Senior Week ‘97...

Vega will address senior classmates

by Cynthia Pizzuto
EDITOR IN CHIEF

When Jorge Vega found out that he had been elected Class of 1997 Senior Speaker, he was surprised. Despite competition from an unexpectedly large number of other seniors hoping to address their school, Vega was happy to find he had the support of so many of his peers.

Vega’s reasons for running for speaker include a desire to express both what Connecticut College and the class of 1997 are. “Our class has a rather unique feel to it,” said Vega. He feels that being speaker will allow him to “voice that uniqueness.”

Vega’s plans for his speech involve taking the “defining element” of his own experience at Connecticut College and applying it to a universal that relates to all his classmates. He intends to discuss the theme of communication, what students at Conn talk about and how four years at the college affect that communication. Vega explained that he will draw on conversations he has heard on campus, using mainly humorous anecdotes to illustrate the mindset of Conn students. Vega emphasizes that while his speech is not meant to be a sermon, he will include both the positive and negative sides of this topic. He said the example of people whose conversations extended to when the next keg is, a state of affairs that obviously concerned Vega.

In terms of personal experiences that Vega has had at Conn dealing with communication, Vega mentioned his involvement with the theater department and his position as director for the mainstage performance Puerto Ovejuna. According to Vega, many people approached him afterwards to talk about the messages they had taken from the play. He was interested to realize how much directing a play was like “playing telephone” with the ideas he meant to convey.

The sense of the college that Vega has developed over his years here fits the conversations he has heard, two-sided. Conn, he said, “is a really small room with a whole lot of doors.” The small setting is comfortable, and Vega said that he has been fortunate, in this intimate community, to gather a large group of students, faculty and administration who know him; on the other hand, the school is occasionally claustrophobic and there can also be too many people who “know your business.” The doors in the room of Conn, he said, are the programs available to get out and grow when the horizons of Conn feel too narrow.

Vega expects that his chance to address the entire school at Commencement will be a “cathartic” experience. While his friends are limited to having to say their farewells one by one, Vega can cover the whole community at once. His speech, said Vega, is “a powerful way to say goodbye to the school.”
Connecticut College to award honors at Commencement

by Rebecca Libert

Connecticut College will award the Col-lege Medal, as well as five honorary degrees at Commencement. The College Medal will be awarded to Ellen S. Vitetta, '54, and honorary degrees will be awarded to James P. Comer, Arthur C. Danto, Catherine Kennedy, Paul Kennedy, and Harris Wofford. Ellen S. Vitetta, Class of 1964, will be awarded the College Medal for her work as a prominent science and in cancer research. Vitetta is considered an international authority on B lymphocytes and immunotoxins in cancer therapy. She is a professor of Microbiology at the University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center, as well as Director of the Cancer Immunobiology Center, and holds the Scherle-Simmons Patagonia Distinguished Chair in Cancer Immunobiology. Vitetta graduated from Connecticut College with a degree in zoology and chemistry, and received her M.S. and Ph.D. in Immunology from New York University. She has published more than 400 professional papers and journal articles, and in 1994 she was elected to the National Academy of Science, one of the highest honors attainable for an American scientist.

James Comer, the Maurice Falk Professor of Child Psychiatry and Associate Dean of the Medical School at Yale University as well as Director of the Yale Child Study Center, will be awarded the honorary degree of Doctor of Science at Commencement. Comer's work as an reform advocate has earned him national recognition. Comer, Arthur C. Danto, artist, author and philosopher, is a member of the National Academy of Science, one of the highest honors attainable for an American scientist.

Paul Kennedy, historian and author, will be awarded the honorary degree of Doctorate of Humane Letters. Kennedy is the J. Richardson Dilworth Professor of History and Director of International Studies at Yale University, and previously served as a Professor at the University of East Anglia. He is internationally renowned for his writings and commentaries on global, political, economic and strategic issues; and is the author and editor of 13 books.

Harris Wofford, this year's Commencement speaker, will be awarded an honorary Doctorate of Laws. Wofford's work with human service organizations attempts to link service to the lives of all Americans. During the Eisenhower Administration he served as Special Assistant to the President responsible for chairing a subcommittee on gun rights. Under President Johnson he served as Associate Director of the Peace Corps. Most recently, President Clinton appointed Wofford as the Chief Executive Officer of the Corporation for National Service.

Connecticut College will award the following honors at Commencement:

- MAGNA CUM LAUDE
- LATIN HONORS
- SUMMA CUM LAUDE

Susan Emily Bonk
Susannah Kate BrunweIl
Susan Elizabeth Chine
Emily DeRidder Cobb
Timothy Luke Devin
Jessica Adrianna Erace
Julie Ann Evans
Janet Curry Fiorelli
Heather Janet Fish
Cory Sean Freedland
Carra Elizabeth Gamberdella
JoAnn Gates
Sarah Brooke Gentile
Nicole Lyn Gordon
Jenny Rebecca Greeman
Sarah Galen Reis Grogan
Antoinette L. Hulse
Christina Leigh Lester
Kathryn Susan MacLaughlin
Susann Masse Malek
Cathy Marie Ouelette
Amy Elizabeth Perkins
Kathryn Joy Rodd
Lauren Ruff
Jennifer Lynn Spinella
Eriu Elisabeth Sullivan
Cara A. Tonelli
Elizabeth Joan Theresa Torpey
Nina Johanna Tupala
Chad William Vensstrup
Leta Beth Veracka
Jonathan Scott Vogel

Rachel Lyon Avery
Melissa A. Behney
Xiaoming Chen
Megan Louise Deitchler
Karen Lynn Douglass
Sarah Elizabeth Holmes
Christine Louise Holt
Dana Alison Luedke
Suzanne Marie Mahen
Jacob Forest Marin
Kate Elizabeth Rapelye
Sarah Anne Schoelkopf
Sharon Melissa Sellorman
Radoslav Petrov Shipkov
Daniel William Vacavone

Recycle!!! Recycle!!! Recycle!!!

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Trina Adriana Abraham:

You’re a Winner!

Congratulations on your graduation and our warmest wishes for a future filled only with happiness and success.

Much love,
Mom, Jim, Zachary and Sarah

Life affords no higher pleasure than that of surmounting difficulties, passing from one step of success to another, forming new wishes and seeing them gratified.

--Samuel Johnson

Congratulations, Jeremy!
We couldn’t be prouder.
Love,
Mom, Dad and Joel

THE VOICE EXTENDS
CONGRATULATIONS
TO THE CLASS OF 1997.
GOOD LUCK!!!

Congratulations, Kristine Kunkel
“A journey of a thousand miles begins with a single step.”
-Chinese Proverb

“Never, never, never give up.”
-Winston Churchill

We wish you all the very best every step of the way. All our love,
Mom, Dad and Greg

Congratulations to Sally and all of her friends in the class of 1997!!!

Much love,
The Kirsch family
Senior Week 1997
Senior Week 1997

Photos by Jes Rogers
CONGRATULATIONS JULIE...

May you always touch the lives of others as you have touched ours.

Love,
Dad, Mom and Paul

CONGRATULATIONS CHRISTINE, SARAH, AND TEAM SHADY...

WE'LL MISS YOU.

LOVE, BECKY, BECKY, LIZ, LIZ, KATIE
THE YEAR IN SPORTS