

THE CATALYST

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NEWS 2

OPINION 7

SPORTS 9

LIFE 13

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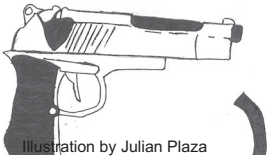


Illustration by Julian Plaza

THE GUN
CONTROL
ISSUE

MORE: Page 8



Photo courtesy of Naya Herman

WOMEN'S
RUGBY OFF TO
BLISTERING 4-0
START

MORE: Page 14



Photo by Phillip Engh

SHIFT THRIFT
OPENS
DOWNTOWN

MORE: Page 17

10 QUESTIONS

Madelyn Santa sits down with TouchIt, who plans to bring a mix of old favorites and original songs to Alumapalooza on Saturday.

MORE: Page 5

SAFE PLACE:

The Catalyst takes an in-depth look at the controversial issue of safe spaces at CC and at colleges across the country.

MORE: Page 2

LIFE:

Film columnist Tom Crandall reviews the movie "Martian": Is it out of this world, or does it fall flat before liftoff?

MORE: Page 18

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Photo by Arden Feldman

The giraffes at Cheyenne Mountain Zoo will meet new friends with the introduction of tapirs, elephants, and leopards.

TAPIR YOUR EXCITEMENT

ZOO: Page 17

A new way to apply to Colorado College

ANNIE ENGEN
Guest Writer

Most Colorado College students remember the stressful months leading up to the college application deadline, a time of "I didn't know I needed two teacher recommendation letters!" and "I can't go out on Saturday—I still need to cut 103 words out of my college essay."

However, CC officials hope to make the process a little less traumatic very

soon by joining forces with 82 other colleges and universities in the Coalition for Access, Affordability, and Success.

The Coalition, which includes the likes of Harvard, Stanford, and Washington University in St. Louis, aims to create a platform of online tools intended to streamline the college application and financial aid processes and make them easier to navigate.

Coalition members believe that

the application process will be less stressful if future students are exposed to it well before they actually apply to schools. The Coalition's new application process will enable its users to build lists of extracurricular activities, essays, and other application materials starting in the ninth grade.

"One drawback of the current Com-

COALITION: Page 7

Questions of Honnen Arena's financial stability

EMMA MARTIN
Staff Writer

The Honnen Ice Arena was built in 1963 due to the generosity of the Edward H. Honnen family of Denver; however, for the last half century, the arena has been the gift that keeps on costing. The college subsidizes the building, paying for maintenance, utilities, and the salaries of the men

and women who keep it running.

The financial sustainability of the arena has remained an "on-and-off" conversation since its opening, according to Arena Manager Linda Alexander. Recently, the Honnen staff was tasked with increasing actual cash revenue in order to justify the existence of the ice rink.

Honnen Arena Manager Linda Al-

exander prefers to spend her day learning the names and skate sizes of students and community members who visit the arena, rather than laboring over facts, figures, and bottom lines.

With increased scrutiny over the financial sustainability of the rink, however, Alexander and her staff

HONNEN: Page 6

FEATURED

Safe Spaces: A necessity on college campuses or a case of hyper-sensitivity?

LIZ FORSTER Editor-in-Chief

CANDELARIA ALCAT News Editor

Since the implementation of President Jill Tiefenthaler's strategic plan in 2013, Colorado College has actively committed itself to promoting a more diverse and inclusive campus.

In November 2014, as a part of this goal, the college released its final "Diversity Commitment," which had previously been divided into three individual commitment documents.

The statement reads that the college's goal is to create a "fruitful climate for intellectual and scholarly growth, meaningful interaction, and common endeavors." It continues on to explain that successful liberal arts institutions must value diversity and inclusion.

So far, the college has some data to present to students, parents, alumni, prospective students, and the public concerning its advancement towards a more diverse campus. For example, in 2014, 24.7 percent of students identified as American ethnic minorities as opposed to the 14.3 percent in 2004.

But what about the inclusion aspect of this commitment? Has CC effectively enacted hard policies and promoted a community that breeds a culture of inclusion? If so, what sort of data does the school have to indicate its progress, if they can do so in a quantitative way? If not, where is CC now, and how can it get there?

What is the role of Title IX?

Under U.S. law, all institutions that receive financial assistance from the USDE must adhere to the Title IX statute, which states: "No person in the United States shall, on the basis of sex, be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be subjected to discrimination under any education program or activity receiving Federal financial assistance."

Institutions across the country falling under this statute must thereby operate in a non-discriminatory manner. Institutions that fall into this category include 16,500 local school districts and 7,000 post-secondary institutions, as well as museums, charter schools, for-profit schools, and libraries.

Institutions falling under Title IX, including CC, have obligations in a number of issue areas, including athletics, financial aid, discipline, and recruitment, among others.

However, despite the differences between these issues, the overarching theme is that the institution must provide students or occupants with an environment in which they have full access to their rights.

Due to the intentionally vague language of Title IX, access to a full education expands beyond these usual branches and can dip into supporting the idea of a "safe space."

"Title IX is one sentence, officially, and it just says that everyone is entitled to all of the benefits of, and access to, an education, regardless of gender, sexuality, all of the gender-related elements," said Associate Professor of Sociology and Title IX Coordinator Gail Murphy-Geiss. "So if a space was considered unsafe based on those categories, and people thought, therefore, that they couldn't access the fullness of their CC education, Title IX would come into play."

Addressing the conversation

With words like "politically correct," "safe spaces," "micro-aggressions," "trigger warnings," and the like more and more frequently surfacing on campus, questions of just how inclusive in practice CC and its students really are continue to hinder the college's values.

Some of the dialogue has been positive and productive, some negative and polarizing. The latter is oftentimes perceived as aggressive due to the ambiguity of the root of the conversation.

Most commonly, the 'minority' in the conversation can feel attacked because of their differences and the lack of recognition the general public has for those differences. The voice of the 'majority' also can feel attacked due to their sheer lack of information.

"There's this idea of calling out versus calling in," said Slocum Residential Life Coordinator Krystal Schiffelbein. "I can see the conversations as being aggressive and creating this culture of 'You did this wrong and you're a bad person.' Sometimes that's the initial reaction of anger and exhaustion that builds up after someone's gender, for example, is misidentified day after day, which is frustrating for that person."

Since joining the CC community this year, the new Director of Residential Life and Campus Activities Yolany Gonell has actively pursued the advancement of inclusion.

"The bottom line is that, as a director and an advocate in social justice issues that I'm proximate to, I need to work to align the university and its values around diversity and inclusion," said Gonell, who identifies as a queer Latino woman. "It takes us from the talk that we love about community and diversity and puts it into practice."

Gonell stresses the importance of alignment and transformation, as opposed to assimilation, in order to ensure that students receive the dignity and respect they are entitled to at CC. A substantial portion of this alignment, she argues, is the creation of safe spaces.

What really is a safe space?

The phrase "safe space" has stirred debate beyond CC and at colleges throughout the country, particularly after a controversial New York Times published

GOALS OF COLORADO COLLEGE'S DIVERSITY COMMITMENT

- ▶▶ Create a campus community that is broadly accessible to individuals of diverse backgrounds, experiences, and aspirations. We will identify and draw on the talents and promise of local, national and global populations in our admission of students and our hiring of faculty and staff.
- ▶▶ Foster an equitable intellectual and social climate that is inclusive, and respectful of human dignity. We acknowledge that categories of difference are fluid and not necessarily fixed. We respect individual rights to self-identification and expression, and we encourage activities, gatherings, and conversations in which individuals from all walks of life are able and eager to fully participate.
- ▶▶ Promote full engagement in courses, curricula, co-curricular programs, and projects. We will provide resources and space for distinctive projects that further our diversity goals and our shared interests and ideals.

an op-ed by contributing writer Judith Shulevitz in March, 2015. The article decried safe spaces on college campuses, arguing that safe spaces shielded students from any potentially disconcerting viewpoints.

Shulevitz used an example from Brown University, a fellow liberal arts institution, albeit a drastically different culture than CC. Brown hosted a debate about campus sexual assault between Jessica Valenti, the founder of *feministing.com*, and Wendy McElroy, the editor of *ifeminists.net*.

McElroy was predicted to criticize the term "rape culture" in her arguments during the debate, prompting students to organize a safe space for anyone who found the debate too unsettling. Students adorned a room nearby the debate with plates of cookies, coloring books, bubbles, Play-Doh, calming music, pillows, blankets, and a video of frolicking puppies; students trained to deal with trauma were available for consolation.

McElroy primarily blamed students for the influx of such spaces, arguing that students have begun holding their college's accountable for ensuring such spaces and sensitivity. The implication of this, she says, is that every other space is unsafe and that students will not be prepared for climates off-campus that hit students "social and intellectual headwinds."

Phoebe Maltz Bovy of *The New Republic* and a professor at New York University responded to the article, arguing that although colleges should not actively ensure comfort for students, they also should not make "them uncomfortable for discomfort's sake." She also sought to distinguish McElroy's examples of safe spaces and microaggressions as extreme cases and not reflective of the broader

discourse.

Not all examples of safe spaces and microaggressions in colleges are as extreme as that at Brown, but they might have the same, or at least similar, implications.

According to Greg Lukianoff and Jonathan Haidt's article "The Coddling of the American Mind" published in *The Atlantic* in Sept. 2015, deans and department chairs at the 10 University of California system schools were presented by administrators at faculty-leader-training sessions with examples of microaggressions.

The list included "I believe the most qualified person should get the job" and even colloquial phrases like "America is the land of opportunity."

Lukianoff and Haidt argue that the overwhelming sensitivity of students and the colleges' willingness to adapt to that sensitivity improperly prepares students for professional life, can promote engendered patterns of thought that parallel those of depression and anxiety, and promotes mental filtering, which dismisses any negative detail in a situation.

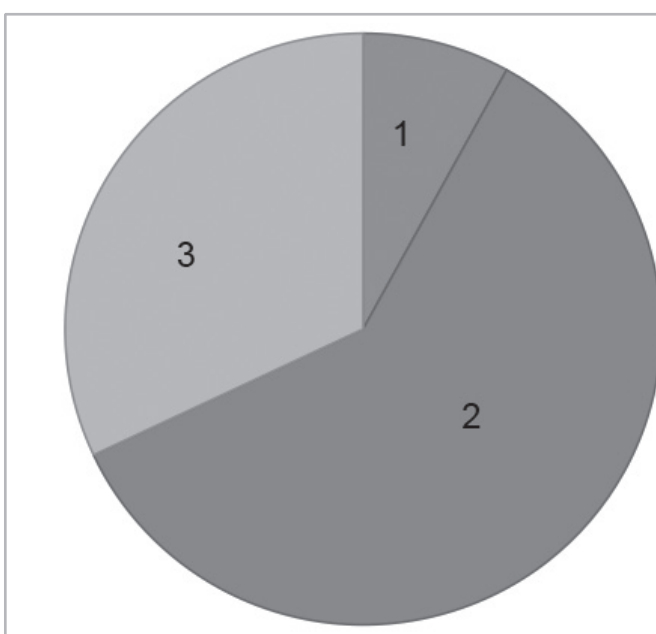
So, where does CC fit in?

Gonell defined safe spaces more along the lines of Maltz Bovy. She explained that safe spaces are not about a community agreeing completely on certain issues or even looking the same.

Rather, safe spaces must be a place where power dynamics and differences are recognized and where people hold themselves accountable to their mistakes.

See next page: **DIVERSITY**

How do you want door decorations in CC dorms and apartments to reflect gender?



KEY

1. One that conforms to my gender (8%)
2. I don't care (60%)
3. One that is gender non-binary (32%)

The Catalyst conducted an anonymous survey of 100 students currently attending Colorado College, asking them if they wanted door decorations on dorms and apartments to reflect gender. Of the students surveyed, 8 percent wanted a door decoration that reflected their gender, 60 percent did not care, and 32 percent preferred a gender non-binary door decoration.

DIVERSITY: Aligning practice with policy at CC

Continued from previous page

"It's uncomfortable for a lot of people, but it's part of the learning," said Gonell. "If what you say or do hurts or marginalizes a group or person, that matters, even if it means a portion of your freedom. It doesn't have to be about conformity, but we should be striving for this dignity and respect for people."

As of now, neither CC nor its students has gone to the lengths of creating a designated space in response to a particular event as students at Brown did; however, the school has taken action to prevent unwelcoming environments, particularly in the underclassman dorms.

Before New Student Orientation week this year, Gonell decided to walk through the buildings to assess if and how Residential Advisors designed their halls in a manner that would effectively build a community.

Although Gonell found that most RAs had done so mindfully, she had issue with other halls.

She recalled the door decorations on two floors in Slocum: one that used pictures of Kayne West sleeping with Kim Kardashian and another that featured a black woman from *The Office* saying, "I

talk too much that sometimes I have to draw myself back."

"If a student or parent were to come into that hall, and it was their first experience at Colorado College, would they feel that door decoration speaks of inclusion or fosters a conversation around community?" Gonell said. "If the answer is, 'It doesn't,' then we need to consider changing it. Those were instances where it needed to be changed."

Schiffelbein, although not a player in the door decoration editing process, acknowledged the importance of Gonell's actions.

"We have to ask if a door decoration is in any way a [manner] of pre-defining someone before [they were] able to define themselves at CC," Schiffelbein said. "It's really about making sure that we are serving every student."

Beyond Residential Life, The Butler Center also offers Safe Zone Trainings that are intended to give students, staff, and faculty a basic understanding of LG-BTQIA+ ally-ship.

The training teaches participants basic queer terminology, the unique challenges this community can face, and the tools to help prepare an inclusive environment open to all students.*

Moving forward

With the acknowledgment that CC has yet to fully enact its written value statement regarding diversity into practice, the question now for students, faculty, and staff is not only how the community can change to properly align itself but also to what extent it should.

For Gonell, that avenue is through policies such as gender-neutral housing. A gender-neutral housing policy would allow students of any gender to live together in dorms. As of now, gender-neutral housing is a soft guideline but not a hard policy.

"My job isn't to change peoples' minds," Gonell said. "My job is to raise consciousness about these issues, to ask the hard questions, and to mobilize people to do things with policy."

A key element while policies wait for passage is the continuance of critical conversations.

"[Our part is] encouraging our students to learn about the world that they are in, ensuring that we are good stewards," said Schiffelbein. "It's so that we can have a conversation, not just 'That was wrong, don't do it,' but how can that impact someone."

* Attempts to contact Coordinator of Gender and Leadership Programs Brett Grey to talk about the Safe Zone Trainings were unsuccessful. Attempts to contact CrossROADS Special Interest Community RA and Student Advocate for SOSS junior Spencer Spotts were made and were also unsuccessful.

Colorado Springs crime, in brief

HIGH-SPEED FOOT CHASE

On Sunday evening, police arrested a man just south of downtown after he allegedly threw a landscaping rock through a window of a business and fled from the police.

At 6:20 p.m., police received report of the incident, which happened on the 800 block of South Nevada Avenue. Later, police spotted the man walking on the 1300 block of South Nevada Avenue. The man began to flee, whereupon police initiated a foot chase through a field and over several fences.

Police caught the man, identified as James Patton, was caught in the lot of business at the intersection of East Arvada and South Nevada avenues. He was arrested on suspicion of obstruction, resisting arrest, trespassing, and criminal mischief.

SHOOTING UP AND LYING DOWN

On the morning of Thursday, Sept. 25, police found a man sleeping in a vehicle filled with drug needles with a young child on his lap at a 7-11 in Pueblo.

Just after 1 a.m., police received word of the man in the vehicle. Upon arriving at the scene, officers could see from outside a capped needle on the front dashboard and attempted to wake the man. After several unsuccessful attempts, police were able to wake the man identified as Jeremiah Baca.

Baca acknowledged that he had been using heroin but had not since Tuesday. Baca gave police permission to search his vehicle, whereupon they found several foils, used needles, a spoon, a torch, and a debit card belonging to a man named Kevin Hardin. Police have not been able to contact Hardin.

The child in the vehicle was released to his grandmother. Back was taken to the Pueblo County Jail on an existing warrant for failure to appear.

PLAYGROUND SHENANIGANS

On Saturday afternoon, Colorado Springs police responded to a call in southeast Colorado Springs regarding two men allegedly waving guns around in the playground area of the complex.

When police arrived at the Whitney Young Manor Apartments at 12:00 p.m., they received word that at least one of

the two suspects went into one of the nearby apartment units. Police knocked at the door, whereupon a man matching the description the caller had given for the suspects opened the door. He attempted to place a woman and a young girl between himself and the officers as he attempted to close the door.

The man attempted to flee through the back door, but officers caught him. As the suspect fought with officers, a black handgun fell from the man's person. The man, identified as Garrick Terrell, 22, was taken into custody for Possession of Weapon by Previous Offender, Resisting Arrest, Child Abuse, and Reckless Endangerment. He was also wanted on a warrant for attempted burglary.

BEVIS & BOXHEAD

On Monday night northeast of downtown, police received a call regarding two men, one with a box on his head, attempted to rob a gas station convenient store.

At 11 p.m., two men allegedly went into the store at the 1800 block of North Circle Drive. One stood guard at the door while the other, wearing a box on his head, ordered the clerk at knifepoint to turn on the gas pumps.

NEWS BRIEFS

► ► Colorado Springs celebrates Triple S brewery opening.

Colorado Springs welcomed Triple S brewery as the newest addition to its list of breweries during a ribbon-cutting ceremony on Tuesday at the brewery, 318 East Colorado Ave.

The owners, Steve and Sarah Stowell, aim to blend the coffee shops of America and the pubs into one space. In addition Steve is working towards his Cicerone certification, a professional credential for serving beer and pairing it with food. All the Tripe S staff have also passed their exams to become certified beer servers.

► ► "One Love Club" social marijuana nightclub closed for fire code violations.

The Colorado Springs Fire Department cited the newly opened One Love Club issued a Cease and Desist order and a summons on all violations of the night of Oct. 2 to the owner, Jered Ray McCusker.

The club, located on 212 South 21st Street was operating without permits or a review and was found violating Over Capacity Limits, Electrical Problems, Failure to apply for a change of Assembly Type, Occupancy before approval, failure to provide proper Exits and Exit Lighting and incorrect number and type of fire extinguishers.

The club will remain closed until the violations are corrected.

► ► Colorado lawmakers "revisit" right-to-die bill.

Supporters of the right-to-die bill in Colorado are planning to re-introduce the bill next year to the state Legislature with hopes that the momentum from the passage California will push the bill through in Colorado.

The bill will be introduced when control of both chambers of the Legislature is at stake. According to the Gazette, most of the opposition will stem from Republicans, but Democrats will still have to convince fellow party members to support the bill.

A similar proposal failed in February during the previous legislative sessions. Members of both parties voted against the bill.

► ► El Paso County transitioning to online ballot tracking system

During this election cycle, Colorado Springs residents will be able to track the location of their ballot online rather than trusting the postal system to successfully deliver their ballot. BallotTrax, the online tracking system, is offering a free promotional tool to the county.

Until now, voters could use the state website, govotecolorado.com, to see if their ballot had been received. El Paso County residents can enroll in BallotTrax by going to epcvotes.i3ballot.net/voter/login#/ or www.EPCVotes.com.

After, the men walked out of the store and tried to return, but the clerk had locked the doors. The men left in a white, older-style sedan without getting cash or gas. Police are still investigating.

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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Colorado College ITS launches new Apple Care program

JACKSON PAINE
Staff Writer

As more and more students come to college equipped with a Macintosh computer, ITS at Colorado College has adapted to deal with the inevitable technical issues students bring with them. According to Global Equities Research analyst Trip Chowdry, 70 percent of college students are now using Macs. Other analysts say this number is skewed, and

put their estimates much lower, closer to 47 percent.

Regardless of whether 47 percent or 70 percent of students use Mac computers, these devices are here to stay, and the newly-hired Joe Hinson is here to fix them.

Hinson has been here since January setting up shop, and has already helped many students with their computer programs.

"With the time demands of the Block

Plan, it's not really convenient for a student to lose their computer to repairs for a week," said Hinson. "So ITS decided to bring an in-house Apple Service Technician to lower the amount of time a student would have to be without their computer for repairs."

Having access to a repair center for Apple computers is a game changer. Before Hinson's arrival, any student that needed repairs on their computer would have to drive 15 to 20 minutes away and wait days for it to be fixed and ready to use.

Not only do many students lack cars, but the pace of the Block Plan also makes this process incredibly stressful. If your computer needs parts replaced and spends a week in the shop, a third of the block has already gone by. Hinson's presence on campus should help reduce the amount of time it takes to fix faulty machinery.

"My setup and equipment is the same as what an Apple store would have," said Hinson. "I can run all the diagnostic tests, do warranty repairs, order the parts... [and do] glass replacement."

Since his work began at CC, Hinson has worked to fix a lot of student devices. From drinks spilling on computers to failing track pads, problems have solutions in his hands.

Hinson is also able to replace the hard-

ware for damaged PC's, though it is not his area of expertise. However, cracked screens and other minor issues can be solved easily by just ordering the parts and replacing them in his shop.

Hinson also deals with malicious software that makes it onto Macs.

While Macintosh computers are nowhere near as susceptible to malicious software as PCs, malware engineered specifically towards Macs is on the rise. The majority of this malware is socially engineered, which means it depends on a user to give the malware access to the computer.

"It pretends to be a flash update, a silver light update, or something useful," said Hinson. "We call this a Trojan horse. It pretends to be one thing but its really malware."

Right now Hinson's workshop is located in the basement of Armstrong Hall, but any student hoping to fix their Mac can do it through the ITS Help Desk. Just give the computer to the Help Desk, and they'll transport it to Hinson who will repair it and give it back as quickly as possible.

The cost of repairing a computer is just the amount of money needed for parts, plus the cost of shipping a new part if the repair needs it.

The repair shop is open from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Monday through Friday.



Apple Certified Macintosh Technician Joe Hinson has recently joined the Colorado College ITS: Office as the in-house Apple repair specialist. Photo courtesy of ITS.

"Rom-com" class in Greece offers assistance to refugees

MONTANA BASS
Staff Writer

Students in the Block 2 Colorado College course "Romantic Comedy and the Blue World" taught by Lisa Hughes just got a new assignment: to provide aid for the many refugees in Athens' refugee camps.

Over the next week, these students will be working with Hughes, 2015 graduate Kendall Rock, and the Salvation Army, to help collect, organize, and distribute some of the bare necessities that refugees often lack. They have been giving their own things and asking that the greater CC community participate as well, as they try to do their part in this overwhelming crisis.

The idea began with Rock who, after living in Germany with her family before Block 2, realized the immediate importance of recognizing the problem of the growing, overwhelming number of refugees flooding in to European countries.

"I knew that many of the refugees were arriving in Greece by boat before moving north to Germany and other countries, so when I got to Athens I started looking up organizations that were helping the refugees arriving here by boat," said Rock. "I walked to the Salvation Army in Athens during First Week and met the most wonderful people."

She began working with Salvation Army volunteers in Victoria Square, a center for hundreds of refugees. "90 percent in Victoria Square are Afghan, as the Syrians are faster and have money to stay in hotels or with other Syrians living here," said Maureen Hurley, a Canadian-American volunteer currently living in Athens and working with refugees

This type of work demands constant

flexibility from volunteers.

"The situation is very confusing and always changing," said Rock. "I rarely see the same families when I go back every other day. Last week, there was a riot outside of the camp, and before I knew it, all the refugees in the square had been evacuated onto busses and moved to another camp."

According to Professor Hughes the magnitude of this issue demanded their attention.

"I really believe that this is one of the most staggering humanitarian crises of our lifetime," said Hughes. "I think Europe and therefore the world will be different after this."

Hughes and Rock worked together to bring Hughes' students and the larger CC community into the efforts of the Salvation Army. Rock coordinates their efforts, collecting donations through money transfers with help from the Chaplain's Office. Chaplain Bruce Corriel sent an email to students, faculty, and staff, encouraging them to bring donations to the Worner Desk last week.

"We are going to use the donations and money we have pooled together to purchase things like diapers, baby wipes, feminine napkins, and emergency blankets during fourth week," said Rock.

Volunteers spend morn-

ings speaking with refugees and assessing their needs. They then purchase these items from the Salvation Army, organize them, and distribute them back to the refugees.

Hughes incorporated their efforts into her class theme.

"Studying romantic comedy... we have

been considering the sea as a character, with all of its ambiguity and capacity for death and rebirth," she said. "The Mediterranean... both separates people and connects them, and we are seeing how much the sea can be a source of connection and life and hope. And we want to be a part of that."



Romantic Comedy: The Birth, Death, and Re-Birth in the Blue World is a second block class offered by Comparative Literature Professor Lisa B. Hughes (left). Set in Athens, the 25 person class is studying contemporary American romantic comedy that has emerged from or been influenced by Greece. As the block nears an end, the class' focus has broadened to include the refugee crisis.

Photos from the CC Facebook page, shot by Kendall Rock '15

TouchIt's Kyle Jensen and Ken Arimura share their favorite shower songs, consider the future, and talk about playing at Homecoming.

10 QUESTIONS

...with
**Madelyn
Santa**
STAFF WRITER

How do you feel about the cancellation of the Homecoming Dance?

Ken Arimura: I'm pretty indifferent. I went freshman year and that was it. Yeah, I guess Homecoming doesn't have too much meaning to me.

Kyle Jensen: Last year I walked around the outside of the tent. Kinda checked out the scene and then went over to Eggplant Manor and listening to YouJazz play and had a great time dancing, listening to some live music. I wasn't really feeling the whole scene over there.

How did your band come to form?

KA: Jam sessions in the Mathias basement that happened randomly, and eventually it became a consistent group of people who enjoyed how each other played. We just formed the band from there. Yeah, there was never a day when it was just like "Alright, we are TouchIt. Let's do something from here." It was a very gradual process.

KJ: Yeah. Members were slowly added in, and it ended up working out.

KA: I definitely was never like "Alright I definitely want to start a band for sure." I will still do my own recordings and write my own songs and stuff. But yeah, it wasn't really completely intentional.

What is your music making process like, and how do you collaborate together?

Lena Webster: They walk around the house for like a half-hour before practice, and they all eat different things and stomp around. There is a half-hour before practice when I am always wondering what they are all doing here, and then I realize that it's all of TouchIt, and they are all scattered around doing things.

KA: So far Jack and I have been the main power horses behind song ideas, but then we bring it up at practice and then develop the ideas from there. We have a shitty recording on our iPhone to refer to all the time. From there [we work on songs] layer on layer. Take out what we don't need. Put in more of what sounds good. Jack write the lyrics. I'll write the instrument parts.

KJ: Yeah, and then often times I will write most of my own bass parts, and Adam goes in and layers in some saxophone. It's just a process of some addition and subtraction; eventually we reach some balance. But I don't know. It kinda changes over time.

Turn the page for more 10 Questions with TouchIt's Kyle and Ken.



10 QUESTIONS: TouchIt *(continued)*

What is your favorite song to sing in the shower?

Ken Arimura: Hmm, that is a tough one. I don't really sing in the shower. I haven't been recently.

Kyle Jensen: I did back home. I haven't been singing here very much.

KA: "Moody's Mood for Love" by Eddie Jefferson.

KJ: I usually sing some Hebrew songs that I remember from my Bar Mitzvah. I pretend like I am singing in Hebrew, but I am really just singing gibberish. But I like those melodies a lot.

When you were a child, what was your first CD?

KJ: The Beatles. The blue Greatest Hits, double disk.

KA: This Japanese rock group my mom was into called The Ulfus. Very James Brown-inspired, but you know, has a Japanese twist in it. All the lyrics are Japanese. I was really obsessed with the music videos because as a little kid they were really entertaining. I would watch them on these VHS tapes. Probably my first exposure to a guitar solo. It was so cool. This whole video was centered around this guy playing guitar for 30 seconds. And I was just like "Why is this so cool to me?" It was pretty neat.

Who in the band would you consider to be the biggest diva?

KA: Oliver. Oliver gets bored with his drum parts. He has his roots in jazz, so there is a lot of complex stuff that you can do in that genre. But sometimes it's just hard for him to restrain because you know with drums you want to be loud. You don't have volume knobs... you know what I'm saying. You can be as loud as you want.

Do you guys have a favorite past CC band and what do you admire about them?

KA: Definitely The Raisins is one of them. I think Ben Brown is one of my favorite guitarists that I've seen go to this school. And then I respect what Goiter does. They go by Mountaintop now I guess. I would like to see what they are up to this year because a lot of their team members are gone. I do not remember enough about The Logjammers, although I do remember them being popular.

KJ: YouJazz?

KA: Yeah. Definitely Raisins, YouJazz. I had a couple gigs with YouJazz and that was a lot of fun. It was a really good experience. They were all so much more musically talented and more knowledgeable than I was. It was a lot of fun. A nice challenge.

Do you guys have any pre-concert rituals?

KA: We have gotten Azada a number of times.

KJ: Oh, yeah. That's true.

KA: Just eating with each other.

Do you have any plans to keep making music after school?

KA: We really don't talk about that at all.

KJ: There's been some talk actually. Jack spent quite a bit of his youth in Atlanta, and some of his previous band mates are in a band that is up in Aurora, and there has been talk about going up there because there is a music studio. Maybe we could go for a couple months and record an album.

KA: Really? I hadn't heard anything about this.

KJ: I've talked quite a bit with Jack about it, because we've done a lot of work. We have about eight original songs now that are fully formed, and I think it would be worthwhile to get it down in silicone.

KA: It could be a fun summer project.

Do you have different feelings about playing for alums this weekend rather than the typical CC student?

KA: Absolutely, because we are definitely a dirty house party band. We've been learning older songs for parents and alumni. We tried to incorporate that, but have been having some trouble because when we think of a song we don't really jam it out or extend it too much. We really play it as it is. In terms of the sound of the song, we will put our own twist on it, but structurally we usually stick to [what's on paper]. It should be interesting. I've been checking out Woodshed Red, and it's going to be a pretty interesting shift in dynamics once they come on but it should be exciting. Also playing outside. We have to always retune because cold weather makes you go sharp. But besides that I don't feel too different. I know that everyone is not going to be nearly as drunk as they would be at a house party so we gotta actually play clean and proper.

KJ: We aren't going to be playing quite as much of our new material.

KA: We probably won't be playing as much of our originals either. Because this event is not a TouchIt event. It's an event that TouchIt is playing.

KJ: It's not going to be a bunch of people crammed into a little space, jumping up and down. So I think we have a pretty diverse set planned. We're covering a lot of music ground. And yeah, we're going to put in a couple of our original tunes, show what that side of our band is about.

KA: The show will definitely be more about supporting Homecoming, though, instead of like "Yeah we're TouchIt. Check us out."

HONNEN: Increasing community involvement at the rink

CONTINUED FROM FRONT PAGE

have committed themselves to "showing, in black and white, what the benefits of the rink are for the students, faculty, and staff."

The Honnen Ice Arena is not simply the club hockey stomping ground; the arena is bustling from morning until night with various Colorado Springs community programs, from Geezer open hockey to youth hockey leagues to public skating sessions to private figure skating events. It is through these programs' rental of ice time--\$210 per hour for adult programs and \$190 per hour for youth programs—that Honnen generates much of its revenue.

Thus, any increase in revenue would necessitate the increase in contracts with the Colorado Springs community. The Colorado College community, however, always comes first for Alexander; any outside interest must schedule around the events and programs of the students, faculty, and staff of the College.

The Honnen Arena hosts a wide array of college events at no charge, from club and intramural hockey to a collegiate figure skating team to special Campus Activities programs, such as a Hallow-

een skate.

"It's imperative that the students know that we're here, and that we're here for them," said Alexander.

It is logical, then, to extend an actual dollar figure to the Colorado College community's use of the arena when discussing the arena's financial sustainability.

Over the last several weeks, the Honnen staff did just that.

Alexander and her team investigated the costs of using an outside arena to host the same programs currently hosted in Honnen, and the results proved to be "eye-opening."

Using a cost of \$200 per hour of ice time, the Colorado College community utilized the rink for an amount of \$6,765 in July and \$7,154 in August, both relatively slow months considering the weather and the amount of students, faculty, and staff on campus.

These dollar amounts are expected to increase to approximately \$14,000 per month Blocks 3-6, when hockey and skating events pick up significantly.

This new analysis begs the question: would the college really pay \$14,000 a month to an outside arena to continue club hockey, intramurals, and other

events currently hosted at Honnen? Or, would these programs simply be cut from student life?

While the issue of sustainability often revolves around a financial "bottom line," there are several other factors important to consider via Honnen's sustainability, and convenience and sense of community are among them.

Sophomore Mick Sullivan believes the viability of a club hockey team would be a real stretch if it were moved off campus.

"It's already a hassle getting people to practice," Sullivan explained. "Being able to walk to and from practice [in Honnen] makes the commitment more feasible. Having students there is everything. I play way harder when I see fans."

The relationship the arena cultivates between the college and the larger Colorado Springs community must also be considered.

The importance of acting as a "good neighbor" circulates widely among senior staff of the college, particularly in the student life division.

The ability to share a space with a variety of community members fosters a sense of appreciation for and solidarity with the college. It also serves to boost

DI hockey ticket sales, according to Alexander.

Welcoming several youth hockey and skating events at Honnen also puts the college on the radar in a very positive way for the younger generation once they become of college-age and are considering where they wish to attend. Ice Operation Technician Oscar Aragon notes that community members "feel really comfortable coming into the facility."

The Honnen staff makes an effort to greet all individuals by name, often even remembering his or her skate size.

The Honnen staff has also increased collaboration with faculty and students, making Honnen an alternative classroom for several professors.

Both physics and biology classes have used the rink, and one music class came and watched several figure skaters perform to the music they had studied back in the classroom.

Aragon's favorite part of his job is watching students come into the rink in a bad mood and seeing that mood lift once they break out onto the ice.

"We're here for the students," said Aragon. "If a student has a break and chooses to come to Honnen, we make sure [he or she is] taken care of."

Three-day series on capital punishment draws a crowd at CC

HELEN GRIFFITHS
Staff Writer

In a three-part series on capital punishment, the Colorado College and Colorado Springs community came together to discuss capital punishment by incorporating lectures from Professor Paul Friedland, a historian who has studied the history of capital punishment, and George Williams, a Death Row chaplain.

On Wednesday Sept. 30, Paul Friedland of Cornell University's Department of History opened three days of college and community discussion on the death penalty, a topic of compelling contemporary urgency. The series was sponsored by the Social Issues and Historical Contexts Initiative of the Colorado College History Department.

Friedland creates a damning portrait of capital punishment in America. He argues that our theory of punishment, our practice of punishment, and how we feel about punishment do not converge. Despite what we tell ourselves, the real reason states kill is simply to get rid of people we no longer deem useful to society.

"I enjoyed the lecture because so many of our classes are discussion based. This was an opportunity to listen and absorb as the speaker fully develops their point,"

said senior Andy Post. "His examination of the religious aspect of the death penalty as a spiritual affair was fascinating. In the past, it held great meaning and once it became more secular, we hide it without really considering why."

"This event opened my eyes. It really made me aware of what was going on concerning the death penalty debate," said junior Lea Linse. "It was a unique opportunity to hear about people in society we would normally have no relationship with, or who are often condemned to silence along with their crime."

"It's good to have events like this to build awareness concerning these issues. It's not wrong that the 'leaders of tomorrow' are here and that they will be influenced by these discussions," said sophomore Steven Ortega.

The following evening George Williams, Jesuit priest and Death Row chaplain at San Quentin, explored what the death penalty meant to human beings—both those who face it and those who, as a culture and a judicial system, affect it.

Father Williams argued that capital punishment is wrong on every moral ground imaginable. He alternated between moving first-person accounts of the five hundred men warehoused in a prison waiting to die and the oddly detached California manual illustrating the

step-by-step procedures for how to kill.

"It really made me wonder," said student Jake Peterson. "How can we maintain the values of mercy and forgiveness on an individual level while our tax-money and complacency results in institutionalized murder?"

"I found the Priest's speech deeply moving," said Linse. "It was a unique perspective and he articulated concerns that many people have concerning the death penalty. He brought the human element to the debate."

"It's interesting to think of those who are against the death penalty," said Ortega. "It's an alliance between often very religious people, who are not thought of as part of the liberal coalition, and more secular individuals such as myself. It's an interesting dynamic specific to this issue."

On Friday at noon, the two speakers engaged in a discussion inviting audience participation.

Their conversation was moderated by Richard Celeste, former governor of Ohio, ambassador to India, and president of Colorado College.

"The best part were the differing perspectives," said Post. "There was a historian who has looked at capital punishment since roman times, a chaplain who is currently working with people on

Death Row and a governor who has had to face the decision of putting people to death. It was interesting how, despite all these different backgrounds, they have all come to reject the death penalty."

"From the series I gained a better understanding of how society understands punishment and what the function is supposed to be," said Robert Natiello. "The speakers were all very similar ideologically, which was unfortunate but for me, it did emphasize the importance of addressing racial and socioeconomic inequalities in society."

"What lingers is the aspect of humanity this bureaucratic, systematic form of state-sanctioned killing reveals and whether we want our government spending \$24 million per murder in our name," said Peterson.

"I wish the speakers could have addressed why the U.S. is so invested in the death penalty when all our peer countries have abolished it long ago," said Ortega. "Our public broadly supports its use and I want to understand why this issue is so important to people here. What systems make this form of punishment more palpable to American citizens versus those in other parts of the world? Still, I am glad CC continues to speak about the importance of criminal justice reform."

"Chas" says...

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COALITION: Clarifying the admissions process

**CONTINUED FROM
FRONT PAGE**

mon App is that the application only serves students during an eight- or nine-month window," said Mark Hatch, Vice President of Enrollment. "It resists early outreach." As a result, some students are overwhelmed, and settle for a college that has a less vigorous application process, or opt not to apply to college at all.

College admissions offices across the country are starting to realize that many students are smart enough to get into college, but don't understand the path and the planning required to apply for college.

The Coalition specifically wants to reach out to low-income families and other underrepresented groups that, statistically speaking, have been less successful gaining admission to top colleges and universities. With its free online tools and increased transparency surrounding admissions and financial aid, the Coalition's program should help level the admissions playing field for families that might not understand the application process.

In addition, because it will be available to students all throughout their high school careers, the Coalition's new application pro-

cess could act as a sort of guidance counselor.

"Some high schools have one counselor working with 500 kids, whereas other high schools have one guidance counselor per 100 kids," Hatch notes.

CC first-year Amy Bolton said that the Coalition's approach sounds appealing.

"One of my biggest struggles in filling out the Common App was trying to remember back to all the activities I participated in my freshman and sophomore year of high school," said Bolton.

The Coalition's new application is expected launch July 2016. What does this mean for our beloved Common App?

"The Common App has had glitches, but at the same time, it is a beast of an organization serving 650 colleges and universities and hundreds of thousands of students each year," said Hatch. "It has a significant brand name. Everyone depends on it."

For now, CC plans to utilize both application processes. Coalition members are optimistic that their new approach will help alleviate the panic and confusion of the application process, and make it more relaxing and engaging.

For more information, please visit www.coalitionforcollegeaccess.org

An obvious gun law proposal

SAM TOUMLIN
Guest Writer

Another week, another shooting. On the morning of Oct. 1, a gunman killed nine people and injured nine others at Umpqua Community College in Roseburg, Oregon. Shootings like the tragedy in Roseburg are all-too-common in our nation. Many say we are becoming desensitized to these events, including President Obama, who lamented in response to Roseburg that such shootings have "become routine" and that the American population has become numb to them. It is hard to disagree; according to an Everytown for Gun Safety report, there have been 45 school shootings in America in 2015. This widely cited report also states that there have been 142 school shootings since Newtown. According to the Washington Post, by Aug. 26, there had been 247 mass shootings, or shootings with four or more victims, in 2015—an average of more than one mass shooting per day. Much of this violence goes relatively unnoticed. At this point, only particularly horrible events, such as Umpqua or the Charleston church shooting, receive much national media coverage.

When these events do receive attention, there is a predictable response; the debate over gun laws is recharged, and both sides, including politicians, use the event to support their cause. Anti-gun advocates see the shooting as another

tragic example of why there is a desperate need for more gun regulation. Pro-gun advocates claim that if only those present at the shooting had possessed guns, then perhaps fewer people would have died. In the case of school shootings, pro-gun advocates often blame school gun-free zones, although this argument does not apply in the case of Umpqua, as Umpqua is not a gun-free school.

I, too, would like to weigh in on the gun debate. However, I am not going to use the Roseburg shooting in my argument. This past Saturday, Oct. 3, in Jefferson County, Tenn., an 11-year-old boy killed his eight-year-old neighbor with a shotgun. The boy had asked to see the girl's puppy. When she said no, he retrieved the shotgun, and firing from within his home, he killed her. The shotgun was kept unlocked in a closet. The biggest point of contention in the debate surrounding this murder is that the shotgun should have been kept under lock and key. Many have called for more laws surrounding the storage of guns (only 28 states have them), especially regarding keeping guns from children, and many want the owner of the shotgun, the boy's father, arrested.

I do not disagree that the shotgun should have been locked away. However, this argument is partly missing the point. The boy, though he is only eleven,

potentially did nothing illegal when he picked up his father's shotgun. There is no minimum age or permit requirement for the possession of a rifle or shotgun in the state of Tennessee. Anyone under the age of 18, according to federal law, cannot purchase a shotgun without a license. However, in Tennessee, it is perfectly legal to gift a shotgun to a minor. Any kid in the state, whether he or she is six or sixteen, can own a shotgun without passing any sort of test. If the boy in this event had permission to borrow his father's shotgun, then he did nothing illegal in retrieving a loaded shotgun and carrying it, unsupervised, through his house. Even if the boy did not have permission to use his father's gun, he could have potentially owned his own. The fact that the shotgun was not locked away is a secondary issue, as the boy could have legally acquired and possessed his own.

Hopefully it is not a controversial statement to say that the complete lack of regulation surrounding a child's ownership of a shotgun is a travesty. This shooting in Jefferson County does not just deal with minors. It deals with children. In this case, the shooter is preadolescent. Children are far too irresponsible and impulsive to be legally entrusted with a weapon capable of killing others. According to the victim's mother, there had been issues in the past of the boy bullying the girl he killed. However, the kids

also reportedly played together. It seems that the boy, after a minor dispute with the girl, killed her on impulse. I doubt he fully understood the implications of his actions. Regardless of whether he did or not, how can one expect someone his age, or younger, to be a responsible gun owner? It is absurd to think that a six-year-old has the maturity to be allowed to own a gun, but Tennessee law allows just that.

Therefore, in the wake of the Jefferson County tragedy, I make a small demand within the grand scheme of the gun debate: a federal law must be passed banning children from owning shotguns and rifles. I believe that this law should apply to all minors, or those under the age of 18, but at the very least, children who are not even teenagers should in no way, even after acquiring some license, be allowed to own a gun. We do not allow kids to drive or to drink, why do we allow them to own guns?

Although I focus on Tennessee, this argument is not a red state versus blue state argument; as stated in the Washington Post, 30 states, including Massachusetts and California, have no minimum age for long gun possession. There is much work to be done to improve our nation's gun laws, and there will be much more debate. For this issue, there should be no debate. Banning a child from owning a gun is simply common sense.

Is it time to get rid of the Second Amendment?

JARED BELL
Staff Writer

In light of the most recent mass shooting in Roseburg, Ore. this last week, the Second Amendment and the debate surrounding it has reestablished itself as the principal topic of discussion in the media and forthcoming political campaigns.

Aside from the superficial effects, it has also made its way onto the docket of "things to consider" for conservatives, like me.

With the increase in mass-shootings, (mass shootings have risen to an all-time high of 16.4 per year in the United States) the rational conservatives (yes, I consider myself one of those) are morally forced to reconsider their stance.

I was raised ultra conservative, but have made my way to the center, slowly but surely (I don't see myself crossing the River Styx of liberalism anytime soon). My political transition has required inherent resistance to the pillars of conservatism, but none as conflicting as the Second Amendment.

I believe in the excellence of Americans and America, which includes the Second Amendment as an outlet to demonstrate our superiority to the rest of the world. It's sort of like saying, "We are so great that our civilians can handle the responsibility to own guns and you guys can't." I know it sounds silly, but it truly is the way many conservatives, includ-

ing myself, used to/do think. With all that said, I am fed up with the violence and innocent lives lost because of such an outdated and untouched amendment.

We as a nation have lost the "privilege" of bearing arms. Do all gun owners abuse the amendment? No, obviously not—but they are going to lose because of the minority of "gun-owners" that scar our nation on what seems to be a consistent basis. Obama addressed the shooting at Umpqua Community College and the frequency of mass shootings with a quote I'm sure most of you have heard, but is worth repeating, "Somehow this has become routine.

The reporting is routine. My response here at this podium ends up being routine. The conversation in the aftermath of it. We have become numb to this."

Everyone knows the stats: 31 percent of households own a firearm, 20 percent of firearms owners own 65 percent of the nation's guns, America is the most violent developed country in the world, and we have the highest gun-per-capita

as well as most deaths-by-firearm in the world. Relative statistics will not dissuade or intimidate a conservative because the theory is that we need not

aforementioned weapons (more extensive background checks and firearm ownership regulations).

Following the cry for more government control—which I justify with public safety—I feel obligated to bring to your attention the unfortunate truths behind a gun policy in this country: a sort of firearm prohibition is not feasible and will not happen, no matter what. If, by some miracle, the over 30 percent of Americans that currently own firearms and the additional conservatives that defend the Second Amendment out of principle are ignored, and legislation is passed, the 250 million guns in this country are not going to just disappear. Also, if the purchase and sale of guns is prohibited, a black market for weapons will arise, and those who want their guns will get them. Finally, the shootings, triggered in many cases by mental illness, will not just stop.

I'm saying we need to be realistic (what I, frankly, observe as the biggest flaw of American progressives), understanding, and compromising (the biggest flaw of American conservatives) if we want to accomplish anything in the direction of firearm regulation. It will require all citizens to participate and to relinquish their respective convictions for the greater good of this country.

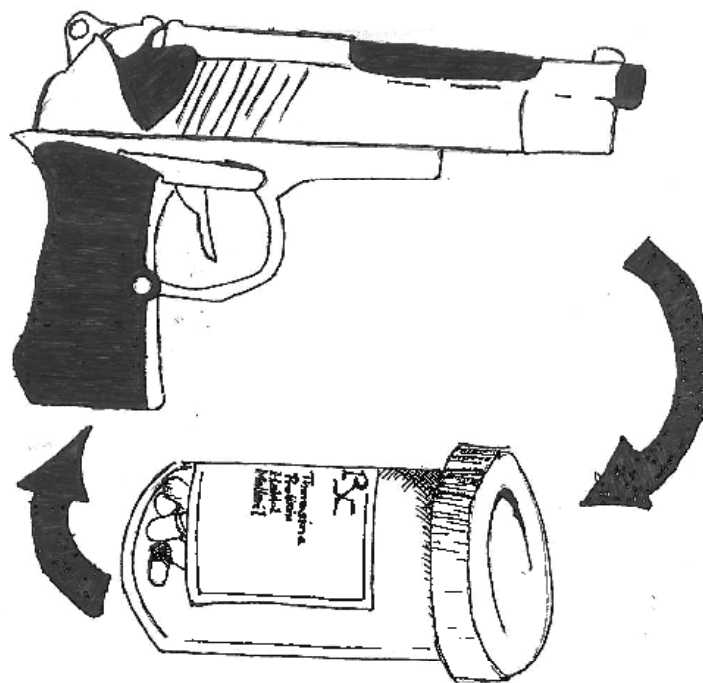


Illustration by Julian Plaza

compare ourselves to other, more restrictive countries; however, we need to address the problem, whether it be the gun or the person. Our current status, domestically and in the international lens, is embarrassing and shameful.

The laws need to be more restrictive regarding types of weapons the general public has access to, as well as the type of general public that has access to the

Don't shoot the messenger

JOHNATHAN WILLIAMS

Staff Writer

This is an article to rattle cages, and I'm sure it will serve to make me unpopular, but perhaps to burst our liberal bubble is worth the risk. In this moment, you can choose to either dismiss outright millions of Americans as being crazy—and therefore perform some of the most arrogant analysis of the 21st century—or engage in logical discussion. I invite you to try the latter.

It should first be noted that to own a firearm is guaranteed to citizens under the Second Amendment. If we do in fact want to rid the United States of weapons, then the conversation to have is how we should go about revising the constitution. Is there a reason that the Founding Fathers included this right in our Bill of Rights? Of course there is, and that reason was two-fold. The Founding Fathers lived under fear of an oppressive government and believed that they had the right to be able to defend themselves not only from the dangers of the world around them, but from the government that was established to protect them. It is important to remember that gun culture was bred into America from the very beginning, when a rifle was needed to sleep at night on the Front Range. As to the threat of government, even Madison admits, "If men were angels, no government would be necessary. If angels were to govern men, neither external nor internal controls on government would be necessary." In a world where our phone records are tapped, drones are flown over our own cities, and police seem to have all the force they deem necessary in a moment's notice, is it wise to forget the words of Madison? Surely the United States government becoming authoritarian seems ridiculous, but I will remind you that Japanese Americans have sat in internment camps without justification and our government is kept in check only when Americans are willing to do the checking. Checking that without the leverage of armament would be useless.

In another perhaps obscure argument for an armed populace, I will ask you to think of guns in America in an international context. Many nations may think we are insane for owning guns, but ask those same nations if they would consider invading us. There are just as many—if not more—guns in America as there are people. In the context of invasion, this is a chilling reality. If an invading army landed in America, they would be confronted with the best-armed defensive force in the history of the world. Every mile would meet an invading force with shots ringing out from fields and rooftops alike. The idea of Americans' ability to take their own lives and rights into their hands founded America. Here, on the topic of individual rights, is where we meet the more mainstream arguments against gun ownership.

As I have stated before, gun ownership is not only constitutionally legal, but is a reality in the U.S. as frequently as there are citizens. In the abortion debates that dominate the news, liberals implore conservatives to understand that abortion is in fact legal, whether or

not they like it. The tables are officially flipped. Gun ownership is not only legal, but is far more expressly defined in the constitution than any pro- or con-abortion argument. Thus, we must apply our logic unilaterally, admit that gun ownership is legal, and treat making it illegal in the same exasperated way that we treat discussions of making abortion illegal. Likewise with immigration debates, we concede that to physically remove millions of illegal immigrants is economically and logistically impossible. It is equally impossible to remove guns from American culture. To physically remove all the millions of weapons from every apartment building and barn house is obviously impossible. Now nothing I have said so far is groundbreaking or something you don't already know to be true. These are sentiments that "logical people" have already agreed upon in other cases, even if the issue of guns seems too taboo to extend logic towards.

With the reality of guns and their culture in our country, we have to frame the discussion differently than we currently are. We are not operating under the assumption that we are going to get rid of weapons, and nobody believes that we are going to magically stop mankind from violence. In light of being pragmatic, we should recognize that all human interactions occur via persuasion or through force. Force is a realistic part of life. Guns are the only weapons that level the playing field of force. With a gun, an old lady has just as much power as a body builder. In this way, the everyday human can protect themselves from violence in their own homes and lives. Advanced weaponry and this leveling of the playing field is what brought us out of the dark ages. It allowed the average peasant to give himself protection against an invading knight without having to subject himself to a higher lord (aka feudalism). In this very same way, Americans still rely on guns for protection. In the moment of a house burglary or attempted homicide, persuasion has become an inviable option, and time is limited such that waiting for the police is not an option either. In this moment, it is the gun that gives the individual power to protect himself. Yes he is probably going against another armed individual, but that is exactly why he needs to be able to operate on the same playing field.

How do bad guys get guns? The argument stands currently that with regulations, guns will become accessible so the bad guys can't get them. It is true and agreed upon that there are a ton of guns in America that we cannot physically get rid of. With these in mind, let's again revisit logic generally affirmed, and apply it to the current situation. Imposing a laundry list of restrictions on illegal immigrants creates an underground world that we cannot control and the legalization of prostitution, drugs, and marijuana all create environments where we can more effectively manage problems. How then does it follow, that a laundry list of regulations will be good for managing guns, and that criminalization will make for more effective management. These are all questions of management after all. If legalizing marijuana makes the problems better, then why criminalize guns? If restricting immigrants makes things worse, than why doesn't

the logic carry? We agree in the cases of drugs and prostitution that people will access these things anyway, so why doesn't that logic apply to guns? If we agree that some people will have access to guns, then why are we barring the way for others to access them?

The reality is that some people will have guns, and one person having a gun automatically begets the reality of another person needing a gun to maintain the balance of power. We know that guns exist in society and that guns will always be used in offensive ways; therefore, why take away guns from those that wish to use them defensively? Criminals are the people that use guns in ways that create atrocities, and criminals and those without the mental capacity to determine otherwise are the same people that don't care about laws. Criminals break laws; that's what they do. Therefore restrictions don't much matter. The insane don't regard laws; therefore, going around restrictions is immaterial. The regulations therefore only put up barriers to people that do, in fact, regard the law. Now we have a power balance where criminals have weapons and innocents have no way to protect themselves. This power balance is evident in the atrocities we see around the nation. One study from the Columbia Population Research Center concluded that 92 percent of mass shootings since 2009 have been in gun-free zones. Thus the power imbalance is evident, and the atrocities can continue to occur with aggressors going unchecked.

In the effort to continue logic that works in other places but apparently not with guns, I implore you to consider the effects criminalizing guns would have on disadvantaged populations. Gun ownership is much more real in communities where violence is real. A family in Detroit is far more likely than average to own a gun because they live in a world where criminals get guns—generally not through any legal means—and use it to threaten their lives on a daily basis. They live in a world of violence where they don't have the luxury to not be able to respond when gunshots ring out. This is the same for the backwoods hillbillies I'm sure you think are the only people that care about gun control. Perhaps they don't have such safety concerns, but the inner city family and Appalachian "yokel" have something important in common: they are low-income people. Criminalizing guns would affect poor people—especially African Americans—more than others groups. Criminalization would give our penal system yet another reason to lock up young children and increase the amount of incarcerated in our country. Logistically speaking, who draws the line of who is allowed to have a gun? I suppose the law originally states that the mentally insane cannot have guns but then these lines become muddled. What happens when the law shifts so that those "at risk" can't have guns and the laws are again subjective enough to apply in a biased fashion to target minority sections of people? In the same way that voter registration target specific groups of people and the war on drugs targets specific groups of people, gun registrations would also target very specific groups of people.

I have said many things in this article,

maybe too many, but perhaps something has stuck. I haven't used groundbreaking logic or logic that hasn't been applied in other places that you undoubtedly agree with. This logic apparently cannot be extended beyond the situation that it's tailored for, although sound logic should be able too. This means that either I am wrong now, or the previous places similar logic is applied are wrong. Which do we risk? I am not here to convince you that you must own a gun, nor am I here to state that all regulations on weaponry are bad. I am merely writing to make you think about all sides of an issue that has been made simple and make you consider taking a foot off of the carefully treaded liberal party line. Form your own conclusions about gun control, but do not dismiss everyone else as crazy. That is no more "open minded" than Donald Trump speaking of immigration and building giant walls across our southern border. Be pragmatic, engage in discussion, do not shut others out, extend your logic across the board, recognize that guns are a reality, and, for God's sake, don't shoot the messenger.



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No, Donald, No

PRANIT GARG

Staff Writer

In the last few months, most of us have asked: "When can we say that Donald Trump has taken it too far?" I believe that we have now reached that point.

Right after the tragic mass shooting in Oregon, Trump proclaimed that "gun laws had nothing to do with this [event]" and that these things "just happen." Sorry Donald, but mass shootings do not "just happen." We cannot accept these events as the norm and belittle their magnitude, no matter how frequently they occur.

But this is not the only absurd claim Trump has made. Trump has recently

put his Islamophobia on full display when he said that, "If he [is elected President], all the Syrian refugees are going back!" That, "they could all be ISIS." These remarks are disgusting. Trump's cynicism, and Islamophobia, is unbelievably strong, to the point where he is willing to sacrifice the safety, and even lives, of 200 thousand Syrian refugees, rather than making security screenings at American borders more rigorous. More rigorous screenings would permit innocent refugees to gain the refuge they desperately seek.

What bothers me more than Trump's atrocious remarks are the impact these words are having on the electorate, even right here in Colorado Springs. Just yesterday, I took a cab from the Colorado

College campus to Citadel Mall. On my way to the mall, my talk with the cab driver led to the topic of our dearest Donald. In particular, his stance on Syrian refugees in the U.S.

"Trump just claimed that he will send back all the Syrian refugees, saying they could all be ISIS." I said.

"What a fantastic idea!" replied the driver.

"Do you have any idea what's happening in Syria right now, what the citizens are going through?" I asked.

"Ummm, not really..."

"Ummm" is the extent of a lot of people's knowledge on the Syrian crisis. When people like Trump are allowed to make outrageous statements like the one he made, we are allowing the propa-

gation of false stereotypes in the heads of the uninformed masses. The electorate should be made aware of the certain issues before they vote on who will represent their views on these issues. And, after understanding these issues, if they still agree with Trump's views, then they are entitled to their opinion - that is the beauty of a democratic society. But, without this education, they are endorsing decisions, which they may not even support upon contemplating them.

I would like to urge everyone to be educated about the issues they elect their representatives to make policies on. Democracies are not perfect, but that does not mean that they cannot be improved. Awareness is the first step to making informed decisions.

HAVE AN OPINION TO SHARE?

Send your comments to William Kim at william.kim@coloradocollege.edu

Mindfulness on campus: Your new BFF

AARON KAHLOW

Guest Writer

After my first week living on campus, I found myself sitting in the quad with a peaceful smile as the sun set and cool October breeze brushed over my face. I was in blissful state, what the mindful movement would call a "Natural State of Joy".

Yes, I was meditating. But in a very simple normal way... not lotus pose, chanting, ancient Buddhist precepts. I was just sitting, quietly, mindfully. I was observing.

After this moment, I asked myself, "How many students get this feeling?" or how mindful are students here at CC? And so, I took it upon myself to observe and inquire.

Here's what I found:

The Freshman without Friends

Being brand new here, I don't know really anyone... and for all intent & purposes, I am the older-looking freshman without any friends. Don't worry... I may be eating in Rastall alone or walking solo through campus, but I don't feel alone.

I didn't feel alone because there are so many resident students, and we're making great direct eye contact or saying hello. This was super encouraging and just a nice, mindful way to carry oneself.

That simple act of acknowledgement is a very big part of being a mindful person, and so my first conclusion was... we've got a great group of naturally mindful co-eds.

And yes, as your proverbial freshman, please do continue to say hello. I promise to smile and say hello back. And guess what, it all feels really nice. Warm fuzzies all the way around.

Reducing Daily Stress - Just Breath

Another big element of life on campus is stress. Most are feeling it at one point or another, if not constantly. Stress to get the "A"; stress for the next exam, stress to just gets all the work done. And for a lot of folks, stress because you signed up for too clubs or extra-curricular activities. As we all know, being stressed is no way to live. But there is hope in mindfulness. To breathe deep, monitor your emotions; gaining perspective and peace of mind will help in very big and sustainable ways. In short, finding a path to being more mindful state of being will reduce stress and this is now proven by science.

One simple deep breath in, and deep breath out can give you the space you need. And of course meditation using the focus on breath will take you to whole other world of bliss.

Improving Grades - Strong Minded Focus

Less stress means better grades. Your information recall will expand exponentially in a non-stressed mindful state. You will have great clarity of thought when analyzing a question or performing say, an oral exam. It will simply allow you to have the energy and focus to crush your next project.

Better Relationships - Being Present

Whether it be with classmates on a project, your best friend on the weekends or your significant other, being mindful in the way you communicate, how well you listen, and overall ability to just "be" with that person will do wonders. In mindfulness world, we call it 'being present' or just concerning yourself with only what is happening here and now at present moment.

So, no texting while hanging out!

Finding Career Path & Passion - Clarity

Finally, the ever looming question, especially for juniors and seniors... what I am going to do when I graduate? For all of us, it is a truly scary thought. There can be many WTF moments when we start focusing this moment, right?

But there's hope. Finding your passion is not easy and takes time. But if you can find a good natural peaceful state of mind, you can get true clarity on what you like, what makes you happy and that

will lead to better career path choices. Getting very clear with "things as they are" is what we say in the mindfulness world.

Sorry to say, this does mean turning off Instagram, Facebook, and especially mindless banter on Kik Yak. Give yourself good time to just sit, be, and think with clarity.

Overall, the great news is I believe CC is already in a natural state of mindfulness. The mountains, the beautiful campus and the students are very happy folks. So the next steps for every day "natural state of joy" sometimes called happiness is well within reach. We just need to start taking small steps to hang out with our new companion... Mindfulness.

Aaron Kahlow

Innovator in Residence (aka old guy walking around campus)

Lifelong Student & Teacher of Mindful Living

Side Note: Aaron is giving a talk on using mindfulness to find your passion and career path for students at the Career Center on Oct. 21 at 4 p.m.

You can email Aaron at AaronPKahlow3@gmail.com to get more information about the talk, share ideas about Mindfulness on the Quad movement or just share your mindfulness stories.

Men's hockey Class of 2019: Meet the players

SAMANTHA GILBERT

Staff Writer

This year brings a fresh start to the men's hockey team with a new coaching staff and 14 talented and competitive first-years. With the loss of 11 players from last year (six graduated seniors, Jaccob Slavin, who is now playing in the National Hockey League, and four others) the team knew it was time to bring in a big class.

"Thank God we took in 14 guys," said Head Coach Mike Haviland. "Otherwise we wouldn't have had enough to field a team."

Haviland and his two assistant coaches agreed that they wanted to raise the level of competition in practice and have their guys earn their spots each and every day. Coach Haviland spoke highly of the freshman recruits. Here is a little about the new players:



TANNER OCKEY

Forward
Calgary, Alberta

Coach Haviland: We think down the road he could be a potential captain of the team. He's got a great work ethic and is a very smart player. He's a very likable guy in the locker room, on campus, and I think he gets a lot of respect because of the work ethic he comes to the rink each and every day with.

Why CC: My grandpa played here in 1963 and was captain of the team, so that was a big reason. Also, this is like my hometown and the school is so awesome.

Best hockey memory: My second playoff game. We were down a game in first round and I scored my first hat trick and we won so that was a great moment.

Worst hockey moment: I once deflected a shot into my own team's goal.

Favorite post-workout meal: Original Joe's (in Canada) grilled cheese bacon burger.



TREY BRADLEY

Forward
Tampa, Flor.

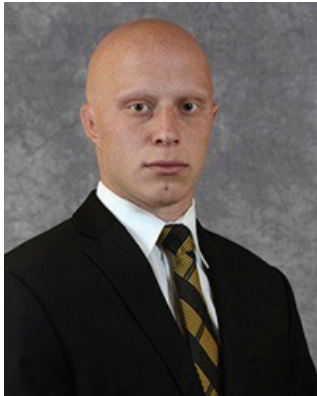
Coach Haviland: Kind of a smaller guy but tons of skill. He sees the ice very well and as he gets stronger and older I think he will be very exciting to watch for our fans and students.

Why CC: Part of it was influence from my brother (Senior, Cody Bradley) who came here and loved it so much. I like the small school aspect and the hockey team was a big factor.

Best hockey moment: Last season my team, Sioux Falls Stampede, became USHL Clark Cup Champions.

Worst hockey moment: My first year trying out for the USHL I got cut because I was "too small."

Favorite post-workout meal: Chicken parmesan with pasta and garlic bread.



Photos courtesy of
CC Athletics

BEN ISRAEL

Defense
Bloomfield Hills, Mich.

Coach Haviland: He's an older guy who has been around so he's bigger and thicker than the average freshman coming in. He's an offensive guy who could really step in this year and fill some minutes and get better as his career goes on.

Why CC: It's a fantastic education and great hockey program. It's the best of both worlds.

Best hockey moment: A current teammate and I played on the same team last year and won the Dineen cup last year.

Worst hockey moment: Getting stepped on by a skate on my achilles tendon.

Favorite post-workout meal: Big fan of steak and potatoes.



ANDREW FARNY

Defense
Steamboat Springs, Colo.

Coach Haviland: He's a very smart offensive-minded defenseman. He's also an intelligent player who's got a bright future here. He's another guy I could see being a leader down the road.

Why CC: I'm from Colorado, so staying close to home is cool. I love the mountains and I love everything on and off the ice. Being from Colorado I grew up watching the rivalry between DU and CC, so it's cool to be here.

Best hockey moment: When I was 8, we had an outdoor rink. When it snowed heavily the parents would shovel the snow and sometimes there was so much snow that we played with a tennis ball instead of puck.

Worst hockey moment: Getting cut from a team freshman year

Favorite post-workout meal: Some pasta with red sauce, broccoli, chicken, Gatorade and lots of water.



WESTIN MICHAUD

Forward
Cloquet, Minn.

Coach Haviland: He's a scrappy player, not flashy or smooth skating, but he knows the games and competes. He's got an ability to score and he's a kid that you're rooting for. He gets things done and will continue to get things done.

Why CC: Most important thing is the schooling aspect. But also our hockey team is in the best league and it is a great team.

Best hockey moment: The atmosphere at the Bantam A VFW state tournament in Grand Forks, North Dakota.

Worst hockey moment: I broke my thumb on a slapshot at that same tournament.

Favorite post-workout meal: Chicken sandwich.



MASON BERGH

Forward
Eden Prairie, Minn.

Coach Haviland: He's a really good skater and he can score and put up points and will be expected to do that as his career goes on here. We are looking forward to big things for him.

Why CC: I came here because education is most important and CC is a great school. It's got a great hockey history and the coaching stuff has been amazing. A lot of factors played into my decision to come here.

Best hockey moment: Winning the state tournament in Minnesota my sophomore year.

Worst hockey moment: Injuries. I've broken my ankle and arm twice and my collarbone.

Favorite post-workout meal: I like going to Chipotle and getting a burrito bowl.



COLE MCCASKILL

Defense
Kamloops, B.C.

Coach Haviland: He's a big, thick Canadian kid who came in a year early because we lost Jacob to the NHL. Cole is someone who will have a great career. He's a smart player who moves the puck well. He could be an offensive type of defenseman.

Why CC: I had family that went here and an uncle that graduated in 1987 who actually played on the hockey team. Also the education is as good as you're going to get.

Best hockey moment: Winning the first round of playoffs in game six against the Langley Rivermen last year.

Worst hockey moment: Getting cut from Bantam Triple A in minor hockey when I was 12.

Favorite post-workout meal: Steak and potatoes.

Behind Schweiss, women's soccer mows over Mountain West

JOHN BORAH
Guest Writer

The ball, as they say, is rolling. In the first four games of Mountain West Conference, the Colorado College women's soccer team has not dropped a single game. With last Sunday's win over the University of Wyoming Cowgirls, the Tigers have lost only twice in their last eight games and are currently riding a four game win streak. The Tigers are now the uncontested leaders of the Mountain West.

The Tigers lead University of New Mexico, San Diego State University, and San Jose State University by one game. The Tigers will be facing all three of these opponents in front of their fans at historic Stewart Field, including San Jose State this Sunday.

The Tigers' successful conference record can be partially attributed to a trying preseason, in which they faced stiff competition from top ranked programs including the University of Kansas and

the University of Pittsburgh, and a talented first-year class which includes five current starters.

The rest can be credited to senior Sarah Schweiss' unbelievable performance. Schweiss has scored all but one of her team's goals during conference play, including two golden goals scored in overtime against the Colorado State University Rams and the University of Wyoming Cowgirls.

Schweiss' play is both aggressive and technical, making her an elite scoring threat that can produce opportunities no matter where she is on the field. It is little wonder why she has been Mountain West's Offensive Player of the Week for two consecutive weeks now, an honor in a conference known for its physicality.

"She works extremely hard every game and she has been able to score important goals so it pays off," said sophomore defender and Canadian import Anne-Sophie Lapointe. "On and off the field she is a leader and a great example." Lapointe,

Schweiss' co-captain, recorded her first collegiate goal against the Cowgirls and is the only other Tiger to score during conference play.

The season has not been without its drama. With former goalie Heather Steeley taking her senior year off and starter Rowan Frederiksen tearing her ACL during the preseason, former 3rd stringer Louisa Mackenzie has been called to fill the void. And, according to teammates, she is "killing it."

"Louisa immediately stepped up to the plate when we needed her to," said junior defender Pelemarie Buika.

Coach Geoff Bennett praises Mackenzie's hands and lateral quickness, the latter of which he attributes to her multi-sport athleticism.

Mackenzie has recorded 57 saves in 13 games and has a save percentage of 76 percent. Of course, it helps that it's not a one-woman effort. "As a team, our ultimate goal is to keep the ball out of our net, and at the end of the day we all do whatever we can to keep a clean sheet,"

Buika added.

Fresh faces in the goal and five freshmen starters are not the only changes that fans will notice for the 2015 season. The Tigers are also rocking brand new uniforms from their sponsor, Under Armour. "I am in love with our new uniforms!" said Lapointe. "They are very light, comfortable, and good looking."

CC is in the midst of their longest home-game stand of the season, which will come to an end on Sunday, Oct. 11 against San Jose State University. Being surrounded by fans, avoiding travel-fatigue, and, primarily, forcing opposing teams to play at altitude are just some of the benefits a Colorado College home team enjoys.

"One of our team's goals is to never lose at home," said Lapointe. "So far, we are undefeated on our field in conference (play) so we will work our best to keep the winning streak going next weekend."

The Tigers face off against the San Jose State University Spartans on Stewart Field at noon on Sunday, Oct. 11.



Women's soccer could not dispose of University of Wyoming in regulation on Sunday, Oct. 4th. Sarah Schweiss (bottom left) struck 6:35 into the overtime period to give the Tigers a 2-1 Mountain West victory.
Photos by Emily Kim



TIGERS MAKING HEADLINES



Sophie Merrifield, Senior, Defensive Specialist

Sophie Merrifield is inching close to the all-time digs record after a standout performance for the Tigers in the Pikes Peak Challenge. Merrifield stole the show against nationally-ranked opponent University of Wisconsin-Oshkosh on Friday, Oct. 2nd. The senior had a team-high 28 digs. Merrifield followed up this performance with 12 digs against No. 15 Elmhurst College. Against Cornell College on Saturday, Oct. 3rd Merrifield brought her weekend dig total to

61 with a monster 21-dig performance. Merrifield is 31 digs short of the all-time record for CC volleyball. The SCAC recognized the Fairfax, CA native for her gritty play with a Defensive Player of the Week award on Monday, Oct. 5th. Merrifield and the Tigers will look to add three wins to their 7-0 SCAC record this weekend against University of Schreiner, Centenary College, and Austin College.



Sarah Schweiss, Senior, Midfielder

Sarah Schweiss made national news this week when ESPNW named her the national women's soccer player of the week. Schweiss had burst into the national conversation following two consecutive weeks of game-winning goals. In a Nevada road-trip Schweiss powered CC to two wins by slotting home two game-winners. To kick off a four-game homestand Schweiss was once again ice cold. Against Colorado State on Friday, Oct. 2nd Schweiss sailed a shot over the CSU keeper to give the Tigers an overtime victory.

On Sunday, Oct. 4th against Wyoming Schweiss was the deciding factor once again for Geoff Bennett's team. The game against the Cowgirls went into overtime and Schweiss struck after 6:35 to give the Tigers a 2-1 win. Schweiss' four-game game-winner streak came to a close on Thursday, Oct. 8th as CC fell 1-0 to Fresno State. However, Schweiss and the Tigers will look to bounce back on Sunday, Oct. 11th against San Jose State at noon.

Men's soccer disposes of Austin and Centenary in dominant homestand

COLE THOMPSON

Guest Writer

No. 18 Colorado College men's soccer (8-1-2, 6-0-1 SCAC) continued to display their dominance this weekend stretching their win streak to seven games with a pair of victories over Austin College (3-1) on Friday, Oct. 2 and Centenary College (3-1) on Sunday, Oct. 4.

The Tigers came from behind against Austin College on Friday night to secure their fifth SCAC victory. The Tigers rallied behind key upperclassmen for three goals and the eventual victory. Two goals came from senior midfielder Max Grossenbacher and the final nail in the coffin came from junior defender Jack McCormick.

After the initial Austin goal in the 31st minute, the Tigers were down 1-0. "Austin scoring the first goal made us play more aggressively, which paid off and let us win the game," said senior midfielder Soren Frykholm.

The Tigers retaliated less than 12 minutes later and scored their first goal of the match when Grossenbacher sent

the ball to the left post where it ricocheted off Austin's Chris Abad-Jacobi. In the 76th minute Grossenbacher got the crowd on their feet again by converting a penalty kick to put the Tigers ahead 2-1.

"Max has been instrumental to our success all season long," said Head Coach Scott Palguta. "Typically a midfielder, he has fully embraced a new position—center forward—and has proven to be a constant threat for opposing teams in the final third of the field."

Shortly after the Tigers gained the advantage from Grossenbacher's goal, McCormick put the game out of reach with a score from the center of the 'Roo's box. The goal was assisted by junior midfielder Tommy Riley.

The Tigers took control of the match early Sunday afternoon, notching three goals in the first half against Centenary College.

The Tigers got on the scoreboard after an assist from Grossenbacher to senior midfielder Seth Newby. Newby drilled the ball in the back of the bottom right of the goal. In the next 11 minutes of game

time the Tigers expertly picked apart the Centenary defense to score twice more. In the 33rd minute first-year defender Cam Stopforth earned his first collegiate goal with an assist from Grossenbacher. The final score was a header from junior defender Nathan Andersen off of a corner kick from Stopforth.

It takes more than a few goal scorers to shape a winning team. A season-high 22 players took the field for the Tigers on Sunday. They are all gutting it out to establish a remarkable season. In particular, senior Soren Frykholm is working hard in his final season to help ensure his team's success.

"Soren Frykholm simply doesn't get enough attention for the work he does in the middle of the field," said Palguta. "Soren has been one of our best players for the past two seasons. In addition to being our fittest player, his technical ability and tactical acumen are the best on the team."

Men's soccer is certainly having a fantastic year. Their season will reach an exciting peak this weekend with their final regular season game against their

conference rival Trinity University. The Tigers defeated their adversary 3-1 at home two weeks ago and plan to repeat their effort in San Antonio, Texas on Sunday.

The stoke is high on the men's soccer team. "We beat them two weeks ago here at home," said Frykholm. "It was a huge historic win for us. I am super excited to play them because it will show them and the country that our victory was not a fluke. It is the game I am looking forward to most this season."

"The key to our team's success thus far has been a total commitment from all 27 players, plain and simple," said Palguta. "The team has worked extremely hard since the first day of preseason and has bought into our day-by-day approach to the season."

Men's soccer extended their win streak to 7 games with wins against Austin College and Centenary College. Freshman defender Cam Stopforth (right) scored his first collegiate goal on Sunday, Oct. 4 against Centenary College. Photos courtesy of CC Athletics Photos by Charlie Lengal



Class of 2019 instrumental in 6-1 exhibition victory against Calgary

HANNAH WESTERMAN

Staff Writer

Tiger hockey fans witnessed an exciting start to the season last Saturday, Oct. 3, when Colorado College defeated the University of Calgary, 6-2, in an exhibition game.

"[Calgary] is an older team," said Head Coach Mike Haviland. "Most of them were 24- to 25-year-old men. They had nine guys that played pro hockey for a couple years. So, it was probably a bigger challenge than the fans would have seen it as since it's not a North Dakota or a BC or a Denver... I was a little nervous going in, and I think the guys were nervous... I thought they handled it well and did an amazing job. It was really nice to get off to a good start with a win."

CC opened the scoring in the first period with a goal by freshman forward Trevor Gooch. Only three minutes later, CC increased their lead with a goal by junior forward and captain Sam Rothstein.

Rothstein is the first junior to be named captain since 2004.

"I think it is important to try to keep everyone on the same page and working towards the same goals while portraying confidence," said Rothstein when asked how he would lead the team this season.

With only a few minutes left in the period, freshman defenseman David Radke made a power-play goal, sending CC into the second period with a 3-0 lead. Radke's goal would actually end up being the game-winner.

CC gained 14 new first-year players this season and the team is already reaping the benefits of their recruitment: four of the six goals against Calgary were scored by first-years. Despite the influx of new players, the team is still very tight-knit.

"We do everything together and are all best friends," said junior goalie Derek Shatzner. "Honestly I would say what makes our team so special is how close we are. Being able to play side by side

with your brothers and knowing that they would do anything for you is what I think will make our team so good this year."

After a successful first period, the Tigers went on to make another three goals in the second period. First-year forward Westin Michaud tallied two at the 2:26 mark and 14:28 mark. Both goals were made during power plays. The Tigers capitalized on four of their 12 power-play opportunities against Calgary.

Just seconds after Michaud's second goal, Calgary finally scored, moving swiftly to pass CC's defense. But Calgary never had a chance of closing the gap. At the 15:59 mark, senior forward Hunter Fejes scored CC's final goal of the game, bringing the score to 6-1 at the end of the second period.

In the third period, Calgary fought back, managing to score once more, but they couldn't overcome CC's explosive opening lead. CC now has a 6-3-1 all time record against Calgary. This is the

first time CC has played Calgary since 2009, when CC won 4-2.

Each of CC's three goalies played one period. Junior Tyler Marble made seven saves in the first period. Shatzner made eight saves and was scored on twice. The game was Shatzner's first career action since joining the Tigers. Lastly, first-year Jacob Nehama made four saves in the third period.

"I have been working towards my first game ever since I came to CC, so honestly I'm glad I was able to play so well and prove myself my first time out there," said Shatzner. "However, it was the student section that made it such a special moment. It was pretty cool to have such an awesome crowd out supporting us for our first game, and to be able to play that well in front of them made it that much better."

The Tigers open their regular season with two Homecoming Weekend games against University of Massachusetts on Oct. 9 and 10 at the Broadmoor World Arena.



In the exhibition game against University of Calgary, freshman Westin Michaud (right) and the rest of the Class of 2019 recruiting class figured prominently in the season-opening win.

Photos courtesy of CC Athletics
Photos by Casey B. Gibson



Photos courtesy of CC Athletics
Photos by Casey B. Gibson

CC women's rugby off to a blistering start in 2015 campaign

DAVID ANDREWS

Sports Editor

"Rugby is a family." These are the words of Colorado College women's rugby team captain Naya Herman. For Herman and her 24 teammates the game of rugby has created bonds that extend beyond the painted lines of Stewart Field. Herman and her co-captain and fellow senior Rachel Gonchar describe the team as an all-around support system, a network of empowered and passionate athletes.

The fall 2015 campaign for the CC women's rugby team has gotten off to a blistering start. The team has disposed of their Colorado competition with ease. In the opening three games of the season the Tigers beat UCCS, Wyoming, and Western State by a combined tally of 197-0. The team surrendered their first points of the season last weekend against Colorado School of Mines in a 33-15 victory.

This year's hot start begins from a backdrop of uncertainty and leadership change. Leading into the 2015-16 school year the entire existence of the women's rugby program at CC was in question. The women's team's long-time coach had left the program and the team was without a coach, a requirement to compete in the DII club league that the Tigers compete in.

Seniors Madi Howard and Rachel Gonchar stepped up and took an eight-hour

coach certification course in order to save the Tigers' season. Gonchar and Herman both credited a strong core of senior leadership in the formation of this year's season to date. Herman and Gonchar say that the team is basically run by a "board of captains." In addition to Herman and Gonchar, seniors Emilia Whitmer, Emilia Troyano, and Hannah Tilden are all integral parts of the Tiger's leadership.

Coming into the season this fall, Gonchar said, "Naya and I were the only ones who had a lot of knowledge of the game and were teaching the game to a whole bunch of new players." Due to a flurry of recruitment on NSO trips, at the activity fairs, and around campus, the team was able to pull in almost 15 freshmen to the squad. Up until this point in the season, the team has been playing without an official coach, making their 4-0 start all the more impressive. Recently, the team acquired a full-time head coach named Mike Windell. Windell, alongside his wife Amanda, has helped bolster the senior leadership on the team.

Rachel Gonchar spoke to the difficulty of teaching rugby at CC. "Rugby is especially hard because so few women have played rugby before getting here," she said. "Not only are you forming a new team but you are teaching a whole sport every year."

Gonchar, Herman and their fellow seniors have three years of playing experience under their belts but as Herman

admitted, they are all very much students of the game. Both senior captains spoke highly of the freshmen class, a group who is tackling an entirely foreign sport. "New players have been so brave jumping in and filling some really big cleats," said Herman.

Beyond the technical aspects of learning the game, both Herman and Gonchar see rugby as a tool to empower young women. Both cite the fact that women's rugby is played with the exact same rules as men's rugby. Women do not use pads and play the same 80-minute game as their male counterparts. The physical element of the game is as pronounced in women's rugby and Herman cites the physicality as one of the most "addicting" elements of rugby.

"Women's rugby is a growing sport and it's attracting a lot of girls that don't want to be just another girl," Gonchar stated. "They want to play with the guys." At CC especially, young women are flocking to women's rugby as a source of empowerment and as a place to find a family.

Both Gonchar and Herman acknowledge that there are stereotypes surrounding women's rugby. But both players agree that by and large CC women's rugby does not fit the stereotypical women's rugby mold.

"I think there is a huge stereotype that all women's rugby players are gay or identify as queer or are manly and we drink a lot and we're just aggressive

girls," Gonchar said. "That's just not our team. Yeah, we have gay women on our team. Yeah, we are aggressive on the field but our team is full of beautiful and smart women," said Gonchar.

Women's rugby will look to build on their undefeated season in the coming weeks. Next up for the Tigers is the Air Force Academy on Friday, Oct. 9 at Stewart Field. The game against the Falcons will begin at 7:30 p.m. The Air Force Academy will be a tougher task for the Tigers.

Herman commented that the team will find out what they're made of down the stretch in October and November. "So far we have just blown through our competition and it hasn't been that challenging," she said. "I'm interested to see how the team responds when we're not up by 70 points."

Another game to look out for is Colorado Mesa University of Oct. 25. Colorado Mesa is a perennial powerhouse in Colorado women's rugby and provides the Tigers with a tough matchup. Women's rugby has appeared in the national tournament each of the past two years, and they will look to continue their streak of nationals appearance this coming November.

Herman ended with an open message to CC women. "Come out for a game or come out for a practice," she said. "We are super inviting and you don't have to know anything. It's a really cool space to be empowered in your body"



Women's rugby is off to a 4-0 start this season. Through four games the team is outscoring their opponents 221-27. Photos courtesy of Naya Herman

An hour-long boulder break in North Cheyenne Canyon

MORGEN SEIM

Guest Writer

Looking for something to do on the weekends? Tired of a long approach and want to enjoy some laidback bouldering? Or do you simply want an excuse to get outside and off campus?

Head to one of the two boulders found in North Cheyenne Canyon: Graduation Rock. While it is only home to five classic routes, the rock provides a great opportunity to practice your traversing skills.

The boulder is located .7 miles away from the park entrance on the left side of the road. It is pretty hard to miss and once you spot it, park on the opposite side of the street. From there, it's about a five second approach, depending on the amount of cars passing by.

People have been bouldering on this rock for decades and at first glance, it seems like there are only about six problems to work on, two of which are pretty straightforward traverses. However, a quick peek on Mountain Project shows that there are dozens of problems waiting to be sent.

The problems range in their level of difficulty as well as height. The east side of the boulder is quite short but allows for several easy warm-ups before you walk westward to test out the harder problems. The majority of the routes are outlined in chalk, making it much easier to deal with Mountain Project's refusal to load on your phone.

On my visit, I avoided the south-facing wall that looked over the creek. The problems look fun but consist of highballs elevated over a running creek filled

with jagged rocks and branches sticking upwards towards the climber. It is definitely not a very easily protected wall.

Before trying these problems, you might consider turning towards the west corner of the rock, which has some pretty nice jugs that make up the most famous problem on the boulder: "Graduation", about a VI. For those of you who are looking for more of a challenge, don't worry. The problems range in difficulty. Supposedly, there is a V10 traverse somewhere on this rock, so go out and try to find it!

This is an ideal outing for someone who isn't looking to rack up or to pull on a harness. Just pull out a boulder pad and try to make sure it doesn't end up in the middle of the road. The north side of the wall is about a foot away from the edge of the road, so be careful about

where you put your bags as well.

For the most part, the problems are fun and easy but there is potential for some harder problems to be sent, so make sure someone is watching your back and the cars on the road. The quick approach makes it an attractive trip for those who are just looking to get outside during a study break.

If you feel like you've tackled the boulder as much as possible, go ahead and take a quick hike. The park is beautiful and there are many day hike options. There is a trail located right across the creek and if you're up for some fun scrambling, go back to where you parked and scramble up the side of the hill.

Once you get back to campus, you'll feel like you spent your day exactly as you intended to: relaxing in the fresh, open air.

Block Break 101: Conquering indecision

ANNA GRIGSBY
Guest Writer

With Block Break just around the corner, many of us first-years may be waffling on how to spend our four days of freedom. Some may decompress by binge watching a mindless Netflix series (My 600-Pound Life, anyone?). Others may road trip somewhere. The Colorado College bubble can be a hard one to pop, but this is the Front Range of the Rocky Mountains. We could do worse.

So if you're not into a backcountry diet of ramen, trail mix, and granola, consider day hikes to get your Vitamin D fix. There are many close to Colorado Springs, including classics like the Barr Trail to Pikes Peak, the Manitou Incline, and much more.

I have a confession--upon arriving at Colorado Springs I purchased a guidebook (hey, I'm from Oregon) from REI, "The Best Southern Front Range Hikes" by Greg Long. It includes a section of hikes within an hour's drive of Colorado Springs, useful for students who want to escape for the day or don't want a longer term commitment over the Block Break.

You can even go east from Colorado Springs to find gems. The Painted Mines

Interpretive Park is one such getaway near the town of Calhan, which is a 40-minute drive east on Highway 24. The rock formations are like a miniature Badlands 'painted' with vibrant colors. The Badlands appear out of nowhere, like someone peeled away one of the rolling hills. I recommend a visit before weather erodes thousands of years of layered stone and clay pinnacles and deposits.

If you are looking for a moderate trail

with a 360-degree view, Eagle Peak is a good fit. The Goat Camp Creek Trail climbs 2,000 feet, and the payoff is spectacular.

Bison Peak, a 12,431 summit with 3,750 feet of elevation in the Lost Creek Wilderness, is for the more ambitious. The hike is 11.5 miles round-trip with an hour drive, but the isolation that the Lost Creek Wilderness provides is reward enough. This guidebook suggests the trail could be entirely yours



Photo by Anna Grigsby

on a weekday, and possibly shared with another group on the weekend. But be prepared for rapidly changing weather conditions at higher elevations!

With the weather changing and winter approaching, it may be worth your while to check out some of these Front Range hikes before backpacking season morphs into the much anticipated ski season.

I also came across an informative website for hikes near Colorado Springs: Every Trail. It provides descriptions of the hikes, maps, photos, even an app for your smart phone for anyone seeking a gentle transition from soft-cushy chairs, prepared food, and real-time Twitter feeds.

And if that doesn't convince you--think what a few choice pix could do for your Instagram page! Go to Every Trail (www.everytrail.com/best/hiking-colorado-springs-colorado) for more information on hikes on Colorado Springs, or the El Paso County for information on the Paint Mines Interpretive Park

(<http://www.adm.elpasoco.com/CommunityServices/ParkOperations/Pages/PaintMinesInterpretivePark.aspx>).

Volleyball goes undefeated at Pikes Peak Challenge

HANNAH WESTERMAN

Staff Writer

Last weekend, the Colorado College women's volleyball team hosted and won the Pikes Peak Challenge. They added three more wins to their current streak. The tournament also brought the Tigers record up to 19-1. With this record, the Tigers have tied their previous best start to a season. The last time Colorado College won 19 out of its first 20 games was in 2013.

The impressive performance in the tournament came after a personal tragedy for the team. Head Coach Rick Swan's mother recently passed away, and Swan was unable to attend the previous week's practices. That the team

was still able to pull together to perform so admirably is a testament both to the Tigers' dedication to their sport and to Swan and his staff's abilities as coaches.

The tournament began for the Tigers on Friday, Oct. 2 with a match against the University of Wisconsin-Oshkosh. Though the Tigers eventually triumphed, it ended up being an incredibly close and challenging match. The Tigers won the first set handily 25-14. But then Wisconsin-Oshkosh came back to win the next two sets, both 25-18.

CC was behind in the fourth set, with Wisconsin-Oshkosh leading 17-12. First-year middle hitter Myca Steffey-Bean made a kill that set off a four point streak that pulled CC within one point of Wisconsin-Oshkosh. The set remained very close until Wisconsin-Oshkosh

gained set point with a kill, putting the score at 24-23 in their favor. But the Tigers refused to give up the set; the two teams battled it out fiercely until the score was tied 26-26. Some errors by Wisconsin-Oshkosh gave the Tigers the set and tied up the match, sending the teams into the deciding fifth set.

"Although we were faced with adversity, numerous players came off the bench and stepped up to help us win," said senior libero Sophie Merrifield. "The match was a battle, and I was proud of the determination and support of the entire team...we were still able to bounce back and win the match."

The Tigers started off strong in the fifth set with an 8-1 run, but Wisconsin-Oshkosh was not going down easy. They came back and took the lead 14-13 for

match point. Junior outside hitter Abbe Holtze tied the set with a kill and then another error by Wisconsin-Oshkosh gave the Tigers match point. Sophomore middle hitter Glenna Yancey won the set and the match with a hard kill straight down the middle.

"As a team, we approach every game expecting a challenge," said Yancey. "It is very important to treat each team with equal levels of expectation and respect in order to get the job done, but we definitely went into the Wisconsin-Oshkosh game expecting a good opponent, and they were. Our consistency and ability to stay together as a team when we struggle is what I would say ultimately won the game."

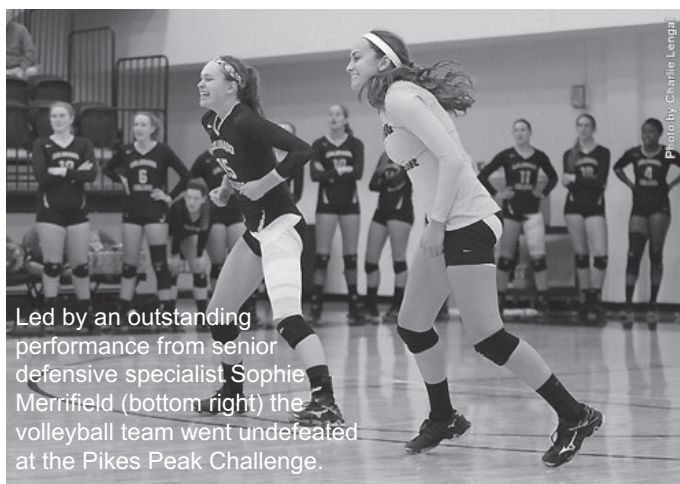
The next day, the Tigers won two more matches against Elmhurst College and Cornell College. The Tigers started off beating Elmhurst 3-0 with scores of 25-19, 25-19, and 25-23. Holtze had a team-high 12 kills, and Merrifield had a team high 12 digs.

The next match of the day was a bit more of a challenge. After losing the first set, Cornell came back to win the second set. But the Tigers rallied and defeated Cornell in the third and fourth sets, securing the match and the tournament. Holtze made a season-high 19 kills against Cornell. Senior hitter Courtney Birkett made her fourth triple-double of the season with 28 assists, 13 kills, and 13 digs.

Birkett credits both the team's depth and wide-spread talent for the victories. "Everyone stepped up to play their part," said Birkett.

Holtze was named the Most Valuable Player of the Pikes Peak Challenge. Merrifield was honored by the Southern Collegiate Athletic Conference as Defensive Player of the Week. This is Merrifield's fifth SCAC honor.

After the successes at home, the Tigers are heading to Texas this weekend for three SCAC games. On Oct. 10, they play Austin College and the University of Dallas. Then, the Tigers finish up the weekend with a game against Centenary College on Oct. 11.



Led by an outstanding performance from senior defensive specialist Sophie Merrifield (bottom right) the volleyball team went undefeated at the Pikes Peak Challenge.



Coach Rick Swan's team beat nationally-ranked opponents Wisconsin-Oshkosh (No. 18) and Elmhurst College (No. 15). Photos courtesy of CC Athletics. Photos by Charlie Lengal



First female ascents and the empowerment therein

SARA FLEMING
Guest Writer

Last spring, my climbing teacher Mike Schneider bolted a new route at the Poux in Glenwood Canyon, Colo. Purely by coincidence, I happened to climb there with him the next day. I led the climb.

The excitement of a successful send must have gotten to my head, because the first thing I said after touching ground was, "Wait. Does that count as a First Female Ascent?" The answer, technically, was yes. But I was also the second person to try the climb, and it was only a 5.9 (indicating a relatively easy climb).

This incident highlights the predicament now surrounding a common practice in climbing: the labeling and recognition of First Female Ascents (FFAs). Climbing is a unique sport in that the main objective (outside of indoor competition climbing) is to push to new realms and advance the sport in a variety of different ways.

One of those ways is through First Ascents (FAs), in which recognition is given to whoever first successfully climbs a route. The majority (though not all) of FAs are completed by men. It has become an accepted practice to give credit to women who first successfully climb something through the designation of an FFA. However, as my story illustrates, sometimes it doesn't mean much.

Recently, some have questioned the validity and ethics of the FFA. The debate was launched when professional climber Paige Claassen chose not to report her ascent of a 5.14a (extremely difficult) route as an FFA. In a Facebook post, Claassen said, "We're all making HUMAN accomplishments. They all deserve recognition... It's relatively clear whether an individual is a male or female, so I don't think the distinction that you are a female achieving something needs to be made."

True, however this argument seems to share the same rhetoric as those who claim that they're "not for women's rights, but for human rights" or dispute #BlackLivesMatter with #AllLivesMatter. Grouping the oppressed with the already privileged doesn't help the situation, and fails to address the problems people are trying to fix.

The debate about FFAs is much more

obscure than these examples, but it highlights a similar predicament: Does specifying a certain group of oppressed people to recognize rights or achievements advance equality, or hold people back? As climbing becomes another venue in which gender roles are smashed, it is an interesting and important case in the development of the sport.

To address some of these issues, we have to go back in the timeline of climbing, a sport which has been relatively inclusive, but not without its faults.

Women began mountaineering (the sport which rock climbing stemmed from) as early as the 1700s, often while wearing dresses. When the more athletic version of rock climbing began to boom in the 1950s, its pioneers were a group of radical, free-spirited and hard-partying men.

Women were hesitantly incorporated into the sport, though in the beginning (and still, to a degree), that meant assimilating to this culture. As popularity increased, some women became part of the group of climbers pushing the physical limits of the sport.

The most outstanding development was in 1993, when Lynn Hill became the first person—male or female—to free climb (ascend through the means of one's own body, rather than relying on outside aid) the Nose of El Capitan: a coveted route and the most prominent line on the most impressive monolith in Yosemite. This opened the door for a flood of new female climbers to perform at high levels.

Today, the gap in performance between women and men is closing at a remarkable pace. Most notably, 14 year old Ashima Shiraishi became the first woman to climb 5.15a, a grade that only a handful of male climbers have been able to achieve, close to the hardest climbed by anyone.

She and a growing group of other female crushers are challenging the perception that women are not as strong or as capable climbers when compared to men. Because they have different bodies, women generally climb in a different style than most men, executing fewer powerful moves and using more body positioning techniques. However, it is

becoming clear that neither is necessarily more advantageous than the other.

Still, gender boundaries persist in the sport. Female climbers remain a minority. They are often praised in the media due to sex appeal rather than climbing ability, criticized because they have muscular, "masculine-looking" bodies, and subjected to a "bro-centric" climbing culture where objectifying women is a common topic of conversation. Gender equality in climbing, as in virtually every aspect of society, is not a reality, and it needs to be addressed.

Historically, when oppressed groups begin the process of liberation and begin to achieve great things in society, it is noted. We remember the first woman astronaut, the first woman doctor, and it will be a benchmark of progress when we are able to note the first woman president.

Yes, it would be arbitrary to do so if women and men always had equal opportunity, but that's not the case—and so noting the first woman to accomplish a certain thing or fulfill a certain role is a way of cataloguing the progress that society has made. We should not make the mistake of claiming that noticing someone's gender constitutes sexism in itself.

We can debate whether FFAs are the best way to do this in climbing, and can certainly incorporate other measures that promote women's progress in the sport, but one thing that remains clear is that gender is not irrelevant: recognizing women's achievements in climbing is crucial.

As women at the top of the sport begin to climb at the same level as men at the top of the sport, it will inspire more women to try climbing recreationally, which is where the real meaning of the sport is found. Climbing embodies many of the opportunities the patriarchy has historically denied to women: a chance to exhibit strength and power, to exercise responsibility and self-discipline, and to experience the adventure and freedom of the outdoors.

It may sound silly, but climbing is liberating. The more we can open this activity to women, the more it will open up to other oppressed groups—people of color, non-gender binary people, and the economically underprivileged—and the more people will be empowered in the most awesome of ways: sending hard.

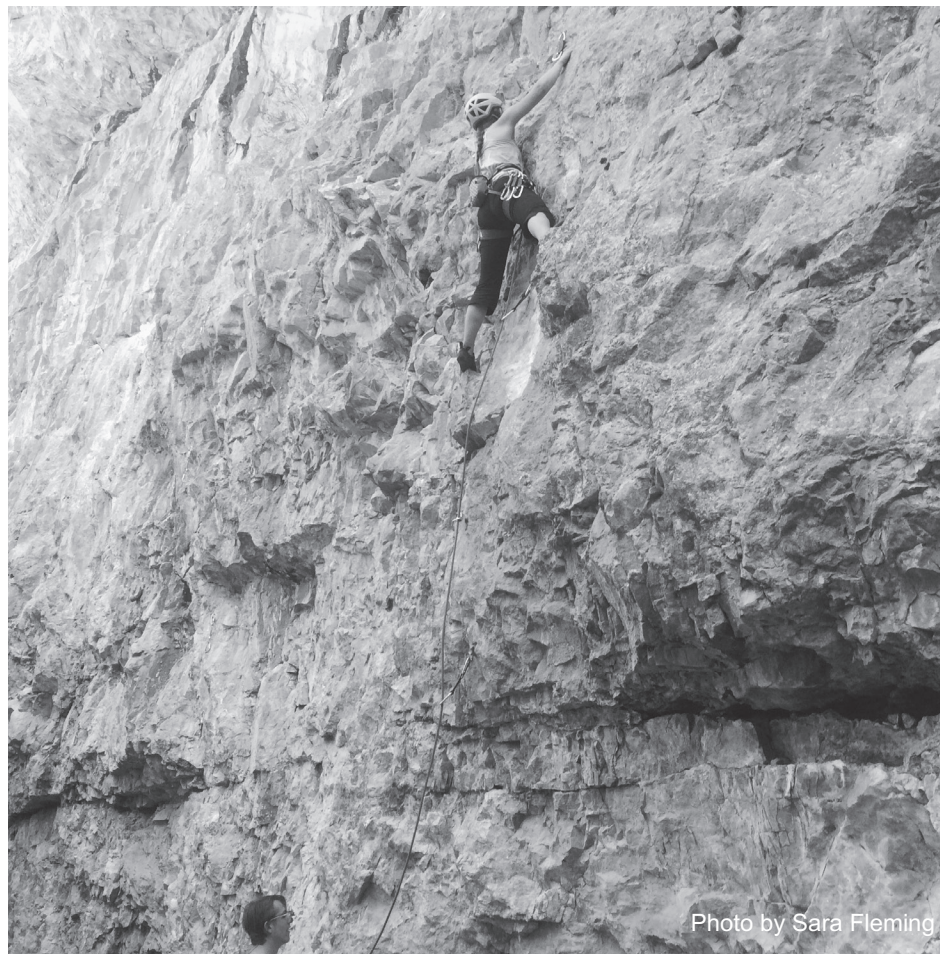


Photo by Sara Fleming

UPCOMING SPORTING EVENTS

Men's Soccer (8-1-2, 6-01 SCAC)

Friday, Oct. 9 @ Schreiner University, 3 p.m. CT
Sunday, Oct. 11 @ Trinity University, 12 p.m. CT

Women's Soccer (6-7-1, 4-1-0 Mountain West)

Sunday, Oct. 11 vs. San Jose State University, 12 p.m.

Men's Hockey (1-0, 0-0)*

Friday, Oct. 9 vs. University of Massachusetts, 7:37 p.m.
Saturday, Oct. 10 vs. University of Massachusetts, 7:07 p.m.

***Men's Hockey beat University of Calgary on Saturday, Oct. 3rd but this win will not go towards the Tiger's final record.**

Volleyball (19-1, 7-0 SCAC)

Saturday, Oct. 10 @ Austin College, 12:30 p.m. CT
Saturday, Oct. 10 @ University of Dallas, 5 p.m. CT
Sunday, Oct. 11 @ Centenary College, 11 a.m. CT

Men's and Women's Cross Country

Saturday, Oct. 10 @ Fort Hays State Tiger Open, 9 a.m. CT

Women's Rugby (4-0)

Friday, Oct. 8 vs. Air Force Academy, 7:30 p.m.

****All times MST unless otherwise noted**

FEATURED GAME OF THE WEEK

Women's Rugby vs. Air Force Academy, Stewart Field, Today @ 7:30 p.m.

After a 4-0 start to their season, expectations are high for women's rugby's matchup against Air Force Academy tonight at Stewart Field. As Rachel Gonchar mentioned in an interview earlier this week, tonight's matchup against the Air Force Academy is made all the more enticing seeing as the cadets are "trained killers." Furthermore, Air Force Academy now employs CC's former long-time head coach Amy Rusert. The game is set to kick off this weekend's homecoming festivities at 7:30 p.m. tonight. Come out and support your fellow Tigers in their bid to move to 5-0 on the season and move up in the national rankings. The Tigers are currently 16th in the national DII women's rugby rankings.

Cheyenne Mountain Zoo: Tapirs, leopards, and elephants, oh my

TARA LABOVICH
Staff Writer

You might be seeing some new animals around the Cheyenne Mountain Zoo. On Friday, Sept. 25, Carlotta, one of two mountain tapirs at the zoo, wandered through her recently renovated exhibit for the first time. Cofan, her mate, was introduced to the space the next day. This was done so that both tapirs had an equal opportunity to get comfortable in their new home.

However, the two mountain tapirs are actually not a new species for the Cheyenne Mountain Zoo. According to Erica Meyer, the Public Relations Manager at the Zoo, they have been at the zoo in an off-exhibit area since 2012 while construction was done for Encounter Africa.

"Now that we've renovated an exhibit space for them," Meyer says, "we are thrilled to once again have them out for guests to see and learn about." The new exhibit includes lots of water, where the tapirs enjoy themselves and cool off, along with more greenery and space to explore.

As reported by National Geographic, Tapirs look something like pigs with trunks, but they are actually related to horses and rhinoceroses. Research suggests that the tapir hasn't changed much over the course of tens of millions of years."

Out of all the species of tapir, the mountain tapir—also known as the woolly tapir because of their thick coats—is the most critically endangered. There is a population of only 2,500 to 3,000 remaining in the wild. The Tapir Specialist

Group cites this species to live at high elevations in Columbia, Ecuador, and Northern Peru.

Cheyenne Mountain Zoo is one of two locations in America to house mountain tapirs. Currently, there are a total of seven mountain tapirs in the United States. Five are presently at the Los Angeles Zoo, while the remaining two are in Colorado Springs.

According to The Waterhole, Cheyenne Mountain Zoo's newsletter, Carlotta is the "only proven breeding female, which is why breeding efforts at the Zoo are so important." So far, the Zoo has attempted artificial insemination and traded an older male for Cofan with the Los Angeles Zoo in hopes of increasing Carlotta's chance of breeding. While there have not been any positive results, the Zoo "is hopeful about Carlotta and Cofan's future and cautiously optimistic about the potential for a future tapir baby."

About a month ago, Anya, a female Amur leopard arrived at Cheyenne Mountain Zoo. She came all the way from the Jacksonville Zoo in Florida because of the Zoo's participation in the American Zoo Association's Species Survival Plan. The Cheyenne Mountain Zoo's newsletter states that they are currently searching for a male that is "genetically valuable and a good match for Anya," but that "it might be a while before we are able to get one." So far she has been adjusting well, and getting along with animal keepers.

This fall, the Cheyenne Mountain Zoo will also be welcoming two new African elephants. Missy, who is 46 years old, and Kimba Lou, who is 33, are currently



Photo by Arden Feldman

in Garden City, Kansas, and an official move date has not been set.

"We truly believe Cheyenne Mountain Zoo is the best new home for Missy and Kimba Lou," Animal Care Manager Jason Bredahl says. "Our elephant exhibit exceeds the Association of Zoos and Aquariums' standards and was designed to allow specialized care for ag-

ing female elephants, like Kimba Lou and Missy. We know we are the best choice to care for them in their golden years."

For more information on the tapirs, other new exhibits and animals, or for general information, visit www.cmzoo.org or subscribe to their newsletter, The Waterhole.

\$20 in my pocket: A shift in the local thrift market

ABE LAHR
Staff Writer

Shift Thrift, a Colorado Springs thrift store, opened its doors a month ago. Its founder and executive director, Mike Mazzola, also owns Mountain Equipment Recyclers in Colorado Springs.

Shift Thrift's unique business model is geared towards benefiting the Colorado Springs community at large. It is a nonprofit dedicated to providing funds for other nonprofits in the city. Shift has partnerships with six local charities: Rocky Mountain Field institute, dedicated to the conservation of public lands in Southern Colorado; Trails and Open Space Coalition, which works with the Colorado Springs government to bring more trails, parks, and open spaces to the community; Kids on Bikes, an organization that tries improve bicycle access for kids in the community while promoting bike safety; The Home Front Cares, an organization that provides financial assistance to veterans and their families in need; Blue Star Recyclers, which recycles electronics and other materials in order to create local jobs for people with autism and other disabilities, and Springs Rescue Mission, which provides food and shelter for Colorado Springs' homeless population as part of a larger mission to help

people achieve more stable lives.

When you donate to Shift, you choose one of these six organizations to support. Thirty percent of the proceeds from the sale of that item are automatically given to the charity of your choice.

Along with its effort to help the charitable organizations of Colorado Springs, Shift Thrift promotes conservation and efficient use of resources. According to Mazzola, "We're upcycling goods. Instead of a used shirt going to a landfill, it's being reused. That's one less new shirt to buy and one less shirt in a landfill."

Mazzola's success with Mountain Equipment Recyclers prompted him to start Shift Thrift. He had an effective business model that included selling reused gear and donating a portion of the proceeds to nonprofits, but "still saw a big need in the community to help nonprofits generate revenue." Many of these nonprofits rely on a constant flow of revenue. If they have a bad week or a bad month, the people they support suffer.

What sets Shift apart from other thrift



Photo by Phillip Engh

stores, aside from its commitment to local charities, is its atmosphere. "It's more clean, more attractive. We're more of a boutique style," says Mazzola.

Mazzola notes that Shift, to his knowledge, is the only store of its kind in the country, but hopefully its success can start a trend of thrift stores working towards bettering their local communities. In its first month at a temporary

location Shift was able to generate \$850 for the charities it supports.

Shift Thrift is located at 218 W. Colorado Ave., although this is a temporary location. They're looking for something more permanent closer to downtown. Store hours are 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., Tuesday through Saturday. Find more information at shiftthriftstore.com and the Shift Thrift Store Facebook page.

REEL TALK: THE MARTIAN



THOMAS CRANDALL
Staff Writer

Hollywood's recent obsession with astronauts and space travel has jumped across the pond to England with Ridley Scott's newest film, "The Martian." Scott, an accomplished British filmmaker known for "Bladerunner" (1982), "Black Hawk Down" (2001), and "Prometheus" (2012), follows in the wake of recent space epics "Gravity" (2013) and "Interstellar" (2014) to forge his own, lighter view of galactic travel. Based on Andy Weir's 2014 novel, the film stars Matt Damon as a NASA astronaut (Mark Watney) stranded on Mars, forced to survive in its unlivable environment (ironically, just as real-life NASA finds evidence of surface water). Scott proposes a more exciting, funny view of space than "Gravity" or "Interstellar," embracing space as a possibility for discovery rather than a post-apocalyptic human colony. Yet, Scott's use of humor seems to oversimplify larger themes in "The Martian," positing space as the next human playground without questioning the larger implications of this perspective.

Geeky, funny moments with Watney and his crew immediately give the mov-

ie a playful feel. Seeing the crew joking with each other as they collect samples on Mars makes Scott's perspective clear: space doesn't always need to be serious. In the world of environmental disaster and apocalypse movies, his vision is quite refreshing. We remember that space travel, at its core, should be exciting. But once Watney is left behind, reality sets in. Living on Mars is almost impossible. Here, humor sometimes becomes problematic. Watney (the crew's botanist) must grow food on a planet without good soil or water, and we come to know Mark through his video logs. Damon plays the funny scientist well, dryly joking, "surprise" telling NASA he's alive, or cursing his crewmates as he grows potatoes using their waste. The film proposes survival can be, and may need to be, comical. But as Watney's situation becomes more serious, jokes undercut more sobering themes. In one NASA meeting, the scientists reference Lord of the Rings in a somewhat desperate attempt to include pop culture. Humor

begins to conflict with drama, and sometimes makes emergency seem too casual. One young, over-caffeinated scientist is shown asleep with his research in a NASA office, as if NASA were a college dorm rather than a professional organization. In another scene, collaboration with the Chinese space program is referenced to as, "My Uncle Tommy in China."

The film keeps the mood light, but in some instances makes crisis feel too easy.

This humorous mood continues in the movie's music, accentuat-

The Martian plays with (maybe too lightly) the seriousness of space travel. The narrative pairs humor and suffering genuinely, but by the end it feels somewhat oversimplified

ing moments of hope but at times overdoing it. Initially, NASA doesn't know Watney is alive, until he finally finds a way to transmit a visual from Mars. The moment of a NASA technician seeing Watney's signal comes across nicely, but the score overdoes it, with its French horns feeling too much like a "triumph of the will." The music reflects the movie's fun attitude, but sometimes feels cheesy, particularly using "Love Train" and "I Will Survive" in the credits. The Martian plays with (maybe too lightly) the seri-

ousness of space travel. The narrative pairs humor and suffering genuinely, but by the end it feels somewhat oversimplified, and too neatly resolved.

The film boasts incredible visuals and intriguing editing, creating a believable Mars environment. They even simulate Mars gravity (62 percent of that of Earth) with the use of slower motion and intricate sound design. Just watching Damon walk around or move ship parts becomes spellbinding. It's a funny, familiar cast, including Jeff Daniels, Jessica Chastain, Kristen Wiig, Michael Peña, and Kate Mara, but its stars can't seem to save Scott's story from feeling too clean. The Martian presents an intriguing case of global unity to rescue one man, refueling the excitement of space, yet feels over idealistic, missing an opportunity to question what a human relationship with space and space travel really means.

Catch Matt Damon in "The Martian" at Kimball's at 1:45 p.m., 5 p.m., and 8 p.m. daily, as well at Tinseltown at various times. Because I refuse to see "Everest" (especially after seeing "Meru"), check back next week for Robert DeNiro and Anne Hathaway in "The Intern."

DRONES. FOR CLASS.

New Block 4 Class

EV 120: Innovation in Environmental Studies Applying Drones, Remote Sensing, and Startup Innovations

Co-taught by:

- Miro Kummel, Associate Professor and Director of the Environmental Program
- Patrick Bultema, Executive Director of the Innovation Institute at CC

No prerequisites required.
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National coffee week

ALYSSA MAVOR
Staff Writer

Whether they take it black, sugary, or pumpkin-spiced, coffee drinkers all over the world start their day with the thick scent of rich, roasted coffee beans and the caffeine fix they crave. What's better than coffee? Free coffee.

Tuesday, Sept. 9 was National Coffee Day, a day to celebrate one of the most widely championed breakfast beverages in the world. Seizing the opportunity as a marketing event, many Colorado Springs businesses offered discounts or freebies on the day. The Colorado Springs Gazette compiled a list:

- The Perk on Tejon gave free eight-ounce cups of its delicious brew to the first 80 customers of the day, as well as selling large coffees for the price of a medium.
- Both Kangaroo Coffee and Dutch Bros. Coffee offered extra stamps on their frequent buyer cards
- Panera Bread offered free brewed coffee all day, while Bella's Bakery and the Coffee Exchange offered 12-ounce cups for 50 cents.
- Caribou Coffee donated a cup of coffee to nurses and families in cancer centers nationwide.
- In a shocking show of environmental-consciousness, Starbucks promised to plant coffee trees, beginning in Central America, for every bag of coffee sold through 2016, ac-

ording to ABC News.

- Whole Foods sold cups of coffee for only 25 cents, and will continue to do so for the rest of the month!
- Even our own Colorado Coffee participated, offering a special of \$0.99 for any size coffee, said Randy Kruse, the general manager of Bon Appetit at Colorado College.

International Coffee Day also took place on Oct. 1 and according to CNN, Finland is outshining the rest of the world when it comes to coffee drinking. Finns consumed an average of 21.8lbs of coffee per capita in 2014, almost three-and-a-half times what the average American drank. The next seven highest coffee consuming countries on the list were all European, leaving coffee-producing Brazil at number nine and the United States at number 25, according to the study by Euromonitor International.

Coffee, however, might finally be making a comeback into the hearts of health-conscious Americans. According to the Mayo Clinic, rumors of coffee's negative effects on the body are starting to be overturned. Studies show that coffee might protect against Parkinson's disease, type 2 diabetes, and liver cancer, as well as improving cognitive function and decreasing the risk of depression. The clinic recommends drinking coffee that does not contain cream and sugar, warning that some coffee drinks contain more than 500 calories.

Happy sipping!

Arts month in Colorado Springs

NIYAT OGBAZGHI
Staff Writer

Ever wondered what the Colorado Springs arts scene is like? Well, get ready to immerse yourself into a flurry of vibrant visuals, prose and poetry compositions, snazzy music, and theatrical performances this month in celebration of Arts Month here in Colorado Springs.

Arts Month is a celebration of the creative arts produced by talented innovators living in the Pikes Peak region. As stated on the Cultural Office of the Pikes Peak Region's (COPPeR) website, the Colorado Springs program started in 2014 and took root in the 1993 establishment of the National Arts and Humanities Month. This national program was initiated to "encourage Americans to explore new facets of the arts and humanities in their lives, and to begin a lifelong habit of participation in the arts and humanities." Twenty years later, it has become the nation's largest communal celebration of the arts.

After a single year, Arts Month has already established an integrative bond between the creative humanities and the Colorado Springs community. According to a recent COPPeR study, the nonprofit art industry and its audience produce a \$72 million impact on the Pikes Peak region alone and provide 2,168 jobs every year.

"A vibrant arts and cultural sector is essential to local economic vitality and to quality of life for residents and visitors," Andy Vick, the executive director of COPPeR said.

This month, the October Arts Month exhibits will be split into four separate weeks based upon their artistic themes. Theatre and film productions will be exhibited throughout the first week, the visual arts during the second week, music and dance during the third week, and poetry, prose, and comedy during the fourth and final week.

Films such as "Dr. Seuss' The Cat in the Hat" will be shown at various performing arts centers in Colorado Springs during the first week of the month. In addition,

film documentaries produced by students across Colorado Springs will be presented at the Cornerstone Arts Center at CC.

The second week will include workshops on various art medias such as canvas painting and photography in venues across the Pikes Peak region and will also host art exhibits from famous artists like Floyd D. Tunson.

To bring out the melodic sounds of art, the third week will encompass musical performances by artists and acapella groups such as Johnny Craig and St. Mary's Cathedral Classics. Moreover, the third week will also anchor lively dance parties to music from funky R&B and Reggae groups like the Phat Horn Doctors.

Finally, to conclude the month with compassion and light-hearted humor, the fourth week will be comprised of performances from comedy groups such as the Lezberados and spoken poetry from William Logan, a poet who will be reading his work at CC's Visiting Writer's Series on Oct. 8.

During the first week, Colorado College will take its first steps to integrate its students into the artistic celebration and will be screening six film documentaries titled "Adult YDA Bootcamp" in the Edith Kinney Gaylord Cornerstone Arts Center on October 6. The film portrays six documentaries produced by six students who participated in a Documentary Production Bootcamp hosted by the Bemis School of Art and the Youth Documentary Academy in Colorado Springs. In accordance with its attempt to connect its students to the Colorado Springs community, CC will be presenting the documentary series on campus to bring the community and the scholars together through the meaningful art culture that defines Colorado Springs' October Arts Month.

For more information, visit www.coppercolo.org to see how you can join in the artistic celebration.

Bambino's opens

MAYLIN CARDOSO FUENTES
Staff Writer

Are you tired of eating on campus for breakfast, lunch, and dinner? Or, are you craving the variety and atmosphere that only off-campus eateries can provide? If you identified with either of those emotions, a new restaurant downtown may be your answer. Conveniently close, Bambino's Urban Pizzeria is a 15-minute walk from Worner.

At its new location on 36 E. Bijou St., Bambino's Urban Pizzeria moves from a more traditional Italian ambience to a cutting-edge, speedier contemporary pizzeria. As it is located in the fast-paced, downtown setting, the pizzeria combines speed and quality without not sacrificing its homemade tradition to promise its customers a tongue-taking pizza in 10 minutes. In the meantime, customers can see their pizza being made through a large window in its open-performance kitchen. There is also a "Dough Room," where customers can watch how the Neapolitan pizza dough is made from scratch. The restaurant offers both an enjoyable sit-down eating experience for those with time, and a more fast food-like service for customers wishing to grab their pizza and go.

For \$8.50, customers can create their own 11-inch Neapolitan pizza from scratch, and customize sauce, cheese, and a wide variety of unlimited meat and veggie toppings. Bambino's also offers preset options, such as the "Unleash the Beast" pizza, which features classic red tomato sauce, mozzarella cheese, crispy bacon, Italian sausage, pepperoni, and meatballs. "The Green Hippy" is a great alternative for vegetarians, involving fresh spinach, roasted garlic, and mushrooms with an Alfredo sauce base. Bambino's Pizzeria also offers several mac and cheese dishes, spicy buffalo Alfredo, and salads for no more than \$8.50. Desserts like cheesecake, apple pizza, and frozen custard are also available to soothe any sweet rather than salty cravings. Locally brewed beer and wine is offered for those 21 and over. For Colorado College students, Bambino's Urban Pizzeria also offers a \$10 weekly promotional special that includes a pizza and two sodas. If you dine with one other person, you're essentially paying \$5 for a pizza and a drink each.

Bambino's Urban Pizzeria is open 11 a.m. to 9 p.m. from Sundays to Thursdays, and 11 a.m. to 10 p.m. on Fridays and Saturdays.



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NICK'S PICKS: WAVVES AND AVICII

NICK DYE
Staff Writer

This week, I'm exploring two opposite sides of the musical spectrum. On one side, we have Wavves, the California punk-band who are part of their own indie label under a major one, whose wishes they reject. The other is the EDM megastar Avicii who survives headlining the multimillion-dollar festival circuit. This week there will be a clear difference between artistic venting and the mechanization of an industry giant.

Wavves - V (7.0/10)

Wavves has been one of the premier indie punk acts of the past five years. The California band had a breakout band in 2010 with the release of their third album, King of The Beach. The album received much praise for high-energy songs like "Post-Acid." Since 2010, Wavves released their great fourth album *Afraid of Heights* and a collaborative album with post-hardcore band Cloud Nothings. Front man Nathan Williams has been busy with side projects

like electronic/trap *Sweet Valley* (a collaboration with his younger brother) or his other indie band Spirit Club.

Wavves also plays male counter part to another California-indie darling, Best Coast. Williams and Best Coast frontwoman Bethany Constantino have been dating for several years now. It becomes clear to listeners of both that the two write songs about each other and the struggles in their relationship.

V is the fifth album from Wavves. It is notably faster than *Afraid of Heights* and a return to the succinctness of the first three releases. The album is filled with self-loathing from Williams. It seems clear the front man is losing his mind as he squeals in multiple songs.

There is a sense of anguish from this iteration of the surf-punks but not in a depressing sense. Williams is done with his pain and anxiety. He's calling it quits. He's ready to shake off the demon to lean on. V is cleaning dirty laundry for the band.

V is a true-to-form Wavves album. It is not their best work. It is, however, Williams best release this year. Spirit Club was not exciting. The collaborative album with Cloud Nothings was a disappoint-

ment. King of The Beach and *Afraid of Heights* are better first introductions. For old Wavves fans, V will be a fresh helping, but far from the best.

Avicii - Stories (5.6/10)

Avicii is one of the biggest names in the mainstream EDM festival juggernaut. His stardom took off after the release of 2011's "Levels," an EDM song so huge that it became a meme for the whole genre. The Swedish DJ hit pop success after his release of "Wake Me Up" with R&B singer Aloe Blacc.

For his debut album, *True*, Avicii went a strange route that the Tiestos and David Guettas wouldn't have. He embraced EDM's true opposites, country, blues and folk. Debuting the material six months ahead of release at the Ultra Music Festival, fans were bewildered by the move. Pop fans and top-40 radio took Avicii into their libraries while EDM fans dismissed it.

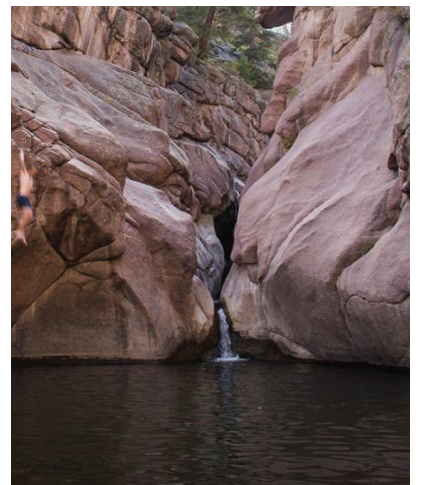
Avicii has returned to release his second album *Stories* this fall. The DJ does not dismiss his success of his debut album but also decides to reel in success-

es of his early work. The combination seems to be willing to get everyone to come back to Avicii's party.

On *True*, he used few well-known collaborators. This time around he decides to take in big names, like Coldplay's Chris Martin, Wyclef Jean, and Zack Brown. Certainly, Avicii attracts the unexpected.

Stories is an interesting compilation of sounds. Many songs have the old school Avicii house feel with heavy piano clunking. Some have the country guitar tones in them. Then there are interesting switches with songs like "Pure Grinding," which has a hip-hop/R&B vibe to them.

Overall, the songs on *Stories* are pure Avicii hits made using his signature formula. The songs are loud with massive build-up and dance-worthy drops. While the album is fun, it is more of a collection than an entire piece. Avicii is awkwardly straddling a line between EDM and pop. His EDM work feels very much his own. The pop material is the musical equivalent of a stock photo. The beginning of *Stories* is very high energy but the album loses steam and many of the songs feel unfinished.



CC LENS Emily Kim

CC HAPPENINGS

Friday

9th

9:30-10:30 a.m.
"Remembering Normandy" with Professor Bill Hochman. Film screening of U.S. Naval officer Bill Hochman's experiences during World War II. (WES Room)

12:00 p.m.
Fearless Friday Seminar
The Department of Mathematics and Computer Science presents: "Best Practices for Constructing and Applying Clinical Prediction Models in the Presence of Non-Ignorable Missing Data" with Sarah Fletcher Mercado '10, Vanderbilt University. (TSC 122)

12:15-1 p.m.
Spiritual Journeys with Nori Rost: Join the Chaplains' Office this Friday as they welcome Nori Rost, Senior Minister of All Souls Unitarian Church. Lunch will be provided. (Interfaith House)

1-2:30 p.m.
Story Sharing: Where have we been since 1965? Where are we going now? Members of the Class of 1965 gather to share their stories. (Spencer Center Boardroom, Spencer Center)

2-4 p.m.
"What it is Like to go to War"
A panel of alumni and students share their war stories and experience. Attendees are strongly encouraged to read "What Is It Like To Go To War," by Karl Marlantes. (Cornerstone Screening Room)

3 - 5 p.m.
Alumni LGBTQIA+ Reception
LGBTQIA+ alumni are invited to a reception with CC LGBTQIA+ staff, faculty, and students. (Tutt Alumni House)

4 - 7 p.m.
State of the Rockies Project Gallery Opening
The State of the Rockies Project

is showcasing top student photos that represent the unique landscapes and culture of the American West. Includes a cook-out. The gallery will remain open on Saturday and Sunday from 4-7 p.m. (802 Nevada Gallery Space)

4:30 - 7 p.m.
Celebrating 50 Years of Professors Owen Cramer and Tim Fuller (Richard F. Celeste Theatre and Main Space, Cornerstone)

7 p.m.
Friday night tunes featuring: Garrett Blackwell, Jack Lite, Ominous Animals, Cole Heathcott + Friends. Drink specials for CC students 21 and over. (The Coffee Exchange, 526 S Tejon St.)

8 p.m., 9 p.m., 10 p.m.
Stargazing with Professor Shane Burns: Enjoy an evening of stargazing with Professor Shane Burns of the Physics Department. Advance registration required. (Barnes Observatory)

7:30 & 9:30 p.m.
Marriage
"A Completely Ridiculous Event in One Act" by Nikolai Gogol. A Theatre & Dance Department Production directed by Andrew Manley. (Norberg Studio, Cornerstone)

Saturday 10th
5:45 - 8 a.m.
Garden of the Gods Homecoming Bike Ride
Sunrise ride through Garden of the Gods Park. This guided tour includes transportation to and from campus; specialized mountain bikes and helmets will be provided. Participants meet in front of Tutt Library at 5:45 a.m.

8 a.m.
27th Annual Tiger Classic 5K Race,
The race benefits the Tiger Pride Fund for Athletics; runners, joggers, and walkers of all levels are welcome. (Monument Valley Park)

9 a.m.
Rugby Alumni vs. Student Challenge. (Washburn Field)

10 a.m.
Homecoming Convocation and Alumni Association Awards Ceremony: The special ceremony honors distinguished award recipients and will feature remarks from President Tiefenthaler. (Shove Memorial Chapel)

9 a.m. - 2 p.m.
Pumpkin Patch at the Downtown Sunday Market
(Acacia Park)

11 a.m. - 2 p.m.
Second Annual Harvest Festival
The Garden Project at Galileo School of Math and Science will be holding a pumpkin sale, face painting, weighing of our giant pumpkins, concessions, games, and more. (1600 N. Union)

11:15 a.m.-1:15 p.m.
Freedom and Authority:
Join Professor Bill Hochman and CC faculty for a discussion on the Bill of Rights. Participants are encouraged to read the Bill of Rights in advance to prepare for discussion. (Gates Common Room, Palmer)

1-2:30 p.m.
All-Campus Picnic
The Alumni Association invites alumni and their families to gather for a picnic lunch on the quad. Please register in advance. (Armstrong Quad)

1-4 p.m.
Alumni and Students of Color Reception: Connect with various generations of students and alumni of color to learn about the history of diverse experiences and initiatives at CC. (Cornerstone Main Space)

2:30-3:30 p.m.
"The Scales of Western Water: Investigating the West's Most Important Resource"
Join the State of the Rockies Project to discuss their 2015-16 focus: "The Scales of Western Water." (Slocum Commons)

3-4 p.m.
"Remembering Normandy" with Professor Bill Hochman
(WES Room, Worner)

3 - 4:30 p.m.
Greek Open Houses

3:30-4:30 p.m.
Frontlines, Skylines, and Airlines: Iconic Visions of Rhapsody in Blue with Professor Ryan Banagale '00 Colorado College music professor (Cornerstone Screening Room)

4:30 - 7:30 p.m.
The Dance Mile
Interactive dance festival on closed off city streets led by a custom parade float, MC, & DJ. It's a workout, an endorphin rush and a full dance experience. (Bancroft Park, 2408 W Colorado Ave)

7:30 & 9:30 p.m.
Marriage
(Norberg Studio, Cornerstone)

8-10:30 p.m.
Alumapalooza
Newest homecoming tradition - Alumapalooza. Performances by TouchIt, a student band, and Woodshed Red. There will be s'mores. (Armstrong Quad)

Sunday

9:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.
Pumpkin Patch at the downtown sunday market
(Acacia Park)

Tuesday

3:30 to 5:00 p.m.
Chiapas and Mexico Update
Jennifer Haza from Melel Xojobal in San Cristobal de las Casas, Mexico will talk about her work with children's and Indigenous rights in Mexico. (W.E.S. Room)

3:30 - 5 p.m.
Study Break
(Wellness Resource Center, Worner 226)

5:30 - 6:30 p.m.
Qi Gong
(Shove Side Chapel)

7:30 p.m.
Quattro Mani - The Journey
Hear rare live musical performances. (Packard Hall)

Wednesday

7 p.m.
Debate viewing party
(Gaylord)

Water Tour
Interested in water issues? Ever wondered where Colorado Springs gets its water? Want to soak in a luxurious hot springs? Join the ORC from October 15-17 on the first annual Water Tour. Sign-ups are on Summit.

Thursday

2 - 5 p.m.
Painting Party
RSVP to Bethany.grubbs@colorado-college.edu (Upstairs Worner)

7 - 9 p.m.
"The Ride & The Wolf" Film Screening (Armstrong Theatre)

Saturday

8 a.m.
Waldo Waldo 5K
The Waldo Waldo 5K is a Colorado Springs family friendly 5K walk & fun run fundraiser. Money raised benefits local nonprofits. (Downtown Colorado Springs)

11 a.m. - 2 p.m.
DigiCon
CC's first video gaming tournament. (Bemis Great Hall)

Sunday

11 a.m. - 4 p.m.
Pumpkin patch, corn maze, and lunch: Visit to Diana's Pumpkin Patch and corn maze in Canon City, CO. RSVP to Bethany.grubbs@coloradocollege.edu

No-High-0: Ohio Issue Three marijuana initiative smoked

JARED BELL
Staff Writer

On Tuesday, Nov. 3, Ohioans voted against legalizing medical and recreational marijuana on a nearly 2-1 vote. Issue 3, the ballot name of the legalization of said marijuana, is a complex amendment to the Ohio Constitution that has many political strategists and hippies alike scratching their heads.

Issue 3 is an odd case of suits and ties pushing for legalization, while grassroots marijuana advocates are adamantly against it. How could this be? Well, Issue 3, in detail, gives exclusive growing rights to a set number of investment groups on 10 specified parcels of land. Though one would be able to grow personal plants at home (at a limit of four flowering plants), the retail and medical market would be dominated by constitutionally justified growing groups, which

are conveniently the same 10 groups that invested over \$40 million in the campaign for Issue 3. It would be a constitutional oligopoly. As we know here at Colorado College, if there's one thing weed advocates are more passionate about than legalization, it's "sticking it to the man!" Why? Because the man sucks!

"We have clearly taken this from the tie-dye to the suit-and-tie approach," said Ian James, the political strategist for the group running Issue 3's campaign.

My initial response to the rejection of marijuana legalization by my home state is pride. I'm proud that fellow citizens are aware enough to oppose a legal oligopoly that would further corrupt our great state; even though the majority of those that voted against Issue 3 probably couldn't define the word oligopoly and just voted against it because it's "the devil's lettuce," I do think it's a good

thing Ohio waited. Yeah, I understand that it's so awesome that it passed in Colorado, and so awesome that it passed in Washington, and that it probably will pass recreationally in California, as well as a few others—I understand. What I think a lot of people fail to comprehend is that this is the West.

Colorado Springs is over 1,200 miles away from Ohio's capital (which I hope you all know is Columbus). What happens in that 1,200-mile gap is a change in landscape, Subaru prevalence, weather, and most importantly: culture. The societal construct and way of thinking is different between the East, Midwest, West, and South. There is a reason you can look at someone and take a pretty solid guess at where they are from after a few minutes of conversation. The mindset is different, not better or worse, but different. Colorado was ready for legalization,

so it passed. California was ready for medical use, so it passed. Ohio just isn't. The legislature of Ohio would not have supported it. The rural evangelical culture that is prevalent anywhere outside of the three big C's (which I hope you also know are Cleveland, Columbus, and Cincinnati) would not have supported it. The traditionalists that maintain the swing state status of Ohio would not have supported it. It takes time, acceptance of responsibility from the general public, and support and tolerance from those that are going to coexist with the undeniable effects marijuana has on communities (both good and bad).

Issue 3 wasn't a loss for marijuana legalization advocates, nor a win for those against it; it's just not the right fit yet. Think of it this way: isn't it great knowing all those rich people lost a lot of money?

Pop the bubble: The answer to CC's troubles is integration

JOHNATHAN WILLIAMS
Staff Writer

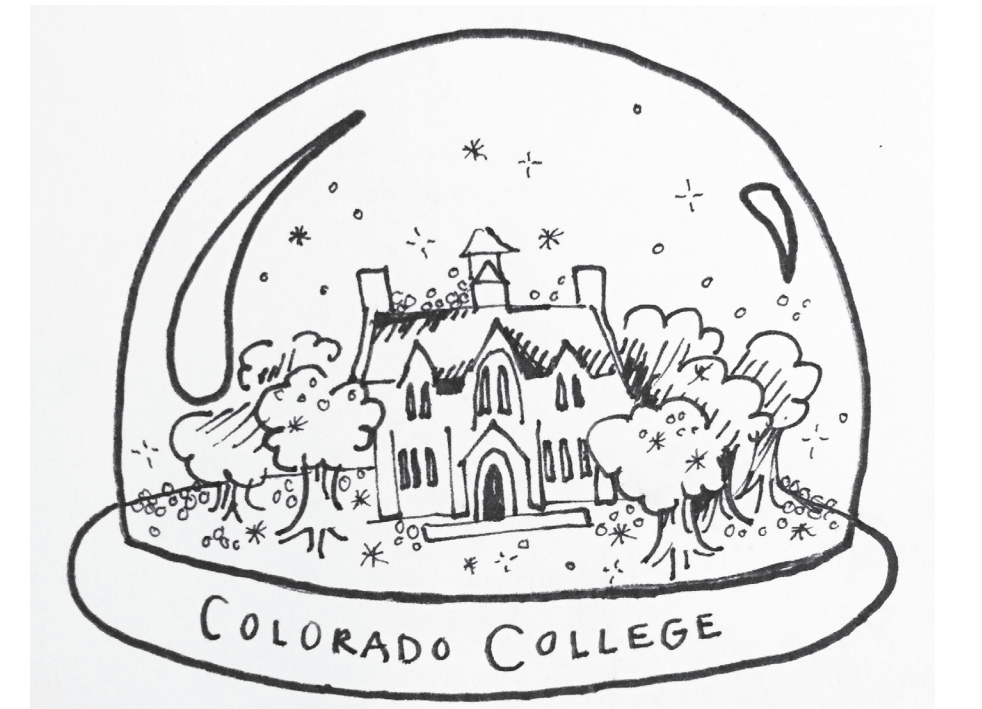
I didn't even make it through my first tour of campus without hearing about "The Bubble." The fact that we live in a bubble at Colorado College rolled off the tongue of my tour guide just as definitively as her well-rehearsed explanation of the Block Plan. To her, recognition of the bubble was as matter of fact as the location of Worner. She referenced it like there was some sort of physical structure surrounding us. Obviously, there is no physical bubble stretching over our heads, as cool as that would be, so I made the mistake of dismissing her words as either pre-programmed tour guide tripe or a reflection of her inner bias. In some sense, I didn't really believe her, or rather I believed that this bubble existed, but that the question of degrees had to be settled. Sure there could be some sort of ideological bubble but it only existed to contrast and shelter us from the evil conservative world of Colorado Springs. The bubble in my mind was nothing more than a declaration of battle lines separating the liberal bastion of CC from our enemies that beset us on every side.

I know now that I'm not completely wrong about our bubble, but I also know my tour guide was a hell of a lot more right than I was. We may not actually live inside some futuristic glass dome, but the bubble is just as real as Worner. My tour guide's confidence in her proclamation didn't just come from some recognized separation of CC from the Springs community, but was rooted in the recognition of battle lines. Not the battle lines of our liberal fortress but the ones painted across campus. We all know our culture is not like the rest of the world, and in some cases, we take pride in that. Nowhere else can you go and have your ass systematically handed to you one class at a time, or escape to mountains that just wait for us like the

backdrop to some absurd fairytale. We have our own special brand of "granola" and that makes the whole place just so quaint. I paint this positive picture so we don't forget that there are some good things about our bubble, but we are also unique in other ways.

The Foundation for Individual Rights in Education (FIRE) in particular doesn't care for some of CC's exceptional qualities. The organization has given the college a "red light" as a speech code rating which means "at least one policy that both clearly and substantially restricts freedom of speech." In their view, the most exceptional thing about CC is our propensity to silence speech. This would only be a minor problem except for the fact that they are certainly not alone in this recognition. All across our campus, people don't feel comfortable expressing unpopular opinions, and everyone else is just as uncomfortable hearing those opinions. Inside our larger bubble, CC has done a fantastic job of creating a multitude of smaller bubbles. Until recently, there appeared to be a clear winner of this contest. Extremely progressive and liberal ideas dominated the space, and any deviation from that was punished through a curt social response of condemnation, labeling dissenters as racist, privileged, sexist, homophobic, or any number of non-endearing terms. The small bubbles on campus that were once used to protect and foster inclusivity were militarized.

This brings us to the present. Occupying a world where there is undoubtedly tension between the factions. A corruption of the "safe space" faction supposedly intimidates those with less popular opinions into silence. I say "supposedly" because I have many unpopular opinions, and quite frankly never shut up despite the social pressure, but I do have to acknowledge that pressure exists. The ones stifling conversations however, whether they mean to or not, are a vocal minority and not the entire campus. With the expulsion and suspension of



two students on campus, the battle lines have been re-drawn, and the vocal minority is not as dominant as it once was. This brings us to a great shift, and an even bigger decision: what do we want our bubble to look like? Should the lines of free speech extend as far as they want, even if that means reaching into personal lines and at the cost of pain? Which sounds fatalistic but don't we have an obligation to hear all viewpoints in the quest for knowledge, especially at a liberal arts school where we claim to want to be exposed to new things? Where do we draw the line?

I suggest we start drawing the lines by looking at real world. We can just pop the whole damn bubble and live our day to day lives like everyone else does, without the guarantee for safe spaces and lofty ideals. We can open up our socialist utopian commune to the harsh realities of life and allow the chaos of capitalism and jerks teach lessons the hard way. After we've popped the bubble and finally gotten rid of this supposed miracle stretching over our heads we do something radical, we fix things. It's ob-

vious that the system we have now is not working, that we don't have conversations and we don't have respect for each other. If I was listening close enough on that first tour I might have heard a slight tone of resentment when my tour guide mentioned the bubble, so why not get rid of it and start all over again? Why not work together to create a community where we can engage in real conversations while not feeling attacked because we have enough respect for each other not to be careless jerks in casual conversation? I know this entire thing sounds like a fairy tale and if you're angry, reading this is probably just as satisfying as being told to ignore a sibling, but I'm not generally the guy to tell you what you want to hear. This entire thing sounds idealistic because nobody ever rose to low expectations and honestly it's about time someone stopped being so radical and pessimistic. Right now, sure it sucks, but it will only continue to suck until we stop complaining on Yik Yak and actually go out there to do something about it. Get idealistic, start talking about what's next, and pop the damn bubble.