

Student explores ideas for new social spaces

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are congregating in unexpected places for social interaction.

The Fitness Center provides a prime example. During the center's most crowded hours, normally late in the afternoon, only the most ardent weight lifters resist participation in the wide-spread socializing. Football players rest amid benching sets, mocking teammates across the room.

Other athletes gasp breathlessly to their friends, red-faced from a rigorous treadmill workout. Trips to the gym's tepid water fountain turn into a recounting of a lacrosse victory or a polished imitation of an economics professor. A workout no longer entails only 35 pull-ups and increased weight on the military press, but involves an equally important social aspect.

The TV lounge in Proctor marks yet another unexpected area of social congregation. While many consider the area as suitable only for a quick glimpse of CNN or an alternative to lurching alone, others treat the lounge as a hotbed of social activity.

Often diners linger on through "Headline News" and even "Managing Your Money," fraternizing with their friends. As resourceful and creative as these social dens are, there are other spaces on campus well-fitted and available, but chronically underused.

The Undergrad, for example, a particularly swank establishment beneath Freeman, offers a comfortable location for hanging out. Employed earlier this year as the site of the infamous "screw your roommate" bash, the space includes pool tables and a dance floor, but has been used only sporadically.

On a larger scale, the cavernous Ross Commons lounge could see more use as well. During the week, the area remains mostly empty, wasting ample space for club or co-curricular activity. Happily, the lounge enjoys more popularity during the weekends, even attracting such notables as the Reverend Fauntroy, who recently tore up the dance floor to the music of Dean Longman's band, The Choice, scant hours before delivering an Easter Sunday sermon.

Speakers address environmental racism

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the role of students and young people in the fight to achieve environmental equity. He cited programs in which students have traveled to the pollution-ridden communities and performed community service there. Through exposure to the environmental crises that faces many minority communities, Werbach hopes that the concern of students will help bring the environmental justice movement to national attention.

A lively discussion followed the presentations and Middlebury students showed a great interest in the issue. It is a fascinating topic because it incorporates ideas of institutional racism and social class into the environmental movement. It also expands the idea of "environment" to include the areas in which we "live, work, and play."

Environmental justice is a complex issue and will not be solved easily. However, the recognition of inequities by national organizations such as the Sierra Club is the first step in the fight to correct environmental injustices. The movement will also serve to raise the consciousness of the American public to the ever-increasing environmental problems, and hopefully change their attitudes toward the treatment of our earth.

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The marchers were accompanied

Prospectives flood campus



Jenna Lane

As acceptance dates draw near, many prospective students are flocking to campus to help make their choice.

The college has ample social space, perhaps more than most students are aware and will hopefully soon be put more effectively to use. To a student body which welcomes social interaction even in the swamy environs of the Fitness Center, these underused social dens might appear especially attractive and provide a fresh alternative when hanging out.

Middlebury empowered by Take Back the Night

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where students tied purple ribbons to it.

The "tree" is a large, wooden construction in the shape of the woman symbol. Each ribbon attached to it honors a woman who has been abused.

Someone can tie on a ribbon for a friend, for herself, or simply with the knowledge that there is a deserving woman out there, who needs the support.

After dinner, the ribbon tree was carried over to Chellis House, where it will make its permanent home. Kupperman hopes that it will remain there, and that perhaps new colors can be added each year.

Men and women started congregating outside Chellis House at 7:30 p.m., and when it was dark, they lit the candles that had been made on Sunday by students and members of the community. From there, they marched across campus, from Mead Chapel to Old Chapel, to Warner to Pearsons, and finally on to Ross Lounge.

The marchers were accompanied

by Womansing, an a cappella group from Addison County who also performed during Earth Week.

The marchers sang during the candlelit procession, and then entered Ross Lounge, where Womansing performed for forty-five minutes.

Buccholz, McDonald and Kupperman all spoke, and Kupperman explained the purpose of Take Back the Night: "We are here because violence against women does happen. We unite as survivors, unite as friends of survivors, unite as women."

People then had the option of returning to Chellis House for further discussion about any subject matter.

The regular Friday night dinner at Chellis House was dedicated to reactions and reflections on the past week. Take Back the Night was a massive undertaking and a great deal of work went into it.

Assuredly, it did raise awareness in the college community and hopefully it will remain a tradition at Middlebury.

CAMPUS VOICES

Do you think drunk driving is a problem on campus?



"I never used to think so until my best friend died when he was hit by a drunk driver."
—Andi Bither '97



"I don't buy the excuse that someone is just driving up to main campus. It doesn't take a long drive to kill someone."
—Nadya Bech-Conger '97



"Yes. Maybe it would help if the social houses were all moved somewhere together, like Ridgeline Woods."
—Craig Stouffer '97



"It depends, are you using a wood, an iron or a putter?"
—Justin Elicker '97.5

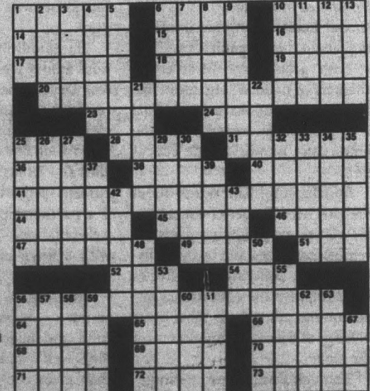
New York Times Crossword Puzzle

ACROSS

- 1 John Denver's Christmas hit
- 6 "Tuna-Fishing" painter
- 10 Among
- 14 "___ Eyes" (1969 song)
- 15 Actor Richard
- 16 Bounty rival
- 17 Refinement
- 18 Witticisms
- 19 Vigor
- 20 1950 Sinatra hit
- 23 West Bank org.
- 24 "Just a ___"
- 25 Three strokes, perhaps
- 26 Actress Sommer
- 31 Shares
- 36 Feared test
- 38 Troubles
- 40 Weaken
- 41 1955 Sinatra hit
- 44 Improve
- 45 Rig
- 46 Shut off
- 47 Beachwear
- 49 Relax
- 51 Audit conductor, for short
- 52 Guy's date
- 54 Eternity
- 56 1961 Sinatra hit
- 59 "Warm"
- 65 Minnow eater

DOWN

- 66 Driving hazard
- 68 Petruccio's mate
- 69 Shillelagh land
- 70 10th-day-of-Christmas gift
- 71 Swerve
- 72 Henna and others
- 73 Follow
- 1 Blue-chip symbol
- 2 Lively dance
- 3 Chihuahua change
- 4 Bar, in law
- 5 Compass part
- 6 Half begun?
- 7 Excluded
- 8 Stucco backing
- 9 Foot part
- 10 Sweet
- 11 Ryan's run
- 12 Basil's successor
- 13 Niels Bohr, e.g.
- 21 The Man Without a Country
- 22 More aloof
- 25 Propels a gondola
- 28 Blouquet
- 27 Bird perched upon a bust of Pallas
- 29 Toddlers
- 30 Dramatist Rice



Puzzle by Albert J. Klaua

Answers to the Crossword Puzzle can be found on page 19.

- 32 Goddess of discord
- 33 Raccoon kin
- 34 Lawn tool
- 35 is apparent
- 37 Impart
- 38 Ditto
- 42 Saw
- 43 Elevated
- 46 Stood up
- 50 Kind of switch
- 53 Distrustful
- 55 Run site
- 56 Prepares (h-) presses
- 57 Plumber's concern
- 58 Behind
- 59 Ale
- 60 Pennsylvania port
- 61 Roadhouses
- 62 They go into locks
- 63 Relative of Hindustani
- 67 Volte-face WNW

Edited by Will Shortz