

THE CATALYST

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A Guide to the Colorado Ballot

By ETHAN GREENBERG

Election Day is quickly approaching and the Colorado ballot includes more than the presidential race. Voters will be asked to weigh in on proposed amendments to the Colorado Constitution. The closest voting center for Colorado College students is the El Paso County Clerk's Office located at 200 S Cascade Ave. The office is open weekdays from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. On Saturdays, it is open from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. and on Election Day from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. To vote in person, a valid form of ID is required. Valid forms of ID include a Gold Card, Colorado Driver's License or ID, a utility bill with the current address, or military ID.

Amendment T: Involuntary Servitude

Currently, the Colorado Constitution allows slavery and involuntary servitude as a punishment for a crime. Amendment T would strike that language. It does not intend to withdraw work opportunities from convicted persons (such as the 1,800 current Colorado inmates that work while incarcerated), but only to prevent compulsory labor.

Amendment U: Exempt Certain Possessory Interests from Property Tax

Beginning in 2018, Amendment

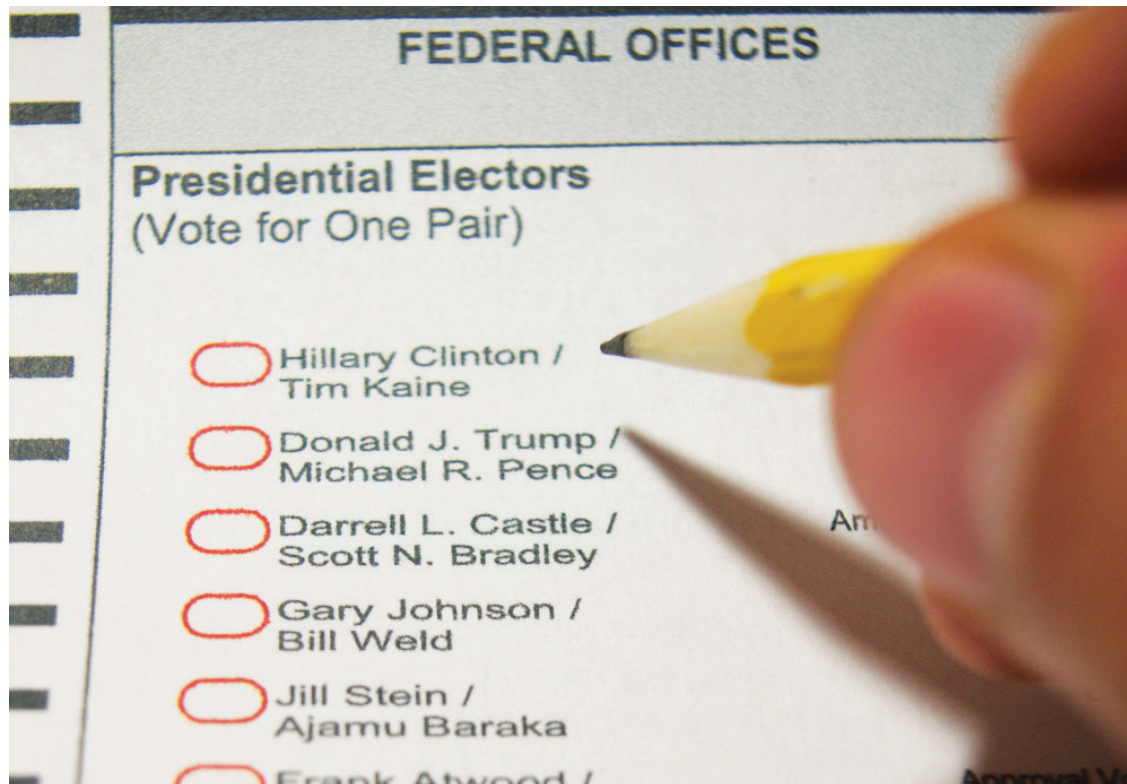


PHOTO BY TYLER SYM. A look at the Presidential Electors category on the Colorado ballot.

U would eliminate property taxes for individuals or businesses that use government-owned land for a private benefit of \$6,000 or less. The exemptions created by Amendment U would amount to approximately \$125,000. For context, the 2015 Colorado state budget was \$33 billion. Proponents argue that

it would reduce the administrative burden of collecting a miniscule tax, while opponents argue that it is an unfair tax break and shifts the burden to other taxpayers.

Amendment 69: State Healthcare System, aka ColoradoCare

Amendment 69 would lead to the

largest changes of any measure on the 2016 ballot, should it pass. It would create a taxpayer-funded universal health care plan for Colorado residents. Residents can continue with their current private healthcare if they choose, but they must pay the new taxes. Under ColoradoCare's ideal plan, current

state and federal funding of health-care programs like Medicaid would be directed into ColoradoCare. This would require federal approval and action by the state legislature.

New taxes would be necessary in order to implement the plan. Initial taxes are expected to generate around \$2 billion in new revenue and the full taxes are projected to generate more than \$25 billion each year. In addition to the new state taxes, Amendment 69 would count on \$11.2 billion transferred from state and federal funds because of the services that Amendment 69 would provide. This means that Amendment 69 would almost nearly double the current state budget.

If Amendment 69 passes, a board of trustees will be established to govern ColoradoCare. Initially, the board will have 15 members appointed by state legislative leadership and the Governor. This appointed board will determine procedures for an election to elect a 21-member board and thereafter the board would be elected by the people.

Proponents point to the fact that ColoradoCare prohibits deductibles, which would lower the financial barriers to healthcare, and would control the cost of healthcare. Opponents argue that it would raise taxes to the point where Colorado

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Eyes in the Sky: Campus Surveillance Provides Safety

By DAVID ANDREWS

A Wednesday afternoon in the Campus Safety office is a chorus of busy footsteps and ringing phones. In the dispatch room, daytime dispatcher Flo Wyche monitors the phone and fields calls from across campus. Mounted on the wall is a flat screen that displays 12 high-traffic areas outside of dorms and academic buildings. Students and faculty scurry across sidewalks in typical Wednesday afternoon fashion. This room is the home of campus safety's operations on Tejon, three doors down from Wooglin's

Deli. The flat screen television is the most obvious implementation of on-campus surveillance that is carried out by Campus Safety. An interlocking system of card-swipe access logs and security cameras provides Campus Safety and Residential Life with the ability to keep an eye on the estimated 2,600 daily users of the CC campus.

Surveillance systems on campus function in a variety of ways for Campus Safety and Residential Life. Associate Director of Campus Safety Nicolas Calkins makes a clear distinction between the systems that Campus Safety has im-

plemented and the preconceived notions that students may have around the word "surveillance."

"People get a little nervous with the word 'surveillance,' but a security camera is a passive tool all the way up until you have a reason to make it be an active tool," said Calkins. He continued, "Surveillance on its own doesn't necessitate the stigma that people put on it. It's not always a big brother thing. Most of the time, I would say in 99 percent of the instances that we're using the cameras, it's after

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PHOTO BY LAUREN STIERMAN. A TV in the dispatch room displays high-traffic areas around campus.

Trustees' Political Donations Prove Diverse

By ELIZABETH TIEMANN

With Election Day fast approaching on Nov. 8, The Catalyst has taken a look inward—towards the upholders of our school, our Board of Trustees and their political positions. While not publicized, the trustees' political stances may be inferred from their individual contributions to political committees, which may be accessed online on the Federal Election Commission government database. The political contributions of the three highest-ranking trustees on the board were investigated and student responses about the implications of these donations were sought.

In 1998, Eben S. Moulton '68, Chair of the Board of Trustees, donated \$1,000 to Republican John Kasich's campaign. In 2008, he contributed \$2,000 to Democrat Mark Udall's campaign for one of Colorado's senatorial seats. Udall went on to win a seat that year and served from 2009 to 2015.

Philip A. Swan '84, Vice-Chair, has an extended record of donations in support of John Kerry for President, Republican National Committee of Los Angeles, Norm

Coleman for Senate, Hillary for America, Republicans for Choice, Rudy Giuliani Presidential Committee, Carly Fiorina for California, Bush-Cheney '04, John McCain '08 and the Republican National Committee. This election year he has donated to Kasich for America and Hillary for America.

Susan Burghart '77, Secretary of the Board, donated to two campaigns—the Democratic National Committee and the Obama Victory Fund.

Senior Abram Mamet, a Political Science major, said of his initial reaction to these findings that, "I am surprised, and heartened, that these donations seem to be irrespective of party politics."

Senior Michael Greenberger, also a Political Science major added, "I'm pleasantly surprised that a couple of the trustees seem to donate money across party lines—to me that suggests that they are making thoughtful decisions about the political candidates they choose to support."

He continued, "Of course this could also be read as a strategic move, the trustees seem to be do-

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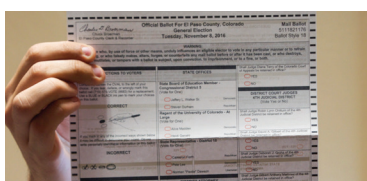
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How Pet Preference Affects Politics: Marc Hetherington Speaks on Political Polarization in America

By RILEY HUTCHINGS

"He's on the furniture, he weighs under 25 pounds, and he looks like he might be drunk. That is a democratic dog," said Marc Hetherington on Monday, standing next to a projection of a fluffy white dog. This was just one example of the practices in daily life that Hetherington argued can predict a person's political views.

Hetherington is a successful author and a professor of political science at Vanderbilt University. He is currently studying the polarization of political parties and how the schism has evolved into today's wide gap. On Monday, Oct. 23, Hetherington drew an audience big enough to fill the Mohrman Theatre in Armstrong.

Many students went to the lecture for a serious explanation of the extent of polarization of political parties and how the country can overcome the division. Hetherington managed to rationalize the divide while leaving the crowd practically roaring with laughter for almost an hour.

Hetherington started by making connections between many day-to-day things that are indicative of a person's political view. He presented studies suggesting conservatives like lighter brews of beer, they prefer meatloaf over ethnic food,

they use PCs over Macs, they watch more sports and reality TV, and they favor dogs. Of course, the dog mentioned above belonged to a Democrat, and these trends come with many other similar exceptions.

On a larger scale, Hetherington used these trends to start his explanation of the "biological, physiological, and especially personality differences that those on the political left seem to have from those on the political right."

He provided extensive evidence that conservatives and liberals are fundamentally different. After the funny indications like the tendencies mentioned above, Hetherington went on to talk about the underlying factor that makes Republicans and Democrats dissimilar: their mindsets. Conservatives tend to have fixed mindsets, whereas liberals are often more open-minded.

These different outlooks affect every aspect of life. Hetherington argued that a large difference is that conservatives tend to prefer traditions instead of change. Accordingly, over the past century conservatives have moved out to the suburbs where traditions are more prevalent, and liberals have migrated to cities. This has exacerbated not only a mental but also a physical gap between the political parties. That gap is bigger now than ever before.

Part of the reason for that, Hetherington explained, is because the topics of focus in elections have shifted. Whereas 40 years ago elections were very focused on economics, they have now moved towards more social issues, adding another layer of clashing views.

People now hate opposing political parties much more than they historically have. "We haven't gotten any more fond of our own party, but man we've gotten to hate, hate, hate the other side," Hetherington said. He even presented a study proving that Republicans hate the Democratic Party more than they hate atheists, and that Democrats hate the Republican Party more than they hate fundamentalist Christians.

Political divisions, he said, are even stronger than those created by race and sexual orientation.

The solution Hetherington presented to bridge this vast political gap is to create a dialogue between political parties. He said that though people often think things like, "Good God I can't believe he said that," after someone expresses a political view. "Maybe we just have to get past that," he explained, "and see whether there are more things that we have in common than not—not shut off the conversation."

In an interview after Hetherington's talk,

Colorado College Professor Elizabeth Coggins talked about how studying the personality differences in opposing political parties, like Hetherington does, helps explain political polarization.

When asked what she found to be the biggest problem with political polarization, Coggins said, "We tend to cluster ourselves around people just like us, and that robs us of really important dialogues and important interactions with people who don't think like us. The world is a far less interesting place when we only interact with those who are just like us."

Like Hetherington, Coggins has found that the way to overcome this polarization is to create a dialogue between people with diverse political views. In an effort to work towards this at CC, she has started the "Democratic Dialogues Project," which brings CC students and Air Force Academy students together to discuss controversial issues.

Democrats and Republicans vary widely in their stances on social issues. Though liberals tend to be more open-minded and are supposedly more open to compromise, conservatives actually care more about party polarization. Maybe, Hetherington suggests, that is because republicans are more comfortable with people disagreeing with their opinions.

Tutt Library Stays on Course Despite Director Departure

By MAXIMILIAN DUNHAM

This past spring, Ivan Gaetz announced his resignation as the Director of Tutt Library at Colorado College. Gaetz was offered a job as the Dean of the University of Wyoming Libraries. Gaetz accepted the position in March with a start date of late June.

"I am thrilled at the prospects of joining the team of educators at the University of Wyoming and of leading its libraries in the next phase of development that advances the mission of the university," said Gaetz in an interview earlier this year.

Meanwhile, a search team was put together led by the Dean of CC, Sandra Wong.

The search was initiated soon after Gaetz announced his resignation and the position was offered to a candidate last May; however, the offer was turned down. The failed search did not allow enough time to acquire a new library director before Gaetz's departure in June, prompting Wong to approach the most senior librarian on campus, Lisa Lister, about the position of Interim Library Director.

"I was about to retire," said Lister with a chuckle. "I was supposed to retire in July."

Despite this, Lister decided to accept Wong's offer for a number of reasons. Her qualification for the job played a part in prompting her to accept the position.

"Because I was planning to leave anyway and we were going to fill my old position, it meant I was free to do the interim director job," said Lister. "I've been here 18 years and I've done lots of different jobs here and I know all the staff. I know a lot about how things operate here so I think it was a logical thing."

Lister believes that by stepping in she allowed for a smooth transition during a hectic time for the library department.

"I really felt like, this being a transition year and the staff being dispersed, I couldn't leave the staff," said Lister. "That's why I agreed to stay."

According to Lister, her duties are about to ramp up as the department begins planning its move back into Tutt Library.

"The building will be functional by Block 1 of 2017, so that means the materi-

als have to come back, the building has to be done, we have to figure out what move order makes sense," said Lister. "I'm still involved in a lot of planning. I may not be around when it actually happens, but I'll have done some leg work."

Lister worked closely with Gaetz and has been involved with the planning of the new building as well as the logistics surrounding it.

"I kind of knew how things worked and the operations, so I feel like it's been a pretty smooth transition and that was the whole reason I agreed. I wanted it to be smooth," said Lister.

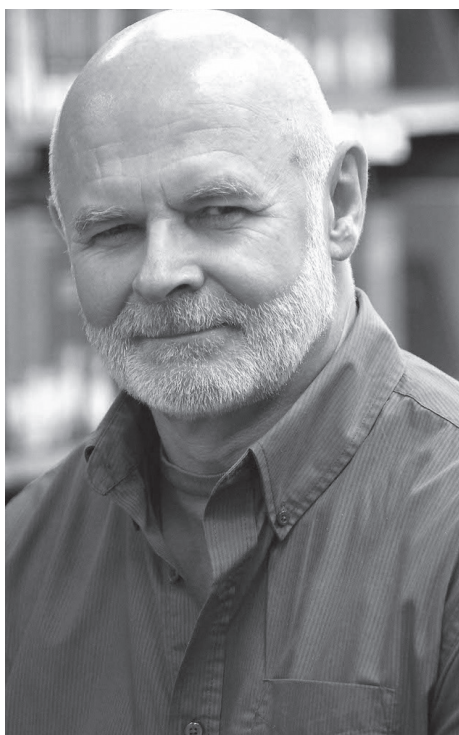
While Lister says she has a different style than Gaetz, she believes that she has been able to maintain quality service for CC students and an easy transition for staff.

The search for a new library director is currently underway. According to Lister, the search team is moving as fast as possible to hire a new library director but an exact timetable is unavailable. Wong allowed some insight into the search pro-

cess.

"We have been receiving applications since early September and have selected a short list of applicants for Skype interviews," said Wong. "In the next few weeks we will select a smaller group of candidates to bring to campus for interviews and a presentation. We will invite faculty, students, and staff to attend the presentations."

The search team is made up of nine CC faculty members: Owen Cramer (Professor of Classics), Pamela Reaves (Assistant Professor of Religion), Sanjaya Thakur (Associate Professor of Classics), Steve Lawson (Humanities Librarian), Jeremy Nelson (Metadata and Systems Librarian), Jessy Randall (Archivist and Curator of Special Collections), Mike Siddoway (Associate Dean of the Faculty and Professor of Mathematics and Computer Science), Sandi Wong (Dean of the College and Dean of the Faculty and Associate Professor of Sociology) and Brian Young (Vice President of Information Technology and Chief Technology Officer).



LIBRARY PHOTOS BY NATE MONGA; GAETZ PHOTO COURTESY OF COLORADO COLLEGE. *Left: Former Director of Tutt Library Ivan Gaetz recently accepted a position at the University of Wyoming. Above, right: Tutt Library in the middle of construction.*



\$3.5 Million Gifted to Colorado College and Fine Arts Center

By NORBERT McGETTIGAN

The Fine Arts Center (FAC) and Colorado College received \$3.5 million in grants earlier this month following the announcement of a new alliance between CC and the FAC.

The contributions came from the John E. and Margaret L. Lane Foundation, the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation, and the Marie Walsh Sharpe Foundation. The money will go towards the new CC/FAC endowment, helping to create new learning opportunities and enriching arts programs for the community of Colorado Springs.

After 10 months of discussion, CC and the FAC agreed on a new partnership in late August. Starting Sept. 1, 2016, CC took over management responsibilities. Despite the change of management, the goals and integrity of the FAC will remain the same. As part of the agreement, the FAC's endowment should reach \$45 mil-

lion by 2020, more than triple of what it is currently.

"This alliance is a true win-win-win for the FAC, CC, and the community," said Erin Hannan, Executive Director of Advancement at the FAC. "There is a real benefit to producing an operational structure that achieves key Colorado College and FAC strategic objectives while solidifying a community goal of a sustainable, ongoing commitment to community fine arts programming."

Some of the objectives of CC include fostering a sense of place and providing unique learning opportunities for students. For the FAC, the alliance will help create long-term sustainability and new arts experiences for the community.

Of the contributors, the John E. and Margaret L. Lane Foundation gave the largest grant of \$2 million. Established a year and a half ago, the foundation is committed to supporting the needs of the Springs and leading the way in stimulating community

engagement. The money will go into the permanent endowment, now held by CC, for the exclusive support of the FAC.

"Their family, you know, really talks about how they made their money in Colorado Springs, and they want to see things happening in Colorado Springs," said Tony Rosendo, Executive Director of the Lane Foundation and a Colorado College trustee. "The gift to the FAC and CC is part of that story."

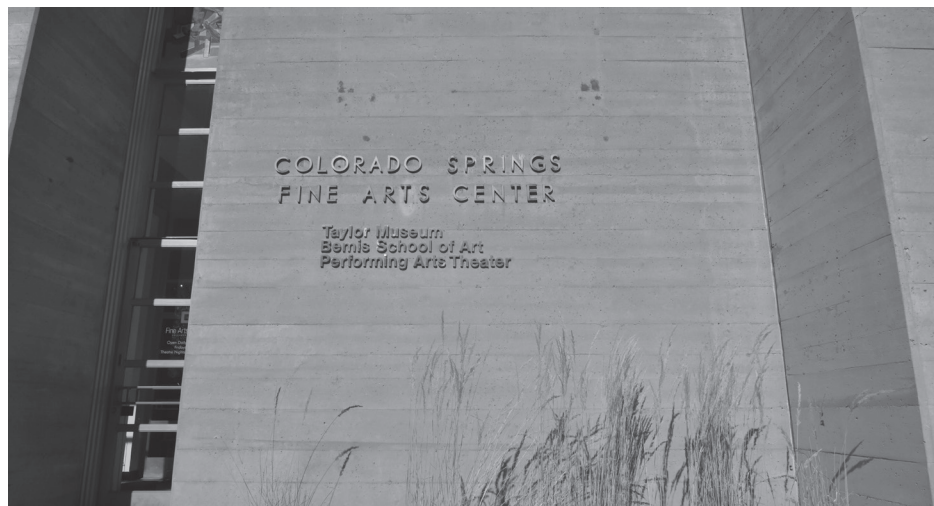
Currently, Colorado Springs has the highest per-capita nonprofits in the country and some of the lowest philanthropic activity. The Lane Foundation hopes that their grant, along with their involvement elsewhere in the Springs, will help foster an environment with a community foundation.

The Andrew W. Mellon Foundation, which is based out of New York, aims to support the contributions of the humanities and the arts to the prosperity and well-being of humans and democratic

societies. This foundation granted \$1.2 million. The money will support a focus on the arts and culture of the Southwest, as well as expand CC's academic connections with the interdisciplinary arts.

The Marie Walsh Sharpe Foundation in Colorado Springs also donated \$330,000 to the FAC. The foundation has provided scholarship funds for students excelling in the visual arts who are financially unable to pursue higher education. The board decided earlier this year to close the foundation and disperse the remaining funds to like-minded arts programs, and their gift will be used to fund scholarships.

The FAC believes that the future holds increased community investment, in line with the Lane Foundation's vision. "The recent alliance with CC was a major contributing factor in the awarding of these major grants," said Hannan. "We expect to see additional funding of this type in the future, from both individuals and foundations."



CATALYST PHOTO ARCHIVE. Exterior shots of the Colorado Springs Fine Arts Center, which recently partnered with Colorado College. The joint partnership received \$3.5 million in grants this month.

Grits Looks to Evolve with Colorado Springs' Houseless Community

By NINA RIGGIO

From runaway teenagers back East to closeted sex slaves, Korean Veterans dealing with Agent Orange to previous professional tap dancers, Grits Collective has been collecting personal stories from the houseless community and are passionate about sharing these narratives.

Grits Collective was proposed by Colorado College students during the CC Soup Project, a competition during the 2014-2015 school year to rethink the community soup kitchen after it closed. Then-seniors Ben Criswell, Caitlin Canty, and Paige Clark came up with the idea as an alternative to connect with the community.

The mission of Grits is to provide empowering programming for vulnerable members of the community, challenge the status quo attitude toward these populations, and deepen the relationship between CC and the rest of Colorado Springs.

With the help of the CC Innovation Institute and the Collaborative for Community Engagement, Grits Collective was awarded seed funding to start up a small publication. But now the funding is running out. They are waiting to hear back about a \$10,000 grant they applied for in September, but as of now there are no plans for future funding.

Grits partners with Catholic Charities, Marian House, Urban Peak, Colorado

Springs Food Rescue, and KRCC for support, workshopping space, and rescued food.

Since Tent City closed down, more relationships between CC students and the houseless have formed and there has been talk of changing the model to a completely owned and operated street paper. Raven, a former Tent City community member, has had experience with past street papers and thinks GRITS should move towards this model.

"I want it to be more of an advocacy project for the street people and the houseless. Neutral ground where service providers will have a place to promote resources," Raven described. "So that when people come here from out of town with nowhere to go, they can look in the Classified section and see where they can get coffee, job, clothes... not controlled by church functions."

Raven was joking about naming the paper The Colorado Springs Echo with some friends one day as a play off the Denver Voice, which is a street paper in Denver. "I was just being a smartass when I came up with the name," said Raven.

Raven has reached out to friends from the former Tent City establishment to help write for the paper. She believes it is going to be very difficult because the street folk are very 'stubborn' and a vulnerable and

closed population. There is a possible idea to pay the writers after their third article so there is more content.

"From my experience, a street paper was the one place the houseless could go and get real answers, and it gave balance to the conversation," said Raven.

Co-chairs Max Rawson, Reed Young, and alumni Ruthie Markwardt are on board with the idea of a paper, but are currently looking to build a team based around the street people's ideas. There has been talk of different proposed columns, such as specific columns for veterans and women, along with a detailed classified section.

Interested students can get involved by emailing info@gritsco.org.

PHOTO BY NINA RIGGIO. One of the houseless contributors to Grits Collective. Currently faced with financial problems, Grits is considering expanding to a street paper.



THE CATALYST

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Inside the Tenure Process

By MAXIMILIAN DUNHAM

Achieving tenure is an incredibly lengthy process, with a variety of stages and opinions involved.

The Faculty Handbook states that, “The award of tenure attests to the College’s judgment that a faculty member has demonstrated a level of ability and achievement as both teacher and scholar that is consistent with the professional standards of the nation’s premier liberal arts colleges.”

Dean of Faculty Sandra Wong said, “Excellence in teaching is paramount. Faculty members on the tenure track are evaluated in the bases on their teaching, scholarship, and service.” A faculty member on the ‘tenure track’ is hired initially as assistant professor and then undergoes the long haul to achieve tenure.

The process begins at the all faculty third year review. According to the hand-

book, during a faculty member’s full third year at CC, the college conducts a diagnostic “review of his or her effectiveness as a teacher, scholar, and member of the College community.” The criteria of assessment during this review is the same for the tenure review. However a positive 3rd year review does not guarantee tenure, but it does clear one onto the next step.

In a faculty member’s sixth year, the College decides whether to award tenure or issue a terminal contract for the following academic year. This does not mean a faculty member has been at the college for six years, but they have been promoted to one of the ‘professorial grades,’ and have been in that position for six years. “You could have been here 15 years or more before you get tenure,” said Wong. This duration makes sense considering the amount of consideration that goes into the decision and the prestige of the position.

Some aspects of the tenure portfolio in-

clude: a statement by the tenure candidate describing their aims and goals as teachers and their philosophy of teaching, three reports of classroom visits by tenured colleagues, a scholarship review by outside experts in the field of study, letters of evaluation from students and alumni taught by the candidate, written assessments of the candidate from colleagues outside and inside the candidate’s department, a letter from the candidates’ department chair, in addition to many more recommendations and assessments. The file is then given to The Personnel Council, who adds their recommendation, before it goes to the Dean and President for final review.

Students’ opinions are taken into account for this decision. The final tenure file must contain 25 letters from students who have taken a course with the candidate before submitted. Wong said, “Those letters are very important to review committees because they provide the opportu-

nity for students to talk about the quality of organization and clarity in the candidates’ teaching. They tell us how challenging a course is, how clearly a professor explains the material, and what kind of feedback they give.” These assessments come out of the course evaluations students have to complete and additional surveys sent out individually.

It makes sense that achieving tenure is such a lengthy process, considering its implications. When a professor receives tenure it means that they will have a job at CC indefinitely, unless the tenure is revoked, which is exceedingly rare. In the professional world, few occupations have the opportunity to receive the job security tenure provides. At CC, there is no quota for how many teachers can reach tenure. Currently, around two-thirds of the regular faculty have tenure or are on the tenure track. This number is not unusual for a liberal arts school.

Eyes in the Sky: Campus Surveillance Provides Safety

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the fact to try and establish some leads to develop suspects, to get evidence that we can pass along to the police department for ongoing criminal cases.”

As a rule, security cameras are placed in exit and entry points around buildings on campus. This year especially, Calkins said that the campus surveillance systems have helped thwart bike thefts.

“At the dispatch booth, they can note things that are just sort of abnormal. Somebody at 2 o’clock in the morning around the bike racks is not going to be normal. Four or five times within the last couple weeks we’ve had a dispatcher see someone at a bike rack and sent officers over there and we’ve chased them off or apprehended somebody with our CSPD colleagues,” said Calkins. The campus cameras are important for Campus Safety Director Maggie Santos and the entire campus security team’s mission to maintain a safe campus, but these systems also factor into Residential Life’s mission as well.

Zak Kroger, long-time RLC and current Residential Life and Programs Coordinator, has utilized campus cameras for a

variety of reasons over the course of his career at CC. While cameras are used in lobbies along with exit and entry points, both Kroger and Calkins made the point that surveillance systems in hallways and living areas are both intrusive and unnecessary. The chances there would ever be camera surveillance in residential hallways are slim to none. “It would have to be a one-off and a very extreme situation for us to do that,” said Calkins. “Probably instead of having a camera in there we would look for a method that would be less intrusive and more overt to be able to get the same results.”

For the most part, the Residential Life Office is using key card swipe data to track down missing students. “Anytime you swipe in or try to swipe in anywhere it records it. Whether the card swiper thing turns red or green, it’ll tell us you tried to swipe into that door,” said Kroger. However, this data is used sparingly. “We don’t really use it that much, it’s pretty tedious to look that info up,” said Kroger. An extenuating circumstance of a missing student would bring this data into play for the Dean’s Office and Residential Life. “One

of the first things we’ll do is check where they have swiped and check cameras and see where they have been. If they haven’t swiped anywhere in three days that’s a pretty good indication that they could be missing,” said Kroger. The data collected by Residential Life brings up a conversation for Kroger around how students are treated at large in the Colorado College environment.

Kroger said, “There is a pro and con to it; I suppose. We say we are ‘high touch,’ and we are. You’re not in class, ‘where are you?’ We’re knocking on your door. You go to the hospital? We’re there, which I think is a really good thing.” Kroger continued, “I know there are concerns that it sets students up for getting out of the college environment and not knowing how to function without that support, if you don’t have someone constantly checking in on you.”

On the whole, surveillance systems on campus have served in a mostly passive and, at times, even comical way for Residential Life and Campus Safety. “A couple of years ago we were doing little Halloween games in the lobby and we were doing

bobbing for apples and I had this big tub of water on the cart and I rolled it outside. As I rolled it into the atrium with the double doors, just boom, water everywhere. 30 gallons of water, well actually, it probably wasn’t that big, ten gallons of water. I went and got the camera footage for that and went and saved it because it was hilarious.”

For the 35 Campus Safety employees and additional 30 to 40 student employees of Campus Safety, the campus’s surveillance systems simply provide an additional tool to achieve the overarching mission of “community policing.” By interacting with students face to face Calkins and Santos believe that the campus will become more connected and communicative, leading to less bike theft and increased student safety.

Nick Calkins and Maggie Santos share an office in the Campus Safety Headquarters. While Calkins did most of the talking in describing the campus surveillance system, Santos stepped in and summed up the mission succinctly. “The cameras are there for us to protect students, staff, and faculty. It’s not there to monitor them.”

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would have the highest income tax of any state, and that the board of trustees is an unaccountable entity in charge of a system the size of the current state budget.

Amendment 70: State Minimum Wage Increase

Amendment 70 would increase the state minimum wage from \$8.31 to \$9.30 per hour beginning Jan. 1, 2017. It would then increase the minimum wage by 90 cents annually until it reaches \$12.00 per hour in January 2020. Post-2020, the minimum wage would be increased based on cost-of-living standards. Colorado law does not allow individual cities to set their own minimum wage. Proponents cite the fact that full-time workers making the minimum wage in Colorado earn approximately \$17,285 annually. Opponents look to the possible economic costs on business that could result in layoffs, fewer hours, and the like.

Amendment 71: Requirements for Initiated Constitutional Amendments

In Colorado, any change to the state constitution must be approved by voters. An amendment can get on the ballot in two ways. First, the citizens must collect a sufficient number of signatures. Second, two-thirds of both houses of the legislature must vote to refer an amendment to the voters. Amendment 71 focuses on the first way: citizen signatures. Currently, signatures can be gathered from any registered Colorado voter. If passed, Amendment 71 would require that signatures be collected from all parts of the state. Spe-

cifically, it would require that signatures include at least 2 percent of the voters in each of the state’s 35 senate districts. The other aspect of Amendment 71 would require that changes to the state constitution receive 55 percent of the vote, an increase from the current simple majority.

One of the goals of Amendment 71 is to encourage more statutory changes instead of constitutional changes. Proponents argue that statutory changes are better because they allow for the legislature to clarify or modify the changes to react to changing times.

Amendment 72: Cigarette and Tobacco Tax

Amendment 72 would increase the state tax on a pack of cigarettes from \$0.84 to \$2.59 and increase the state tax on other tobacco products (pipes, cigars, chewing, etc.) from 40 percent to 62 percent of the price. Neither existing taxes nor Amendment 72 would tax e-cigarettes. The state taxes are in addition to a federal tax of \$1.01 on a pack of 20 cigarettes.

The net impact to state revenue under Amendment 72 is expected to be \$299 million in state 7 budget year 2017-18. Listed from highest percentage of funds to lowest, this new money will be dispersed to: research grants to study tobacco-related health issues; health programs such as Medicaid, children’s healthcare, and disease prevention and treatment; education about tobacco; grants to improve health and employment for military veterans; grants for child mental health and substance abuse treatment; construction/

improvements to community health centers that serve low-income patients; and student loan repayment and training for health care professionals working in rural or underserved regions.

Opponents to Amendment 72 cite the fact that the tax targets low-income people. Low-income people are more likely to use cigarettes and therefore the tax is regressive. Proponents argue that the new money for treatment and education offsets the disproportionate effect on low-income people.

Proposition 106: Medical Aid in Dying

Prop. 106 allows a terminally ill person with a prognosis of six months or less to live to request and self-administer medical aid-in-dying medication in order to voluntarily end their life. In order to make the decision, the patient must have mental capability to make an informed decision. Prop. 106 would also allow for a physician to prescribe aid-in-dying medication to a terminally ill individual under certain conditions. Finally, Prop. 106 would create criminal penalties for coercing someone into requesting end-of-life medication.

Proposition 107: Presidential Primary Election

Prop. 107 would change Colorado from a presidential caucus system to a presidential primary system. Additionally, Prop. 107 would allow participation by unaffiliated voters. Currently, a voter must be registered with a party to participate in a caucus/primary. Those who prefer a primary over a caucus point to the fact that

a caucus requires attendance at a specific time, which can hinder participation from people who may have to work or care for children during the set time. Proponents argue that moving away from the caucus system would create more moderate policy agendas because the most likely people to vote under a party-only rule are the more extreme perspectives.

Proposition 108: Primary Elections

Prop. 108 is very similar to Prop. 107 in that it would allow unaffiliated voters to cast ballots in primaries without registering with a party. In contrast to Prop. 107, which changes the rules for presidential elections, Prop. 108 changes the rules for non-presidential elections.

Colorado Judicial Retentions

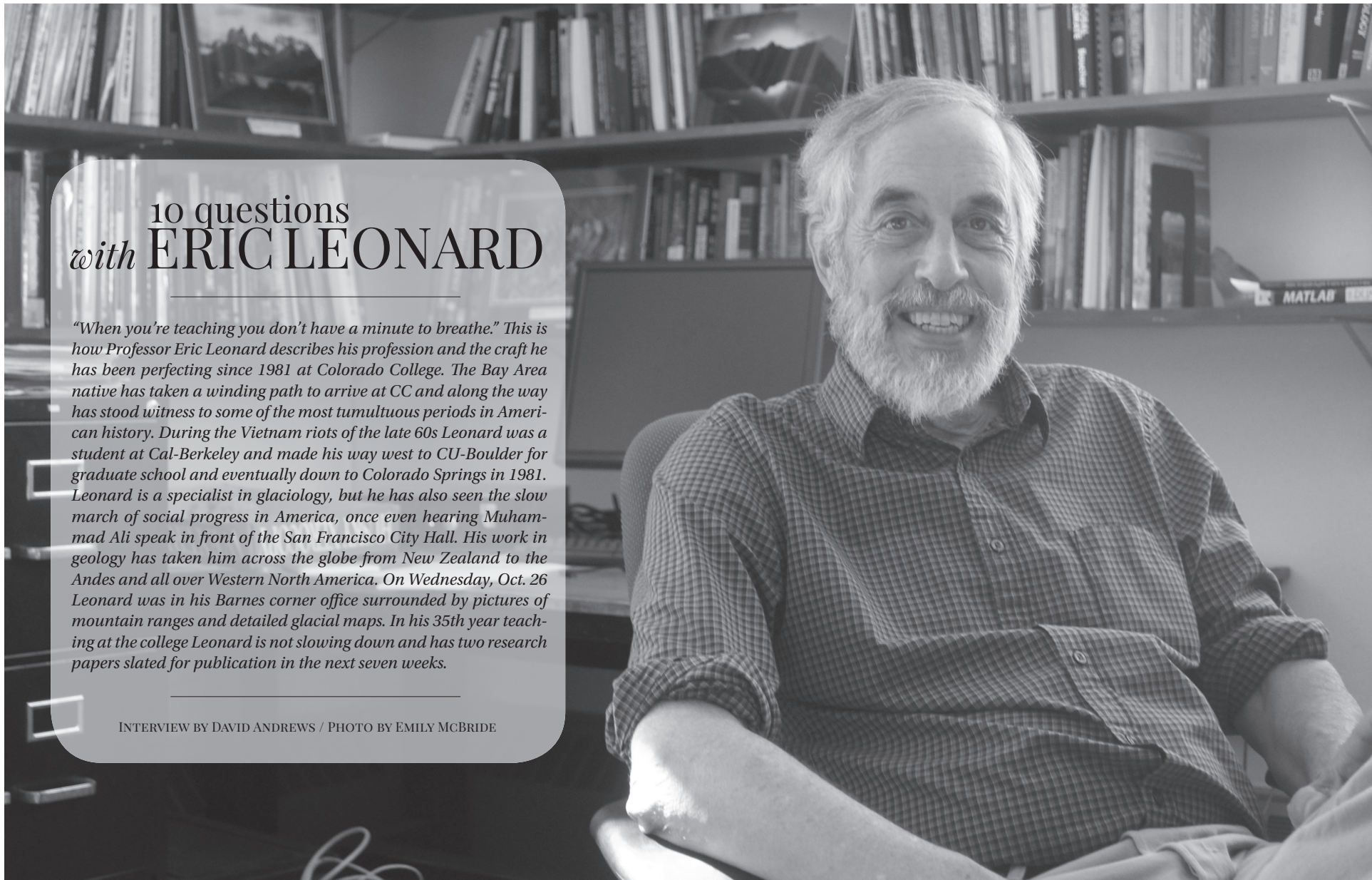
The Colorado Office on Judicial Performance recommended retention for Justice William Hood of the Colorado Supreme Court as well as all the judges of the Colorado Court of Appeals. Supreme Court justices serve for 10 years and appeals court judges for eight years before they come up for another vote for retention.

For more information on ballot measures, the non-partisan Blue Book is available online through the Colorado Secretary of State’s website. The Secretary of State’s website also features the complete text of each measure. In addition, the Denver Post, Colorado Public Radio, and many others news organizations have released summaries as well as opinions on ballot measures.

10 questions with ERIC LEONARD

"When you're teaching you don't have a minute to breathe." This is how Professor Eric Leonard describes his profession and the craft he has been perfecting since 1981 at Colorado College. The Bay Area native has taken a winding path to arrive at CC and along the way has stood witness to some of the most tumultuous periods in American history. During the Vietnam riots of the late 60s Leonard was a student at Cal-Berkeley and made his way west to CU-Boulder for graduate school and eventually down to Colorado Springs in 1981. Leonard is a specialist in glaciology, but he has also seen the slow march of social progress in America, once even hearing Muhammad Ali speak in front of the San Francisco City Hall. His work in geology has taken him across the globe from New Zealand to the Andes and all over Western North America. On Wednesday, Oct. 26 Leonard was in his Barnes corner office surrounded by pictures of mountain ranges and detailed glacial maps. In his 35th year teaching at the college Leonard is not slowing down and has two research papers slated for publication in the next seven weeks.

INTERVIEW BY DAVID ANDREWS / PHOTO BY EMILY MCBRIDE



THE CATALYST: When did you start teaching at CC?

ERIC LEONARD: 1981, right out of grad school. The day after I defended my dissertation up in Boulder I was at the faculty fall conference, it was called. It was pretty wild.

TC: Where in the world have you studied geology?

EL: Well, a bunch of places. In terms of my own research, that's mostly in Western North America, various mountain ranges, and Western U.S., and some Canada, for classes and other geology field work. I've been all over America and Alaska and Central America, little bit of Central America, the Caribbean. Oh, I actually have my own research project in South America in Chile and I've also been to Argentina with a couple of classes. Where else? New Zealand, China and Tibet, I was just in Norway, Scotland, probably forgetting something. I haven't been to Antarctica and I'd love to go. Australia or Africa I have not been to either.

TC: Could you talk about the intersection of your work in Chile and Tibet, looking at the geology within a political or social context?

EL: I was in Chile both under the junta. So I did a fair amount of field work there in the 80s when Pinochet was still very much in power. By the last two times I was there in the 80s that was kind of breaking down. By '86 there were a lot of protests going on. The military was still cracking down on them. I was in Santiago and there were protests every night. People banging on pots and people out, tear gas in the streets and stuff. Then I was back in '88 which was right before the referendum, plebiscite, whatever it was called that actually voted him out. As much as I couldn't stand Pinochet at least he had the integrity to leave. Well, he rewrote the constitution so he wouldn't go to jail, but nonetheless he actually gave up power when he lost the election. Most of his power. Subsequently, I've been back a couple of times in the last 10 or 15 years or so. Things are very different.

Tibet was very eye-opening for a lot of reasons. The geology was amazing. It was pretty evident in Lhasa, the political

relationship between China and Tibet. It was sort of clear the power relationship between the Chinese and the Tibetans. At the same time, it was, for me, sort of a window to a kind of look at Tibetan culture, which can be really idealized and romanticized in a lot of ways. For me, and I'm a very unspiritual person, seeing that aspect of Tibetan life and kind of the devotion and spirituality of people. You know, people doing pilgrimages along the highway, 200 miles. People doing prostrations, like going a mile a day doing prostrations on the highway. It was all kind of alien to me and my way of thinking. So that was a fascinating trip. Lhasa can be kind of depressing kind of think about the way that the dominant Chinese culture and political system has been kind of overprinted and obliterating Tibetan culture.

TC: Having spent some time in San Francisco during the 70s, could you talk at all about what it was like living there at that time?

EL: Well, I actually left Berkeley in 1970, but I was at Berkeley in the late 60's and I was born in San Francisco. So I grew up there. It was a pretty interesting time and there are a lot of cliches about it, most of which have a significant grain of truth to them. It was partly the time, the late 60s and all the cliches attached to that, and partly being in the Bay Area and San Francisco, particularly Berkeley. The cliches are always a period of experimentation and breaking away and from the repressed 50s, but all that was kind of true. The Bay Area, and particularly San Francisco in 1967, was a real magnet then for kids from all over the country who were all doing that. Kids were leaving the 50s and leaving the Midwest, even the East Coast and coming out to this open, kind of nuts atmosphere. The Bay Area was really fun. I was a teenager and it was kind of the place to be.

You know, the Vietnam War was going on at the time and unlike now, college students were more directly affected because of the draft. On the other hand, almost no one I knew went to Vietnam. Because we were college students we could get deferments and we could get lawyers and we knew how to write conscientious objector statements. We knew how to drag out the draft process until the Draft Board got so tired of fighting with you that they would

just go draft someone that didn't have a lawyer. So that was hanging over us in a way that it isn't hanging over students now, but we were pretty privileged.

TC: Have you seen the same spirit of social activism in students today?

EL: It was more broad scale social involvement. Largely because of the Vietnam War and the whole social milieu that being political and protesting was just sort of what we did. That was our way of life, I skied too, but I didn't talk about that as much. I think that's sort of as deep as it really went for most people but that was the modus operandi of the time. That's what we talked about, that's what we talked about, that's what we were involved in. But as I said, the really committed core of activists really wasn't as big as it is now.

TC: Do you remember Muhammad Ali from that time period?

EL: Oh yeah. I'm pretty old. I remember him from when he won the Olympics in 1960. I was 12 or 11 probably when the Olympics were going on. I remember my brother was all excited because there was this guy who's name was the same as one of the conspirators who killed Julius Caesar. He was Cassius Clay at that point. So yeah, I remember that. I remember, well, a bunch of things. I remember him as a boxer. I remember him when he converted to Islam. I remember him as a big, huge personality. I remember when he refused induction. I also remember him, and this gets me in trouble sometimes. When he died, my daughters emailed me and I remember being at a rally in front of the San Francisco City Hall and he was speaking. At some point maybe early on he started talking about interracial marriage. He was opposed to it. He said, "All you white guys out there don't want little curly head kids running around," and he got booed by people. People far on the left. It's one thing that has stuck in my mind. I suspect he changed his mind.

TC: What were your plans when you graduated from Berkeley? Did your parents have a vision for your future?

EL: I had no plans when I graduated from Berkeley. As a matter of fact I spent a year in something called Vista, I guess

AmeriCorps is the contemporary equivalent, in good part because mostly I did not know what I wanted to do. I thought I might want to go to law school, but I didn't want to decide. I came from a very left-wing political family of lawyers. They were left-wing lawyers. My father represented the Longshoreman's Union. Which used to be one of the most left-wing labor unions in the U.S. They were like a crazy, European, left-wing labor union. My mom was a lawyer too. My brother is an environmental lawyer. So I kind of thought about that, and I did stuff sort of related.

I worked in a community center in Los Angeles and ended up working a lot with California welfare rights organizations. Sort of pseudo legal stuff. I could kind of read the regulations and help people with that. I thought it was good to do, but I actually didn't really like doing it. I guess my love of the mountains and the outdoors eventually came out and I did a Masters program up in British Columbia outside of Vancouver. So there was always this sort of tension between what I inherited from my family, which I still have always believed in, left-wing politics, liberal politics, feeling that, but also feeling that it was not what I really wanted to do in life.

TC: Do you have any advice for students coming out of CC? Were you ever sitting in some sense of panic? What did you use to guide yourself in those AmeriCorps and Simon Fraser years?

EL: I don't think I was a terribly introspective person. I'm not sure how I really guided myself between the stuff I was really passionate about, the outdoors, and how that turned into geology. The 60s and early 70s were a little different. I don't know if people were less introspective, less worried, the economy was a little better. There was kind of a faith that all my friends had and I had that we would fall into something that would be good, that we didn't have to worry about the moment. My sense now is that students, I think the economy is different, I don't know if the world situation is any scarier now than it was then. It really comes down to economics, people are more concerned. 'Oh my God, what am I going to do?' I don't think that we really did other than in a more existential way, as in, 'what

Continued on pg 6

10 Questions with Eric Leonard

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 5

does this all mean?' We were not panicked about where we were going to go in the next year or the next five years. It wasn't really a culture of being concerned about that.

TC: Why have you chosen to stay at CC? How is CC, as a smaller institution, different or the same as the institutions you have been at before?

EL: It's a great place to do what I do. I mean, I love my job here. I love teaching in small class settings and kind of working one on one with people. I like developing relationships with the students in my classes. It would be much, much harder at a big university. I love this department. There is just a camaraderie in the department and among the students as well. I

like the whole atmosphere. The Block Plan is fabulous for teaching geology, it's really demanding and exhausting, but I don't think you could design a better plan for teaching geology. That's the main thing.

TC: How does Geology, as a hard science, relate to a politically-charged issue such as climate change?

EL: Climate change is obviously a huge issue. My own specialty is actually glacial geology and glaciers and climate. So most of what I've worked on in the last 40 years has to do with glaciers and climate, but mostly naturally occurring climate change in the past. I've taught EV128 a bunch of times and I was involved in the original design of the course. I've actually been teaching climate change in courses since the 80s. Through the late 80s and

90s I team-taught a course about climate change with Tass Kelso. We would teach the course every other year and we'd get eight, 10 people every second year. Now it's offered six times a year to full classes with long waiting lists. I've sort of taught it with the perspective of being a geologist, and geologists like to look back in time. You sort of have to understand how the system naturally changes in order to get a background to understand or try to understand what's going on now. I haven't shied away from that. Henry Fricke hasn't shied away from that. We don't really shy away from that in our classes, but just because of the nature of geology we are looking more backwards. I know Christine [Siddoway] has been pretty involved in working on these issues in the past couple of years. We're less directly kind of activists and political than say the EV department.

TC: You have seen a lot of rocks, could you choose a favorite formation or mountain range?

EL: Oh boy, that's tough. I'm more of a mountain range guy than a rock type of guy per se, although I do like the Entrada sandstone down in Utah. I don't know what range. I grew up in the Sierras. The Canadian Rockies, they're great. If you're thinking, 'what are the most spectacular ones?' Parts of the Patagonia and the Andes are unbelievable, Fitz Roy. You can't believe the mountains there. Then obviously Nepal for the scale of everything. This spring, I was on sabbatical and we were in Norway and we went up to the Lofoten Islands, and they were just incredible granite spires coming out of the sea, and that was one of the most dramatic and inspiring things I have ever seen.

Trustees' Political Donations Prove Diverse

CONTINUED FROM THE FRONT PAGE

nating money to candidates who have seemed most likely to win."

First-year Tom Bugg when presented with the findings commented, "Obviously I believe each board member has the right to support the candidate or party of their choice through their donations. My initial reaction was neutral; I was pleased to see that, based on the campaigns listed, the board members as a collective have no obvious partisan leaning."

First-year Spencer Janney said, "Everybody has their own political views and affiliations and the views of the Trustees seem fairly diverse."

When prompted with the question of whether political alignments affect school policy and decision making by the trust-

ees, Greenberger said, "The variation of candidates and parties that the Trustees support suggests a willingness to compromise as much as it suggests a lack of strong political convictions."

Bugg also echoed Greenberger's comment, "The board's political plurality is reassuring to me that political views do not influence the running of the school in any significant way, since there is no apparent pattern of political alignment among the board members." Janney said, "I think that no one person on the board has enough power to have their views affect the running of the school."

In terms of how political alignment might affect school business, Mamet explained, "The only way that political

alignments influence school business is in federal funding. A large portion of our school's partial-pay or full-ride students receive federal funding - we have to have policy that aligns with federal policy, or else we as a school would be unable to accept the federal money that pays for so many kids to go to school here. [For example] the school can't allow students to smoke marijuana even though it's legal in Colorado, since it would put our federal money in jeopardy."

Greenberger said that, "The worldviews that inform those political alignments certainly affects the decisions that the trustees make. For example, a trustee who aligns more closely with the Democratic Party may be more sympathetic to the

divestment campaigns of student groups that reflects Democratic Party policies, i.e. divestment from fossil fuels."

Sophomore Annie Bronfman chose to highlight the affects of the majority-democratic political alignment of the student body at CC.

"We are on a campus with a primarily Democrat student body," said Bronfman. "The conservative students have a small voice at CC, which feels almost completely silent during an election year when the liberal students band together to vocalize their concerns. I'm a Democrat myself, but I often feel like our campus is overwhelmingly biased. It doesn't mean as much when liberals are yelling at liberals who agree with them."

Attention CC Students!

Gold Card gets you free admission to Colorado Springs Fine Arts Center galleries and discounted member pricing for special FAC exhibits.

Attend any FAC theatre production for free, subject to availability, within an hour of show time. Present your Gold Card at the front desk. "Student Rush" tickets available for purchase anytime on the day of the show for \$15. Contact (719) 634-5583 with questions.

Upcoming Events at the FAC

through
Nov. 19

"Too Much Light Makes the Baby Go Blind"
A one-hour show of 30 plays in 60 minutes

Sat.
Oct. 29

The annual Fine Arts Center Halloween Party
"GothGlamBash"



COLORADO
COLLEGE

Men's Hockey Pulls Out Win vs. UNH after Fall to BC

By EVAN HAMLIN

The Colorado College hockey team fell to tenth-ranked Boston College last Friday. Sophomore forward Colin White led the Eagles with two goals, and added an assist to cap off a 4-1 victory over the Tigers.

First-year forward Nick Halloran got CC on the board first with a power-play tally 5:30 into the game. Halloran was assisted by junior defenseman Teemu Kivihalme and first-year forward Branden Makara. Makara set up Halloran's wrist from the left circle that beat BC first-year goaltender Ryan Edquist for CC's only goal of the night.

The Eagles would bounce back and record two power-play goals of their own before the period was finished. White notched the first of the two for the Eagles, and assisted on sophomore defenseman Casey Fitzgerald's goal that put the Eagles up 1-2. Their final two goals would come in the second period, sealing their win over the Tigers in their first and only matchup this regular season. CC was outshot 24-34, and finished the game 1-9 on the power play.

Halloran, the Tigers' lone goal scorer, emphasized the need to tighten up special teams play after the loss to BC. When asked where he sees room for improvement, he didn't hesitate to start with special teams. "I think we can stay out of the penalty box, penalties have been a problem for us, and I personally need to stay out of the box more." Two of BC's goals were scored on the power play on Friday.

Special teams were what ailed the Tigers on Friday, and they once again proved to be the deciding factor in the game Saturday. This time, CC capitalized on just about every opportunity they were given, scoring two shorthanded goals and two more on the power-play. CC's defense also killed off all seven man-advantages the Tigers handed UNH.

Sophomore forward Gregg Burmaster converted on a two-on-one with fellow sophomore forward Tanner Ockey just over two minutes into the contest, notching the first goal of his career in his first appearance of the season. First-year forward Alex Berardinelli

and senior forward Sam Rothstein connected just over three minutes later for the second shorthanded goal of the game for the Tigers, and Rothstein's first tally of the season.

Although the Wildcats cut CC's lead in half before the end of the first frame, Halloran struck on the power play just over four minutes into the second period, stretching the lead to 3-1. UNH put two more points on the board in the ensuing five minutes of play, tying the game going into the final period of play.

Just over four minutes into the pivotal final frame of play, Halloran buried a wrist shot top shelf on the power play for what would prove to be the game-winning goal.

"I thought our team showed great resiliency after Friday and we battled back and found a way to win Saturday," Halloran said. "Our goalie Derek Shatzer played a great game."

Shatzer, making his first start this season and the second of his career, denied 39 shots throughout the game, 20 of

those coming in the first period.

"We found a way to win," said Halloran. "I think I benefited from the work of my teammates, it could've been anyone really, I'm just glad it's paying off." Both of Halloran's goals were assisted by Kivihalme and sophomore forward Trey Bradley.

Halloran came up big once again this weekend with his decisive team-leading fourth goal. His stellar play throughout the season thus far earned him recognition from Bauer and the National Collegiate Hockey Conference as the rookie of the week.

"It's great to get recognition for hard work. I worked really hard over the summer and that's nice to see. But I don't think I'd be anywhere without my teammates," Halloran said.

The Tigers hit the road next weekend to open conference play against the University of Nebraska Omaha on Friday and Saturday. The team won't be playing this weekend. "Those are our first conference games and we're really looking forward to that competitive play and the speed that comes with it," Halloran said. With the way he's playing, it's likely we'll be seeing his name on the box score in two week's time.



PHOTOS BY CASEY B. GIBSON Top: First-year Nick Halloran was honored by Bauer as the NCHC's Rookie of the Week, following his three goal performance over the weekend. Bottom: CC goalie Derek Shatzer earned his first career win in a 39-save performance against UNH.

"Be Gritty:" Swim and Dive Team's Motto to Start Off Their Conference Season

By SAM GILBERT

The buzzer goes off and suddenly the pool is filled with havoc. Dozens of feet spring from the diving boards into cold water, kicking and stroking like mad, coming up for breath every few seconds before disappearing under the water's surface again. For six hours last Saturday, this is what the Colorado College swim and dive team's life consisted of: a plethora of different events at the University of Colorado Boulder invite. Along with CU-Boulder, CC raced against Colorado Mesa University, University of Northern Colorado, University of Kansas, and University of Utah club swimming. The women's team swam away with a first place finish against the other schools, while the men's team finished in second place.

For Head Coach Anne Goodman James, the highlight of the meet was noticing the toughness the team exuded. "Our theme for the year is being gritty: toughness, perseverance, and stick-to-it-iveness," James said.

Because the team demonstrated all of these qualities at the CU-Boulder Invite, their first

in-conference meet of the year, James believes there is a lot of promise for the team's future. "It is always interesting going into the first meet of the year not 100 percent knowing what to expect," said James. "But I feel like it was our best season opener we've had in years."

While most swimmers and divers were where James expected them to be, some people were way ahead of the mark. Junior Emily Harrison won the 500- and 1,650-yard freestyle races, while junior Mary Rose Donahue easily won both diving events. On top of this impressive effort, first-years Eric Dallesasse, Sarah Dunbar, Michael Heinonen, and Stefan Bay all dominated in the pool. "They are going to be quite a foursome on this team," James said.

For junior Hannah Cooper, the highlight of the meet was watching all the first-years race for the first time in conference. "Seeing them

race and get situated into a collegiate meet was a really good time," Cooper said. "Because it was such a long meet, there was a lot of bonding."

Prior to this meet, the team had only been in season training for three weeks. They were in their first cycle of training, which consisted of building up a solid aerobic base and working on starts and turns. Now, they are entering their second cycle of training where they will focus heavily on their individual needs. For Cooper, who is a stroke-specific swimmer, training is unique from her teammates.

"I usually do a lot of backstroke sets for my individual training," explained Cooper. "Now I'll probably focus on endurance work because the last 25 yards of my race were brutal." Cooper will begin focusing on her individual needs while her teammates do the same. No

one's training will be identical to anyone else's.

Going forward, James doesn't currently have any goals of her own because it's ritual that the team sit down together to develop goals. According to Cooper, most of the goals in swimming and diving are individual goals because James excels at taking individual needs into account. "She is a great coach, especially when it comes to getting the individual ready to compete," Cooper said.

Having swam since she was eight years old, and with 41 years of collegiate coaching under her belt, James knows what she is doing. Better yet, she loves it.

"The relationships I build are the best part about being a coach and [the relationships] are what has kept me in it all these years," said James. She especially enjoys being part of a pivotal time in her athletes' lives and watching them grow. Growth is constant on both a large and small scale for the swimmers and divers, and meets are a perfect way of keeping track of that growth. The team races next on Nov. 5, when they host Colorado School of Mines in a dual meet at the Schlessman Natatorium.

"I feel like it was our best season opener we've had in years"
-Anne Goodman
James, Head Coach

Kaepernick's Stardom: Destined for a Supernova

Fading QB is making the most of his last moments in the spotlight

By EVAN HAMLIN

San Francisco 49ers quarterback Colin Kaepernick's anthem protest has been discussed ceaselessly in the months since he first began kneeling for the national anthem. Although Kap's protest by no means sparked the conversation and debate on police brutality and social inequality, his celebrity status within a sport watched and loved by millions of Americans has certainly brought the issue to a number of people who would have been unconcerned with it otherwise.

"Thus far, Colin Kaepernick kneeling during the national anthem for three months has amounted to nothing more than talk about systemic racial inequality in this country we all know has been there," wrote Evan Grossman of the New York Daily News. Although Grossman makes many good points about the protest throughout the article published two days ago, I think he is holding Kaepernick to a much higher standard than what is realistic for someone in his position.

For one, not everyone in the country is fully aware of the racial and social injustices that take place every day, as Grossman says. Just because the topic has garnered much more national attention in recent years, it doesn't mean that everyone is automatically informed on it.

Second, when he began his protest, Kaepernick never held himself up as the proverbial figure that would lead America out of its current state and into the promised land of eternal racial equality and social justice. In my mind, his goals have been very clear from the beginning: bring awareness to this important issue and further the discourse on it, hopefully trying to incite change. Kaepernick is not trying to singlehandedly solve the problem of racial inequality, nor has he stated that as his goal. His protest hasn't "amounted to nothing," as Grossman says. The fact that he wrote a thorough article examining the issue is proof that it has amounted to something. Kaepernick has moved the conversation along for scores of Americans that wouldn't have noticed it otherwise.

I've already discussed how I feel about the "he's unpatriotic and hates America" line of criticism aimed at Kaepernick, so I won't touch on it in this article. However, other critical voices have emerged in the past week or two that I find to be interesting. Most notably, NBA player Carmelo Anthony and former NBA player-turned-commentator Charles Barkley spoke up, with their criticism falling more into the "less gestures more action" camp.

It is unreasonable for people like Anthony and Barkley, who have both been enormously successful throughout their careers and who have both done important charity work, to criticize Kaepernick for trying to advance the same cause they are. They seem to be unaware of the important tangible contributions Kaepernick has made to this cause. He and the 49ers recently pledged to contribute \$1 million to the San Francisco Foundation and the Silicon Valley Foundation with the intention of helping local communities tackle some of the challenges Kaepernick is trying to bring to light. Anthony and Barkley

also don't seem to be aware of the equally important intangible advances Kaepernick has made for their common goals of fighting racial injustice and helping communities in need. His protest has helped to bring the conversation to scores of people it otherwise wouldn't have touched. I can't seem to remember the last time either of the NBA personalities' actions brought this much attention to issues both they and Kaepernick care about.

Some may ask why this act of protest has garnered so much attention as opposed to the numerous other less-publicized demonstrations by professional athletes in recent years. For starters, take a look at the demographics of NFL viewership. In 2013, according to opendorse.com, 77 percent of NFL viewers were white, 65 percent were male, and 15 percent were black. In the same year, the NBA catered to a significantly larger African-American audience (45 percent), compared to 40 percent white viewers. The NBA also has a higher percentage of African-American players than the NFL. Additionally, the NFL caters to an older and potentially less tolerant or open-minded audience, while the NBA is watched most by members of the 18-34-year-old demographic.

Based on who watches and plays in the NBA, it's quite possible that demonstrative actions by those players have been historically much easier to swallow by their fans. For the mostly white, mostly older population that watches the NFL, Kaepernick's protest probably comes off as alien and threatening because they are less likely to be informed about the issues he is protesting.

At the end of the day, Kaepernick is a quarterback who just three years ago led his team to the Super Bowl in an impressive run, only to fall to the Baltimore Ravens in a storybook ending for linebacker Ray Lewis. He is now the backup quarterback (although he got his first start last weekend) for the second-worst team in football. Following the departure of former 49ers Head Coach Jim Harbaugh, who many credit for Kaepernick's success, and a slew of nagging injuries, Kaepernick simply isn't the player he once was and he isn't on the team he once led. His switch to veganism may have earned him some more social justice points, but it certainly hasn't made bulking up any easier for him, either.

I think the protest and the talk it has generated is a well-calculated move by Kaepernick. He's fading from the spotlight he once occupied, and it's likely that his best days as a player are behind him. In the twilight of his relevance on the field, he has decided to bring light to an issue he feels strongly about in a way that is provocative and sure to start a discussion. Just as a red supergiant star ends its massive and luminous being by going supernova in a glorious and violent stellar explosion, Kaepernick has seized on his fleeting moments of stardom to fade away in a manner he sees as meaningful. You can't say that Kaepernick hasn't changed anything. Take a look around, and it's clear that he already has.



PHOTO BY CHARLIE LENGAL. Sophomore middle hitter Myca Steffey-Bean leaps up for a kill. Steffey-Bean recorded a season-high 12 kills against Southwestern University.

Volleyball Takes Two out of Three in Weekend Tournament Down South

By DANIEL KRUEGER

This past weekend, the Colorado College women's volleyball team took a trip to Kerrville, T.X. to take on four SCAC cross-divisional opponents. The weekend featured two marquee match ups against the No. 4 Southwestern University Pirates and the No. 18 Trinity University Tigers, along with games against Texas Lutheran University and Schreiner University.

The Tigers, led by Head Coach Rick Swan, opened the weekend on Saturday against Schreiner University, the tournament's host. Though the Tigers were pushed by the Mountaineers in the first set 26-24, they were able to pull away and win in straight sets. The Tigers' hitting was dominant, posting a .346 average with 47 kills in 107 attempts. CC, led by senior outside hitter Abbe Holtze's contribution of 13 kills, was off to a tremendous start in Kerrville.

Later that day, CC faced No. 18 Trinity University, the same team that upset the Tigers in the 2015 SCAC tournament semi-final and once earlier this year. Despite their best efforts, the CC Tigers lost to the Tigers of Trinity University, 2-3 (30-28, 25-22, 20-25, 16-25, 12-15). In the loss, Holtze paced the Tigers with 20 kills and a season-high 20 digs.

"I think we got a little lackadaisical after we won the first two sets. We lacked energy in the third set and Trinity was able to ride the momentum they generated from that set to victory," said sophomore middle hitter Myca Steffey-Bean, who finished the game with nine kills.

The Tigers refused to stay down on Sunday. They finished the regular season of SCAC play with victories over both Southwestern and Texas Lutheran. First on the docket was a Texas Lutheran team led by senior outside hitter Kristin Fording. The Tigers were able to keep Fording at bay throughout the matchup and she finished the game with only eight kills. The Tigers

won the match 3-0 (25-13, 25-19, 25-16).

CC headed into the match against Southwestern bursting with confidence, but they also knew a win against Southwestern was going to be a tall task.

"Southwestern's offense is always on. Their depth propels the offense," said Steffey-Bean.

The Tigers were forced to demonstrate depth of their own when starting setter Lizzy Counts went down with an ankle injury in the first set. Counts was last week's AVCA National Player of the Week and has been an integral part of the Tiger offense all season. Though this was a huge loss for the Tigers, senior setter Rebecca Watson entered the game and played fundamentally sound volleyball.

"Watts was key for us off the bench," said Steffey-Bean who finished the game with a season-high 12 kills. The Tigers managed to win both the first and second set (25-20, 25-22), but then dropped both the third and fourth sets (22-25, 22-25). The Tigers were forced to a 5th set for only the third time all season.

"Heading into last set we had the mentality that every point was game point. We decided to put everything out there, swing away at every ball," said Steffey-Bean. But the Tigers found themselves down 7-8 at the switch.

CC used a kill by Reagan Folaron and an ace by Holtze to take a 14-11 advantage and then, after a Southwestern kill made it 14-12, first-year middle hitter Marguerite Spaethling finished off the game with a resounding kill of her own. The final was a 3-2 win for the Tigers who remained ranked No. 6 nationally in the most recent AVCA Coaches Ranking.

CC wraps up the season tonight against Johnson & Wales University at 6 p.m. at Reid Arena before they travel to Shreveport, La. for the SCAC conference tournament.

Game Breakdown

VS. Schreiner University
W, 3-0 (26-24, 25-11, 25-17)

VS. Texas Lutheran University
W, 3-0 (25-13, 25-19, 25-16)

VS. Trinity University
L, 2-3 (30-28, 25-22, 20-25, 16-25, 12-15)

VS. Southwestern University
W, 3-2 (25-20, 25-22, 22-25, 15-12)

Upcoming Fall Sporting Events

Women's Soccer

Friday, Oct. 28 (today) vs. Air Force Academy, 7 p.m.

Men's Soccer

Friday, Oct. 29 at University of Dallas, 3:30 p.m.

Men's Cross Country

Saturday, Oct. 29 vs. SCAC Championship, 9 a.m.

Women's Cross Country

Saturday, Oct. 29 vs. SCAC Championship, 10 a.m.

Volleyball

Friday, Oct. 28 vs. Johnson and Wales University, 6 p.m.





Crack Climbing Community Mobs Indian Creek

By GRIFFIN MANSI

This past Block Break, members of the Colorado College climbing community made the annual pilgrimage to Indian Creek near Moab, U.T. Indian Creek is located about an hour south of the town of Moab and is often referred to as the “crack climbing Mecca” of the climbing community.

About 40 current and recently-graduated students made camp at the Bridger Jack Mesa campsite below 300-meter-tall cliffs of Wingate sandstone. Climbers are drawn to Indian Creek for its abundant crack climbing and beautiful scenery.

“I’ve never woken up to such majestic surroundings before,” said first-year Ale Tejada of her first time at Indian Creek. “Waking to the sun rising over the desert and falling asleep under the Milky Way left me in a state of awe I find trouble describing.”

Crack climbing is a form of climbing where climbers use special techniques to follow a crack up a rock face. These cracks are referred to as ‘splitters’ in climbing jargon. Climbers leverage their hands and feet into the cracks to gain purchase on the rock. This special technique is known as ‘jamming.’ Because there are no obvious foot or hand holds to balance upon, climbers resort to shoving their hands and feet into the cracks and twisting them into positions that will allow them to stick. For even the most experienced climber, crack climbing is a form that can be incredibly challenging and humbles nearly all who attempt it.

A large part of the trip is about introducing students to crack climbing. Although not organized by the outdoor education program at CC, more experienced climbers put up ropes and teach new

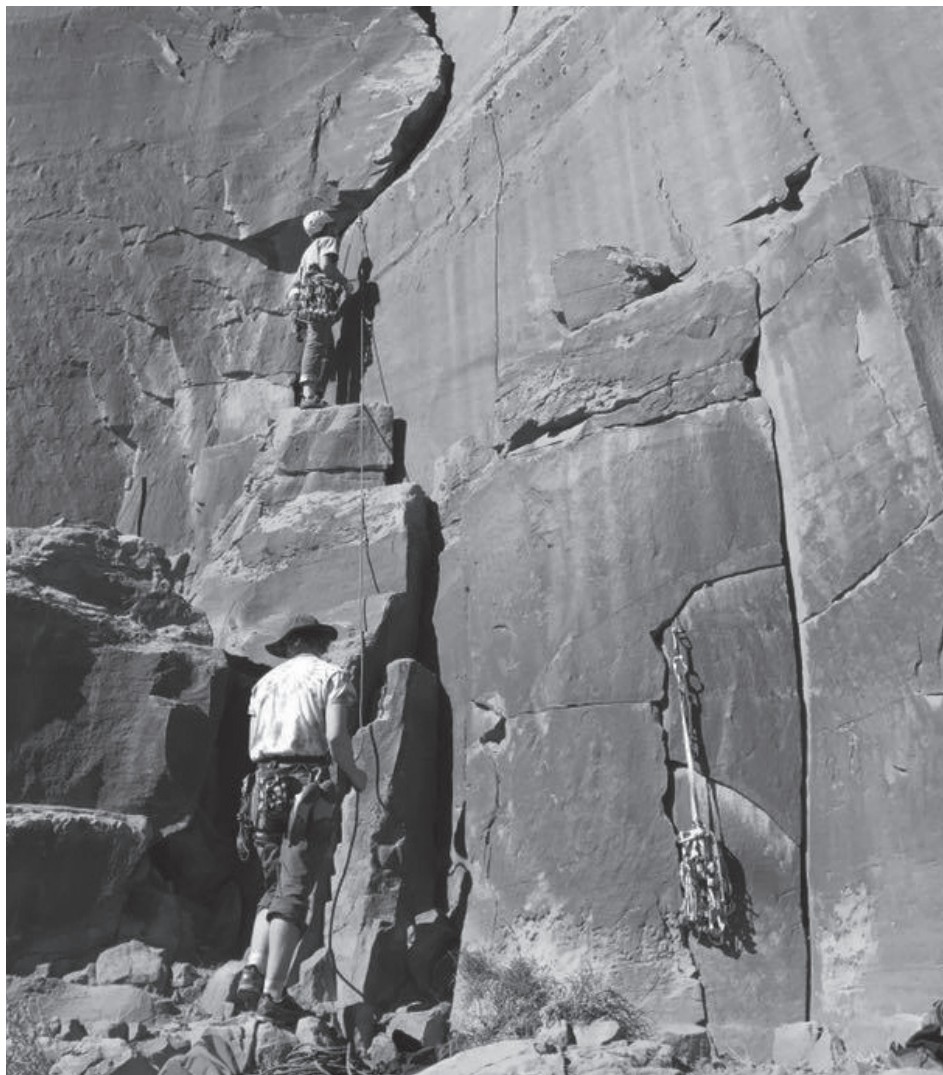
climbers about the sport. As the Creek consists almost solely of “trad” climbing in which climbers place protective gear within the cracks to ascend, rather than clipping into established bolts, setting up climbs requires a high level of experience and safety knowledge. However, those with many trad climbs under their belt happily established top-rope routes for the duration of the break to allow newcomers a taste of some of the best crack climbing there is.

Due to the generosity and patience of these experienced climbers, everyone at the Creek had ample opportunity to climb. At any given time there was always a mix of climbers of all ages and abilities at the wall. Throughout the trip there were just as many people cheering for someone on a hard climb as people cheering for someone on their first climb ever.

For these reasons, this annual trip to Indian Creek naturally helps build a stronger, more supportive climbing community. Together, students rise at dawn, scarf down their oatmeal, and hit the crags. Not only do they connect while at the walls, sweating in the Utah sun and eating tortilla peanut butter and jellies, but they connect back at camp under the clear stars and around the campfire. Peers share skills, techniques, and safety tips in a relaxed environment that easily translates back to the CC climbing gym and beyond.

“In the same way that Breck Break fosters a community of rad skiers, Creek Break fosters a community of rad trad climbers,” said sophomore Nikki Mills.

As long as older students continue to maintain a passion for not only the Creek, but educating new climbers, this pilgrimage will not only remain, but flourish.



PHOTOS BY JOHN HIGHAM AND SARAH LAICO From top, left to right: The stars over Indian Creek; Junior Austin Martin trad leading at Pistol Whipped Wall; Sophomore John Feigelson top ropes Generic Crack at Donnelly Wall; A view of the canyons; Sophomore Griffin Mansi trad leading at Donnelly Wall belayed by first-year Joe Vuchetich.

Water Issues: It's Time to Talk More Than a Five-Minute Shower

By CAROL NEWTON

Ever been walking through the grass on Armstrong and found yourself suddenly doused with water as the sprinklers come on? Besides the general discomfort of being soaked in sewer water, have you ever wondered where that water came from, or even if that water use is necessary?

When we talk about water issues, we often focus on the necessity of conservation measures, such as taking shorter showers. In the past few years, the world has become increasingly more aware of the importance of protecting and conserving our resources, especially water. Yet, despite conservation efforts, water issues continue to plague the world. Conservation measures are beneficial for preserving this necessity, yet sometimes it seems that we can fall into the habit of reacting to a problem instead of fixing it at its source. Perhaps it is time to look at the root of water issues instead of just telling people to cut off an extra five minutes in the shower.

The public is constantly told that there isn't enough water. This is true in a sense, however, here in the state of Colorado, there is plenty of water. The problem is that most of it isn't accessible.

To learn more about water issues in Colorado, I turned to sophomore Beau Burns. As an avid kayaker, Burns first fell in love with water quality. He became interested in hydroelectric dams in the West and was then especially drawn to the interconnectedness between reservoirs, water transactions, and water availability. Somewhere along the way, he fell upon a bigger problem of water quantity: specifically, the distribution of water throughout the state of Colorado, something he outlined through the "80/20 rule."

The basic premise of the 80/20 rule,

otherwise known as the Pareto principle or the law of the vital few, is that about 80 percent of effects come from 20 percent of causes. These concepts were developed in the context of income and wealth distribution in a certain population. According to the rule, the majority of resources are controlled by just a few individuals. In Colorado, this can be applied to water rights in that 80 percent of water resources are on the Western Slope, and 20 percent of the resources are located on the front slope and Eastern Range. This is a problem given that 80 percent of Colorado's population resides on the front slope and Eastern Range, and only 20 percent of the population lives on the Western Slope.

The 80/20 rule has many ramifications, including social justice issues surrounding water access. Significantly, it highlights the high level of water inefficiency. For instance, there are seven trans-boundary diversions to reconcile the discrepancy in water location and populated areas. These are, essentially, giant tubes drilled through the mountain range connecting Western and Eastern Colorado that run up to 13 miles long, just to provide water to populations on the Eastern range.

Unfortunately, the 80/20 rule and location of water aren't the only problems. Water rights have become entangled in politics, both within Colorado and beyond. Right here in Colorado Springs, outdated water policies create huge inefficiencies, one being the fact that we must buy water that originates in Colorado Springs from Pueblo, Colo. Although water flows directly through Colorado Springs, current water policies force the town to allow the water to run all the way to Pueblo before purchasing it. Then we have to wait for the water to be

channeled back to the Springs.

Colorado doesn't own most of its water. Although the Colorado River and snowmelt could theoretically provide enough water for everyone in the state, these sources also travel through Utah, New Mexico, Arizona, and into California. Because Southern California was one of the first regions in which people settled, they claimed access to certain water rights and created the Allocation Doctrine, stating that the first people who settled the region should obtain access to the best resources. This inspired the Colorado River Compact, which allocates Colorado water to seven additional states. Therefore, all the way in Los Angeles, people are drinking water that originated in Colorado. Just as we see in the food industry, where foods are shipped and driven thousands of miles just to please people's tastes, we go to similarly inefficient and frankly absurd measures to provide water to inhospitable areas.

Coupled with a complicated legal system for water rights that includes seven district water courts, the Colorado River Compact makes water access and water rights extremely convoluted and inefficient. This leads us to assume that Colorado doesn't have enough water, when, in fact, it does.

Burns offers a market-based approach to attack the political structures that cause and encourage inefficient water use practices. In his opinion, the first step to cease inefficient water use is to raise the price of water. Because the price of water has been extremely subsidized, people are less likely to care about high levels of water usage. Thus, a raise in price could motivate people to use less water. Furthermore, water markets that break down convoluted political structures would, in his

opinion, facilitate easy water transactions. From there, municipal services could work with the community to lower the prices.

It seems that Colorado could adopt a few strategies from other states' and countries' water policies. Israel is an example of a country that uses its water extremely efficiently through a system of electric monitors on water pipes that detect water usage in each building. These monitors have the ability to tell when faucets are left on for extended periods of time and shut them off.

In the end, though, it's not water quantity. Rather, it's how the water is used.

Burns believes that the biggest problem, beyond municipality and inefficient water usage among civilians, lies in agriculture. About 90 percent of water resources are spent in agriculture, not in municipality. What we need more than ever is efficient agriculture. To obtain it, policies must be ratified.

Once again, Colorado could take a lesson from its neighbors and other countries. Arizona practices a policy called "water banking" in which they funnel extra water into underground reservoirs to save for later use. Meanwhile, in Australia, people have "pool allocations," meaning that they can use the water when desired.

So is Colorado College wasting water by using sprinklers to maintain the refreshing green of beloved Armstrong Quad? Is this inefficient water usage? Many would instantly say yes. Surprisingly, Burns has a different view. If CC is still willing to water the lawns after an increase in water cost, this is efficient use, in his opinion. An increase in cost forces those using water to make a decision, and if CC decides that the benefits outweigh the costs, then that luscious grass must be worth it.

An Inside Look at Mission: Wolf

By HALEY COLGATE

As instructed, I bared my teeth and made eye contact while a 120-pound wolf pushed his muzzle into my face. Just prior to this meeting, I spent hours scraping away soil to dig a trench that would eventually house lines connecting solar panels to the main circuit breaker of the veterinary building. I was on a Block Break Breakout trip to Mission: Wolf, a sanctuary for the species, in Westcliffe, Colo. In exchange for improving the homes of caretakers who live off the grid to care for the 32 wolves and wolf-dog mixes that call the sanctuary home, nine other Colorado College students and I got to interact with some of the most demonized species in history.

When we arrived Thursday morning, we were met by two Mission: Wolf employees who gave us a rundown on regulations (primarily instructions on proper body language while in view of the wolves) and explained how the reserve came to be. Kent Weber, co-founder of the sanctuary, originally planned to build a house with his partner but came across a wolf in a cage while inspecting potential properties. Heartbroken at the sight of such a powerful animal reduced to captivity, he obtained the necessary licenses to take in wolves in need of shelter, bought some land far from civilization, and began establishing the sanctuary. At peak, his sanctuary housed 52 wolves that consumed some 2,000 pounds of meat per week. Since then, they've scaled back to maintain sustainability.

Those who work at the refuge live completely off the grid. Solar panels provide energy for hot water and lights, and the primary vehicles run on vegetable oil and diesel. They use a processing system designed by CC students in a building called the Greasy Spoon to turn vegetable oil from local restaurants into useable fuel. The staff live in tipis equipped with wood stoves for warmth. Permanent structures are built out of salvaged materials from a local landfill. Moreover, much of the food eaten by the sanctuary's staff comes from greenhouses in geodesic domes that are temperature-regulated by a combination of large water storage basins and hydraulics filled with beeswax that expands when heated to open ceiling vents. Thus, their lifestyle is built to have a low impact on the land and to reduce reliance on nearby towns (the closest of which is 45 minutes

away).

CC students completed a variety of tasks to improve the caretakers' space. In addition to trench digging, the group helped tend plants and remove harmful insects. Scampering up precariously balanced ladders, we also coated the newest geodesic dome with paint that has the potential to double the lifespan of the canvas and provide insulation. The paint required temperature stability while it dried, so in order to counter the unforgiving desert nights, we kept a fire going in the wood stove inside the dome, requiring someone to stoke the fire at least once every two hours.

The most memorable day of the trip was Saturday, a "big feed" day. In order to mimic the feast and famine cycle experienced by wolves in the wild who only feed when their pack makes a kill, Mission: Wolf provides large meals on Wednesdays and Saturdays. The locals provide livestock donations that have either recently died of natural causes or are on their way out. These donations are returned to the food cycle by the rapid consumption of hungry wolves—a decent-sized male grey wolf alone can eat 15 pounds of food in 90 seconds.

To aid this feeding system, our group helped butcher a horse. Using rather large knives, we scraped the meat off the bones and then split the bones apart. Being covered in horse blood and sawing away at tendons provided a new appreciation for the origins of the meat we eat. Because we assisted in preparing the meat, we also got to help feed. We tossed steak-sized chunks of meat to the wolves and watched them swallow them in nearly one bite. They eat not just the meat, but also the hair and the hide. According to one staff member, most of the vitamins a wolf needs are provided by the bone marrow they obtain while gnawing on bones. Following feeding, they go into a food coma, and remain mellow for multiple days until it is time to eat again.

This trip was a prime example of using physical activity to be outdoors and to give back to organizations that help humanity. Our labor assisted Mission: Wolf in providing a safe home for captive wolves and educational programs to curious humans by supporting their staff. We may have struggled to pry open ditches with pickaxes with-

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out hitting power lines and lay coat after coat of paint while atop shaky ladders, but we also got to pet wolves and meet the people that live with

them. It demonstrated to me that it is possible to trade hard work for amazing, worthwhile experiences.

Women in Comedy: The Behind the Scenes of CC's All-Female Comedy Group

By ZASCHA FOX



Women in Comedy, Colorado College's only sketch comedy group PHOTO BY DANIEL SARCHÉ

Women in Comedy, Colorado College's only sketch comedy group, had their first performance of the school year on fourth Sunday of Block 2. The show was made up of multiple student-written and acted sketches, all with a wide range of subjects and styles. Julia Greene, a sophomore English major, has unofficially taken over a leadership position within the group. She tells people when to meet and does outreach for the shows, though she made it clear that there is "not much of a hierarchy within the group." Greene took over the informal position for senior and CCSGA President Annika Kastetter, who unofficially led the ensemble last year.

Women in Comedy produces a show every two blocks that is the product of multiple brainstorming and writing sessions. There is no audition process; rather, every member is required to submit an original sketch for each show. Even if individuals feel uncomfortable with sketch writing, they're encouraged to push themselves and submit something, regardless if it is chosen for performance. "Some of us have very similar senses of humor and some of us have very different ones," said Greene of the synergy that emerges when the group comes together. "We want to incorporate different ones, as long as they work on their own." Like many CC productions, Women in Comedy is entirely student directed, produced, and acted.

Collaboration within the writing process is encouraged, and writers are not required to act in their own sketches. In fact, Greene stated that "the longer people have been in Women in Comedy, the less they act in their own sketches. We try to get each person in an even number of sketches for each show."

Sophomore Abby Diess has felt that "it's actually more helpful to be a co-writer than to write something all on your own." They are also open to having members write sketches and not perform, but they currently "don't have anyone who doesn't want to act."

Like Greene, Diess joined Women in Comedy during her first year at CC. She was inspired by the poster advertising their show entitled "Tupac is Dead, and So Is Grandma." "I went to the show and I was just awestruck," described Diess. "I exchanged emails with some of the girls and went from there. I think it's so fun to have an outlet for specifically what women think is funny. We have such a diverse sense of humor, ranging from 'Winnie the Pooh' to relationship humor." She specifically emphasized the dynamic of being in an all-female group, stating that she "went to an all-girls high school and loved that environment. We can talk about what's funny about relationships and body humor." Greene stated that she "hasn't worked in a sketch comedy group with men," so she can't comment on it, but she feels strongly that "it doesn't have to be feminist just because it's all women. All that matters is that we're being funny and empowering. We can help girls feel confident onstage and feel confident in their writing." She has also never felt silenced or removed from comedy because of her gender.

Like the prior Women in Comedy shows, Sunday night's performance didn't have a theme. "We try and spread out having large and small sketches and lots of different settings," said Greene. She stated that her two favorite sketches to

watch were "Ubering with a Dead Body" and "Compulsive Complementer," which was acted by Diess and sophomore Mary Loftus, while she enjoyed performing the most in "Crazy Eyes" with Diess.

The ladies are involved in comedy and acting outside of Women in Comedy as well. Diess, Greene, and Sarah Ryman are all working on a miniseries that they're "hoping to release next semester." "I love comedy, and I just can't stop doing it," said Greene. Diess is also the only girl in TWIT, which she says is "really cool. It's a great creative outlet that stretches you in a different way than sketch writing does."

"It is so fun and encouraging to have such a big and enthusiastic turnout for the show," said Diess. "The turnout has been on par with TWIT shows, which is great." Women in Comedy is a relatively new group, having only been started five or six years ago. "It's fairly young but we've been able to keep momentum going. The environment is so positive and encouraging." Their shows are "usually on third Sunday, and it's such a fun break before fourth week."

For those interested, Women in Comedy is actively looking for new members. They require "no background in writing sketches and doing theater" and it's a "super low stakes, low key group." "Even if you are not confident in your writing or your acting, it's a great community to be a part of and you'll definitely grow," Greene emphasized.

For more information, contact julia.greene@coloradocollege.edu or check out Women in Comedy's next show towards the end of Block 4.

"I'm a Prepper:" A First-Hand Account of Preparing for Doomsday in Manitou Springs

By BECCA STINE

For many of us, experiencing panic or an "oh shit" moment is only temporary when we consider the possibility or inevitability of "doomsday" or a climate change catastrophe before we begin to compartmentalize the thought and feeling. We then quickly continue to go about our normal lives. There is a woman in Manitou Springs, however, whose experience of terror and realization of such a time is not temporary. Rather, it shapes her entire existence. This woman, in her 60s, wishes to remain anonymous, so, for the sake of the article, we will call her Annie.

Annie is originally from California, and has owned her small shop in Manitou Springs for almost eight years now. She lives just behind her shop, where she works all day, seven days a week. Two years ago, while running her store, Annie stumbled across an article about climate change, and then another, and another. She became somewhat obsessed with the issue and began to take action. She compares climate change to the cigarette industry. "They don't tell you that it's bad for you until it's too late," she said. Annie experiences what she calls "climate grief."

"I still go into anger at civilization...[I] sometimes wake up in the middle of the night crying," she said, as she grappled with the condition of the planet and the lack of attention to the issue of climate change.

"I am a prepper," Annie said, "I'm prepping for a catastrophic event...that is climate change." Upon my first visit to Annie's store, she spoke of implementing sustainable living techniques that she reads in the environmental magazines she sells from the 70s. To prepare for this inevitable day of environmental and societal collapse, Annie has built a skylight in her bathroom, where she grows lettuce, beats, carrots, and spinach—plants she researched that need little sunlight. The plants that decorate her small shop are all edible cacti and flowers. "I eat dandelions too," she said.

"The bad news is we're all going to die, but you know what the good news is? The good news is we all got to live."

Annie captures rainwater from the roof into a 100-gallon bucket that she uses to water her plants. She also built a small dam in the creek behind her shop to slow water flow before it no longer exists. The small solar oven she built cost her only \$1, which is impressive given that it's \$100 online. She invested \$20 in a small solar panel which conducts enough energy to fuel a small light for her living area. Additionally, she is currently looking into other methods of food storage, as she has already begun to dehydrate foods and make "beef jerky for [her] kitty cat."

In implementing such sustainable living techniques, Annie is not hoping to better the condition of the planet, for she has "lost hope." Rather, she is preparing for her ultimate fight for survival within it. "Some people think I'm kooky," Annie said, as she began to describe the real prepping she does. Annie said reading articles about climate change keeps her busy. This is essential because "[She] can't just sit and do nothing," while she's working seven days a week. She reads article after article to "assure [she's] not nuts." Annie isn't crazy. She knows her facts and she knows the science.

According to NASA, the global sea level has risen almost seven inches in the last century. The rate in the last decade, however, is double that of the last century. Additionally, LiveScience states that just last month, a time when atmospheric carbon dioxide is usually at its minimum, the monthly value failed to drop below 400 parts per million. The website reads: "That all but ensures that 2016 will be the year that carbon dioxide officially passed the symbolic 400 ppm mark, never to return below it in our lifetimes, according to scientists." Climate change is a reality, and Annie has shifted hers because of it.

"The bad news is we're all going to die," she said without much expression at all, "but you know what the good news is? The good news is we all got to live." Somewhat unfortunately,

Annie's will to live seems to be driven by her methods of survival. Annie compared the process of prepping to a prison barter system, urging the need to stock up on things people will want when the time comes: Medicine, cigarettes, drugs, canned foods...the list goes on. She said, "these are the essentials" and explains her process of stocking up on antibiotics as well. She has also bought heirloom seeds from Amazon, "Emergency Survival Vegetable Seed," that lasts 20 years. There seem to be two main outlets where Annie sources her prepping materials: Amazon and the dollar store.

"The best source for prepping materials is the dollar store," she said. It is where she bought all her antibiotics, canned foods, instant coffee, and materials to build her solar oven. Annie has considered almost everything. She even thinks about what foods will keep best when crisis hits. "I thought crackers would be great but it turns out they only last 6 months," Annie said. She talks about a trout line as the "most efficient way to fish," and something she is looking into building for herself. Annie also considers her own protection. She is currently in the process of learning to string a crossbow that she bought off Amazon—the second greatest source for prepping materials.

"Don't you want to know so you can survive and prepare?" she said to me, addressing the daily struggle she faces in her choice of lifestyle. "It's a lonely place to be," she said, as she explains how she has lost many friends and family members because they think she is crazy. Annie has isolated herself in an attempt to survive her own future. "It's a burden knowing the truth," she said. The wet redness of her eyes revealed her struggle and frustration with society's ignorance to this pressing issue and inevitable disaster strike.

"The biggest predator is man," she said to me. Although completely isolating herself in the process, Annie is becoming almost totally self-sufficient and sustainable in her attempt to survive. "All we can do is live a life of excellence," she said. She lives the rest of her life in preparation of her death, and the death of the human race. She calls it "The sixth extinction: the only human-caused extinction."

Out with the Old, In with the New: Tutt Library Renovation Will Bring Virtual Reality to CC Campus

By CHANEY SKILLING

Colorado College is about to be upgraded. Tutt Library is experiencing renovations on both the outside and inside. Come fall 2017, students will be welcomed back not only with a breathtaking exterior, but also a dazzling interior that fosters collaboration across every discipline. At the forefront of the upgrades: technology.

A collaborative effort between ITS and the library renovation committee, Tutt 2.0 will feature a “Technology Sandbox.” Available to students, staff, and faculty alike, the Sandbox hopes to incorporate technology into all aspects of the CC curriculum. As part of the Sandbox kick-off, CC has purchased the latest Virtual Reality technology, adding to the college’s innovative atmosphere. “I think this is a really great addition,” said senior Caitlin Taber. “It’s always a struggle to gage how new and exciting technology will be received, but there’s a lot of potential.”

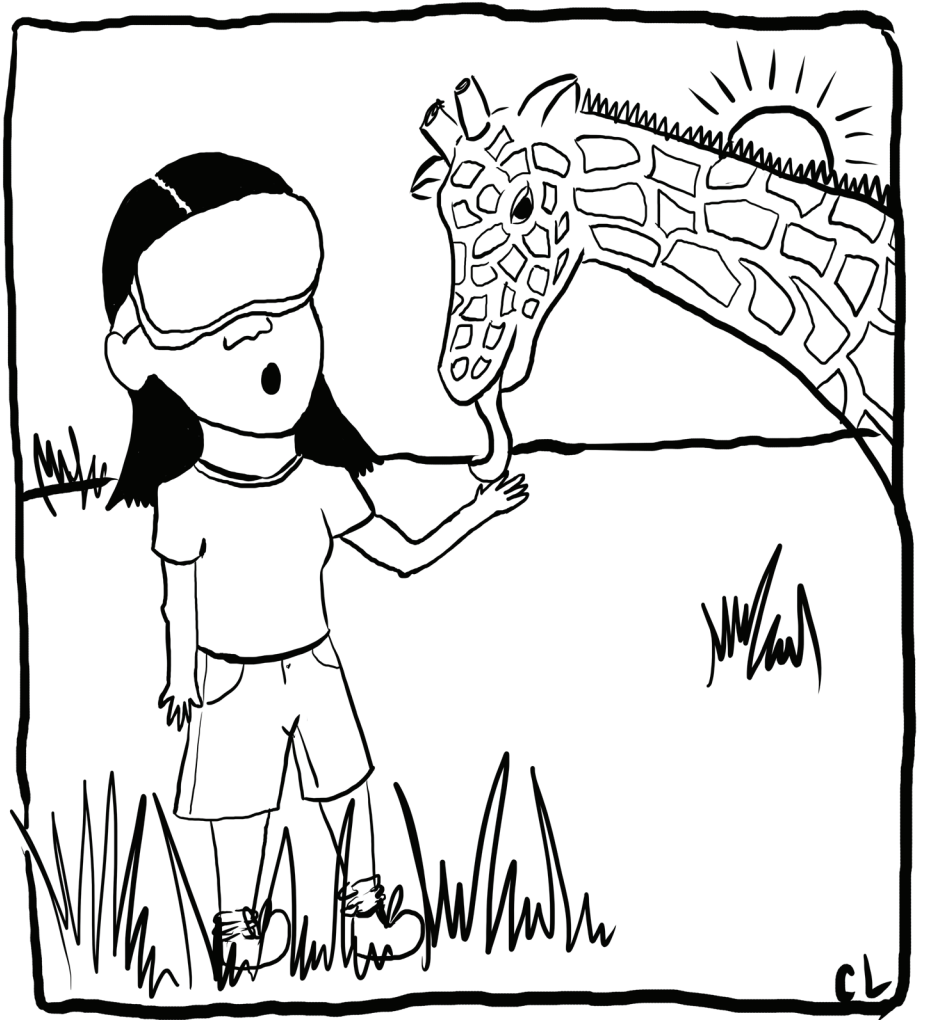
Described as a hybrid between education and entertainment, Virtual Reality technology offers a new approach to course work. Rather than sitting in a lecture or reading from a textbook, students can strap on the VR headgear, and become literally immersed in their studies. “Because VR is so interactive, you have to take part in the story,” said Taber. Current programs include Vincent Van Gough’s “Night Café,” a tour of The Louvre, and the human brain. With a flip of a switch, students can be transported to places they’ve never seen before, taking their learning experience to a whole new level. However, there is more to VR than just a few cool images and videos—the technology also increases accessibility. Before VR technology took hold, students were limited to on-campus

resources. Today, with the number of programs increasing, VR will give people the chance to experience the world without stepping outside Tutt’s doors.

“Everybody deserves to have the same experience, no matter their resources,” said GIS Paraprofessional Noah Cutter. “That’s what we’re trying to do—provide new opportunities for visualization, exploration, and experiential learning.” Although CC is one of only a handful of other liberal arts colleges currently investing in VR, Cutter is confident it will soon be an integral part of college life. Imagine reading the Constitution while in the National Archives, working up close with a human heart, or studying architecture from the halls of the Vatican. VR technology can take that imagination and make it a reality for students, no matter their resources. From art to political science to anatomy, VR has the potential to go where no other technology has ventured.

To raise awareness, ITS is sponsoring Womer Center Pop-Ups throughout the year, in hopes that students will take advantage of the Technology Sandbox once Tutt reopens next fall. “We are placing more emphasis on technology innovation in Tutt, and we want people to know about it,” said Cutter. Encouraging students to get their hands virtually dirty and faculty to be open to the idea of technology-enhanced curriculum, these Pop-Up events are open to all.

During these two-hour sessions, participants can try one of several VR programs and become acquainted with the immersive experiences it provides. Come August 2017, CC will be home to not only a new library, but also an entirely new virtual world.



CARTOON BY CAROLINE LI

Production of Paradise Motel Proves Both Alluring and Bizarre

By JONATHAN TIGNOR

Though the Norberg Studio in Cornerstone may not seem like your typical location for a motel, Colorado College’s Theater and Dance Department set up shop there and brought the Paradise Motel to life last weekend. Paradise Motel is loosely derived from the well-known playwright and author Sam Shepard, and the play creates an almost-interactive and multisensory experience. The continuous installation performance enlivened the wide array of theatrical possibility and actively engaged the audience in the modern motel milieu.

“Paradise Motel was conceived as the best way to stage very short scenes written by Sam Shepard—little glimpses of different worlds—in the setting of a seedy motel,” said Andrew Manley, the director of the show. As the audience enters the studio, they fill an open space surrounded by visible motel rooms, in which the actors perform various activities. Some stare at the ceiling, men play checkers, one man stares at a sex doll on his bed. The performances expressed the mere wanderings of personal life. Crickets chirped softly in the background under the glare of a bright neon sign that read PARADISE MOTEL.

Part of Paradise Motel’s allure was the vast differences between each of the scenes; there was an incredible range of both realism and absurdity. At times, I wondered if I had fallen into the middle of a David Foster Wallace book. For example, one scene featured a man and a maid practicing swimming on a bed, each intensely paddling through imaginary water. “Each scene simply tried to be true to what Shepard had written,” shared Manley. “The beauty of his writing is that each was so different. The people were different, the situations they were in so different, from the severely realistic to the more absurd and dreamlike.”

However, no matter how bizarre or how commonplace the scenes were, they were all captivating. The audience would wander through the center of the motel space feeling

like unseen eavesdroppers, wanting to be as attentive to every scene as possible. Though most gatherings formed around the livelier rooms, occasionally a crowd would form around a quiet room. Nothing especially notable would take place, but there was still a sense of something to be gained, something worth viewing.

“I did like how in many of the scenes nothing much happened,” said Manley, “and yet this was watchable. After all, in much of life—or an average night—nothing much happens!” It would be easy to throw a label like “avant-garde” or “surrealist” on a production like Paradise Motel, but Manley views such tags as trivial. “Ultimately they don’t mean anything, they’re not helpful,” he said. “But theater is unique in that it can change its form so easily . . . you name it, it can do it. That’s what makes it exciting; the days of an audience watching a play sitting in straight rows facing the action in a church-like atmosphere are over—well, should be over.” This evolution of performance that Paradise Motel represents is exactly what allowed for such an engaging experience.

The audience wasn’t filled with passive spectators; they were necessarily active participants. You couldn’t just sit yourself down and consume, decisions had to be made as assorted auditory cues pulled you in all directions. “They could choose what they were interested in, what they wanted to watch,” said Manley. “It was the individual member of the audience’s choice. You weren’t stuck watching a play you didn’t like or relate to or found too long (and how often does that happen?)—you could choose what to watch!” Those in attendance had to work and make their own choices, in no way was the performance a passive experience. In doing so, playgoers could reach deeper realizations about themselves.

“Realize why you were attracted to a particular scene or character—it’s because they resonated with you,” Manley stated.

A Closer Look at Professor Bobby Karimi's Life: More than a Ph.D.

By ANA ORTIZ-MEJIAS

Professors are more than their Ph.D.s. As students, we interact with our professors from 9 a.m.-12 p.m. in class, during office hours, and over email. These interactions provide a limited view of the person standing in front of the class. “I am your professor, but at the same time, I am a human being you can connect to,” said Bobby Karimi, a visiting Geology professor. Various experiences and interests make up a person, not just a professor.

Born in Canada, Karimi began his undergraduate career at McGill University in Montreal, finishing undergrad and attending graduate school at the University of Pittsburg. “Undergrad was fun, although academically I struggled for a bit,” he explained. Karimi did not always know he wanted to pursue Geology; in fact, he was initially interested in mechanical engineering. “There were classes I got to I was just not interested in. They were boring for me, and then I realized if I were to be a mechanical engineer, that is a desk job for the rest of my life.” Karimi took initiative and the next summer sat in on as many classes as he could, including Introduction to Earth Science. From that point on, Karimi knew he wanted to be a Geologist. “There are those classes that grip you and feel effortless, you can work hours and hours without realizing it,” he said. Karimi spent countless hours working to achieve a Ph.D. in Geology, the field he loves. “Overall, I nerded out pretty hard,” Karimi said proudly. “It was during grad school and teaching when I realized I do have a contribution to make. Teaching was the one thing that gave me instant gratification.” Karimi emphasized that, with time, things will fall into place, as they did for him. Teaching not only inspired his passions but eventually allowed him the opportunity to teach at Colorado College.

Adapting to the Block Plan has had its fair share of benefits and setbacks for Karimi. Luckily, the Block Plan works well for most Geology classes. There are no interruptions from other courses, allowing students more time to study in the field. “The Block Plan really does make a tight-knit community because I think everybody is kind of forced to interact with everybody else at one point

or another,” Karimi explained. However, abrupt problems can arise on the Block Plan, making it hard not just for Karimi, but all professors. Three and a half week blocks only allow for so much time to adapt to certain student’s needs. The flexibility and uncertainty of a block makes it hard for prior planning. “We struggle with the Block Plan as much as you guys do and we benefit from it as much as you guys do. It’s hard to think about it, but we do pretty much have the same reaction to things. It creates an equity amongst people,” Karimi said. Professors are experiencing each and every moment and putting in hard work alongside each student; there is always something to learn from one other, no matter the position.

While consistently faced with work, research, and teaching, Bobby has managed to squeeze in the little things he loves. During his college career he was part of Model UN, IRSam, Geo Club, and Theater. Karimi described how he “also started something called Pitlanda, which was a graduate queer society facilitating discussions between alumni, faculty, staff, administration, and students in regards to transgender rights and issues on campus.” Karimi also spent free time socializing, clubbing, drinking wine, and cooking food—through which he was able to experiment and find out more about himself.

“I’ll be honest and admit that when faced with being in the outdoors or just watching Netflix and ordering food, it’s pretty much a tossup on what’s going to end up happening. The delivery man may or may not know that I am ordering for just one person,” he said, whilst laughing. A relaxed night for Karimi entails good food and watching Korean dramas.

“I still have to go to the DMV, I have to go grocery shopping—all the little annoyances, I think of those as being a part of me as a non-Ph.D.,” Karimi stated. There is an actual human being behind that piece of paper; a human that loves chocolate or traveling as much as you do. No matter the circumstance, situation, or position, all humans connect in various ways. Be aware of that—there can be so much shared and learned through connection.

Quit Clowning Around: An Exercise of the Rumor Mill

By EMILY NG

Throughout Colorado there has been widespread havoc over recent clown attack threats. Schools ranging from universities to elementary schools have experienced clown threats, impacting the larger community of Colorado as well as the smaller community of Colorado College. One CC student's mother is an elementary school teacher in Greeley, Colo. Within the Greeley school district, over 100 children refused to attend school on Sept. 27 due to a called-in clown attack threat. This teacher refused to interview, as she had little information on the subject. Her lack of information is no coincidence; the issue is purely fictitious.

Allyson Malloy, Colorado native and first-year at University of Colorado Boulder, was subject to a recent school lockdown. The campus fell into panic when rumors spread of a man in a clown costume running around campus with a machete, as well as a suspected shooter tied to the "clown threats" supposedly following groups of students around campus and opening fire at will. Upon further investigation, however, all claims were false. There was no clown threat, no armed shooter, and while there was a man with a machete on campus the night of Oct. 6, he wasn't wearing a clown costume. According to Malloy, students continued to call in statements of fear and

panic and supposed clown sightings to the offices of CU Boulder Security. Eventually this long game of telephone resulted in a complete campus shut down.

Malloy was sent away from her classroom to take a midterm by a security officer because of an alleged report of an armed shooter in the building. Individuals trapped in their dorms and classrooms heard terrifying accounts that a student died at the arms of an armed shooter, and students trapped in their classrooms were next. What does this shutdown say about CU Boulder? More distinctly, what does it say about the community? This clown rumor phenomenon is a negative testament to our generation and how we choose to socialize, and the subsequent impact on our younger generation. In Denver, police investigated a claim that elementary school children saw five killer clowns outside during recess in the Jeffco County School system.

When considering what we say and the terror that can be prevalent around this time of year, we forget the power of words. It's important to take into account how our words influence others. Whether we are spreading rumors or expressing fears, our speech has can change our community for better or worse.

It's time to quit clowning around and take the preposterous with a grain of salt.

The Life of Yoga Guru Noah Fabie

By MARY FESER

Noah Fabie, a sophomore Winter Start, is not just a student at Colorado College, but also a teacher. Certified in Core Power Yoga Sculpt, a style of yoga that fuses traditional yoga postures with weightlifting and cardio, Fabie teaches several classes per week in the multipurpose room of El Pomar Fitness Center. Fabie began practicing yoga in high school as an alternative to hockey when he had shoulder surgery. "I lost the ability to lift heavy weights or do any sort of big training," explained Fabie. "With that not being an option anymore, I came to yoga and found that as a solid alternative." Eventually, he developed his practice by completing a 200-hour teacher training.

The Yoga Sculpt class, while difficult—it is known to some as "scary yoga"—is not as intimidating as it looks. "I advertise the class as a choose-your-own-adventure thing," Fabie described. "You have two sets of weights and a block, but you don't need to use your weights if you don't want to. Just find something that works for you." It is also a space free from judgement, competitiveness, and comparisons. "Especially at CC, I think it's really easy to want to compare yourself to your friends or your classmates, and to always have this urge to want to be the best," said Fabie. "That's really unhealthy, especially in fitness where everyone's body is unique." Instead, the class is a place to forget the stresses of the Block Plan, relax, and let yourself be in the moment, all while getting a great workout.

Yoga is not Fabie's only interest at CC; he is also a referee for intramural hockey and an organizer for Llamapalooza. "This block it's a hockey-yoga-Llama focus," Fabie joked. His participation in Llamapalooza, which entails finding artists that fit the CC vibe, contacting them to see whether they are available, and making sure costs are covered, stems from his love for music.

Fabie plays guitar and is currently taking Music Theory, which he says is a challenge. "I like to talk about music and listen to music and play, but the science behind it has always been kind of difficult for me," he explained.

Right now, Fabie's plan is to major in Economics with a Business concentration, and to combine that knowledge with his love for music by working in the music industry after he graduates. "It's interesting...how one discipline can cover so many different

aspects," Fabie reflected. "For me, it's more so the business aspect of it." Fabie spent his first semester at CC abroad in London, Paris, Florence, and Bratislava. His travels gave him the opportunity to observe the European music industry and the economic factors that might influence how music "flows across cultures." While his post-graduation goal is to move to U.S. music hotspots such as New York, Los Angeles, or Nashville to work for one of the big record labels, he is also considering working abroad.

"The big three labels tend to have a lot of overseas operations," said Fabie. "[Pop music] is usually coming from America and the UK so there a lot of places where you can work abroad and get into that music scene. I think that's what I'd like to do if I can get the chance." What are Fabie's goals for the rest of his time at CC? One is to get more involved with the Colorado Springs community by working with the homeless. "[Homelessness is the] biggest issue in our community," Fabie said. "It comes down to just normal people doing what we can to make sure these people can get some opportunities and find their way out of whatever situation they might be in." Fabie believes we need to give disadvantaged members of the community more support by working with people individually.

Fabie also wants to make sure that the Yoga Sculpt scene stays strong at CC and continues after he leaves. While the classes are already well attended, Fabie says there is always room for more people who want to take some time to work out, let the stresses of the day go, and have some fun.



PHOTO BY LAUREN STIERMAN

Hop-Ed: Field House Brewing Company

By BRANDON MARCUS, CHRISTOPHER BIRTCH & JULIAN DAHL

A weekly review of local beers for Colorado College students by Colorado College students.



PHOTO BY PHILLIP ENGH

This Week's Brewery: Field House Brewing Company

Field House Brewing Company opened its doors in 2014, the first new brewery in downtown Colorado Springs in over 20 years since Phantom Canyon began operating. Field House has 14 taps in its facility on Tejon Street, and is dedicated to providing gluten-free options, with three taps of gluten-free-beer. The Company strives for high-quality beer and continuously rotates new and fresh seasonal options. We tasted two of the four flagships and sampled other styles on tap. Field House is a great place to bring homework, a group of friends, or even a date to enjoy many delicious beers.

This Week's Picks:

Topher's Pick: Mosaic IPA

This beer is a rotating tap, although they have two IPAs as part of their regular production. This beer is 6.4 percent alcohol by volume and a 67 on the IBU scale. The relatively low IBUs make it easy to drink, while not affecting the flavor. This beer has a clear golden color and a very powerful aroma of hops.

It has a straightforward taste and not too many flavors accompanying the hops. The flavors linger and thus we consider this beer to have two stages to it. First a refreshing citrus IPA flavor but then the bitterness lingers on the palate. While it was not the best IPA, it is a very good representation of the citrus character of Mosaic Hops.

Julian's Pick: Fist Pump

Another of Field House's flagship beers, this milk stout was surprising. It is 6.5 percent alcohol by volume and a 42 on the IBU scale. It has a rich mahogany color with toffee and malty aromas. It is characteristic of a milk stout, brewed with lactose, and has excellent flavor.

Initially mellow, it becomes strong at the end of the sip. Burnt and toasted flavors are apparent and these toasty/smoked malt flavors linger in the after-taste.

It is light compared to many stouts and we think it's definitely worth trying even if you do not usually like dark beers.

It does not overwhelm with too many coffee flavors, nor is it too heavy or dark, thus we definitely give this beer our seal of approval.

Brandon's Pick: Sticky Paws

This golden honey wheat beer is dangerously smooth and brewed with local Colorado honey. The color is a clear yellow/orange, lacking the typical haziness of a wheat beer. It has a strong scent of honey yet bold flavors for this style of beer. The first sip greets you initially with a sweet honey flavor yet the beer finishes with a lingering spice taste, perhaps peppercorn. It is a multidimensional beer and progresses through the senses very nicely. It is 7.5 percent alcohol by volume, relatively high for this style, and 19 on the IBU scale.

While not a typical example of this style, it is a delicious beer that would pair nicely with light fare. We do not recommend trying to put down too many of these despite its drinkable character.

Other Field House Beers to Try: Paralysis by Analysis IPA (flagship #3), Up a Creek IPA (flagship #4), Black IPA, Bravo IPA, and Nother Amber, and many other delicious beers.

Where to Buy/Drink:

We recommend checking out the taproom downtown located at 521 S. Tejon St. They have affordable pints, flights, and you can even get your growler filled. On a Wednesday, they test out new beers.

You can find their bombers in 12 local liquor stores including Weber Street Liquors while supplies last, as they are switching from a bottling to canning system in the coming months. Keep your eyes peeled for this new and growing brewery!

Why Donald J. Trump is a Genius

By JOHN FEIGELSON

Donald J. Trump is a genius. He is a racist, misogynistic, discriminatory, hateful genius. He has emerged from reality television and a real estate career to become the presidential nominee for one of the U.S.'s major political parties. He has remained a popular candidate through numerous scandals that would normally end the political career of any other candidate.

Imagine if Barack Obama or Mitt Romney in 2012 had exhibited any of the scandalous behavior seen from Trump in 2015 and 2016. If Obama had been accused of sexual assault, or Romney accused of having ties to the Mafia (as Trump has been), it is hard to believe either of them would have remained viable or popular candidates. And yet, through it all, the Donald has remained a potential president of the U.S. This is not necessarily sheer luck, but because he is a genius.

Trump often purports his status as an outsider as one of his greatest strengths. In a nation where it is clear that many citizens are tired of "business as usual," his outsider status is undeniably powerful. In a BuzzFeed article detailing one reporter's attendance at a Trump rally in Ohio, one woman disclosed that she would vote for Bernie Sanders if Trump were not an option. In New York, Leslie Burke, a State Senate candidate, asked a number of Verizon workers on strike who they were voting for. The workers responded, "Trump." When pressed on whom they would support if not Donald, they responded: "Bernie."

The people's desire for an outsider has been the base of several candidates' appeal during this election cycle. Trump's relentless push of his outsider status to the electorate is not simply bluster. Rather, he has recognized that there is a desire for somebody who is not from Washington, and he is capitalizing on that.

At a campaign rally at Hilton Head Island, S.C., Trump said: "I know words. I have the best words." This declaration, more than any,

Trump speaks at a fourth-grade level. While this may seem alarming, seeing as Trump is an Ivy League-educated New Yorker, it may just be another sign of his genius.

perhaps, reflects his level of verbal sophistication. Trump speaks at a fourth-grade level. While this may seem alarming, seeing as Trump is an Ivy League-educated New Yorker, it may just be another sign of his genius. In 2013, a report by the Department of Education revealed that 32 million adults in the U.S. have limited literacy skills. That number is nearly a third of the country's population, and surely some of them will be voting on Election Day. Trump's use of basic language is not simply a lack of intelligence—it is a tool to reach those who cannot necessarily access the complex language of many politicians.

Many politicians switch their stances on important issues. Perhaps the most relevant example is that of President Obama, who announced his support for marriage equality in 2012 after having had a more conservative stance in previous years. Trump's reversal on several issues is another example of his brilliance, in that he will say whatever it takes to appeal to his supporters.

In 1999, Trump stated his ardent support for abortion and the right to choose. More recently, he has declared that women who have abortions must be punished. In 2012, Trump voiced his support for Hillary Clinton, claiming that "...she really works hard and I think she does a good job. I like her." Now, in the most recent debate, he called Clinton a "nasty woman," and this epithet is just one of many insults he has hurled at her over the course of the campaign. While it is reasonable for an individual's views to evolve and change, such drastic role reversals can be nothing more than a calculated political move to gain the support of more voters.

Imagine another hypothetical political situation: In 2012, during his reelection campaign, Barack Obama stands up in front of the press and says that he could shoot someone on Fifth Avenue and not lose any votes. This statement may have lost votes for Obama, yet, when Donald Trump said that he could shoot someone on Fifth Avenue

and not lose any votes, it did not seem to lose him any votes.

Trump recognizes the fervent support of his voters and runs with it. He shrugs off any and all attacks or deep probing questions because he knows the supporters that make up his base will not care what he does. His bluster is not necessarily bluster. It is a shield, one that protects him from serious political harm; a shield he carries high to fend off com-

ments about his sexual misconduct, his racist housing policy, and lack of real political proposals.

Donald Trump is not a great man, but he is a genius. He has used his words and the political climate of this day and age to draw more supporters towards his raw message of making America great again. As reported by the New York Times, Donald John Trump has an intense and unwavering fear of losing: losing his status, his celebrity, the presidency. This fear has driven him forwards in this campaign, augmented by the genius that has given him all of the support he has accrued. Donald Trump is, again, not a great

man. He is a liar, he is a sexist, he is a racist, he is a failed businessman—but underlying it all, he has shown himself, in this campaign, to be a genius.

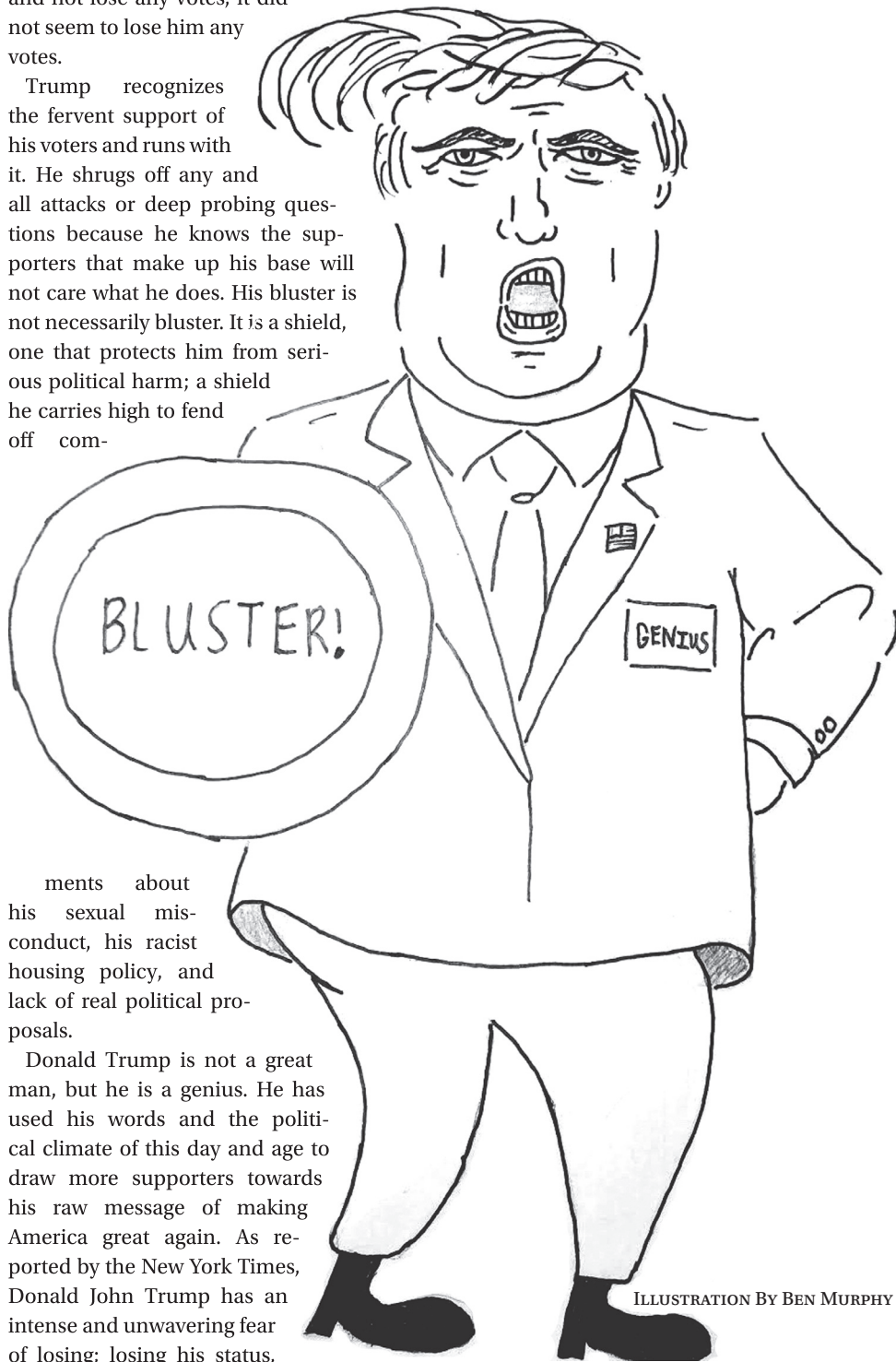


ILLUSTRATION BY BEN MURPHY

Our One-Dimensional Grading System

By CAROLINE WILLIAMS

In order to craft one well-written essay, a student will typically spend a majority of time writing and editing. In order to study for one test, a student will likely spend multiple hours working to cement that information into her brain. In order to prepare for an oral presentation, a student will probably spend a great deal of time intelligently generating the presentation. What does all this effort on assessed material amount to?

One measly letter.

Hours spent writing, studying, and preparing materials merit a student one letter. While letters are appropriate for defining blood type, bra sizes, and an airplane seat position, they do not suffice to mark a student's progress. Think about it. Each of the instances where letters are appropriate seem to be circumstances in which one categorization is able to define something. Yet, since a student's grades constantly change, it is unjust that grades place a student into one group. While a student may receive a poor grade on one assessment, the student will very likely receive a different grade on the next. Somehow, a professor reads student's

500+ word essay and decides it deserves a simple letter. As a result, this categorizes the student as that one letter. How is that fair?

Grades fail to show a student's effort towards a finished product. Obviously, a C or a D is not a desired grade, yet, maybe, it is due to circumstance. Perhaps a student really struggled with a personal problem during a certain assignment, resulting in a poor grade. While a teacher may understand to a degree, any extent of understanding fails to be reflected on a transcript. The transcript will simply display the grade received. Afterwards, when looking for employment or a future schooling position, all the institutions see is the poor grade. They will not see the struggle surrounding the letter. Grades fail to show the work a student puts forth and any existential personal issues.

Additionally, grades create a culture of students working towards a letter as opposed to obtaining general knowledge. With benchmark testing, standardized assessments, and rankings so prevalent in society, students' vision becomes impaired. Students aim for the letter, the ranking, or the high standardized test score. Students begin to learn in order to receive a positive grade, as opposed to ob-

taining knowledge. Learning should be done in order to better oneself or community, not for a letter. Grades inhibit students from learning for the sake of gaining knowledge, and, ultimately, grades create unhealthy learning environments.

Grades are not only a construct students use to mark their own intelligence, but also are used to compare intelligence to their classmates. It seems grades create competitive classroom environments instead of healthy collaboration. Competition in schooling should be encouraged, but merely for the betterment of an individual self, not as a means of surpassing a classmate.

Because grades are so cut-and-dry, grades allow for easy comparisons between classmates. Students attempt to outdo peers and neglect the fact that learning is for the individual. It is not meant to be a means for one student to outshine another, though that is what it inevitably results in. Even though grades have the potential to be healthy aca-

demic motivators, grades are typically a destructive practice.

I am sure many students believe grades are incredibly useful, and to some degree, I agree. They can definitely serve as a necessary push in minimal instances, however, I believe there is a better way: narrative assessments. I think letter grades should be completely eliminated. Instead of receiving

letters on transcripts or papers, students should only receive written feedback from professors. This would allow for students to see what words would serve in place of a simple letter. Additionally, future readers of a transcript would be able to get to

Grades create a culture of students working towards a letter as opposed to obtaining general knowledge.

know a person through a more thorough description of their work. Additionally, it would eliminate the innate comparisons between students. Currently, grades are an integral part of our culture, however, if letter grades were to be eliminated, I believe students would reap major benefits.

The Importance of Local Elections

By PAULINA UKRAINETZ

In these past couple of weeks leading up to the election, I've been finding it hard to keep my sanity. The constant presence of both candidates in the media has started to haunt me; I can barely remember the days when Trump and Clinton weren't crowding my thoughts and newsfeed. I am a politically inclined person, and since I've mostly stopped treating these presidential campaigns as politics (instead treating them more as performance art, or a twisted reality show), I've been on the lookout for an alternate outlet for the concerned citizen in me. A couple of weeks ago, I found it.

One Thursday last block, I raced from my classroom to McHugh Commons to get in line for the free Chinese food, which was courteously being provided as additional enticement for attending a panel of the two local County Commissioner candidates — Electra Johnson and Stan VanderWerf. The

only thing I knew about the local candidates was Electra's catchy slogan — "Elect Electra" — that I saw on yard signs around the city, and I thought I didn't really care to know more. Having grown up in the UK, where the local laws and their enforcement don't differ much from elsewhere in the country, I had not yet internalized the significance of voting for state and county representatives. Plus, with the amount of attention the presidential election was getting in the media, it seemed like the presidential candidates were the only ones that mattered. I would like to loudly and clearly admit now that I was wrong.

As I was sitting in McHugh, listening to Johnson and VanderWerf discuss (in a

civilized, courteous manner) issues ranging from the state's high teen suicide rates to Amendment 69—the proposed amendment that would create ColoradoCare, a public insurance plan for all Colorado residents—

I was struck by how agitated I was becoming. The issues discussed by the candidates, I was realizing, would affect my everyday life directly—and I wouldn't have been bothered enough to have my say if I hadn't been craving the free chicken

fried rice.

I think there are a great number of people in the U.S. today who consider the political system broken. According to an Associated Press-GfK poll (which is, albeit, a little dated—it was conducted in March and April

Decisions made locally are likely to affect your everyday life, and it is up to you whether they affect it for better, or for worse.

2016), only 28 percent of people would feel excited or satisfied about Hillary Clinton being the Democratic presidential nominee, and only 19 percent would feel that way about Trump as the Republican nominee. It seems as though, to a lot of people, this election is disappointing—but it doesn't have to be. While it is likely that we'll feel the effects of either a Clinton or (what a horrifying thought) a Trump presidency more directly than in the past, it is certain that we will directly experience the results of choices made by local governments.

If you want to see change in the system, act on it. Decisions made locally are likely to affect your everyday life, and it is up to you whether they affect it for better or for worse. Research the candidates, make up your mind, and tick a few more boxes on your ballot. Feeling powerless is the easy way out.

The True Purpose of Prisons

By REBECCA GLAZER

Several weeks ago, I attended a talk sponsored by the Greenberg Center for Learning and Tolerance, where former inmate Shaka Senghor shared his life story and called for radical change to the American prison system. A scholarship student, Senghor ran away from an abusive family at the age of 14, resorting to drug dealing to make some kind of living for the next five years until he was sent to prison for second-degree murder. In prison, he was lucky to encounter a series of mentors who encouraged him to read, study, and eventually write. He wrote a number of books while enduring seven years of solitary confinement, and recently released his memoir, "Writing My Wrongs: Life, Death, and Redemption in an American Prison." Senghor has won numerous awards, including the 2015 Manchester University Innovator of the Year Award and the 2012 Black Male Engagement Leadership Award, and speaks all across the world, inspiring empathy and action.

Stories like Senghor's are rare. His was a personal success, not a success of the prison system. His story only confirms the message of prison activists across our country,

that the American prison system does not work for anyone, inside or outside its walls.

Curious to know more, I spoke with senior Abram Mamet, leader of the Colorado College Prison Project. Mamet became involved in the Prison Project his sophomore year, back when it was a discussion group of only a half dozen students under the guidance of Professor Emeritus Bill Hochman. The club's discussions first exposed Mamet to the U.S. prison system, and gave him a lens through which to understand race relations in the country. As much as he hated the book in high school, what he had learned from Dostoevsky's "Crime and Punishment" was to "look at prisons, and that's how you can tell about society." Mamet aspires to work towards improving prisons after graduation, either as part of an organization like the Colorado Criminal Justice Reform Coalition or else as a prison director. "I don't like the words rehabilitation or reform, because those are laden with connotations of the white man's burden," Mamet said. "For a lot of reformers in the 19th and 20th centuries, the goal was to make the incarcerated population look like white men. I'm not interested in that at all. Also, by calling a prison 'reformed,' you excuse its future behavior instead of continuing to improve it."

There are two main fronts in the campaign against mass incarceration, both revealing troubling habits and beliefs at the core of our society. One fight is the effort to reduce the number of people sent to prison in the first

place—primarily young, underprivileged men of color incarcerated for nonviolent drug offenses—which involves changing laws, improving community relations with police forces, and improving housing and education in underserved areas. Mamet and Senghor both focus on the second problem, which is the quality of life for prisoners once they have already been incarcerated.

Mamet acknowledged that there are both "pragmatic uses and aspirational uses for prison." The problem with prisons is not so much their existence, but our country's reasons for believing they should exist.

The most obvious reason to incarcerate someone is as punishment for breaking the law, but Mamet points out that we're often unclear about what punishment means. For him, "Punishment is something that is consensual. The state says you serve 10 years because you committed a crime. When you admit guilt, your punishment is there; you are consenting to the punishment." When talking about punishment, however, people are often describing what Mamet and Senghor define as torture. Unlike punishment, "Torture is when you have a power imbalance where you cannot even resist what is being done to you," Mamet said. In America, we have somehow come to imagine that torture—as punishment—is the purpose of our prison system, where inmates can be treated with violence, confined without human contact, and deprived of any outlet for creativity or individual expression.

So why should we incarcerate people, if not to torture them? I asked Mamet, and as this is the topic of his senior thesis, he was able to give me three insightful reasons why our prison system ought to exist. "Number one is the loss of liberty. When we talk about fundamental human rights, we talk about life, liberty, and property. Life is not something which can be taken away, but liberty is something that can be temporarily pulled from an individual." This loss of liberty, or the loss of the freedom of movement, is the consensual punishment received for violating the law, as part of our contract with government.

The second reason for the prison system is separation, removing someone from society to keep them from violating anybody else's rights. But the most controversial claim is number three. The third purpose Mamet believes the prison system should serve is to provide people with "a job, or a purpose in life, or something extra-

individual," which so many people are sent to prison because they lack.

A few decades ago, the idea of having job or skills-training programs in prisons was far from radical. But under the Clinton and Bush administrations, programming virtually disappeared from prisons. Because crime was so high in those years, "we wanted to push the idea that these people need to be alone and cold and walled up and punished—physically punished, mentally, if that makes sense. The thought is, if we're not allowed to make scars on their bodies, let's make scars on their minds," Mamet said. The tactic has undoubtedly failed, with a nationwide five-year recidivism rate of 76 percent revealing that inmates are not being released with the skills they need to succeed in society, but prisons still lack funding to restart programs and the public retains the idea that prison should not be a place for self-improvement.

The above, briefly, are the two main theories why prison reform faces the obstacles it does. The first suggests that impediments are imposed from the top down; politicians and lawmakers willingly allow prisons to persist by passing laws that result in both mass incarceration and decreased funding for prison programming. This theory was widely accepted until Peter K Enns, a CC alumnus, proposed an alternative theory in his book "Incarceration Nation." Enns suggests that the obstacles are imposed, not from the top down, but from the bottom up; the voting population of the U.S. allows them to persist through its apathy. Realistically, Mamet thinks it's a little of both: "I think the obstacle is in the individuals who want the prisons to persist, because either A) they are employed by the prison system, B) their community is dependent on it, or C) they are, in fact, related to someone who's

a victim of a crime, and want to see the person in jail."

While it is true that tens of thousands of people in Colorado and even entire communities are dependent upon prisons for their livelihoods and economies, the third issue Mamet raised reveals

perhaps the deepest and most troubling reason we believe that prisons are a necessary part of our social infrastructure: vengeance.

Mamet counts vengeance among the three or four most destructive ideas in human history, an insatiable urge to cause harm which only results in more loss. Yet vengeance is

a powerful motivator; protestors outside of Senghor's talk in Colorado Springs representing Mothers of Murdered Youth held signs saying, "No Reform," and "She Deserves Justice." Because our attitudes towards the prison system are often dependent on whether we know an incarcerated person or the victim of a crime, the idea of reform can seem too generous to those who have lost loved ones to crime.

One way to reconcile the idea of justice for both prisoners and victims is to recognize that most crimes perpetrated in the U.S. are victimless and nonviolent, and that future crimes can be prevented by teaching prisoners how to be productive members of society instead of further damaging their mental health. But it is not only the mental health of the inmates that is at stake;

vengeance is a particularly harmful way of dealing—or not dealing—with grief. Happiness at the cost of someone else's unhappiness cannot bring peace of mind; it can only introduce more suffering into the world. One of Senghor's core beliefs is that hurt people will hurt people, and the cycle never ends.

A prison system that fails to reintroduce productive, skilled, creative citizens into our communities fails the American people both in and outside our prisons. To tell someone that they have no purpose, no hope of redemption, is to deprive them of their humanity. To believe that we will benefit from taking an eye for an eye, a life for a life, is to deprive ourselves of our own humanity.

Yet despite all that is wrong with our prison system, there is hope. The U.S. has the worst prison system in the world, with the most people incarcerated of any country in the world, and for the longest sentences, but it is still better than at any other time in U.S. history. Change is already happening on a local level. Texas, as a result of a strange mixture of religious beliefs and aversion to social welfare, has reintroduced programming into many of its prisons in order to ensure that inmates are ready to work upon their release. By volunteering to run programs at a local prison, even a college student can have a massive impact on the system as a whole. It is programming that gives inmates the skills they need and the purpose they crave to stay out of prison and lower recidivism rates. It is programming that gives inmates a creative outlet and a passion that can alleviate the depression of decades of confinement. It is the lack of programming in prisons that makes ours a system of torture rather than punishment, and we, as individuals, have the power to change that.

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Halloween Calendar

Friday, Oct. 28

Fall Fest

3:00 - 7:00 p.m. on the Donald Autrey (Yampa) Field

Rocky Horror Picture Show

7:00 p.m. in the Kathryn Mohrman Theatre (formerly Armstrong)

Saturday, Oct. 29

VDP: Stranger Things Edition

8:00 p.m. in Gaylord Hall

Rocky Horror Picture Show

12:00 a.m. in the Kathryn Mohrman Theatre (formerly Armstrong)

Midnight Breakfast - Almost Halloween

11:59 p.m. in Rastall Dining Hall

Sunday, Oct. 30

Day of the Dead Celebration

5:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m. on the Slocum Soccer Field

Monday, Oct. 31

Halloween Celebration

12:00 p.m. - 2:00 p.m. in the Loomis Lounge

Hypnotist with TWIT as Opener

8:00 p.m. - 10:00 p.m. in the Bemis Great Hall

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Cynthia Lowen '01 is a writer, poet, and filmmaker. She wrote and produced the award-winning feature documentary "Bully," which followed five children and families through a year in the life of America's bullying crisis and was nominated for two Emmys. At this event, Lowen will discuss her creative process and share her experience as a working artist.

THURSDAY, NOV. 3, 2016, 7-8:30 P.M.

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