



**REPEALING
DON'T ASK, DON'T TELL**

WE ASKED, THEY TOLD

College Avenue

volume six: issue three spring 2011

back country bunking

explore the hidden huts
of the high country

getting down 'n' derby

hit the rink with women
on wheels

molly lappin

how csu's number one
cadet rose to the top

goo for gas

how pond scum could
save the world

KIND CREATIONS

ALL GLASS PIPES

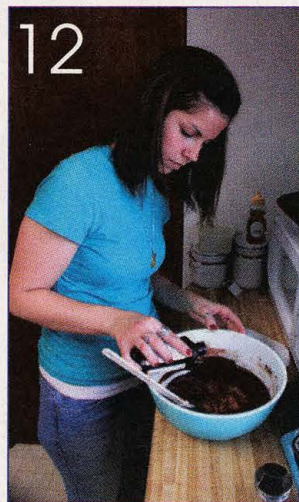
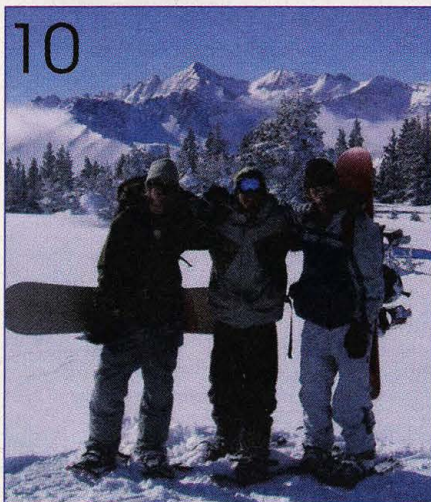
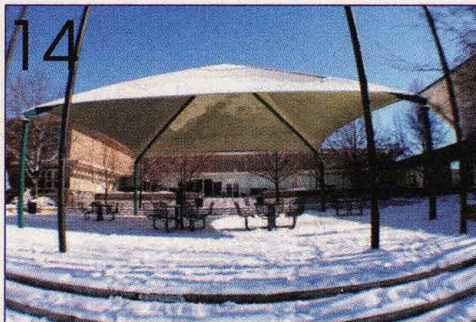
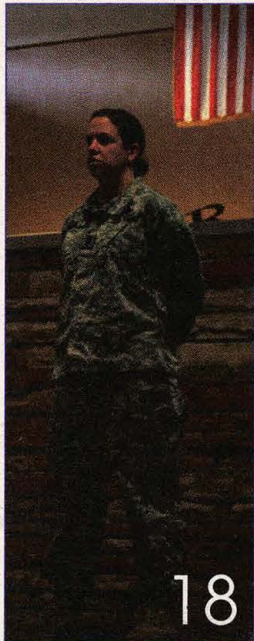
**BUY ONE AND
GET ONE HALF OFF**

**LIVE GLASS BLOWING
CUSTOM PIECES
REPAIRS**

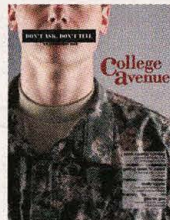
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"I remember thinking in that moment, I have to do something. I wanted to work to get out of that life."
~devan leazer p.34



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the repeal of 'don't
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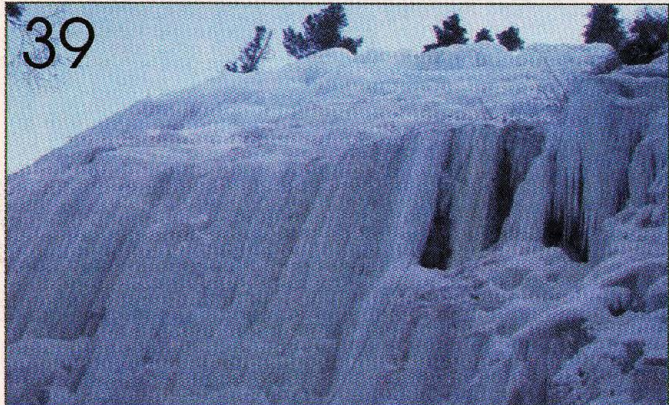
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collegeavenuemag.com

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letters to the editor

as the magazine produced by csu students for the csu and fort collins community, we would like to extend an invitation to our readers to submit letters to the editor ranging from 50 to 150 words with your feedback on the magazine, this is your magazine, and we would like to know what you think of the content, design and anything else. all letters to the editor must be typed in a word document and attached to an e-mail, which should be sent to csumag@lamar.colostate.edu.

mission statement

college avenue is a magazine produced and operated by csu students. our mission is to serve the csu and fort collins community with innovative and engaging coverage of relevant issues. our staff is dedicated to providing balanced and accurate reporting as well as visually stimulating design and photography to a diverse audience. above all, we strive to maintain integrity through professionalism and this standard of excellence.

opportunity for employment

college avenue is accepting applications for reporters, photographers, designers and copy editors. pick up an application at the front desk of student media in the basement of the lsc.

college avenue is a magazine produced and operated by csu students intended as a public forum.

this publication is not an official publication of colorado state university, but is published by an independent corporation (the rocky mountain student media corporation) using the name 'college avenue' pursuant to a license granted by csu.

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Photos courtesy of the Peace Corps

Celebrating 50 Years **PEACE CORPS**

From its early feasibility studies to the current top 10 ranking for recruiting, CSU has been a strong supporter of the Peace Corps. Join us in celebrating 50 years of volunteering!

International Connections Celebrates Peace Corps – Bring your lunch and listen to stories from Returned Peace Corps Volunteers from around the world every Tuesday! See a complete listing of titles and room numbers at www.international.edu.

Feb. 15 - March 8 • 12:15 pm - 1:00 • Lory Student Center

50 Years of Volunteering: The Peace Corps at CSU – Returned Peace Corps Volunteers, nominees, and all supporters of the Peace Corps are invited to celebrate CSU's historic involvement with an exhibition and reception in the Morgan Library. Exhibition runs from Feb 11- March 31. Opening Reception will be held:

Feb. 28 • 4:00 pm - 6:00 pm • Morgan Library, second floor

Natural Resources and Agriculture Market Table – Returned forestry, parks management and agriculture volunteers share their experiences, stories and souvenirs from around the world. Come see what the Peace Corps is all about!

March 1 • 11:00 am - 2:00 pm • Natural Resources Lobby

Health Market Table – Returned health volunteers share their experiences, stories and souvenirs from around the world. Learn about the great opportunities in the Peace Corps!

March 2 • 11:00 am - 2:00 pm • Moby, Health and Exercise Science Wing

Business Market Table – Returned business volunteers share their experiences, stories and souvenirs from around the world. Life is calling ... How far will you go?

March 3 • 11:00 am - 2:00 pm • College of Business Atrium

Peace Corps Meet and Mingle – Kick back and enjoy a meal with the company of returned Peace Corps volunteers, nominees, and supporters. Food and beverage purchases not included. Stay to enjoy salsa dancing at 7:30 for a \$5 fee.

March 26 • 5:00 - 7:30 • Avogadro's Number • 605 S. Mason St.

Contributors to these events include: International Education, Office of International Programs, University Libraries, Division of External Relations, Continuing Education, Alumni Association, Avogadro's Number, Returned Peace Corps Volunteers from CSU and Fort Collins

www.international.colostate.edu • 970-491-7706

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letter from the editor

As I leave this issue on the stands, moving on to graduation and the publication world beyond Colorado State University, I smile.

This conglomeration of stories has the heart and soul of every individual on staff wrapped within its lines. Stories are drawn from threads and made into a masterpiece by reporters. Our talented designers present readers with visual delights, representing each story in unique, creative ways. These visual representations wouldn't be possible without the hard work and technical skills of our photographers, capturing emotional and astounding moments.

Everything within these pages has the tone and aura of professionalism that Student Media strives to teach its members. The amount of effort that went into interviewing, compiling information and writing the first difficult draft is astounding. But the subsequent perfecting is even more so.

This issue is an exploration into the deeper world of the CSU and Fort Collins communities. Beginning with pages of short, interesting pieces including how likely you are to find your true love, roommate wars, late night food options and the girls of roller derby, the magazine soon delves into the deeper issues of "don't ask, don't tell" and alternative biofuels.

No matter what you are looking for, this magazine will touch on it. And that is the legacy I would like to leave with College Avenue.

College Avenue needs to be a mosaic. It needs to cover what you, as readers, want to see, read and experience. This issue is just the beginning of this exploration.

As my predecessor Laura Esposito takes over I expect, as should you, an amazing, interactive experience that will take you to places in Fort Collins and introduce you to the people of CSU in ways you never expected.

Seeing the magazine expand and knowing that 2011 will bring fantastic feats, I am incredibly proud - and looking forward to everything the next year will bring.

Kelly D. Bleck



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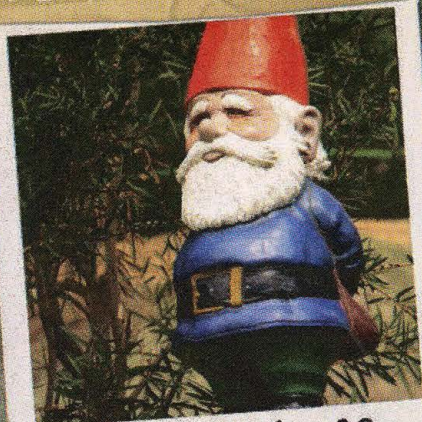
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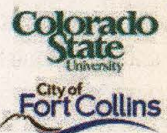
It's okay to have one
of these in your yard



It's not okay to have one
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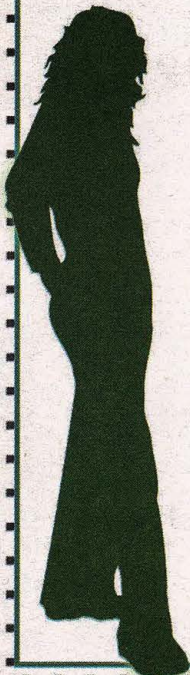
Some typical issues are...

- Academic matters and appeals
- Faculty/student issues
- University policies and procedures
- Roommate disputes

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Colorado State University



by jessica fish

Love Actually... the statistics behind love at first sight

It could happen in a coffee shop, in class, at work, back in high school, even at next week's party – no one ever really knows when they will find true love. People are told that the possibilities of meeting someone are endless, but what are the chances?

Author of "Love at First Sight," Earl Naumann, found that two-thirds of Americans believe in love at first sight and supposedly half of those have experienced it in one way or another.

According to a Harris Interactive online survey of married couples in 2006 and 2007, 8 percent met at a bar or club, 8 percent at a social gathering, 2 percent at a restaurant or coffee shop and 1 percent met shopping. These couples set eyes on each other and had enough of a connection to take things further.

"We just started talking at a coffee shop because the line was long. Hours go by and next thing I know we're exchanging numbers and going on date number two, then 200," said junior Stephanie Trent about her boyfriend of two years. "We just seemed to click. I don't really know what drew me to him like that, it just happened."

Vault.com writer Phil Stott reported in his study on office romance that 30 percent of the full-time working population has been in a long-term relationship with someone from work and nearly 19 percent end up marrying a co-worker.

"We met at work and we weren't supposed to date, but of course I couldn't stay away and now we're going strong a year and a half later. So just imagine if I had followed the rules," sophomore Owen Jones said about his girlfriend Britney, whom he met at the coffee shop at which they both work. "My boss wasn't too happy when she found out, but we

convinced her somehow."

Nearly one-tenth of couples in college began dating in high school. According to the Harris survey, only 2 percent of those high school sweethearts are expected to go all the way down the aisle.

But almost 14 percent of all couples that end up getting married met at school at some point, most commonly at college. People are older and more prepared for a relationship and college offers so many ways to meet people: sharing a floor in the dorms, clubs and organizations, sitting together during classes or sharing a moment in the library.

Junior Brandon Hauss, a food science and human nutrition major, met his fiancé in his dorm freshman year.

"She lived on the same floor and was a friend of my roommate. Then we both decided my roommate was kind of weird ... but [she and I] still hung out. We used to watch infomercials and try to guess the prices," he said.

They started dating only a couple days before he transferred to Colorado State University, and after dating for the last couple of years they are planning on getting married on New Year's Eve 2011.

Up to 18 percent of couples meet through their family or mutual friends according to the Harris study. The study said another way people meet the person of their dreams is through online dating, chat rooms or social networking online, equaling nearly

19 percent of married couples.

Dick P.H. Barelds and Pieter Dijkstra wrote in their article, "Love at first sight or friends first?" published in the Journal of Social and Personal Relationships, that they do not believe in randomly meeting someone compatible.

People need to be more observant and wary because, "chemistry" or physical attractiveness lures individuals into an intimate relationship before they have gotten to know their partner's personality."

Barelds and Dijkstra believe this can distort or cause an incomplete image of the person. They also wrote that the couple can take the time to get to know each other, make accurate assessments of each other and be happy in the long run.

But they have found that an intimate relationship after initial friendship is a good base for a long-term relationship. "Romantic love may develop more gradually, but individuals become friends before they become lovers and get involved more intimately after they have gotten to know each other thoroughly."





by jessica fish and corinne winthrop

ROOMMATE WARS

Fueling the Fear

The crazy roommate – a student’s biggest fear – can make or break a college experience. There are horror movies dedicated to the incident of having the roommate from hell.

Christian E. Christiansen, director of the 2011 thriller, “The Roommate,” depicts incoming freshman Sara being terrorized by her new roommate Rebecca.

CSU students have shared some of their past roommate experiences. Here are some of the worst and most unique stories shared with College Avenue.

“My roommate smells really, really bad. I’ve gone through five bottles of Febreze in my room in the last semester.”

- John, sophomore

“My roommate texted me 24/7 to keep tabs on where I was. She would even wake up every few hours to check if I was still in the room. When she was gone, she told the RA to call me, and when I would leave, she said I was an awful roommate.”

- Kaci, freshman

“My roommate would lock me in my room, literally, and cuss me out, threatening to hurt me. She would leave nasty messages and notes all over. It got to the point I was scared to go in my own room, so I didn’t stay there.”

- Jenna, freshman

“Lego Land vs. The Bakery – those were our room names – and we did a lot of mean things over three months. There were shaving cream bombs, flash floods, smeared Vaseline. We hid cat food under their beds, shoved onions under their door. We both stole stuff from each others rooms. We put pads and ketchup on their door and wrote ‘Surrender Period.’ They almost burnt down all of Durward residence hall because they put an apple in our microwave for 30 minutes when no one was there and it lit on fire.

“It completely destroyed our friendship. I got into fistfights with both of the guys and came out bleeding after somebody else had to break it up. It started out fun and got nasty.”

- Erika, sophomore

“My roommate punched out our kitchen window, ran down the street in his boxers across Shields Street doing Hitler signs, gushing blood from his hands until we called the ambulance on him.”

- Ben, senior

“My roommate randomly decided to go train hopping. She said she would be back for class the next day but didn’t show up until three days later.”

- Kelly, sophomore

for more stories, go to collegeavenuemag.com

Are you known to...

- Randomly burst into tears?
- Put dirt in your roommate’s milk?
- Stand over your roommate while they sleep?
- Break and throw things angrily for no apparent reason?
- Pee on your dorm room floor?
- Refuse to put any clothes on?
- Deliberately kill your roommate’s fish?
- Match your outfit with your roommate everyday?
- Pretend to be a cat and meow to yourself all the time?
- Leave your roommate alone with your naked one night stand?
- Deliberately steal your roommate’s stuff and hide it around campus?

Think you could never be – or never have – the crazy roommate? Send your roommate stories to csumag@lamar.colostate.edu



undeclared freshman anissa figueroa’s floor-mates toilet paper her room between classes.

by laura esposito

À la Cart

late night hunger stops cold turkey

As the sun sets over Old Town Square in Fort Collins, metal beasts begin to meander through open spaces and take over street corners. Smells of fresh baked pizza dough, sauerkraut and tzatziki sauce follow quickly behind them.

It's the late night food eaters' dream come true: traveling food carts.

Indecisiveness and a low budget meet in a glorious harmony of mouth-watering foods ranging from a slice of pizza bigger than your face, to burgers stuffed sky high with caramelized onions, scallions and basil pesto mayo.

Only if that's what you're craving, of course.

Stephanie Cavinder works the window at King Weenie, a walk-up hot dog and ice cream shop that serves up some seriously stuffed hot dogs and desserts for less than four bucks.

"We usually get a lot of people stumbling over from Tony's after last call and then they realize they've been drinking all night and they're hungry," Cavinder said.

Displaying an award for first place at the Sundance Music Festival and Chili Cook Off in the window, their Western Dog packed with bacon and chili mesmerizes hungry hot dog lovers.

If a place to sit down is on the menu, a few doors down College Avenue is Stuft Burger Bar, which offers customizable burgers until midnight on Fridays and Saturdays. If there are too many options, the staff has also made a list of suggestions.

"I like the Western Burger but I suggested the Black & Bleu burger," Irina

Chilikova, a staff member at Stuft said.

Stuft offers a list of eight meat and veggie burger options, nine cheeses, 27 toppings, 15 sauces and five buns that you can mix and match at will.

Continue to head north to the corner of Mountain Avenue and College Avenue, where the Fort Collins Gyro Stand draws people in with their made to order gyros, hot dogs, brats and hummus wraps.

Laurel Kessler, 22, a junior biomedical sciences major, said that places like the gyro stand not only offer delicious food, but they make her feel like she's been relocated to the heart of New York City.

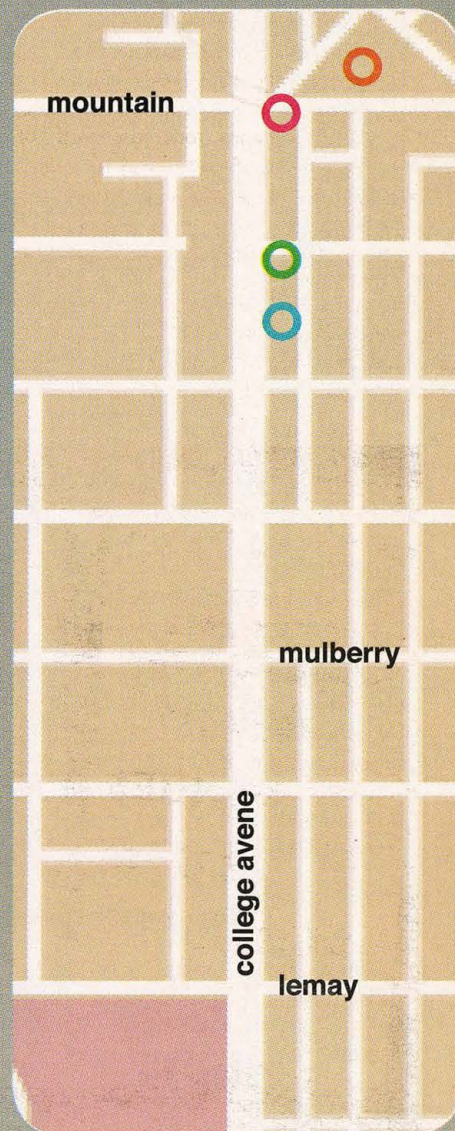
"If I'm down at the bars late at night and I'm hungry it's awesome because it's right there, it's fresh, you get to see it made right in front of you and it tastes awesome," Kessler said.

Tucked into the Old Town Square, Pizza Casbah dishes up their famous pizza slices from a cart and the latest addition of a hot dog cart will round out the late night invasion of filling foods.

go to collegeavenuemag.com to read about the newest cupcake cart hitting the streets

Most of the carts begin to pop up around 10 p.m. and stand strong until the last person dwindles from the surrounding nightclubs and bars, happily fed, usually around 2:30 a.m.

Fear not, late night food connoisseurs, Old Town has you covered.



- stuft
- king weenie
- gyros
- pizza casbah

by allison lecain

Finding a rock in a Haystack

A figure of public opinion, a master of the arts and a canvas for Northern Colorado. Would you believe we are talking about a rock? While Haystack Rock is no human, it has character and personality that has withstood the test of time.

John Hafnor, author of the historic novel "Strange but True Colorado," said that today, Haystack Rock is somewhat of a First Amendment billboard, but it has a unique history.

Dating back to the 1860s when Fort Collins truly was a fort, there was a large, distinctly square-shaped rock just north of what is now Laporte. At the time, settlers were contracting with farmers to sell them hay.

"One of the farmers who provided the hay told the settlers that there was a haystack past Laporte that they would sell to them," Hafnor said. "When they went out to retrieve the haystack they realized it was just a small amount of hay draped over this rock, and that's how it became known as Haystack Rock."

While they never did find the men who tricked the settlers, that is not so important today considering the rock stands for something different.

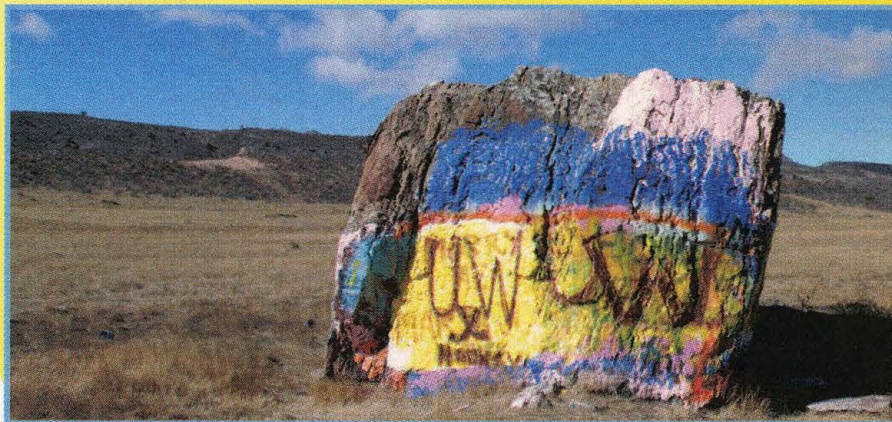
Most people know little to nothing of the rock's history because Haystack Rock is more of a public graffiti outlet for anyone to express their feelings or show off their artwork.

According to John Hirn, CSU athletic historian, Haystack Rock has become a prime spot for the Border War rivalry.

"For many years it has been spray painted with either CSU or Wyoming messages," Hirn said.

The rock is currently plastered with University of Wyoming logos on two sides. Haystack Rock stands about 12 feet tall and 15 feet wide.

"It's a place for people to say what they want to say and have some fun," Hafnor said.



haystack rock is located north on highway 287 between fort collins and laramie, wyo.

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by natasha leadem

EARNING YOUR TURN

SKI HUTS AN ESCAPE INTO THE BACKCOUNTRY

There's no beachfront view, all-inclusive buffet or towels in the shape of cute little animals, but for some, backcountry ski huts might as well be five-star resorts. Located miles from civilization and only accessible by hiking or snowshoeing, the huts provide the perfect getaway from the rest of the world.

"You're surrounded by the mountains and there's no sign of any humans for miles," said Eli Cagen, 2010 Colorado State University alumnus.

Colorado has a series of hut systems, connected by a single trail, that offer shelter for outdoor enthusiasts.

One of the more popular systems, the 10th Mountain Division, began with two huts in 1981 and is now composed of 31 huts, 14 publically owned and 17 privately owned. The system was inspired by a division of troops stationed in the mountains during World War II. Fritz Benedict, an architect who wished to honor the military troop he served in, began the 10th division.

"The goal of the hut-to-hut system was to connect communities, particularly Aspen and Vail," said Ben Dodge, executive director of the 10th Mountain Division. "It was so people could ski from community to community without having to sleep in the snow."

Guests planning on utilizing the backcountry huts have to

be prepared before setting out. Each hut is equipped with a propane stove, wood burning heater and solar-powered lights. Everything else must be packed and brought in. When venturing away from civilization, hut users must be prepared to face survival situations.

"The trails are not clearly marked, so it's important to have a map of the system," Dodge said. "Some people don't arrive at the huts at all and have to sleep in the snow."

ESTABLISHING A TRADITION

For CSU graduates Cagen and friend Chris Pearson, the backcountry huts offer more than just a shelter and an escape. Six years ago they began an annual ski trip with high school friends.

"We've all been to different parts of the world, but we all try to make it back for that time of the year," Pearson said.

The group will typically set out for six or seven days and stay in at least two different huts through the course of their trip.

In 2009 during a trip along the San Juan hut system, Cagen and Pearson's group had been hiking for more than 12 hours when they found themselves navigating to the second hut by moonlight.

"We were really prepared but the trail was poorly marked

and a lot of us were really tired at that point," Cagen said.

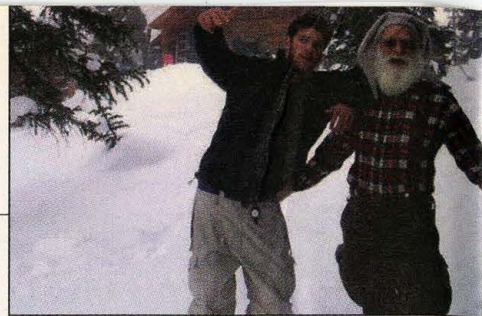
Having to make a hard decision, the group decided to split up. Half went on to find the hut while half set up camp in the snow.

"It was pretty scary because we didn't really have the equipment to be camping out," Pearson said. "We just made a huge fire to keep warm."

After a cold night, the hikers who stayed behind were all able to reach the second hut safely and reunite with the rest of the group.

While snowshoeing and carrying large backpacks full of supplies can be a grueling process, they find that it's worth getting a chance to lay fresh tracks, as the huts are located in perfect terrain.

"The hiking isn't so bad," Cagen said. "It makes you feel like you're earning your turn and wherever you go there's always powder."



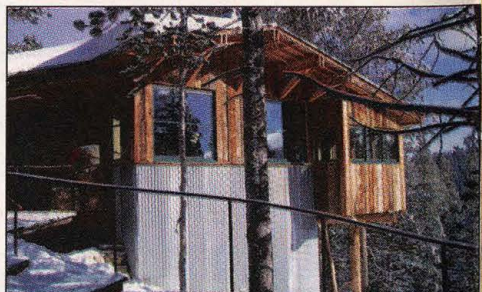
John Trautwein and Wayne Wagner stand in front of "the friends hut" during the group's latest trip in 2009.



While hiking from "the tagert hut" to the friends hut on their 2009 trip, Ben Ryan stops to play the banjo.



Eli Cagen, John Trautwein, John Harrold, Matt Weitz, Ben Ryan, Sam Arnsmeier, Chris Pearson, and Wayne Wagner stand in front of "the target hut," the first stop on their 2009 trip.



During one of their earlier trips in 2006 the group stayed in "the Fabi's hut." All huts pictured are part of the 10th Mountain Division system.



POP IN YOUR POCKET AND GO!

Sleek. Smooth. Small. The Kodak Zi8 portable HD video camera may be the neatest gadget I've found at an easy-carry size and even easier price tag.

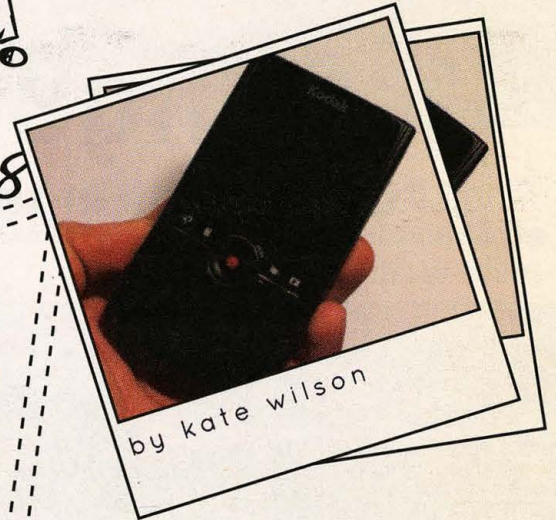
This little baby retails at \$179.95 directly from Kodak, but I found it new on Amazon.com for just \$99.

It features a 2.5-inch color LCD screen, user-friendly button operations and a lightweight body that spans a tiny 4.5 inches in length. Beside the fact that I could pop in an SD memory card and go, I enjoyed the convenience of the USB arm. It plugs directly into the computer for instant uploading or battery charging.

Perhaps the most valuable detail to video enthusiasts is the HD video capability of this instrument. It shoots 1,080p HD at 30 frames per second or 720p HD at 60 frames per second. With the built-in image

Kodak Zi8

"its pocket-sized frame fits easily into a jacket pocket; and the cost won't keep you from your college education."



stabilization component, I experienced no blur – only clear, crisp movement.

I can only make one complaint. While the photo quality of the Kodak Zi8 for still images is average at 5MP, I prefer to shoot photographs at no less than 8MP. If you are looking to shoot photos for your Facebook profile, this camera will work great. However,

if you are looking to frame an 8-by-10 photo for your mother's birthday, you may want to keep shopping.

For the price and convenience, the Kodak Zi8 is a worthy piece of equipment. Its pocket-sized frame fits easily into a jacket pocket; and the cost won't keep you from your college education. It may be a coveted gift for that hard-to-shop-for someone or the perfect addition to your techie-toy box.

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CSU's carpooling service



Colorado State University

by laura esposito

Revenge of the Veggies

the proof is in the pudding with healthy substitutes



I'm a chocoholic. There, I said it. The first step to overcoming a problem is admitting that you have one, right? I say wrong- there is no problem.

In fact, I have discovered a secret that has allowed me to continue to enjoy my favorite, most sinful chocolaty treats without feeling like the button on my pants will snap off in the middle of class and unsuspectingly blind someone.

The answer is vegetables. No, not like broccoli covered in sugar free chocolate syrup. I'm talking about things like black beans and sauerkraut. Not only do they pack a ton of fiber to keep you full, but they have the ability to take on whatever flavor you mix them with.

I know it sounds strange, but hear me out. Missy Chase Lapine, author of "The Sneaky Chef," has made it her goal to hide vegetables in kid's favorite recipes such as macaroni and cheese or desserts, such as brownies.

One of her solutions to making yellow cake mix healthier is to add pureed sweet potatoes, carrots and applesauce in place of oil and butter.

These sly substitutes cut the calories for yellow cake nearly in half and add more than 150 percent more fiber. The downside, however, is that the recipes often call for ingredients that you wouldn't normally carry around the house.

No worries, I can fix that too.

I recently discovered two recipes, one for black bean brownies and one for sauerkraut chocolate cake, that require less ingredients and less preparation time. My best friend tried both recipes on me, knowing I can't resist chocolate, without telling me what was in them.



I knew there was something different about the cake when I tried it, but my first reaction was to point out how moist and gooey it was over tasting out of the ordinary. After revealing the true ingredients, I balanced myself on the kitchen counter out of shock.

And then I tried another bite of cake.

For me, substituting ingredients lets me have my chocolate and eat it too, but the nutritional benefits go far beyond savoring my favorite treats.

Stephanie Smith, a registered dietician and graduate teaching assistant through the nutrition department at Colorado State University, said that things like nutrient levels, fiber content and calcium levels are going to be affected the most.

"Adding either low-fat or fat-free dairy to something as simple as oatmeal instead of water bumps up the calcium content in your diet which is going to be more protective for your bones," Smith said. "With fiber, adding more of it to recipes has the benefits of being linked to a lower risk of heart disease, and it also helps keep your digestive track working regularly. I think it leads to a better feeling

of well being. If things are moving as they're supposed to be, then I think people overall are going to feel better."

Smith also mentioned that for many baked goods ingredients like sugar don't have to be cut out completely, just reduced.

"If you look at the traditional recipes for either quick breads like banana bread or pumpkin bread or even some desserts, you can reduce the sugar," said Smith. "If there is a cup of sugar in a recipe you can usually reduce that to three-quarter cup or even two-thirds cup and you're not going to notice a difference in the sweetness."

Smith and I agreed that the key to making substitutions in recipes is to experiment. If a dessert turns out less sweet than you had hoped, add some vanilla extract or cinnamon back into the recipe.

The important thing is to have fun trying new recipes with these sneaky substitutions rather than going cold turkey on that lingering chocolate addiction. You can bet that I lap up every last drop of that cake mix from my spatula.

And I don't feel even one ounce of sugar-coated guilt.

chew on this recipe benefits according to the sneaky chef missy chase lapine

nutrition highlights for doctored yellow cake mix:

153 percent more fiber
93 percent more potassium
67 percent less fat
42 percent less calories
37 percent less cholesterol
37 percent less sugars
36 percent less sodium
23 percent less carbs

nutrition highlights for doctored blondie brownies:

126 percent more potassium
92 percent more fiber
82 percent more protein
49 percent less fat
47 percent less sugars
32 percent less calories
26 percent less carbs
17 percent less sodium

brownie recipe

1 can unsalted black beans
1 box brownie mix, any type
1 tsp cinnamon or to taste
1 tsp vanilla or to taste

directions:

puree black beans in a blender. slowly add brownie mix and continuously blend (may need to add one-fourth to one-half cup water if the mix is too thick). add as much cinnamon and vanilla as desired.

grease baking pan and add brownie mix to pan.

follow normal baking directions for heat and time that are listed on the brownie box.

yields 18 to 20 servings

hot button

by kate wilson

Looking Back: 50 Years at the LSC

1962

- LSC doors opened; colorful mosaic hung over main stairs
- Place to hang out: LSC coffee shop, which played rock music
- Place to hang out if you were square: music-listening room that played classical music and show tunes
- Traditional cafeteria with trays and a single cashier's station
- First dance, the "Snowball," was held in the LSC ballroom

1972

- Ramskeller was the place to be: students drank 3.2 beer and played bridge
- Students under legal drinking age hung out in the game room: bowling in the 12-lane alley and playing Snooker or billiards
- Sunday Cinema in the LSC for 75 cents was a popular pastime

1982

- Ralph Nader lectured to approximately 1,000 students in the LSC ballroom, mostly about Ronald Reagan, hot dogs, nuclear power and gas-guzzling American cars
- CSU students' "Concert of Dance" was a hit in the LSC with a punk-rock version of a West Side Story number and several modern dances

1992

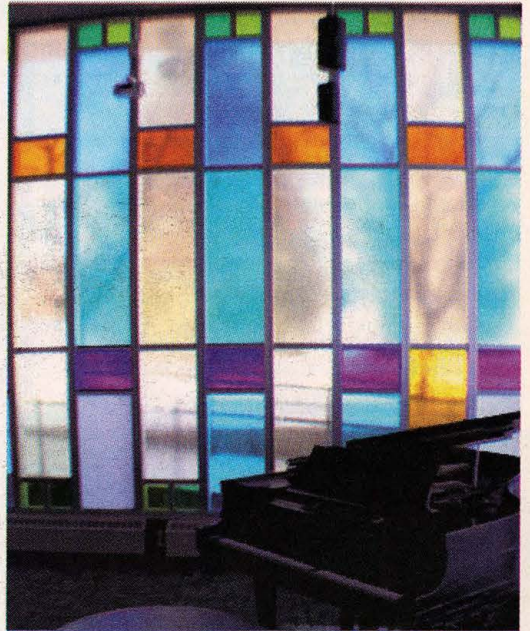
- Hardee's, now Carl's Jr., was the only retail food chain in the LSC cafeteria
- Subway was added next to Ramskeller
- ASCSU celebrated its 75th anniversary with a ceremony to reinstate the "Stump," which had been stolen from The Rocky Mountain Collegian in the 1970s

2002

- A Peace Pole was planted in the sculpture garden to commemorate the Sept. 11, 2001 attacks
- The LSC 40th anniversary celebration took place
- E-Cave computer lab opened



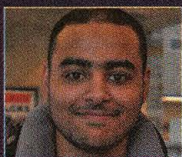
the lsc renovation may include an expanded food court and ballroom with a view of an enhanced lagoon where the west entrance is currently located.



the renovation of the theatre will begin june 2011.

sources: csu silver spruce 1962, 1972, 1982, 1992-93, 2001-02; the rocky mountain collegian vol. 101, issue 38; hordon hazard, csu alumnu

If you could have anything you want, what would you want at the LSC?



"More restaurants, and more ladies."
 – Mohammed Alfunied, sophomore computer science major



"A dispensary."
 – Dan Banks, senior horticulture science major



"More food choices."
 – Tawni Mullis, freshman French major



"They have these things in Japan that you sleep in, little cubbies. I'd pay for it. I want sleeping pods."
 – Kendra Burdett, senior biology major

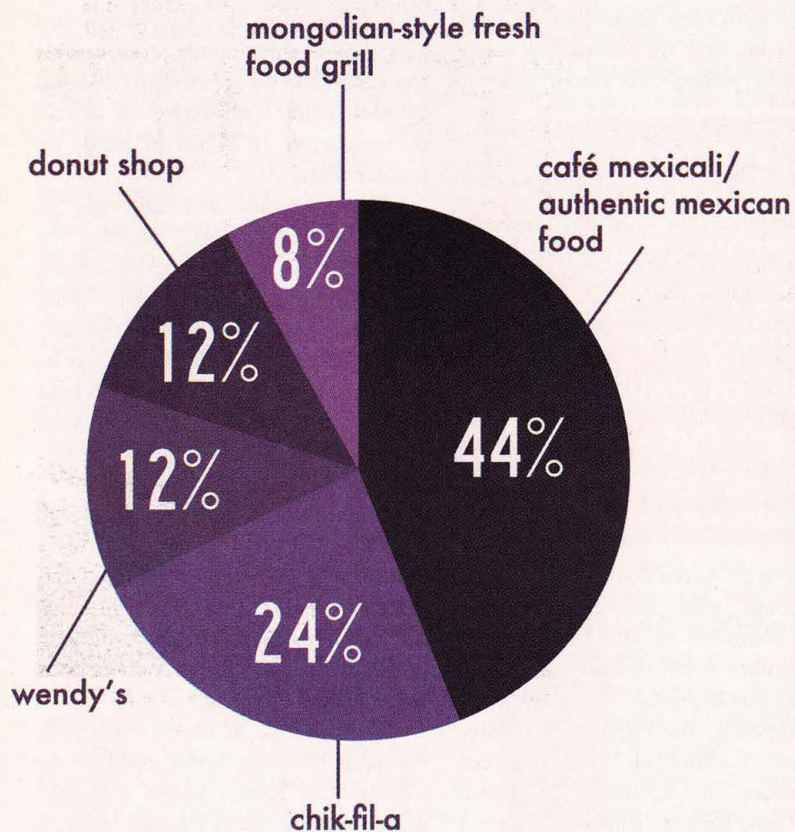


"Some more art stuff."
 – James Roberts, senior art major



"A second Skeller."
 – Justin Whitfield, junior business management major

What restaurants would you like to see at the LSC?



What crazy things have you seen at the LSC?



"...A guy in a monkey suit chasing a guy in a banana suit."
 – Grant Fuellenbach, sophomore psychology major

What do you think of the renovation plans?



"It is hard to navigate rooms. The halls are too small. I think it will be helpful if they do [renovate]."
 – Gabi Tomaselli, senior health and exercise science major



"I don't think it necessarily needs renovating, but I think it would be positive..."
 – Cierra Carrico, freshman history major

student quote photos by kate wilson and chelsea dunfee

by emily mccormick



“ROLLING” WITH THE PUNCHES

Fort Collins' Choice City Rebels take the roller derby scene on four wheels

“Crazy, fish net tights, scary, punk, awesome, crazy-awesome.”

How about: “badass ladies who ain’t afraid to get down n’ dirty.”

These are just a few responses given by random students at Colorado State University when asked what came to mind when they heard “roller derby.”

It’s no question that roller derby is back and more vivacious than ever, with over 100 registered leagues in the U.S., making it the “fastest growing sport in America,” according to the Women’s Flat Track Derby Association, WFTDA.

First made popular from the 1880s into the 1920s, the women of roller derby were unruly, obscure and then, unfortunately, “out of business” when the sport lost momentum in the late 1970s. Thankfully, a new breed of women, a fresh generation, took back the sport in the early 2000’s and are currently re-vamping the women’s flat track derby scene.

The Choice City Rebels, founded in October 2009 by 11 derby veterans in Fort Collins, are one of two women’s roller derby leagues here in Fort Collins.

Kate Bennis, senior technical journalism major with a concentration in film at CSU, first discovered the Fort Collins derby scene by reading

an article in the Collegian when she was a freshman.

“I convinced one of my friends to start going to adult night skate with me every week, and we started out using the really rickety old-school skates,”

“i heard that the average life span for a derby girl is two to three years based on injuries and getting tired of getting beat up all the time.”

— jonathan speer, northern colorado roller derby referee

Bennis said. “At the end of my semester I tried out, made the cut and had a whole summers’ worth of training to look forward to before I was allowed to actually play the game.”

Originally, the roller derby ladies of Fort Collins all skated under one name, Fort Collins Girls Gone Derby, but split in 2009 for personal differences, leading to the formation of the Choice City Rebels, who Bennis currently skates for.

“As a team, our goal is to be a competitive league,” Bennis said. “We work really hard at practice to where we may hurt for days afterwards, and often this is emotionally straining. At the same time we are completely loyal to each other and strive to always be supportive in times of need, no matter what.”

Many articles, including one in the New York Times, describe the contemporary roller derby movement with terms such as, “indie spirit,” “punk aesthetics” and “third-wave feminism.” While some of the derby teams may be striving to uphold this “punk” likeness, the Choice City Rebels performance on the rink proves that they provoke more than just the derby girl “image.”

“This team is most focused with becoming as good as they can be,” northern Colorado roller derby referee, Jonathan Speer, said. “Who knows if they are going to be the best derby team in Colorado, but they sure as hell are going to try.”

For their first full season of bouting, the name for roller derby matches, the Choice City Rebels had a successful record with nine wins and two losses.

With some putting as many as 20 to 30 hours a week into derby, it is fair to say these women use derby as an outlet

from the outside world. Many of the Choice City Rebels have a demanding 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. schedules, including professions such as defense attorneys, marketing directors, full-time mothers, students and business owners.

Bennis can relate to the idea of roller derby as an outlet.

"For four hours every week, I can forget that I am taking 20 credits, working 30 hours per week and concentrate on something completely unrelated," Bennis said. "Aside from that, the women on my team have become a bizarre extended family whom I love. Being 23, I am the youngest, and if I'm having a tough time with something, I know that I can go to them for support."

Bennis explains that the DIY, do it yourself, work ethic that the team executes on a daily basis makes people realize that roller derby is a legitimate sport limited to the toughest and most committed.

"We train especially hard because we want to be a competitive league. We do everything," Bennis said.

And she isn't kidding. From running their own PR to selling their tickets to organizing their bouts, the Choice City Rebels work hard to promote their cause to play hard on the rink.

"If someone's partner has a good announcing voice, that person will most likely be announcing at the next bout," Bennis said. "If one of the skaters has a background in graphic design, she will be composing our programs. Family and friends are sponsors. It takes a village to put on a bout."

Though the hip checks, whip assists and chaotic atmosphere may suggest otherwise, the women follow a strict set of rules to score points and take over the competition.

"Some people are rule obsessive, so that's why they tend to join the ref side instead of the derby side. We tend to last longer," Speer said. "I heard that the average life span for a derby girl is two to three years based on injuries and getting tired of getting beat up all the time."

Choice City Rebels veteran, Jennifer Gorek, is a 1997 Colorado State University graduate and "the team's bad ass," according to Speer. Gorek loves derby and sees it as a place away from everything else.

"We are out here having good, clean

fun," Gorek said. "It's not this rock and roll atmosphere that some people think. It is a place for kids and families. Derby is a great thing for women and girls. It is a wonderful outlet."

One of the many unique aspects of roller derby is that each player must have a "derby name." Many of the names are creative interpretations on word play, puns, and alliterations.

The Choice City Rebels roster is filled with these novel derby names, including Rhoda Destruction I-90 (Kate Bennis), Laura Mangles Wilder #1 (Jennifer Gorek), Poison Divy, Dunn N. Done, and Jackie O'Classless.

Rhoda Destruction, also known as Kate Bennis to the commoner, explains that the decision for her derby name was a frustrating and season long process.

"Every derby name has to be registered, and names have been registered worldwide," Bennis said. "Even if your name sounds similar to another person's, you won't get it approved. I had all of my friends in on the process; everyone I knew was constantly sending me suggestions. My dad actually suggested Rhoda. My number is I-90 because I'm from the Midwest and to people in that area, I-90 is no doubt the road of destruction."

With the release of Drew Barrymore's film "Whip It" in 2009, about an indie-rock loving Texas teen misfit who discovers a roller derby league in Austin, Speer and many other derby referees and enthusiasts hoped the film would put derby back into the public eye. But the lack of CSU student support has made that a lofty goal.

"I wish CSU students would just be more aware of roller derby. Fort Collins has two teams and we never see any college students," Speer said. "I can never figure out why they don't come."

Though the sport is live and well today, the women of the Fort Collins derby leagues are constantly striving to expand their competition and get the word out there in the name of the sport that they love, live and practically die for.

"Roller derby is a lot of work. It doesn't always feel good but it forces you to challenge yourself," Bennis said. "And without it, I would not have met some of my favorite people."

choice city rebels up-coming bouts

buy tickets online at
www.choicecityrebels.com

*choice city rebels vs.
wasatch roller derby
away game at derby depot in
salt lake city, utah
7 p.m. on march 19, 2011*

*choice city rebels vs. salt
city derby girls
home game at od's
sports crossing
7 p.m. on april 09, 2011*

*choice city rebels vs.
slaughterhouse derby girls
away game at the kill floor
7 p.m. on april 30, 2011*

*choice city rebels vs.
slaughterhouse derby girls
away game at the kill floor
7 p.m. on may 21, 2011*

*choice city rebels vs.
naughty pines derby dames
home game at od's
sports crossing
7 p.m. on may 28, 2011*

*choice city rebels vs. all
away game at greeley
stampede
7 p.m. on july 02, 2011*



by jaime pritchard

LEADING LADY

how molly lappin rose to the top of csu's biggest boys club

She was a nervous wreck. For the next 29 days, every inch of her body would be burdened, every grade would be counted and every element of her character would be scrutinized. Three years of blood, sweat and tears would be measured and calculated by a panel of strangers to generate a single but infinitely significant number: her rank.

Today, a doctor would inspect her. Ears? Clear. Head? Not even close – her mind was hemorrhaging thoughts. Eyes? She could see the white walls of the room. Then she saw black.

"I look back and laugh now, but at the time, it was so embarrassing," said Cadet Battalion Commander Molly Lappin, who passed out on her first day of Leadership Development Advanced Camp this past summer.

The senior sociology major is the highest ranked cadet in the Army Reserve Officers' Training Corps at Colorado State University, a responsibility for which no member of her family had the personal experience to prepare her. In other words, Lappin's number is one.

"I had no idea what I was getting myself into," she said with a laugh.

recruitment

Although she is the first person in her family to pursue a career in the military, both of her parents have always supported her choice.

"They have never told me that I

couldn't do it," Lappin said, "but if someone discouraged me, it would be motivating."

Both Lappin's father and mother work for Sandia National Laboratories in Albuquerque, N.M., where she attended El Dorado High School.

Joining the army had always been at the back of Lappin's mind, but it was her high school marching band instructor who first introduced her to the basic elements of military obedience. As a veteran of the Army band, John Sanks demanded a sense of self-discipline and professionalism from every musician while emphasizing the importance of the individual player to the band as a whole.

"I grew up with that sense of camaraderie and I knew that I wanted to find a group [in college] that had that," Lappin, who played tenor saxophone, said.

That group was delivered to Lappin's mailbox in the form of an invitation to attend The U.S. Military Academy's summer camp. The camp gives interested high school students the opportunity to experience life as a cadet and learn more about military careers. This was her opportunity to test the water.

basic training

Despite her achievements in high school and enthusiasm for the army, Lappin would inevitably have to overcome her biggest challenge yet: proving herself to CSU's biggest boys' club.

"In our profession, it is hard for women to succeed in the male-

dominated environment,” said Executive Officer Eric Westphal, an ROTC cadre member, or professor.

Although the CSU ROTC program and military as a whole strive for equal treatment of men and women, female ROTC cadets unavoidably have very different experiences than males. According to CSU ROTC statistics, only about 10 percent of Army ROTC cadets at CSU are women, and they face adversity and steeper challenges than their male counterparts.

“It’s harder to earn respect when you come in because expectations of you are very low,” Lappin said. “And you definitely had to get used to being the only girl in the room.”

According to the female cadets interviewed, male cadets initially assume that female cadets cannot complete physical and emotional challenges on the same level as men. As this supposition pervades the 90 percent male majority, many female cadets struggle to be heard.

“A girl’s voice doesn’t carry like a man’s,” Katrina Berendt, a senior human development and family studies major and Army ROTC cadet, said. “Gaining initial respect and proving you have what it takes are the biggest challenges.”

Women have to go the extra mile to prove that they can handle mental and physical tests in the same capacity as males. All ROTC cadets are trained based on infantry tactics – skills and techniques for combat. In other words, both men and women are trained up to the standards of a branch that is designed only for men.

Though she encountered hardship, it didn’t take long for Lappin to exceed everyone’s expectations.

Westphal remembers when he met Lappin for the first time.

“She was a very serious, focused person, had a strong presence and was not afraid to ask the hard questions,” said Westphal, who began teaching at CSU when Lappin was a freshman.

Lappin was the only freshman and only female cadet selected to compete on the CSU Army ROTC’s five-person team at the Bataan Memorial Death March. Each competitor is required to carry 35 pounds of gear in their rucksacks, or backpacks, for over the entire 26.2 mile course.

According to the event’s website, the annual competition is “a challenging march through the high desert terrain of White Sands Missile Range, N.M., conducted in honor of the heroic service members who defended the Philippine

Islands during World War II.” Active service members as well as civilians can participate.

Lappin admitted that the march was one of her most physically and psychologically trying experiences during Army ROTC, adding that if you do not train adequately for the march, “you can definitely get yourself into trouble.”

Although gaining the respect of male peers was initially a challenge, Lappin now considers the other male ROTC cadets a part of her family.

“You spend all your time together and go through experiences together that others don’t understand,” Lappin said. “It’s like having 100 brothers to back you up.”

one out of many

Four years later, Lappin is at the top of her class and her game. She was appointed Cadet Battalion Commander based on her performance at the Leadership Development Advanced Camp in Ft. Lewis, Wash. this past summer.

At the rigorous 29-day camp, all rising ROTC seniors in the Apache Brigade were evaluated and ranked based on their performances in tactical exercises, physical training scores, grade point average and extracurricular involvement both within and outside of ROTC. Lappin’s involvement in marching band earned her points in the LDAC evaluations, contributing to her overall standings.

The Apache Brigade consists of 36 host universities and several partnership universities in Texas, Arizona, Utah,

Colorado, Wyoming, Arkansas, Oklahoma and New Mexico. Lappin was ranked 31 out of the 5,342 cadets at LDAC.

According to Westphal, Lappin is a strong leader to her fellow cadets as well as a responsible and reliable liaison for the cadre members.

“She has the right attitude and knows what needs to get done,” Berendt said. “She has strong opinions but willingly listens to and considers the opinions of others.”

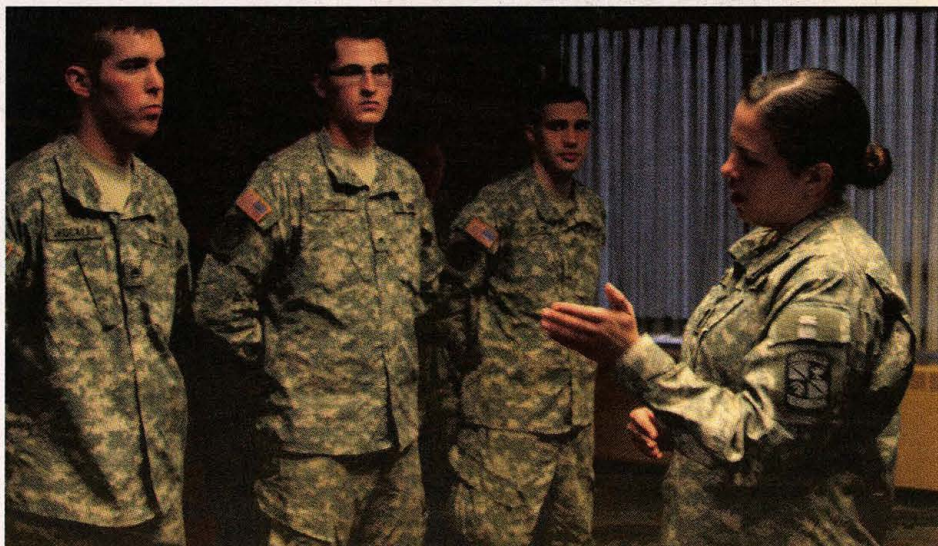
active duty

Lappin and the 11 other cadets in her class will graduate together this spring as second lieutenants in the Army. She plans to serve her time in the army by applying her sociology degree and working in military intelligence. Westphal does not doubt Lappin’s career choice.

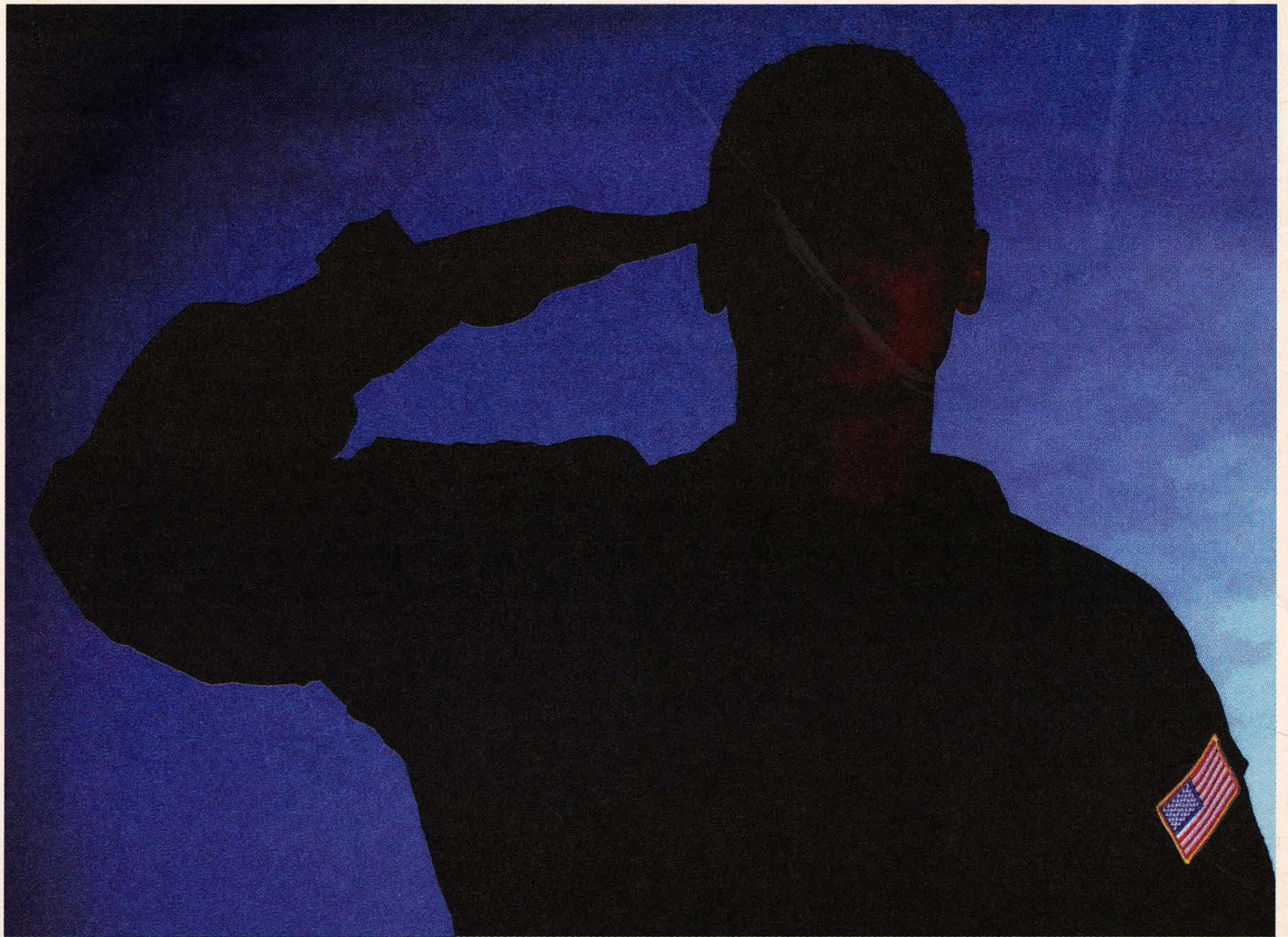
“She is going to do very well,” he said. “She will be the officer everyone will turn to and trust to get the job done.”

Lappin isn’t sure if she will stay in the army after she fulfills her required four years of service. She has considered pursuing a career in law enforcement or crime investigation as alternatives but is keeping her options open. No matter where her life takes her, Lappin will never forget the impact that ROTC has had on her life.

“If someone would have asked me freshman year why I was in ROTC, I would have said ‘for the money,’” Lappin said. “If they were to ask me now, I would say ‘for the people.’”



molly lappin explains how to complete drills, and how the drills can be applied, to fellow rotc cadets during a training event in february.



don't ask,

After 17 years of implementation, “don’t ask, don’t tell,” the law preventing gay and lesbian soldiers from openly serving in the military, was repealed by Congress on Dec. 18, 2010. Abolishment of the policy served as a major victory for the Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual and Transgender community, but the issues created by the repeal and its potential effects on military operations are far from resolution.

"in order to stay consistent with my cover, I would sleep around with some of the other guys in the unit, which is a ridiculous way to conduct your career."

~ lacy, former service member and a homosexual

She arrived at 1000 hours, sharp. Closing the door behind her, Lacy took a seat at the head of the table. She was clearly used to being in charge. Twenty chairs circled the room but 18 remained empty, all reserved for the silent audience to whom she began to speak.

"I couldn't be who I really am," Lacy said. "I couldn't talk about things or go to anybody without the fear of losing my job."

During her eight years of service as a combat medic for the Marine Corps, Lacy recalls hearing anti-gay sentiment from her peers on a daily basis.

"There was a lot of general hate speech but it was never directed at me," Lacy said. "I think I did a good job of maintaining my cover."

Lacy took several measures to hide her secret. At work, she built herself up to be the toughest girl in the unit, admittedly creating an intimidating exterior persona as a defense mechanism against people who questioned her. At home, she constructed an acceptable heterosexual personal life.

"In order to stay consistent with my cover, I would sleep around with some of the other guys in the unit," Lacy said, "which is a ridiculous way to conduct your career."

Lacy, whose name has been changed to protect her identity, is a member of the Colorado State University community, a former military service member and is a lesbian. Thanks to the recent repeal of the "don't ask, don't tell" policy, Lacy and the statistical thousands of other homosexuals in the military are no longer bound to a life of silence and secrecy.

To the majority of the American public, repeal represented a human rights victory for the GLBT community and a positive step toward equality.

To the Department of Defense, repeal signified a major policy shift that would require an overhaul of the military legal system. It would improve the lives of thousands of military employees, allowing gays to serve without the fear of being discovered and discharged. However, it could also threaten unit cohesion on the front lines, causing potentially fatal internal struggles.

Members of the CSU veteran community spoke out about these issues, sharing a wide range of opinions and calling into question both the effects of the law on the individual and the overall cohesion of the military.

"At some point, you've got to say: what logic or facts support that gays can't serve in any capacity if they are intellectually, physically and emotionally able?" Anne Morris, a retired colonel in the Air Force and master's candidate in business administration, said. "The service has a need for them."

Morris, who was in the Air Force for 26 years, recalls a time when women were hardly allowed to serve.

"Society has undergone a change so I think it's only natural that the military, which draws from the population, do the same," she said.

Morris argues that the Armed Forces began accepting women when the American public recognized them as equals, and suggests the military follow its own example.

"I think it's long overdue, frankly," said Adam Redgrave, a former army

sergeant and master's candidate in business administration. "If we are serious about our military representing justice and freedom, then why are we suppressing gays and lesbians?"

Army Sgt. Jeffrey Dale, who is currently demobilizing from a yearlong tour in Afghanistan, points to sacrifice.

"To argue that someone shouldn't have to give up something to be in the military is preposterous because being in the military is about losing everything," Dale, a junior art major, said in an e-mail.

Dale had to put his education on hold, move out of his apartment and say what could have been his last goodbye to his friends and family when he was deployed.

"I am generally in agreement with the original policy," Brett Hanneman, a senior construction management major and former infantry sergeant, said. "But I can see problems that would arise from being outspoken about being gay."

Hanneman served as an enlisted Marine for four years and admitted that discrimination was very prevalent in his unit. He blames lack of education for the narrow-minded attitudes of his peers and claims that many enlisted soldiers would not follow the authority of an openly gay superior.

"If I knew someone was openly gay on my team, I hate to say it but I would treat them differently," said Robert Haner, a former staff sergeant in the army and sophomore history major.

In order to obtain an accurate survey of opinions among current service members, the Defense Department administered an opinion poll to military personnel from all branches. According to the Washington

don't tell

"to argue that someone shouldn't have to give up something to be in the military is preposterous because being in the military is about losing everything."

~ army sgt. jeffrey dale,
junior art major

Post, the survey indicated that more than 70 percent of Armed Forces employees believed overturning the "don't ask, don't tell" policy would have little to no effect on their units.

"According to my experience in the military, [the statistic] is correct," said Redgrave. "It's mostly some of the old-school brass and hard-lined Christian right-wingers that are opposed to it."

However, there is disagreement over the poll.

"I know no one, and none of the people I know, know anyone who was polled," Dale said. "When they released the results, no one agreed with them."

All of the veterans interviewed for this article stated that they did not participate in the survey.

Joshua Shaughressy, a senior business administration major and former Second Class Petty Officer in the Navy, witnessed one colleague lose his job under "don't ask, don't tell."

"After two years of Arabic language school and one deployment, they discharged him," Shaughressy said. "They wasted all that training and got rid of someone who was perfectly capable of doing their job just because of his sexual orientation."

Shaughressy, who did not want to expose the identity of his fellow soldier, said his comrade was discharged after a superior discovered an intimate e-mail he had sent to his boyfriend.

Debate over "don't ask, don't tell" escalated as the American public became increasingly aware of discharges under the law. Many gay former service members, outraged by the injustice of being released from duty, found a voice through the Human Rights Campaign, an advocacy

group that raises money and lobbies congress for GLBT rights.

David Stacy was the deputy legislative director of the "don't ask, don't tell" lobbying efforts for the HRC in Washington, D.C. Stacy operated as a key figure during congressional debates, lobbying both the House and the Senate, assisting with pro-repeal activism in the D.C. area and reaching out to current service members and veterans for support. "Open service will not be that big of a change," Stacy said in a phone interview. "[The repeal] will be implemented quickly and with relatively minimal disruption."

Dale believes "minimal disruption" is impossible. In the high-stress environment of the front-line, Dale claims that knowing a fellow comrade is gay is something that most soldiers would not be able to handle.

"These troops get into fist fights over who gets top bunk or who left the light on," Dale said, "they all swear to beat up or kill each other if they find out someone is gay."

When Lacy first heard that the repeal had finally passed, she was overcome with both joy and anxiety. Because of her personal encounters and the overall prevalence of anti-gay sentiment in the military, she continues to worry about the safety of the individuals who plan to come out.

"I know some people are going to hate it and hate us for being who we are," she said. "I am anxious that those who decide to come out will be ridiculed, harassed and persecuted because of it."

In the coming months, the Defense Department will be charged with the monumental task of redesigning its policies to include stipulations that pertain to same sex service members.

It will be forced to redefine employee

benefits in the context of homosexual individuals and couples. It will face new forms of conduct violations such as hate speech, sexual harassment allegations and hate crimes. And most importantly, the department will have to develop new strategies of maintaining unit cohesion in this time of war.

Though they face a daunting task, the Pentagon is moving slowly and cautiously on the issue, which Redgrave believes is exactly what they need to do. Internal battles will inevitably ensue among some ranks such as the Marines, of whom 58 percent disapproved of repeal according to the Department of Defense study.

However, Stacy is confident about repeal implementation and the future of gay rights initiatives.

"There is a definite generational divide on [GLBT] issues that will continue to shift as younger Americans reach voting age," Stacy said.

Several of the CSU veterans agreed that age plays a prominent role in one's opinion about allowing gays to serve. Lacy is thankful for the opportunity to be a soldier and be herself. She has even considered reenlisting under the new policy.

"I don't feel like my homosexuality defines me," Lacy said. "I am a service member first."

Repeal

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Senator Joseph I. Lieberman (I-Conn.)
Senator Susan Collins (R-Maine)

■ Co-sponsored by:

Majority Leader Steny H. Hoyer
(D-Md.)

Representative Patrick J. Murphy (D-Pa)

■ The bill initially passed in the House but failed to pass in the Senate.

■ In the second House vote, the bill passed once more with a vote of 250 to 175

■ After two more days of debate and a GOP filibuster, it passed in the Senate 65 to 31



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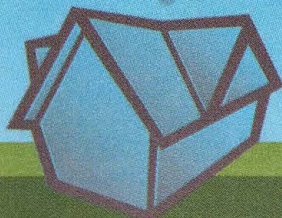
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Service & Sacrifice

how life changes after deployment

Knowing what you are getting yourself into is never easy, especially when it comes to the armed forces. From the perspective of Paul Hodge, a Marine Corps veteran of the Iraq War, and Chris Dadderio, a recent Army enlistee, that difference is loud and clear.

Sweating under layers of heavy combat gear – gun in hand – a soldier sits in the back of a truck barreling across the hot desert of Iraq. The eyes of the enemy cross his or her line of sight; their gun aimed, the soldier quickly contemplates the consequences of not pulling the trigger. Mind racing, the soldier fires and the enemy fades into the distance.

Chris Dadderio, 18, an Army commissioner as of late October 2010, has spent time contemplating that vision of his future when he may be deployed to the Middle East after graduating from Colorado State University.

"I could definitely do it, but I'm not going to be able to [kill someone] quick and easy," Dadderio, a freshman history major said. "I am going to feel some emotional things about it, because that is someone's son, someone's brother. It is not just point and shoot – it's more human than that. It is going to be either him or me."

Paul Hodge, an undergraduate senior seeking a second degree in social work, was in infantry as a corporal in 2005 and 2006. Hodge had a different experience when it came to joining the military: his motives were selfless when it came to serving his country.

"I did not really go into the military expecting to come out. I thought we were in that serious of a situation," Hodge, 32, explained. "Knowing which branch I was

going into, I knew that there was a huge probability that I would go into high-risk situations and do high-risk things. Going into the military, I did not have the expectation that I would survive, just taking into context the effects of 9/11."

Along with low survival expectations, Hodge has found it hard to cope with survival when so many soldiers lost their lives that fought alongside him.

"I had some very good friends that were severely wounded, and some friends that were killed in Iraq and Afghanistan.

"going into the military, i did not have the expectation that i would survive."

- paul hodge, 32, senior

I don't know that I really feel good about my survival and being in one piece," Hodge said. "I only know that I can't take anything back. So I can only move forward, and I am doing that in the best way that I can, trying to get my education."

Hodge explained the difference between the Iraq war and past wars, including that it is hard to decipher the enemy from civilians.

"I never really had an idea or concept

of people that were fighting against you that were not wearing a uniform. You saw a small occurrence of that in Vietnam, [but] you did not see any occurrence of that in the Gulf War," Hodge said. "It was not until I was in the military that I became aware of the concept of children being used as combatants. It is a scary realization to come to terms with. I had some friends that got hurt by children."

Dadderio explained his perception of Iraq and how he believes the armed forces should prepare cadets for more intense battle experiences.

"[The Middle East] is definitely war torn. It is probably one of the biggest



paul hodge served in the u.s. marine corps and plans on attaining his degree in social work so that he may help other veterans in the future

"[veterans] are used to structured military life, then they come to college and are completely reliant on [themselves] and they struggle with that transition."

- kelly dowd, veterans assistant

staging grounds for military operations of the past decade or two," Dadderio said. "It is tough, and is a different background than from the Vietnam era, or World War II. It has definitely gotten a lot more involved and our soldiers need to be better prepared and better trained to handle that kind of warfare."

The armed forces have experienced over 4,430 casualties from the Iraq War alone. War has harsh emotional effects on soldiers, especially those who eventually get to come home.

According to an article on healthguidance.org, the emotional effects of war can be stressful on soldiers. Two disorders that are directly related to psychological damage from war are post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD) and shell shock. Both of these disorders are manifestations of the brain's attempt to cope with trauma and failing to do so. The disorders often lead to a soldier re-experiencing their specific trauma in a dream or even when just closing their eyes.

Jim Weber, assistant director of CSU Alcohol and Drug Education, has worked with student veterans of the Iraq War and is familiar with these disorders.

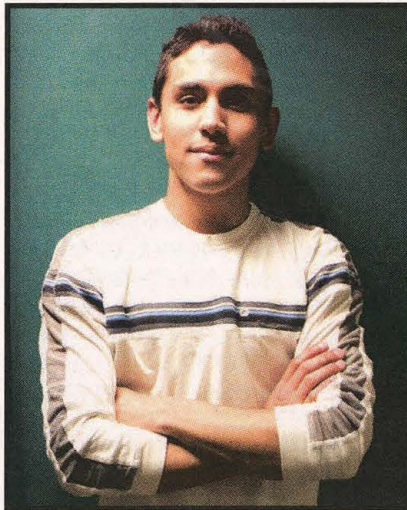
"It depends on the severity, but it can include problems with sleep, appetite and flashbacks. There is a very broad range of things that can happen and it is clearly debilitating, or it can be," Weber said. "The other big thing that we see a lot is traumatic brain injuries. It is different than what we used to see in the past because of the different explosive devices

and a lot of explosions happening while the soldiers are in vehicles."

According to USA Today, Pentagon officials estimated that up to 360,000 Iraq and Afghanistan veterans may suffer from brain injuries. Among them are 45,000 to 90,000 veterans whose symptoms persist and warrant specialized care.

Hodge has experienced a combat zone in Iraq and knows about the effects war can have on people returning to the U.S.

"It is really hard to reach out and talk to family, very hard to communicate to



freshman chris dadderio is attaining his degree in history, planning on becoming a teacher after serving in the army.

people about weakness. You come back and you have issues," Hodge said. "You can't sleep, or you have nightmares or little things set you off. Loud noises, inability to communicate and inability to relate to family are all things that are effects of being in a combat zone."

Student Veterans of America, a national advocacy group for student veterans with a branch at CSU, is "dedicated to helping yesterday's warriors become today's scholars and tomorrow's leaders."

SVA is based in the CSU Adult Learner and Veteran Services Office, where Kelly Dowd, a veterans' assistant, helps veteran students by assisting as a shoulder to lean on. She has found that there are a few

central reasons for veterans to come in and get help.

"Financial and school-related reasons are the two biggest, but some people are not adjusting to college life," Dowd explained. "They are used to the structured military life and then they come to college and you are completely reliant on yourself and do not have anyone giving you direction, and they struggle with that transition. We try to show them the ropes and help them get comfortable."

For some military personnel, it is not as easy to come home and see the light shining. Hodge found that at the end of the day, he still wished he were able to give more.

"Do I know that I made a difference? Yeah. I know that people in the U.S. drive to work, to school, and they don't worry about anybody trying to kill them," Hodge said. "I was medically discharged, so there is that feeling like I wish I could do more. I was in the right place at the right time, doing a job that no one else wanted to do and I will just have to get my feeling of accomplishment out of that."

Hodge plans to use his degree in social work to help other veterans cope with similar feelings that he experienced.

"When you join the military, you give everything to the people that you serve with, to the people whose orders you obey, to your government and to your country," Hodge said. "America can expect no better from its citizens than from military personnel because we give everything and we do it for people that hate us, and people that love us alike."

"we give everything and we do it for people that hate us, and people that love us alike."

- paul hodge, 32, senior

from Cadets to OFFICERS

ROTC turns students into leaders

When in uniform, the cadets never stare down at their feet. They walk, heads held high with a sense of leadership, believing they will be performing a valuable service to our country once they have learned the tricks of the trade. While it may seem that nothing could fully prepare them for what lies ahead, they are well versed in the roles of teamwork and leadership.

While the purpose of ROTC, Reserve Officers' Training Corps, is to commission students into the Army and Air Force, the goals of the students are even greater. Cadets in ROTC train to become strong leaders and to develop more confidence.

"What you learn in ROTC, whether that's Army or Air Force, can be carried out wherever you go in your life after your undergraduate career," Capt. C. Ryan Kemmerlin, assistant

professor of aerospace studies, said. "You have something on your resume that says you have learned leadership skills and organizational behaviors. This is great no matter where you go or what you do."

This is of the utmost importance for students preparing for a career in the military.

Cadet James Schumacher, a senior history major, said that ROTC forces people out of their comfort zones, and as a result makes them stronger and more confident.

"I don't know any other program in the world where someone can gain these life skills at the age of 18," Schumacher said.

By being a member of ROTC and finishing the program, a cadet is guaranteed a job of active duty in the Army or Air Force. Lt. Col. Channing B. Moose says students who participate in ROTC will begin in a mid-level leadership position instead of starting off in the lowest rank.

"They will be second lieutenants in the Army and will be responsible for about 10 to 40 soldiers within their first year in the Army," Moose said. "We teach the soldier skills that they need plus a lot of developmental leadership that prepares them so they are ready to be a platoon leader in the United States Army."

Kemmerlin said when participating in ROTC, not only is a cadet ready for the responsibility of being a leader in the military, but they are guaranteed employment.

"I think the biggest value that students get is that when they get out of college they don't have to send in any type of application for a job," Kemmerlin said. "It's all taken care of for them."

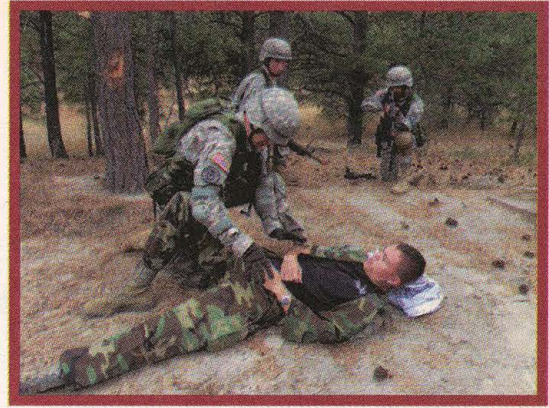
Cadet Molly Lappin, a senior sociology major, said she believes the greatest benefit of the program is the camaraderie. She said the friendships she has made are important



left to right, Lt. Col. Channing Moose and cadet Morgan Ackley lead the Army ROTC formation to this year's border war ceremony on Nov. 19, 2010.



left: cadet randy voorhees helps cadet andrew umstead prepare his squad machine gun for a tactical training operation at jacks valley during the fall 2010 field training exercise.



right: in action, air force cadet jeffrey leonard aids cadet randy voorhees during a tactical training operation. cadet sean homburger and cadet joseph scavuzzo in the background.

because they are all going through the challenges of the program together.

“Whether it’s emotionally, physically, or mentally, ROTC is constantly pushing you and the end result is significant and valuable personal growth,” Lappin said.

for more on molly lappin,
check out page 18

For some people, such as Lappin, ROTC can lead to a career in the military. For others it may not, but an advantage to the program is that a student can try it out if they are at all interested in serving without having any commitment to join the military.

“The part of ROTC that is kind of unique is that it does almost the same thing as a military academy does, but it gives them the opportunity to decide whether or not it is a good path for them,” Col. Peter Bleich, Jr., enrollment and scholarship officer of Army ROTC, said. “They can try out the class and get credit for it, but if they decide that’s not the path they want to follow they have no obligation.”

For those who do follow this path, ROTC offers two, three and four-year scholarships. In addition, there is a monthly stipend of \$300 for freshmen, \$350 for sophomores, \$450 for juniors and \$500 for seniors. Scholarship cadets also receive

a \$600 per semester book allowance, according to Moose.

“The primary motivating factor usually isn’t money – it’s part of it, but everyone I have interviewed with has a desire to serve in the military,” Moose said. “To me, they are more giving and more selfless than the average person you would meet and they want to do something big with their lives.”

Cadet Bradley Johns, a senior history major, values the importance of learning how to be a leader.

“ROTC helped me discover my weaknesses and incorporated ways in which I could overcome them,” Johns said.

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by logan triesch

DORMS Sweet DORM

life as a substance-free freshman

Late one Friday evening, while I was standing in the stairwell on the phone I encountered a drunken girl. She stumbled up the stairs, followed closely by her overtly excited friends.

On her last misstep in front of my hallway door her friends inquired, "Is this your floor?"

Scoffing, she leaned on the railing to look back at her curious friends. "No, this is the substance-free floor."

Keeping myself back into my door, I walked down the long, dimly lit hall. It always reeks of Axe and dirty gym socks. Rap music blares. Video game shooting and screaming come from my neighbor's room. A faint sound of angels singing is always present – the religious residents singing and playing guitar in their rooms. Sounds pretty typical of a dorm hall, at least to me. I live on the second floor of Parmelee Hall, in one of the two residence halls that is occupied by the Living Substance Free community.

Whether it is asking my neighbors at 2 o' clock in the morning the keep to video game screaming down or asking them to go to dinner, we get along. We are all different and have our own reasons for being in LSF. There are residents in my hall that are overtly religious, some are addicted to sex and others just want to avoid the party scene. I am one of the residents who signed up for the residence hall myself, just looking for friends who wanted to do something besides go out to drink or experiment with drugs. I wouldn't say I take my college education "seriously" but I am going to say that I appreciate it, and being substance free is a personal choice to avoid compromising it.

My friend Ryan Nguyen, a freshman in sports medicine, did not have the luxury of choosing where he wanted to live this year. He had quite the surprise when we had our

first hall meeting.

"My parents actually signed me up for [LSF], so I didn't even know. It was my freshman, sophomore and junior year [of high school] when I drank and smoked a lot," Nguyen, 18, said. "But then my senior year, I started to calm down because I didn't like it anymore. I guess it was a good thing I got into this hall. If I do drink, it is really little. I don't get belligerent like I

"my parents actually signed me up for [living substance free], so i didn't even know."

—ryan nguyen, 18, sports medicine

used to. So, I am trying to stick with it. It has been about three months."

Juggling my life seems easy and I know I can attribute that to being substance free. I say this because I never have to battle hangovers. I also do not have friends who like to drag me along to parties. That happened to me last year, I got left on the dance floor while she and some random guy made out in the corner.

I attend all 15 credit hours of my classes, usually get my homework done, write

articles for College Avenue, visit my long distance boyfriend on the weekends and still have down time during the week.

I know that everyone has that down time because I hear the video games, the guitar playing, the giggling, the TVs and the occasional soccer game in the hall (shh, don't tell our residence assistant).

Then there are the activities that we do on the weekends. There are several residents who enjoy hunting and camping, some go home and some go hiking and bike riding. Those who stick around enjoy cheering at sporting events and going out for frozen yogurt at Mahalo, or a walk in Old Town afterward. However, I can't deny that not everyone resists the party life.

A few residents tend to check out each weekend to go stay at friends' houses. It is common knowledge that they go out to drink or party while they are gone, but no one really cares. The rule "out of sight, out of mind" definitely applies for our hall. We all look out for each other. If someone does break the rules, he or she has the courtesy to keep it out of the residence hall.

Nguyen believes that if he goes to a party, there are choices to make when consuming alcohol or not.

"If I drink a little bit and I can tell that I am feeling it or I smell really bad, I will stay somewhere else. But if I think I am sober enough to walk around and talk, then I will come back [to the residence hall]," Nguyen said.

WHY?

Coming back from Thanksgiving break, I was standing in line for pasta in the dining hall and overheard a fellow LSF member bragging about how, "my Thanksgiving consisted of getting high until I passed out."

This has happened more often in previous years, according to my LSF resident assistant Dustin Cooper, a junior in construction management. Cooper explained that in past years the rules were not nearly as well-kept as they have been this year.

"LSF had a setback in the year of 2008 to 2009. There were a lot of problems with the residents and values had been pushed back. Since then, we have been trying to revamp the hall," Cooper said. "This year has probably been one of the most successful, as well as the most followed years in which people actually remained substance free."

It may be the most "followed" year, but there have still been a few incidents in which people have slipped up. Nguyen has been in a situation in which he was almost reassigned to another residence hall for a situation in which he was in another resident's room (outside of the LSF hall) in which they were consuming alcohol and were caught.

"I had a meeting [with our RA] and the worst thing that could happen is that I could get kicked out, if they thought I was drinking and I broke the rule of conduct," Nguyen said. "The person I talked to saw it in my favor, so she basically gave me a warning and I had to take a life choices class, so it wasn't that bad. If I got kicked out, it would have sucked."

This is the biggest difference between LSF and a typical residence hall. The consequence for alcohol misconduct for students in a typical hall is that they might have to take a life choices class. LSF residents face a real possibility of being kicked out of the hall and reassigned to another residence hall for the remainder of the school year.

The fact is, LSF is not the only place substance-free students can be found. According to Uconsiderthis.org, 36 percent of CSU freshmen abstain from drinking.

So, instead of facing judgement from the drunk girl stumbling up the stairs, we get more people who just want to go out and have a good time without having to light up or drink from a red cup.

"i joined lsf, because i wanted to be in a community that supported my decisions, instead of ridiculing me for them."

- claire redmond, 18, undeclared

"the idea of living with people, who shared my decisions, constantly and sharing a home with them really appealed to me."

- abby chestnut, 19, economics

"i like the atmosphere. i am not involved in anything, so i wanted to meet people who wanted to focus on school like me."

- jenna farmer, 18, communications

"i have a lot of family members who use substances and i did not want to live with that."

- andy romero, 18, undeclared

"i wanted to live in an environment where there wasn't any drinking."

- david meador, 19, computer science



rocking the lsf dorm on a friday afternoon, tina kruk, 18, plays misery business by paramore on rockband, while lucy fox, 19, and kayla balciar, 18, await their turns.

Ctrl

Alt

Break!

alternative breaks provide learning through service

The game is called Chicken Run and it's not for the faint of heart.

It requires teams of two: one person to throw a series of rubber chickens from a set distance, and the other to catch them in a giant pair of clown pants held open by a hula hoop.

Lindsay Dana and her 5-year-old partner, Katie, were dominating the stage. Dana and Katie gave it their all – and found themselves in the lightning fast pie-in-the-face finale. According to Dana, Katie's brother Jack cheered louder from the audience than anyone else in the "Give Kids the World" theater auditorium.

"I was enchanted by Katie's laughing and her ability to let herself be happy in the moment, even though I knew from my own experience that things with her brother weren't going well," Dana said. "Her home life, although she wasn't the one who was sick, was almost certainly a mess."

Katie's family was at "Give Kids the World Village" because that's what they wished for – a trip that allowed them to relax and enjoy the time they had left with Jack, who was diagnosed with cystic fibrosis.

Dana was there to bring part of her life full circle.

"I had known Katie's situation all too well before. I had lived this life she was living now," Dana said. "Looking at this girl, I saw myself for a moment as a kid all those years ago and it filled me with a sadness for my own loss, but moreover a full-hearted, big-as-the-world hope for her

brother's health, for her family and for this little girl's happiness."

Alternative breaks at Colorado State University are one of the only ways that some students know how to spend their week away from schoolwork. These students donate their time and energy to complete service learning all around the country and the world.

For Dana, a senior Spanish and biomedical science major, the trip to Kissimmee, Fla. to volunteer with children who have terminal illnesses was a powerful introduction to alt. breaks at CSU.

After Dana's experience in Florida, she

"it is a feeling that spans all differences - cultural, racial and socioeconomic - and I love the changes being in the program has made in me."

-lindsay dana, senior spanish and biomedical science major

jumped headfirst into dedicating her spring breaks to the alternative break program. So far she has led a trip to New Orleans to help rebuild homes destroyed by Hurricane Katrina, and is getting ready to lead her final trip to Achote, Panama, to assist in building projects that focus on ecotourism and sustainability.

"In New Orleans we did construction on homes that had been gutted and were

being rebuilt so that the families could move back in," Dana said. "This was five years after the hurricane and some parts of the area are still in ruins and the huge black X's are still emblazoned on the houses. It's just not something you could understand until you get down there and see it, hear people's stories of what happened and their last years of rebuilding."

According to Dana, she is completely and hopelessly addicted to leaping into new situations where she can volunteer to help a specific community and meet new people.

"It is a feeling that spans all differences – cultural, racial and socioeconomic – and I love the changes being in the program has made in me," Dana said.

Jen Johnson, an assistant director in the SLiCE office who coordinates volunteer programs and community engagement, said that many students are impacted far beyond their expectations.

"Students will go on these trips and I think they have these expectations that it's going to be really fun – they're going to learn about their issue area and make new friends," Johnson said. "I think sometimes what they're surprised by is just how profound [the trip] can be."

Jennifer Sneden, a senior biomedical sciences major, got to participate in a trip to Kenya and said it was one of the most expensive and powerful trips that she has experienced. The trip focused on female genital mutilation and early education for the people in the community.

"You basically live for two weeks with a community that still practices female

"We were in such a deprived area and to come back, you immediately realize everything you've been granted in your life," Sneden said. "Umoja is probably one of the happiest places I've ever been, and the most genuine and beautiful. Our standard of living is so different than theirs and people [here] are miserable even with all of their material possessions. It just reminded me to simplify my life and how to be happy without the materialistic view that we have in the U.S."

Dana began her journey with an experience that hit close to home, but in the end it was her attitude about her life that changed.

"I strongly recommend alternative breaks to get out there and get involved with people like Jack and Katie and their family. They will change your heart, your perspective and your life," Dana said. "If you are lucky – if you are humble, selfless and you truly care – you will touch their lives as well."



lindsay dana cuts wood to be used in rebuilding houses in new orleans after hurricane katrina. dana led the alternative spring break trip five years after the hurricane.

for more information on trip details visit www.slice.colostate.edu/alternative-break-locations.aspx

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Because I said so...

students discuss parental control of tuition and majors

Sara Heisdorffer's parents offered to pay all four years of their daughter's college if she chose to study medicine or go to law school. Her mom is a nuclear medicine technician and her dad is a lawyer.

But Heisdorffer, a freshman, knew since she was a little child that she would never go into either of those fields.

When she told them of her choice to study music education they said, "Well OK, you can be that way, but you know what that means."

Ever since then she has been on her own — paying her way through all four years.

"It's hard when school is something that you can't talk to your parents about. Every time I bring up music they get this look on their faces and I know they won't disown me or anything, but I want them to be proud of me and excited for me and that's just not how it is," Heisdorffer said.

Yourstory.org published parents' top 10 career choices for their child. Coming in first and second were doctor and lawyer, followed by scientist, policeman, professional athlete, businessmen, firemen, politician, inventor and in last place, designer.

The site found that parents want their children to be in stable careers that offer lots of job opportunities and make as much money as possible. Some parents want their child to be financially or emotionally stable. Others say they want their child to experience better and richer things than they were able to experience. Some try to live vicariously through their child or use them to finish goals they were never able to meet.

The authors of "Parental Influence on Career Development: An Integrative Framework for Adolescent Career Counseling," psychologists Eric B. Middleton and Teri A. Loughhead argue that the burden of meeting parents' expectations can

lead to "mental health problems, estranged parent-child relationships, or socially delinquent behaviors."

Often times when children are not living up to the expectations of mom and dad, there is more on the line than just another argument.

"Fighting with the folks is no big deal, but when there is the threat of them pulling their money? It makes you want to do what they say," freshman business major Kate Demkowicz said. "But they also know what is best a lot of times. It is about finding a middle ground, compromising so everyone is OK in the end."

"i think it is extremely important to have parental involvement in college ... it really does encourage you to work hard and stay on a straight path"

— beau loendorf, sophomore

Parents often get active in their child's schooling because they miss being a part of their child's life.

Mark Crawford, a clinical psychologist, told CNN, "Helicopter parents are always around their kid's life, kind of on the fringe, always making sure things go the way they need to go and not really allowing the kids to figure out solutions to problems on their own."

Other parents hold on because they do not trust their child due to past negative experiences. Many find this a reasonable reaction, as it is not fair for parents to pay to send their child to do drugs or party and not take education seriously if there has been evidence of this in the past. What should the

parent expect when the child is even further away? These parents are more likely to be controlling in other aspects than just schooling, such as social circles and monitoring drinking and illegal behaviors.

"If I were ever caught by my parents doing any sort of drugs they would cut me off completely," senior communications major Shannon Dobrovolny said. "Because they are paying they have a right to be involved. If I was completely paying for myself, it would be different."

When it gets to the point where students are studying for a career their parents chose — and not what they want to do with their lives — it is no longer in their best interest.

Freshman business administration major Wendy Bowling has seen her brother's relationship with her parents suffer because they didn't support his work.

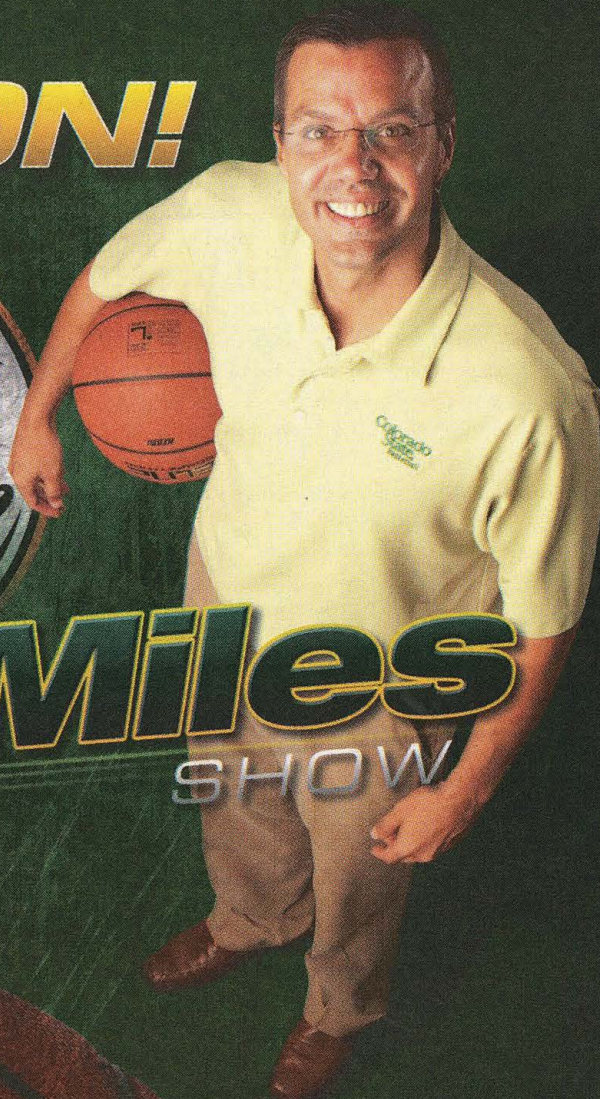
"All parents have control over their child's education to a point. My parents are great, but my mother expects too much," Bowling said. "She cut my brother off — he was a music and theater major. She wanted him to get a 'real' major. So my parents saw it as a waste of time and money."

Her brother now works at The Metropolitan Opera.

Bowling has decided to choose a career that would make money and that makes her parents happy, even if it's not something she specifically loves.

Parenting expert Andy Cole said of parental control, "It is completely natural for a parent to want the best for their child. I have aspirations for my children, but I would never push my expectations on them or pressure them into a career they don't want to pursue. I was relieved to find that 92 percent of the parents questioned in our study want happiness above all else for their children, but my heart breaks for those children whose don't."

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A Cut Of A Different Cloth

the recipients of the prestigious daniels scholarship

On Jan. 10, 2006, Devan Leazer made the decision to take control of his life. Sitting outside as snow fell around him, he watched helplessly as his apartment was emptied onto the street and his belongings were discarded like trash as his family was evicted from yet another residence.

"I remember thinking in that moment, I have to do something," Leazer said. "I wanted to work to get out of that life."

Having been relocated so many times, Leazer struggled to attend high school, changing districts multiple times in one year. When his family finally had a stable home, Leazer put all of his energy into his schoolwork. Settling for nothing less than a 4.0 GPA, Leazer climbed to the top of his class rank, solidifying himself as salutatorian.

Little did he know all his hard work would pay off. During his senior year, when applying for college financial aid, Leazer found the answer when his counselor informed him of the Daniels Scholarship, a four-year supplemental scholarship that could provide him with a complete college education. He found out a day before the deadline and stayed after school to finish the lengthy application.

Months later, after a nerve-wracking waiting period, Leazer got the best news of his life.

He would be one of the few to receive the Daniels Scholarship.

"I was in the hallway of my apartment when I opened the letter," said Leazer, who was chosen from over 1,000 applicants. "It was overwhelming. I was like, 'Wow, I'm really going to college.' It's something that I never thought would happen."

Leazer was given the choice to attend any U.S. college, and he chose Colorado State University to pursue a degree in business.

Established in 1997 by a respected member of the cable television industry, Bill Daniels, the Daniels Scholarship was meant to provide funding to hard working students

who couldn't afford a college education.

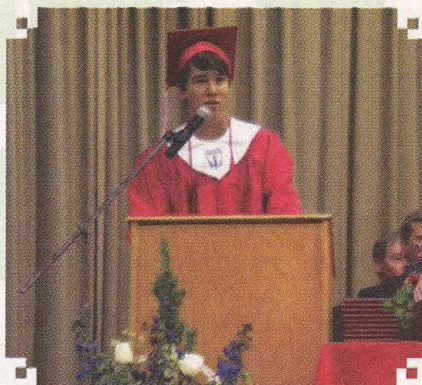
The selection process for the scholarship follows stringent criteria. Student applicants must complete a series of essays as well as meet for an in-person interview.

"While academics are a large part, I believe that Bill Daniels was more interested in the heart, mind and character of the individual," said Scott Southworth, scholar relations officer at Colorado State University. "These students are a cut of a different cloth. When we are choosing, we are looking for students with a high degree of character, integrity, personal responsibility and a potential to make a difference in the world."

Since its official beginning in 2000, after Daniels' death, the scholarship has been granted to more than 2,000 students from Colorado, Utah, Wyoming and New Mexico.

Located in Denver, the Daniels Fund headquarters houses 35 staff members dedicated to helping Daniels scholars with any problem that may arise.

"The Daniel's Scholarship is so much more than I expected," sophomore journalism major and 2010 scholar Joshua Cherry said. "I've never heard of a scholarship so eager to offer benefits."



Joshua Cherry gives a speech as senior class president of his high school and president for the national honor society at his high school. Cherry was the second member of his family to receive the Daniels Scholarship.

For Leah Rosen, a 2007 Daniels scholar, the fund stuck with her even when she was unable to meet the required GPA. During her first year of college, Rosen was stricken with a respiratory disease. The Daniels Scholarship allowed Rosen to transfer schools her freshman year and even helped with the medical costs.

"The Daniels Fund has stood by me even though the disease has been holding me back," the junior liberal arts and history major said.

To Rosen, the scholarship has provided her with the support she never had growing up. Rosen was faced with a life of inconsistency. Her mother struggled with drug abuse while Rosen was juggled between foster homes, eventually ending up in a homeless shelter.

"The Daniels Fund has become the backbone that I never had," Rosen said. "They have given me the confidence to believe that I can do it for myself."

The Daniels Scholarship also allows more than one student in a given family the chance to go to college. Shannon Patilla, freshman health and exercise science major and 2010 scholar, celebrated the good news with her cousin, Nigel Daniels, a freshman political science major and 2010 scholar.

"I was almost more happy for him when I found out that he got it too," Patilla said.

Ashley Johnson, a freshman human development and family studies major, and her sister both got the chance to take the next step into higher education when they received the Daniels Scholarship.

While many other scholarship programs look for students at the top of their class in academics, the Daniels Scholarship is truly dedicated to creating an equal playing field for underprivileged, hard-working students.

"The Daniels Scholarship is one of the best things that could have ever happened to me," Cherry said. "Without it, I don't think that I would be here."

by emily mccormick

The billion dollar question

will pond scum become a sufficient alternative fuel?

**Note: Nick McCormick is the cousin of College Avenue reporter, Emily McCormick*

I stare at my computer screen, listening to and observing our online conversation that takes me to a quaint farmhouse in Washington from the comfort of my living room in Colorado. My attention is quickly focused on Nick McCormick's enthusiastic mannerisms. Though I should be frantically taking down notes, I am unable to tear my eyes away from the screen. His hands compliment the urgency in his voice and the task-oriented stare of his eyes indicates his dedicated spirit.

His chair gets closer and closer to the computer. It is clear to me that McCormick, 24, has a love affair with this subject matter: pond scum. That is, his heart is set on the potential that algae have in acting as an alternative biofuel; one that could bypass the dependence of the world

on depleting fossil fuels.

Our conversation continues with McCormick filling me in on where he is now. The cousin I once knew so well just a few years ago has transformed into a published author in the field of sustainable fuels, a successful farm owner and an active participant in the long fight to create a cleaner environment for future generations.

McCormick, employed by World Steward in Underwood, Wash., has dedicated his time and money to promoting alternative biofuels. He has a strong belief that with new policies, our nation has the potential to be nearly independent from fossil fuel-driven transportation.

Recently, academic laboratories are presenting a refreshing idea: produce algae in order to extract oil from them, allowing the oil to act as a replacement fuel.

The prospect of taking pond scum and converting it to oil that can be redefined

as biodiesel is alluring. But the potential of pond scum as fuel has yet to unlock the complex secrets of one of the simplest organisms on earth.

Researchers, scientists and engineers have yet to develop a sustainable and economically viable way to produce the amount of algae needed to meet the world's demand for liquid fuel transportation.

"I believe in the American dream," McCormick says with sheer confidence. "If I am so lucky to be blessed with children, I want to do everything in my power now to ensure a beautiful future for them."

McCormick has taken an interest in sustainable entrepreneurial ventures since high school, and after studying environmental sciences at the University of Portland, Ore., his interests have expanded into clean energy and public health.

"For the past six years I have been running WVO, waste veggie oil, in my car

hot button

and bought a 40 foot 'veggie bus' that also runs on WVO," McCormick said. "I'm constantly seeking new ideas and trying to network with the community on cleaner, less greasy ways to filter grease."

The restaurant industry could support about 5 percent of our transportation needs (excluding air traffic), and McCormick stressed that though this percentage is not insignificant, there are still problems with this method.

"For those getting in on this free fuel, it makes a nomadic lifestyle guilt free. But it doesn't satisfy the question, 'Would it work if everyone wanted to do it?'" he said. "The premise is the same for WVO as it is with algae. People are hungry, so it's messed up to burn food in your car."

Many have predicted that using algae to produce biodiesel may be the only viable method to produce enough automotive fuel to replace current world diesel usage.

"From my perspective, algae-derived fuels are viable economically and environmentally," McCormick said. "Hopefully, the engineers and biochemists will come up with an infinite array of possible ways to sequester waste, grow slime and extract energy."

Dr. Anthony Marchese, a Colorado State University professor, is striving to unravel the most productive and practical

ways to "sequester waste, grow slime and extract energy," as McCormick would say.

Marchese, a faculty member in the Department of Mechanical Engineering, believes that with the proper funding and further research to drive the cost of production down, algae-based biofuels have the potential to produce a renewable fuel that does not compete with the global food supply, as corn and soy beans currently do.

"We are hoping that we will be able to produce at least 10 billion gallons of algae biofuels per year," Marchese said. "In terms of scale, we use about 300 billion gallons per year of liquid transportation fuels in the U.S. I think people are hoping that algae biofuels might displace, at best, 10 percent of that."

Though this idea seems logical, there are many roadblocks in producing the amount of algae-based biofuel needed to stifle our dependence on fossil fuels, including cost-efficiency.

Yoram Bauman, environmental economist and professor at the University of Washington, is one among many who are questioning the practicality of the large-scale production of algae-based biofuels.

"The number one issue is expense. There are lots of renewable energy sources, not just algae, but also wind/solar/fuel cells/etc, and the dominant problem is that fossil fuels are hard to beat on the basis of price," Bauman said. "Of course, this just includes the cost

to the user, not the external costs associated with pollution and climate change."

Bauman stresses that the individual users won't consider these costs. "Even from a societal perspective that does include these costs, algae may just be too expensive."

To add fuel to the fire, the U.S. has mandated that by the year 2020, researchers need to produce 36 billion gallons of biofuels per year. And as Marchese explains, that goal is ambitious.

"In fact, 21 billion of those 36 billion gallons has to be advanced biofuels, which means non-corn ethanol because we are going to max out of corn ethanol in the next couple of years," Marchese said. "So the question is, 'where are those 21 billion gallons going to come from?' The point is that even if we meet our goals, it is only 10 percent of our oil consumption needs. Nobody is looking at 100 percent of our oil consumption needs."

If we are really going to reach 21 billion gallons of advanced biofuels per year, it is clear that we are not going to be getting it from corn or soybeans. The current issue is that right now it is not physically possible to develop the amount of fuels that we need from biofuels.

"In terms of the potential of productivity of gallons per acre per year, in theory you can get about 100 times the productivity from algae as you could from soy beans and other terrestrial crops," Marchese said. "The downside is that it is a much more complicated process. We don't know whether or not we are going to be able to scale up to that level."

As Marchese suggests, unless we cut down our nation's total fuel consumption by a factor of 10, it would be inconceivable to think that we are going to be able to replace all of our liquid fuel needs with any sort of biofuel anytime soon.

Setting all algae-based biofuel production limitations and roadblocks aside, Marchese is staring a new, even bigger question right in the eye. Are algae as a biodiesel truly more environmental friendly?

This question has awarded Marchese a \$325,000 National Science Foundation grant to conduct one of the first studies on the emissions produced as a result of the



production of algae-derived biofuels here at CSU.

Marchese and his colleagues are experimenting with understanding the potential risks of going from not producing any algae-derived biofuel to producing over 20 billion gallons of algae-derived biofuel every year over the next 20 years.

When presented with the opportunity to read Marchese's study, one of the first of its kind, my cousin jumped at the chance and concluded that Marchese is asking the right kind of questions.

"Scaled up research and development should be on hold until after these kinds of utilitarian questions have been answered," McCormick said. "In other words, is it still good if everyone did it?"

As McCormick stresses the triple-bottom-line (people, planet, profit), he explains that the feasibility of algae-derived bio-fuels is a very sophisticated algorithm.

"One major variable is emissions, which is why I think Marchese is up to important work," McCormick said. "If we drop a trillion dollars into this industry only to find out that we are producing oxides of nitrogen and sulfur (acid rain, acid smog) in huge volumes, we should just as well stay in bed."

So now is the perfect time to document the emissions from the creation of algae-based biofuels before production becomes widespread. Marchese hopes his work will prove favorable.

"I believe the research we are doing in emissions created from the production of algae-based biofuel is beneficial," Marchese said. "Ultimately it is funded by you, the taxpayers. I would hope that people understand what is at stake if we don't find alternatives."

McCormick agrees. "Where we come in, is to make sure that large companies are not hiding any costs. It's as simple as this, energy in: energy out."

But the problem is that the solutions are not politically attractive.

"As a society we need to put pressure on the designated officials and elect people that recognize this is a big deal," Marchese said. "But in the U.S., that is a tough sell. I mean roughly 50 percent of the people in this country don't want to be told what to do. That is our very nature and what it means to be an American."

As I reflect on this "American dream," I wonder: how deserving can the promise of the possibility of prosperity and success be when we have created an environment that challenges the survival of humanity?

It seems like a conundrum.

I then realize the answer to this riddle is my cousin, and people like him, who believe a beautiful future is up to us; people who strive for this dream, but really understand the issues that challenge this dream if the personal choice to change is not made.

Join the movement.

Five Easy First Steps to Going Green Today, according to thedailygreen.com

Bag It

Today: When you go out shopping, bring your own reusable bags. This preserves resources by cutting down on the huge number of paper and plastic bags that are discarded after a single trip.

Tomorrow: Combine your routine shopping trips with other errands, which will save you time and fuel.

Save on Electricity

There are many ways to trim those electric bills. Wash your laundry in cold water instead of hot, line dry your linens, and use a toaster oven for small heating needs instead of a bigger electric stove.

Open windows to let the light in, turn off unneeded lights and appliances, and unplug unused electronics to counter the 'energy vampire' effect.

Save on Gas

Every gallon of gasoline you burn produces 19 pounds of carbon dioxide, so it pays to conserve (in more ways than one). Your car will work more efficiently if you obey the speed limit and avoid rapid, unnecessary acceleration. Keep your tires properly inflated and get regular tune-ups. Forget warming up under most conditions.

Shop at a Farmer's Market

Today: Shop at your local farmers' market. This will help support farmers in your area so they won't be forced to sell off their land for development, and it will decrease your food miles, meaning less fuel will be used to provide your daily meals. Your food will be delicious and better for you.

Tomorrow: Eat as much local and seasonal food as you reasonably can. Your meals will be fresher and will require much less fuel to transport, store and refrigerate.

Water Smarts

Today: Drink water from the tap instead of buying single-use bottled water which requires much more energy to produce, store and transport. Barely 20 percent of those plastic bottles end up getting recycled, and most are made out of petroleum. Use filters if you are concerned about your local water supply.

Tomorrow: Buy a reusable bottle to take with you on the go so you can always refill it from a tap and avoid buying bottled water. Stainless steel is a good choice because you don't have to worry about the potentially toxic chemicals that can leech out of many plastics over time.

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PETZL

by natasha leadem

SLIPPERY CLIMBERS CONQUER THE ICE SLOPE

Winter months mean curling up next to a fire with a steaming cup of cocoa for many, but some adventurers choose to cling to the side of a giant ice cube. Ice climbing isn't a sport for the typical outdoor enthusiast. It is a sport where climbers scale frozen waterfalls while facing freezing temperatures and risking serious injury.

Ice climbing is the offspring of rock climbing, born when mountaineers discovered that at high altitudes they had to find their way across frozen terrain.

"Rock doesn't change except with geologic time," said Wayne Trzyna, systems

administrator for the computer science department at Colorado State University, and a former ice climber. "Ice conditions can severely change from one season to the next."

Ice can be deceiving, hardening over pockets of snow and leaving weakened patches in a wall. Ice climbers have to carefully analyze their surroundings before ascending a route.

dangers of the sport

For climbers like Trzyna, the risks make it appealing.

"It gives you an opportunity to challenge yourself to do extremely hard physical activity and to keep your mind under control," Trzyna said. "There is more adventure in the wintertime because there are less people around, and the mountains are so beautiful and quiet."

Trzyna climbed for more than 30 years, conquering several ice routes in the Canadian Rockies and Rocky Mountain National Park, when he decided that the stakes were getting too high.

"I got hit in the eye by a falling chunk of ice," Trzyna said. "There was a period of about a month when I wasn't sure whether or not I was going to be able to see out of that eye again."

In December 2009, Guy Lacelle, one

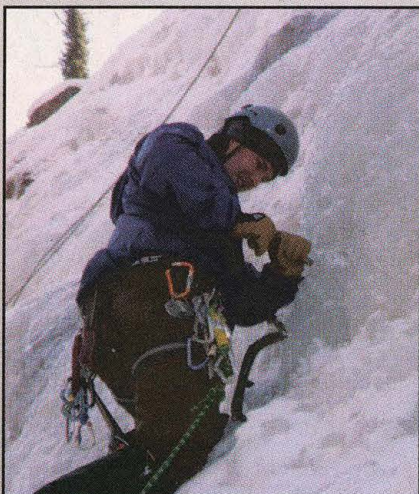
"it gives you an opportunity to challenge yourself to do extremely hard physical activity and to keep your mind under control."

~ wayne trzyna, systems administrator for csu computer science department

of the world's most renowned ice climbers, fell to his death while at an ice festival in Montana. Lacelle's death was the result of a freak avalanche triggered by climbers above. Lacelle had been climbing since the late 1970s, and had traversed some of the most difficult routes known to ice climbing. While Lacelle's death came as a shock to the whole climbing community, it was a reminder of the risks involved with the sport.

"The thing is, you tend to take bigger risks as you get more confident in yourself," Trzyna said. "Most of the really avid ice climbers seem to get injured or killed the longer they've been doing it."

With so little room for error, ice climbing isn't a sport to get into spontaneously.



the Verb

"Start small, and go with really smart people," said the assistant director for outdoor programs at CSU, Rodney Ley. "You will live longer."

learning the skill

Fortunately, the Student Recreation Center offers a beginning ice climbing and mountaineering course, instructed by trained climbers like Adam Papilion, a senior natural resources major, who has been climbing for three years.

Offered in the fall, the course takes beginning climbers to Brown's Peak in Wyoming where they are suited up with

crampons and ice axes and given a crash course on how to conquer the ice.

"You should definitely go with somebody that knows what they are doing," Papilion said.

While it is a beginners' course, it isn't for everyone.

"You have to be able to deal with survival situations when you're out there," Papilion said. "We go out and sleep in the snow, and it gets pretty cold."

By the second day participants are already climbing their first routes. To them, the freezing cold and risk of severe injury are only a part of their sport, and not nearly enough of a reason to keep them away.

ice types

- **ice falls, waterfall ice, water ice:** created from a freezing waterfall
- **alpine ice:** formed from melting snow, which re-freezes
- **mixed ice and rock:** both ice and rock climbing elements

tools

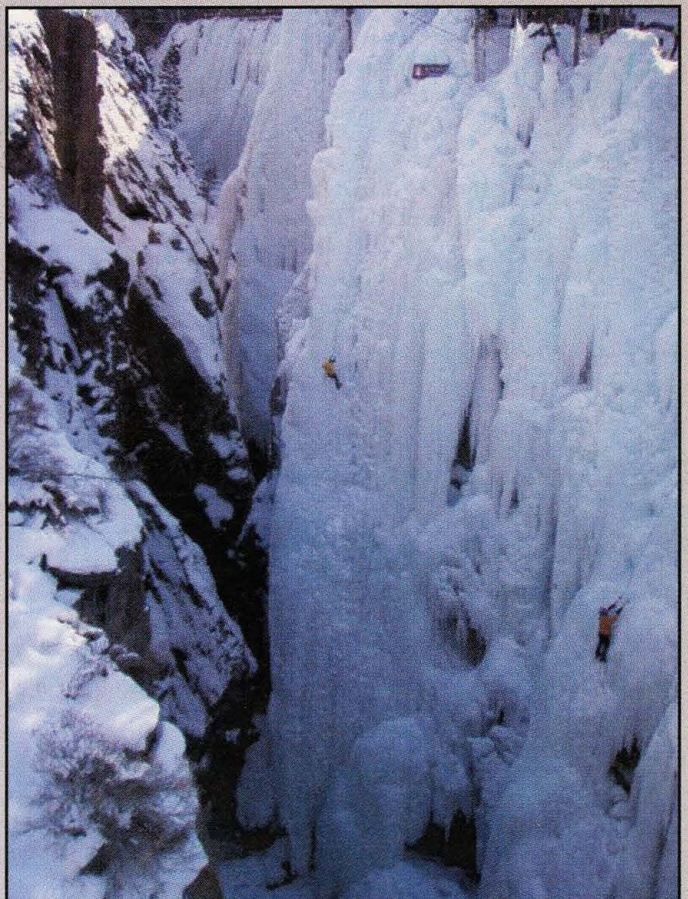
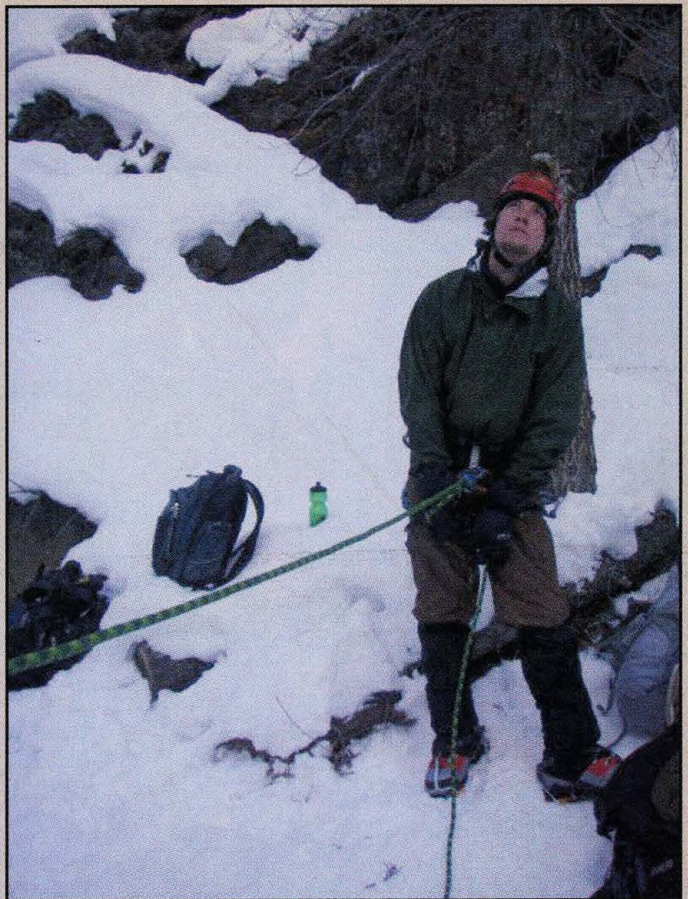
- **ice screws:** protection
- **crampons:** 10 to 12 points on shoe
- **ice climbing boots:** plastic/leather, stiff sole
- **ice climbing gloves:** padded in knuckle, provide grip in wet conditions, insulated and water repellent
- **avalanche beacons, first aid kits**
- **climbing rope**
- **climbing helmet**

~information from indoorclimbing.com

left: senior natural resources major adam papilion secures an ice screw into a wall during ice fest, a competition held in ouray, colo.

top right: senior natural resources major loren spears stays attentive while belaying papilion. belayers keep a close watch over the climbers in case they should fall on an ascent.

bottom right: climbers gather in ouray, colorado to attend ice fest, one of the largest ice climbing competitions in the state. the waterfalls are man-made, allowing for over 50 different routes.



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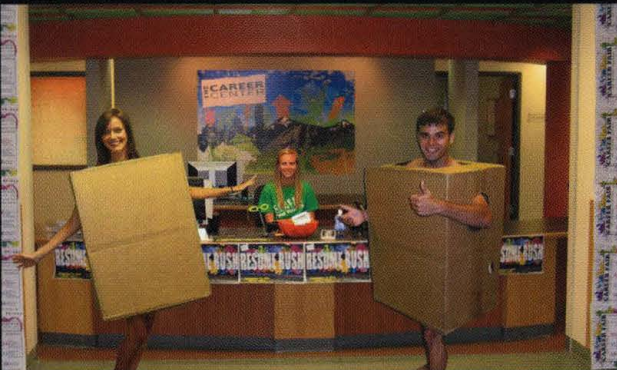
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