven years. Consequently it is often hard to answer when I am asked the question, "Where are you from?" The answer should technically be Senegal. But then, do we necessarily have to call the place we were born "home?" I love Senegal. I love my family and the people who live there, but I also love the friends I have made over the years and most of them are not

from Senegal. Education comes with a price tag that is not necessarily financial in nature. Education constitutes a challenge—we often have to vacate the places we are most familiar with and leave the people we cherish the most to be on our own.

There are plenty of other obstacles involved in studying in a country that is not your native one: linguistic as well as cultural. Senegal is a French-speaking country and having to switch from French to English was not pleasant. Luckily for me, my English was good enough when I first came to America so I didn't struggle too much in my first few months as a CC student. And the time spent here has only helped improve my English. I still have an accent, but that is one of the few things I have left from Senegal (along with some Senegalese clothing and the hot-sauce my mother sent me).

Learning the rules of a different culture is also difficult. In Senegal, we have a total of 40 political parties that regularly participate in elections. In the United States, however,

everything political is polarized; it took me a long time to decide which side of the political spectrum I identified with more closely. The answer to the question of which political party I affiliate myself with shocks some. I claim to be a conservative at a college that is home to perhaps one of the most liberal student populations in the nation. And I have no problem with that. It has actually helped me tremendously. I love having my ideas and beliefs challenged: that's what should happen when one goes to college. I have come to appreciate views from both the left and right of the political spectrum and I believe I am better for it.

Another lesson I have learned is to embrace the "study hard, party harder" mentality; there is a whole lot more to education that isn't academic. During my first two blocks at CC, though, I could not understand how people could party every single night of the week. I never thought I could study very hard and party just as hard under the block plan. I did not think there was much to do besides academ-

ics. Contrary to what I thought at first, social life at CC is educational. I am thankful that I have both international and American friends. When I first came to CC three years ago, there were roughly 15 international students. Now, that number has grown to over a 100. The CC admissions office has done a tremendous job attracting more foreign students. We all, as a campus, can benefit from this: though it can be difficult, as I have experienced firsthand, there is a lot that we can learn from spending time with those who call different places "home."

When I first arrived here I felt like I didn't belong to this place. Now it feels like my home. I graduate at the end of the year and I am not yet ready to say goodbye, despite the fact that I have packed, unpacked and packed again so many times that it has become a habit. I will probably move to another city, state or country. I will then call another place home. Hopefully this time, it will be the real one.

Active Lifestyle



SPIRITUAL SWEAT



Yoga, peeing and McDonald's: everything with intention

Peter Temmen

Our New Active Lifestyle Columnist

How does one write an article on yoga? And should the word be capitalized? Ultimately, this is what I'm writing about. Yoga is the same as anything else —running, peeing, Adderall. Out of the mind and onto the page, or trail, or rock, or toilet seat – if you are looking for something in yoga, you might have already lost it. Yet, it's been inside you all along. Have I lost you yet? Baby steps.

Yoga is for everyone. But making its appeal accessible is a bit more difficult. If anything attracted me to yoga initially, it was the chance to become more flexible. Who wouldn't want that? But, I kept going back because I recognized the mind-body connection that occurred. Anyone who has practiced yoga with their full heart can understand a strange sense of equanimity coursing through his or her being after practicing. *That* is the mind-body connection. Being a hockey player growing up, I was obsessed with strengthening my fast-twitch muscle fibers. Plyometrics was my practice. I dismissed yoga as something that might take away from my explosiveness. It is difficult to practice both because there's only so much time in a day. However, if you choose just one (yoga, hockey), make that your practice. Meaning, if you do something with pure intention, it shouldn't matter what you are doing, the end result is the same. But, tight hips used to make me irritable – mind-body connection right there. So, if you like to run, rock climb, play ice hockey, or take Adderall, make sure to stretch for heaven's sake.

You are probably curious why I keep throwing Adderall in the same sentence as yoga. It's hard to reason, but reason is hard to conceptualize when I'm constantly looking through the eyes of the world. Students abuse Adderall to get "focus." I condemn the evaluations of



Julia Sick (class of '11) and other yogis practice side-plank and other, more advanced variations at local yoga studio, Pranava.

"right" and "wrong." But the focused, present state that we all strive to achieve at every given moment is already there! Gone. Just put your full heart into everything you do, and then you will have already achieved what Adderall wishes it could do for everyone. Out of the pill bottle and into right now. If your excuse for not practicing yoga one day is "too much homework," that's alright. But an hour of sweating and losing your self is only going to benefit whatever work you may have to do.

Yoga is a practice. Just like everything else (you hate when I say that), we are all in different places in our practice. Can you be upset

when you can't do a pose? Yes. It's okay. When you see someone doing something you can't, it can be frustrating. But the better word may be "inspiring." Next time you feel jealousy, try feeling inspired. But, back to practice. Practice may be the one thing that can shit on intellectualism. If you are a philosophy major because you want to have the world figured out, it's kind of like practicing yoga to better your figure. It leads back to the ego. Get over yourself. Yoga helps, just keep practicing and you will figure it out...maybe. I probably already said "I" too much, but sometimes that's the only way to help people understand. So, the ego is good

now, right?

Just showing up to yoga makes a statement in itself. However, always remember to breathe. Yes, the girl in front of you has a nice tooshy. Talk to her after class. Yes, the clothes are still in the wash – darn. Handle it after class. Yes, your neighbor smells like curry mixed with body odor and your hunger persists when your mind makes it do so. Eat food after class. Yes, you look ridiculous and you are chanting with 14 other strangers. Get over it. And people. Preaching is silly. I get a strange tingle when I start to do it. But hey, it's okay to eat McDonald's.

Uncharacteristically active nerds bring Quidditch to campus

Carrie Markel

Active Lifestyle Editor



The official International Quidditch Association (IQA) logo

Over the past year, including this summer, there have been strange sightings of a six-hooped pitch on Armstrong quad. Three hoops stand at each end, all of varying heights. But that is not the strangest part about the field. There are also students running around with brooms between their legs and countless balls being tossed back and forth.

If the implications of these observations are not yet obvious, you, unlike the rest of your generation, must not have read *Harry Potter* by J.K. Rowling as a child. The strange game is called Quidditch, and it has become a pastime across college campuses nationwide, lately cropping up at Colorado College.

It seems like CC's Quidditch sightings are still few and far between, especially when compared to the likes of Quidditch teams from Yale, Middlebury, Princeton and Duke. These colleges have full-fledged intramural leagues, and, this year, they will participate in the Fifth

Annual Quidditch World Cup on Nov. 12 and 13.

The game was adapted from the Harry Potter series in 2005 by two Middlebury students, Alex Benepe and Alexander Manshel. They used towels for their wizard capes and fashioned goals with hula hoops. As ridiculous as it sounds, the game caught on. In 2007, Middlebury and Vassar College played the first intercollegiate Quidditch match. Afterwards, because of the sport's increasing popularity, Benepe and Manshel formed the International Quidditch Association (IQA). Today, the IQA determines the official rules of the sport and organizes the World Cup and its teams.

Despite the official exterior, Quidditch began and remains a sport dedicated to friendly competition. A 2007 Princeton graduate, Brian Brown, remarked on the atmosphere surrounding the game: "I'm not sure whether I think it's colossally stupid or outrageously funny." This seems to be the general consensus about Quidditch; even the more intense players never take themselves too seriously. The IQA has a self-deprecating slogan as well: "The only fantasy sport that will make you sweat."

Even if Colorado College does not have a large Quidditch following, nor belongs to the IQA, the game is still a great way to spend an afternoon or weekend. The rules are similar to those in Harry Potter, except for the obvious: no one will be flying.

Seven players are allowed on each team, and guard their respective three hoops. A team scores a point when its chasers throw one of the balls, the quaffle, through a hoop, which is guarded by a keeper. The quaffle is often represented by a volleyball. However, the chasers can be stopped by the designated two bludgers for each team – this is where the game gets interesting. The bludgers are allowed to throw a

dodgeball at the chasers, if hit, the chaser must drop any ball that he or she possesses.

Now, the most bizarre part of the game (besides having to do all of the above with a broom between your legs) is the seeker and snitch. Traditionally, in the Harry Potter novels, the snitch is a golden ball with wings that flits around the pitch, avoiding the seeker. If caught, the game ends. Because the laws of physics in the "Muggle" world prevent a golden ball from flying around a field endlessly, a person, often wearing bright yellow or orange clothing, takes its place. The snitch must have a sock tucked in the back of his or her shorts, and the seeker's main goal is to get that sock.

Ethan Vorel, a sophomore at Middlebury, remarks that even if he isn't playing, the sport is incredibly entertaining to watch. "They look awkward on the field," he says, "but it actually takes a lot of coordination to play a sport with a broom. Hopefully it will be around for a while."

Vorel is not the only one who hopes the fervor won't die out. There have been student attempts to make Quidditch an official NCAA sport. But while that goal remains unrealized, it is never too late to get out and play some ball.

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CC Men's Hockey goes national



Ken Ralph makes a speech at the inauguration of the National Collegiate Hockey Conference in Colorado Springs, CO on July 13, 2011.

Aaron Patterson
Active Lifestyle Editor

Colorado College has been a member of the Western Collegiate Hockey Association (WCHA) since the formation of its collegiate

hockey program in 1951. That arrangement will all change two seasons from now when the Colorado College Tigers begin their 2013-2014 season as members of the newly-formed National Collegiate Hockey Conference (NCHC).

The decision to switch conferences came in the wake of two long-time WCHA members,

the University of Wisconsin-Madison and University of Minnesota-Twin Cities, announcing that they would be leaving the WCHA in favor of the Big Ten Conference.

"We began to look at the landscape of the WCHA and envision what it would look like after the departure of two marquee programs (and programs that shared our philosophy on hockey). What was left was a grouping of schools that possessed some differing opinions as to the best way to operate going forward," said Ken Ralph, CC's Athletic Director.

After hearing that conference rivals, the University of North Dakota and the University of Denver, were facing the same issues, Colorado College began collaborating with the two universities about how to best move on in the WCHA. After much discussion, the three schools decided to form a new conference that would maintain the level of competition that had been present throughout the existence of the WCHA. According to Ralph, "It was not an easy decision, as we are charter members of the WCHA, but we needed to realize that times are changing and we need to be willing to change with them."

Formerly known as the Midwest Collegiate Hockey League (MCHL), the WCHA was founded in 1951 by Colorado College, the Universities of: Denver, North Dakota, Minnesota (Duluth) and Michigan Technological University. Since the founding of the league, WCHA teams have accounted for a record 36 NCAA national championships; most recently, when the University of Minnesota-Duluth Bulldogs defeated the University of Michigan 3-2 in the final game of the NCAA Frozen Four this past season. Additionally, WCHA teams have accounted for 28 national runner-up positions since the league's formation.

As a founding member of the WCHA, The Colorado College Tigers have amassed a total of 20 NCAA tournament appearances, 10 Frozen Four appearances and 2 NCAA national championships, which they won in 1950 and 1957. The Tigers have been conference

champions a total of 10 times, most recently in the 2007-2008 season.

Despite their numerous accomplishments and long-time history within the WCHA, Colorado College's athletics administration believes that they have secured a spot in one of the best, if not the best, collegiate hockey program in the country. All 6 current members of the newly formed NCHC qualified for the 16-team NCAA tournament last year. "This new league should have a positive impact on the hockey program itself. Not only will the team face premiere competition every weekend, it should bolster recruiting as the best players typically want to play in the best leagues," says Ralph. This is good news for the fans, who will have the opportunity to watch some of the nation's best teams compete. The inclusion of the University of Denver Pioneers into the NCHC ensures that the CC-DU rivalry will remain in place for years to come. The Tigers went 1-2 in their annual 3-game series against the Pioneers last season, punctuated by a landslide 9-2 victory last November at The World Arena.

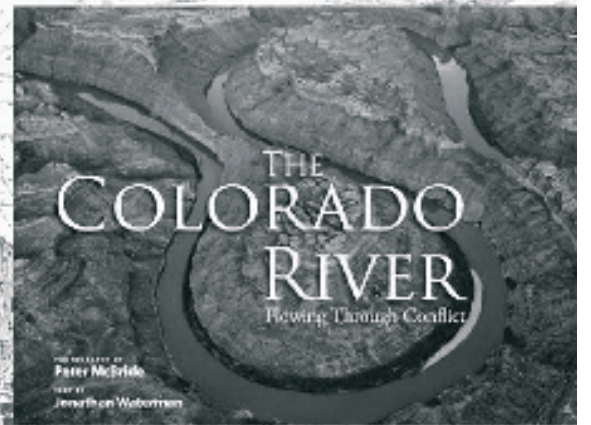
Despite a slow start last season, the Tigers roared back to finish with a 23-19-3 record, earning a bid to the NCAA tournament. The Tigers had quite the run; they advanced to the NCAA West regional where they subsequently lost to the University of Michigan, just one win away from earning a spot in the NCAA Frozen Four.

According to InsideCollegeHockey.com (an ESPN associate), the Tigers return this season ranked as the No. 8 team in the nation after experts ranked them to finish in the bottom of the conference last year. The Tigers open the season on Oct. 2 against McGill University in an exhibition game at The World Arena and begin WCHA conference play when they host Bemidji State University on Oct. 14 in a double-header series at The World Arena. The Colorado College and the University of Denver will resume their historic rivalry when the Pioneers host the Tigers in Denver on Nov. 12.

Monday September 12, 2011

7:00 PM Celeste South Theater, Cornerstone Arts Building

"The Colorado River Flowing Through Conflict"



Jonathan Waterman: Author, Immersion Journalist

Peter McBride: Photographer, Writer, Storyteller



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Arts & Entertainment

The BrewHaha

The prestigious, the symbolic and the functional: Beers for all aspects of CC student life

This journey, to say the least, has been a strenuous one. After all the late nights, the spilt libation, the endless amounts of cardboard, cut and folded to fit six. After being called “snobs”, “drunkards” and “underage drinkers unfit, by law, to write about alcoholic beverages.” After all of the empty wallets and the good times that precluded them, the BrewHaha steps into its third year here at the Colorado College, and it wouldn't be bragging to say that we have seen a lot.

For those of you who aren't familiar, the BrewHaha is a weekly column here in the Catalyst that celebrates the art of craft brewing and the enjoyment of craft beer while educating the CC population on how to choose responsibly and confidently when confronted by the vast world of high-quality brews. The BrewHaha, although we preach to a community of those who are both over and under the magic age of 21, fully respects and upholds the drinking policy that Colorado College puts forth, which allows students under the age of 21 to partake in two or three casual beverages. We figure that if you're going to be restricted, why not make them count? You can only load so many red, silver and blue-ribboned cans into the Loomis recycling before things start to get a bit redundant; and we, here at the BrewHaha, understand that...

But enough with introductions, let's return to our first point: experience. We've had our fair share of longnecks here at CC, some good, some bad, and we love nothing more than to tell the tales. And just like your old Grandpappy used to do after too much turkey at Thanksgiving dinner, we're going to sit you down and share with you the sentimental stories of the good old days. No, these aren't stories about the Great Depression or stickball or beating up hippies in the seventies. These are the stories, and the beers, that define CC beer culture for each of us. Each beer listed here is not necessarily a craft beer, but all of them hold a certain intrinsic value that speaks volumes. We hope you enjoy them as much as we do. Happy School Year everybody! - JH

Jeff Hester
Staff Writer

Tom Bunn
Guest Writer

Graham Borgman
Guest Writer

Jonathan Fortune
Guest Writer

Odell IPA

India Pale Ale, 7.00% ABV
Odell Brewing Company
Fort Collins, CO

Like any levelheaded individual, I can't think of much better than the classic combination of good company, good food and good beer. You simply can't go wrong. Throughout my freshman, and most of my sophomore, year this meant sneaking cans onto the Rastall porch for Friday night dinner. As I grew older, and my friends and I began living either off campus or in larger, specialty houses, we discovered the art of the dinner party.

I remember attending my first off-campus dinner party, hosted by a senior on the Frisbee team my sophomore year. I was uneasy, to say the least. I didn't have a kitchen or a fake ID, so I couldn't bring food or beverage. There would be older girls there. Should I wear a tie? Do I even own a tie? However, when I arrived, many of my childish worries were wiped away. The dinner party was exactly what I should have expected from Colorado College. Bluegrass music blared from inside, through the front door, flannel and overalls and fleece as far as the eye could see and, inevitably, somewhere in the house, someone was discussing Proust with great fervor. I was struck dumb by the scene, so used to hazy dorm rooms and fellow students tackling each other in hallways, that I must have looked the part when my senior friend came up and offered me a fairly non-descript orange and brown bottle. This is where my love affair with Odell IPA began.

Odell IPA, lovingly referred to by frequent drinkers as “Elephant IPA” or simply “Elephant,” is one of the greatest regional treats of Colorado. Odell Brewing Company, based out of Fort Collins, is, in my opinion, the strongest brewery in Colorado by miles, and their IPA just might be their most perfect brew. If you are a fellow hophead, this is not a beer you can afford to miss. The beer pours a gorgeous dusty gold and maintains a solid head, most likely from the unapologetic excess of hop oils in this brew. Upon first taste, you are slapped across the tongue with sharp citrus and herbal tones, more specifically mint and grapefruit, but the general essence of citrus is what makes the strong first impression, almost singeing the tongue. Before the beer bites too hard, the refreshing malt body washes over the top of it, creating a smooth, yet dry finish. Elephant is bitter yet crisp, soothing yet exciting. Most importantly, however, Odell IPA is bold and unique without having to brag about it. This brew is modest, yet not afraid to hold high aspirations, much like the two-thousand-plus hooligans who congregate at the bottom of Pikes Peak to drink, eat, be merry and knock out a thesis somewhere along the way. Odell IPA is a craft beer I am proud to drink, and many others at CC feel the same way. And as one of the cheaper craft beers on the shelf, why not? Buying locally has its benefits. -JH

Extra Gold Lager

American Adjunct Lager, 5.00 ABV
Coors Brewing Company
Golden, CO

Despite the fact that I'm drinking an Odell IPA from the tap while writing this piece, I'm going to harken back to my more sophomoric days at the College, during which my beer of choice was Extra Gold Lager. I remember walking to parties in January with the easily recognizable gold cardboard tucked under my winter coat. I fondly recall the days of shotgunning the golden nectar, only to have it be regurgitated ten seconds later. I get nostalgic when I think about sharing the golden stuff with even the most tenuous of acquaintances, because, hell, it's cheap as shit. For those of you unfamiliar with Extra Gold, it is an American Adjunct Lager with 5% ABV. That, however, is all I will tell you about the contents of a can of Extra Gold, and this is because people don't drink Extra Gold for the taste, they drink it because it is the cheapest beer option at the liquor store.

Currently the going market rate for a case (30 beers) of Extra Gold at Weber Street Liquors is \$17.38 after tax. The next cheapest beer, which is PBR, is \$21.47 post taxes. Now, bear with me as I make some assumptions. Allow me to assume that the average non-senior male buys two cases of beer every block with the exception of 1st and 8th block, during which I will assume the same consumer buys three cases of beer. Adding all those cases, of course, gives us eighteen cases of beer throughout the year. This means that from freshman to junior year the average male student purchases forty-eight cases of beer, which, if you are drinking Extra Gold at the current market price, would cost \$834.34. The same student drinking PBR would have spent \$1,030.56. This accounts for a difference between the two beers of \$196.22 throughout the three years, and this model doesn't even account for summer vacations when beer consumption has been known to spike.

I know I could have a lot of fun with an extra \$196.22. For example, I could get 196 different things off the dollar menu and share the gluttony with my friends. I could also go to the dollar store and get 196 things that would surely make our parties even sicker than they already are. Despite the myriad options we have with \$196.33, let's pretend that we would use the money only to buy six packs of the delicious Odell's IPA. \$196.22 would buy us roughly 17 six packs of the stuff. In other words, that \$196.22 in savings would buy you 102 tasty bottles of Odell's IPA. In my humble opinion, substituting PBR for Extra Gold in order to drink 102 extra bottles of a beer fit for a king is an easy choice.

As I see it, The BrewHaHa is about the appreciation of good beer, so what can possibly make us appreciate good beer better than shitty beer? Once again, delayed gratification for future gain is the better route. -TB

Hazed and Infused

American Pale Ale, 4.85% ABV
Boulder Beer Company
Boulder, CO

Stepping for the first time into the world of Colorado College can be a dizzying experience. We wander confidently into the realm that we have only known through stories, ones that cause even our own parents to blush at their excesses and exploits, joyously anxious to discover how such a place could exist. Ultimately what we make of our 4 or 5 years at this unique institution, living to learn and learning to live, is up to each one of us. It is no secret though, that amongst all the slow days and late nights in the library required by the pace of the block plan, the heady-happy love of tomfoolery and adventure that abounds at CC can leave a substantial tie-dye blur in our memories.

“Dazed and Confused” is a movie that tells the story of the last day and night of high school, and although we have already had this experience by the time we set foot on the Front Range, these respective states of mind are in no short supply over the course of our time here. Arriving on campus and standing toe to toe with Pike's Peak for the first time as a freshman, I felt the sensation of being initiated into a community that thrives on bewilderment. Basically, in order to make sense of being dazed and confused, we must be hazed and infused, into the CC community that is, and the beer by that very name from Boulder Beer Co. has helped lubricate the process for many of us.

Hazed & Infused is a popular and approachable pale ale from the Boulder based brewery, and while paddling is frowned upon in our day and age, this initiatory brew will have you shouting “Thank you, Sir, may I have another?”

When met with this beer for the first time, I realized that people like me who like to watch seventies stoner movies also have the potential and ability to craft high quality beer. I had the feeling that “it's what I would do if I had a brewery!” Welcome to Colorado. The fruity aroma and sweet taste that characterize this pale ale are a testament to the flavor of the ‘dry-hopping’ process, which leaves a generous amount of hazy, unfiltered hops to be infused with the rest of the brewed ingredients. The result is delicious harmony. This ale is crisp and sweet upon the first sip, and utilizes four different varieties of hops to create a light level of complexity. Piney notes fuse smoothly with the caramel malt base, creating a substantially full bodied taste without much bitterness. The long wash lingers pleasantly at the back of the mouth after a healthy swig. The brew pours amber in color, and is medium in thickness and head.

Getting Hazed & Infused is a fitting way to begin the journey, but it is also a serious brew that has stood my own test of time. It has been there for me over the years when I've felt the need to get weird, grounded, or just drink a delicious Colorado pale ale. -GB

Pabst Blue Ribbon

American Adjunct Lager, 4.74% ABV
Pabst Brewing Company
Woodridge, IL

If you've been at CC for a couple of years then you can probably stop reading this little PBR analysis. You know the proverbial “deal”, you party animal, you. (Feel free to continue reading and confirm those suspicions though).

“It's the go to beer. America is red, white, and blue. So is PBR. It's no coincidence they are both the best,” says senior Joey Wolf. That's roughly the gist of it, I think. PBR is the most consumed beer at CC. As you may have observed, it is somehow in everybody's hand for the hangout/pregame/darty. PBR cans disguise the recycling bin at the end of the hall as a metallic mountain. You drank PBR last night or this morning. Call it marketing, call it hipster's arbitrary preference permeating the greater student body, or, as Joey said, “the can's evocation of all things American and therefore awesome.” It's the go to, can't make up your mind at the liquor store, default beverage.



PBR is a cheap and refreshing alternative. Photo courtesy of Creative Commons.

Why don't we try something new, buy a different 30 rack? “It's the best-worst beer. No, change that to the worst-best beer,” says junior-senior Scotty Craighead. It's not that bad. PBR is a pale gold, light lager with a nice maltiness and some mellow hops to finish. Very drinkable. Very shotgunnable. It's not quite as watery as Keystone or Natty light but, then again not as good as more expensive brews. If you can afford it, I recommend IPA's all the time, of course.

“It's a ski beer,” says Sam Fields of the red, white and, blue can. I asked him why; he replied stunned at the genius of my question, “I don't know.” How did this 1893 World's Columbian Exposition America's Best Award Winner (refer to can) become CC's every beer? It's all of the above. Pretty cheap, pretty good and in a pretty cool can that compliments jorts, reflective plastic sunglasses and neon-wear (that's my catchall CC student, everyone). Also, it's a CC tradition, a self-reinforcing cycle of PBR affinity passed down through generations of proud tigers.

The next time you inevitably crack a PBR or twelve, think about the tradition, think about America, think about jorts, self-reinforcing cycles, hops, malts and skiing. Drink Responsibly. Yield to House Cup. -JF