Ellsberg ‘Explodes’ on Campus
Daniel Ellsberg visited the campus October 25. THE COLLEGE VOICE had hoped to interview Mr. Ellsberg but circumstances prevented this. The thanks for getting the project together go to both the Harkness Character Board and Dr. Schleyer. So. what has been getting my blood pressure up? Well, it's the fact that my usual breakfast gets me some day, probably when I sit down to breakfast. Now I see something of value to carry to my community. I feel that by

By ERICA PHILLIPS

As a black woman attending Connecticut College and residing in New London, I feel it is important that I express my views on how this situation affects me. Connecticut College is a very small, liberal arts college. When this is added to the fact the New London is a small city, the situation can imply subtle but real conflicts.

I should explain what I mean when I speak of education. Academic growth is an important part of education. Equally important, though, are social and political growth. I feel that these two areas are severely neglected in the education of students at Connecticut College. I realize that for many students it is very easy to go through weeks without reading a newspaper or watching the news. While many are going back and forth to classes, events of national and international importance are occurring and many students are totally unaware of these events. Another factor that contributes to a lack of total education is the fact that this college is located on top of a hill. This may not seem to be germane, but it is an important effect on the relationships between college students and members of the community. The fact that the campus is on a hill represents invisibility. This means that it is difficult for students who live on campus to get to New London and its people, and vice versa. There is not a good sense of rapport between the students of Connecticut College and the members of the New London community. It is unfortunate that as students and potential leaders of this country, the people of this college remain so sheltered and removed from issues and people of importance. I am not attending college only for personal benefits, but for an increased sense of self as part of a whole. I feel that by getting an education, I should be increasing my chances of gaining something of value to carry to my people-black people. Not only have I learned very little in this area, but I am also putting myself in a position that makes it increasingly difficult for me to communicate with the people who represent my community.

Granted there are many good things that this school has to offer to some students. But, for a person with my wishes and desires, this school cannot fulfill my needs. I am concerned with the growth and perpetuation of a black nation. The normal and coherent society is an important element in the perpetuation of a black nation. The schools here have contributed to this, but I am also putting myself in a position that makes it increasingly difficult for me to communicate with the people who represent my community.

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By DAVE CRUTHERS

Well, Bing Crosby is dead, there's another hijacking going on, just after one ended in Somalia. So. what has been getting my blood pressure up? Well, it's the fact that my usual breakfast gets me some day, probably when I sit down to breakfast. Now I see something of value to carry to my community. I feel that by eating bacon.

In recent mornings, I have not

Saccharin, bacon, hair dyes,

I'm not 'stating that products should

It was only after this that the

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Daniel Ellsberg, champion of free speech and the Pentagon Papers, visited Connecticut College this week, leading a new movement to end nuclear proliferation. Ellsberg, in his current tour throughout the nation, is attempting to alert Americans to the danger of nuclear arms. His group, Mobilization for Survival, believes that a protest movement, in the manner of the anti-Vietnam war moratoriums of the late 1960's and early 1970's, can become a significant factor in the goal of bringing an end to the nuclear arms race.

As an employee of the Rand Corporation and the Department of Defense in the late 50's and 1960's, Ellsberg was involved with relaying information concerning the war effort in Vietnam to the Pentagon. Upon his return from Indochina, and subsequent role in the writing of a study concerning American policy decision-making in Vietnam, Ellsberg soured on the war. His release of the Pentagon Papers, the trial, and the case's dismissal are now history. From the experience of Vietnam, Ellsberg has learned that an educated, involved populous can make a difference. His present cause needs such support.
In his speech before the College Community, Ellsberg traced the origins of American involvement in the creation of nuclear weapons—commencing with the "Manhattan Project" of World War II, leading to the current insanity of the hydrogen Bomber, Cruise Missile and the neutron bomb, the lecture alerted us to the fact that the American Government escalated production of modern and destructive weapons on the premise that we must stay ahead of the Soviets in the availability of weapons capable of destroying the world. American military leaders insisted that if the communists controlled these tools of obliteration before the "interests of freedom," the world would be doomed. Yet Mr. Ellsberg insisted that from the start, the Soviets had no intention of building such devices, and that our own blind paranoia led to the current standoff in which the world can be bombed into oblivion many times over by either side.

Citing the CIA's covert operations to destroy elected governments in Guatemala, Brazil and Chile, Ellsberg made it painfully obvious that America is no champion of freedom as claimed by our leadership. The double cross of the American people by the actions of the Johnson and Nixon Administrations in Vietnam should make it clear that a clearer evaluation of the American Government is a necessity. Anybody with the capability of ending life on Earth must be put under more careful scrutiny.

Ellsberg, in an attempt to shock his audience, explained the devastation which could be brought forth by the use of the new, and highly controversial, Neutron Bomb. This device has the capability of inflicting radiation upon its victims, which will lead to a slow agonizing death over a period of days or weeks. The bomb is being sold to the American public as a deterrent to nuclear attack from Russian tanks in Eastern Europe. The neutron bomb, it is said, will not only kill the operators of these weapons but leave all their equipment in working order. Perhaps nothing in the history of man could have more severe consequences than to leave a battle of nuclear weapons in the hands of some painfully and inevitably dying soldiers. Mr. Ellsberg explained that the American military would never commit such a tactical error. The fact is that the hard-sell is one quite large deception. The neutron bomb would only be utilized on defenseless civilians who would be unable to retaliate.

The former government official also sighted several instances where two American administrations weighed the seriousness of using nuclear weapons in Vietnam. As the North Vietnamese were clearly no real threat to the security of the United States, one must question the existence of any moral standards in our foreign policy. The Pentagon contemplated the destruction of several million lives with no possibility of military retaliation by the enemy.

At Kent State, a protester throws a rock at police from the same area National Guardsmen killed four students seven years ago. 

'we held the call we are politically apathetic is a tremendous understatement'

By PAUL SANFORD

The flyers were posted several days in advance. Daniel Ellsberg, the man who released the Pentagon Papers, was coming to Conn. At the time, days after hearing Dr. Ellsberg, we feel that we have the man who released the Pentagon Papers was coming to Conn. However, that a great percentage of students at Conn and students throughout the nation know very little about the man.

By PAUL SANFORD

"To say that we are politically apathetic is a tremendous understatement. The pentagon papers was a major factor in the emergence of a news media which operates independently of the government. How can we explain, then, the fact that the mention of Ellsberg's name often elicits such responses as "Isn't he the guy...?" How soon can we forget? Is Daniel Ellsberg anything more than a footnote from the long-forgotten Vietnam War? Our brothers and sisters probably do not understand our generation's lack of political awareness.

To say that we are politically apathy is a tremendous understatement. The student activism of the 60's and early 70's was only the tip of the iceberg. Our generation was an outgrowth of a racist and exploitative society, spontaneously erupted in New York when the lights went out. So what do we get excited about? The flag football field was moved. We no longer served butter with our meals. We don't have quorum for the House President's vote of confidence. Please do not misunderstand. I am as much a victim of this confused student mentality as anyone else. I love butter.

Similarly, the involvement of today's youth might precipitate this same kind of ideological change in the hands of temporary decision makers. In many instances, the student population is the only segment of society which is able to participate in such a pivotal and disfranchised.

We have very little to risk. We could end up as winners, or owners; or parents; we need not concentrate on maintaining the status quo, but rather we can demand change. Similarly, we demand to know that there is a lack of causes worthy of our devotion. Our country is facing a terrible energy problem, and Congressional response is being dictated by such powerful private interests as the oil and auto manufacturers' lobbies. The dangers of nuclear power pose almost incomprehensible environmental complications. The urban ghetto, which is an outgrowth of a racist and exploitative society, spontaneously erupted in New York when the lights went out. So what do we get excited about? The flag football field was moved. We no longer served butter with our meals. We don't have quorum for the House President's vote of confidence. Please do not misunderstand. I am as much a victim of this confused student mentality as anyone else. I love butter.

Daniel Ellsberg understands that many of us feel betrayed by our parents. Their generation is responsible for developing nuclear weaponry. Ellsberg has presented a convincing case that the American development of nuclear weaponry was not inevitable; it was a reaction to a paranoid sentiment that those nasty Communists were going to beat us to the punch. Thank you, Mom and Dad. I hope my kids don't feel the same way about me.
Food in Harris disturbs vegetarians
By WIN MORGAN

A letter appeared in THE COLLEGE VOICE a few weeks back that caused me to chuckle. The writer chided the dietician for her thoughtlessness in serving ham before a Jewish holiday and offering only one fish alternative. Imagine that situation every day without the alternative and you have described the situation of the campus vegetarian. Fifty of these students have formed a union to consider the issues at hand.

Vegetarianism means the belief in or practice of eating only plant material. This meaning has been extended to include those who abstain from flesh foods, thus encompassing many who eat eggs and dairy products. The reasons for being a vegetarian are as varied as each person, but a few common bases do exist.

The most common—and most accepted—reason concerns the health of the individual. Since animals are higher on the food chain, they store more toxins in their systems which we ingest and store when we eat meat. By avoiding flesh foods, we avoid these poisons to a significant extent. Meat is also a high fat food and is relatively hard to digest. Since one can get at least as high efficiency would allow for less depletion of the soil and more food per person in the world. Of course, the controversy involves the method of food distribution. Yet the proponents of this increased efficiency would allow for less depletion of the soil and more food per person in the world. Of course, the controversy involves the method of food distribution. Yet the proponents of this view are more than willing to spend time to explain their ideas.) A good overview is presented in Francis Moore Lappe's book, Diet for a Small Planet.

One hundred vegetarians subscribe to the meal plan at Connecticut College. By complementing the foods offered them, they form a balanced diet of the eight amino acids essential to protein building. The union of fifty students meets to discuss nutrition and how to improve the food at the College for the whole community. By definition, the union only considers the improvement of non-meat items. So far, the dietician has been receptive to modest requests such as supplying what germ, soy sauce, and yogurt. However, many more important goals need to be pursued which eventually will lead to a separate meal plan for vegetarians and higher quality food for the community as a whole.

Vegetarians who go to Conn are here in spite of the inadequate food plan offered. Now they are starting to change the plan to make it more amenable to future students. Very little has happened as yet, but they are appealing to the student body as a whole to help them attain their goals. These include: less overcooked vegetables, more vegetable soups and casseroles, and natural peanut butter, juices, and cheeses.

The space here is much too small to do more than let the community know that there is a vegetarian contingent on campus. If anyone is interested in getting to know more about the practice, contact the Vegetarian Union through box 553.

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If they really want us to get better nutrition, they should get bigger ice cream scoops!
Social Chairman might as well have been on vacation

By JANICE BAREFOOT
WHAT HAVE YOU DONE MR. DAVIS?

Before interviewing Bill Davis, I really had my doubts about the effectiveness of the social board. Just what exactly has the Social Board Chairman accomplished since being elected last spring? Although I do not have a positive reply to offer, as the man said, "I have an answer for everything."

The absence of any concerts on campus this semester has certainly not passed by unnoticed. Mr. Davis's excuse for this glaring error was that he was not informed last spring about the scheduling committee's meeting. Although representatives from the dance and theatre departments were present the only student organization represented was the film agency. So when the haggling over dates in Palmer commenced a representative of the student body at large was not even present. This was unfortunate for Bill Davis because now the only date he can get in Palmer is in early December. The possibility of a concert at this time is highly doubtful because Davis feels it is too close to finals. This theory is questionable as it seems people do become slightly twisted at this time of year and probably would enjoy a concert. Well, maybe next time Bill will be able to make the meeting.

Another gap in the social life at Conn this fall has been outside parties. The sculpture court is always good for a few blows before the weather gets cold but we certainly haven't seen any. Davis is limiting the use of the sculpture court for special parties and events. It seems that the noise level was a bit much and complaints had been received form as far away as Groton. Davis did say that he has attempted to get the sculpture court as have several other people with no success.

When questioned about the lack of kegs or music at picnics earlier in the year such as Labor Day, Davis was only able to say that there wasn't enough time to plan for it and he wasn't really too aware of the situation.

Many of us missed the big night soccer game that proved so successful last year. Social Board backed the idea fully but the final decision of the Athletic Department was not to go ahead with the game. One major problem was the cost of lights which were free a year ago but would cost $800 this year. Davis mentioned the possibility of a night lacrosse but it seems doubtful that the players would be able to see the ball.

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Another gap in the social life at Conn this fall has been outside parties. The sculpture court is always good for a few blows before the weather gets cold but we certainly haven't seen any. I was informed that the administration was limiting the use of the sculpture court for special parties and events. It seems that the noise level was a bit much and complaints had been received form as far away as Groton. Davis did say that he has attempted to get the sculpture court as have several other people with no success.

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Davis was able to paint a slightly better picture when speaking of the future. Roomful of Blues will be here on November 5 and Otis and Ridley on the 18th. The National Lampoon Show will be performing November 9. There are bids in for Southside Johnny and The Pousette Dart Band but it looks doubtful that either will play before the end of the semester. Asleep at the Wheel is a foreseeable possibility.

The Social Board is trying to promote alternatives to Cro parties. Several outings to baseball games were sponsored. In addition it is now customary for a non-alcoholic beverage to be served at all parties, therefore satisfying the straighter elements of Conn and the too-toasted elements at the same time. Bill Davis felt that Homecoming was a success, and hoped to see more things like the very popular Floralia of last May.

The potential for a good social scene is certainly present. The key to the matter is generating new and different ideas. The next question is whose responsibility is this? Bill Davis remarked that one purpose of the Social Board is "to respond the student body."
Party time: the right time
and the right place

By SCOTT CALMAR

Hiding my "Bring Back The Beatles" T-Shirt under my jacket, I cheerfully slid a one dollar bill out of my pocket, and into the sweaty palm of the partially intoxicated automation who had been sequestered by her dorm to take money from people who should know better. An old hand at these affairs, I held out my old hand to receive a beautiful smudged entrance stamp which appropriately read "H. West & Building Co., East Hartford" (or was it PARTYTIME? Isn't it always Partytime?)

How many times have I been able to use the line, "I see you were at that party Saturday night" in my Monday classes, simply by gazing in the general direction of a hand. A nice girl, never goes to those parties, a good girl washes the stamp off afterward; a single girl who has let her habits slide lets the stamp remain for at least two days, and my type of woman makes new friends — not to mention some slightly stained sheet.

Breaking through the proverbial crowd that always stands by the entrance looking for Williams School girls — or boys — I attempted to locate the beer. No more than 400 people turned to look at me when I came in, so my conscience was eased — my outfit was socially acceptable, a T-shirt, pair of jeans, old earth shoes and my tribute to semi-formality: a corduroy jacket.

Scouting for the beer at one of these parties is like trying to find the New Years Ball in Times Square at 12:15 on December 31st. After only nine minutes, a black eye and a dazed College student, I was fortunate enough to offer the previously used cracked plastic cup that I scrounged off the floor to the burly fellow manning the sometimes functioning beer tap. With a smile not unlike that of the fellow manning, I scrounged off the floor to the burly fellow manning the sometimes functioning beer tap, I was fortunate enough to offer the previously used cracked plastic cup that I scrounged off the floor to the burly fellow manning the sometimes functioning beer tap. With a smile not unlike that of the fellow manning, I scrounged off the floor to the burly fellow manning the sometimes functioning beer tap, it occurred to me that there are three reasons why the student body comes to Conn College parties. First and foremost: to get laid. Now don't get all in a huff about this apparent crudity. There will be those of you who will always fervently deny it; call me warped and perverted and go off in your rooms to hit the Vaseline — But look at it sociologically.

The beer loosens you up (nothing personal meant by "you"), allowing you to approach that cute girl you've casually met in your 100 level philosophy class. Asking her to dance, and then following it up with the act (of dancing) serves as the primitive mating ritual. A lot of sweat; a few dances and a few beers later, the question is popped. "Hey, uh, wanna come back to my room and get high?"

With any luck, the answer will be yes and you just might get lucky. Who knows — it could develop and mature into something permanent — a meaningful relationship that will span the course of a week or two.

Not that the big L is the only reason for attending campus parties. A large secondary factor is that there's nothing else to do. You can only insist in a complex room for just so long before them cinder blocks start doing funny things to your eyes. And the bar is more expensive than parties where you can get all you can drink for one dollar — until the beer runs out.

In the process of writing this, I was virtually raped by someone's opinion that, perhaps, the most important reason one attends these shindigs if for the sole purpose of getting drunk. Now be honest, I told him (or her, I don't remember) no matter what your excuse, can't you admit that deep in your mind, somewhere, there is that hope to find a mate — to not have to sleep alone — a night or two of wrapped cream and maraschino cherries.

I contend that this is a basic human drive and that Connecticut College's size of 1600 students (of which about one-fifth regularly attend these gigs) makes for a slightly warped, comical Dustin Hoffmanesque parody of that basic instinct. As for getting drunk, in the words that I have heard quoted so often, and sometimes even use myself, "If you can't get f----d, get f----d up!"

But what can I, as a concerned social butterfly do, you may ask? Well, you can find yourself a partner in a respectable manner: on an academic committee, in the music library, even fighting for a cause, like more political power for bird-watchers. Or you can get an electronic pong set for your television. Either way, I've seen my last of those semi-formals. No one will dance with me after this is printed anyway.
SPORTS

Cross Country on the move

By WALTER SIVE

Last weekend, the cross country team placed fifth amongst eleven competing teams in the Third Annual Championships. This marked the culmination of an extremely successful season in which the Camels posted a 17 and 11 record. Not only did Saturday's meet represent the accomplishment of this year's team, but it also indicated the arrival of Conn as a serious competitor in inter-collegiate cross country competition. Since its humble beginning two years ago, the cross country team has arisen as one of the most accomplished sports at Connecticut College.

Despite this success, Sam Gibson, who has been one of the mainstays of Connecticut's cross country team, quit after this season's first race. As captain last year and also for part of this year, Sam was instrumental in keeping cross country at Conn College and at least partly responsible for the success of this year's team.

In an interview with THE COLLEGE VOICE, Sam gave his reasons for leaving. "Throughout the beginning of this year's season improvement for Don Jones, Mike O'Neill had a very solid team. We had a lot of potential, and there were reasons for quitting. "Throughout and there was a real spirit of compression." Compression is the term cross country runners use to describe the effect of having a lot of runners pushing and pulling each other along. "We were overwhelmed with the turnout and the enthusiasm we saw in the team," Sam said. Compared to previous years the team was a lot closer and did a lot more things together. There was a real spirit of comradeship.

With a talented and serious bunch of competitors, Mark Connolly and Mr. Luce led the team through a most successful season. Both Mr. Luce and Sam felt the team would be even stronger in the years to come. Mr. Luce stated, "With the return of Don Jones and other runners, next year we should be very good. What makes me feel good, is that the guys are talking about coming back early next year." This past summer, Sam, Mr. Luce and Mark were concerned whether or not they would have a program this year. Sam stated, "There were only three people returning from last year's team and we had little response from letters sent out to accepted freshmen." Yet, the first day they had practice "there was a surprisingly good turnout." Among the new runners were Colin Carterly and Ted Fisher, who were later to break the course record for a Conn Student.

With other new runners like Win Morgan and Kevin Shuriari it looked the team would finally have some depth. Sam said, "After a week of practice we saw that we had a very solid team. We had Colin and Ted in front with a pack of four or five potentially good runners behind them. With such a setup there would be a lot of compression." Compression is the term cross country runners use to describe the effect of having a lot of runners pushing and pulling each other along. "We were overwhelmed with the turnout and the enthusiasm we saw in the team," Sam said. Compared to previous years the team was a lot closer and did a lot more things together. There was a real spirit of compression. "With a talented and serious bunch of competitors, Mark Connolly and Mr. Luce led the team through a most successful season. Both Mr. Luce and Sam felt the team would be even stronger in the years to come. Mr. Luce stated, "With the return of Don Jones and other runners, next year we should be very good. What makes me feel good, is that the guys are talking about coming back early next year."
COVER STORY

Griswold discusses activity fees, athletic facilities and Ames

VOICE: In order to alleviate this year's problem of an insufficient student activity budget, will the trustees agree to raise the student comprehensive fee this year? If so, why?

GRISWOLD: I talked to the President about that and we're certainly going to try to do something about it. I think that anyone on campus recognizes the problem of finding extra money for all the things we would like to accomplish, but I think we should discuss it and we will.

VOICE: Right. That's not sure though.

GRISWOLD: No, I think that will come up when it is time to prepare the budget; that will be one of the considerations that will be going into effect on.

VOICE: What are the chances of raising it?

GRISWOLD: I think that it was increased perhaps by the cost of living increase and I think there is nothing beyond that and I think if the administration recognizes the need and the problem, we will do everything we possibly can to adjust that upward and see if we can get it into that.

VOICE: For the last three years there have been constant statements from the development office that the remaining funds for the new library will be $20 million or $25 million. "Is the user willing to take your time and do it all than to rush into a half-way job?"

GRISWOLD: Well, we had hoped to attract one particular individual to do something important out of a foundation and unfortunately he had a heart attack and we would like to be able to get back to him in detail. His health is frail and he goes first to Washington and then to Florida and I have hopes of getting in touch with him. Beyond that, we're preparing an winding up for a major campaign and are taking this year to prepare for it, which means organizing people and defining the "case statements," talking to the Board of Trustees, and with hopes to do and to all this, it is better to take your time and do it all than to rush into it.

VOICE: But, there hasn't been any change and the future isn't certain at all?

GRISWOLD: Well, it's certain we're going to have to get that money one way or another.

VOICE: How do the trustees keep in contact with campus life (i.e. the student body)? And, in your opinion, is this method effective?

GRISWOLD: The principle occasions are the five board meetings which the trustees attend and part of the meeting procedure is to have committee meetings. There is a committee in every field of concern and interest activity. From the standpoint of students, the Student Trustee Liaison Committee is an extremely helpful committee and I think it has worked very well. They meet for an hour and a half before the board meeting.

Then, of course, the outgoing senior class elects one of their classmates to be Student Trustee, the outgoing class president and the Rear Admiral, and they stay for two years, so we always have two young trustees just out of college and still have friends on campus and they come back the evening before and visit with us. Last year, the committee was extremely helpful, in that they had committees report even on time to time between board meetings, either here in New London or back in Washington and that is extremely helpful. And then, the evening before the board meeting, we generally have a little cocktail reception and then a dinner and a discussion after dinner and at least once a year the students are involved in that dinner meeting. We had a meeting, for instance, at Unity House a year or so ago where the students expressed their views and asked the trustees a lot of questions--it's a good two-way communication. Another time we'll have the faculty from certain departments. So, I think we've pretty well informed.

VOICE: How do you see the financial situations of Conn College or other small private liberal arts colleges in the near future?

GRISWOLD: Well, it's a real struggle for independent education generally. If you look at it in five-year plans, but I don't know if that means a real or a whole lot. But I'm also involved at Yale and in the last two years they lost nearly $20 million dollars and you can't keep going on that indefinitely. I hope that some day the state and federal governments will recognize (particularly the state) that okay. I think they will have to increase the state's expense if we don't have a college here. The state has done a little bit in this direction. They have given an increase to the Development Office for the last seven or eight years and I think there is nothing seriously wrong. I think he has been successful in filling vacancies in the administration as they occur and we've announced a change that the Secretary of the College will be also an assistant to the President. There will be another person to be Director of the College, Relations and have all the media activities in this responsibility as well as communications outside the college. This will make a much better deal.

We've lined up an excellent successor to John Detmond's job who is a real pro and for the last seven or eight years has been with the consulting firm in the field of fund raising and advised and consulted colleges and institutions like libraries and what-have-you.

VOICE: Therefore, you feel that Roy Welch, the new Director of Development, will be able to help and improve President Ames in his fund raising duties?

GRISWOLD: Oh, yes, and he's coming at an exact right time. I think John Detmond did a superb job for the College and also recognized a "conn and town" relations and have all the media activities in this responsibility as well as communications outside the college. This will make a much better deal.

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Sitting is an entertaining experiment
By ALICE WILDING-WHITE

Michael Richards' one-act play, Sitting, opened last night, October 27th, and will run the 28th and 30th as 7:00 pm and today at 4:30. The play, which writer-director Richards defines as an absurdist tragic-comedy, is playing in the Experimental Theater, Palmer Auditorium Room 202.

Sitting "deals with abstractions—not concrete realisms," according to Richards. He considers the play to be of the same genre as Waiting for Godot by Samuel Beckett. It is a cycle which has neither a beginning nor an ending. The action, which takes place in a park, has been going on already for years, and it will be continuing for years after the play ends. Richards explains that the play is like a camera that has photographed 45 minutes of the lives of the characters. If the picture had been taken two years earlier, or two years later, it would still be the same.

Michael Richards

Basically, the play depicts the continuing dilemma of two old men, Ezriah and Ezekial, acted by Richard McLellan and Richard Sauer, who are trying to find their way home. Though they have been searching together for years, neither of the old men know exactly what home is, nor how and when they are going to get there. Throughout the play, they move from one park bench to another, searching for home. Ironically, they are blind to the fact that they are already home.

To complicate the old men's problem, a third old man enters, named Jeremiah, acted by Jonathan Goldman, who claims to be the father of one of the other two men. The conflict of whether he is the old man's father or not dominates the rest of the play.

Through the old men, the play "explores emptiness of human relations," says Richards. They show "how fragile they are." Richards goes on to say that Sitting is basically "a self-explanatory play that transcends the normal human relationships," and explores "what keeps people together."

Richards uses simple scenery, lighting and props in order to depict the tone of the play. The stage is empty except for a few cubes which represent park benches, a garbage can, and the stump of a tree. The number of props and costumes used is minimal. As a result, the stage reflects the emptiness of the lives of the three old men.

Richards is doing the play as part of an Independent Project. He began working on Sitting during a playwriting course last year.

Jonathan Goldman as Jeremiah
Richards is doing the play as part of an Independent Project. I was at the Eugene O'Neill Theater that he began working on Sittin' during a playwriting course last year. Richards feels that he was influenced most strongly by the philosophy of Samuel Beckett, which is primarily absurdism.

Richard is a Theater Major and has acted in plays at Conn, the UConn Repertory Theater, and the University of New Hampshire. After he graduates from Conn this spring, he is planning to pursue a career as a playwright.

What has made the production of Sittin' possible, has been the creation of the Experimental Theater. At the moment, the theater is only partially constructed. Fred Grimsey, Director of Theater Services, hopes to develop Room 302 into a small playing space, which would seat about 50 people.

During the day, the seats would be taken away, and the space could be used as a classroom. The theater would not be for full-scale productions, but rather for skeletal, experimental works. The scenery is simple, consisting of boxes and slabs of wood which are painted black and can be used to represent any number of things.

Sittin' is the first play to be performed in the Experimental Theater. Hopefully, students will continue to write and direct their own plays through the Experimental Theater Services, hopes to develop Room 302 into a small playing space, which would seat about 50 people.

The play explores the emptiness of human relations and shows how fragile they are.

Richard S. Sauer (left) and Richard McEllen in Sittin'
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