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Students raise concern over WCNI format

BY JENNY MARCHICK
The College Voice

WCNI is the radio station that broadcasts a show from a room inside our student center. But is it a college radio station? That is the question that some members of the campus community have been asking. They say that the music is not what most students would expect from a radio station which is supposed to be representing the tastes of the campus.

According to senior Fitz Gitler, program director for WCNI and member of the five-student Board of Directors, "College radio is not about radio for college students. It is about an alternative to mainstream programming." Gitler says he tries to get "a diverse batch of music." But some students claim that the radio station is not diverse. Dan Weinreich, a sophomore, and senior Rick Stratton were denied a show, yet community members were given shows.

Weinreich and Stratton currently work for sports department of Voice Radio News, a half-hour twice-weekly news program on WCNI. "They're supposed to be about diversity and they're being hypocritical," Weinreich commented.

Weinreich maintains that his proposed sports show fits Gitler's idea of a diverse format. Weinreich claimed that sports shows can't be found on other local radio stations. He also points out that he was denied a show, yet community members were given shows.

"I've worked for the radio station for a year and a half and never got a show, and community members who aren't paying a dime to this school are getting shows," said Weinreich.

This semester there are 29 community disc jockeys and 27 from the campus community, including faculty and students. As a result, the student voice is overruled.

See WCNI Format, P. 4

Proposed changes to the staffing plan for 1997-98

Part 2 of 3:

Ed's note: This is the second in a series focusing on proposed departmental changes. Next week look for reactions from department chairs, faculty and students as well as information as to what these changes will mean.

BY MICHELLE RENAYNE
Acting Publisher/Editor in Chief

While concerns are growing for students of Russian and German over the proposed reduction of faculty in their departments, it is important to examine the process by which these decisions were made.

The process for developing the 1997-98 staffing plan began last semester. Claire Gaudiani, president of the college and Robert Proctor, provost and dean of the faculty began consulting with department chairs as to the needs of their department at the end of last semester. According to Gaudiani, department chairs were also asked to assess the overall needs of the college. Both Proctor and Gaudiani said that this consultative process met with variable results.

This year, Proctor received requests for 15.8 new full-time equivalent (FTE) positions from 14 departments and three programs. However, there are only four positions available. According to Proctor, the college has an optimal level of faculty and they are not adding any new positions. The only way a full-time tenure track position can be added to a department is through resignation, retirement or death of a tenure faculty member.

"This is not a question of budget needs. If there were budget pressures I would not fill the four available positions," said Gaudiani.

Proctor believes that it is important to look at the big picture and said that a number of requests had very serious merit. But not every need can be met. Both Gaudiani and Proctor want the faculty to meet the challenge and develop creative ways to meet the needs of the college.

Gaudiani and Proctor have presented a draft to the Faculty Steering and Conference Committee (FSCC) and the consultative process continues. The proposed changes affect five areas, four of which can be filled.

The discussion will continue for and the faculty can make their recommendations. Ultimately, the president decides on the final proposal to the trustees. This process will be complete by mid-April when the mailings will be sent out for the May 1 meeting of the board of trustees.

The four positions come about because of the retirement of Bonnie Allison, professor of Child Development, the death of John King, late professor of German, an unfilled staffing line and the probable retirement of Maxim Shrayher of the Russian Department.

See Department Cuts, P. 2

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See Department Cuts, P. 2
IN BRIEF...

1621 Club starts new tradition at Conn

To celebrate the opening of Conn's new 1621 Club, about 580 juniors, sophomores, and freshmen turned out to have their photos taken for the yearbook. Although Mark Hoffman, director of student activities and creator of the "club," had hoped for more participation, the turnout was impressive for its first year. The photographer was always busy and more yearbooks were sold to underclassmen because they could be ordered at the photo session.

Hoffman hopes to make the club a Conn tradition and to increase participation over the next few years. Due to the large number of photos, individual students will not be able to see their photos before they are printed in the yearbook; instead, the photographer will select the best pose of each. Extra prints for personal use will be available from the yearbook company later in the semester; individual students will be contacted.

Hoffman adds that the deadline for seniors to submit yearbook photos is Friday, March 1, and requests that students of all classes submit candid photos at their weekly club meeting staff. Students who want their pictures returned in November should print their names, class years, and box numbers on the reverse of the photos; seniors should use their permanent home addresses.

The other 1041 students who missed out on the 1621 club will be happy to discover their freshman year Dining Services ID photos in the yearbook!

Students complain about condition of North Lot

To pave or not to pave. Such is the question regarding the North parking lot adjacent to the Plex dorms. Students wonder why the North Lot is turbulent, bumpy, and unpaved over in just one week! Apply for all positions NOW! Applications can be picked up outside the Voice office and are due back on March 4th, by 5 p.m. Questions? Call x2841

This Week in SGA...

Doug Haas, senator of Smith, said that the Social Responsibilities Committee is discussing the college community's role as citizens of New London. He said that they are talking with Stevenson Carliah, associate professor of theatre, about how Conn can be more actively involved in the New London community.

Dan Shedd, SGA president, said that the trustees approved all of the suggested commencement speakers proposed by Ryan Eschauzier, junior class president. Shedd added that he was not allowed to reveal any of the suggestions, but did say that the trustees were impressed.

Sara Weir, freshman class president, said that her class would be sponsoring a community class talent show for kids from the New London community.

Department Cuts

The draft proposes a full-time tenure track position in the Psychology department which has been understaffed for several years and is currently the most populous major. According to Proctor, the Psychology department is at the greatest risk for failing to meet the needs of a small liberal arts college. Therefore one position must be given to the department. The department also has more honors and individual studies than any other. Currently they have 7.2 FTE positions in the department and 1.6 FTE goes towards teaching the graduate students, leaving only 5.6 FTE for a major with close to 150 majors. The draft also suggests that they leave the open position in the Child Development department. This is because the two departments have discussed the possibility of combining their efforts and broaden child development into human development and the position would be filled by a "life-span" specialist.

The suggestions for the remaining positions include filling the currently unfilled staffing line with a new position of Hispanic-American, African-American, and Caribbean/Acro-Canbbean literature to be centered in the Hispanic Studies Department.

The remaining position will be filled either by creating a new position in the Environmental Studies department. Environmental Studies has grown from 15 majors to 60. The other possibility is to give the Sociology department a position that could meet their needs in the fields of Gender and Women's studies and Islamic studies by bringing in someone that could meet both needs.

According to Proctor, these are the areas that require attention and the open positions in German and Russian can be re-allocated to other areas. He said that is a mark of a strong faculty that the professors in German and Russian can teach outside their curriculum but they need to teach courses in the language. Currently Marijan Despalotavich, lecturer in Russian Studies, teaches all of his courses in English and could fill in any gaps by teaching courses in Russian.

Both Proctor and Gaudiani believe it is possible to keep the languages as strong as ever even with moving these positions to other departments. According to Proctor, he is working with the language faculty to develop courses in comparative literature to give students courses in literature and culture that would be taught in English. Proctor said that their goal is to create synergy among the departments and to make the college less departmentalized. Many of the proposed changes seek to do this.

Proctor stressed that we all belong to a liberal arts tradition and that is why it is important to examine the big picture.

"The departments have been doing a good job. We couldn't make these proposals if the quality of the professors was not high,. this is not a punishment. We have a high opinion of our full-timers... we would not have done this if we did not believe it could be done," said Proctor.

IN BRIEF...
The staff of the Conn Review talks about turnover, the completion of their pilot study, and how to increase faculty participation in the process.

SGA approves Conn Review constitution

BY JENNY BARRON
Assistant Editor in Chief

After little discussion, SGA assembly passed the constitution of the Conn Review by a vote of 19-6-4. Several assembly members urged the passage of the constitution based solely on the club's membership and right to exist rather than on its merit or purpose.

"Regardless of whether you like this club or not, it's still a club," said Maya Perry, senator from Warner. "He also voiced concern that funding for the Review, in the form of short term loans, would be provided by the administration.

"I don't feel it is necessary for this school and I don't feel we should be funding it," agreed senior Mike Roemer, a member of the Japanese Advisory Board. Roemer expressed concern that the Review represents such a small percentage of professors and courses.

But despite objections, the constitution passed and the staff of the Conn Review is pushing ahead with production with an emphasis on increasing faculty participation.

"We want to make participation in the Conn Review a more attractive option for the faculty," said Lou Carter, president of the Conn Review.

The College Voice

BY REBECCA LIBERT
Assistant Editor in Chief

"It's really hectic right now, trying to sort things out before I leave. I've got tons of students asking me for recommendations before I leave," said Tamara Michel, director of Unity House. "Have a seat," says Tamara Michel, director of Unity House as she shuffles papers around on her desk. Her office is beautiful, two walls are just windows.

"Before Unity house moved here this was College House, where they would host guests for a night or two. This was the sun patio," she explained.

Michel resigned from her position last semester, planning to accept a job at Yale University.

Michel is a Conn alumna from the class of 1990. She lived in Unity House her sophomore year. She was a government major, and a house fellow. After graduating she got her masters in higher education.

"Old housefellow's never die, they just keep coming back to Conn," Michel laughs.

Michel came to work in Unity House two years ago as the interim director, and has been director for a year. In the time she's been here, she said, she's seen the population of students of color on campus increase drastically, and the number of big all-campus events has both increased and diversified.

"In truth, New Hampshire is not very representative of the rest of the nation," she said. "It's more of a catch phrase as it is, there truly is a lot of value in a liberal arts education. Wherever I've gone since graduation I've found people from Conn, and having it on my resume tells people something about me. Though you may not see it from the inside, Conn is very well respected," she explained.

"Coming home to work was sort of like coming home, and this is like going out into the real world," Michel commented.

Michel does leave the college community with some advice.

"As much of a catch phrase as it is, there truly is a lot of value in a liberal arts education. Wherever I've gone since graduation I've found people from Conn, and having it on my resume tells people something about me. Though you may not see it from the inside, Conn is very well respected," she explained.

(look for part two of this series next week, planning to accept a job at Yale University.

Michel will be leaving Conn on March 15. She is relocating to New Haven, Connecticut where she will be working at the Yale development office to help financial support for the university.

Although she is looking forward to the change, she will miss Conn, and miss interacting with students there.

"I'm looking forward to the change, the new city, the new job, but I'm sorry I'll miss Conn," she explained.

The College Voice

BY JENNY BARRON
Assistant Editor in Chief

Assistant Editor in Chief

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IF YOU CAN BEAT THESE PRICES START YOUR OWN DAMN AIRLINE.
Lending a day to the timeless

BY JASON SALTER
Associate Features Editor

Time seems to be a precious commodity these days. There is never enough of it, people are constantly searching for ways to manage it, and in the meantime, they are all uptight and in bad moods. Well, fear not, Camelot Astronomy, physics and the forces of the universe are on your side. You have an entire extra day this week, and it’s up to you to do with it.

That’s right, a whole 24 hours that you didn’t have last year, but probably could have used. This day comes along every four years, along with presidential elections and the Olympics. Leap Day doesn’t thumb you with campaign slogans which are entirely inane about how America will be better with some old bald guy’s leadership.

Leap Day isn’t full of a lot of people who are in way better shape than you could be, in your wildest dreams and will receive large endorsements and have their faces plastered on Wheaties boxes if they wish. Leap Day is just a free day. Think of it as the space on the Bingo board that you automatically get to put a chip on, or as passing Go and collecting $200.

You may do whatever you wish with this extra day. You can ponder life’s mysteries, find a cure for cancer or just sit on your butt and watch television. You can try to figure out why Courier is built with a lot of money and great architects who put several doors going to the outside, yet we can only use two of them.

Why is it that when it snows, the last thing that physical plant thinks of is plowing it?

What doesn’t stimulate your synapses, try figuring out what happens to the poor children who are born on a day that only exists once every four years. Does it mean that they are only five years old when they are really 20? Do they celebrate their birthday on February 28 or March 1? Do they have special calendars made for them? Are they constantly a day late for everything that isn’t in a leap year?

The calendar tells us that February is only 29 days long, and the year is 366 days long. On the down side, this means that there is one more day of classes to go to. One more day of cafeteria food before our intestines can recuperate. One more day for campus safety to ticket your car. The astrologists have a great day on Leap Day because it’s only once every four years that they get to predict that you will have a day filled with money, love and happiness and that your moon is sitting in the house of another sign that you have to find to make your life complete.

Not many things come free these days, the box may say 30 percent more free, but you have to pay for it to begin with. You may be free to choose, but your choices are limited. This day is given to you with no strings attached, no money down, no monthly installments and no shipping costs. The only price is the possible unforeseeable emotional trauma you may sustain from the unuttered conclusion of the actual purpose of this day.

You may do what you choose with this day of days in this year of years. Just remember that the day after starts again with real time and it will be on the calendar next year. Enjoy your 60,000 seconds of free form, it won’t happen again for awhile.

Storyteller, Ramona Bass
celebrates individuals

BY ANDREZ ZOB\nThe College Voice

As the introduction was given for storyteller Ramona Bass, the audience packed the Pejsace Room of Unity House about the lives of Langston Hughes, Katherine Dunham, Lena Horn, and Zora Neal Hurston.

Ramona Bass is a self-described storyteller, writer, actress, singer, designer, intercultural educational consultant, folklore researcher and anthropologist. She has degrees from Brown in theater arts, English education, and anthropolo- gyp. As she spoke to a group of about 30 people Tuesday night, none of these qualifications were obvious. She merely stood in front of us and began to tell stories of herself, her family and most importantly, black “achievers” she admired. Over a quick two hours she recounted the lives of Langston Hughes, Katherine Dunham, Lena Horn, and Zora Neal Hurston.

Katherine Dunham, Lena Horn, Zora Neal Hurston and her own extended family. She did not speak as if she were dealing and informing out of duty, but rather, she is aU uptight and in bad moods. She did not bombard you with campaign slogans which are entirely inane about how America will be better with some old bald guy’s leadership.

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Storyteller, Ramona Bass spoke last week in the Pejsace Room of Unity House about the lives of Langston Hughes, Katherine Dunham, Lena Horn, and Zora Neal Hurston.

WCNI format

Continued from p.7

According to Gilser this is one of the best radios ever in terms of focusing the campus. There are 50 three-hour time slots on WCNI during the week. Of these, most are self-de- signed jazz, blues, and new music shows. Gilser says the objective of the station is to be “alternative,” but not the commercial alternative that can now be heard on mainstream stations.

“Going for the US 1 to 20 percent of the listening audience that are interested in music that doesn’t get commercial airplay,” Gilser said.

Connecticut College students were asked what they thought of the format of WCNI.

“I don’t want to listen to it. I don’t really like the music that they play for except for one show, one of 1 am,” said sophomore Ann Stirnoff.

“I never listen to it. What is it, 99 point something?” commented sophomore Jennifer Gilser.

“I heard that New London listens and they were the ones that really cared about WCNI,” remarked sophomore Carrie Many.

One popular student DJ was turned down for a show this semester even though he had the financial support of five local sponsors. But sponsors are not the main source of income for WCNI. Funds are secured mainly in the any pledge week, and the majority of the $30,000 raised in that fundraising drive comes from community members that follow the community shows. This compares to the $5,000 allotted in the student activities budget. The financial stability lies in the outside community.

But Weilerich maintains that the station could increase its funding if they requested a loan from the President’s Office. The president’s discretionary funds may be appropriated to help in need of financial assistance.

Gilser says that when it comes to programming decisions, his “first commitment is no people who are going to help create WCNI.”

“I think the problem with the radio station is that they don’t decide they what they want to do,” said Weinberger. He commented that while WCNI tries to present an array of diversity, they do not succeed in providing a format for it.

A STITCH IN TIME

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Hamas admits to fatal Israeli bus bombings

Two suicide bus bombings killed at least 25 people and wounded more than 80 others Sunday in Jerusalem and the coastal city of Ashkelon.

An American was among the dead, according to a statement released by the White House. No other details were immediately available.

The Muslim militant group Hamas, through an anonymous caller, has claimed responsibility for the attacks. The blasts are the first in nearly four months to target Israeli civilians.

The first bomb ripped through a commuter bus during morning rush hour in Jerusalem. At least 23 people were killed in the blast and 49 were injured, officials said. Forty-five minutes later, a second bus exploded southwest of Jerusalem in Ashkelon, killing at least two people and injuring 31.

In a call to Israel Radio, a man speaking Arabic claimed responsibility for the bombings on behalf of the Islamic Jihad, the military wing of Hamas, which has led opposition to peace negotiations with Israel.

The caller said two Hamas "heroes," one with 22 pounds of TNT and the other with 11 pounds, carried out the attacks to avenge the January 5 assassination of Hamas bomb-maker Yehiya Ayyash and commemorate the second anniversary of the Hebron massacre.

As a result of the bombings, Israeli Prime Minister Shimon Peres has suspended contacts with Yasser Arafat's Palestinian Authority and sealed off the West Bank and Gaza Strip, barring 60,000 Arab workers from jobs in Israel.

Arafat has condemned the bombings, saying they threatened the peace process.

Cuba defends downs of US civilian planes

Cuba confirmed Sunday that its air force had shot down two US civilian aircraft, claiming the "pirate" planes were within its airspace.

US military vessels were searching in international waters for four people aboard the two planes, which belonged to the Cuban exile group, Brothers to the Rescue. As of Saturday night, officials said there were no debris or signs of survivors.

A third plane in the group was not hit and returned safely to Miami. The pilot, Jose Basulto, headed planes to the Rescue. He denied that any of the planes entered Cuban air space.

President Clinton condemned Cuba's actions and dispatched F-15 fighter planes to protect search and rescue operations. A Clinton official told CNN that the US believes that the planes ignored "a clear, unambiguous" warning. The official added that it was still "unclear" whether the planes were in Cuban airspace when they were fired upon by Cuban warplanes.

A statement from Cuba's Fregi-Mornia said the planes were shot down Saturday afternoon between five and eight nautical miles north of the seaside town of Baracoa, which is west of Havana.

Flights from Brothers to the Rescue dropped leaflets over Havana last July and again in January urging peaceful protests against the Communist regime of President-Fidel Castro.

Basulto was under investigation by the Federal Aviation Administration for violating Cuban airspace in the previous fly-overs. The case is still pending.

After the July fly-over, Castro warned that any aircraft that violated Cuban airspace would be shot down.

Steve Forbes pulls off upset victory in Delaware

Millionaire publisher Steve Forbes' hard work in Delaware paid off Saturday as he shot from third place in local polls to win 12 delegates in the state's first presidential primary. Forbes was the only Buchanan candidate to actively campaign in the state.

With all of the districts reporting, Forbes had 33 percent of the vote, Bob Dole 27 percent, Pat Buchanan 19 percent, and Lamar Alexander 13 percent.

Delaware had upset many New Hampshire voters when it decided to hold its first primary on Saturday, just four days after the Granite State had posted its first in the nation results.

Forbes was the only major GOP'apart from Bob Dole who might have contributed heavily to his win. A CNN poll indicated that 52 percent of Delaware voters said it was important that candidates campaigned in their state.

Dole, Buchanan, and Alexander agreed to stay away from the primary in order not to offend New Hampshire voters, concentrating instead on Tuesday's Arizona race.

Arrests made in Florida tourist slaying

Three people were arrested Saturday in the fatal shooting of a Dutch tourist at a Miami gas station, after police got an important tip among the hundreds they received.

The suspects, two teenagers and an adult, were charged with first-degree murder and robbery, according to a Miami police. The vehicle used by the alleged robbers was confiscated.

The 56-year-old Dutchman had been offered for information leading to the arrest of those responsible for the shooting.

Tosca Dispenzer, 39, was sitting in the passenger seat of a rental car with the windows up and doors locked when she was shot once in the upper torso on Friday morning. Her husband had pulled into a Shell Oil station to ask directions in the Liberty City area of Miami. The neighborhood is known for its crime and was the setting for fatal riots in 1980.

The shooting put South Florida tourist officials on the defensive. The area has struggled hard to rebound after ten fatal random attacks on foreign tourists tarnished the state's image as a safe vacation spot.

Florida's $31 billion tourist industry rebounded in 1995 when a record 9.4 million visitors came to the Miami area. That was a seven percent increase over 1994.

Range fires strike Oklahoma

Several fires that were thought to have been contained in Oklahoma were rekindled Saturday by high winds and dry conditions, according to the state's Office of Emergency Management.

The range fires have burned about 250,000 acres in the past 11 days and displaced more than 800 residents across the state.

Three volunteer firefighters were injured overnight in Lawson, Oklahoma, one of which was taken to a hospital in Oklahoma City.

A state spokesman said Saturday that the grass fire situation had escalated, saying it remained "very difficult with an extremely high danger.

Emergency management officials in Oklahoma said Friday that winds gusting to 40 mph were spreading the flames faster than firefighters could stop them, prompting Governor Frank Keating to request federal fire suppression grants, which he received almost immediately.

Officials met Saturday morning to decide how to allocate the additional resources. However, the state has not seen much rain since the beginning of the year, and without any rain in the forecast, the fires will continue burning.

6.8 earthquake shakes Mexico

An earthquake measuring approximately 6.8 on the Richter scale hit Mexico Saturday night, according to the US Geological Survey (USGS).

USGS spokeswoman Rebecca Phillips said the quake occurred at 9:03 p.m. and was centered 205 miles southeast of Mexico City and 100 miles southwest of Oaxaca.

An aftershock of 5.3 magnitude was felt about an hour later in Mexico City, she said. The earthquake rocked skyscrapers in the city.

The quake, centered off the coast of the southwestern Oaxaca state, caused no injuries or damage, according to local news agencies. It was also felt in the states of Guerrero, Morelos, Puebla, and Oaxaca.

This page compiled by Jenny Barron, Assistant Editor in Chief
The Case For Southern Secession

As riders on the wave of revisionist history, we here at Smooching would like to challenge Abraham Lincoln’s assertion that a house divided upon itself cannot stand. When “Honest” Abe, (new evidence uncovered by Professor Michael Burlingame suggests that Lincoln profited greatly from the sale of his expansive Illinois estate and sheep futures) launched the campaign to preserve the Union in 1860 he did so under a false set of his expansive Illinois estate and sheep futures) launched the campaign to preserve the Union in 1860 he did so under a false set of his expansive Illinois estate and sheep futures) launched the campaign to preserve the Union in 1860 he did so under a false set of his expansive Illinois estate and sheep futures) launched the campaign to preserve the Union in 1860 he did so under a false set of his expansive Illinois estate and sheep futures) launched the campaign to preserve the Union in 1860 he did so under a false set of his expansive Illinois estate and sheep futures) launched the campaign to preserve the Union in 1860 he did so under a false set of

The war on sense

Recently, an editorial appeared in the College Voice which seemed to call for the legalization of marijuana and cocaine to the United States. This editorial made several apparently reasoned points upon which an argument against the current and various United States laws against the possession, sale, and use of these substances could be founded. However, an examination of available evidence and a reasoned analysis of the arguments presented in that editorial reveal a far different picture. Medically and socially, the editorial’s arguments are far from convincing, not frequently being based on key information.

Although details about the clinical dangers and effects of marijuana and cocaine remain body debated topics among the scientific and medical communities to this day, conclusive evidence shows that basic, well-controlled research indicating negative physical effects regarding marijuana and cocaine use are not available. A mere numeric comparison of the annual amount of such debilitating effects with the combined deleterious effects caused by any other substances, for example, leads to the conclusion that marijuana and cocaine use is extremely misleading.

Therefore, the editorial’s history is quite misleading. Although knowledge of the drug’s existence was common in several lands since the time of the discovery of tobacco by the Europeans, the drug itself was not distributed throughout world markets until the 1900’s. Although medical science at first failed use

The College Voice neither condones nor condemns this week's inserted advertisement. Please feel free to use the Opinion/Editorial pages of The College Voice to voice your opinions or concerns.
cocoaine as an early anesthetic, the drug was found to have
dangerous side effects. The symptoms of acute cocaine
tendency to cause permanent mental dullness and to destroy
will power caused by marijuana use represents an me-
serious consideration when talking about the health risks of
the drug, and the clinical results are shocking and
tragic. There are countless documentations of once-brilliant
 intellectuals of documentation

MARIJUANA

Marijuana is among the oldest drugs known to humanity. Centuries ago, slaves used the drug to
produce panic and anxiety, particularly when taken
in concentrated form of the drug. The arguments that
marijuana use is very rare, the resultant loss of cognitive ability
larger doses the drug produces restlessness, tremors,
as a stimulant producing a diminution of perceptive
of the drug, and the clinical results are shocking and
tragic. There are countless documentations of once-brilliant
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A Rumble in the Bronx

BY YUNG KIM
Features Editor

Whether one liked A Rumble in the Bronx or not, the talent and athleticism of Jackie Chan is indisputable. Unfortunately, there is a lot more to a movie than the abilities of one man, no matter how great that one man may be. A Rumble in the Bronx was funded with American money, and is one of the first Jackie Chan movies distributed by an American company. The idea was that a large American budget would propel Chan into an American super star. In Hong Kong Jackie Chan is already a superstar, in America he is famous, but does not have the name recognition of Van Damme or Seagal.

If you go into the movie looking for a great plot, or Oscar-winning performances you will be disappointed. The entire plot is silly, and the twists it takes you through are ridiculous. This is not entirely a bad thing. The things that happen are so cheesy or simply so unbelievable that you have to laugh. Even the most serious of moments are mere jokes. "Buy a tub of popcorn, kiss your girl, laugh, and have a good time. That’s what the movie is about," said sophomore Vivek Dhingra. Chan is different from any other action film made in America. In general, action films have some unrealistic plots. Very rarely do even the craziest of terrorists try to rob the Federal Reserve in New York City, and even rarer are Italian fanatics that try to stop corporate America. What Chan does is make the movie so silly, and so funny, that you can be amazed at the fight scenes and just laugh at the rest.

People who see this movie need to realize that this is a style of action movie foreign to most of America. Some will leave the movie thinking that it was made poorly. When you realize that Chan did everything on purpose, including the bad plot and bad dialogue, you realize that Rumble is more or less making fun of most other action films.

The dialogue is bad, and the cheesy parts even worse. A paralyzed boy wants to walk should be a very touching moment, but in Rumble, the moment drips of Velveeta. The plot is relatively simple. Foreigner comes to America, runs into trouble while trying to adapt, then runs into craziness. The acting is just as poor as the rest of the movie.

If people want to see Chan do a suspenseful action movie, someone will have to get him a better cast, better writers, and a real director. For now, however, Chan is simply having fun. You see that in Chan’s outtake which he puts into the end of his movie. The mere presence of American money gave Chan the ability to play with expensive cars and sets. It didn’t do anything for overall improvement of the film.

Chan is very creative with his fight scenes. He uses his environment as if he is dancing with it. He climbs through shopping carts, jumps over tall fences, and even uses a ski to beat people up. Inevitably, the comparisons to Bruce Lee will be made. Man from Hong Kong comes to America, uses some type of martial arts; he will be compared to the master. Rumble, as with most other Jackie Chan movies, can only be compared to any given moment.

Chan is a comedian who knows kung-fu. As an actor he is not very polished, but in terms of his skill he is amazing. Rumble is not serious and was not meant to be. It’s Bruce Lee meets the Three Stooges. Many will leave the film disappointed with the film as a whole because it is not the typical American action movie. There are no moments of suspense, or times where you actually feel for any of the characters. Rumble is silly, and doesn’t pretend to be other wise at any given moment.

I would recommend Rumble but with a warning. If you want a suspenseful thriller with lots of martial arts rent Enter the Dragon by Bruce Lee. If you want to have a fun time and see some really cool stunts go see Rumble.

Rating: ★ ★ ★ ★ ★

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An encore performance from the Charleston String Quartet

by Mike McKinney
The College Voice

Last week the Charleston String Quartet performed for Connecticut College for the second time this year. This time, however, the quartet was joined by members of the Conn College faculty. pianist Gary Chambers and clarinetist Thomas LasDorff joined Charles Sherba, first violin; Lois Finkel, second violin; Consuela Labadorf joined Charles Sherba, viola; and Daniel Harp, cello for a performance of Aaron Copland's Sextet (1932). The program also included two Beethoven string quartets.

The first piece was Beethoven's Quartet in A Major, Op. 18, No. 5. As one of the earlier quartets, this piece is characterized by a concentration on melodic content and late-classical era form. Charles Sherba led the quartet into the music that consisted of well-organized, integrated passages. Especially beautiful was the third movement, the menueto, in which the players are asked to create lush harmonies and enchanting harmonized trills. Copland's Sextet was performed next, in keeping with the "Cultural Arts" program of the Charleston String Quartet's philosophy, this piece represents a drastic contrast to the Beethoven quartet. Copland is unanimously thought of as the quintessential "American" composer due to his keen perception of how American pastoral life is best expressed in music. The harmonic language is distinctly modern in the sextet; however, much like the Beethoven quartet, it is highly romantic. The audience was treated to a spectacular performance of this intensely rhythmic piece with intricately interplay between Champey's piano and Labadorf's clarinet; this sextet seemed perfectly matched for showcasing these two additional players to the concert. The final performance marked the return to Beethoven, but a later Beethoven; that is to say, a driven, thoroughly romantic Beethoven. The difference between the two Beethoven quartets can be found even in the tempo markings. The first quartet begins allegro, but for this quartet Beethoven needed to find a more specific way for conveying what he wanted; hence, this quartet begins Adagio ma non troppo e molto espressivo. In short, this Quartet in C Minor, Op. 131 represents the Beethoven that single-handedly drew music into the heart of the romantic era. Since the numerous movements are played without pause, this quartet demands a lot from the performers. The Charleston String Quartet, like all great performers, not only handled the challenge but gave it new life; in effect, they "recomposed" it.

Tuesday, February 27
Chinese Kun Opera Lecture-Demo.
Connecticut College, Myers Studio
5:40-6:00 pm

Wednesday, February 28
Taiwan National Institute of the Arts Lecture-Demonstration.
Connecticut College, Myers Studio
7:00 pm

Thursday, February 29
The Unanswered Question
SIT Talks at Harvard by L. Bernstein
Connecticut College, Oliva Hall
7:00 pm (CANCELLED)

February 29th through March 2nd
Getting Out
Directed by Alexandra Farkas '96
Connecticut College, Palmer Auditorium
8:00 pm

Friday, March 1
"Performance of Klezmer Music, the lively sounds of the Old Country"
Conn College, Harkness Chapel
8:30 pm

Saturday, March 2
Elisa Mattios, soprano
Sealed Rectal
Connecticut College, Dana Hall
8:00 pm

Sunday, March 3
Back to Bach: Patricia Harper, flute
Guest Artist: Samuel Baron, flute
Conn College, Harkness Chapel
3:00 pm

Please see the Colonnade for all A&E information.

A weekly column devoted to the informed appreciation of music with Michael Adelson, Professor of Music

By Michael Adelson
Professor of Music

1986, New York City. A hot spring day. I was sweating, and not just from the heat. This was the day I had to present an analysis of the first movement of Beethoven's string quartet, Opus 131 as my final project for an arranged and counterpoint class. I was nervous, and for a very good reason: beyond a certain point somewhere in the middle of this fugue, I simply did not comprehend what Beethoven had done. It became just too complex. I spoke for an hour, deserving the inevitable moment. When it arrived, I took a deep breath and heard myself say, "I really don't understand the rest of it." Silence. Would I fail? (I fully expected so, you understand.) Finally, the professor said, quietly, "Well, you should know that this is nowhere everybody gets it. Most people don't understand it beyond this point. So don't feel too bad.

This is where we simply come face to face with the depth of Beethoven's genius. (Huge sigh of relief.) He then proceeded to explain more of it, but he too had difficulty. What is it about this work? Opus 131 has attained a kind of legendary status among string quartets. It is ferociously difficult (string players talk of the difficulty of playing it), bizarrely structured (seven continuous movements instead of the usual four), overly ambitious, and very, very profound. It does not give up its secrets easily. It's on my mind now because the Charleston String Quartet played it in Dana Hall last Thursday night. (I'm not a music critic, but I'll just say that their performance was wonderful. End of review.)

Beethoven composed this work during the first months of 1826. A sketch of the fugue subject of the first movement (the one that gave me such headaches in my counterpoint class) had appeared in one of Beethoven's "conversation books," dating from the last days of 1825. (A word about the "conversation books." These were books which Beethoven used to read what people "said" to him in writing. Remember, he was deaf, and had been so for years. As a happy product, they have provided music historians with much documentary material about Beethoven's life and music.) He was 56 at the time, and he was not in the best of health. In fact, he was to die two years later, in 1827. Opus 131, therefore, was one of his last works.

But the mere fact that it is a late work doesn't tell us very much. Nor do the infuriatingly glib pronouncements about Beethoven's late style that you can find in any music history book. Something more needs to be said. The only problem is that I can't 'prove' it. First of all, I still don't fully understand this piece, and secondly, even if I did, there would be no way to explain it in the confines of this column. Entire books could be (and have been) written about this work.

So this week's column is a bit of an oddity. I've chosen to write about a week which I can't really explain in any satisfactory way. The most I can do (and believe me, I don't like it) is to try to give you some idea of the psychological world this piece inhabits, in the hope that it might make you curious enough to explore it on your own.

To begin with, the experiment in form was not accidental, nor was it whimsical. At this point in his life, Beethoven had long since passed the stage of having to prove himself as the young rebe...
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The Connecticut College Ski Club finished off their rebuilding season at Haystack-Mount Snow, their fifth and final meet for the league.

**Conn’s Ski Club ends season of rebuilding**

BY ROSS EDMOND
The College Voice

The ski club completed its competitive season last weekend in Wilmington, Vermont. Fifteen inches of fresh snow was a welcome sight to the Conn skiers who had braved extreme conditions for most of the season.

Haystack-Mount Snow hosted the fifth and final ski meet for the league, which was comprised of UMass-Amherst, Boston University, Northeastern, Holy Cross, Dartmouth, UMass-Lowell and Connecticut College. The weekly combined events involved two runs each in the slalom and giant slalom. The Thompson division used standard “break-away” gates for safety where many of the skiers eclipsed the 45 mph mark.

Despite being a relatively young squad, the ski club fared well overall. Regular top-ten finishes from veterans racers Jake Jacques and Peter Grandonico inspired peak performances from the team throughout what was considered a rebuilding season.

Jill Gemulka captained a dedicated women’s squad consisting of Kerey Rainey, Kristen Merritt, Sarah Pinelli and Beth Barrett.

For the men’s team, William Intner, Chris Redmond and Kyle Sheffield raced well in the slalom, while extreme skiers Greg Skidmore, Ken Meyer, and Brent Never excelled in the giant slalom. Although the season began on a bitter-sweet note, the ski club proved to be a rewarding and fun experience for those involved. William Intner ’96 remarked: “I’m glad Connecticut College enabled us to ski competitively...it was a great season.”

The ski club has been invited to referee the US Alpine Championships at Sugarloaf, Maine and hopes to represent Conn next season at the regional college-gate finals.

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**National Sports:**

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Camel Basketball Team Finishes Season Strong: Awaits ECAC Invitation

BY DOUG PIERCE

The Camel's men's basketball team has made great strides this season finishing with an excellent 17-7 record. There represents quite an improvement over last year's dismal 4-20 mark. The team ended the season on a high note, beating Tufts 83-79 at Tufts. Senior captain Andre Wright scored 29 points and grabbed 13 rebounds in the Camel's victory. Now the team must await to see if they are invited to the ECAC tournament.

The top four teams in New England who do not make the NCAA tournament are invited to the ECAC tournament. For the most part, the Camel season has been a positive one filled with excitement and importances. According to freshman standout Zach Smith, the team's best-played games came against challengers like Tufts, the Coast Guard Academy, Newbury, and Tufts. There are, said Smith, were the high points of the season. Smith points to one goal loss to Colby and Trinity as the only real disappointments for the team.

If the Camels make the ECAC tournament, they will look to rely on the balanced team strength they have demonstrated all season. "Every game a different player is stepping up. It could be Dre (Andre Wright), or me or someone else," said Zach Smith. With five players averaging double digits in scoring, the Camels truly have a balanced team effort.

The Camels' tough competition in the regular season could spell success for the team in the ECAC tournament. Their efforts this season have been spectacular. The young, inexperienced team that started the season with two losses has progressed into a successful, close-knit unit. The future looks bright as well, seeing as the Camels will only lose three seniors.

Of course, if the Camels make the ECAC's, strong fan support would be greatly appreciated by the team. "People better show up for playoff home games," warns Zach Smith.

I.M. Update

GNC Continues To Dominate

BY CHRIS CAPONE

GNC continued to display its high powered offense this past week, with impressive wins over The Penguins and Lyman Allen. In the first match up John Mellilo led the way with (6 goals, 2 assists), in an easy win over the Penguins 10-3. Gian Giordano also helped the scoring effort with a (2 goal, 1 assist) output. In the win over Lyman Allen, Mellilo (2 goals, 3 assists) and Vin Talamo (4 goals, 1 assist) and Jamie Gordon (3 goals, 2 assists) helped GNC to another win 18-7. Despite the loss, Lyman Allen's Scott Williams was impressive with a (5 goal) game. Lyman Allen was able to redeem itself later in the week with a win over Christopher's 5-3. Freshman sensation Toby Aherens led all scorers with (3 goals, 1 assist), while Darren Brodie led Christopher's with a one goal, one assist effort. Christopher's was again defeated by Gunny Rancho 6-4 as Glenn Fitzmerald scored three goals to lead the win. Matt Schupak played strongly for Christopher's in the losing effort scoring (2 goals) and adding (2 assists).

In Women's Basketball action, Park defeated B-Ball 42-24 and Winged Victory 29-24. In the game against B-Ball Mika Conly scored 17 points, while Rebecca Appleby and Leanne Mauriello added 8 points each. Andrea Fischer led B-Ball with 8 points. Against Winged Victory Mika Conly again led her team with 11 points, while Meghan Clay had 7 points for Winged Victory.

In other games, Linda Graham's team defeated B-Ball 43-34. Julie Fried and Nellie Lewison both contributed 13 points apiece, while Trina Abraham dished out 10 points. The ensuing week will mark the last week before intramural playoffs will begin.