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THE COLLEGE VOICE

CONNECTICUT COLLEGE'S INDEPENDENT STUDENT NEWSPAPER



PHOTO COURTESY OF OLGA NIKOLAEVA

20 Million Dollar Donation Announced *Largest Donation in College's History*

DANA SORKIN
CO-EDITOR IN CHIEF

It all started with Katherine Bergeron's announcement at convocation to the entire campus community. A surprise event, to be held on Tuesday, Sept. 8, promised exciting news to shape the future of Connecticut College. Each passing day saw levels of excitement and interest grow, especially the day before, when staff began setting up a large stage and an even larger television screen on the front steps of Shain Library. When the day finally arrived, the campus community gathered in anticipation to hear President Bergeron speak (and enjoy some of the free ice cream and cupcakes provided).

Prior to the event, rumors swirled. Some seemed more likely (a new academic building, perhaps, or updates to some of the pre-existing and older campus dorms), while others were more outlandish, nearing on ridiculous, such as a covered bridge connecting Blaustein and Shain Library. The news, whatever it was, promised to transform the future of the College, and when the blanket was lifted from the hidden stand on stage, the amount was hard to imagine.

Robert Hale '88 and Karen Hale's generosity towards the College resulted in the largest donation in our history: 20 million dollars. President Katherine Bergeron explained the breakdown of the donation, with half going towards scholarships in financial aid, one quarter towards CELS,

and one quarter towards athletics. President Bergeron called this the beginning of a "new chapter" in the College's history.

Though the Hales couldn't be at the announcement in person, a pre-recorded video was shown immediately after the announcement. "I feel that we're very fortunate to support Connecticut College. We feel like the school helped us, and in return we'd like to help the school," said Mr. Hale via the video.

Mr. Hale, who is also a member of the College's Board of Trustees, is the CEO of Granite Telecommunications. According to their website, Granite manages telephone services for some of the nation's largest companies, especially those that have hundreds of individual branches. Though Granite has grown into a company that earns millions of dollars in sales, Mr. Hale hasn't forgotten his roots at Connecticut College.

"Financial aid enables kids to go to Connecticut College," said Mr. Hale, discussing his family's decision to allocate half of the donation to financial aid. "We want to make sure a variety of kids who will excel in a variety of capacities get those opportunities."

"It's really important for us to be able to continue to attract the most impressive scholar-athletes to our campus, and that's what I think the Hale gift is going to allow us to do," said President Bergeron in the video. Mr. Hale, who played for the College's lacrosse team, reflected on his

time spent as a member of the athletic community, saying it "shaped [him] in many ways. Winning and losing and understanding and handling them both with grace is very important and people build momentum and enthusiasm both as students and alumni with athletics." As the video rolled through images of many of the College's varsity teams, athletes from the teams who had gathered to hear the news together cheered with excitement.

The Hales believe that the College is one of the leaders when it comes to career counseling for students but want to continue to "build on that strength." Recently, Connecticut College was ranked as one of the top 20 schools in the nation when it came to CELS, and we were the only New England liberal arts college to be included.

Ken Koopmans, the new Hale Family Director of Career and Professional Development, told *the Voice* that he is excited to see where CELS goes from here, citing not just the gift from the Hales but also the new College curriculum, which will better integrate CELS into students' academic lives at the College.

The Hales ended their video reflecting on the changes made to the College since Mr. Hale graduated in the late '80s: "the school that I graduated from in 1988 was a wonderful school. The school that we view today is better." •

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A Thesis for Our Year

With the arrival of fall, a late night in our still new-ish office and the preparation of our first issue, there is a palpable excitement amongst ourselves for the year to come. It's a combination of excitement and disbelief - disbelief that we're seniors, and that suddenly our time as senior editorial staff has arrived. There is an unfamiliar sense of authority that comes with stepping into the shoes of our friends who once held these same positions. It also comes with knowing that the task of steering the *Voice* is now our undertaking as well as responsibility. What role will the *Voice* need to play this year, as both journalists and students, in the journey of the College?

There are so many directions in which we hope to see campus dialogue grow. Perhaps first and foremost is our interest in engaging all parties on campus. *The College Voice* isn't doing its job well enough if it isn't actively seeking campus wide participation - we're not just trying to tell the students' story, we're trying to tell the stories of everyone who shares the experience we have of the College. We want the paper to encompass faculty, staff and alumni, because the goal of this paper is to show you something you haven't seen before.

One prominent goal of ours is to continue the dialogue concerning our greater community. The College and the city of New London continue to exist in a paradigm of separation that serves neither as well as it could. In so many ways ignorance of the other is a callous and regressive way to engage. This year it will be a mission of ours not to propagate the culture of distance that has grown between the two over the years. Furthermore, inasmuch as it is in our power, it will be a mission of ours to improve the our city by giving it the attention it rightly deserves.

And simultaneously it would seem that as liberal arts students we have to perform the balancing act of thinking globally. Daily we consume stories from all over the world, those of refugees, those of conflict and of marginalization, and equally we are retelling them. At the paper, we're in the position of constantly considering our language. Words have impact, and the decision to use them is one we all bear. Let's hear each other's stories with the empathy accorded to everyone. This year's *Voice* will not be blind to that, nor will it prioritize any opinion or perspective over another.

So thank you for being a part of the *Voice*, and we hope you enjoy our - and your - first issue.

- Dana, Hallie and Luca

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The College Voice meets each week at
9 p.m. on Monday in Cro 224.

Join us.

THE COLLEGE VOICE

"The views and opinions expressed in *The College Voice* are strictly those of student authors, and not of Connecticut College. All content and editorial decisions remain in the hands of the students; neither the College's administration nor its faculty exercise control over the content."

LUCA POWELL

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PHOTOS COURTESY OF THE STUDENTS

MOROCCO, FRANCE, NAMIBIA AND MORE

SAADYA CHEVAN
CONTRIBUTOR

A GLIMPSE AT THE 2015 CISLA INTERNSHIPS

Ben Ballard '16, a double major in international relations and history, spent his summer in Tangier, Morocco at Librairie Les Insolites. While there, he did research for his CISLA senior integrative project, researching social movements in Morocco. He interviewed people, attended protests and kept track of the political activity in the city of Tangier and the rest of Morocco.

"It would be ridiculous for me, as a white American guy going to Morocco for three months, to think that I could come back and start dictating what Moroccan activists should be doing. A fresh pair of eyes is all I can offer," Ballard said. He reflected, "Tangier was incredible. It was the type of place where when you said hello to someone, you had to say hello in four different languages to determine what they spoke. I lived with five Moroccan graduate students and one illegal immigrant from Cameroon. Traveling around Morocco was pretty incredible; each city is its own microcosm."

One of Ballard's most eye-opening experiences came when he was detained while traveling in the countryside. Local military police intimidated and threatened his friend, a woman, for traveling with an American man. They were able to get out of the situation with the help of a sympathetic state official.

Ballard noted that this experience gave him insight into how people can abuse the Moroccan legal system for their own gains. "This is [part of] my area of study," said Ballard. This CISLA scholar hopes to find opportunities to continue studying in Morocco and its social movements after he graduates from Conn.

Another CISLA scholar, Joey Blair '16, a double major in French and Molecular Biology, spent his summer at the Marie Curie Institute, one of France's premiere teaching facilities for molecular biology research. While in Paris, Blair stayed with a host family, arranged by CISLA. Over the summer, he worked mainly with Ph.D. students, an experience which he said, "was really intense, but I learned so much....Once I started working at the Curie Institute, everything great in my summer came through work because it's a great institution, even though the people I was working with were older than me."

Early in his internship, he was invited to the institute's retreat in southern France. He said that it was "fun, everyone was talking with everyone, it was really a good time." He also had the opportunity to ride in a plane with one of his coworker's friends. Blair said, "We went up in this plane and flew all around just south of Paris and [flew over some of] the little castles they have, the châteaux." The internship made him realize that he's "not one for research." In the future, he hopes to go to medical school.

International Relations and French double major, Julia Enos '16, is a student from Swe-

den. She described her internship at the United Nations Office of the High Commissioner for Refugees in Geneva, Switzerland, as being an "amazing experience, so interesting and eye-opening." She enjoyed being able to see firsthand how the United Nations system operates.

For her internship, Enos conducted research, drafted statements and sat in on two different conferences sponsored by the Office. As part of sitting in on the conferences, she had to manage the list of NGOs that were signed up to speak. She noted that it was a "very chaotic" task because the list often changed whenever NGO representatives missed their turn. She would often have to interact with the people who missed their chance to speak. "Because I was an intern, people would blame me for their own mistakes. People fly from across the world just to make their statement, and I felt really bad [that they missed their turn]. It was really hard for me. [Once] this NGO ran up and grabbed the microphone to make their statement after the president [passed their name] in the list," said Enos.

Enos is currently applying for a Fulbright English Teaching Assistant position in France, as well as positions in various organizations in Europe. In the future, she hopes to go to graduate school in France, the United Kingdom or the United States.

Vlad Chlouba '16, a double major in International Relations and economics with a minor in German studies, is a student from the Czech Republic. This past summer, he worked at the United Nations Information Center, located in Windhoek, Namibia. During the Spring 2014 semester, Chlouba studied in Namibia. Some of Chlouba's tasks included planning events and giving information and news about the United Nations to the media.

He also went to local schools to teach kids about the United Nations. "The schools have kind of limited resources, so they like it when the United Nations helps them out with teaching different things," said Chlouba. He found the experience of visiting Namibian schools to be an eye-opening experience. Chlouba said that, "In the poor areas, you come to the school, and the school doesn't necessarily have buildings. You see huge tents, for example."

Chlouba said that doing his internship through CISLA enabled him to be more appealing to the organizations he applied to, and he thinks that his experience was a success overall. "You're trying to see what the job's about and ideally at the end of the internship know this is something you want to do." After graduation, he hopes to get a Ph.D. in political science with a focus on political economy. •



Connecticut
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Arboretum

September 2015 PROGRAMS

For more information or to register, visit our website arboretum.conncoll.edu email arbor@conncoll.edu or call 860-439-5020

Bolleswood Ravine Walk

Tuesday, September 22, 5 to 6:30 p.m.
Free members, \$10 general public

Decoding Botanical Names Tour

Saturday, September 26, 2 to 3:30 p.m.
Free

Full Moon Walk

Sunday, September 27, 7:30 to 8:30 p.m.
Free

Painting the Landscape

Wednesday, September 30, 4:30-6:30 p.m.
\$15 members, \$20 general public

All programs free for Conn Coll students, please register.



FORUM ADDRESSES CURRENT MIGRANT CRISIS

DANA GALLAGHER
HEAD COPY EDITOR

In an effort to stem the influx of migrants entering Europe, the European Union introduced policy on Sept. 14 aimed at resettling 40,000 migrants resting in Greece and Italy. The plan, to be adopted by member states on a voluntary basis, reveals an incipient supranational organization unable to address issues of sovereign rights. In May, a more ambitious proposal had called for the establishment of mandatory quotas that would distribute 160,000 migrants across the union, a small fraction of the total entering the EU. Migrants, an umbrella term that includes refugees and asylum seekers, travel across the Mediterranean in droves despite its description by the UN as “the world’s most dangerous border crossing.” Haphazard attempts to ease the difficulties of this movement, either through securing borders or establishing quotas, raises concerns over the lack of human rights for migrants.

Although the European Union experienced a surge in border crossings following the 2011 Arab Spring uprisings, continuing violence within Syria adds a new dimension to the crisis. Syrians fleeing their country’s four-year civil war account for 34% of migrants destined for Europe. By contrast, Afghans, the second largest migrant group, make up 12% of incoming expatriates.

Europe faces a mixed migration influx, in which economic migrants and refugees travel in tandem. While refugees fleeing homegrown conflict are guaranteed international protections under the 1951 Refugee

Convention, economic migrants are granted no such rights; as asylum seekers without approved claims, their lives remain in a state of uncertainty. The tempestuous nature of reviewing asylum applications reveals itself as another flashpoint. A 2010 UN Refugee Agency (UNHCR) study found that, depending on the country, applicants were not always offered interviews. In one country, UNHCR found 171 identically worded interview reports; only the name of the applicant and the country of origin differed.

The Dublin Regulation, which delegates responsibility to the country of entry for application review, in theory establishes a common European asylum policy. But, because the burden of responsibility disproportionately falls on states with exposed borders, enforcement remains inconsistent. As countries permit migrants to pass through secondary destinations in the north or west, Germany and Sweden emerge as coveted destinations.

Khalid Koser, senior fellow at the Brookings Institute, believes that the surge in migrants reinforces nativist fears. “We used to think of migration as a human securities issue: protecting people and providing assistance,” he says. “Now we clearly perceive—or misperceive—migration as a national security issue. And the risk of securitizing migration is that you risk legitimizing extraordinary responses.”

Italy, a popular point of arrival, has reneged on migration as a human securities issue. Under the Bossi-Fini immigration law, migrants must secure work contracts before entering the country; aiding non-contracted immigrants is punishable by

fine or jail.

In Hungary, a series of emergency laws adopted in September allow police forces to operate detention centers. As Budapest attempts to seal the border through the construction of a 109-mile razor wire fence, it flouts the open borders agreement called for in the Schengen Agreement. The presence of 50 police officers, wearing riot gear and equipped with gas canisters, near the Hungary-Serbia border on Sept. 14 underscores each nation’s response as a means of self-preservation.

A sustained rise in migrants has further galvanized rightist, neo-Nazi parties across Europe. In Denmark, the new right-wing government has paid for advertisements in the Lebanese press warning potential immigrants against travel. And in Sweden, where politicians remain receptive to asylum seekers and refugees, Sweden Democrats maintain a degree of popular support; running on an anti-immigration platform, the Democrats hold a 25% favorability rating.

Tristian Borer, Professor of government and international relations at Connecticut College, believes that news outlets fuel nativist reactions through their incendiary coverage of the crisis. Speaking at a forum on migration patterns, Professor Borer notes that *The New York Times* employs water imagery to portray movements across borders. Suggesting that a “flood of migrants” has beset Europe, the *Times* dehumanizes the toils of travel. “These are people fleeing failed states, and the word ‘flood’ implies that they are acting like animals; they will stamp over European countries unless we let them in. Is it any

surprise that people don’t want to accept refugees?”

Contrary to the more generous immigration policies adopted in Germany, Professor Borer notes the tempered response to the crisis from the United States and Gulf Nations. Kuwait, Bahrain and the United Arab Emirates have yet to present resettlement options to Syrian refugees; the United States has allowed entry for fewer than 2,000 Syrian refugees in the past four years. To compensate for closed borders, these countries earmark millions of dollars toward refugee aid. The \$574 million in donations from the United States account for 31% of UN aid, and the United Arab Emirates follows closely behind with \$530 million given in relief.

A shortfall in cash is “really the most immediate reason the refugee regime broke down,” Professor Borer says. Because donations are issued voluntarily, the UN has few avenues to pursue its goals. According to a July press release, the World Food Programme, a branch of the UN, remains 81% underfunded in its regional refugee program. As a result, vulnerable Syrian refugees in Lebanon and Jordan face deep cuts in food assistance.

Professor Borer questions whether states geographically guarded against refugee crossings may ethically “buy themselves out of responsibility.” Because the level of donations received by the UN directly influences geopolitical actors, she understands that “the whole system has to work together. When one part of the system falls apart, countries build walls. Nations don’t want to feel they’re in this alone, and no one is here to help.” •

SENIOR REFLECTS ON RECEIVING PRESTIGIOUS GOLDWATER SCHOLARSHIP

ALLISON KYF
CONTRIBUTOR

Last year, senior Leah Fleming, a behavioral neuroscience major, was the recipient of The Goldwater Scholarship. According to the Connecticut College website, The Goldwater Scholarship, authorized by the United States Congress in 1986 in honor of Senator Barry M. Goldwater, encourages outstanding students to pursue careers in science, mathematics or engineering. Scholars are selected on the basis of academic merit to receive a one-year scholarship of up to \$7,500.

Fleming applied for the Goldwater Scholarship in the fall of her junior year. The application required her to write a personal statement about what she had done. “They were looking for people pursuing serious PhD programs, someone who is interested in the world around them and have a project in mind,” said Fleming.

Fleming’s career advisor Julia Brown recommended the scholarship to her and helped her with the application. Professor of chemistry, Marc Zimmer also helped Fleming. “He helped me so much. It was an amazing experience,” said Fleming. She also found that the application process was good practice for future applications, including graduate school.

When Fleming was notified about receiving the scholarship in March, she had forgotten about the application. She figured that since she was coming from a liberal arts school instead of a large research institution, her chances of receiving the scholarship would be slim. In late March, however, Fleming

received an e-mail from Dr. Zimmer that read: “You are a superstar!” Shortly thereafter, she was notified that she had received the scholarship.

In addition to receiving the Goldwater Scholarship, last summer, Fleming also did a CELs funded internship at psychiatric hospital, McLean Hospital in Belmont, Massachusetts. She had heard about the opportunity through a student who studied there as well. Because she received the Goldwater Scholarship, Fleming was taken seriously throughout the application process. She sent a cover letter to the head of the lab and shortly thereafter, they set up an interview. She hoped to continue her research on learning and memory, specifically focusing on schizophrenia.

Because Conn was funding her internship, the hospital could be sure that Fleming would be a good student and work hard. Her internship ran from early June through the middle of August.

Fleming was a little surprised about receiving the Goldwater Scholarship and enjoying such a high-level internship. “Coming into Conn, I would have never guessed that I would be applying for these kind of scholarships [and internships],” she reflected.

She enjoys the freedom that Conn gives her in her research. She also finds the professors extremely supportive. “I’ve been doing a lot of work on the mechanism of memory formation,” she said. Fleming is also interested in studying schizophrenia, depression and Alzheimer’s disease. She would love to help people with those diseases. “I’ve always been a change the world kind of person,” she said. •

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Hampton Creek: *The Future of Food?*

SAM WILCOX
NEWS EDITOR

How do you define mayonnaise? This may seem like a strange question, but if you were to research it right now, you'd be met with a barrage of recent posts about Just Mayo, a vegan – therefore eggless – mayonnaise that is causing a considerable amount of controversy.

Josh Tetrick is the founder and CEO of Hampton Creek, a food-startup company based out of San Francisco that promotes economically sustainable vegan food products. Just Mayo, his eggless mayo, has stirred up controversy; according to Food and Drug Administration (FDA) guidelines, anything labeled as mayonnaise must contain egg. In a recent interview with *Fortune Magazine*, Tetrick stated that Hampton Creek and the FDA would meet to find common ground on the issue. Prior to coming under fire from the FDA, Unilever, owner of the Hellmann's brand of mayonnaise, filed a lawsuit against Hampton Creek citing unfair competition and false advertising. The lawsuit was eventually dropped and Unilever released a statement commending Hampton Creek for its commitment to sustainability.

This commitment to sustainability and healthy food production has earned Hampton Creek a spot on *Entrepreneur Magazine's* "100 Most Brilliant Companies" list. It is backed by Bill Gates, the wealthiest man in the world, and Li Ka-shing, the wealthiest man in Asia. Tetrick conceptualized Hampton Creek after spending more than seven years in sub-Saharan Africa, which inspired him to create a company that would make a large-scale difference in the world. He started with the egg industry for several reasons, citing environmental protection and animal welfare. On top of this, Hampton Creek's method for creating its eggless product is 48% more cost-effective than traditional eggs.

Hampton Creek has enjoyed a considerable increase in popularity over its short three

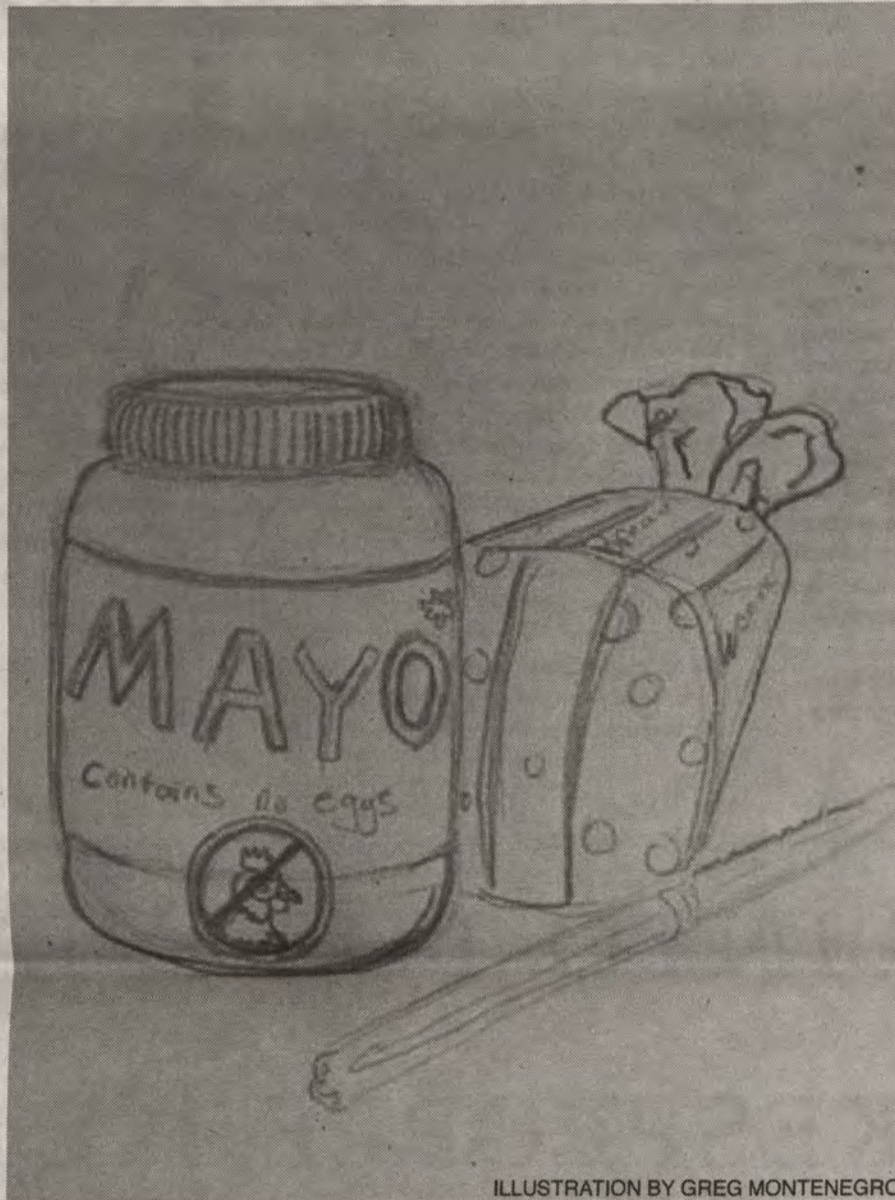


ILLUSTRATION BY GREG MONTENEGRO

years in existence. Whole Foods, Walmart and Target carry the brand. Taking it one step further, 7-11 solely carries Just Mayo in its stores. Made of plant-based proteins, specifically derived from Canadian yellow pea, Just Mayo comes in original, garlic, chipotle and sriracha flavors. Its price is comparable to regular mayonnaise brands, and it is nutritionally superior. Regular mayo has 10mg of cholesterol and fewer than 2 grams of saturated fat, whereas Just Mayo contains no cholesterol and no saturated fat. It is also non-genetically modified, gluten-free, kosher, and free of artificial flavors and colors. In a taste test conducted by the food blog, *Serious Eats*, Just Mayo was the favorite among several other vegan mayonnaises as well as traditional mayonnaise.

You may be wondering why mayonnaise, vegan or not, matters enough to be covered in a college newspaper. Given Connecticut College's commitment to sustainability, as well as a growing awareness of veganism both on campus and globally, it could be efficacious to switch to Just Mayo in our dining halls. It could happen: Harvard and Wesleyan have already made the switch to the eggless product. Maybe Conn will be next.

If you're interested in working to bring Just Mayo and other Hampton Creek products to our campus, please contact Selena Sobanski '16, president of Connecticut College Animal Rights and Equality Society (Conn C.A.R.E.S.), at ssobank@conncoll.edu.

Senior Anna Westbrook to Present Original Musical

MOLLIE REID
NEWS EDITOR

For the past three years, Anna Westbrook '16, a music composition major, has been composing and writing *Isabel and the Runaway Train*, a musical set to premiere later this week. In an interview with *The College Voice*, Westbrook spoke about the inspiration behind the musical, working with the student-run theater group Wig and Candle and more.

The College Voice: First, tell me a little bit about yourself.

Anna Westbrook: I'm twenty-five years old, and I am from New London, Connecticut. I graduated high school in 2008, took a semester off, went to state school for two years, took two and half years off and then transferred to Conn. I will be finishing my degree requirements this semester and will be walking in May.

TCV: Without revealing too much, what is the plot of *Isabel and the Runaway Train*?

AW: *Isabel* is about a magical train, a place where nobody knows their name. Passengers only have a role. There is a conductor and there is a porter. There are choir members ... and there is a horrible pun in which the conductor of the train is also the conductor of the choir. Isabel is stuck on this train, and it's a runaway train, not in the sense that it's running away from anything, but that it actually hits people who run away. Isabel is running away from home and is hit by this

train. She is the only person there who knows her name and has to learn how to stop the train.

TCV: It sounds really interesting. I appreciate a good pun. So, where did the idea for the plot stem from?

AW: Well, the train is actually an analogy for post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD). As someone who has post-traumatic stress disorder, I decided I wanted to write about what it is like to have PTSD. The first thing I could think of was, it's kind of like getting hit by a train. Emotionally, you're a little unable to function for a little bit, you have something that triggers you and you feel very off. It can feel like you're living in a different world. Isabel became a way for me to express what it feels like. The train is like an "Oz world" with a traumatized Dorothy. The themes that come up include, suicide, sexual assault, child abuse and poor communication within families. The musical is, above all, about healing. I would say that is the main function for the musical. If anyone who has PTSD is watching it, who has been sexually abused, or [had] any sort of abuse in their childhood, the goal of the musical is that they know it is possible to heal from those things. It is a process. For me, my response to being burden[ed] with this psychological problem was: let's make something out of it. Let's do something creative.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 12

NEW ACADEMIC YEAR, NEW LEADERSHIP

SAM GIRIONI
CONTRIBUTOR

As one of my professors put it, “the honeymoon is over.” Gone are the days of frantic orientation activities and cheery reunions with old friends. Now, almost two weeks into the academic year, we find ourselves back in full swing. With the start of the academic year also comes the beginning of a new year for the Student Government Association (SGA). Recently, I sat down with president Sal Bigay '16 and Vice-President Juliette Verengia '16, to discuss some of SGA's plans for the coming year.

Walking into the Office of the Student Government Association, I immediately noticed how bare it is. I was told that for the first time in ten years the office has been thoroughly cleaned. Old posters and dated notes have all been stripped from the walls. The walls are bare, the desks and tables spotless; a clean slate. Like the office, SGA itself is scheduled to receive some overdue TLC.

“This year, we're really, really trying to switch it up,” said Verengia. Bigay agreed, adding, “Our whole theme

for this year is rethinking how things are done, why they're being thought that way, and just asking those institutional questions.”

This push to question the status quo is evident in SGA's first set of resolutions, which was released last week. One of the measures aims to clarify the dress code for SGA meetings. While no specific dress code has previously been enforced, it has become an unwritten rule of sorts that business casual be worn to all SGA meetings. The measure states that members of SGA and those in attendance are welcome to wear whatever they feel is comfortable and appropriate. In the past, according to Juliette, there have been a number of students who have felt either unwelcome at SGA meetings or hesitant to approach SGA members as a result of the clothes they were wearing.

I asked Verengia if she was concerned that members of SGA might not be taken seriously if they passed resolutions in pajamas. Verengia replied, “I think what [SGA] will accomplish and already has accomplished will speak louder than what we wear to the meetings.” Both Bigay and Verengia hope this resolution will pass.

When I asked what SGA was looking to do going forward, Bigay told me that SGA had an event planned for October 2, designed to help students take a step back. In light of last semester's incidents, SGA is holding a gala to celebrate Conn's commitment to shared governance and the signing of the covenant. The event is open to all and is designed to bring students, faculty, staff and administrators closer together.

Additionally, Verengia told me that she plans on working with students to talk about what it means to be a campus organization. The Student Activities Council (SAC), is funded by SGA.

All in all, the next few weeks should be very busy for SGA. Students are encouraged to get involved by attending SGA meetings, voting on resolutions and attending SGA-sponsored events, such as the upcoming gala. •

RIDING INTO THE NEW YEAR, SPOKESPEOPLE RETURN

ISABELLE SMITH
CONTRIBUTOR

Are you ever jealous of people zipping around campus on a bike? Biking is the most common form of transportation worldwide, as well as the most efficient. Conn students have access to these miraculous fuel-free inventions through CC Cruisers and Spokespeople, Conn's student-run bike collective.

Spokespeople has two main functions. It maintains the upkeep of the rental bikes students can find in front of Shain Library. There are between three and ten “CC Cruisers” resting in the rack right by the front steps of Shain on any given day. If one goes to Shain's circulation desk, they can check out a bike for the remainder of the day, just like a book. These bikes can be used to ride into New London for the afternoon, or for some daily exercise. One may rent out a bike as many times as he or she wishes. If the rider returns the bike late more than three times, there are some restrictions placed on their account.

Students can also rent a bike for longer than a day. Semester rentals are on a need-based system, so if somebody works in New London or takes classes at the Coast

Guard and doesn't own a car, they would be offered first dibs. After those individuals have been given the opportunity to rent a bike, the system then becomes a first-come first-serve basis. In order to ensure a one hundred percent return rate, students who rent for a semester must place a twenty-dollar deposit. If you are interested in renting a bike, contact Connor Trapp.

Connor Trapp '18, the Spokespeople coordinator and mechanic, is from Wilmette, Illinois. Trapp initially became interested in bikes when restoring his uncle's Schwinn Stingray – the iconic old-fashioned bike from the sixties. By taking the bicycle apart, cleaning all the pieces and putting it back together, Trapp gained an understanding of the mechanics of bicycles. He then applied his knowledge in a bike shop, where he has worked for the past two summers. Last spring, he took on the managerial position for Spokespeople.

During the 2014-2015 academic year, the club simmered out of existence. The senior in possession of the CC Cruisers passed on the bikes to Trapp before graduating. Trapp aspires to bring Spokespeople back to its former glory. Referring to years past, “[Spokespeople] was more

involved” in campus life, Trapp said. “I saw it and wanted to restore it!” Now, with great enthusiasm, Trapp is working towards success.

Currently, Trapp is interested in finding people at Conn who are interesting in joining Spokespeople. The unique club is in need of more mechanics, or people who are interested in learning how to fix bikes. Trapp has spoken to the head of the Cycling Club to develop a symbiotic relationship between the two organizations. He hopes to teach some of the cyclists how to repair their own bikes, so that they can eventually help Spokespeople repair school bikes.

Spokespeople is located in the “KB tunnel.” Spokespeople was moved to the KB tunnel because its previous location was taken by administration for other uses. The tunnel was offered as compensation. A graphitized chalkboard hangs on the door to Spokespeople's home base: “Coming soon: open hours on Fridays.”

If you have interesting in checking out the workshop or joining the club, email Connor Trapp at ctrapp@conncoll.edu. •

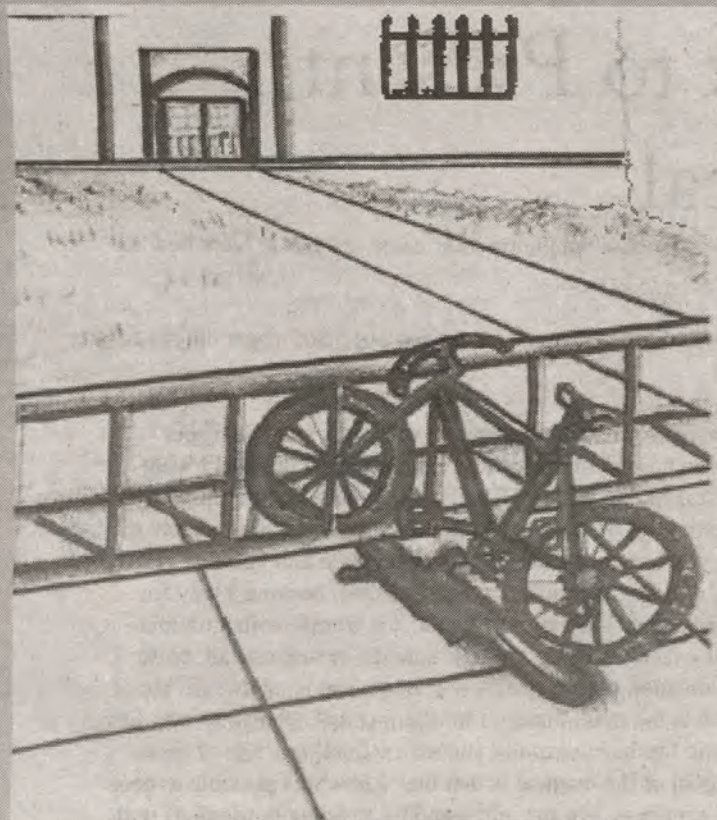


ILLUSTRATION BY ANNA GROPK

GOP: Candidates in Historical Context

DANA GALLAGHER
HEAD COPY EDITOR

On Sept. 16, eleven Republican presidential hopefuls gathered in the Ronald Reagan Library to face off in the second GOP debate of the season. The clash, hosted by CNN, aimed to provide Americans with a more contextualized understanding of policy through candidate interaction. Unlike the Fox debate earlier this season, which relied on moderators to structure discussion, CNN's news team appeared stripped of its ability to direct the conversation. As topics meandered from Carly Fiorina's appearance to Mike Huckabee's disdain for judicial activism, the party seemed too extreme to claim Ronald Reagan as its gatekeeper.

The candidates portrayed themselves as unstinting disciples of Reagan. Former Florida Governor Jeb Bush vaunted the "Reagan Ruling" of Title X, while Governor Scott Walker vented his ire at politicians that have strayed from Reagan's vision of a "big and bold" America. According to Senator Marco Rubio, the expansion of "free enterprise" remains an implicit force in fostering an America of opportunity. The candidates offered little more than sound bites to back their claims.

In his opening statements, establishment candidate Bush touted his economic achievements as Florida's governor. "I'm a committed, conservative reformer that cut

taxes, that balanced the budget, that took on special interests in Florida, and we won" stated Bush.

While Bush may portray his tenure as one of high achievement, his mark on Florida is more questionable. During his tenure, household income growth far outpaced the national average, and unemployment hovered just shy of four percent. Such success, however, may have been due more to timing than to the merits of policy: By 2009, two months after Bush's term ended, Florida's unemployment rate rose to 9.1 percent. The housing bubble, which coincided with Bush's time in office, cost the state more than half a million jobs. In the end, his policies failed to promote lasting growth.

GOP contenders diverge from Reagan on issues of taxation and immigration. Bush, positioning himself as a conservative in the Reagan tradition, fails to acknowledge that Reagan ushered in the largest peacetime tax increases. Through signing the Immigration Reform and Control Act, Reagan granted amnesty to 2.7 million undocumented workers. In a prescient speech at the 1984 presidential debate, Reagan affirmed his belief in "the idea of amnesty for those who have put down roots and lived here, even though sometime back they may have entered illegally."

Reagan's initiative provides a contrast to the immigration talk of candidate Ben

Carson, who asserts that his proposal "is not amnesty for a number of reasons." He advocates a guest worker program, in which migrants may serve in the agricultural sphere because that is "the place where Americans don't seem to want to work." Such a plan would cement the lower socioeconomic status of immigrants. Nearly a century ago, President Woodrow Wilson initiated his Bracero program, which established a temporary entry to workers from the Western hemisphere. This program, dismantled in 1922, drew criticism for circumventing labor rights.

Conspicuously absent from the debate was any talk of education policy or criminal justice reform. Although the Black Lives Matter movement has beset Democratic candidates, most notably Martin O'Malley and Bernie Sanders, Republicans focused more attention on attacking Trump than talking about the issues. My roommate and I were tempted to turn off the debates when a moderator asked Ms. Fiorina to respond to implications that she is ugly.

Bush's hints at understanding the common man are especially striking given his record on school reform. In 2002, for-profit companies operated almost three-quarters of charter schools in Florida. To further ease their monopoly on the charter school system, Bush signed into law a bill allowing charter operators which had been denied approval by local school boards to

appeal to the state.

On the few social issues the candidates chose to address, many spoke in bromides. When opining on the Supreme Court's decision to legalize same-sex marriage, Governor Huckabee stated that the Justices had overstepped constitutional boundaries: "[i]f the court can just make a decision and we just all surrender to it, we have what Jefferson said was judicial tyranny."

One wonders at the state of our nation today if Presidents could dismantle *Brown v. Board of Education* or *Roe v. Wade* on the grounds that the rulings upset consensus. Each candidate may emphasize that power should shift away from "career politicians" and toward the people, but Jefferson envisioned a far more restrained republic than our current system allows. The Supreme Court, with its lifetime appointees, was designed to insulate the country from the burdens of excessive democracy.

In his closing statement, Governor Chris Christie sang praises of America's potential. He declared that "our presidency - our presidency - will be about enforcing the law, level the playing field for everybody..." If the debate is any indicator of how Americans perceive their institutions of government, opportunity for mobility will remain elusive. •

Speculations on Trump's Success

LILI CAIRL
CONTRIBUTOR

His comb-over is a source of national amusement! He is unapologetically blunt and bluntly unapologetic. He has given few speeches without mentioning his net worth. And yet, this unlikely presidential candidate has managed to far outpace his rivals in the crowded Republican field and currently holds a strong lead in the polls.

The phenomenon known as Donald J. Trump has generated a great deal of debate and heightened interest in an election still over a year away.

On Tuesday, Sept. 15, a group of Connecticut College students and faculty gathered in Coffee Grounds to discuss their mutual mystification over Trump. Chair of the Sociology Department Ron Flores, Professor and Director of the American Studies department Catherine Stock, and Professor and Chair of Government and International Relations Department Tristan Borer all helped facilitate the discussion. Questions concerning the legitimacy of the polling process, the true definitions of patriotism and political authenticity and the potential ramifications for Trump's outlandish claims were all raised.

The conversation started with a basic question posed by Professor Stock: Why do so many people support Trump? One suggested answer was that Trump's inflammatory and widely reported remarks about immigration have tapped into a national frustration characterized by xenophobic patriotism and disillusionment with the political process. Trump has accused Mexican immigrants of being "drug dealers," "criminals" and "rapists." While these remarks are false, cruel and insensitive, the sad irony is that many Americans apparently - albeit silently - harbor such beliefs, and therefore see in Trump someone who "tells it like it is." Professor Borer raised the interesting point that the "American community seems to be conflating blunt-

ness/bullying/rudeness with honesty."

Of course, this raises the question: Who are these people who herald Trump as a paragon of honesty, as someone who can speak for them and as a true patriot? One student noted that Trump's comments about the challenging and highly complex issues America faces today are devoid of substance, demonstrate no political expertise and reveal a disturbing megalomania. Trump claims that only he can negotiate with Putin; only he can build a wall across the Mexican-American border. In regard to ISIS, Trump stated: "bomb the hell out of their oil fields...and Exxon would come in and re-build them so fast your head would spin." The student wondered aloud how people who claim to support Trump can be so blind to the fact that Trump's positions lack merit.

Another compelling point was then raised; we have seen this yearning for a seemingly strong, tough-talking leader to give hope to a vulnerable, distressed population previously in history. One student posited that Trump's popularity "is also the result of circumstances dominated by fear." The student went on to note that this past year, political events have often been characterized by a fairly liberal agenda - the passage of Obamacare and the legalization of same-sex marriage, for example. The student added that, in a similar fashion, Hitler "was the result of the anger after World War I and the Versailles Treaty, and he blamed the country's conditions on the Jews." While acknowledging that the comparison was somewhat far-fetched, the student added that Trump's is in "a very similar situation [to Hitler's] with the scapegoating and blaming the situation on immigrants."

While this idea is alarming, one crucial difference to note is the reality between the popularity demonstrated for history's totalitarian leaders and the popularity demonstrated for Trump. Trump's supposed

dominance does not necessarily reflect the true feelings of the American public. For example, there is a serious question regarding the polls' credibility this early in the process. While it is correct that Trump is the only Republican candidate who has broken 30% in the polls, one student shared an interesting insight into what exactly is behind these polls. The student notes the media's strong incentive "to produce opinion polls, because they are getting all their business from Trump...They sample a small portion of people, they provide us with the numbers, and then we eat it up."

The same student added that this manipulative sampling method served as indicator that "this is not going to be a sustainable campaign."

Another student contributed to this argument by recognizing that Trump's popularity could likely be attributed to the ubiquity and general notoriety of his name. One student, who spent the previous night watching numerous interviews of Trump supporters at rallies, said: "it's alarming how many people say they support Trump because they've seen his name on a building in New York."

Given the likelihood that Trump's high poll numbers in fact overstate the extent of public support for his candidacy, it is similarly alarming that we, as a country, would give someone like Trump a platform by tuning into the nonstop media coverage. As Professor Borer noted: "every time he really offends a group of people, often women, his popularity has gone up." When "white power" is being shouted at Trump's rallies and the Daily Stormer, a Neo-Nazi white nationalist publication publicly endorses Trump, it forces us to ask: When does this stop becoming funny?

One student said she noticed that there is great frustration among Trump supporters concerning the American "obsession" with being politically correct: "they feel they cannot voice their opinions without being

attacked for not being politically correct." But as the student rightly noted, these supporters should consider the questions: Why can't we say these things; why are they considered offensive; why is this something that is not socially acceptable to do?

Trump allows Americans to circumvent difficult questions as to why they hold their beliefs by saying things that are so offensive and racist, Trump validates his supporters' own prejudices while empowering them. As one student noted: "the American identity...is continuously changing. America was founded on the genocide of Native Americans...and there are always more people coming and changing what it means to be American." As a result of this constant change, a certain population tries to reclaim the white-centric conservative idea of the American identity, and Trump taps into that mindset.

In all of this madness, however, lies a potential silver-lining. Trump's campaign has revealed disturbing truths about the American psyche: hostility towards those perceived as different, an overly narrow conception of what it means to be an American and the harsh reality of what it takes to succeed in this country. Because of Trump, much has been spoken and written in recent months about prejudice, racism and the urgent need for constructive changes in our nation's immigration policy - problems that a wall and guns simply won't fix. Because of Trump, more people are watching the political debates and becoming educated about the issues.

It was the consensus among many at Tuesday's event that Trump will eventually "flame out" as a candidate. But if his candidacy contributes, even inadvertently, to creating a more educated and engaged electorate - ultimately the best guarantor of our nation's democracy - perhaps Trump's candidacy may turn out to be worthwhile. •

A Time of Challenges for the European Union

VLADIMIR CHLOUBA
CONTRIBUTOR

Many a prominent pundit have correctly observed that the current migration crisis poses a greater challenge to united Europe than the already long list of political and economic questions, among which excessive indebtedness of Greece and continuing unrest in Ukraine represent those that have been carefully covered by world media. The eyes of the world's readership have been directed to the often chaotic situation at the Hungarian border or political fights in Brussels, depending on where the latest developments, or lack thereof (in the case of European Union leaders' summit), took place. Only seldom did a careful analysis of wherein the challenge to the European Union lies find its way to the front page.

Many of the world's media, in this country represented by the *New York Times*, have focused on what has been termed as Europe's "compassion deficit." It has been correctly pointed out that particularly in the eastern part of the continent, European leaders were far too prepared to describe migrants as a challenge rather than an opportunity. Hungarian Prime Minister Viktor Orban remarked that the thousands of migrants waiting at the gates of Europe are in fact a German problem, since Germany is where most of them want to go.

Sadly, Eastern Europe's populists are not at odds with their populations. A recent poll in the Czech Republic showed that as many as 44 percent of the respondents refuse to spend even one additional koruna (Czech Republic's currency) to assist the migrants. Central and Eastern European countries have comparatively less experience with immigrants and their reluctance to accept more immigrants has a lot to do with their fear of the unknown. Despite ever improving standards of living, many Central and Eastern Europeans perceive themselves as inhabitants of the still poorer member countries of the Union.

This however, is a matter of significantly skewed perspective when we consider the conditions from which many migrants come. Migration numbers have risen sharply because of the war in Syria which has displaced over nine million people. It is estimated that well above three million Syrians have left the country since the war started in March 2011.

In the face of such catastrophe, it is evident that the world—and Europe with it—ought to do more to address the plight of those who are seeking asylum. The United States should not have tolerated Bashar al-Assad's use of chemical weapons, nor should it have with-

drawn from Iraq at a moment when the country's security forces were still too fragile to oppose terrorist groups. Compassion should also be demonstrated on the part of countries like Saudi Arabia, Qatar and Kuwait, which have taken exactly zero refugees. It was recently reported that Saudi Arabia has over 100,000 empty, air-conditioned tents that could house up to three million people. These tents are used for only a few days a year to house pilgrims on their way to Mecca.

Yet the challenge that the European Union faces is at least two-fold. Lack of compassion in the East is coupled with lack of policy solutions in the West. The challenge to the European Union is not exhausted by the need to realize that solidarity and compassion are at the heart of the project's values. What remains is the task to propose sustainable policy solutions that are in accordance with EU

Lack of compassion in the East is coupled with lack of policy solutions in the West

treaties. It is this latter challenge that has been omitted in the process of assigning blame to those who attempt to control the EU's external border and question the functionality of the quota system for sharing migrants.

The International Organization for Migration reports that, as of Sep. 18, a total of 473,887 migrants arrived in Europe by sea. The country-by-country statistics evidence that Syrian, Afghani and Iraqi refugees make up a decisive portion of migrants to Europe but they also show that migration from other regions is common.

Eurostat reports that in the second quarter of 2015, 21 percent of all asylum seekers in Europe came from Syria, 13 percent from Afghanistan, 8 percent from Albania, 5 percent from Kosovo and 4 percent from Pakistan. In 2014, 41.6 percent of those who applied for asylum in Germany were granted that status. In Sweden, 76.6 percent of all applicants succeeded whereas in France, only 21.6 percent of all applicants were granted asylum. These numbers seem to suggest that the migrants' motives, similar to their origins, vary. In 2011, Gallup reported that as many as 178

million adults would like to move to a country in the European Union.

It is, therefore, important that European Union takes control of its borders. Only then will it be able to provide the necessary assistance to those who seek asylum and turn back those who come from countries that are widely considered as safe, such as Albania.

The current chaos is not sustainable, for a country that does not control its borders is not a country and the same applies to a union. In fact, the abolition of internal border controls in Europe was to be complemented by increased control at the external borders. In this sense, the decision of the Hungarians to build a fence may not be an ideal one, yet it certainly is one that attempts to uphold European treaties. It must be added that every fence must have a door through which migrants can legally enter.

Those who criticize the Hungarians for their attempts to control the border are often advocates of the proposed quota system, which would assign to each European Union country a certain number of migrants based on the country's population, economic performance, etc. It is this policy suggestion that has driven a wedge between Italy, Germany and France on the one side and Czech Republic, Poland, Slovakia and Hungary on the other. Yet, it is unclear how such a quota system could achieve its ambitious goals. Let me remind the

reader that borders that divide two European Union members are not controlled, much like borders between US states. Even if we ignore that the quota system would require countries to give up sovereignty over their immigration policies (a solid argument can be made that such a step is necessary once internal borders are abolished), the obvious problem is that unless internal borders are reinstated, migrants will go wherever in the European Union they wish to stay.

What are the solutions to this conundrum? First, the international community has to do more to bring the conflicts that force so many out of their homes to an end. Second, the European Union members have to allocate more resources to those countries that are located at the external borders. Third, the members need to agree on a system that allocates European resources to countries where refugees choose to go. Lastly, we must be careful not to equate lack of agreement on certain policy proposals with lack of compassion. To paraphrase Karl Popper, if we hesitate to be outspoken in our criticism of the Union that we wish to preserve, we may help to destroy it all. •

Understanding Pathways and Increasing Global Consciousness

MAIA HIBBETT
OPINIONS EDITOR

Recently, the Conn student body has been flooded with emails and flyers advertising information sessions and discussion panels about the reformed gen-ed curriculum, known as “strands” or “pathways.”

While first years will not recall this, we’ve witnessed the seemingly interchangeable use of the strand/pathway terms for the past year with little clarification as to which term is actually correct. Now, however, the gen-ed replacements have officially been termed “pathways,” or at least we think so, for the time being.

Perhaps because the pathway program will not be implemented until the Class of 2020’s arrival, or perhaps because few students actually went to the workshops and presentations advertised (this I’m assuming, because I didn’t go), general student understanding of the pathway program is pretty limited. Most students’ knowledge does not exceed the facts that no, the program will not start until the next crop of first-years turns up, and yes, this does mean that they still have to take a history class.

I wanted to make up my own mind about the pathway program without having to sit through a long-winded workshop in which the word “interdisciplinary” was used a triple-digit number of times, so I attended a presentation regarding a single pathway: a sustainability and social justice concentration with an option to travel to an autonomous university in Chiapas, a state in southern Mexico.

Rather than explain the entire pathway program in broad terms, the presentation informed students and faculty about the concept by way of a specific example.

According to Chad Jones of the Botany

department and the Office of Sustainability, the pathway “began as a collaboration between CCSRE and the Office of Sustainability.” Jones explained that pathways focus on a central “theme or guiding question,” and this one would stress the intersectionality between sustainability and social justice.

Ideally, some students in the pathway would study abroad in Chiapas by working collaboratively with UniTierra, an autonomous university for 12-18 year olds in San Cristóbal de las Casas, Chiapas. Leo Garofalo of the History department noted: “UniTierra is not designed to educate our students at the College,” but rather focuses on maintaining autonomy and educating their own students.

I can imagine where Conn students would run into issues with this notion, given that the College currently requires students to do little work not focused on enriching their personal intellect. That being said, if executed properly, this program could help change that.

Josh Stoffel, Chair of Staff Council and member of the Office of Sustainability, defined UniTierra as “a technical school and a liberal arts school coming together in one place,” but added that Conn students would find it to be a vastly different world, explaining that “they only have power in eight-hour blocks twice a day” and that the computers operate on Windows ’98.

As with any endeavor to immerse privileged college students in a comparatively underdeveloped community, with the Chiapas program, we run the risk of sending students to Mexico under the impression that they are there to perform charity work. Especially because Conn students at UniTierra will not take classes, but rather will learn about sustainability and social

justice through real-world observation and experience, there is an elevated risk of U.S.-centric mindset of superiority.

In an effort to prevent this problematic attitude, a group of faculty and staff, including Jones, Garofalo and Stoffel, traveled to Chiapas over the summer. Their mission was both to experience the place where eventually hope to send students and to form relationships with existing local organizations.

Garofalo noted that the faculty “met with human rights conflict resolution groups” and a San Cristóbal-based museum “to think about projects students could do there to help with some of the cataloging.”

Deb Brunetti, a CELS adviser who also went on the faculty trip, commented that although students would hopefully make a positive contribution, “You can’t approach these things as if you are helping anyone. You have to be walking with them.”

CISLA director and History professor Marc Forster warned against the danger of “English-speaking tourism” in the Chiapas endeavor and pointed out that “we need to make it clear... that this can’t be done in a half-baked way.” Stoffel added that ideally, “if we are going to do this sort of work, [participants] must speak the language to a fluent level.” While that would be wonderful, I find it hard to imagine that through conventional language education, Conn would be able to bring all participants in the program up to that level.

Although proficiency in Spanish would prove essential for students who choose to embark on the Chiapas trip, Jones noted that studying in Chiapas would be an optional complement to, rather than a required component of, the sustainability and social justice pathway.

Of course, this creates the opportunity

for faculty to put the Chiapas project—a side-focus—on the backburner; to the opposite effect, faculty might prioritize students interested in traveling to Chiapas and neglect students who wish to focus on other projects.

“It’s not meant to be the sustainability and social justice pathway that deals with Chiapas,” Jones commented. The pathways, he explained, would require four courses: one “thematic introduction” and three others, each of which interrogate distinct “modes of inquiry.”

This would allow students to create more flexible schedules as they pursue both their pathways and their majors. Ideally, the pathways would tie required “modes of inquiry” together using common interests.

“Key in our pathway is the idea of global and local engagement,” noted Jones, clarifying that even math and science courses taken as part of the pathway would have this emphasis. While not a requirement of the pathway itself, the Chiapas trip would incorporate this focus.

If executed properly, the combination of the sustainability and social justice pathway with the trip to Chiapas could form a cohesive relationship and strengthen students’ global awareness, particularly because as Garofalo pointed out, “most of the world is more like southern Mexico than it is like Connecticut College.” That being said, there does exist potential for wasted time and funding in the case of a lack of investment on either the student or the instructor’s end. •

Examining Conn’s Environmental Stewardship

SHATRUNJAY MALL
STAFF WRITER

What does it mean to be “green?” Does it end with environ-

mental stewardship, or does it have socio-political and economical implications? Keeping that in mind, how “green” or sustainable is Connecticut College?

I considered these questions, among others, while writing this piece, and in engaging in conversation with Josh Stoffel, Co-Director of Sustainability at the College.

During my talk with Stoffel, I learned about some of the successes and challenges that he perceives in promoting the ideas of “sustainability” on our campus. For Stoffel, sustainability is about “developing long lasting solutions” to the common issues facing us all, involving the three E’s defined as: “the environment, economics and equity.” Efforts towards sustainability need to be foregrounded in economics. Especially for an administration interested in the bottom line, sustainability needs to be cost effective.

As Stoffel sees it, sustainability is not an isolated idea purely concerning environmental issues and divorced from broader social issues of inclusion. While readily admitting that college is a “bubble,” Stoffel also sees the College as being a “microcosm of the world at large,” affected by the very issues that exist in the broader world.

Sustainability can be deeply embedded in the everyday lives of college students involving broader issues of race, class, and gender. For this very reason, advancing sustainability on campus provides

many opportunities to experiment with potential solutions to our common issues relating to the environment, inclusivity and social justice, and even cost effectiveness.

To elucidate this idea, Stoffel gave me the example of students’ daily participation in the college’s “food culture,” which provides unique opportunities for involving the local community, including local farmers and small businesses and the College’s own Sprout Garden. In this regard, The Office of Sustainability works with the New London County Food Policy Council which also includes non-profits, for-profit small businesses and health districts in the area.

In the spring of last year, following student protests about equity and inclusion, the faculty adopted a motion to pilot “Full Participation” at the College. The projects of the Office of Sustainability are led by student Sustainability Fellows, and Stoffel sees this as full participation in action. He believes that although student-led sustainability projects take more time and effort because of their relative inexperience, it is worthwhile all the same, because what is important is that the students learn and grow from their work in sustainability at the College. Another project of which Stoffel is very proud is the “Sustainable Buildings Project,” in which the Office of Sustainability has been working with facilities to ensure that renovations and repairs are done in a sustainable manner.

Professor Chad Jones of the Botany department feels that some colleges view sustainability as a

marketing tool used for attracting students, and often lose sight of substance in the process. In his view, what is far more important for Connecticut College as an educational institution is to broadly educate its students in the ideas of sustainability, and more generally inculcate a strong foundation for the ideas of sustainability in the College, extending to the local community.

One idea that is quickly gaining traction is fossil fuel divestments. Students and other stakeholders in a variety of colleges and universities across the United States are demanding that their institutions divest from corporations and organizations that profit from the emission of fossil fuels.

With regard to this issue of fossil fuel divestments especially, Connecticut College appears to live up to its reputation for general political apathy. Students at Wesleyan University in Middletown, for instance, have organized sit-ins to protest for divestments. They have been met with some success, as the Wesleyan Ethics Committee and Board of Trustees will vote on the matter. Their college president even gave a commitment with regard to investments in coal. Unfortunately, so far, no such large scale student organized attempt at demanding fossil fuel divestment or even further exploration of the issue appears to exist at Connecticut College. Given the apparent lack of student interest here, the administration appears to not view the matter seriously.

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The Hale Donation

An Opportunity for Reflection

SARAH ROSE GRUSZECKI
OPINIONS EDITOR

When President Bergeron announced Robert '88 and Karen Hale's 20 million dollar gift to the College, I felt immensely grateful for their generosity. Having spent my entire first year of college working at the Alumni Office, I have always had a sincere appreciation for the crucial role that alumni play in supporting the efforts of Connecticut College. I am optimistic that our athletics program will thrive from building renovations and increased support for training and recruitment, and the five million dollars designated to Career Services will continue to strengthen Connecticut College's distinguished CELS programs. As a student, I am especially appreciative for the ten million targeted towards financial aid and am hopeful this gift will play a key role in providing more students with the opportunity to access Connecticut College and all that our institution has to offer.

There is no denying that the news delivered by President Bergeron and Board of Trustees chair Pamela D. Zilly was, in fact, incredibly exciting. The Hales' contribution will surely have an invaluable impact on multiple aspects of our college. However, amidst the celebration of such a significant contribution, we should not lose sight of the financial disparities that continue to impact our community. As President Bergeron begins to envision the objectives and goals for the future of our college, it is essential that we continue to advocate for the crucial programs on our campus that could similarly benefit from further resources and financial support.

Specifically, in my conversations with both peers and faculty, many individuals expressed the need for further investment in our campus centers. The Women's Center, the LGBTQ Center, and Unity House all play critical roles in providing resources, safe spaces and educational opportunities for students on our campus. While our college expresses pride in these centers, as displayed through their online presence on the Connecticut College website, their capacity to provide for students on campus are often severely in-

hibited by a lack of financial resources. Amongst the three, Unity House is the only center that currently holds a full time faculty position; the other two, run largely by the work of student coordinators, are solely supported by a part-time faculty advisor.

Located in the basement of Smith and Burdick, the Women's Center faces specific challenges in the context of accessibility. While the location is physically accessible without stairs when entered from one door, it often struggles to maintain visibility on campus partially as a result of its isolated location and limited budget. As described by student coordinator Lizzy Kenah '18, "We welcome all people in the center and want to expand that base. With more resources and funding and more institutional support we would be able to do so much more for the campus community."

Kenah, along with her fellow student coordinators expressed specific interest in the possibility of bringing more speakers to the center for events and discussions. However, funding these types of program within the center is often impossible without collaboration between other student organizations. As our campus continues to engage in critical conversations regarding equity and inclusion, the need to support the programming and efforts of these community centers is imperative.

The Office of Volunteers for Community Service (OVCS) also plays an essential role in connecting students with educational opportunities through wider community engagement. According to Kim Sanchez, Associate Director of OVCS, approximately 400-500 students serve as community partners through the Office over the course of the academic year. Throughout this period, the Office works diligently to meet this high level of demand and connect students with meaningful opportunities related to their personal and academic interests. In order to accomplish these goals, the Office relies heavily on private grants, many of which have been obtained through the efforts of Tracee Reiser, Associate Dean of Community Learning. In past years, these grants have been implemented to hire office staff and cover the cost of the vans used to transport students to and from their community placements.

In a recent community meeting, OVCS joined nearly 80 New London residents, Connecticut College students and faculty members to discuss community goals and ways to enhance engagement with the New London community. Of all the ideas presented in the meeting, Sanchez seemed especially excited about the prospect of bringing the highly successful Children's Program, a preschool on campus affiliated with the human development department, into New London. "The current superintendent is a huge advocate for universal Pre-K and we would love to find a way to bring some of our ideas from the Children's Program into our community," she described.

Other ideas included creating a Connecticut College space within downtown New London, collaborating with Mitchell College and the Coast Guard to provide wi-fi for all residents of the town and holding weekly luncheon discussions with community members. While these opportunities all hold enormous potential, similar to the work of the centers, they require significant financial investment. As a student who has been profoundly impacted by the opportunities OVCS has provided, I am immensely grateful for all that the Office accomplishes with such tight budget restrictions. However, as the College integrates community learning into the new core curriculum, it is my sincerest hope that OVCS will be provided with the resources necessary to continue thriving within our direct and wider New London community.

Through shedding light on these crucial campus organizations, I do not wish to undermine the generosity of the Hales or the placement of their donation. As I have previously stated, I truly believe their gift will have a lasting and meaningful impact on the College. However, in light of such a major contribution, we now have a key opportunity to invest in other parts of campus that continue to profoundly impact student life. As students, we must advocate for these programs to ensure they are provided with the resources to support all members of our community. •

Gauging "Green:" Evaluating Conn's Commitment to Sustainability

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 9

In a conversation I had last year with Paul Maroni, Vice President for Finance at the College, I asked about the possibility of fossil fuel divestments at Conn, which Maroni saw as unviable because of the specific way Connecticut College manages its investments. According to Maroni, because Connecticut College's endowment is relatively small, the College's investments are not under direct control and are instead managed by external fund managers. Hence, Maroni saw the exertion of pressure on these fund managers as difficult and futile.

Maroni also remarked that some of the announcements of fossil fuel divestments from other colleges could be deceiving. This may very well be true, and the College's finances may be more opaque and secretive than the United States Federal Reserve's announcements - as a professor of mine once joked. But what Maroni emphasized even then was that the College's obligations toward environmental sustainability were pursued within the context of the institution through its Office of Sustainability.

Connecticut College has successfully made it onto Princeton

Review's "Guide to Green Colleges" for five consecutive years. That does not, however, make Connecticut College a national leader in sustainability despite some of the merits of its intersectional approaches to sustainability. The issues of environmental sustainability are too urgent for institutions to rest on their laurels.

Given our current lifestyles, the achievement of sustainability is a long way ahead. A larger proportion of the student body needs to awaken from its apathy and take a bigger and more active role in pushing through environmentally sustainable efforts. Eco-friendliness should not be confined to a few clubs, departments or buildings on campus. Rather, it should involve us all. Consciousness about the importance of sustainability is the first step toward direct action. •

Tall Tales of Jasper County

Professor Releases New Jazz Album to Critical Acclaim

MITCH PARO
ARTS EDITOR

Dale Wilson is Associate Professor of Music and Co-Chair of the music department, but his musical labors are not limited to this campus. He also holds a place as composer, orchestrator and arranger in the professional world of jazz. His most recent album, *Tall Tales of Jasper County: The Double Doubles Suite*, was released this May by Inarhyme Records - an indie label based in Philadelphia, run and owned by the artist Keith Javors - in conjunction with the NDR (German Public Radio) Bigband of Hamburg, Germany. The album contains a suite of six pieces for jazz orchestra composed and arranged by Wilson. In the short time since its release, the album has earned acclaim: it was chosen as an "Editor's Pick" by *DownBeat Magazine* in the month of its release, it was featured by JazzUSA.com and was much lauded in reviews on both sides of the Atlantic.

When I met with Professor Wilson, we talked about the sort of creative work that goes into such a project. For just over 50 minutes of music, it took Wilson nine months to compose, arrange and polish these tunes.

The germ of this project was Wilson's friendship with the Bigband's lead alto saxophone player Fiete Felsch. The lead alto player of a jazz band is in a comparable position to the first violinist of a classical orchestra: not only a lead musician, but someone who, in Wilson's words, has influence on the "aesthetic direction" of the group.

This sort of influence manifests itself, for instance, in Felsch's initiative to bring Wilson in to compose for the group - a solo initiative on Felsch's part, and a big nod to Wilson, who admits that he is not a "household name." He had written smaller pieces

for the band, so they knew he could swing. Felsch had earlier offered Wilson the chance to write a large-scale piece for the band, but Wilson was prevented from pursuing this "dream opportunity" by that foe of all creative work, quotidian business. But the offer remained, and Wilson took the opportunity of a semester of sabbatical leave to begin composing a big band suite that would feature Felsch as a soloist.

In a demonstration of generous artistry, Felsch envisioned that the best way to showcase his own talents was to share the solo spot with tenor saxophonist Lutz Büchner. Felsch and Büchner were unique musicians for this project because of their expertise on secondary instruments: clarinet for Büchner and piccolo, flute and alto flute for Felsch. While many instrumentalists have proficiency on multiple instruments - they can "double" - few have achieved the technical facility and fluency of improvisation to solo on their doubles like they can on their main instruments. Both of these musicians had this talent. Wilson's music was designed to showcase the enviable skills of Felsch and Büchner. He wrote pieces that would allow both musicians to show their stuff on both their main instruments and their doubles: hence "The Double Doubles Suite". The results of this inventive method, says *DownBeat*, are "stunning."

Once the music was written, the NDR band flew Wilson into Germany for a week in January 2013 to record the music at their studios in Hamburg. Here he put on his fourth musical cap, that of conductor. In this role, his method was to give the ensemble's 18 virtuoso artists full artistic license with his music. The album was released in May, and its first public perfor-

mance was at the release party in New York City. Its next performance - its European debut - will take place in April of 2016 in Hamburg, when Wilson will return to Germany to wear his conductor's cap for a live audience. (He will, I expect, be brushing up on his German until then.)

In our talk, Professor Wilson told me that this was the largest creative project he had taken on to date. It has been a high point in his career as an artist. He has been professionally involved in music since his early twenties, when he worked as an arranger for pop groups in Hong Kong. An arranger is the person who realizes the general framework of a composition in the context of a certain band or performance; this person uses artistic vision to give playable shape to an abstract composition.

When he came back to the States and enrolled in the jazz program at the University of North Texas, the oldest academic jazz program in the country, he began to write for large jazz ensembles. His previous success carried over to this genre, and as a student he was awarded the Gil Evans prize, an international competition for jazz composition, as well as an award from the National Endowment for the Arts, also for jazz composition. From this early

success he has had regular commissions in the commercial arena, though these have gradually been replaced by projects for friends, like *Jasper County*. From his long and various experience, he identifies his compositional home as the big band. In this genre he has found a niche experimenting with orchestral colors, using his mastery of the jazz idiom to achieve singular effects in this genre.

When I asked him how his commercial work as a composer (arranger, orchestrator, director, conductor) affected his teaching, he said that the opportunity to work outside of school as a musician reminds him just how much

music means to him. This work, he says, allows him to keep in view that, when it comes to music, "the passion is what it's all about. When teaching, it's hard to stay in touch with it when it remains in the abstract, as just a set of concepts or practices, when really it's an emotional thing, for both myself and the students. This perspective lets me keep in view what John Blacking [Editor's note: a renowned scholar in the field of ethnomusicology, in which field Wilson wears still another cap, and an academic gown] meant when he said that music is ultimately irreducible, that it's an unknowable truth, because that's how deep it is. If I were not a musician myself, I think I would be more tempted, as a scholar and teacher, to fall back on facile analyses, on stereotypes and truisms about music. When I'm working on a creative project that I know will come out as a finished product on the other end, that will be performed somewhere, it keeps me naïve and innocent and young in the respect that I'm just out there learning, and trying to get better."

This resonant moment of intellectual improvisation showcased Wilson's own talents as a doubler as he riffed on his commercial and teaching careers, shaping them with exactly the deep sincerity of feeling he describes into a coalescent counterpoint.

Check out his album: *Tall Tales of Jasper County: the Double Doubles Suite*, out now.

The album is available as a CD and on iTunes and Amazon.

"When I'm working on a creative project that I know will come out as a finished product on the other end, that will be performed somewhere, it keeps me naïve and innocent and young in the respect that I'm just out there learning, and trying to get better."

GRAPPLING WITH SURVIVAL IN CUMMINGS

ANDREW SHAW
ARTS EDITOR

A tree stump greets the visitors to *Interdependence*, the new exhibition in Cummings. An electric light lit by a coiled orange extension chord rests on it. On one side stands a mannequin wearing an inflated turquoise hood. The sound of the machine inflating the hood accompanies visitors' exploration of the rest of the gallery, reinforcing a question that this exhibition raises: how do we grapple with the connections and contradictions that arise when humans, nature, society, and objects come together? How do we even survive these connections and contributions?

The work on display, curated by Mary Tinti, is by two artists, Kate Gilbert '96 and Abigail Anne Newbold, who had never shown together before. And so the conversation this past Wednesday among the three women turned to a discussion of the role of the curator. As a curator, "you're a cheerleader, you're a problem-solver," Gilbert said. By "asking a lot of questions," Tinti continued, she offered an outside perspective, calling attention to similarities and differences between works.

The show was originally going to be what Newbold termed "correspondence art work," in which the artists would actually share and trade materials. But that didn't pan out, and instead "the collaboration [became] ... the sharing of ideas," Tinti said. Engaging with larger ideas is exactly the work that this art does so provocatively.

The exhibition came to life as an interdependent process, but interdependence is also apparent in the art itself. Using

humor and discussing desire, Gilbert's work "explores the relational hierarchies of objects and people ... to question objects of comfort, the retail systems they operate in, our consumptive behaviors and our collective fears." Newbold has strikingly similar concerns. "Utilizing a domestic-based visual language" in her art and speaking in terms of "resources," she, too, explores economies and people's relationships to them. Newbold probes "the relationship of economy to freedom and [speculates] how individuals transcend predominant economic expectations through the perpetuation of making skills." As Tinti put it, the show is about "fashion and style, but also survival."

"Survival," Newbold said, is "the ability to survive on your own until your community can rescue you." But human connection doesn't occur well when survival is prioritized above all else. "Humanity is actually about everyone else around you," Newbold said. Both she and Gilbert are anxious about losing that connection. Mentioning Sherry Turkel's book *Along Together*, Gilbert said, "My anxiety comes from the fact that I think our communities are breaking down really badly."

Though this is perhaps less immediately obvious than the tree stump occupying the center of the gallery, another notable part of the exhibition is that nothing is labeled with a title and artist. The artists decided to "just let the work do its own talking," Newbold said. In the context of this particular exhibition, it does more specific work than that. It does ask, as Newbold put it, "What is this saying by putting one thing here next to this other thing?" But such questions about juxtaposition are always asked of

exhibitions. Without labels in this exhibition, each work is ever so slightly less demarcated from the others. Piling the artists' work together in this way emphasizes that this is a cohesive, shared exhibition (although, with Gilbert's focus on fashion and Newbold's more on the collaging of objects, it's still fairly easy to tell who created what).

But doing away with standard labels (the works are identified by a number, which corresponds to a title and artist on a separate list) also removes one layer of fabrication in this exhibition that is so concerned with the interplay between the natural and the manmade. Among other objects, piece two includes a pair of antlers. Antlers are found in nature. But once they are mounted on a piece of wood as part of taxidermy, they are no longer natural. Or, rather, they are no longer completely natural. They now are some combination of natural and unnatural. In piece 13, a tapestry of a garden, the viewer is on one of a fence. On the other side is a plant-covered greenery. There is again an interplay, between society (the fence) and nature, with the viewer at once protected and constrained by the fence. Piece 16 is a tent, an artificial creation the very purpose of which is to impinge upon nature. And yet, camping is often considered to be a natural activity, a way to get back to nature. A fluorescent light hiding attached to the tent disabuses viewers of this notion, however.

Through these interplays and juxtapositions, *Interdependence* challenges many such notions. Take a look. The exhibition is up through Oct. 16, 2015. •

Full-length Muscial Set for Read-through

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 3

TCV: You wrote the plot, the music and the lyrics to *Isabel*. What was that process like? Frustrating at all?

AW: It can be very frustrating. Writing required a lot of patience. I was writing it for a year before coming to Conn, and I tell people that the musical is not for school, school is for the musical. I wanted to write a musical and I had a lot of the melodies and could play the song on three chords on the guitar. But, I wanted to make a real, Broadway-style musical. And to do that, I needed to be in a school that could teach me how. I took theater, playwriting and music classes. I'm working on an orchestrated version now. [Editor's note: For the version opening this week, there will be a small band.] Writing is about re-writing, and the script is now so different than when I started writing it three years ago. The plot has changed and I am so thankful to the professors at Conn who have helped me to reevaluate the story and make the music.

TCV: What was writing the music like?

AW: Most of the music came to me suddenly. The music wasn't originally written for the musical. Sometimes I would sit at the piano and play a melody... and then sometimes get the whole song. I would then realize that this could be used for my musical if I just changed some pronouns around or rewrite the lyrics a little bit. So, as for lyrics coming first or music coming first, usually it starts with the lyrics. But, sometimes it's all at the same time.

TCV: That's awesome. You're working with Wig and Candle, Conn's oldest student-run theater group, on *Isabel*. What has that process been like?

AW: It's amazing to me to see how many students have gotten involved. For so long, the process was me. I had been largely doing the musical myself for three years.

This time last week, it was Rob Jones '17, the director, and now there's like twenty people involved! It's very humbling for me to believe that this is my baby and project, and I understand why I would want to work on it, but all of these other people want to be involved in it. And these are busy people, so I love that they are taking the time. It's been an amazing learning process, since we're all new to this. I am experienced with taking my ideas and putting them onto paper, but taking the paper and putting it on the stage is a very different thing.

TCV: The support network is nice, then.

AW: It's really great to have everyone. Since I'm working with other students, I get to see people showing me what they already know, and I get to see what they're learning from the process of taking on different roles.

TCV: You, the cast and the crew are also working under a very tight deadline.

AW: We've had three weeks from the start of school to production. It's a staged reading, it's not a whole production, so no one has to memorize anything, but it has been crazy. But part of the reason why it is so crazy is that we were going to do a staged reading without the music, but my theater advisors told me I should try to put in some of the songs, so I converted the orchestra parts to the piano.

TCV: If you've worked on the music, you should definitely have it included.

AW: I'm so glad we did. It needed it.

TCV: Do you see your professional life heading into Broadway or music at large? What's next?

AW: Ultimately, I would like *Isabel* to be on Broadway. I don't consider that's what's next, though.

TCV: Right, in the long, long term future.

AW: Yeah, we're talking in like twenty-five years. But for the immediate future, my uncle is a music producer, so he has a lot of experience writing commercials. I did an internship with him last summer, and he thinks I have the ability to actually make money with music. So, music at large is the goal. I would like to try to perform. Maybe a singer-songwriter? I would also be happy being behind the scenes.

TCV: Congratulations on everything. It sounds like an amazing piece.

Westbrook warns audiences that some of the musical's contents may trigger emotions or past experiences, given that it tackles issues like PTSD and sexual abuse. For any needed support during or after the show, Westbrook has teamed up with the Green Dot Initiative and Darcie Folsom, Director of Sexual Violence Prevention & Advocacy. Westbrook says that there will be a representative to speak to, and a follow-up discussion for people to share their responses to the show's underlying themes. •

Back to Back: Women's Soccer Looks To Improve on Last Year's Historic Season

JOHN CUNNINGHAM
STAFF WRITER

As a new semester begins here at Connecticut College, students across campus have been adjusting to college life. Long nights filled with homework seem unfamiliar to most, and waking up on time for class

can seem like quite a struggle. Summer was carefree, and the last thing students want to do is pick up where they left off last spring in the library. The Connecticut College Women's Soccer team, however, hopes to pick things up as if it never left. That's because the Camels are reigning NESCAC champions.

Last fall the Women's Soccer team defeated Williams College in penalty kicks in what was undoubtedly the most exhilarating soccer match this school has ever seen. As impressive as it is to win a NESCAC championship, it is even more impressive that the Women's Soccer team is the first team to ever win a NESCAC championship at this school. Not only did the team win its league, but it also reached the second round of the NCAA championships before falling to Montclair State in double overtime. It was not only the program's best season ever, but one of the best seasons for any team in Connecticut College history.

The Camels have already played two games this season against two of the best teams in the country. The team suffered a tough 0-1 loss in its season opener in Bristol, RI against Roger Williams, a team that made it to the third round of NCAA's last year. The Camel's next game was against in-conference rival Middlebury College. The team toughed out a long bus ride and fought hard in what ended up being a 1-1 tie. Nicole Medina '18 found the back of the net early, but the Camels allowed a goal only a few minutes later. Goalkeeper Bryanna Montalvo '17 shined against Middlebury: she made three saves in the game's second overtime, for a total of six saves in the match.

Cathy Higgins '17, Annie Higgins '17 and Nicole Dellapasqua '17 sat down to talk about their team and their expectations for the upcoming season. "Coming off of a NES-

CAC championship, a lot of people, including ourselves, have high expectations for our season. With that said, our goals are focused towards being the best team we can possibly be and to grow as a team and as a program," said Nicole. It seems that Coach Norm Riker and the rest of the team plan on taking the season one week at a time. Cathy Higgins noted that the team "needs to be humble yet confident, and focus our attention on what we can control in the immediate future."

When talking about some of the challenges that the team will face this year, the women talked about how staying healthy is incredibly important for the team, especially because their schedule is so much tougher than last year's. "We have a lot of double header week-ends this year, such as Tufts on a Saturday and Colby the following Sunday, or Amherst and then Williams, so preparing mentally and physically will be one of our biggest challenges," stated Dellapasqua. Many of the players on the team are dealing with injuries such as concussions and muscle pulls. Higgins also talked about the youths on their team, and how it is important for them to understand what it means to be a NESCAC champion. "We have a target on our back after winning NESCACs, so therefore we have to go into every game prepared to battle. With 17 of our 26 players being sophomores or first-years, it is important that they understand this."

When asked if the women had anything to say to the students at Conn, they talked about their strong team chemistry and their returning goalie, Montalvo, who is becoming quite a star in the league. "The most fun part about playing on the team is being around everyone everyday. While we are all extremely competitive on the field, we're all very close off the field and have fun doing anything with one another, which makes the season extremely fun," said Higgins.

Make sure that you cheer on the Connecticut College Camels as they look to once again raise the NESCAC championship trophy at the end of the fall, and don't forget Coach Riker's famous words last season, either: "When one Camel wins, we all win." •

Fantasy Football Forecast Stats from Week One

JOSH MOSS
STAFF WRITER

After week one in the fantasy football season, everyone tends to look back at the draft and see players they could have had and players they should not have even drafted. Looking at the average first round, the picks did not live up to the hype. You want your number one or two overall selection to be getting around 15 to 20 points per game in standard ESPN scoring. However, one week does not determine a season.

Week 1 performers and top picks that will carry your team for the season

Tom Brady – 27 PTS (288 YDS, 4 TD)

He may have cheated, who knows, but you can never go wrong with him as our QB. With LeGarrette Blount coming back from suspension and Gronk being Gronk, Brady is in for another MVP season.

Julio Jones – 26 PTS (9 REC, 141 YDS, 2 TD)

In five seasons, Jones is averaging 15.6 yards per catch. To put that in perspective, Jerry Rice averaged 14.6. That should be enough to tell you that he's pretty good.

Aaron Rodgers – 22 PTS (189 YDS, 3 TD)

Rodgers may have lost Jordy Nelson, his star receiver, but look for players like James Jones and Davante Adams to fill Nelson's place.

Matt Forte – 22 PTS (24 ATT, 141 YDS, 1 TD)

Forte is one of the most consistent fantasy backs. Last season he averaged 14.4 points per game.

Rob Gronkowski – 27 PTS (5 REC, 94 YDS, 3 TD)

He cannot be stopped. Trade for him. Try and get him on your team.

Antonio Brown – 19 PTS (9 REC, 133 YDS, 1 TD)

Brown was the top WR last season and will be on top again.

Jeremy Hill – 18 PTS (19 ATT, 63 YDS, 2 TD)

This is just his second season, and he is already off to a great start.

Eddie Lacy – 15 PTS (19 ATT, 85 YDS, 1 TD)

Lacy may take an even larger role with the loss of Jordy Nelson.

Jamaal Charles – 15 PTS (16 ATT for 57 YDS, 5 REC for 46 YDS, 1 TD)

Charles will be getting lots of touches every week, and we may see the same Charles from his impressive 2013 season.

Don't Panic:

Adrian Peterson – 5 PTS
Marshawn Lynch – 12 PTS
Demaryius Thomas – 6 PTS
Odell Beckham, Jr. – 4 PTS
DeMarco Murray – 13 PTS

Bad Pick, Start To Panic:

LeSean McCoy – 8 PTS
Calvin Johnson – 3 PTS
C.J. Anderson – 3 PTS

Players at each position to add:

Adding players is where you can make up for a mistake in the draft or turn your team into a dynasty. In the early weeks, players will emerge as potential breakout stars, so be on the lookout for the next Odell Beckham, Jr. If you have a spot on your team, Mariota is a must add.

QB – Marcus Mariota (%OWN 36.5) or Alex Smith (%OWN 20.0)
RB – Chris Johnson (%OWN 11.7) or Dion Lewis (%OWN 17.1)
WR – James Jones (%OWN 32.0) or Percy Harvin (%OWN 45.2)
TE – Tyler Eifert (%OWN 43.9) or Jordan Reed (%OWN 32.2)
Flex – Darren Sproles (%OWN 57.5) or Benjamin Cunningham (%OWN 16.0)
D/ST – Panthers (%OWN 69.7) or 49ers (%OWN 17.8)
K – Josh Brown (%OWN 6.4) or Zach Hocker (%OWN 2.3) •

PENNETTA USURPS WILLIAMS, RETIRES

ELIZABETH VAROLI
CONTRIBUTOR

In the final Grand Slam of the 2015 U.S. Open, both the men and the women's tournaments produced brilliant tennis with some truly unexpected outcomes. The U.S. Open, located in Flushing, New York, set the stage for a series of historic moments in the world of tennis. Many predictions were made going into the tournament, some of which were proven to be completely incorrect from the earliest rounds through the two finals themselves.

On the men's side of the competition, Andy Murray, ranked third, lost in the fourth round to Kevin Anderson, ranked 15. Murray's loss came as a surprise to many; over the past five years he had never exited a tournament so early, whereas this was the first time Anderson had ever made it past the fourth round. Moving on to the semifinals, in one of the most decisive matches of the Open, Novak Djokovic, ranked first, destroyed Marin Cilic, ranked ninth, only giving up three games throughout. Finally, Djokovic met up with Roger Federer, ranked second, in the final. Federer was clearly a crowd favorite but Djokovic prevailed in four sets, winning his tenth career Grand Slam and his second U.S. Open title. The final score was 6-4, 5-7, 6-4, 6-4. Finishing the year just short of a calendar grand slam, with first place trophies from the Australian Open, Wimbledon, and now the U.S. Open, Djokovic acknowledged that 2015 marks one of the strongest years of his career to date.

The women's side of the competition received more press than usual, surrounding the number one ranked seed going into it, Serena Williams. Over the years, there has been talk that Williams is one of the greatest female players (*Forbes Magazine*) throughout the history of the sport. As she advanced through the U.S. Open, Williams worked towards the final trophy in what could have been her first calendar Grand Slam and the first women's calendar Grand Slam since 1988. Tennis fans around the world closely followed Williams' progress throughout the tournament, hoping that she would be able to make history. But, in the end, Williams appeared to have let the pressure get to her. Despite the

incredible odds, she fell in the semifinals to unranked Roberta Vinci 2-6, 6-4, 6-4. Vinci's win was unexpected, for onlookers and admittedly for herself alike. After the match, Vinci described the win as the "best moment of [her] life" and went on to apologize to Williams and all of America for taking down one of the greatest. Vinci managed to win the crowd over with her endearing honesty as she burst with pride when she said, "but today is my day! Sorry!"

Vinci moved onto the Finals, where she competed against Flavia Pennetta, a fellow Italian she had trained with whom since childhood and whom she had previously been doubles partners. Both Italians went in with no experience of playing in the final of a Grand Slam tournament, Pennetta had had 48 previous tournament appearances and had only ever made it as far as the semi-finals. In the end, Pennetta won 7-6, 6-2. After the match, both players appeared to be simply happy to have gotten as far as they did. They embraced and entered the award ceremony together. After Pennetta was handed her first ever Grand Slam first place trophy, she gave a speech. In her winner's speech, she reflected on the pride she felt, the effort given by both herself and Vinci and, in the last shocking moment, she announced her official retirement from her tennis career. According to Pennetta, she had decided nearly a month ago that the U.S. Open would be her final appearance as a professional tennis player, no matter the outcome. In the end, she was able to walk away with her first and last major career crown, surprising nearly everyone.

Reflecting on the events of the tournament, many have marveled at Pennetta's exit from the sport at a time when she is arguably playing the best tennis of her career. Furthermore, many have tried to understand what happened to the previously unbeatable Williams in what appeared to be the highest point of her career. It will be interesting to see what 2016 will bring for the sport of tennis. •



The volleyball team defeated cross-town rivals Mitchell College on Sept. 8, 2015. Photo courtesy of Olga Nikolaeva.



The men's soccer team (and President Bergeron!) reclaims their title as champions in the Whale Cup against the USCGA on Tuesday, Sept. 15. Photo courtesy of Camel Athletics.

A Cappella • Picnic on the Green • Family



Harvestfest • Theater • Camel Athletics

FRALICK TAKES CAMEL LEGACY TO BOSTON

DYLAN STEINER
SPORTS EDITOR

Last winter, Kelsie Fralick wrapped up her final season as goalie for the Connecticut College Women's Ice Hockey team with a staggering 2,016 career saves. Among her achievements was a national caliber .947 save percentage that rocketed her onto the All-New England Small Athletic Conference Women's Hockey First Team. Off the ice, she received the 2014 and 2015 BNY Wealth Management Hockey Humanitarian Award for her dedication to volunteer service.

Her many outside involvements as a Camel included working with the Special Olympics Speed Skating Team of Southeastern Conn and organizing bone marrow test drives on campus through the Be The Match program.

Fralick's career on the ice didn't end in Dayton Arena, however. On Aug 17 she signed a professional contract with Boston Pride, one of four charter teams to comprise the inaugural National Women's Hockey League (NWHL). The Boston Pride, as well as the Buffalo Beauts, New York Riveters and Connecticut Whale, will clash to claim the Isobel Cup.

Fralick will continue to inspire others on and off the ice, as she will continue to work at St. Paul's school in Concord, N.H. The Pride's first game this season will be against the Beauts on Oct. 11, in Buffalo, NY. The team's first home game is Nov. 11 against the Riveters. Fralick's addition to the Pride will likely offer valuable assistance in the net in this historic first season. •

PATRIOTS SEARED UNDER MAGNIFYING GLASS, BUT STILL ON FIRE

PETER BURDGE
STAFF WRITER

New England has just burrowed itself out of a stomach-churning, headline crazy summer blitz based on profound but shaky legs. It has emerged victorious, but with undying scars. Forget the NFL's ineptitude in the Deflategate witch-hunt; I'm curious about the public's reaction to it, and the growing blot on the Patriots' reputation.

In a May ESPN poll, 63% of the nation agreed that the New England Patriots were cheaters, and 60% supported commissioner Roger Goodell's 4-game suspension of Tom Brady. Even without real basis for their arguments, every man, woman and child rushed to throw tar on the Patriots' image. Why were they so eager to do so?

A recent *Sports Illustrated* story revealed that in the last decade, "at least 19 NFL franchises took precautions against the Patriots that they didn't take against any other opponent." In other words, nearly two-thirds of NFL teams accused New England alone of foul play.

From *Sports Illustrated*: "At least five teams have swept their hotels, locker rooms or coaches' booths in New England for listening devices, sometimes hiring outside professionals. None have been found."

Former Colts coach Tony Dungy revealed that Peyton Manning used to talk with coaches in the hallways instead of the locker room at Gillette Stadium, because he feared that the locker room was bugged.

The Colts have never found any listening devices.

And this nugget from *Sports Illustrated*: "Bill Belichick tells his staff which players on the opposing team were not on the flight to New England. It's not clear how Belichick knows. But he does."

Very mysterious. He must be in cahoots with airport employees around the country to take notice of who is on these flights. Maybe he even goes to the airports himself in disguise.

Or we can look at a simpler answer from ProFootballTalk's Mike Florio—"By league rule, injured players who don't make the trip must be downgraded to 'out'... the team definitely has an obligation to immediately let the league, the opponent and the media know."

So it is pretty clear how Belichick knows. He reads the injury report that everyone on the planet has access to.

Plenty of other teams bend the rules and, according to a compilation of scandals at yourteamcheats.com, New England is right in the middle of the league in its number of infractions. So if these accusations almost always come up empty, and if there is ample opportunity to spread them to all teams, why does general consensus still hold that Belichick and the Patriots are always cheating? How do you get a reputation when that reputation is based on nothing?

On the face of it, it seems obvious—they win and they are unlikeable. But it is not that simple.

The Patriots have owned the NFL the last fifteen years, but other sports have had dynasties, too. Over its 17 consecutive winning seasons the San Antonio Spurs have won 11 division titles and five NBA championships. In Major League Baseball, the St. Louis Cardinals have amassed nine division titles, four National League championships and two World Series since 2000.

Are they hated? According to a recent Harris Poll, the Cardinals are the eighth most loved team in baseball. At the end of last season, ESPN named the Spurs the sixth favorite NBA team in the country.

St. Louis is in the midst of an FBI investigation surrounding its hacking into the Astros' scouting system. During media sessions, Spurs' coach Gregg Popovich leaves reporters shaking in their boots. But these teams are still loved and respected.

Well, one could argue, Belichick isn't easy to like. He gets a case of the mumbles at every press conference and won't give reporters the time of day. Poor Patrick Saunders of *The Denver Post* couldn't get much out of him and once wrote that Belichick, "went out of his way to be rude and disrespectful."

Harsh. But when talking with the media, are coaches genial and friendly? Gregg Popovich is certainly not. After a playoff loss last season, the Spurs coach filled his press conference with solitary answers like, "a lot," and "I do. At times, he merely shook his head. Towards the end, he let reporters know that, "these questions are unbelievable."

But maybe mumbling and spewing clichés is worse than brashness because they show disinterest. (In fact, Belichick can be quite insightful when talking with local media outlets, but that is neither here nor there.) Maybe that is what is unattractive about the Patriots' coach—he gives off a scent of misery and mystery. As with a hermit in a far-off wooded cabin, we want to believe in a mythical past. We want to believe that the folk tales are true. We

know that we will never find out what really goes on in his world.

So it may not be that he is unlikable but, rather, that he is unknown.

Okay, okay, but the point is that Belichick cheats. His bend-don't-break defense also applies to the rulebook. With a wave of his hand, his army of spies scours the country, and maybe even the globe, blending in to the background and picking up top-secret information.

The truth is that Belichick has been caught cheating only once. In what erupted into Spygate and is now the genesis of urban legend, New England was punished by the league in 2007 for filming the Jets' play calls from a video camera on the field. It was certainly against the rules and it certainly was dumb, since the NFL had recently sent a memo to all teams discouraging taping games from the sidelines.

Against the rules, but not unheard of. A week after the fallout, former Cowboys coach Jimmie Johnson said, "This is exactly how I was told to do it 18 years ago by a Kansas City Chiefs scout... I know for a fact there were various teams doing this." In 2006, the Jets were actually one of those teams.

From all of this the Patriots have emerged as a public target, so that any whiff of foul play, no matter how small, common or unproven, turns into something more sinister. The wheels of imagination begin to churn, and suddenly New England's success makes sense.

According to an *ESPN* story, after their Super Bowl loss to the Patriots, many Philadelphia Eagles wondered, "How did New England seem completely prepared for the rarely used dime defense the Eagles deployed in the second quarter, scoring touchdowns on three of four drives?" Maybe the Patriots did their homework. Maybe the coaching staff did some extra digging in film study and outsmarted Philadelphia. Is that so unreasonable to think?

Yet many on the team, and many in Philadelphia, came to the conclusion that New England filmed the Eagles' practices or stole their playbook. At some point, this turns from legitimate accusations into lame excuses.

That 19 teams have accused New England of foul play may in fact be the reason why the team's scandalous reputation has grown—it is easy to point fingers when others will gladly point along. And Belichick plays the bad guy with the hooded brilliance that makes us desperately believe there is more than hard work behind his success. This reputation is in everyone's heads, such that reason is replaced by speculation. No matter what Bill Belichick and the Patriots do to disprove them, it is probable that the stories will never stop.

New England's most recent victory in Buffalo 40-32 suggests that this summer saga has not stalled their success. •

BRADY EXONERATED BUT NOT INNOCENT

NICO PREMUTICO
CONTRIBUTOR

On Thursday, September 10th 2015 Tom Brady and the New England Patriots geared up for opening night of the 2015 NFL season, and an eventual 28-21 victory over the Pittsburgh Steelers. The night seemed nothing out of the ordinary for New England as the Patriots led nearly the entire way, with Brady tossing four touchdown passes, but the weeks and months leading up to this seemingly routine Patriots victory were not quite as normal for Brady, the Patriots and all of football.

Rewind eight months earlier to January 18th 2015: it's halftime of the AFC Championship game and the Patriots have a ten-point lead on the Indianapolis Colts as Brady vies for his sixth trip to the Super Bowl, the most ever for a starting quarterback. At this point in the game, the Colts suggest to the referees that the Patriots footballs are underinflated relative to the Colts' footballs. A report was compiled by renowned criminal attorney Theodore V. Wells Jr. and the law firm Paul, Weiss, Rifkind, Wharton & Garrison, in combination with the NFL to investigate any potential wrongdoing by Brady and the Patriots regarding the deflation of footballs during the AFC Championship game. It concluded that all eleven of the Patriots game balls tested measured below the minimum pressure level of 12.5 pounds per square inch (PSI), while the four Colts balls that were tested measured within the legal 12.5 to 13.5 PSI limit allowed by the NFL.

There is no valid reason why each team has its own set of footballs, but the Wells report concluded that it was "more probable than not that Brady was at least generally aware of the inappropriate activities of [patriots equipment managers] involving the release of air from Patriots game balls."

Less than a week later on May 11th, NFL commissioner Roger Goodell suspended Brady for the first four games of the season. He slapped the Patriots with a \$1 million fine and forfeiture of two future draft picks, citing the Wells Report, and Brady's lack of cooperation in the investigation. This set up the national sports media with a summer of the scandalous sustenance they require. While many claim that media coverage during the NFL offseason can be overdone and boring, this was truly a new type of scandal; the NFL had allegedly just caught the quarterback of the Super Bowl Champion blatantly cheating. Brady was accused of advising his equipment managers

to release air out of the game balls in order to gain a competitive advantage, and then not turning over his phone to the NFL.

Most people's problem with Brady's suspension was that the Patriots had already won the Super Bowl, and they obviously weren't going to replay the AFC championship, the game in which Brady had apparently cheated.

This was not the Patriots first encounter with the law enforcement arm of the NFL. In 2007, in what was referred to as Spygate, the Patriots were caught illegally filming practices of opposing teams in order to gain a competitive advantage. The Patriots had now seemingly committed two major crimes, which validated the beliefs of those who believed the Patriots needed to cheat in order to win.

Whether you love the Patriots or hate them, here are the facts: since Tom Brady became the starting quarterback of the Patriots in 2001, they have won four Super Bowls, tying Brady with Joe Montana and Terry Bradshaw as the only quarterbacks to do so. In a game that is measured by results, Brady seemed to have some of the best, but there is a dark cloud over those who want to believe Tom Brady is the best quarterback of all-time. While federal judge Richard Berman exonerated Brady and erased his suspension after Brady appealed, it is not what some want to hear.

Judge Berman ruled that commissioner Roger Goodell was "dispensing his own brand of industrial justice," by suspending Brady, and did not rule that Brady was innocent in Deflategate. If Brady was innocent, why did he smash his phone that contained text messages to his equipment managers? Why wasn't he cooperative at all? These questions make Brady look guilty.

The Patriots won their first three Super Bowls in quick succession in 2001, 2003 & 2004, then lost to the New York Giants in 2007 and 2012, before finally winning the title again in 2015. For those keeping score at home, those first three titles occurred when the Patriots were filming other teams' practices, and the fourth occurred under the Deflategate scandal, for which Brady was eventually exonerated, but not for the reasons Brady fans would like to believe.

Patriots fans may enjoy their success, but they must deal with the fact that Tom Brady and his cohorts are cheaters. •

MOBROC, Reborn

LUCA POWELL
CO EDITOR IN CHIEF

This past summer the Barn - that edgy building behind the student center where you can hear the smash of symbols and the strum of guitars - has undergone drastic refurbishing at the hands of Connecticut College students.

In fact, this year's Barn is almost unrecognizable from the Barn of the past: its walls are a mural for a whole new wave of student art (of varying seriousness), its sound system has been revamped and its stage is finally, well, a stage.

This summer's student initiative built upon President Bergeron's endorsement last year, which saw the Barn's leaky ceiling repaired and the entire building repainted.

MOBROC hopes that these repairs will revitalize and engage the student body in the culture of the performance space.

The Barn has been the foundation of a history of cult favorite bands from the College, including bands like Clap Your Hands Say Yeah, Camp and Shake the Baron. Shake the Baron even graduated with a record deal, which eventually fell through.

Camp, meanwhile, was one of three MOBROC-affiliated bands to perform at this weekend's 7th annual IAM Festival, which has grown to be a major event in the Greater New London area.

The College Voice sat down with Drew André '16, who took charge of the student-led renovations this summer, to discuss the ongoing project and the future of MOBROC.

TCV: The Barn looks a lot different than it did last semester. What kind of changes did you make this summer, and why?

Drew André: The floors been totally redone, we power washed and hand-sanded it and coated it so the wood won't get stained. We've got a legitimate new audio system. The space is now built to bring bands in which is a huge thing for MOBROC, and hopefully we're going to get money from SAC this year to do that. We're trying to build a brand that we can sell to New London and to our community at large. We've totally renovated the space, and out of pocket too, as well as getting some donations. Richard Shank from the dance department helped us with equipment, and Bergeron's help too was an encouragement from the start. Including all the people that helped out this summer, there were a lot of heads in the project.

TCV: When you say sell it to New London, what do you mean?

DA: I mean, come here, put on a show and kids here will listen to you. We'll sell your CDs; we'll get people to come. We want to get bands to think about the Barn as a venue, and while maybe the Barn won't always be the perfect space, [they] can still use it to connect with bands and maybe set them up somewhere else on campus.

TCV: What influence do you think the Barn can have on the campus social scene?

DA: MOBROC can change the social scene on campus. If we had a show every three weeks—which a lot of schools do—MOBROC would be a huge part of our social scene. Take Boston University, for instance, where bands even have a house to live on campus. We want to take MOBROC to that level of legitimacy and enthusiasm in the community.

It is hard with the administration pushing back. In some sense it's for good reason, because you can only have 30 people in the Barn according to the fire codes, and it's also not handicap accessible, which we're working on. The new events system doesn't help either, having to schedule things so far in advance.

But I think most importantly, when you are a new band and you're just beginning to sell yourself and to be good, I think it's really really hard to do that when there are outside forces who don't want you to have a big show. It's a huge deal to set up a gig on campus, you know, there's so much liability and really, we're just bands trying to get known.

TCV: And what happens when you throw the gig anyway?

DA: Well, then we get in a lot of trouble.

TCV: The history of the Barn has been off the wall. Do you think any of that will be lost by integrating more into the campus?

DA: It's an interesting question. There is such a diversity of bands that I don't think that will happen. MOBROC is for anyone. And when I say MOBROC I don't just mean the Barn. Student bands on campus are something to do, and we're underutilized as far as entertainment goes.

TCV: But how does the makeover—literally and more figuratively—fit into the storied legacy of the Barn and the bands that have come before today's generation?

DA: There is such a legacy, I mean, looking back just ten years at what MOBROC was doing - shows in Abbey House every other weekend—you can still see where they were and the legacy they created, it's literally written on the walls. This is the social scene at Conn that has the most history, and it's sad that it's not that way anymore. I can think of so many artists on campus that just didn't have the space to perform in. Now we do, and the changes we made this summer are a continuation of that legacy.

Part of our problem is that bands graduate and we lose a sense of continuity in the Barn, so we have to think about those cycles too.

We're actually in the process of working on a bible for the Barn so we can hand the story of the place down and not have that problem so much. Keeping the story of Barn alive is really what this whole project is about. •

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