School Policy Unaffected by Change in State Law Regarding Marijuana Possession

ANDREA AMULIC
STAFF WRITER

Although the use or possession of non-medical marijuana is still illegal in the state of Connecticut, recent legislation has decriminalized the possession of small amounts of cannabis. In accordance with SB 1014, which took effect beginning in July 2011, the criminal penalties for the possession of less than half an ounce of marijuana have been removed and the classification of the offense has been changed to civil violation. The fines for this offense have also been dramatically reduced; fines for first-time offenders will be a civil fine and will not exceed $150, and fines for subsequent offenses may increase to amounts from $250 to $500.

Support for this legislative change comes from numerous findings, including those of the Connecticut Law Revision Commission of 1997. After comparing data from states that had decriminalized cannabis with states that still imposed criminal penalties on cannabis possession, the commission determined that decriminalization is cost-effective, is not associated with increased cannabis use at the state level, and in fact, leads to a reduction of cannabis use in states that impose criminal penalties and is not correlated with rates of alcohol or other drug use.

The change seeks to re-appropriate the state’s legal resources, thus allowing for greater attention to be paid to more serious criminal offenses. Sarah Cardwell, Associate Dean of Student Life at Connecticut College, said, “I think it’s a true change. Decriminalization is quite different from legalization,” and noted that the change is administrative, rather than moral. But what does the decriminalization of marijuana in Connecticut mean for the student body of Connecticut College?

As it turns out, not that much. Dean Cardwell said, “The college’s policy on marijuana has not changed in accordance with the new law because the legislation targets possession fines and logistics.”

CONTINUED ON PAGE 3

Parking Shouldn’t Be a Pain

MELANIE THIBEAULT
ARTS EDITOR

As a sophomore, I was excited at the prospect of bringing my car to campus this year, though I was disinguished at the prospect of paying $150, double the price of two years ago. Students may not want to pay, but if they’re like me, they’re going to reluctantly fork over the cash in exchange for having a personalized method of transportation all year. Of course, they’re more inclined to break the rules, they’re going to forget registering their cars and instead park illegally on campus, probably until the new parking system kicks in. But during the other five or six months of the year (depending on how long the NBA makes me waste my extra summer nights indoors watching a two-month long playoff, I am focused on baseball or football wholeheartedly. In fact, this winter I was all geared up to focus on my UC3M Huskies protecting their most recent National Title and my new interest in the Boston Bruins defending their first Stanley Cup in nearly 40 years.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 5

NBA Lockout Comes to A Close

BEN STEPANSKY
STAFF WRITER

I’m going to be honest with you, I want security hoping that the NBA owners and players would not reach an agreement before the entire season. I was getting used to a sports world without professional basketball. I was going to get into the technologies of the agreement, but I can say that I am so happy with the current players and I am so excited to watch the games. I’ve been around this for a while, I am happy to watch the games, but the question still remains of how the hell did it take this long?

Don’t get me wrong, I love my Boston Celtics, during the basketball season. But during the other five or six months of the year (depending on how long the NBA makes me waste my extra summer nights indoors watching a two-month long playoff, I am focused on baseball or football wholeheartedly. In fact, this winter I was all geared up to focus on my UC3M Huskies protecting their most recent National Title and my new interest in the Boston Bruins defending their first Stanley Cup in nearly 40 years.

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This Week in Photos

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I have two roommates. One is Carolyn, who has provided more than 300 Muhikan hours with a großen and Suzanne Stefan, a beloved member of the community. The other, Kathy, has an uncanny ability to smell for presidential facts and bring home a lot of canned. Kathy's room has become our home, a statistician's delight, and a posterboard of house rules adorn our main living room wall (Fig. 1). If you're cooking for us, please make sure you're not empty, Rule 48a, if you're cooking, it's for us, and we have two tone bells for each other in our bathroom mirror. Our ensembles is filled with cookies. In our specialty housing application, we were asked to reflect on our current situation. I'm not sure if you've ever truly experienced the beauty of the Pan at night?

As our time in college has progressed, one of our chief objectives has been to make contacts. One of our chief selfish assets is the ability to foster that goal. Can I think it behooves members of this group percent when coming from Connecticut not to be understood as field trips we wanted to dissent, questioning why we NYC and downtown New London in loose here, potentially the rest of this month? Is my confusion even relevant? That being said I wish the group the College's place within and outside this group would come out and make a percent the privileges that they have at bold in their demands. Let us not forget to dedicate yourself to this movement and never give up. Is your will to do nothing that can be done with your own hands. The reaction to these injustices don't there really are things that can be done to get our point across. Right now, the kids on this street are nothing more than the kids on this block.

SNAFU: Carter '12

Michael Natriello '12

EUROPE

ITALY—The Italian police have arrested more than 20,000 people who were protesting against a new law that would make it more difficult for immigrants to obtain Italian citizenship. The protesters, who were mainly from the southern regions of Basilicata, Calabria, and Apulia, have been accused of blocking roads and causing chaos in the area. The police have used tear gas and water cannons to disperse the crowds.

 görön görişin Anazarbaşa, Trabzon'da, beş bin 200 individuardan oluşan bir protesto gerçekleşti. Protestolar, bölgenin güney kısmında yaşanan sắcıcı olumlu anlamların ön planda olmaması ile sonuçlanmıştı. İki saat süren protesto, bölgenin merkezindeki bir arkeolojik sitenin inşasıyle ilgili olarak düzenlendi."

Antartika

There is a till that has been gradually forming at the Pine Island Glacier. The till is growing and spreading, and it is now growing in every major glacier in the world. In the future, growing at this rate, it will eventually cover the entire Antarctic landmass. Growing at this rate, the till is in a catastrophic regime that is on the verge of extending to polar regions.

Asia

CHINA—In Beijing, the police have arrested 10,000 people in connection with the protests. The protests were sparked by widespread anger over the treatment of Uighur minorities in the Xinjiang province. The Chinese government has been cracking down on protests in recent years, and the arrests are part of a broader crackdown on political dissent.
**Monday**

- **Combat Spin Class**
  3:00 PM
  Spinning Room, Athletic Center

- **Connecticut College Concert Band**
  7:00 PM
  Evans Hall

- **"On the Nature of Being Woody: How Advances in Genetics are Shaping Our Understanding of Secondary Growth in Plants"**
  11:50 AM
  Olin 014

- **Connecticut College Jazz Ensemble**
  7:00 PM
  Evans Hall

- **Thomas Smith and Tucker Mullin: Just Cure Paralysis**
  9:00 PM
  1962 Room

**Tuesday**

- **Israel Study/Advocacy**
  4:00 PM
  Harkness Chapel Library

- **Hebrew Cafe**
  6:00 PM
  Coffee Grounds

**Wednesday**

- **Senior Thesis Exhibition Opening Reception**
  4:00 PM
  Cummings Salon

- **Connecticut College Orchestra Concert**
  7:00 PM
  Evans Hall

- **Savor the ATLAS Flavor**
  7:00 PM
  Unity House

- **Yankee Swap Camelingo**
  10:00 PM
  1962 Room

**Thursday**

- **Global Environmental Justice Seminar**
  11:45 AM
  Bill Hall 409

- **Trim a Holiday Tree and Create Holiday Ornaments**
  1:00 PM
  Olin Lounge

- **Things Went Awry Some Time Ago: Dance Department Faculty Concert**
  7:30 PM
  Palmer Auditorium

- **N20 Show**
  9:00 PM
  Oliva Hall
The Student Handbook says, "Federal, state, and/or local laws govern the use, possession, and distribution of illegal drugs and drug paraphernalia." However, Conn’s policy on marijuana use reflects the nature of the violation as an unhealthy lifestyle choice to use drugs, and focuses primarily on the illegal status of marijuana in the state.

Sanctions are determined educationally, not monetarily, and have not been amended to reflect the decriminalization of marijuana because use of the drug in any amount is still illegal. Alicia Cauteruccio ’12, Honor Council Chair, said, "the student code of conduct isn’t about punishing students but about encouraging healthy habits. We don’t leave people on social warning right away for minor offenses because we are more interested in addressing the choice at an educational level."

Dean Cardwell explained that, following the restructuring of Conn’s judicial system last year, minor drug offenses are addressed as violations of the Student Code of Conduct at the administrative level, and not by the Honor Council. Students found in possession of minor amounts of marijuana are instead required to meet with Dean Cardwell personally and to attend educational workshops.

After these offenses, however, the matter is decided by the Honor Council, as it is a reflection of an unhealthy pattern of behavior. Bill Casteruccio and Cardwell expressed their satisfaction with the newly structured system.

Dean Cardwell said, "I think the change has been very successful, and it has made the process less bureaucratic and more focused on educating students about good decisions." He noted that it has become easier to address conduct violations on a personal level at the root of the problem, and that matters of honor are now judged more accurately.

Conn's status as an educational institution allows for certain inconsistencies between college policies and state law, so long as those policies are enacted with the primary goal of education and safety in mind.

The Student Handbook operates with the assumption that Conn’s judicial system operates under a different set of standards from the legal system: "The Honor Code, Student Bill of Rights and Adjudication Procedures are integral to the educational mission of the College. They are designed to foster a more effective learning environment and support the values of our educational community. They are not based on, nor do they materialize criminal rights or procedures in civil or criminal court."

In fact, the Honor Code operates under the principle of "preponderance of evidence," and not "beyond a reasonable doubt." The idea is that the goal of the proceedings is not to punish students but to inform them about the impact of their actions.

Therefore, the college justifies its approach to the discipline of minor drug use offenses by noting its educational value.

Other instances in which Conn's policy differs significantly from state law have been regarded less favorably by students, most notably regarding searches. According to the Student Handbook, if a staff member finds a student's room unoccupied, the staff member is allowed to enter the room to request a search warrant, and would need to be escorted by a Conn employee to perform the search.

"An officer from the New London Police Department, however, would be required to obtain a warrant, and would need to be escorted by a Conn employee to perform the search," she said.

While some students may claim that this practice violates their legal rights under the Fourth Amendment to the U.S. Constitution, Dean Cardwell defended the policy by noting that unauthorized room search entries are rarely made, and are approved only under circumstances in which the safety of the student or the community is at risk.

"We operate under a different set of standards here," she said. "We don't use principles of reasonable suspicion or probable cause necessarily, because we are not the legal system. Rather, we assess the situation to determine if there is a safety risk, and act according to our best judgment."

Since the disciplinary policies of the college are established by the members of the college community and supported by professors and administrators, the policy may occasionally be interpreted differently than intended.

Although students may hold different opinions about the perceived fairness of these policies, Conn's political science noted, "It's important that people know about and understand the rules."
**SG News & Minutes**

**ALI ROSSI**

**SGA CHIEF OF COMMUNICATIONS**

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**President Liz Higgins, Director of Events and Catering Merritt Collins and Professor Ruth Grade of the Psychology Department and Chair of the Faculty Steering and Conference Committee came and signed the Covenant, a formal agreement to strengthen shared governance and enhance consultation and communication throughout the campus community.**

The Assembly discussed other important campus issues with students and representatives from the Connecticut College Student Government and Connecticut College Student Union, focusing on the availability of wireless internet and the offering of student social events, pictured above.

The Assembly discussed online course evaluations and the reason for the shift to a free floating format, and the old human where individual departments had their own evaluation processes. The criteria of evaluation are now stream lined, making it easier for students to comprehend across different academic departments, as discussed in a recent public small by Milton Starma ‘12, Chair of Academic Affairs, and Professor Grade, who have had their say.

The Blackstone House substance-free lifestyle policy is being reconsidered. We hear its stagnation about different options to consider for the house, such as designing it a wellness home or retaining substance-free living among different floors and dorms.

**SGA approved the reconvening of the House Environmental Representative Committee (HERC) to become the Community Organizers for Sustainability and Transformation (COST) program.**

This new program was proposed by students looking for more ways to get involved with sustainability issues on campus who had presented her with a unique opportunity to work with students and adequately supported by the administration and that do not fall into our needs. COST will require more involvement from participants such as multiple meetings, required monthly meetings, and will offer interested students a chance to become more educated on issues of sustainability and allow them to share this information with students on campus in a more organized and informed manner.

Finally, we approved the purchase of renewable energy credits from 1Degrees, an environmental commodities firm. By purchasing the credits, the school will be contributing money to a Renewable Energy Fund at the firm that finances renewable energy efforts across the country. The purchase of these credits is said to offset the electricity that is spent on campus.

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**Information Services News and Events**

**Fearing Finals? Don’t Panic!**

**Information Services to the rescue!**

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**Extended hours at Shinian Library:**

- Monday: 9 a.m. - 9:30 p.m.
- Tuesday: 9 a.m. - 9:30 p.m.
- Wednesday: 9 a.m. - 9:30 p.m.
- Thursday: 9 a.m. - 9:30 p.m.
- Friday: 9 a.m. - 9:30 p.m.
- Saturday: 9 a.m. - 5 p.m.
- Sunday: 9 a.m. - 9 p.m.

**Computer assistance, quiet study space:** Books, journals, library databases, films

**Need research help? Ask a librarian!**

- Shinian Library Reference Desk during daytime hours (ext 2765)
- Email librarians@conn.edu or call with a Cecil OnLine AIM, Yahoo, and Google Talk

**Green Music Library:** (Cammens Arts Center, lower level)

- Tuesdays: 9 a.m. - 9 p.m.
- Thursdays: 9 a.m. - 9 p.m.
- Saturdays: 9 a.m. - 9 p.m.
- Sundays: 9 a.m. - 9 p.m.

**Blue Canfield Cafe**

- **Morning rush hours (9 a.m. - 9:30 a.m.):** grilled sandwiches, wraps and tea
- **Lunchtime (11 a.m. - 2 p.m.):** sandwiches, salads, soups and smoothies
- **Nighttime (5 p.m. - 9 p.m.):** grilled sandwiches and salads

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**Centennial Speaker Series Concludes with Alice Maggin ’91**

**DECEMBER 5. 2011**

**NEWS VOICE**

On Friday, December 2, the College of Connecticut worked up in centennial speaker series "Great Beginnings. Conversations with Alumni." The conversation with Alice Maggin '91, Ms. Maggin spoke to an audience gathered in Evans Hall on 8 p.m., preceded by a dinner in honor of the speaker and a reception in the lobby of Alumni Relations, and a handful of students.

While a student, Maggin designed her own majors, including Peace and International Studies, which incorporated her interests in history, government, philosophy and religion. She also minored in studio art, was in track and field and served as a student of College Alumini. Maggin is currently producer for ABC's World News with Diane Sawyer, where she chooses, claims, edits and pitches the stories that she covers. Her favorite topics. During the interview Maggin spoke about her experience at Conn, her favorite part and stories about her own major. While a student, Maggin discussed her role as an researcher and wrote to cover a course in human rights. During the dinner, Maggin spoke about her experience at Conn, her family and told stories about her own major.

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Maggin spoke to an audience gathered in Evans on Friday, December 2, 2011, to discuss her career in broadcasting and journalism. Maggin was engaged with the audience. She spoke about her role as a translator in the Middle East, and the challenges and rewards of covering events around the world. Maggin also spoke about the importance of maintaining cultural awareness, and the need for journalists to have a deep understanding of the societies they are reporting on. She touched on the role of the translator or "fixer" who helps journalists navigate complex political environments.

Maggin described the experience of working in the Middle East as both challenging and rewarding. She spoke about the importance of cultural understanding and the need for journalists to have a deep understanding of the societies they are reporting on. She also discussed the role of the translator or "fixer" who helps journalists navigate complex political environments.

Maggin shared her experiences covering the September 11 terrorist attacks and the role of the translator or "fixer" who helps journalists navigate complex political environments.

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Maggin ended the discussion by emphasizing the importance of staying informed, asking questions, and being willing to speak with people who have different perspectives. She also encouraged the audience to seek out new perspectives and to be open to learning.

At the conclusion of the interview, Maggin also spoke about the struggles of being a woman in news media. She discussed the importance of supporting and empowering women in journalism and media.

Maggin also addressed the individual challenges faced by women in the industry, such as being overlooked for leadership positions and being paid less than their male counterparts.

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Maggin encouraged the audience to seek out new perspectives and to be open to learning. She ended her talk with a reminder to stay informed, ask questions, and be willing to speak with people who have different perspectives.
SGA Passes Solar Panel Initiative

ALEX SCHWARTZBURG
STAFF WRITER

"Be it enacted, by the Student Government Association of Connecticut, in accordance with the resolutions of the Student Government Association, that the installation of a solar photovoltaic array be approved..." So spoke SGA! Thus spoke SGA!

The Blackest Friday

EMMALINE DEHL
STAFF WRITER

Black Friday scores me. Although I have never actually participated in Black Friday and I never intend to, the name itself implies a dark and dangerous day. I am not averse to shopping and roping the benefits of holiday sales; I always love a good deal and enjoy time spent browsing through stores. However, I prefer to shop in peace without having to fight my way through herds of overwhelming shoppers or stand in line for hours. For me, part of the fun of shopping is taking the time to browse my options and find something worthwhile. Personal shopping preferences aside, Black Friday does not suit me for other reasons.

The day after Thanksgiving, a holiday in which we are supposed being thankful and appreciative for how much we already have, is dedicated to consumerism in its most intense form. Black Friday reveals the strength and allure of capitalism and how much of our culture is based on consumerism. I watched television for about an hour on Wednesday night, which was plenty of time to become thoroughly tired of commercial after commercial featuring eager shoppers getting genuinely good deals on clothes and electronics. I am not rejecting all capitalism outright, but when it is continuously forced in my face it starts making me question the moral values of our society.

In addition to constantly spreading messages of good and consumption, Black Friday seems to be supporting its cause with packages that are disturbing. In an effort to attract shoppers and boost sales, some stores promoted "Black Thursday," and started their sales at 10 PM on Thursday. In other words, if you are someone who really wants a good deal and would go so far as to line up in advance before the store opens, Black Friday now has wildly impinged on your Thanksgiving. Not everybody does something special for Thanksgiving; but if you do, and you plan on taking advantage of Black Friday, you'd better have a better idea of what it was spending less money. If your reasons are any of these questions are yes (and you go to college, then you are probably not only in the knowledge that the student government passes resolutions in the same way, but also that they have the initiative to proactively address the issue.

These violent incidents are troubling: getting assaulted while shopping for gift certificates definitely not sound like my idea of a good time.

We know you have opinions. We'd like to know what they are.

Write for the Voice.

Meetings are held every Monday at 10 PM in the Voice office (Cro 215). Bully!
Google+ vs. Facebook:
Social Media Showdown

CHRIS GIRLI

Time and time again, Google has attempted to expand its web empire into the mainstay of social networking. Though it may, Google’s efforts in the form of Buzz, Wave, and Orkut failed thus far to touch Facebook’s Stevens. Google is almost certainly aware of the site’s ambitious attempts before recognizing the right platform to feature itself in that chief competition. And Google+ certainly does have a lot to offer. Though it lacks some of the sharing options favored by Facebook users, it does have lazy posting and sharing features like Spotify and news feeds, the user interface can also be personalized. For those who do not know, Google+ is a social networking site. To use the site, a user must have a Gmail account. Though it is easy to compartmentalize your friends—sharing photos to separate groups based on interests, the user interface is manageable for newbies. Google currently has over 30,000 members, making it the largest social networking site available. As of this writing, it has a significant advantage over Facebook, although it is not clear whether this will be enough to win the day. Although Google+ gives users a lot of control, it is still a work in progress. It’s also important to note that Facebook is not the only player on the field. Other social networking sites, such as MySpace and LinkedIn, have their own user bases. However, when it comes to the battle of the social networking sites, Google+ holds the upper hand. So, what makes Google+ so special? There are many different factors that contribute to its success. First and foremost, it is easy to use and navigate. Users can customize their profiles, and they can control who sees what. Second, Google+ is integrated with other Google services, such as Gmail and Google Calendar. This allows users to easily keep track of their schedules and stay up to date with their friends. Finally, Google+ is always improving and adding new features. This keeps users engaged and interested in the site. So, while Facebook may currently have the upper hand, Google+ is definitely a site to watch. We will have to see how it develops in the future.
Get Out of My Dreams, Get Into My Car: Melanie Thibeault Prays for Better Parking

Continued from Page 1

While the decision to prevent freshmen from parking their cars on campus doesn't affect me, and thus doesn't really bother me, but I know if I was a freshman this year, I would be disappointed in having to wait another year to have a car on campus if freshmen were allowed to park their cars on campus in previous years.

"It's almost impossible to get off campus if you have a car, and I don't understand why there are parking issues and we're trying to be green, but it creates a feeling of intense claustrophobia for us when we're stuck on campus," said one freshman.

Though it's against the new parking regulations, some freshmen still have their cars on campus. I have a car on campus because I need it. I need to get off campus sometimes and remind myself that life exists outside of Conn. I feel like the car restriction for freshmen was a big mistake on Conn's part," said the freshman.

Not only are freshmen not allowed to have their cars, but parking spots have been reallocated for the remaining three classes. There is no sophomores parking lot.

Some sophomores are delegated to park in the same areas as freshmen if they paid for the spots. The new parking regulations written for the upper and lower campus, which are the same, implies that they are allocated parking spots on the South/Short and Upper Campus.

If a senior member of the younger class is coming back to campus at 2 AM, students who work or volunteer off-campus or who are in balloting need to have their cars on campus.

Not every student needs a car, but for students who work or volunteer off-campus or who are in balloting, having a car is necessary, and having a place to park should be a right, not a privilege.

Parking on campus: some sophomores are delegated to park in upper campus by the Athletic Center, Abbey House, Winthrop, and the Ridge, which is designated as a parking location.

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Breaking Dawn Breaks Expectations

A professed Twilight-hater explains why she enjoyed the latest film in the blockbuster series

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

The franchise has come a long way since 2008's release of the first film, throughout which the acting was originally weak and trite, and a gross sexual tension arose from the space where violence and pain should have been. (When they meet, and for a good long while, Edward is attracted to Bella in the same way that there has never been anyone else on Earth for her. While, Edward is attracted to Bella in the sense that he wanted to eat her so badly. Gives a whole new meaning to the phrase "sexual appetite," isn't it right?)

But dialogue has grown exponentially, and there's a new kid on the block. Bill Condon, who directed both Dream Girls and Gods and Monsters (the latter for which he won a Best Screenplay Oscar). He now now delved into this shaking project, and has removed a ridiculous novel into an actual film instead of a joke.

I am going to guess it was Condon who told him a lot of ghosts had been shut out the movie, that he wanted to keep them in. (I hate the idea of a movie without ghosts, and Condon makes it so.)

I am going to guess it was Condon who told him to ditch the uninteresting, gory, incredibly uninteresting and start actually acting like a real person. The new Bella of Breaking Dawn Pt. 1 is a real person, expanded and existing version of her character like all of movies past. And while Edward is as much a vampire as ever, Robert Pattinson gives him some human vitality that until now, has been missing. Edward is warm and genuinely without looking like he is going to kill anybody, and frequently, he laughs.

The transformation of the two central characters this time around is, I think, the apex of a shift from an all-consuming, creepy and distancing love story to a more domestic, more responsible and enjoyable favorite ever I could swallow.

What Condon did was cut the bullshit. Bella and Edward have a wildly expensive, spring wedding, and then Gallivant off to a private island near Rio to frolic on the white sands and consummate their relationship yet with a shocking amount of strength and grace. The impending birth, in the focal point of the film, and Condon made it just as stirring as it should be. An emaciated, grey-skinned Bella toddles around the sacred grounds of Edward's family with her tattered chambers, head held high.

This scene is still (Shadows Three's蓝图)

Bella giving birth was one of the most graphic scenes of Breaking Dawn Part 1.

Bella giving birth was one of the most graphic scenes of Breaking Dawn Part 1.
Rising hip hop star tells all about his past, present and future music career

An Interview with Kendrick

JEFF BAIRD
STAFF WRITER

Two weeks ago, we had the privilege of seeing Kendrick & One Love on campus, where they rocked a sold-out show to over 200 people in the 194 Room. If you were part of the crowd, then you already know that they are hip-hop’s next big talent. The killer combination of Kendrick’s intelligence and lyrically-driven rap style and One Love’s smooth hip hop and pop ear as a producer is unmatched by any new group, and it’s only a matter of time before they take over the way their songwriting already has. Backed by an impressive resume — they won a B.0.B’s triple-platinum Grammy-nominated hit “Airplanes” back when they were still in high school — now they’re focusing in on their own way their songwriting already has, Backed by an impressive resume — they won a B.0.B’s triple-platinum Grammy-nominated hit “Airplanes” back when they were still in high school — now they’re focusing in on their own sound, with a new album set to hit iTunes next month.

Kendrick was kind enough to answer some questions about his history with hip hop and what’s next for the talented music duo.

College Voice: How did you first get into hip hop, and when did you start writing poetry?

Kendrick: It’s crazy, because I can pinpoint the exact day I started listening to hip hop. It was in second grade. I’d come home one day and my elder brother was playing a mixtape and I wanted to rap along with him. From then on, I never stopped freestyling and started getting into rhyming. I had a change of heart and realized if there were ever a time to be making mistakes, it was then, so I decided to appreciate the opportunity of starting over. After writing this third verse, when I started thinking about the whole break up, I almost felt less profound about it. Like instead of being so low-spirited, I felt...more...for the first time in weeks. And that was the impetus behind the whole concept of the album. On the track, we laid out the songs in the exact order that I wrote them, so I slowly started feeling normal again — reflecting on how the writing process had helped me make some of my own problems.

CV: What is your favorite song of yours to perform live?

Kendrick: “I’m just spit at the mic, and is it a conscious effort?

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The Curse of the “Dream Team”

A Philadelphia native reflects on the disappointment that has been the Eagles’ 2011 season

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SPORTS

Lucas Dan

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After 149 days, NBA players and owners reach tentative agreement

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

I then, wake up one morning and find on SportCenter to be in alarm. The NBA is going on strike. Owners and players have reached a collective agreement to play a 50-game season beginning on Christmas Day. At least, that's what we thought; as it turns out from this deal to one that is a year away from being approved by a short, dead-end free agency period and a condensed training camp and preseason.

All these things bring, there are three factors that are worth mentioning. NBA fans across the country, sports media outlets, and fans have been anxious about this upcoming season. This is partly because of the free agency period that is going to be entirely condensed for this coming season. The NBA has been circulating the idea of a condensed free agency period and a condensed November break. The NBA has been serious about hyping this idea, partly because it is a way to establish themselves on a TV platform, and partly because it is a way to get the players in the media's spotlight.

The Rondo has been mentioned, but also the Massachusetts Celtics and the original Big Four. They will not make it to a conference title but new coach Mike Brown. The Celtics and the Original Big Four have their hands full with the Bulls and the Lakers out of the way. However, the Celtics are one of the teams that is running in the playoffs. The Lakers, the Celtics, and the Bulls have the most likely to be the remaining teams in the playoffs. In the Eastern Conference, the Boston Celtics are one of the teams that is running in the playoffs.

The Heat and the Bulls will remain in the top four in the conference, with the Heat remaining in the second place. The Lakers will be struggling to make it into the playoffs. The Bulls, the Celtics, and the Bulldogs could make it into the playoffs. The Heat and the Bulls will remain in the top four in the conference. The Lakers will be struggling to make it into the playoffs. The Heat and the Bulls will remain in the top four in the conference. The Heat and the Bulls will remain in the top four in the conference.