Full House at Rachel Maddow book talk
BY SADIA KHATI '14 NEWS EDITOR

On Saturday March 31, Chapman auditorium witnessed a full house when renowned American television host and political commentator Rachel Maddow came to talk about her new book, *Drift.* Maddow hosts the popular show *The Rachel Maddow Show* on MSNBC, for which The Guardian has called her the "star of cable news."* 

The Five College Women's Studies Research Center, the Odyssey Bookshop and the Gender Studies Department at Mount Holyoke worked together to bring Rachel Maddow to campus to talk about her new book on the military-industrial complex and the privatization of war. Professor of German Studies and Director of the Five College Women's Studies Research Center Karen Remmler, who said that Mount Holyoke wanted to "celebrate Maddow's work as a tenacious, smart and feminist political commentator," introduced Maddow to the crowd. Maddow was greeted by a standing ovation from the audience, followed by a collective happy birthday-sing-along. "I'm embarrassed," joked Maddow to the audience. Maddow first read an excerpt from her book to the crowd of Mount Holyoke students, staff and faculty and residents and fans from the Pioneer Valley. The audience often erupted into laughter, listening attentively to Maddow's witty and captivating narrative about the relationship between houbara bustards in Balochistan, Pakistan and the American military.

Maddow explained how the endangered houbara bustards were popular sport for hunting among wealthy Emirati and Sheikhs from Arab regions. For this reason, the United Arab Emirates bought the strip of land where the annual bustard hunt took place. "The event was sponsored by the most dangerous man in America: Daniel Ellsberg and the Pentagon Papers." In an hour and a half, the three former public servants spoke of their experiences of stumbling across various governments' covert actions through history. Their questions navigated the sensitive discussion, disclosing the personal moral battle, risk, persecution and fear that the trio endured. Ellsberg related how he began his journey by asking himself, "What can I do to stop this?" Maddow, regarding Ellsberg's stance, said that "he's probably the most principled person I've ever met in my life.""You're embarrassing me," joked Maddow to the audience. Maddow ended her book talk with a slamming testo of a poem written by German poet Hannah Arendt. A former United States military analyst and government contractor, Arendt was in good standing with the Pentagon before he decided to break his silence and release what he had learned during his service. The report revealed the true incentives behind the prolonged war in Vietnam and the actions of war.

The documentary featured Ellsberg, the man widely attributed with effectively ending the war in Vietnam by leaking 7,000 pages of a secret government study in 1971. On Wednesday March 28, Thomas Drake and Jesselyn Radack joined Ellsberg in a panel discussion mediated by Visiting Senior Lecturer in English and author of Side Effects: A Prosecutor, a Whistleblower, and a Bestselling Antidepressant on Trial, Alison Bass. The discussion took place in a crowded Gamble Auditorium, packed with Five College students and faculty and residents from the Pioneer Valley. People lined up against the walls, craning their necks to catch a glimpse of Daniel Ellsberg.

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6.12

Afghan Culture Awareness Night
Interested in learning about Afghan culture and history? Come spend the night with the Afghan Spirit org, where music, dance performances, poetry and food will be your to enjoy. Following the show will be an after party featuring music from all over the world.
8:00 P.M., after party at 10:00 P.M., Tickets: $3 for the after party for Mount Holyoke students, $5 for Five College students and $7 general admission.

5.12

Five College West African Drum Ensembles
Visiting Professor, Ghanaian dancer and musician Nani Agbeli will lead a Ghanaian dance workshop. With director Faith Conant, The Five College West African Music Ensembles will provide music people can't help dancing to. Following the workshop will be a reception.
7:00 P.M., CHAPIN AUDITORIUM, Mount Holyoke College, FREE ADMISSION.

7.12

Quilt
Shane Butler and Anna Fox Rochinski were just visual art students at the School of the Museum of Fine Arts in Boston before they co-founded this band. The fact that they both enjoyed out of the ordinary jams and classic pop harmonies is what led them to join forces. Later on, John Andrews came along and joined them to make it themselves, and they combine different types of music together to create an interesting sound.
8:30 P.M., IRON HORSE MUSIC HALL, Northampton, MA, Tickets: $12.50 in advance and $15 at the door.

8.12

Pegi Young and The Survivors
Singer, songwriter and guitarist Pegi Young has been living a musician's dream, with two albums already under her belt and her newest album out last November. Her music contains Western swing, honky-tonk and blues that portrays a Southern, familiar and comforting sound.
7:00 P.M., IRON HORSE MUSIC HALL, Northampton, MA, Tickets: $12.50 in advance and $15 at the door.
Campus Police Log

April 1
8:15 p.m. Officers responded to the College Street bus stop for a report of a suspicious male. The party was advised to leave the area (incident #1201-147-OF).

12:32 a.m. A female subject was placed under arrest for Assault and Battery (incident #1201-2-AP). Sarah-Franklin Schoor
Ax-en-Province, France

March 31
8:12 p.m. Officers responded to the Blanchard Hall bus stop for a report of indecent exposure. A female party reported that her bike was missing from the Equestrian Center. It was not located in the area (incident #1201-140-OF).

April 1
8:46 p.m. Officers responded to Creighton Hall for a College violation policy. The incident was reported to the Deans (incident #1201-141-OF).

SGA Speaks

Updates

The Honor Code Council will be tabling at Blanchard during lunch and in the Library Aturum during dinner during the week of April 16. Students can win a $50 gift certificate to Ichiban.

"Experience MHC" and "Experience Diversity" will take place place April 20-22. Over 600 prospective students are coming but so far there are only 40 hosts. If you are able to host someone, please sign up.

Campus Police has launched a survey. Students can win a $100 gift card to Amazon. Please take the survey at https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/CampusPolice

ASA (Asian American Students in Action) will presents Sarit Gupta of surveymonkey.com/s/CampusPolice so far there are only 40 hosts. If you are able to host someone, please sign up.

Century?" on Wednesday, April 18 at 4:15 p.m. in the New York Jobs with Justice in "Jobs with Justice: Workers' Rights in the 21st Century?" on Wednesday, April 18 at 4:15 p.m. in the New York Room. Mary Wexley Hall. The event is co-sponsored by SGA.

Multicultural Community and College Life Committee (MCCL) will screen and hold a subsequent discussion of The Grace Lee Project on Wednesday, April 11 from 4-6 p.m. in Dwight 101.

LITS and LITS Advisory Committee are interested to hear students' opinions. With the running theme "Never Grow Up," the committee is asking students what they would consist of three events, with the theme for the 2013 Spring Weekend event.

Students are busy preparing for the annual Weekend event due to be held over the weekend of April 26, with the participation of other student organizations. This year's Weekend will feature three events, with the running theme "Never Grow Up."

Network member Emaan Ahmad '13 explained that the choice for the theme is "an attempt to attract a great portion of the student body by alluding to a common childhood favorite." The Network also promises a variety of great giveaways pertaining to the theme.

Many of this year's events will be held outdoors in true spring spirit. The kick-off event for Friday, April 13 will be held at the amphitheater.

"We have been trying to host something there for years and we've finally found the perfect occasion," explained Network co-chair Brittany Fournier '12. There will be a screening of Peter Pan, possibly preceded by a cappella performance by a Five College group that is yet to be determined. The Network promises plenty of giveaways to those who arrive early. The main attraction will be on Saturday night in Chapin Auditorium, where a production the Network has been working on since December. Fournier explained that the Network was able to lock in Boston's own music duo, Timeflies, when they hit the list of potential spring weekend performers that the larger universities pick from. Mount Holyoke's very own R&B and pop singer, Jacqueline "Jayy" Perry '12, will perform for the opening set.

The concert and after party will be black light and the DJs lined up all play in major nightclubs in Boston. Tickets are $3 pre-sale and $5 at the door for the concert and the party, and sales will begin on April 16 in Blanchard Campus Center. The Network will also sell Spring Weekend tank tops on Saturday during lunch.

Finally, the Carnival will be held on Sunday. According to Fournier, "this year we will have McCray's ice cream, many rides as usual, but we're looking into more old school ones like a bounce house and inflatable slides, and some other surprises!"

Students seem to be excited about Spring Weekend, especially since the Network has reverted to including a concert; last year, Northampton-based indie rock quintet gave a performance, but much of the Weekend's events were centered on alternatives to the generic concerts that most colleges see. "I am looking forward to a weekend of revelry in the midst of a hectic semester," said Lizzie McManus '14.

Spring Weekend preview: the Network plans events themed “Never Grow Up”

BY RITA KERBS '14
NEWS EDITOR

Members of the Network are busy preparing for the annual Weekend event due to be held over the weekend of April 26, with the participation of other student organizations. This year's Weekend will feature three events, with the running theme "Never Grow Up."

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Student Programs Director John Laprade elaborated, "I think that every student deserves a break and some time to just enjoy themselves. Spring Weekend 2012 offers some great ways to relax and recharge for the rest of the semester." Assistant Director of Student Programs Joshua Nelson added, "It's also Experience MHC that weekend, so it should be a busy weekend, and definitely something for everyone!"

Other Five Colleges are also having spring concerts featuring popular headliners. Smith College's Spring Concert on April 13 will feature Chiddy Bang with Wynter Gordon. UMass' Spring Concert on April 13 will feature artists Lionel Richie, Third Eye Blind & Big K.R.I.T. and Amherst College will feature Ludacris on April 21.

College reduces visiting professor hires

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

year as well.

In an effort to save money during the recent economic downturn, colleges are looking at resourceful ways to reduce funds while looking out for staff interests. "Many colleges replace experienced, tenured faculty, who have permanent appointments, with cheaper temporary visitors," explained Dean Bentley. "We are doing the opposite."

Some students think there are drawbacks to having fewer visiting professors. "Having temporary faculty can inject new teaching styles within their departments and can have a positive effect on the classroom," said Claudia Chang '15. "A professor that is not tenured can have different focuses than permanent professors that can allow students to view material in a different way than from those permanent to that department. This year I have a lot of visiting professors, so I understand there are pros and cons to both," she added.
a suspected member of the Taliban, she noticed the FBI's violation of interrogation procedures. At this point, he made the "fatal decision" to expose the agency's proceedings. As a result, his home was searched while his family's attention was diverted. "The next few months were a blur," he observed frankly.

Drake was a senior official of the National Security Agency (NSA) and his blunt, politically controversial statements sent ripples through the crowd. According to Drake, the government could very well have prevented the attacks on 9/11 had they not chosen to ignore intelligence they had already gathered. He went on to explain that he had found the NSA using an expensive data-collection program that violated citizens' constitutional rights to privacy. "I was told that it was all legal, not to worry about it and not to pursue it further," Drake explained brusquely. At the point, he made the "fatal decision" to expose the agency's proceedings. As a result, his home was searched while his family's attention was diverted. "The next few months were a blur," he observed frankly.

Drake's lecture received continued applause from the audience. During the question and answer session, several people thanked her for coming to Mount Holyoke and for writing her book. The audience asked pertinent questions about what could be done with the current political situation and what she thought about issues like drafting and American involvement in the Middle East. Maddow clarified, on several occasions, that she was not an expert and that there was no "Maddow doctrine," but that she hoped her book "could be part of naming the problem." She said, "To some, the designation of their gift was a better experience for its students. According to Director of Development Mary Anne Young '81, contributions to the department have increased dramatically over the past few years. "When you look at a five year time frame, more than 80 percent of alumnae have made a gift to Mount Holyoke. This speaks to the gratitude they feel for the education they received when they were here. The number one reason they give is that they want to help students, just as they were helped—in other words, pay it forward," she said. However, not many students and alumni are aware of the Annual Fund. "One of the things we learned from students is that they did not understand the importance of giving, and were unsure. Therefore, we made the commitment to begin expanding our efforts to educate all students about giving and Mount Holyoke," said Radack. For this reason, the office launched the Mind the Gap initiative last year. The days of this campaign symbolize the time between now and the next fiscal year where revenue from students' tuition runs out and gifts from alumnae start bringing in the actual cost and the revenue. The last day, April 10 and 11 are the designated days. The signs outside bars and outdoor signs posted at high traffic areas around campus highlighting some facts and figures related to the day-to-day costs of a Mount Holyoke education and the support alumni can give through the Annual Fund, "said Annual Funds and Special Gifts Officer Allison M. Butler '08. There will be signs outside the library highlighting the actual cost involved in running the library for one day. Similar signs across campus will announce the daily costs of running a dormitory, MAC, electricity. Maddow felt that the main issue the college was facing was the amount of money that the college was not able to meet its own expenses. She felt that the college was relying too much on endowments and not making the most of its gifts. She said, "It's important to remember that while the college is facing financial difficulties, we are also able to give large gifts, it makes the impact greater to give a class."
Behind the Desk: Kendall “Funny Board”

From wrangling pots and pans in the kitchen to pouring over resumes, there are a wide variety of student jobs on campus and they all come with their fair share of quirky incidents. Workers at the Kendall Infodesk encounter a range of people in a single shift including students, professors, staff, alumnae and local residents and their families. Checking out badminton racquets for an event? Checking out a gym for free? They seem odd, but there's a squirrel running around the pool deck...

"Can you hold this for us? It's our marriage certificate." "Can we check out cricket racquets?" "Are you guys volunteers?" "Tell this is the pool. This is going to sound odd, but there's a squirrel running around the pool deck." "Tell this is a [well known academic dean's] mother. I'm 87 years old, have an active lifestyle, and was wondering if I can use the gym for free." "I have a suggestion... The gym should have theme nights...Like 80s night!" "Can we photocopy a poster in the weight room?" "Do you know math? Like Calculus? Can you help me with my homework?" "Do you know how many laps equal a mile? Could you call someone to find out?" "How do I get upstairs?" [After the power goes out] "Do we really have to leave?" "Do you know how to treat a sprained ankle?" "I'm here to pick up the fruit."

"You have workout clothes for us, right?" "Do you have a hot tub for faculty?"

"These towels get washed every once in a while right?" "Do you have a tennis racquet with a greater surface area?"

"Can I photocopy a poster in the weight room?" "Are there socks in the lost and found that I can borrow?"

The proceeds are directly wired and stored in a personal bank account through SHUMAS, where the funds accumulate with other donations. The money funds the construction of a new water well, clean facilities (bathrooms), and a new building to house the school. The benefits don't stop there. After construction is completed, the towns often take advantage of the freshly turned and aerated soil around the school to create community gardens. The arrangement speaks well to collaborative effort, successfully creating a reliably equipped and safe space for the nurture and cultivation of a community.

Kim joined the club in the beginning of his freshman year in 2009. "I first learned about it in middle school, where I met the club founder", said Kim. He began supporting the club early by assisting with bake sales and concessions. However, it wasn't until after he learned more about the issues that he became passionate and committed himself to a leadership position. "Those buildings have air inside them that is dangerous to breathe," said Kim, disturbed by "all the diseases the children got from studying in the old building." Alongside the hazardous health conditions of the building was gross overcrowding. Often four students were crammed onto a bench built for two. "I learned this later on, but bricks actually fell from the ceiling and hit teachers' heads a few times," said Kim. "I guess that's funny when you first hear it, but it's actually scary. People are studying and learning in a structure that can literally collapse on them at any second."

In devoting time to work with SHUMAS, Kim found himself on the receiving end of a fun and supportive community with like-minded interests. "We have cookouts and unique events that always turn out awesome. We've had duck races where we race plastic ducks with numbers on them down a river," said Kim. Prizes are also part of the fun, as participants can win prizes to local stores and events.

Members of SHUMAS spend a lot of time planning and working together at events, and in doing so have found friendship and cooperation with each other. Despite the inspiring momentum of the club thus far, it would appear that not even the work of do-gooders is safe from the sandpit of teen drama that can be a high school environment.

"A lot of people make new friends this way, but somehow it's gotten a bad reputation," said Kim. "Some people say it's a club revolving around just friends and the 'cool kids,' but that's because they don't really understand what we do."

At one point, a peer verbally accused the club of "not having a single black kid in the club," and that we "don't actually do anything." Unsure of how to respond to this, it was pointed out that there are in fact eight African American members. "It's clear that there is residual tension and the situation is an interesting one in terms of the intersection of race, class and philanthropy in a younger demographic," Kim said.

Kim discussed the club's future goals with no limits of a decrease in ambition. "Ryan [the founder of the club] raised $35,000 in three years," Kim said. "We have two years before we're out and into college to raise money for another school, so we're already ahead of the game."

Planning the fundraising of $20,000 in less than one year is no easy feat, but the fact that they remain ambitious and committed amidst the additional challenges of high school life and college on the horizon is a good omens of a caring and motivated younger generation. The club hopes to raise enough money to build at least one more school before they graduate, and they admit this will be a difficult task. "We really need a lot of extra support because we've lost a number of donors," said Kim. "We really want to build another school in Cameroon before we graduate next year!"
The times are a-changin' in the world of Mad Men

BY INA GUIGNON ’13

Senior Writer

After a 17-month hiatus, Don Draper and the rest of Sterling Cooper Draper Pryce are back. There were many unanswered questions last season. Did Don marry Megan? What happened to Joan and Roger’s baby? Longtime customer Lucky Strike left the ad agency — what’s next? There was a lot up in the air for 17 months. Was the two-hour season opener what the fans were expecting?

The premiere started off with a rival advertising agency throwing water bombs at African American protesters in the street below. Don and his all-white co-workers are back. Season Four.

The premiere of the second season, entitled “The North Remembers,” picks up right where the first season left off. War has come to Westeros; there is “a king in every corner,” as one of the main characters says. The scenes are scattered throughout the Seven Kingdoms, beyond the sea in the south and beyond the wall in the far north. The premiere did an outstanding job of checking in on the numerous characters audiences have come to care about, while seamlessly introducing new characters and dispensing a ton of information. In a testament to Game of Thrones’ excellent writers and actors, despite this flood of new information, audiences still seemed to care under the weight of its own exposition because the action was so captivating. The epic scope, intricate narrative, and talented cast that fans have come to know and love, the series has remained all firmly intact.

Several companies and major events were introduced, including the red sorceress Melisand’s “The Onion Knight’ Ser Davos seaworth and self-proclaimed King Siannis Barathos, one of two Barathos brothers who lays claim to the Iron throne. Readers of the books jumped for joy at a brief glimpse of fan-favorite Brienne of Tarth, an imposing female warrior, in the premier for upcoming episodes, and Brienne was one of the main new characters that the second season will introduce.

“The North Remembers” had everything that fans have come to expect from the冰冷的 prototypes, political maneuvering, sword play, word play and the inimitable Peter Dinklage. However, showrunners David Benioff and D.B. Weiss still managed to shock their audience with the final scene, in which the evil teenage King Joffrey popular, alert orders all of his deceased father’s illegitimate children to death! As his increasingly overwhelmed mother Queen Cersei, Lena Headey continues to discover the show and the people who love it, somehow managing to make the villainous Cersei seem more human than she ever does in books. Game of Thrones is evidence of the quality of television that HBO is capable of producing given the right cast and the right writing and direction. In lesser hands the show could have faltered. As fans continue to discover the show and the people who love it, somehow managing to make the villainous Cersei seem more human than she ever does in books. Game of Thrones is evidence of the quality of television.

Kings clash in Game of Thrones season premiere

BY LYDIA MALONE ’13

Contributing Writer

Sunday night was certainly “dark and full of terror” as HBO’s epic fantasy series Game of Thrones returned. The genius marketing leading up to this season reached a fever pitch last week, and all over Mount Holyoke fans were declaring their allegiance to the various houses in the Seven Kingdoms of the fictional land of Westeros. Based on the best selling series of epic novels A Song of Ice and Fire by George R. R. Martin, the first season of Game of Thrones not only pleased fans of the books but also enticed an entirely new audience on the small screen.

The first episode of the second season, entitled “The North Remembers,” picks up right where the first season left off. War has come to Westeros; there is “a king in every corner,” as one of the main characters says. The scenes are scattered throughout the Seven Kingdoms, beyond the sea in the south and beyond the wall in the far north. The premiere did an outstanding job of checking in on the numerous characters audiences have come to care about, while seamlessly introducing new characters and dispensing a ton of information. In a testament to Game of Thrones’ excellent writers and actors, despite this flood of new information, audiences still seemed to care under the weight of its own exposition because the action was so captivating. The epic scope, intricate narrative, and talented cast that fans have come to know and love, the series has remained all firmly intact.

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Boy bands: Your teenage dream

BY NATHALIE OATES '14

It's a flavor of music that's more sugary than well-written. It's not going to influence our culture in a big way, but the lyrics are just so catchy, and catchy is hard to ignore. Case in point: I am blasting Carly Rae Jepsen's "Call Me Maybe" while I write this.

Last Thursday, The Huffington Post announced that after ten years, 98 Degrees planned a reunion tour for this summer, calling it "fan pressure." According to People, the boy band is only talking about a 1-city tour, so the fans are not as persuade as some would like to believe. In related news, on March 21, the 90s pop group S Club 7 announced a comeback tour and a greatest hits album. Ain't no party like an S Club party!

The excitement around these reunions, and why managers dream this stuff up, is twofold. As fans, we get to pretend we are 18 years old again, which is perfect since who really wants to be a grown-up, seriously person anyway? We also get to see what happened to the Drew Lachesys of the world, or in some cases, re-examine why they are still famous.

Both reunions are sure to be successful. Although older, for the most part, they still get it! A current plaintiff of the Club 7 did look rather different than I remember, but it only compelled me to instantly YouTube their seminal hit "S Club Party." Inspiring, they even opened featuring my friend Jon and my father, who apparently remembered all of the lyrics from while I played it over and over in third grade. I hope they will still play nobody's business. A source close to the band told The Mirror, "Everyone is really excited — and frantically getting back in shape."

These groups will also become successful because boy bands have always been successful. I am too young to know my first boy band, but I can appreciate how their genius money-making strategy was that uniting two boy bands from closely related but different generas (they toured the U.S. with the Backstreet Boys last year). The result of pooling from two separate demographics, No. 1, I didn't go, and I'm still bummed. Yes, I did download "Don't Turn Out The Lights," which routinely appears on my workout playlist.

The single was, of course, well-received. An em-

vision of Another World

BY GENEVIEVE OLIVER '13

Why do people like science fiction so much? Why do they attend Comic-Con in full costume? What draws them to dress up and perform as their favorite characters? Is it for escapism's sake alone? Or perhaps a fixation with what might transpire in the future? It's indicative of science fiction's pervasive influence in pop culture that you don't have to be a diehard fan to feel the pull. Don't pretend you don't remember that one Frank Herbert book or once watched all of the short-lived TV series Firefly in three days. And don't pretend you don't know what I'm talking about when I compare Claire B. to the woman who started ascerting the moniker Grimes to her bedroom-crafted music and art, to the science fiction film Fifth Element's Diva Plavalaguna.

Boucher is not seven feet tall and blue, but that's pretty much the case with the character. Claire B. is favored in electronic music, Grimes really sounds like the chaotic and ultimately irresistible future, the kind where every-

ingthing is happening, all of the time. Boucher calls this first record, and though it's her third full-length re-

due, it's easy to see where she is coming from. Views sounds like the record she's been always being to make: it's chromati-

cally glossy and clean, completely real and assured. Boucher can make songs that sound like the soundtrack to zero-

gravity fight scenes ("Eight"), sexy slow-

corners ("Skin"), and hypnotic, hymnal ballads ("Know the Way"). She can make straight-up, irresistible electro-poppers that cull as much influence from the deliri-

ous and heavily prescribed bubblegum of Korean pop music as they do from the fam-

ilar diva postures of Western Top 40. However, Boucher's best song to date is "Nightmusic," a song so impossible catchy it must have been designed in a lab. Other songs worth noting are "Polyphant," "Circumambulate," and the electrifying "Be A Body," with its exhilarating"
Your majesty, red, round and fruity

Tomatoes in the air, La Tomatina in session

BY PIKRIYE IIOI KAYA '14
STAFF WRITER

It is the last week of August. It is sunny, with temperatures above 80 F. Obviously, there is nothing better than refreshing yourself with a tomato bath and maybe losing a shoe or two in the slippery frenzy. Every last Wednesday of August, people gather in Bunol in Valencia province of Spain to celebrate the La Tomatina festival. The festival has been known worldwide for more than twenty years, and promoted many times by travel agencies and artists during the Hindu color festival in India.

The story behind the festival is that hallucinations were banned in 1606, and an arbitrary tomato fight sprouted on the town square Plaza del Pueblo during a local celebration of the official period Las Provincias. There are varying explanations of why the tomatoes started flying, but all agree that more tomatoes were thrown the following years, and the fiesta took seed," Al Goodman reported in the New York Times. The festival was briefly sanctioned in 1950, and was banned again in 1953 and 2007. Goodman reported that the festival "remained mainly a local event until 1981, when Spanish national television showed up. Tomato-t-shirt sales followed soon after, and this year one villager started selling waterproof disposable cameras for $10 to tourists about to enter the fray."

The New York Times travel guide reports that the name La Tomatina means “viewing flowers,” and is used to indicate viewing cherry blossoms. Millions of people attend this festival in various parts of the country such as Tokyo, Kyoto and Osaka. The trees have been strategically planted to decorate the gardens of many Japanese palaces, temples and pagodas (tiered tower with multiple eaves) and when they are fully bloomed the cherry blossoms impart a spiritual aura to the already spectacular scene. One of the traditional ways to celebrate Hanami is by holding a tea ceremony under the boughs of a blossoming tree. Other ways to celebrate the season include picnics under trees laden with sakura blossoms and looking at palaces and pagodas colored with the pretty blooms.

A hundred years ago in March, the first lady of Japan, Helen Herron Taft and Viscountess Chinda, wife of the Japanese Ambassador, planted two cherry trees on the banks of Washington, D.C.'s Tidal Basin. Altogether, 5,000 cherry trees are now planted that month as part of a gift from Japan to the United States as a symbol of friendship between the two countries. In 1965, the cherry was renewed with 3800 more trees and each year, the cherry blossoms attract thousands of tourists to the nation's capital. In addition to symbolizing the arrival of bright spring, these trees are yearly reminders of the long lasting friendship between Japan and the United States.

In Washington, D.C. a festival takes place at the center of most important buildings and monuments, including the Lincoln Memorial, the Jefferson Memorial, the White House and the Washington Monument. The Peak Bloom Date is the day by when 70% of the cherries are expected to bloom. This year, the peak bloom prediction was for March 28-27. However, cherries blossomed earlier than usual due to unseasonably warm temperatures. Most of the trees reached their peak bloom of the season during the second last week of March.

The National Cherry Blossom Festival runs through April with many events and exhibits planned throughout Washington. This year, Washington, D.C. is celebrating the 100th anniversary of cherry blossom festi- val with 5 weeks of international cultural performances, including arts exhibits, sports and parades up to April 27. Over one million people are expected to attend the National Cherry Blossom Festival this year. Many families take this as a perfect opportunity to enjoy the nice weather off from work.

Unfortunately, these trees are very sensitive to the weather. How long they last depends on how long the weather stays warm without strong winds and heavy rains. Although typically the cherry trees bloom from March through April, a heavy downpour usually causes the blooming cherry trees to fall, thus ending the fairytale-like imagery. So keep your fingers crossed for bright sunshine and calm winds throughout this fantastic season.
The Politics of:

"Footwear"

As the saying goes, you don’t know someone until you walk a mile in their shoes. I think that this saying is going a little far. First of all, a mile is a super long distance—unless, of course, you live in Abby, Buckland or Dickinson, and then that’s just your normal day-to-day walk about campus. Secondly, I think that we Mohias express ourselves through our footwear, and therefore we don’t need to walk a mile in someone’s shoes.

Recently, I was determined to buy new shoes and was trying to decide what kind to get. Did I want something utilitarian? Did I want something that had arch support? Did I want something that was an expression of every facet of my identity in footwear form? Procrastination can be a real struggle sometimes. The list below is what these different types of shoes say to me.

**Flats**
- "Fashionable, comfy and oh so-femme. Perfect."
- "Some child in an impoverished country is going to look so fly in these."
- "Oxfords/Brogues"
- "I’m jaunty, like to look put together and also have an affinity for bowties. Also, I appreciate the potential at work/looking put together on the daily" crossover.
- "Heels"
- "If I walk in them for long enough, my feet won’t hurt anymore!"
- "Sandals"
- "It’s spring, for goodness sake. I don’t care if it’s in the 70s in the morning, if I wear warm-weather clothes the weather will conform to me."
- "Sneakers"
- "There are two distinct sneakers talking to me."

Secondly, some students bear a higher cost of printing than other students. I am referring, of course, to the students who do not have access to free printing in their departmental lounges. (The fact that some departments have beautiful, renovated spaces while others still have books about the Soviet Union is beyond me.) Yes, some students do know codes to various free printing havens. If everyone is given the same printing money, everyone should have the same access to printing. Those that do not have access to free printing should be given extra printing money.

Thirdly, some students have to print more than others because of their coursework. For instance, some professors put all of their course materials on Blackboard, using the logic that we can save on printing by reading online. Some of those same professors, though, ask that students bring the readings to class and do not allow them to bring computers, thus forcing them to print out readings. Basing the amount of printing money on the level of a class (with 300-level classes being given more money than 100-levels, for example) would be a way to mitigate this situation.

Money is tight enough in college as it is. Many of us have been in the situation where the choice is between laundry, printing or an extra coffee. Printing is such a part of college that I don’t think that such a choice should exist. The college should reevaluate printing costs to see whether or not our current money is tight enough in college as it is. Many of us have been in the situation where the choice is between laundry, printing or an extra coffee. Printing is such a part of college that I don’t think that such a choice should exist. The college should reevaluate printing costs to see whether or not our current money is tight enough in college as it is. Many of us have been in the situation where the choice is between laundry, printing or an extra coffee. Printing is such a part of college that I don’t think that such a choice should exist. The college should reevaluate printing costs to see whether or not our current money is tight enough in college as it is. 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Carolyn Reed"
to regenerate younger plants, and the former record for successful regeneration of an ancient plant species was held by scientists who planted 3,000-year-old date palm seeds at the Masada Fortress near the Dead Sea in Israel in the 1960s.

The seeds of the Pleistocene plant were unearthed on the right bank of the lower Kolyma River in northeastern Siberia, where Arctic ground squirrels had buried the seeds of this flowering plant tens of thousands of years ago. Seventy square kilometers of permafrost at -7°C and had never thawed. The sediments surrounding the seeds were cemented together and usu-
ally filled with ice, keeping out any water and creating a perfect freezing chamber for the seeds. The squirrels also placed hay and animal fur in the burrows when burying the seeds, further improving the conditions for storage. Those seeds were exposed to approximately 10 kGy of gamma radiation due to the decay of elements in the Earth's crust, which is the maximal dose to date at which issue may remain viable. Although the narrow-leaved Campion is still found in some parts of Siberia, it is impossible for the seeds found to be modern contami-
nants: they have been proven to be almost 32,000 years old through radiocarbon dating, unlike the case of the Arctic lupine seeds found in Alaska which were be- lieved to be 10,000 years old, but later found to be more recent.

Initially, scientists attempted to grow plants from mature S. stenophylla seeds. However, this proved futile and so they used the plant's placental tissue (the fruit structure to which seeds attach) to grow entire plants in

### ENCELADUS: A promising place for extraterrestrial life

**BY AMANDA BRETON '12**

**HEALTH & SCIENCE EDITOR**

Saint Augustine Magnus, a Dominican bishop and philosopher, wrote in the 13th century, “Does there exist many worlds, or is there a single world?” This is one of the most noble and exalted questions in the study of Nature. “For thousands of years, humans have looked to the night sky and wondered about the possibility of life beyond this world we call home. The universe is vast and fascinating, and to chain our minds to terrestrial matters and assume that life solely came into existence on planet Earth would be a foolish mistake. “Must man rise above the Earth— to the top of the atmosphere and beyond—for only thus will he fully comprehend the world in which he lives,” the philosopher Socrates once said. Human nature compels us to search the heavens in hope of one day we shall discover extraterrestrial life, and that day may soon be here.

One of the most promising local places for life outside Earth’s atmosphere is Enceladus, one of Saturn’s 66 moons. Named after a giant from Greek mythology, Enceladus was discovered in 1789 by German astronomer Friedrich William Herschel. Little was known about paludal Enceladus until the spacecraft Voyager 1 passed by the moon in 1980 and discovered that Enceladus is seven times smaller than our moon. Voyager 1 also found that Enceladus is a snowy world that has a record-high albedo, or amount of sunlight reflected off a surface, close to 100 percent. For comparison, our moon has an al-
bedo of 12 percent. Enceladus’ albedo is the highest in our Solar System. The images captured of Ence-
ladus by Saturn and nearby moons Tethys and Dione, this heat fuels the geological activity which renues the surface of Enceladus. Icy crakes from the southern hemisphere, nicknamed “ligur stripes,” are fractures that move in a manner similar to the San Andreas Fault on Earth. This movement causes streams of vapor to rise from the cracks.

In 2005, the spacecraft Cassini made three close flybys of Enceladus and discovered that the moon is currently erupting water. One of the unique features on the moon are cryovolcanoes, which are ice volcanoes that form on cold celestial bodies and erupt water, ammonia and methane instead of molten rock. Cassini also detected an atmosphere with water vapor on Enceladus. The gases of this atmo-
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Voyager 2 passed by Enceladus, finding areas on the moon's surface with different ages, including one that were geologically young. In 2005, the spacecraft Cassini made three close flybys of Enceladus and discovered that the moon is currently erupting water. One of the unique features on the moon are cryovolcanoes, which are ice volcanoes that form on cold celestial bodies and erupt water, ammonia and methane instead of molten rock. Cassini also detected an atmosphere with water vapor on Enceladus. The gases of this atmo-
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Last month, Cassini made another flyby to sample the streams coming from those cracks and fresh organic compounds, icy particles and water vapor in the plumes. Many scientists believe the presence of organic compounds could signal microbial life. “The Cassini team and the world are watching for evidence of life on Enceladus,” Carolyn Porco, leader of the Cassini mission, said in an interview. “In the end, it is the most prominent place I know for an astrobiology source.” Astrobiologists admit that this mystery cannot be solved without the aid of a microscope, may be living in an underground ocean in the same way that organisms exist in the depths of the ocean on Earth.

What is more astonishing is that the proposed life may be swept up in the geysers with reach of the Cassini spacecraft. The next flyby of Cassini is scheduled for April 14, a date which could mark a major breakthrough in the field of astrobiology and a milestone in the history of mankind.
New imaging maps the human brain as never seen before

BY ALCIA HARDY '13
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

Pretty much anywhere you go in the world today, you can see thousands of people talking or texting on their cell phones. I mean, what's to like about these handy gadgets? They are compact devices that connect you to the rest of society at the touch of a button. The longer they are around, the more advanced they become and the more people own them. By the end of 2011, the number of cell phone subscriptions reached six billion globally. But have you ever thought that cell phones could be detrimental to your health?

Recent studies show that cell phone radiation could be harmful to a developing fetus. An article published in the Scientific Reports on March 15 revealed that mice exposed to an active phone for the duration of pregnancy gave birth to pups that displayed long-term behavioral and brain abnormalities.

During the study, reproductive endocrinologist Hugh Taylor of the Yale School of Medicine attached what they call "honeycombs" on the mouse's back, creating a basic cell and function test, to the mouse's cages. In half the cages, these phones were actively receiving calls on the right of the cage. In the other half, the phones were inactive. For the most part, offspring born to mothers exposed to cell phone radiation were heavily affected. They were more hyperactive, performed worse on memory tests and were more anxious than offspring born to mothers who were not exposed to radiation. Also, the nerve cell signaling in the prefrontal cortex of the exposed mice was impaired. In humans, the prefrontal cortex is a region of the brain that has been linked to many mental disorders.

Although the results of this study clearly indicate that exposure to radiation has long-term effects in mice, it is unclear what the exact significance of cell phone radiation could be to human development, and there is much debate on this topic. Taylor suggests that such behavioral and brain deficits are similar to those seen in people who suffer from attention deficit/hyperactivity disorder (ADHD). Such studies could explain the frequency of ADHD in children. Neuroscientist and ADHD researcher Katya Rufin says that such a claim is premature and unjustified. Rufin argues that the exposure the mice underwent was too intense to be translated to human experience. Cell phone radiation has more protective amniotic fluid than a mouse uterus.

This study, though slightly inconclusive in regards to effects on human development, is certainly not one to be dismissed. Similar studies on cell phone radiation have also suggested that it could be one cause of ADHD. If this trend continues, cell phones might be one of the contributors to the increase in ADHD cases.

BY RACHEL FOSTER '13
ASST. HEALTH & SCIENCE EDITOR

As reported in Science on March 30, a team of researchers has discovered that the pathways of fibers in our brains are more akin to the organized streets of New York City than the plate of spaghetti previously envisioned. The study, led by Van Wedeen of Massachusetts General Hospital (MGH) and Harvard Medical School, is part of a larger project known as the Human Connectome Project and funded by the National Institute of Health. According to its website, the Human Connectome Project is a collaboration between MGH and UCLA that aims "to construct a map of the complete structural and functional neural connections in the brain in a living organism" and across individuals.

Previous research attempting to map brain pathways resulted in more two-dimensional images that "looked somewhat like a plate of spaghetti," according to Wedeen. Traditionally, scientists have used tract-tracing methods to map the brain, which involve injecting chemicals into live brains and watching them travel through the neural axes. Tract-tracing methods only highlight a small selection of pathways and, for ethical reasons, cannot be performed on humans. For these reasons initiatives like the Human Connectome Project have worked to develop new ways of imaging the brain. With this new study, Wedeen and his team seem to have struck gold.

In the past decade, Wedeen and others have studied the effectiveness of diffusion magnetic resonance imaging (MRI) as a more comprehensive method of analyzing brain pathways. Diffusion MRI maps the diffusion of molecules like water across the brain. Here, one can picture the infrastructure of New York City, "with streets running in two dimensions and the elevators in the buildings in the third dimension," says Wedeen.

Wedeen and his team studied not just humans, but also four species of monkeys that exhibit very similar pathway organization, suggesting that the grid system is an evolutionary trait common among primates.

Further experimentation using diffusion MRI will need to be done before scientists can say that they have a clear and certain view of how wiring works in the brain. With this study and others within the Human Connectome Project, scientists hope to gain a better idea of what happens in brain disorders such as autism and Alzheimer's disease.
Lyons top MIT, fall to Skidmore
BY JULIA ZHAM '15
ASS'T. SPORTS EDITOR

Mount Holyoke 17, MIT 11

On Saturday, March 31, the Lyons traveled to MIT to play the Engineers. The Lyons won 17-11, but it was not a smooth ride to the finish line. With only three minutes left in the first half, the Lyons found themselves down 7-6. However, the Lyons headed into the second half with strikes by sophomores Naomi Miller and Liz Randolph. After that, the Lyons dominated the rest of the game, coming out in the beginning of the second half and scoring nine goals in a row. Attacker Molly Macdonald '13 scored three goals during the game and achieved a career-best five tallies. Her hat trick during the game was her sixth of the year and her fourth in a row. Attacker Alex Cream '12 and midfielder Brinnie Phelan '14 each had their own hat trick as well. Randolph contributed to the win with two goals, one assist, four ground balls and three draws. Jamie Theophilus '13, the starting goalkeeper for the game, was in for the first 17:13 and had four saves. Then Liz Malenfant '13 took her place and denied five shots. The Lyons ended the game with the upper hand in shots and draw controls against the Engineers.

Skidmore 9, Mount Holyoke 8

On Saturday, April 5, the Lyons found themselves at Skidmore College to play against the Thoroughbreds. The final score shows how dramatic the game was, as the Lyons lost 9-8. The Lyons were in the lead but then found themselves falling behind. Luckily, Brinnie Phelan '14 scored two goals in a row to give the Lyons the lead again, making the score 8-7 with about nine minutes left. After the goals by Phelan, however, the game turned in favor of the Thoroughbreds, as they scored two more goals to win the game. Notable efforts in this close game included those of Liz Randolph '14, who had four points on two goals and two assists. Fellow sophomore Naomi Miller also had a good game, scoring two goals. Midfielder Kirsten Kilburn '15 also helped by scoring a goal and having an assist. The last strike made by the Lyons resulted from the efforts of attacker Molli Macdonald '13. Defender Anabel Barrett '14 also helped the Lyons by forcing three turnovers.

Baylor finishes perfect season with NCAA Division I championship
BY DANA DRUGMEND '12
SPORTS EDITOR

The Baylor Bears are the new queens in the world of women's Division I college basketball. The Lady Bears defeated the Notre Dame Fighting Irish 80-61 on Tuesday night to win the NCAA Division I women's basketball tournament. While March Madness attention is usually focused on the men's tournament, the women also play an competitive game and deserve to be highlighted. This year, the four number 1 seeds - Stanford, Baylor, Notre Dame and Duke - travelled to the Final Four in Denver. Each of these teams punched their ticket to the Final Four round by knocking off a number 2 seed in Elite Eight play. Stanford topped Duke to set up a semifinal matchup with Baylor, who defeated Tennessee. Notre Dame squashed Maryland, while UConn knocked off the University of Kentucky.

In the first semifinal, Notre Dame edged out UConn in overtime 81-75. With the win, the Fighting Irish advanced to the Championship match for the second year in a row. The second semifinal featured undefeated Baylor against Stanford. After playing a competitive and close first half, Baylor came out on top and defeated Stanford 59-47. Baylor put its undefeated streak on the line Tuesday night, facing off against Notre Dame in the National Championship. Last year, Notre Dame fell to Texas A&M in the title game. The Fighting Irish were hoping for a different outcome this year, but once again they ran into trouble against a team from Texas. Junior center Brittany Griner scored 36 points to lead Baylor to an 80-61 victory. The Lady Bears finished the season with a perfect 40-0 record. This is their second national championship; they last won the tournament in 2005.

Athlete Profile: Brianne Phelan '14

LACROSSE

BY NODRA PURI '15
STAFF WRITER

Hometown? Quincy, MA.

What is your major? Psychology.

How has your experience been so far, playing for the Lacrosse Team? My experience has been great! I love the team and the coaches.

What about Lacrosse gets you excited? The game. I love everything about the game.

Which is your favorite book? The Help.

If you could start any kind of business, what would it be and why? Something to help students who struggle in school because I feel passionate about that subject.

One person (celebrity or otherwise) who inspires you the most? My parents really inspire me.

What has been your most memorable match that you've participated in while at MHC? Both last year's MIT game and this year's MIT game are memorable to me. Both times, we have come back and beaten them due to every teammate stepping up.

Where is your favorite area to hang out on campus? I spend a lot of time in the library.

Who is your favorite athlete? I don't really have a favorite athlete, but I guess I like Rondo.

Who is your favorite singer? I love Taylor Swift.

What about Lacrosse gets you excited? The game... I love everything about the game.

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