

THE CATALYST

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Sports: Colorado College Women's Soccer Meet a captain and a mid-season review Page 13

Wellness Resource Center created, Heather Horton promoted

NEWS
Kiki Lenihan
Guest Writer

When Heather Horton arrived at Colorado College, she had her work cut out for her.

The school had recently changed its policy and position on sexual assaults/violence, and it was her job to not only gain the student body's trust, but also to walk them through these new policies. As the Sexual Response Coordinator, Heather Horton worked closely with many student groups and became a friendly face all around campus.

Now she is stepping into an even larger role, becoming the Director of the Wellness Resource Center, that will help oversee mental health at CC. In her new position Horton hopes to promote a more "holistic approach to wellness."

Horton will continue to work with student groups such as SOSS, GROW, SPILL, and QCC, but will also focus on creating new programs and groups that either have not existed before on campus or have not been particularly consistent, especially mental health promotion, stress management, and substance use and abuse.

"I feel like we've made progress as a campus in terms of students feeling some trust in both the position as well as our policy and procedures," said Horton while reminiscing about her former job. "The number of reports on campus have increased, which I think is a sign that [students] know there are the available resources."

Horton is arguably most noted for launching a program that educates students about bystander intervention in the form of the BADASS Campaign, which encourages students to be active members of the community and intervene in situations that look potentially dangerous for themselves or others.

"Heather is one of the strongest, passionate, and most caring people I have had the pleasure of working with," said Nikki Kaufman, a senior and member of SOSS. "Her job is probably the most difficult at Colorado College, yet she seldom receives the recognition she deserves. In a society where I often feel there is no hope for eradicating rape culture, Heather continuously gives the CC community hope."

Senior Ariana Glantz, co-chair of QSA (now QCC), has worked with Horton in Campus Activities and feels similarly.

"She is able to span both the negative and positive realms; listening to her speak about rape and domestic violence is harrowing, while discussing what kind of condoms and flavored lube to put in the Safe Spring Break bags is hi-

Continued: News page 2

A WILDFIRE'S WRATH: THE WALDO CANYON ISSUE



A helicopter drops water on the Waldo Canyon Fire burn zone this summer. Photo courtesy of USDA/US Air Force.

Learning to coexist with wildfires

WALDO CANYON
Paul Todd
Guest Writer

This summer the community of Colorado Springs endured an unforgettable July, driven by the Waldo Canyon Fire emergency and the bravery of those who contained and quenched the blaze.

In the aftermath of this event, questions arose on how to sustain and protect a growing community that slowly pushes itself into the surrounding forest ecosystem. By understanding the environment and researching methods to prevent urban invasive wildfires, the Colorado Springs community can actively avoid future emergency wildfire events.

Although the Waldo Canyon Fire ignited only 18,247 acres of land, a small number relative to other high-emergency wildfires, the fire's proximity to

human life made this one of the most destructive and threatening fires in Colorado history.

Unlike other recent wildfires in the Southwest, the Waldo Canyon Fire occurred in a Wildland-Urban Interface (WUI), where the low-elevation ponderosa pine forests meet the urban development of the growing Colorado Springs community.

By threatening human civilization and surrounding historical landmarks such as the Air Force Academy, the Waldo Canyon Fire became an immediate emergency situation.

The consistent occurrence of wildfires in order to mitigate tree density is inherent to the ecology of many Colorado forests. Over the past seventy years, wildfire policy dictated a zero tolerance prevention of wildfires. Before human

Continued: News page 3

Select wildfires in Colorado and the Southwest over the past 10 years

1. Waldo Canyon Fire 2012; Colorado Springs, CO; 18,247 acres; 352 million dollars; 346 homes destroyed

2. High Park Fire 2012; Larimer County, CO; 87,284 acres; 39.2 million dollars; 259 homes destroyed

3. Hayman Fire 2002; 35 miles northwest of Colorado Springs; 138,114 acres; 40 million dollars; 133 homes destroyed

4. Wallow Fire 2011; Eastern Arizona; Bear Wallow Wilderness; 538,049 acres; 109 million dollars; 32 homes destroyed

Student climber granted rare view of Waldo Canyon Fire

WALDO CANYON
Owen Anderson
Guest Writer

The first time I found out about the Waldo Canyon fire, I was climbing a multi-pitch rock climb near the top of Pikes Peak.

I was climbing up the last pitch and looked behind me at the beautiful view of the Springs and Ute pass to see a plume of black smoke that looked like a mushroom cloud sprouting from the forests in the canyon just over the ridge.

By the time I had finished the climb and was coming down, the tower of smoke had filled the entire canyon.

I remember looking at it and not being able to make out a single tree, but being

able to see plumes of flame rising high above the trees. The flames must have been 200 feet tall.

What was the worst part of the fire for me, though, was when I realized how much the Waldo Canyon fire would affect the climbing in the Colorado Springs area.

My entire college career, I have been dreaming of bolting a new sport route and contributing to the climbing community that I cared so much about. This summer, I had not only found a route, but an entire wall, 45 minutes away from Colorado College.

It was in a place called William's Canyon, which was a quiet local climbing spot that already had some good routes

in it.

I had been there in the past, but over the summer I went to a new area and stumbled across a 60-ft-long, 20-degree overhanging wall that had never been climbed on.

At first, the rock looked fragile (which is why it was never bolted), but after a three-hour solo session of crowbaring and violently hitting with a hammer, one vertical line took on its final form - an awesome, hard, overhanging sport pitch, just outside of town.

I was so excited I could barely contain myself. The wall probably had six or seven more lines just like that one, and I had claim to it.

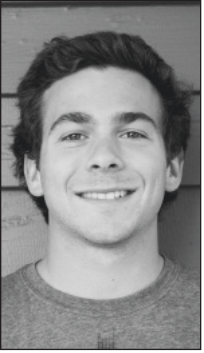
Continued: Sports page 12

FROM THE EDITOR

Reporting on the endowment

NEWS

Jesse Paul
News Editor



Last year, we broke the golden rule of fair and accurate reporting by posting opinion articles on the front page of The Catalyst.

We let our readers believe that the beliefs of a few of our writers were what our entire news organization stood for, jeopardizing our role as an unbiased source for

information. We didn't put enough emphasis on keeping our personal opinions out of our articles.

Opinions belong in two places in Cutler publications: the Comment and Debate section of this paper, and in stories written in the CIPHER, which editor Andrea Tudhope said allows its reporters to add comments to their articles.

On more than one occasion we published opinions about the Colorado College endowment on our front page and we made a large mistake in not providing you with the whole story.

This past weekend, representatives from The Catalyst, The CIPHER, CCSGA, and Samantha Barlow, student trustee, met to discuss how to move forward in reporting and taking action on the endowment.

What we know for a fact is this: CC entrusts large sums of money to mutual funds that invest in what many people would say are socially irresponsible companies throughout the world, including Halliburton, Monsanto, and Goldman Sachs.

It isn't that simple.

The business office has responded to student complaints by investing in what are considered "socially responsible investments" with unimpressive returns.

There are reasons why the college needs the endowment to grow, including to fund renovations on campus, maintain financial aid, and keep the gears running smoothly.

That is the side of the story that you, the reader, were not provided with.

This year, The Catalyst plans to bring you both sides of the story. We will include interviews from trustee members about why CC invests its \$540+ million endowment the way it does and an explanation from the other side about why what is happening in the school's bank accounts is a bad thing.

College endowments are a national topic of debate and institutions of higher education are trying to find ways to invest responsibly while maintaining the returns needed to provide for their communities.

We are not here to make decisions for you regarding anything. We are here to provide you with information, to gather it in a professional, ethical way to better inform the student body and Colorado Springs about what is going on at Colorado College.

Samantha Barlow has indicated that she is going to help both The Catalyst and The CIPHER meet with trustees and key members of the college to discuss the endowment and provide our readers with information that was previously inaccessible.

Wellness Resource Center created, Heather Horton promoted

Continued from page 1

larious," said Glantz. "I hope that she is well known around campus as a great resource because she has truly worked to improve [campus-wide] knowledge."

As Horton begins this next chapter of her CC career, she hopes to bring in speakers, hold meetings over a number of topics, make referrals for mental health, and create new student groups for chronic illnesses, amongst many other initiatives.

"I want to create and enforce a holistic model of wellness that will help students to think about the ways in which different aspects of their lives are connected," said Horton.

In the brochure introducing the Well-

ness Resources Center, the seven domains of wellness are listed: intellectual, socio-cultural, emotional, physical, spiritual, environmental, and career/financial.

Horton is interested in hearing from students about what they need so that all will be able to maximize their success on campus.

"Community is a big part of individual wellness and vice-versa," said Horton.

The college has placed an application online in search of a new Sexual Assault Response Coordinator to fill Horton's soon-to-be vacated position.

For more information on the Wellness Resources Center please contact Heather Horton at hhorton@coloradocollege.edu or 719-389-6211.



Director of the Wellness Center, Heather Horton. Photo by Veronica Spann.

CC Inn shows damage after Survivor drinking game

BRIEF

Jesse Paul
News Editor

When a group of students attempted and succeeded in turning the CC Inn into an alcohol consumption and survival drinking game, they managed to break a few windows, enrage local neighbors, and warrant the response of local law enforcement, campus safety, and residential life in the process.

Just before 11 p.m. last Saturday night, Campus Safety responded to what residential advisor Sarah Beckwith called an hour-and-a-half long party-sprint where dorm rooms had turned into drinking themes.

"It was quiet my first round, but by my

second round, my residential life coordinator had called me to let me know residents had broken [many] windows and were being very loud," said Beckwith, who was on duty Saturday night and is one of the RAs at the Inn. "Each door had a theme for participants."

Students were going door-to-door, drinking alcohol in preparation for a night out on the first weekend of the academic year, according to Beckwith.

As campus security arrived, there were a large number of students leaving the Inn and eventually law enforcement was on scene as well.

Unfortunately, the damage was already done.

"[There were] four broken windows,

one on the first floor and three on the second floor," said Pat Cunningham, Director of Campus Safety. "We've been trying to talk to students about noise complaints. . . They aren't aware of how loud they really are. Students aren't always cognizant of the transition they make when they leave the campus and enter into a residential area."

Live goldfish and a food fight were rumored to be a part of the survivor activities in the Inn, according to Beckwith.

Beckwith said she plans to hold a community meeting to discuss the severity of the vandalism and address growing problems of open alcoholic beverages in hallways and loud music in the CC Inn.

Colorado Springs news, in brief

WARRANT SERVED NEAR CAMPUS

Last Thursday, Colorado Springs police served several felony and misdemeanor arrest warrants in an apartment near campus, resulting in a K9 contact, according to police.

At 4:30 p.m. officers were sent to the 1200 block of East San Miguel St. to arrest 26-year-old Jason Mallett, who ignored verbal commands to surrender or face a police K9.

Police sent in the K9 who contacted Mallett on the shoulder. He was treated for his minor injury at Memorial Hospital and then was placed into custody for his outstanding warrants, said police.

PHS STUDENT HIT BY CAR

A Palmer High School student was struck by a car while attempting to cross the intersection of Platte Ave. at Weber St. on Monday, according to police.

The student was in a pedestrian right-of-way zone when she was struck by a car traveling southbound on Weber and turning East onto Platte. The force of the impact rolled the student over the hood and windshield of the car, said police.

Despite the severity of the impact, neither the victim nor the driver were seriously injured, police said in a news release. The driver of the vehicle, Tessa Mackey, was cited for failure to yield to pedestrian traffic.

WALDO CANYON TRESPASS

Officers patrolling the Waldo Canyon fire zone arrested seven people

who had trespassed onto the Flying W Ranch property last weekend.

On Saturday, police contacted the seven individuals in the early afternoon after the group entered an area clearly posted with "No Trespassing" signs, said police. They were each served a criminal summons and released.

With help of the Mountain Shadows Community, said police, they are continuing to address criminal issues in the burn area.

ROBBERY AT GUNPOINT IN PALMER PARK

A man and a woman sitting in their car at Palmer Park on Tuesday were robbed at gunpoint by a pair of unidentified men.

The two suspects approached the victims and demanded they exit the car and lay down in the dirt, said police. The couple complied at which point the men stole the woman's purse which contained her house keys.

Police say there have been similar reports of crime in the area and citizens should not frequent dark and secluded areas and expose themselves to becoming victims.

BODY FOUND IN BURNING CAR

Officers found a body inside a burning car on Pikes Peak Highway half a mile from the mountain's summit on Sunday evening, according to police.

When police got to the scene, they found the vehicle up an embankment and fully engulfed in flames. Once the fire was extinguished, emergency responders found the body inside the

car.

The victim was preliminarily identified as a Texas man by the El Paso County Coroner after an autopsy was performed and evidence was collected at the scene of the fire, said police. The name of the victim will not be released until a positive identification has been made.

WRONG WAY DRIVER ON I-25

A drunk woman driving the wrong way on I-25 Tuesday afternoon struck five cars, including a police cruiser, injuring two before coming to a rest at the North Nevada Ave. exit.

43-year-old Shannon Swanson traveled several miles North in the southbound lanes of Interstate 25 originating from an exit south of Uintah St.. Police were notified of a blue hatchback driving the wrong way on the highway just after 2 p.m. Three minutes after police received the original complaint call, an officer witnessed Swanson crash, said police.

Swanson was driving a blue Pontiac Vibe hatchback weaving through traffic when she struck a blue Lexus SUV that had tried to avoid her. The Vibe then struck a semi truck before hitting a Dodge Intrepid police cruiser and then striking a Buick LeSabre. Swanson then crashed into a Chevy truck that was pulling an Infiniti.

Swanson's car suffered heavy front end damage while the other vehicles involved in the crash sustained moderate and minor damage, according to police. Two people were transported to local hospitals for minor injuries.

CAMPUS SAFETY BLOTTER

Since last Saturday, Campus Safety reports there have been two liquor law violations, three thefts, one auto burglary, one case of vandalism, and an instance of drug referral.

Saturday

Vandalism was reported at the CC Inn at 10:50 p.m. on Saturday and is still being openly investigated. Later that night at 11:15, Campus Safety made a drug referral at Slocum.

Sunday

On Sunday morning at 12:58 a.m., a publicly intoxicated student was contacted outside of Mathias, and later, at 1:50 a.m., Campus Safety made a referral on the case of an underage, intoxicated student outside the Spencer center.

Monday

Monday morning, the window of a car on the 100 block of Cache La Poudre St. was broken into. Around noon the same day, a bicycle was reported stolen on the 1100 block of Cascade Ave.

Tuesday

Before classes began on Tuesday, a laptop was stolen from Barnes, and then late in the day at 2 p.m., another laptop was stolen from a student's room in Slocum.

Off Campus

On Friday morning, just after midnight, a female was taken away from a party at 927 Weber St. by an ambulance. Three Colorado Springs police cruisers responded along with an emergency services fire truck. Campus Safety was also on hand.

There were no charges immediately pressed on the student by police, according to Campus Safety.

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A homeless man who refers to himself as the "Wagon Man" had no comment on the effects of the proposed ordinance. Photo by Teddy Link.

Legality of city panhandling in question

NEWS

Jesse Paul
News Editor

Colorado Springs is about to decide whether or not it wants to ban panhandling in certain

areas of the city limits.

The ordinance specifically targets panhandlers in areas of downtown and the West Side that have seen an uptick in homelessness and crime. While many are in support, others are outraged.

Colorado Springs has a large population of homeless residents who live mainly in the downtown area and the West Side. In recent years, city ordinances have pushed homelessness west towards Old Colorado City and Manitou Springs, where residents are now reporting an increase in crime associated

with the panhandling.

The crimes associated with panhandling include public intoxication, theft, burglary, and even violence.

Local business owners have come before the city council on multiple occasions, calling for changes in laws and ordinances in order to combat homelessness in the area.

Now city officials are trying to fix the problems.

"This is a struggle in cities across the country," said Bob Loevy, CC Political Science professor. "It often surfaces when a trip downtown means someone begging to you for money. Legislation wording [on panhandling] has been upheld in courts in other cities around the country."

The ordinance's appearance before city council is an example of a city attorney, in this case Chris Melcher, believing that the wording of the law is in compliance with the constitution of the United States, said Loevy.

The Colorado College Student Government Association has been fighting hard against the outcry to ban panhandling, claiming that Melcher's belief that the ordinance is constitutional is wrong.

"We are writing City Council in order to present a student opinion regarding the proposed panhandling ordinance," wrote CCSGA in an open letter to City Council last week. "We, the Colorado College Student Government Association, are very concerned about several recent

initiatives that affect our community."

The letter highlights how the city has passed laws and taken steps to make life difficult for indigent and homeless persons, citing community building, instead of legislation, to fix the issues that are engulfing the streets.

Joining the CCSGA in their fight against the ordinance is the American Civil Liberties Union, which claims that banning begging is a violation of the first amendment and that panhandling is a form of speech.

Law enforcement, business owners, and many locals say the ordinance is a good thing, however.

The ordinance goes before City Council on Oct. 9 and later, a second reading on Oct. 23, according to the Denver Post.

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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Students bring GlobeMed to CC

NEWS

Charles Bayley
Guest Writer

Of the 98 very excited college students having a conversation at the GlobeMed conven-

tion in Chicago last weekend, two have come back to Colorado College with big plans.

GlobeMed is a burgeoning nationwide effort involving 50 prestigious schools, aiming to improve global health with hands-on interaction with NGOs. Senior Sarah Phillips and junior Sarah Freeman are bringing it to CC.

Phillips first learned about the group while interning at Partners in Health in Boston where her fellow interns were all a part of GlobeMed at their respective universities. When Phillips returned to CC, her first move was to contact Freeman, whom she had met on a trip to Chile as an underclassman. They were both on the pre-med track and interested in global health.

Together they did the necessary footwork to make GlobeMed a reality at CC.

The particular NGO that the CC GlobeMed chapter is associated with is WOPLAH, or Western Organization of People Living with HIV/AIDS. Phillips and Freeman communicate with the leader of WOPLAH, Edwin, over Skype. Although the plan is to "jointly design a project, mobilize funds, and begin implementation in the 2012-2013 academic year," at this point the two parties are just getting to know each other.

"We need to know each other to work with each other," said Freeman. "They're really funny."

But all jokes aside, plans are already in the work.

WOPLAH recently sent over a document that details various plans and calculates their costs. One of their initiatives includes giving poor women goats, a simple yet effective strategy.

The goat provides steady income from milk and cheese. If times are hard and the women need money quickly, they can sell the goat for fast cash. This security is at the core of a woman's right to safety and autonomy, especially since many of these women currently rely on their husbands for survival. In AIDS-stricken Kenya, not being able to tell your husband to wear a condom because he's your source of food is disastrous for sexual safety.

Projects like this are what make the prospect of GlobeMed at CC so highly anticipated. Through GlobeMed, students can witness an idea that they themselves dreamt up, used, and tested across the planet in real places with real people.

"I feel like outside of class, a lot of students here aren't really engaged," said Freeman. "This is something they can really sink their teeth into."

Now it's up to the students of Colorado College to make it happen.

"I don't just want this to be pre-med students," said Freeman. "I want Sociology majors, English majors, Economics majors, etc. I want this group to be diverse, anybody who is passionate."

If the club is everything Freeman and Phillips hope it will be, then the possibilities are extensive. Phillips hopes to build a program where students can travel to Kenya to work with WOPLAH. The intercollegiate connections with schools like Brown and Columbia could create long-term relationships that would last in the field of global health, even after graduation.



A student gets rowdy in Mathias. Photo by Veronica Spann.

Rowdy first years are business as usual

NEWS

Ellie Cole
Staff Writer

Despite the reported vandalism and two students who were sent to the hospital during new student orientation week, CC officials said there has been nothing out of the ordinary this fall.

Rumor has it that this year's freshman class was rowdier than usual, but according to Paul York, Student Life Specialist for Campus Conduct, and Nicole Fagundo, RLC for Mathias, that's not the case.

That said, everyone must respect each other and their space.

"Freshmen, as well as anyone else residing on campus, are a part of a larger community and need to remember that their actions have effects on others," Fagundo said. "Part of living at CC and

being a part of a residential campus is learning how to positively impact a community, which is something I hope all of our residents strive to do."

Fagundo is in her second year as RLC for Mathias, Arthur, and Jackson. She said her number one priority is keeping students safe and helping them to make responsible choices.

She and York agreed that there was nothing out of the ordinary this year so far in terms of the freshmen. York was part of Residential Life as an RLC before being promoted, and he didn't notice anything different.

Fagundo said to look to the Pathfinder to understand certain parts about CC.

"There are endless amounts of resources on this campus [that] always have student's best interests at heart," Fagundo said.

Discipline will be handled in the same way that it always has been.

"We will continue to hold students accountable to the community values that have been a part of our community for quite some time and we will continue to do so with a focus on the community and what can be learned from every situation," York said.

There are adults to help all students.

"If students have questions or concerns about what they read, please come see me," York said. "My door is always open and I love talking about the great conduct process that CC has in place."

So during the rowdy nights of first block, remember respect.

"Students live as part of a community," York said. "We must all be mindful how our actions and decisions can impact others."

Record numbers of CC grads at TFA

NEWS

Colleen Leong
Guest Writer

For five consecutive years Colorado College has been a top contributor for Teach For America, sending multiple students throughout the country to help assist under serviced populations lacking concrete education.

Each year, well over 45,000 hopeful "corps members" apply for Teach For America's limited spots. At the end of the 2011-2012 academic year, 9 percent of CC's graduating seniors attempted the rigorous application and overall, the college sent 18 graduates to the program joining some 5,800 others.

For five consecutive years, Colorado College has been considered a top contributor of graduates among schools with an undergraduate student body of fewer than 2,999, including Wellesley, Amherst, and DePauw University. Eighty-seven Colorado College alumni have been a part of the organization since its conception in 1990.

"We are so excited that Colorado College made the list of Top Contributors this year with 18 new 2012 corps members," said Avery Seretan from Teach For America in a recent press release. "We know that Colorado College graduates are truly talented leaders, and we're

looking forward to this year's seniors working toward Teach For America's mission to close the achievement gap and to provide children everywhere with an excellent education."

There are currently 10,000 TFA members scattered across the nation in 46 regions in 36 states, including the District of Columbia.

Teachers, who do not necessarily need a certification in teaching, take courses to receive accreditation and work for the organization for a minimum of two years. While at particular schools, they are paid the same salary and given the same benefits of any other district teacher. The goal is to create a lasting impact on the students they come into contact with.

The concept of a disparity of education within the United States is nothing new. Despite taxpayer funded public education available in America, incongruence is still clear. Certain schools in rural and urban areas lack the resources and tools necessary to properly educate their students, disadvantaging many.

Calling this a "solvable problem," Teach For America makes an unprecedented effort to close this disparity of achievement. As their mission statement says, "Although 16 million American children

face the extra challenges of poverty, an increasing body of evidence shows they can achieve at the highest levels."

The non-profit organization employs high-achieving young college graduates and qualified individuals from around the nation to teach at underserved schools in underprivileged areas of the country. The public service organization's aim is to eliminate educational inequality throughout the country in both rural and urban areas and "fuel long-term impact."

The tireless dedication of Teach For America teachers leave lasting impressions on the communities and individuals they touch. Teach for America teachers are in high demand for their quality leadership skills, superior organizational abilities, and belief in the potential of all kids, among others, as reported by their website. As the organization advocates, "Education transforms lives. All kids can succeed when they get a great education."

CC was also ranked 10th among small colleges and universities in the country with alumni service volunteers in the Peace Corps, according to a college press release. In the release the career center recognized student and alumni dedication to service.

10 QUESTIONS

CCSGA President Nathan Lee talks about Colorado Springs, his plans for students, condoms in large dorms, and his favorite party house.

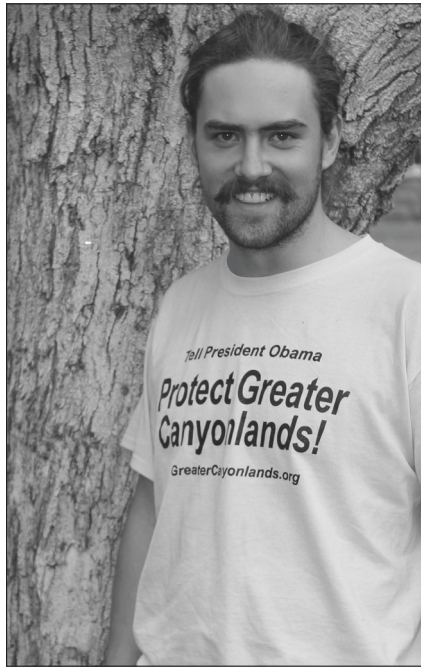


Photo by Teddy Link. Quotes compiled by Brooks Fleet.

1. Why were you interested in running for Student Body President?

Initially, my first thought was just about how much CC has given me and how influential it has been in my life and what I had done to give back. I came to the conclusion that I hadn't done enough and I wanted to be more involved with the decision-making, influencing policy, and just getting to meet some of the great people who work here.

2. What changes would you like to see at CC this year?

There are two big issues, and they're not the only issues. Mental health is a big one and sexual violence is another thing that I'm very passionate about, and just cultivating more of a culture of wellness at Colorado College. I think the creation of Heather Horton's new position is helpful, but having it come from students and be student-driven and having it be the first thing that people hear about once they get back on campus is critical. We need to really kind of shock the freshmen into realizing that there are things for us to work on here and they can be a part of that.

3. How much are you willing to rock the boat on issues that students care about and the administration doesn't want to budge on?

I think it's very situational, obviously. As long as people have an understanding of what the things they are saying really mean, and who are all the different interest groups, I'm very supportive of so-called "rocking the boat" or bringing up tough issues and having difficult conversations with people who might not want to hear these things. But no, I'm not afraid if that's the question.

4. What is your favorite party house?

Traditionally, it was the Twomp, as it was my freshman and sophomore year. I think this year 724 Nevada is going to be where it's at.

5. Is it a problem that students aren't involved in local issues such as local elections?

Yeah, it's obviously an issue. I don't know if it's a value judgment about how involved people are or aren't, but I definitely think we could do more and really be members of the community rather than just being a little pocket of what we are here, not really thinking about the surrounding community.

6. Like a bubble? A lot of people use that word to describe CC.

I didn't use it for that reason.

7. Do you think that they will ever put better condoms in the large dorms?

Who doesn't like the condoms? Well, I think if that's a legitimate student concern then we can probably accomplish a change there.

8. Do you think the position of student trustee and the president's council are actually going to include more student say in administrative decisions?

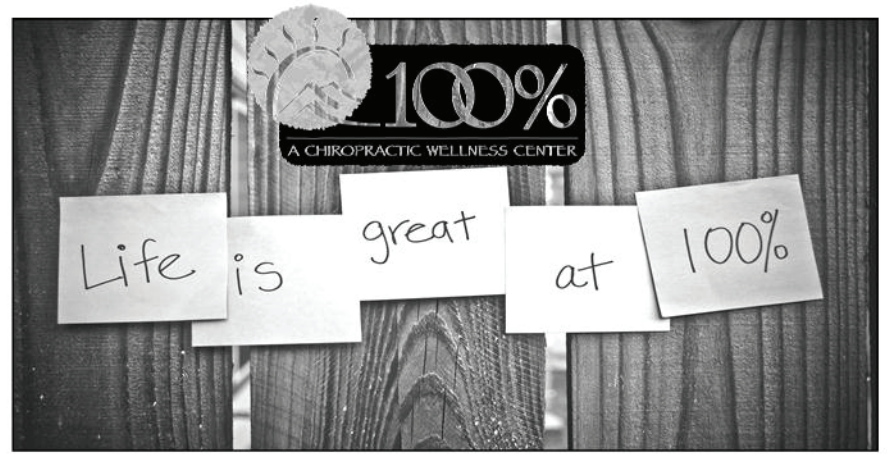
I think it already has. If nothing else, it's changed the way the administration views students, even if it's a small way. I think that even recognizing that the need for these positions exists is something that is an accomplishment and very laudable. In the future I can't predict how much impact they will have, but I would say at this point they have already made at least a small impact.

9. Who will you endorse as President of the United States this election year?

Not Mitt Romney.

10. How would you describe the relationship between CC and Colorado Springs?

"Room for improvement" are three words I would use to describe that. I think the city gets ripped on a lot by the student body, and the term "townie" is a very derogatory term around here, carrying certain negative connotations. But there are a lot of good things in this community.



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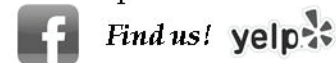


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#CCTOPTWEETS

@JulianMcGinn Yoga Slacklining Fusion Class only at #ColoradoCollege -- 3 days ago

@hobsauce "@overheardatcc: Why is tea always so hot? Fuck that" #cctoptweets -- 3 days ago

@cccarnivoreclub BURGERZ AT CC. IT'S HOT BEHIND THIS GREASE FIRE. -- 7 days ago

@loski_stras It's hard to not glare at that one girl who asks another question at 12:05 #bequiet #letusleave -- 7 days ago

@Lance_Jacobs Wish @ColoradoCollege still had football games to follow! Hopefully in the near future -- 6 days ago

@djarisafari CAN'T BELIEVE that Dan Savage is coming to #cc -- Yesterday

@CCinvestment @ColoradoCollege CC Investment Club is now on twitter! Meetings are the first 3 Tuesdays of every block at 12:15 in Palmer. #Investments -- 2 days ago

@iliketodrewsie Snow up on Pike's I am lovin life -- Yesterday

@bigalhamham Is it bad to change to pass/fail if it's a class for your major? What looks better: a B- or a pass #needadvice -- 2 days ago

@BossmanTeez#youwont@ColoradoCollege -- 11 days ago

@brooksbooks45 I'm dancing to touch my body in the library right now, but my headphones are in so everyone just thinks I am a psycho -- Yesterday

@FALL, Y U NO COME LATER? #iwantsummerback -- Yesterday

Welcome to Life

LIFE

Erica Plumlee

Life Editor

Claire McNellan

Science & Tech Editor

Rebecca Simpson

A&E Editor



Welcome back to The Catalyst. You may have noticed a few changes in the paper this year, both in style and in content. What were previously three separate sections—Features, Arts and Entertainment, and Science—have combined to form the Life section. Between the artists, scientists, writers, poets, musicians, actors, athletes, and above all, thinkers, who make up the Colorado College community, we do some pretty cool things. We, The Catalyst staff, want you, the reader, to know about these things.

The newly renovated Life section will offer a variety of in-depth stories and profiles each week, while also allowing for wide-ranging, transection investigations unified under a weekly theme. From art show previews, book reviews, cooking columns, and performance profiles, to explorations of the scientific and everyday world, we'll tell you what you want to know with the same dedicated coverage you're used to.

Within the Life section, science articles will now fall under a broader title of Science & Tech. These articles will focus on the research and discoveries happening inside the walls of our very own Tutt Science, Olin, and Barnes, by our very own science students and professors. We will also cover the broader scientific community's discoveries that impact the Colorado Springs and Colorado College communities most directly.

All things Arts and Entertainment will also be included in the Life section. Here you can look for the latest happenings in Packard, Cornerstone, Cossitt, and Armstrong, in addition to the local Colorado Springs and Denver art scene.

We'll keep you interested. We'll keep you informed. We'll keep it real. Want to write for us? Want to tell us what you think? E-mail me at erica.plumlee@coloradocollege.edu.

Pop musician Beck to release new album as sheet music

LIFE

Meg McDermott
Guest Writer

Two weeks ago, singer-songwriter Beck Hansen, more commonly referred to as "Beck," announced that his highly anticipated 11th album will be released solely as sheet music.

When the aptly titled "Hansen's Song Reader" is released on Dec. 7, Beck will become the first pop artist of this generation to produce an album without a studio recording.

In a statement made on the musician's website, "The songs here are as unfailingly exciting as you'd expect from their author, but if you want to hear 'Do We? We Do,' or 'Don't Act Like Your Heart Isn't Hard,' bringing them to life depends on you."

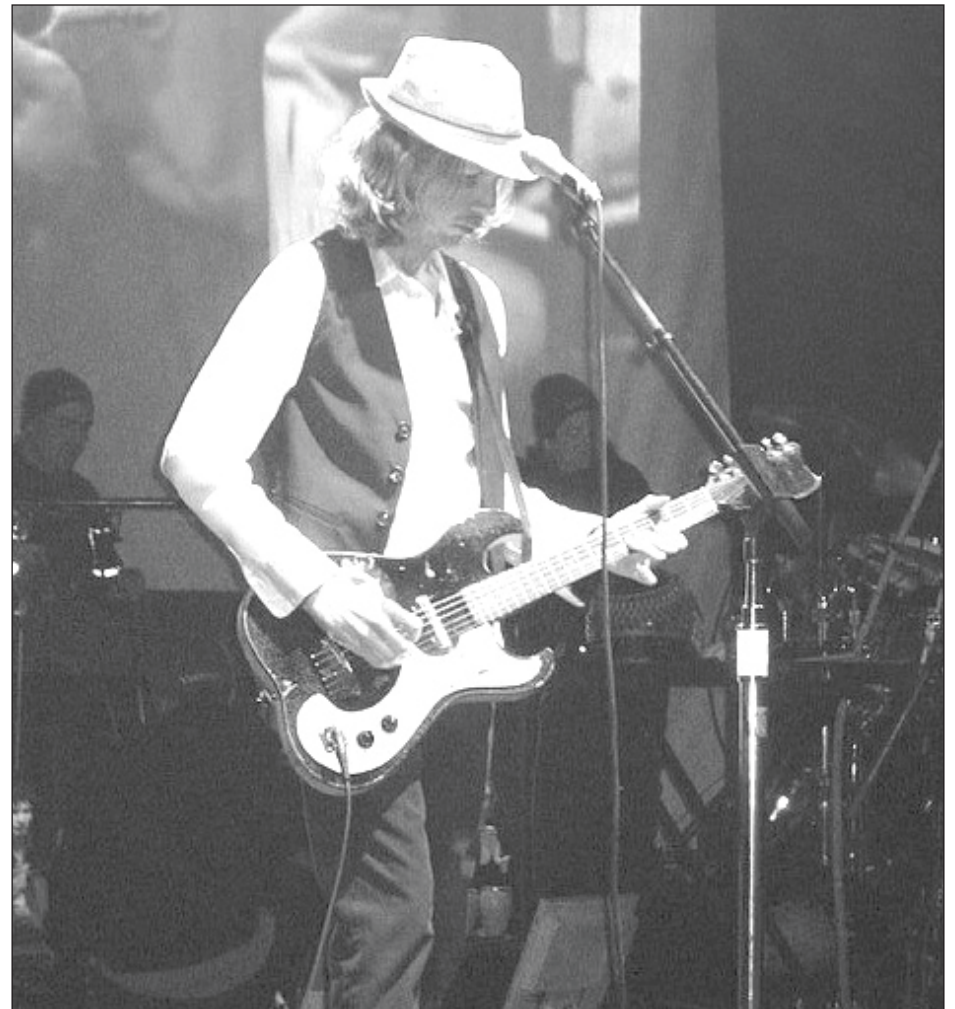
Releasing an album without a studio recording is both innovative and challenging for music lovers and the music industry as a whole. The songbook requires group participation to hear each number as it is composed and promotes consumption through live, active performance.

The Song Reader allows musicians to develop personal renditions, free of Beck's auditory influence; however, for many amateur musicians, the original performance is the greatest motivation for learning the music in the first place.

Senior Music Major, Harriet Jacobs, remarked that in "Hansen's Song Reader," "music is up for interpretation to an extent, but I think it is also important to respect the artist's interpretation of his own music."

It is yet to be seen whether fans will ever hear Beck's version, however, Jacobs highlights a more blaring fact: "Not all listeners can read music so this will attract only a certain group of musicians, not the general listening population as a whole."

Another issue is raised with this songbook in the mere price. The presale price is \$34, or \$50 for a signed copy. Not only will a Beck fan have to have the skill to play the pieces, he or she will also have to pay the price. To a generation that has become accustomed to free recorded and printed music, it is a risky venture by Beck to trust that curiosity and fan fol-



Photos courtesy of Creative Commons

lowing will be enough to drive sales.

Junior David Harris plays guitar recreationally and finds most of his tabs free online. "It is kind of expensive for music I might not be able to play," he said. "I would want to know a lot more about it" before investing in the album.

Unfortunately, due to shrinking budgets in Colorado College's music library, Beck's newest endeavor will unlikely become a part of the collection. However, music librarian Daryl Stevens offers a different perspective on the nature of this album.

Stevens feels that it is part of the performance to learn a piece of music despite having heard it in advance. She made the comparison that "people wouldn't think twice about seeing a movie that they've never seen before," and that Beck's new

album is a creative way to promote the making of new music.

"Hansen's Song Reader," a 108-page, hard cover album will include 20 individual song booklets as well as illustrations by Marcel Dzama and Leanne Shapton. Although no original recordings by Beck will be available, McSweeney's, the song book's publisher, announced the artist's website will feature recordings by Beck's friends as well as fans.

Above all, the release of "Hansen's Song Reader" illustrates the artistic freedom musicians still hold within today's threatened music industry. While its financial success is questionable, Beck continues to demonstrate his lack of fear and progressive attitude towards singing and songwriting.



Tutt tunnel vision: New direction for student art on campus

A&E

Meg McDermott
Guest Writer

Last spring, an open invitation from campus administrators encouraged students to freely decorate the tunnel underneath Tutt Library; however, it quickly became an array of slanderous chaos. This resulted in a suspension of the project and the concealment of the tunnel's façade.

"Facilities started finding graffiti on buildings and sidewalks," said Student Life Specialist Bethany Grubbs.

Despite the requests to all students to respect the boundaries of the new venue for artistic expression, graffiti spread outside of the tunnel to the buildings and sidewalks. The administration saw the extraneous graffiti as vandalism and deemed the project unsuccessful.

The issue of designating a space for

open creativity is not new to the Campus Activities staff.



Photo by Sam Zarky

"There was a contest where students submitted ideas that were approved by a committee and the art in the tunnel then stayed up for a few years,"

said Associate Dean of Students Rochelle Mason.

Almost 10 years ago, former art student Collin Hu led a group of peers in a commissioned project to memorialize the tragedy of 9/11. Both Mason and Grubbs recall this particular mural as significant.

Following the 9/11 mural, the administration commissioned vibrant ants to be painted by art students the walls of the tunnel. These ants were painted over before last spring's initiative to turn the tunnel into a space for open expression.

Grubbs said, "I don't believe we were clear enough in presenting [the idea], and people took advantage" of the leniency the project offered. She said the school is not opposed to using this tunnel as a space for artistic demonstration.

In the future, the procedure for students to paint the tunnel will involve a formal proposal. The administration is reverting to past policies to ensure future murals fall within the parameters of the project and that the content is appropriate.

The past murals serve as a reminder to both Mason and Grubbs that the space has potential to be a beautiful

venue for students' art on campus.

"I think it would be worth revisiting as a space for a mural contest," Mason said.

Grubbs expressed interest in collaborating with the art department to explore ideas for a commissioned mural.

"We would be happy to reach out to the art department to coordinate another contest," she said. "However, we would have to make future art projects much more structured and give the projects appropriate oversight."

Art Department professor Carl Reed believes that the lack of uniform campus design at CC is a chance for students to artistically capture the spirit of the Rocky Mountain setting.

"At this time there seems to be no coherent, overarching campus design direction at CC," Reed said. "As a result, one can view the situation as an exciting free-for-all with different individuals approving or initiating projects that reflect their personal tastes, and thereby symbolizing the rugged individualism that 'won the West.'"

For now, the administration is putting the failed freewheeling expression behind them and is looking forward to a future of rich and regulated immortalization of student work.



Photo by Sam Zarky

Margaret Atwood comes to CC for Visiting Writer's Series

A&E

Ming Lee Newcomb
Guest Writer



Courtesy of Colorado College website

Tonight at 7 p.m. in Shove Chapel, Margaret Atwood will be kicking off the Visiting Writer's Series for the school year and talking about her most recent novel, "The Year of the Flood."

Atwood is a prolific Canadian writer best known for her novels but is also an acclaimed author of poetry, short stories, non-fiction, children's literature, and essays.

Her latest novel takes place in a post-apocalyptic world and focuses on a community that has survived a biological catastrophe.

"The Year of the Flood" received the honor of the All Pikes Peak Reads book selection this year and the Pikes Peak Library and Demarest Lloyd Lecture Fund for the Humanities have collaborated in bringing the author to Colorado College.

"Really, the Pikes Peak Library came to us and asked if we wanted to collaborate in bringing Margaret Atwood to the Springs and we said yes," said Steven Hayward, English Department

professor, on booking the internationally-renowned writer.

Hayward elaborated on Atwood's importance as a literary presence in the contemporary age. "[Atwood] is really one of the most essential and indispensable voices of our time," he said. It's impossible to overstate her accomplishment, both as a popular author and a critical success."

One aspect of Atwood's literature that is appealing to many audiences is her often dark and frighteningly realistic constructions of society.

"I would describe Atwood's genre as dystopian literature. Kind of fantasy or sci-fi, but realistic enough to draw connections between the worlds she creates and our culture," Haley Montgomery, a junior excited to attend the lecture, said.

Junior Matthew Potter expressed the importance of the topics Atwood focuses on in her writing. "She is a contemporary author who we all can learn from," he said.

Atwood's lecture is sure to be as educational and engaging as her writing. According to Hayward, her lecture will likely involve an unforgettable reading from "The Year of the Flood." However, it is probable she will expand her talk to touch on relevant social issues, especially environmentalism.

Atwood's lecture will not be the first by an internationally recognized author at Colorado College. In the past, the English department and program has secured the likes of Kay Ryan, the former U.S. poet laureate, and Jonathan Lethem, a premiere American author.

"We've had some really great writers in recent years," Hayward said of past participants in the series. Hayward stressed the upcoming school year's Visiting Writer's Series as truly something "to look forward to."

Atwood is currently working on the third installment of her trilogy in the "Oryx and Crake" universe, the same universe where "The Year of the Flood" takes place. The novel, "Maddadam," will be released next year.



These photos depict the battle firefighters faced during the Waldo Canyon Fire in Colorado Springs this summer. Men and women from throughout the country flooded to the Pikes Peak region in order to protect homes, people and the land from the vicious wildfire that threatened communities along the front range. Photos courtesy of USDA/US Air Force. Rights were provided by Deputy Director of Communications of the United States Department of Agriculture.



Learning to coexist with wildfires

Continued from page 1

beings began influencing forest ecology, low-intensity ground wildfires burned herbaceous shrubs, grass, and saplings, decreasing the density of the forests.

Due to human prevention of ecological succession, or natural cycles of re-growth, the saplings developed into woody pines in high density, which led to the large-scale fires in dense tree stands that occurred in Waldo Canyon. As a result, forests lost the ability to naturally mitigate their populations, essentially creating a ladder system of fuels that led to dangerous crown fires located in the upper canopies of the pine forests.

Many tree species also have evolved serotinous cones and deeply rooted buds that only release under extremely high temperatures. Additionally, Aspen trees are adapted to wildfire ecology through rhizomes, or stems rooted deep in the earth. These adaptations allow vegetation to begin anew, but wildfire must be

present.

Due to the high probability of large stand fires coupled with the ideal climate conditions, including high temperatures, variable afternoon winds, low humidity, and drought, the Waldo Canyon Fire quickly evolved into a serious threat.

Andrew Notbohm, a member of the Wildfire Mitigation Section of the Colorado Springs Fire Department, described the onset of the fire as, "a large plume-driven fire that produced a large convective column of gas and heat during the day. When the wind came in the afternoon the firebrands and embers were emitted and spread as surface fires and it is probable that these firebrands ignited homes."

These tragic events destroyed the historic Flying W Ranch and many homes along Majestic and Courtney Dr. by creating surface fires, which enkindled the roofs that Notbohm stated are "the most

flammable part of any home."

By the time the Waldo Canyon Fire spewed a gasping final breath, over 300 homes had burned. In the aftermath, fire professionals like Notbohm began assisting families and working towards mitigating future fires.

As more research is conducted into wildfire science and forest ecology, the prevention of wildfires has changed to emphasize the management of their behavior through active involvement in the environment.

Marc Snyder, an ecologist and professor of biology at CC, believed that "actively decreasing forest densities and instituting [a] long-term policy of fire suppression would result in a reduction of fuel sources and the intensity of wildfires." He also encouraged the "controlled burning of small, low-frequency ground fires, which would naturally reduce the density of forests and produce spatial dispersion patterns that are more

representative of a natural pine forest."

Wildfires are bound to happen, but if we can learn to control how they burn, it benefits our community and our ecosystem.

The future of wildfire mitigation and prevention involves communication and cooperation between the fire professionals, the forest service, researchers, and, most importantly, our community. Emergency events that endanger our friends, family, and human beings in general create opportunities to come together to take action.

Wildfires are a natural occurrence, something that can never truly be controlled by human beings. Our proximity to magnificent forestry is, no doubt, one of the most wonderful things about living in Colorado Springs, but in exchange, we must continue to further our understanding of the natural cycles and needs of the environment that surrounds us.



"I remember getting a call from my wife who was in the Woodland Park area. It was then that I realized how close to the city the fires really were."

Billy Porter, Campus Safety

"Watching the news after evacuating the west side of town was overwhelming because I never thought my house would actually burn down, and that night I came to conclusion that the entire subdivision was gone. You never think that something tragic would happen to you and your family until it happens, and you feel like it's just a movie. The firefighters did an amazing job and they saved so many homes. We all thought the entire Mountain Shadows area would be gone and it was a miracle that so much was salvaged."

Kaeli Vandersluis
CC student, victim of the fires

"The sun behind the smoke clouds gave off an orange-pink, almost salmon color. On the upside, it was quite beautiful."

Michele Wright, works at Meininger Art Store

"A lot of locals who have lived here for a while say it used to rain at 3 p.m. every day like clockwork. It has gotten a lot dryer recently. On a global scale, the Springs will recover fine. There are four million in Bangladesh [who are] homeless from flooding. We need to put it in perspective."

John Knight
Owner of Heebie Jeebies Tattoo

"I remember the helicopters dropping wood chips to prevent erosion, but on the day that it rained the flooding was really bad. The river turned black."

"[Firefighters are] modern day heroes. I would like to marry all of them."

Lorelei Beckstrom, local artist

"Watching it play out was pretty horrifying. There was a lot of coverage but a lack of specificity, especially when it got really bad, as to what exactly had been burned, like specific houses, etc. It was crazy how bad it got so quickly. The first Saturday it started, I could see it from my house, just a small plume of smoke. But by Sunday, things had gotten really bad and due to a wind shift it started growing miles in just minutes. The smoke was terrible, not so bad during the first couple of days but by Tuesday (the day of doom pretty much). It was horrible. When I was evacuating from my house the smoke was across the whole city. The smoke and ash was everywhere and just being outside for a couple of minutes you could tell. It also smelled like a BBQ."

Kendall Kultgen, CC student, Colorado Springs Native

FIRE TIMELINE

At about noon on Sat., June 23, 911-emergency centers in the Pikes Peak region began receiving frantic calls from citizens about smoke billowing above the Garden of the Gods and Pikes Peak.

In a matter of hours evacuations began and the fire suddenly grew in all directions. Officials began briefing the media and one of the worst natural disasters in Colorado's history was just a matter of minutes into an eight-day battle that claimed 346 homes, two lives, and thousands upon thousands of acres of land.

Below is The Catalyst's Twitter coverage timeline of the fire through local media sources, showing a minute-by-minute account of what happened during those long days and nights where Colorado Springs found itself under siege.

@TheGazette Have not heard anything, issues not in that area RT @jfelisko downtown metro Colorado Springs and Colorado College area facing evac warnings? -- 27 Jun

@CatalystNews Reports say 100 homes were lost last night in the fire. Colorado College campus is still safe, though debris has fallen on campus. -- 27 Jun

@pauleberry Estimated cost to date of #WaldoCanyonFire: \$3.2 million -- 28 Jun

@CatalystNews CC says campus is safe -- air quality is good. Rumors in the Springs say fire may not be contained fully for a month. 350+ homes destroyed. -- 28 Jun

@TheGazette WALDO CANYON FIRE: One body found in rubble <http://ubin.cc/KF-gTWx> -- 28 Jun

@TheGazette WALDO CANYON FIRE: One dead, 347 homes destroyed <http://ubin.cc/N0Hv6u> -- 28 Jun

@SpringsGov Investigators seeking info on cause of #WaldoCanyonFire, anyone in the WCanyon or Pyramid Mtn area 6/22 call (719)477-4205, leave name/# -- 29 Jun

@TheGazette RECAP: #WaldoCanyonFire at 17,659 acres; 1,534 firefighters; 45% containment; \$8.8M cost; several evacs lifted; cause still unknown -- 30 Jun

@CatalystNews WALDO CANYON FIRE AT 100% CONTAINMENT -- 10 Jul

@kktv11news CSPD: "The fire started within 3 miles of Waldo Canyon Trailhead... we know it was human caused." #waldocanyonfire -- 12 Sep

Graduating class set to be most unemployed in decades

COMMENT & DEBATE

Sam Smith
ComDeb Editor

Colorado College is far from invincible when it comes to the

youth unemployment crisis. According to Georgetown's 2012 report on youth unemployment, the unemployment rate for Liberal Arts graduates is 1.3 percent higher than the national unemployment rate. The New York Times reported recently that the 16.4 percent unemployment rate for those under the age of 25 was more than double the nation's overall unemployment rate. But the fact far more immediate and alarming is that over 53 percent of last year's college graduates are still unemployed today. In other words, fewer than half of 2012's graduating class found work.

It can be argued, however, that the Colorado College class of 2013 is a class comprised of extraordinary individuals who will use their fantastic work ethic and spirit of determination to overcome the awful job market. It is true that a few already have some impressive positions lined up. For example, Sociology major Sara Bodner will be working for the U.S. Attorney's office in Manhattan. Just like any other CC graduating class, the class of 2013 is made up of hundreds of people from across the country and around the world. The vast majority come from upper-class families willing to lend at least a little support after graduation. It's hard to imagine a single CC grad will be homeless or hungry at a time when, according to the U.S. Department of Agriculture, one in six Americans are struggling with hunger (an all-time high of sixteen 16 percent of Americans are on food stamps.)

But the reality is this: many CC seniors will graduate unemployed. Many of those people will stay unemployed for years to come. This is a reality that may worsen or, by some miracle, brighten in the next eight months. Despite the declining unemployment rate, more Americans are jobless now than at any other point in history. As the Associ-

Over 53 percent of last year's college graduates are still unemployed today. In other words, fewer than half of last year's college graduates found work.

Sam Smith

ated Press reported last week, the unemployment rate fell to 8.1 percent in August from 8.3 percent in July. As the AP stated, "that was only because more people gave up looking for jobs. People who are out of work are counted as unemployed only if they're looking for a job." The longer one goes without a job, the more likely he or she is to remain jobless and give up looking for work. Last month, over 96,000 people gave up in America. However, most people do not stop searching even though those who are "long-term unemployed" are very unlikely to find work. In order to be considered "long-term unemployed," one must be out of work for 27 weeks and still be actively seeking a job. There are 6.7 million people who fit this category - the highest ever in American history. The highest number of people who were "long-term unemployed" at any point under Bush was just 2.6 million



Illustration by Teddy Benson

after the stock market crashed in 2008.

The number of American citizens counted as part of the labor force is at its lowest rate since the 70s- just 63.6 percent. Aside from all those who are either unemployed or who have given up looking for work and there are many people who are jobless that are often forgotten or not accounted for. The United States has more citizens per capita in prisons than any country on earth. These people are not considered unemployed, but instead counted as "incarcerated." The United States also has one of the worst homeless rates in the developed world. In cities like New York, one in forty children are homeless. According to YSOP (Youth Service Opportunities Project), 1 in 20 New York City residents have experiences homelessness. Moreover, 1 in 48 Americans are currently homeless. According to research by Washington University in St. Louis, homeless Americans are not counted as unemployed because "to be officially counted as unemployed, you must have an address."

But how do CC graduates fare? According to the Georgetown report, recent graduates with Healthcare and Education majors had a 5.4 percent unemployment rate compared to a 9.4 percent unemployment rate for Liberal Arts and Humanities majors. The unemployment rate for recent liberal

arts graduates is also higher than it is for graduates in business or engineering. According to Georgetown numbers, the unemployment rate for people with graduate school degrees is just three percent because "those degrees are more closely aligned with career pathways in particular occupations and industries." Still, The Denver Post recently reported that seniors at colleges in Colorado are looking for work earlier in the year and applying to a record number of jobs. These college seniors are facing the highest youth unemployment rates in well over a decade.

There is no point in making the reality of the situation seem uplifting when there is not a single positive sign that the youth unemployment crisis is slowing. To all the Colorado College seniors reading this: you are not invincible. You may end up being unemployed, no matter how hard you try to avoid that reality. As for juniors and underclassmen, there is no indication that times will be better when you graduate. It's likely you will be facing a job market even worse than today's. The Democrats and Republicans in DC, with their historically awful congressional approval rating of just 9 percent, are not interested in making the lives of young Americans and everyday working people any easier. The most powerful and influential people in

both business and government are interested in making the lives of the 1 percent easier and more luxurious at the expense of the 99 percent. So, the only point of optimism for CC students is that most of you are in that one percent. But most millionaires in America are millionaires for less than a year. So even if you are rich or have a rich family, there is no reason to be comfortable. Instead, we should all adopt Michelle Obama's way of thinking. She said in her incredible DNC speech, "Success is not measured by how much money you make but how much of a difference you make in other people's lives." So, if you end up unemployed, broke, and reliant on your parents, try not to think about your own suffering, but think about how you can help others. A New York Times Week in Review article from August explained how the key to happiness is giving. Instead of wallowing in your own plight if times get tough, keep your head up and remember to love those around you.

And perhaps most importantly, enjoy college while it lasts. Just ask your parents and professors - it doesn't get much better than this. Work hard and play even harder. We are all lucky to go to a school as enriching as this.

Bad behavior is bad behavior: "I was blackout" is still no excuse

COMMENT & DEBATE

Jorge Rivera
Guest Writer

The following article was published in *The Catalyst*

almost a year ago. I decided to resubmit it as I think its content is as applicable today as it was back then. The article was written in response to remarks made by a student who was found guilty of violating CC's Sexual Misconduct Policy. I have edited his name out so that it doesn't distract the readers from the main message I have tried to convey. The original title for this piece was "I was blackout' is no excuse."

Society went to shit when we decided

I am by no means against alcohol. I am against alcohol being an accepted alibi for our inability to control our sexual desires. It is a sad fact about our society: we are pleasure driven.

Jorge Rivera

that anything and everything was excusable after a few too many drinks. "It was one night when I was blackout drunk and it came to bite me in the ass," said a student in an interview with *The Catalyst*, after being found guilty of violating CC's Sexual Misconduct Policy last year. Being blackout drunk, or any type of drunk, is not a valid justification for sexual misconduct. Behaving stupidly and irresponsibly is only your fault. However, when you harm other people in the process, you are committing an indefensible act. The saddest part of it all is that it seems people at CC often condone this type of behavior.

Call it hook-up culture, casual relationships, sexual exploration, or simply "being a college student." It has led us to believe that it is perfectly admissible to see people as potential targets in our drunken hunt for pleasure. It is almost as if there could actually be an acceptable disconnect between who we are when we are sober and who we are when we are drunk. Is it that everything magically becomes valid because "we don't really know what we are doing" once we start indulging in those sweet Friday drinks? That student was not the first, and certainly won't be the last, to use this pathetic excuse. Yet while talking with one of the women who was interviewed for an article about his expulsion, I realized that the way our community perceives alcohol and sexuality plays an immense role in the persistence of this disgraceful problem. She made me realize that it isn't just alcohol – it is culture as well. Many of her ideas inspired this article.

I believe most people would readily declare that sexual misconduct is wrong. We perceive ourselves as beings that are above that type of shameful behavior. And most people probably are, at least when sober. I don't intend to argue that our community has a messed-up moral compass in which abuse, unwanted sexual contact, or rape is something acceptable, but rather that alcohol is too often used as an excuse for these actions.

The problem is that some moral lines seem to blur when alcohol is involved. Of course, I don't think alcohol is the only cause of this infuriating problem.

I am by no means against alcohol. I am against alcohol being an accepted alibi for our inability to control our sexual desires.

It is a sad fact about our society: we are pleasure driven. Of course, this wouldn't be entirely bad, if only the potential of harming ourselves and others didn't exist. Think for a second about how many times you have gone out to party with one thing in mind: getting some. At that point, pleasure becomes the goal, people become the means, and alcohol a tool. We stop looking for the most interesting or best-looking person, and focus on finding who's most willing to give us pleasure. They become an object, they stop counting as people. We stop caring about their feelings and opinions, so long as they satisfy us.

Even if this Friday or Saturday night's interaction seems perfectly consensual, it isn't. Our judgment is bound to be impaired if we are drunk. And that is if we are conscious enough to make a judgment in the first place. Abnormal or extreme behavior is born through the desensitization that comes with perceiving drunken hook-ups and alcohol-driven encounters as the norm. It isn't wrong to have fun and give and receive pleasure. What's wrong is to use alcohol as a tool to disrespect and disregard the emotions of others for the sake of getting some. We are not talking about inanimate objects. We are talking about real people, with real feelings.

We wouldn't normally break the boundaries of personal space and choice. We also wouldn't normally be so bold about our sexual intentions with random people. That is why alcohol becomes our best friend in this pursuit of pleasure. It becomes our "confidence booster," our "encouraging friend," our reason to leave inhibitions behind. It also becomes our pitiful excuse when we fuck up and are not ready to grow up and take responsibility for our actions.

What if it was an accident? What if both people were equally drunk, but the other person regrets it in the morning? They are indeed challenging questions. They are difficult dilemmas that make sexual misconduct such a tricky subject. Yet, what are we doing as a community to minimize the chances of those questions arising? Potential offenders won't be discouraged if we continue to see "accidental sex" or "unclearly consensual sex" as a side risk of partying and socializing.

I have an issue with people being so accepting of drunken debauchery. I have an issue with people accepting abuses of trust and respect when alcohol is involved. There are certain behaviors that are simply never tolerable. Sexual misconduct, in any form and to any degree, is one of them.

Let's wake up and realize that alcohol should never be an excuse. After all, many of the things we do when we are drunk have crossed our minds when we are sober. Let's wake up and realize that this alcohol-driven sex scene only fosters the type of behavior we are bound to regret. There is more to life and pleasure than inebriated excess.

Find extended content online at www.catalystnewspaper.com



Illustration by Teddy Benson

The argument against the no solicitation ordinance

COMMENT & DEBATE

Pat Knecht
Guest Writer

The Colorado Springs Mayor, City Attorney, City Council,

and *The Gazette* are currently advocating for a proposal that would make solicitation illegal in various parts of the city. Or, in other words, they are attempting to legislate our behavior and choices.

They have targeted the locations where our community's homeless tend to reside – the downtown area and the west side of the city – in order to prevent them from asking for a little money, food, or a blanket in the winter time.

Their argument depends upon the belief that homeless people detract from our city's aesthetic value, safety, and economic potential.

The City of Colorado Springs has shown its willingness to do whatever it takes to push out the indigent members of the community – even if its actions raise questions about civil rights and responsibilities.

The Colorado College Student Government Association (CCSGA) is very concerned about several of these recent initiatives. In the past two years, we have witnessed our city take extraordinary measures that made life increasingly difficult for our most vulnerable demographic, the homeless.

We have witnessed a ban on camping in public places, a drastic reduction in vital municipal services (including the end of the FREX bus service to Denver), the installation of security cameras downtown, and now this – an attempt to restrain free speech by criminalizing solicitation.

The CCSGA supports initiatives that aim to further strengthen and build our community, and it is evident that this piece of legislation will only further divide it along socio-economic and ideological lines. Regardless of the specific language of the

proposal, we view this as a continuation of a political effort to marginalize community members who do not meet some arbitrary standards of social fluency.

The Colorado Springs Attorney and former counsel to Colorado College, Chris Melcher, is in control of the development of the legislation, and claims that the language used to define "solicitation" will be able to withstand any legal challenges. It is therefore absolutely vital that the City Council does not approve this ordinance.

The CCSGA is asking all members of the Colorado College community to immediately write letters to the City Attorney, City Council members, and the mayor's office, discouraging them from continuing this initiative. Additionally, we ask that you write letters to the editors of *The Gazette* demanding fair and balanced coverage of the issue.

Most importantly, the proposed ordinance will be unveiled to the public on Tuesday, Oct. 9 at 1 p.m. on the third floor of City Hall.

This is the only day that the public has a forum for commentary, as the Council will be voting on the measure the same day. Thus, it is imperative that Colorado College students, staff, faculty, and supporters join the CCSGA at this meeting and demand that the City Council discards this rotten ordinance. The complete schedule of the proceedings is available on the city's website, Springsgov.com.

We hope that you will consider this course of action and reflect on the state of the city that Colorado College calls home. We do not want to live in a place that continually shows that it has little regard for the dignity and value of its poverty-stricken members. Being poor is not a crime. Join the CCSGA in opposing this ordinance.

Visit sites.coloradocollege.edu/ccsga/ for a deeper look into CCSGA stances.

On Peyton Manning

MCKENNA ANALYSIS

Henry McKenna
Sports Editor


Peyton Manning is officially the best regular season

quarterback in the history of football. On Sunday, Peyton Manning, the Broncos quarterback, (not he-who-must-not-be-named, who plays on the hands team for the New York Jets, thank g*d), beat the division rivals, Steelers.

More importantly, he was the youngest player to ever reach 400 touchdowns.

First off, I'm not even going to mention Elway, who isn't in the 400 club, as comparing the new hero to the old hero would get messy.

Second, I don't care that Brett Favre had the longest starting streak in history (a record that will never be broken). Does that make him a better quarterback? Definitely not. Peyton beat Brett to the 400 club by 20 games. (He also beat Brett in the commercial contest, by not appearing in Wrangler Jeans advertisements...)

Sure, Brett has 508 TDs, but the guy played until everyone was sure that he would be the first player to ever break in half on the field (a title that Michael Vick is vying for). He also has 909,020,234 interceptions (editor's note: 336). Favre also tarnished his reputation by playing the will-I-won't-I retirement game, and then never living up to the media circus that he created. I've got Proud Peyton over Brett the sex(t) offender, every time.

And third comes Marino, who Peyton beat to the 400 Club in 19 fewer games. The knock on Marino is that he never won a Super Bowl. Despite leaving them with the curse of the great Bambino (editors note: Marino), he was a god in Miami, (editors note: 17 quarterbacks have started for Miami since Marino). In fact, he was likely the greatest quarterback to never win a Super Bowl. So he should have an inside track to the title of best regular season quarterback... right? This is definitely a close one. I cannot use irrelevant things, like fake retirements or speculation over whether he sent a picture of his dangle to convince you, because Dan was, and is, a classy guy. Hell, he was even in an Ace Ventura movie. That's hilarious. Also, he only had one 1,000-yard rusher in his backfield over the span of his whole career.

But Peyton, at 142 wins, is within reach of passing Marino's 147 wins this season. In doing so, he has easily trumped Marino's winning percentage, with 67.9 percent to Marino's 61.3 percent which is giant, considering how many games they have played (thanks to Wikipedia for all of these killer statistics, I'm glad professors are coming to terms with the idea that Wikipedia is omniscient). Peyton is within reach of all of these records, and without jinxing the part of his body that was under question (knock on wood), I am confident that he will surpass Marino, and Elway's 148 wins (man, is that going to be an awkward post-game celebration). So let's just do it. Let's just give Peyton the crown now. He deserves it.

Climbing above the fire



Smoke rising from the destructive Waldo Canyon fire. Photo courtesy of Chris Dickson

Continued from News page 1

I was planning on bolting the climb a day before the Waldo Canyon fire, and William's Canyon got hit hard because it is one canyon over from Waldo. I

was devastated that I could not bolt that week, but I figured that the canyon would open up by the time school started.

A few weeks ago, Jack Fields (a Col-

orado College alumnus) was hiking in William's Canyon and received a \$2,500 fine for being there. He also found out that the canyon was not opening back up for another six years. This means that my wall will not be bolted until after I am long gone from Colorado Springs, and I will probably never climb the wall that I have been dreaming about for so long.

Along with William's Canyon, the Waldo Canyon fire also closed down all of Rampart Range Road, which has been an access way for climbers since the '70s. Some of the best areas on the road are Parachute Rock, Devil's Head, Scorpio Crack, Jackson Creek, Split Rock, The Taj Mahal, and Cabin Ridge Rock. I know many people who were excited to get on the famous Scorpio crack or the super classic overhanging hand crack at Parachute rock, and now they have to wait for six years before they even have the chance.

What makes six years a particularly long time is that it is longer than a college degree, and for a climbing community that has a tradition of passing on knowledge about local climbing areas, this can be truly detrimental for the Colorado College climbing community further into the future than just six years.

Alpine adventures in the Bugaboos

RITT ADVENTURES
Chris Dickson
Guest Writer

In mid-August, John Collis, David Fay, Leland Krych and I

embarked on an epic journey to British Columbia in search of an alpine climbing experience on high-quality granite in a breathtaking environment.

Our destination, Bugaboo Provincial Park, provided all that and more. Attracting climbers from all over the globe, the Park is situated in the Purcell Mountains and consists of huge, monolithic granite spires that erupt from the surrounding glaciers. The area is adventurous and rife with all sorts of alpine challenges such as crevasses, bergschrunds, rock falls, and inclement weather. However, upon arriving to the Bugs, we were blessed with a week-long forecast of bluebird skies, so we quickly got to climbing.

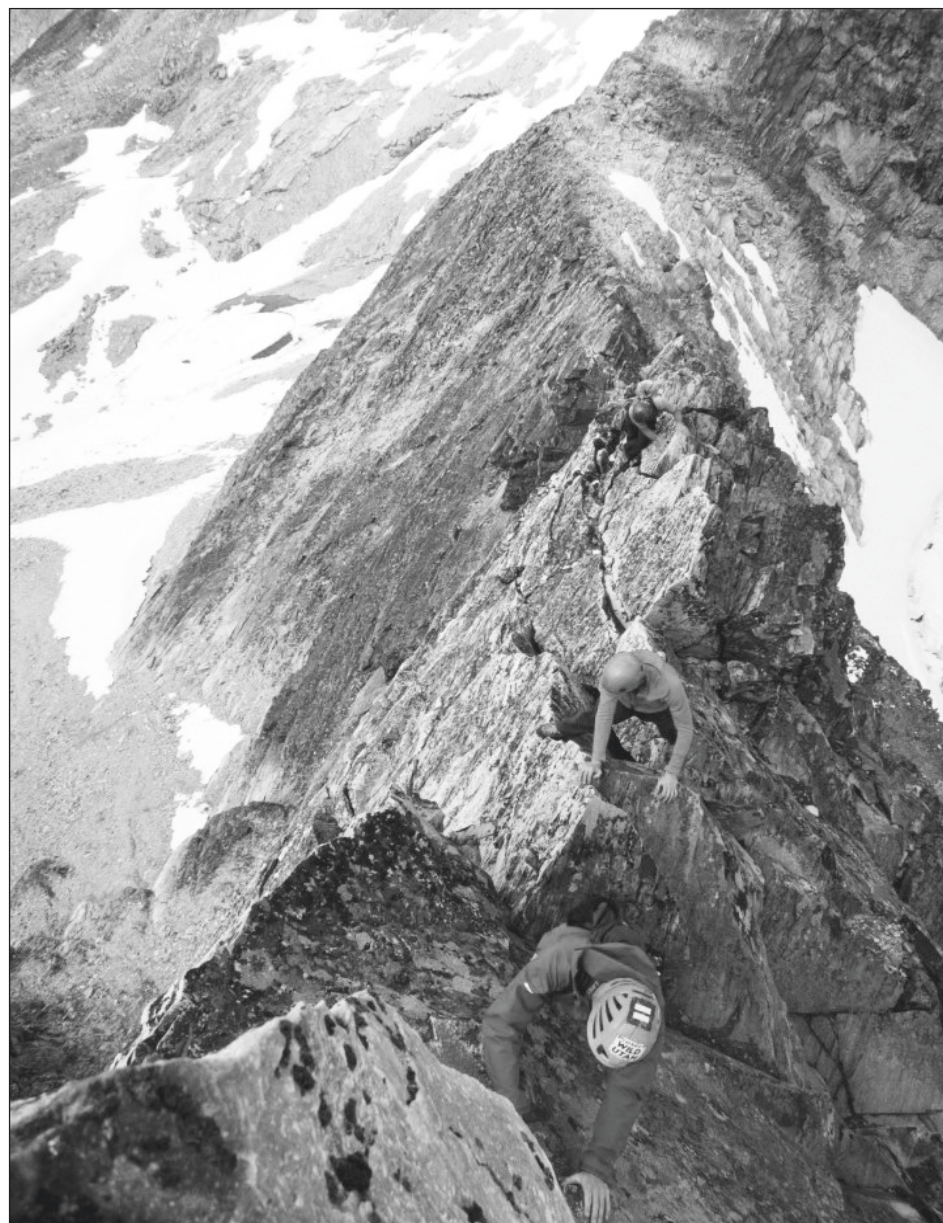
After ticking off a number of the classic routes (including an ultra-light, fast and free ascent of the West Ridge of Pigeon Spire), we narrowed our focus on the infamous Beckey-Chouinard Route on the South Howser Tower. The climb is an all-day event, requiring a long and treacherous glacial approach followed by 2,000 ft of 5.10 climbing. An updated weather forecast informed us we only had two more days of good weather, so we made a run for it.

We quickly left base camp and trekked the two miles across the Vowell Glacier to reach a cramped bivy underneath a large boulder where we would "sleep" for the night. The next morning we awoke at 3:30 a.m., brewed a quick pot of coffee and departed for the climb, navigating around crevasses in the dark to get an early start on the climb. After some initial difficulties

on the approach, we reached the base of climb and I immediately called "Dibs!" on leading the first technical pitch, a beauti-

ful hand-sized crack through a bulging roof.

More Ritt anecdotes on pages 14-15



David Fay, Leland Krych, and Chris Dickson scaled various peaks in British Columbia. Photo by John Collis

Interested in editing? The Catalyst is currently looking for an Active and Outdoor Lifestyle editor. E-mail catalyst@coloradocollege.edu for more information.

Women's soccer mid-season review

SPORTS

Katy Stetson
Guest Writer

School is back in session and the women's soccer team is ready to pick up the pace.

Led by captains Marika Viragh, Hannah Peterson and Kelly Browne, the Lady Tigers started their season with a 3-1-3 record.

Because only two seniors graduated last year, there is a lot of familiar talent to see down on Stewart Field, including eight returning starters and 20 returning letter winners.

Among the top point producers are sophomore Kaeli Vandersluis, senior Brittney Lyman, and sophomore Jessie

Ayers. Defensive key players include senior Kelly Browne, junior Sierra Keebler, and Kecia Morway, a junior transfer from Notre Dame.

Along with Jessie in the midfield, senior Hannah Peterson, and junior Madison Whitehead are key in dictating the play and setting the tempo of the game. Of the seven freshmen, goalkeeper Kate Scheele stands out having started the first five games of the season with an 80 percent save average.

"It has been very fun to meet and play with the new freshmen. They are an energetic and fun group and bring even more talent to our team," said Peterson.

The team's success over the next few months will be determined by how the girls work together with all of this new talent.

"The new personalities have been excellent additions to the team as we continue to challenge each other every day. The more we play as a collective unit, from goalkeeping to the front line, the more successful we are," said Viragh.

This kind of confidence is exactly what the team needs and needs to maintain through their challenging schedule, which includes matches against Memphis University and the University of Central Florida.

"We have done a good job of holding one another to a standard and maintaining the mentality that we can never

be satisfied," said Viragh.

Their six-days-a-week training regimen includes morning workouts, lifting sessions, afternoon practices, team yoga and of course, games. It's a long road to the Conference USA championship in El Paso, Texas at the end of October.

"We will create many opportunities for ourselves, and the more we take advantage of these opportunities the more successful we will be," Viragh said about the training schedule.

The Lady Tigers will play the University of the Pacific today, Sept. 14 at 2:30 p.m., and Colgate University on Sunday, Sept. 16 at noon. Both games will be played on Stewart Field.



Pictured clockwise from above: Brittney Lyman shoots the ball at the women's soccer game against University of Utah on Aug. 30. They tied at 2-2. Hannah Peterson rises above the University of Utah players to get a header. Goalie Kate Scheele defends the net. Photos courtesy of Colorado College Media Relations



Peterson in the spotlight

SPORTS

Henry McKenna
Sports Editor

Hannah Peterson, senior captain and midfielder, has been invaluable to the women's soccer team this year, with three goals in the last two games. She has truly been vital to the team since she arrived, starting in 31 games over the course of her past three seasons.

According to the Colorado College website, her coaches said, "Hannah is arguably our greatest workhorse. She covers a ton of ground and brings a very good element of technical ability to our midfield block. Hannah continues to grow every year and we expect a big season from her this fall."

All that work ethic has Peterson setting her sights high.

"Ultimately, our goal for the year is to win our conference, Conference USA," she said. "I think the important thing for this year is to follow through with the goals we have set for ourselves and never let up on

our momentum and energy as the season progresses. That being said, I plan to do my part on the field by competing each day to the fullest of my ability and pushing my teammates, as they will also push me, to bring the team to the next level."

While Peterson is focused during season, the truth is, she is just another CC student like us. She is an exceptional biology student, and, of course, she is a skier.

"She's fast, aggressive, and always skis the moguls if she has the option," said boyfriend Daniel Wright about skiing with Hannah.

She started at age three, 18 years ago, at Winter Park, without quite the same approach on the mountain.

"My mom and dad taught me to ski on the Galloping Goose in Winter Park, rocking the 'Edgie Wedgie.' Skiing was always a family event for us when I was growing up. It was always very fun for us, but I do remember there being lots of tears from my siblings and me when it came to put-

ting on our ski boots," Peterson said.

Peterson now uses skiing as an alternative option to stay in shape in the offseason.

"I always find myself enjoying getting a good workout from skiing and at times challenging myself to harder terrain. It can be a good way to cross train and get a different type of thrill and adrenaline rush. You also need to be aware of your surroundings while you are skiing, as you do on the field."

When heading up to the mountains, Peterson enjoys skiing with her Tiger teammates, too.

"It's a blast [to ski with Hannah]! We love to ski and we try to whenever we can in the spring, on weekends, or block breaks. A lot of the girls enjoy being up in the mountains," said her fellow captain Marika Viragh.

Peterson said, "It is always a fun trip and definitely a chance for bonding off of the field."

HANNAH PETERSON
SENIOR CAPTAIN



Women in Wyoming wilderness

RITT ADVENTURES

Fiona Haslett
Guest Writer

At the end of the school year, Meredith Bird, Lucy Gamble,

Haley Leslie-Bole and I drove up to Jackson, Wyoming to start our backpacking adventure in the Teton-Bridger Wilderness. Our initial destination was Bridger Lake, the most remote lake in the continental U.S. Heading out in late May was a bit early for the area, but we decided to set out and hike in as far as we could.

After packing our bear cans with 12 days of food, and lots of warm clothes, we headed north following Lava Creek. As we bushwhacked through dead fall brush and climbed steep slopes, we sang many songs and laughed a lot. After a couple days we reached the Lava Creek Trail. This trail led us through pristine alpine meadows and dense forests. Along the way we stopped many times to appreciate the humbling views of the Grand Teton. We crossed paths with moose, elk and tons of birds. After five days of sunshine, the weather changed and snowflakes began to fall. Although we were prepared for cold and snowy weather, a local weather report forecasted a storm of 15 inches of snow. With this news, we made the difficult decision to hike out early. Days later we found out that this storm dumped nearly three feet in this the area.

One of the most exciting moments of the trip was stumbling upon a mother grizzly bear with two cubs less than 100 yds away. With hearts beating quickly and



Clark Lake, located in the Teton-Bridger Wilderness, is one of many beautiful sites in Wyoming. Photo courtesy of Creative Commons

bear spray ready, we clapped our hands and sang "Wagon Wheel" at the top of our lungs. Fortunately, the mother bear quickly ran away with her cubs following close

behind.

We are incredibly grateful to the Kellogg family who made it possible for us to spend a week in this beautiful land. Al-

though our trip was cut short, our memories of following fresh bear tracks and falling asleep before dark will stay with us forever.

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The end of the trail: A brief account of the Sierra Nevada

RITT ADVENTURES

Kate Leaf
Guest Writer

"I'm up, I'm up," I grumbled, blearily peering at my watch through the darkness. 4 a.m. flashed back at me in neon letters. "Seriously, stop poking me, I'm getting up."

Dreading the cold, I slowly poked my head out of the warm cocoon of my sleeping bag and saw Leah's face smiling back at me.

"Oh, Jeremiah," she said, in typical Leah fashion, "It's summit day!"

It was the final day of our trek south through the Sierra Nevada along the John Muir Trail. After today, the trail would run out. But first, we had to face our final 3,000 foot climb up the backside of Mount Whitney, the highest point in the contiguous U.S.

Groggily, I stepped out of our tent and rubbed my eyes as thousands of stars stared back at me through the inky darkness. The moon that had brightened the sky earlier had since set and now tiny pinpricks of light stretched across the sky, illuminating Whitney's

mass and reflecting off of Guitar Lake.

We quickly wolfed down our last store of oatmeal and rubbed our hands together to keep warm. It wasn't a morning for dilly-dallying. As the biting wind brought tears to our eyes and turned our cheeks red with cold, we were on the trail as fast as possible. Unwilling to relinquish the warmth of my puffy jacket, I started off our hike with every single layer I had brought wrapped tightly around me.

We walked slowly, constantly wiping our dripping noses and streaming eyes.

Although the twinkling stars were spectacular (and it was also one of the very rare times Leah and I had seen them, given our 7:30 p.m. bedtime), all I could think about was when the sun would rise and finally banish the cold.

Up and up and up we went, the trail switch-backing around tight corners and through dynamite-blasted holes in giant boulders. As the sky lightened, the knife-edge ridges of Guitar Lake's basin reflected pink and gold in the lakes below. With about two miles to go, we left our packs at the trail junction, which we would rejoin later that day to return to civilization. What a treat—without our hefty packs on, walking felt like a piece of cake.

"Wow!" Leah cried about a mile later, as I hurried up behind her. To our right the wall of rock we had been walking alongside completely vanished. Together, we stared down at Owens Valley, which lay 10,000 ft below. Our final destination—Lone Pine, CA—lay below, full of novelties like showers, cell service and most importantly, food. At this point on the trip, as our bear canisters got ever lighter with their lack of provisions, all I thought about was food.

After another half hour of climbing, Leah and I reached the summit and the last few feet of John Muir's namesake trail. We snapped the obligatory summit photos, signed the enormous registrar and tried to soak in the incredible views that being at the top of a country allow. However, it didn't take long before the biting wind made Leah and I decide that celebration could wait until that afternoon, when we could finally feel our fingers again. But that didn't stop us from thinking—we did it.

Thanks Ritt Family!



Kate Leaf treks the snowy John Muir Trail. Photo courtesy of Kate Leaf

A sunset plucked from "the Range of Light"

RITT ADVENTURES

Lee Farese
Dan Lewis
Guest Writers

"...so gloriously colored and so radiant, it seemed not clothed with light but wholly com-

posed of it... Then it seemed to me that the Sierra should be called, not the Nevada or Snowy Range, but the Range of Light." – John Muir

Though we had read these words and were coming to know intimately the Sierra Nevada along the John Muir Trail, it took us twelve days to truly learn what Muir meant by "the Range of Light." One quiet mountain evening, after enjoying a supper of calzones and indulging on chocolate chips, cups of tea, and a game of gin rummy, our cards fell by the wayside, forgotten amid the beauty of the lake basin before us. Enchanted, we each fell to our typical practices, Dan sinking into a rock to watch the drifting clouds, and Lee strolling along the lakeshore, admiring wildflowers and the spotted sandpipers that patrolled the water's edge.

We met again minutes later before one of the most spectacular displays of light and beauty we had yet encountered – mountains bathed in pink and orange, casting purple shadows eastward, the light soothing the craggy peaks. The mountains leaned back in majestic repose, softly calling us to walk with them. Clouds floated bright above, a sailing fleet in a rosy sky.

We sat until the light faded and the moon rose and the stars winked in the opening night. We sat with eyes opened, arrived and at home in this wild, indifferent beauty.



Dan Lewis enjoys a spectacular sunset along the John Muir Trail. Photo by Lee Farese

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