Security?

Harassment in Marshall

by Tom Libassi

During the early morning hours of September 17, an intruder entered Marshall dorm and proceeded to the upper floors. The intruder then entered the room before entering the room of a fourth student, where he waited until the female occupant returned. All four girls escaped the room safely. However, it was in the sixth case of harassment this year.

Security arrived within five minutes of being called. They conducted a thorough and unsuccessful search of Marshall. Past year, the process took 15 minutes and failed.

Available information is that the incident has not yet been reported to the New London Police Department. "It's Marshall's business," has been the theme on recent occasions. According to sources, Campus police were not called in the previous two incidents.

Incidents of assault and harassment have risen dramatically this year. They have already surpassed last year's total.

Director of Campus Safety, Joseph Bianchi, will not acknowledge the fact that there is a security problem on campus. Dean Watson was no comment on whether there was a rise in crime on campus or a problem with security's performance.

Surge in Crime

by Dave Tyler

"Connecticut College is not an Easy Tower," according to Dean Watson. "It is a small faction of the real world, with its own share of problems." However, does the college have its share of problems as recent statistics indicate?

There has been a dramatic increase in the number of assaults on campus this fall. Figures on crime covering the last three months have equaled or surpassed the totals for all of last year.

Official statistics indicate that for a total of five assaults this fall as compared to four for all of last year. Six cases of harassment thus far have occurred in comparison to last year's five and four for all of last year's twc-assaults.

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Value of a Liberal Arts Education

by Chris Horrock

At this time of year it is necessary to make public a Dough's active interest in the visit of Connecticut College students minds. What good is the education I am receiving from Conn? This is costing someone $10,000 plus a year, isn't it? Why do I bother? Why am I here? There is certainly some valuable product to be accepted. Otherwise, one cannot study hard from this educational experience.

Stated generally, students are learning to think, the "how" and "why" behind knowledge. The art of critical thinking is taught, only indirectly. No professor gives lectures a class entitled: "This is how to think." So after four years spent "in-cultivating" and trying to decipher these mysterious teachings, an uncertain student doubts and questions the surrounding world.

One justified criticism is that, measure on a yardstick of ideals, Connecticut College is a stifling atmosphere that enforces those that is supposed to teach. Going from one academic assignment to another (like a sophisticated automation) is suggestive of living from "paycheck-to-paycheck." The so-called "system" forces young scholars to concentrate on completion of the course or function rather than understanding. The dream that college is an ideal institution of learning evaporates once the students learns to appreciate the nature of a data-systems, meeting the deadline becomes an end for its own sake.

A person can do readings, underline a book in, and write papers, yet not learn anything. Quite few seemingly intelligent people do just this.

What is the motive behind moving your eyes from one side of a page to the other of you. If I do not comprehend, and I lack the will to understand? Why write a paper-revealing it and yourself the whole way on a subject that you realize is meaningless to you?

But how much is the student at...
Handgun Control

by Sue Tyson

Handgun control is a controversial issue which touches on important factors such as self-defense, crime, and civil rights. In view of the fact that over 300,000 crimes involving handguns are committed yearly in the United States (FBI Uniform Crime Reports, 1980), it is imperative that the myths and realities of this issue be placed in written and debate.

The majority of handgun owners in the United States are peaceable, law-abiding citizens who feel secure having a handgun in the home for self-defense. According to the National Coalition to Ban Handguns, however, handgun ownership is six times more likely to result in the death of a family member or friend than to stop an intruder. The element of surprise inherent in the nature of a robbery or burglary is detrimental to the innocent victim's chances of warding off criminals. In fact, handgun ownership appears to be a boon to criminals in that, according to the United States Conference of Mayors, "statistically it is far more likely that the burglar will steal a firearm than be repelled by it." The National Coalition to Ban Handguns reports that at least 500,000 are stolen yearly from individuals.

The increase of crime in the United States is a source of national chagrin and anxiety. Although violent crime can be committed with any weapon, the handgun is certainly the most deadly. For it is the only concealable weapon which is effective at a great distance. Handguns are five times more likely to be fatal than knives. The predominance of handguns used in homicide is shocking: according to the FBI Uniform Crime Reports, "One half of the 23,944 Americans murdered in 1980 were killed with handguns." The majority of these murders resulted from non-feudon activity, from "crimes of passion" involving acquaintances, friends, and family.

One of the most difficult problems regarding the handgun control issue is that of civil rights. Does the Second Amendment to the U.S. Constitution, which states, "A well-regulated militia being necessary to the security of a free state, the right of the people to keep and bear arms shall not be infringed," guarantee an individual's right to possess handguns? Opponents of handgun control believe it does, and that any other interpretation of this Amendment could clear the path for government tyranny. Gun-control proponents, on the other hand, argue that the position of "well-regulated militia" is amply served by the National Guard. According to the United States Conference of Mayors, "the right to keep and bear arms, as propounded in the Constitution, was intended to mean: the people have a collective right to bear arms in a military capacity for the security of the state political framework and state integrity." This view has been upheld by the Supreme Court on four occasions. According to the United States Conference of Mayors, the "right to bear arms," as constructed into the Constitution, could be used to defeat any legislative action taken by the people to bear arms "only in the context of the freedom of the states to have their own militias."

Existing handgun control legislation in the United States is beset with a number of loopholes and is inconsistent on a national basis renders it somewhat ineffective. The Federal Gun Control Act of 1968 is relatively weak because it only regulates initial purchases of handguns. It requires no verification of personal data submitted during the purchase of handguns, and it does not effectively check the flow of weapons and parts into the country, which are essential to the making of firearms. A loophole in this Act and the lack of uniform laws allow the proliferation of handguns despite individual states' attempts at control. Opponents of gun control argue that criminals will get guns no matter what legislation is brought into being, and that the police, who are trained to fight crime, also possess firearms, and are so equipped to counter armed criminals. In the area of handgun control legislation must be addressed, and appropriate action taken. While each side of the issue voices legitimate concern, the alarming statistics concerning handgun crime cannot be ignored.

Fieldhouse: A Definite Yes

by Mark Jordan

Just recently, the College Voice placed a procrastination poll in our mailboxes. One of the questions dealt with whether this college was making a sufficient commitment to its athletics. What was your answer? The question was addressing the administration's policy towards this college's athletic program. The solution is to go ahead with the current proposal before S.G.A., the faculty and the administration, to construct a new field house facility for this campus.

The Athletic Department would agree with any positive move towards such a facility. The administration needs to know how the student body feels about any further action is to take place. Strong support of the students would lend feasibility to the possibility of success.

Now some may ask, why a fieldhouse here at Connecticut College? Does this mean that our art, dance, music and conventional academies are going to suffer just for the sake of expanding the Athletic Department? The faculty feel that Conn. will become nothing but a "jock" school at the expense of our traditions and cultural arts status? Rent your fears, such will not happen here at Conn. Rather the fieldhouse will serve as a new device for the Administration Office to use in promoting this school to future classes. Further, in addition to the Ice Rink, a fieldhouse would offer immense possibilities for this campus and community.

Not only would the Athletic Department finally become more centralized and have more room, but the new facility would allow it to have more flexibility, no longer having to share its already limited space in Cro. with everyone else. It would be a true and separate department in the eyes of this college and of any prospective students.

The major advantage the fieldhouse would offer is that it would free Cro. for almost total student use. Plans for the renovation of Cro include an enlarged "Cro-Bar", a better equipped and larger game-room pool, more function rooms, a furnished lounge, a larger S.G.A. room for better turnout at meetings, expanded space for the dance studios, and more space for social events, clubs (Vince and WCNI) and intramural sports.

A concern on the part of the faculty is that a new fieldhouse and the plans to renovate Cro would only create more space for students to party. This concern is justified; the faculty would like to see money go to further the academic program or to provide additional financial aid to students. The response on the part of the faculty must now be positive, especially in the light of the college having been given a $300,000 grant to assist our academics. The construction of a fieldhouse facility would incorporate the full range of varsity and academic athletics offered by Conn, as well as placing this school in a more challenging position to our sister schools of equal academics-tuition. At the December 2 S.G.A. meeting, the current proposals were presented. Shortly, information will be released for student and community review.

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In the central cities of Connecticut, families earning $70,000 a year pay about 15 percent of their income in state and local taxes. Families earning $50,000, however, pay only about 6 percent of their income in state and local taxes.

Why does such regressivity exist? Because Connecticut relies on a crazy-quilt system of taxation which emphasizes the sales tax and the local property tax, and avoids any income taxes except those which are selective and discriminatory in their application - a capital gains tax, and a dividends tax, and an unincorporated business tax.

The lower a family's income, the higher the percentage of that income goes for sales taxes and property taxes. People earning $10,000 a year pay an average of 9.7 percent of their income for property taxes, while those earning $50,000 pay only 1.19 percent.

"People earning $10,000 a year pay an average of 9.07% of their income for property taxes, while those earning $50,000 pay only 1.19%.""-

Relying on the regressive property tax for almost 30 percent of the total revenues of state and local governments (as compared with the U.S. average of 16 percent) has an especially severe impact on central cities and like New London. Because the tax base of such towns is low, and service demand high, taxpayers in these towns must pay a far higher percentage of their flat market value of their property taxes than taxpayers in suburbs. Owners of homes and apartment buildings in New London, for example, pay more than 2.5 percent of the market value of their property in taxes; while homeowners in Waterford (where there are no apartments) pay only 0.93 percent of the market value in taxes.

The state government could provide payments to local governments to equalize such disparities, but the Band-aid tax structure is not permitted a meaningful equalization.

The so-called Guaranteed Tax Base formula for equalizing educational expenditures is not funded adequately, and is indeed but a weak shadow of a true equalization formula. And because of cuts in state grants to towns, state aid to property-poor cities actually decreased this year.

The situation of people in poverty and the cities they call home, is a substantial overlap - exacerbated by the failure of state government to meet the needs of its citizens. Pinching pennies for ten years has caused the public schools and public recreation, and medical facilities and public assistance to suffer and pay - and the state's Attorney General has reported that Connecticut is not constitutionally required to provide rehabilitative services to its newly retarded citizens.

A family of three receiving Aid to Families with Dependent Children (AFDC) - who have been on welfare surrive for a month on a state grant which would have brought them up to the federally defined level of poverty for 1975: the family should be able to afford an apartment for $138.62 per month, the state calculates, to pay for water heating with $6.73, and to pay the rest of its electric bill for $9.47. If a member of that family were to be convicted of shoplifting and sentenced to prison, he would find that Connecticut's prisons are so overcrowded that the judiciary has been empowered to release some inmates to make room for new arrivals.

"A recent UConn poll found that 59% of our citizens would rather see an income tax instituted than an increased sales tax."-

In order to cut the cost of paying the Medicaid bills for elderly patients in nursing homes, the state authorizes nursing home operators to increase charges to self-pay patients. Of the 567 miles of state highway, the state has been able to afford to pave an average of 96 miles per year during the last seven years. At that rate, some stretches of road will be resurfaced 53 years from now.

Clearly the state is not wasting money. The state spends only $70 for every $1000 in personal income, the 50-state average is $60, and the New England average is $41. Thus, the expenditure per capita by the state government rank Connecticut 46th of the 50 states.

The state's payroll expenses per capita rank 46th in the nation: those expenditures are 2.01 percent of state personal income, as compared with the United States average of 3.85 percent. Although any waste and low priority programs are not eliminated, the record depicted here indicates that there is little waste to be found.

In order to increase state payments to towns to reduce and equalize the property tax burden, and in order to meet the need for services, (to say nothing of replacing those high priority programs adversely affected by the Reagan administration's budget cut), state tax revenue must be increased. One possibility is to increase the sales tax to 8 or 8.5 percent. But such an increase would not only be regressive, it would tend to drive additional numbers of retail customers in border areas to deal with merchants in Rhode Island and Massachusetts.

Other possibilities include increasing the unincorporated business tax or increasing the coverage of the capital gains and dividends tax. But both alternatives are realistic solutions which reach only some of the state's citizens (although certainly including those most able to pay), and thus raise real questions of equity.

Tax reform- including the imposition of a non-discriminatory personal income tax, the reduction of the sales tax and local property taxes. The incorporation of such Band-Aid taxes as the unincorporated business tax and the capital gains and dividends tax structure - would appear to be the correct approach to the state's revenue raising difficulties.

Income taxes come in all sizes and shapes, but they are all prodigious money-raisers, and almost any kind would permit a significant reduction of sales and property taxes.

The most innovative minds in the General Assembly on this subject - Rep. Irving Stolberg and Sen. Audrey Beck, the chairpersons of the Finance Committee - have proposed several alternative versions, each of which would...
Safety is a Campus Responsibility

by Tom Libassi

The Connecticut College campus is not as safe as students have been led to believe. This is evident by the dramatic increase in assaults and harassment on campus this fall (see articles pg. 1).

The resources exist to make Connecticut College a safe place to live and study. It is the responsibility of the entire college community to insure that these resources are properly utilized.

The first step towards this goal is a full disclosure of all reported incidents of violations of our security. This will lead to an informed student body. When students are informed of the problems they will be able to fulfill their responsibilities as members of the college community. These responsibilities include: reporting security violations to campus security immediately, forming and actively participating in dorm watch and student escort services; and using common sense as to where and when to walk alone at night.

It was the responsibility of the student members forming the committee for campus safety to have met regularly and prepared materials for S.G.A. to review concerning campus safety. This committee has yet to meet this semester. Student Government has taken the initiative and through their authority, has sent a letter to all student members of this committee and the Director of Campus Safety, Joseph Bianci, to meet as soon as possible next semester.

The responsibilities of the Campus Safety force are reporting all incidents of crime involving non-students to the New London Police Department; posting the campus security phone number; making available a report of all security incidents on campus; and responding promptly to all calls for assistance.

The administration has the responsibility to provide support and assistance to students and campus security in order that they may fulfill their responsibilities. By fulfilling these responsibilities we will make a great step towards making Connecticut College a safe place to live and learn.

Readers: Respond

It is the purpose of this paper to provide a forum for open discussion and debate. Therefore, The College Republic invites all letters from students, faculty, and community members concerning pertinent topics. We offer the opportunity to express your opinions, however, we reserve the right to edit in order to maintain the integrity, credibility, and good judgment involved in journalistic endeavors.

The Editor

Thank You

The members of The College Republic would like to thank all those that helped to make this paper become a reality: Mr. Libassi, S. Mahoney, Mystic Publications, and the entire Marshall Dorm.

Extra Dry

Nine out of Ten

By Peter Kasparsen

Trident. The name, itself, is not ominous. It doesn't bother me one way or the other. Yet, it is a nuclear submarine; a death machine of sorts. A lot of anti-nukers (Reagan's daughter included) want to condemn the submarine before it makes its first killing. I don't want to, I don't want to praise it either. I'd rather weigh its advantages and disadvantages and let the statistics decide.

Let's start with the Trident's disadvantages. The first Trident, launched in Groton on November 11, 1981, it has been named the USS OHIO. The name, isn't wrong. Ohio. I think of Cleveland when I think of Ohio. If New Jersey is the armpit of the nation, then Cleveland is the underarm hair. If you think hard enough, you can come up with a state with a little more zip, a little more pizzazz. Texas, for instance, is big and has two soap operas named after it. Nevada is even better. We could paint a set of dice on the turret. The third Trident (they decided not to launch the second one, it must have been named "Kentucky") was launched November 14, 1981, and it's called the U.S.S. Florida. I think of Cleveland, or at least Florida. Florida is a much better name, so we are making progress in that area.

When you talk money, the disadvantages are even more staggering. The cost of one Trident would provide adequate child care for 1.8 million children. The cost of one half of a Trident is equal to the cost of the health services New York city provides for its residents in one year. The cost of one-fifth of a Trident is the amount needed by the World Health Organization to abolish malaria. If we go in to mass production, once we have six Tridents we will have put in the amount of money that it takes to maintain the water supplies for 150 cities for the next twenty years. Every time you turn on the tap, think of the Trident. I know I will. Even this figure is small compared to what we can do with the price of 15 Tridents. Once we have produced 15 subs (God Willing) we will have spend the same amount of money that it takes to provide adequate food, housing, water, education, and health for everyone in the world each year. Everyone...in the world...each year. A small price to pay, if you ask me. I think the advantages far outweigh the disadvantages.

For starters, I, personally, am willing to sacrifice water, education, health and housing for one year. In the food category, I'd gladly give up eggs Florentine, steamed celery, low-fat yogurt, and liver. That list could grow if I thought about it more. I see no reason why everyone else in the world can't make the same sacrifices with a little coaxing. Secondly, how many people get malaria every year? Do you know any people who died of malaria last year? Or ever? I'm sure the number is insignificant, besides it will keep the population down. The biggest advantage — and not many know about it — is that each Trident will pay for itself. Sure, it sounds crazy, but I heard it on Merv Griffin last Tuesday. First of all, the rights to a TV show are being negotiated right now. The show, tentatively titled, "The Bruise Cruise," will air sometime in the 1990's. Borgnine inked to a megabuck contract to portray the sub's Captain.

Finally, and this statistic is what transformed me into a pro-nuke. 9 out of 10 dentists surveyed chose Trident for their patients who...Oh wait, I'm thinking of something else. Let me think this over again.

Though men be much governed by interest, yet even interest itself, and all human affairs, are entirely governed by opinion.

David Hume
Student Attitude
by Deborah Lowry

"Boldness has genius, power, and magic in it," Goethe once said about aspiration. The desire to accomplish and create is an important step toward reaching a specific goal. At Connecticut College, rising costs seem to discourage this attitude, and although C.C. is a private liberal arts college, the reality is that expenses may be causing students to lose sight of their goals.

A question the seniors are asking themselves now is, "Are we going to be able to support ourselves when we graduate?"

During the last four years, they have expended time and effort in trying to decide on the best route to pursue to gain influence or wealth. Now, undoubtedly, many of them are finding that the phrase, "Get a job!" is not so funny anymore. In order to meet financial demands, it is more practical to advocate individuality rather than "what other people think." Individuality, which is promoted in liberal arts courses such as Theater, Art, and Creative Writing, is often discouraged because placement after college is "too competitive," and graduating students must either meet the challenge, or force themselves to remain "undecided." Uncertainty too often breeds indifference, and this attitude is stifling in all respects.

Individuality requires awareness of one's own interests, a sense of direction, and motivation. "Boldness," as Goethe defined it, is often suppressed by indecisiveness, not to mention the recent spiraling cost increases, which are discouraging to any person struggling to pay for a college degree.

A college student meets one primary goal before applying for a job or going on to graduate school. Establishment of a sense of direction and a positive attitude will lead to an individual identity. If this sense of direction is daunted by negative feelings and attitudes, the original intention of the liberal arts education is defeated.

Reevaluation is presently one of the major concerns of the U.S. government, as well as of other institutions like schools and families. In an effort to compensate, however, the setting of impractical goals that do not reflect interest but reflect instead the panic-stricken economy will only deepen the problem.

The "power" which can be derived from boldness, whether measured in social or personal gains, was most likely not intended to incorporate "financial" inferences when Goethe wrote his statement. In its entirety, Goethe said, 'Whatever you can do, or dream you can, begin it. Boldness has genius, power, and magic in it." Maybe this statement reflects the intention of every student, or could if students did not lose sight of their goals.

A college's prime concern is to educate. In the 1980's, however, it is becoming more and more important to evaluate management versus mismanagement that determines the success or failure of an institution. In light of these conditions, Conn. College appears to be in danger. Tuition steadily increases annually. The administration and the faculty, as well as the students, need more input as to what can be done.

Controversy in itself has produced significant changes in the past, and it requires awareness of one's own interests, direction, and motivation.

An individual attitude that is confident is not only attractive, but also inspiring. The search for identity can not be futile if it is not the same, and motivation persists. Awareness and involvement are important in this search. The Connecticut College community must not lose sight of the educational goals in light of discouraging financial demands. Only if those goals are preserved, will the college as a liberal arts facility flourish.

When America Closed Shop
by Mark Jordan

The headlines were right. America had closed its doors because this government ran out of money.

In case it slipped your attention, the greatest nation on Earth had for one brief day come to a grinding halt due to lack of funds. It happened on Monday, the 23rd of November. Why no funds? Ask President Reagan. It's his budget, not the American peoples.

A total of 400,000 Federal employees across the country were on the verge of indefinite suspension. This one day of limbo led some to wonder whether their previously secure jobs with the U.S. Government were still going to be there the next day. These 400,000 people and countless dependents had their livelihoods threatened by the inability of the President and Congress to approve a budget.

The people are sick of budgets, tax cuts, defense spending, and across-the-board trimmings at the expense of the American public. What the country needs now is something auspicious to take people's minds off of the inefficiency and self-interest of their government.

The attitude of Congress since Reagan took office is appalling. It has buckled under to everything the President has wanted. It has put up half-hearted fights, yet has been soft to the cut. This conclusion is major to Congress has been faced with since the '60's and is predictable. Why should anyone be surprised that the Saudis got their AWACS, that the rich will be richer and that the poor will suffer some more, or that students will be denied funds for a chance at a higher education, or that Europe will be blown off the face of the Earth.

President Reagan's attitude only adds to the appalling state of affairs. Sometimes he resembles a spoiled child with all the money in the world. When things threaten with anything less than his own opinion and ideas will just pack up and leave upsetting the whole game.

Only in America can an actor be elected President. Do you think he is still acting now? Well, whatever he is doing, he is having a good time doing it. If Reagan can still be said about Ronald and Nancy Reagan, it is they enjoy being President and First Lady immensely. Such power, such prestige, such a waste of line bone china for the Whole House.

Remember when Carter was President and Miss Lillian was running the country? All people had to worry about then was human rights for torture victims of despotic dictatorships, an energy crisis and 200,000 Cuban refugees in Miami.

Little has changed now that Reagan is in the Oval Office. There are still torture victims in South America and Africa listening to speeches about their "human rights", there is still an energy crisis with a diminishing oil reserve, increasing gas prices, and all major technology still being poured into unsafe nuclear power, and the Cubans are still being processed in Mexico.

What is new to worry about with Reagan in charge, is that the world is on the brink of nuclear destruction, more so than it has been since the days of the "Bomb" and the "Red Scare". It is comforting to go to sleep at night with the knowledge that this mighty nation can literally shut down over such a budget. The budget issue seems so meaningless as a budget decision. Yet, be able to wake up knowing that a first strike capability could send the Soviets and the rest of the known world to Lunenburg. You've got to have priorities. Sleep tight, your future is secure, as long as you don't work for Uncle Sam or live in Luxembourg.

Note: The question of the Budget will be brought up again after Congress returns from its recess. The American public may see its Federal government come to another grinding halt. On December 16th, if Congress does not assert its true and constitutional authority and pass its budget with or without Reagan's approval. Remember, it's the people's budget that should be represented by Congress, not his.
"What, then, is truth? A mobile army of metaphors, metonyms, and anthropomorphisms—in short, a sum of human relations which have been enhanced, transposed, and embellished poetically and rhetorically, and which after long use seem firm, canonical and obligatory to a people: truths are illusions about which one has forgotten that this is what they are; metaphors which are worn out and without sensuous power; coins which have lost their pictures and now matter only as metal, no longer coins."

CRIME

CONT. FROM PAGE 1

Bianchi stated that the incidents of assault which have occurred this year mainly involved attacks by students on students. Yet, the facts do not support this statement.

Of the six official cases of assault, four involved campus personnel suffering attacks from non-students. Two cases of assault by non-students against a female professor while jogging; one between a non-student and a student, and one in which three non-students assaulted a female student.

One student reported that after an evening class in New London Hall a female student asked a security guard to escort her to her dorm. She had heard that there had been a problem with assaults. The guard's first reaction was "you're going to be kidding." Our student informant drove the young woman home.

Safety's response to calls has been reported as slow. If a criminal is to be apprehended, immediate action is necessary. On the night of November 13, three non-students entered campus by car and assaulted a female student. It appeared that they were going to drag her into the car. When another vehicle pulled up, the attackers fled. The incident was not reported immediately to Campus Safety but was reported a day or two later. Campus Safety is not required to report criminal activities on campus to the New London Police. However Officer Gaynor of the Crime Prevention Division of the NLPD expressed his belief that Campus Safety has a moral obligation to report crimes. Gaynor further stated that it is up to the individual victim to report any crime; it is not Safety's responsibility alone he said.

To Eat or Not To Eat

by Susan Pratt

On Monday, December 7th, the Connecticut College community participated in the annual Oxfam "Fast for a World Harvest." The Fast offered an occasion for those of us who observed the day to remember the plight of those less fortunate than ourselves who suffer from malnutrition and starvation. A secondary purpose of the project was to help raise money to be donated to the Oxfam organisation and used to help alleviate the world hunger problem.

Unfortunately, the way that the fast was organized at Connecticut College rendered it somewhat inefficient and unsuccessful in achieving its goals. The intent of the fast is laudable. It serves to familiarize people in affluent societies, such as our own, with the problems and hardships that less fortunate individuals are forced to endure.

It also provides an opportunity for those who participate to make a contribution to the world wide effort to aid the hungry. The organization of the project, however, leaves something to be desired. Primarily, the price that students pay for each meal, reflected by the price of guest meals, is not equivalent to the amount of money collected and reverted to the Oxfam organization. If the school reduces the number of employees on that given day, there is no need to provide for the payment of salaries. Would it not seem appropriate to contribute the exact same amount of money saved, if, in fact it is being saved?

Another inadequacy of the system deals with the role of the students in this ritual. There is no effective method provided to keep track of those people who have pledged to fast, whether it was for 1 or 3 meals.

The students are on their honor not to attend meals that they have pledged to forego. This is not to accuse the students of being dishonest, but it does point out yet another inefficiency of the program. The object of the fast is not only to provide monetary assistance in the fight to relieve world hunger, but also to provide an opportunity for students to experience hunger.

If students have unbarred accessibility to food, a goal is not achieved. Granted, the school must provide food for those who opt not to participate in the fast, but it should also develop some means of regulating who does eat the available food to ensure effectiveness of the program.

The intent of the Oxfam fast is indeed praiseworthy. It provided this academic community with an opportunity to experience, firsthand, the ordeal of living without food and to make a monetary contribution to the Oxfam organization, whose main goal is the relief of world hunger.

If, however, inefficiencies such as those mentioned continue to persist, attainment of the dual goals of the program will be impaired. Scrupulous attention to organization of such a project as this is needed in order to make the program successful and efficient.

NUCLEAR

CONT. FROM PAGE 1

Of course, the public should have the power to arbitrarily end the lives of its citizens. One that puts its country into such a position forfeits both legitimacy and support.

By electing President Reagan, Americans affirmed their trust in him as a leader. However, his policies, words, and actions have proven to be in gross violation of society's greater good. Mr. Reagan, freedom is threatened, not protected, by nuclear weapons. The only way to reduce the chance of nuclear war is to reduce the number of nuclear weapons on each side, and save the billions and billions of dollars that are now spent by both nations to build the fervid arms race.

War as a means of solving international problems has become obsolete. As Admiral Gene LaRocque stated, "In nuclear war, there will be no winner or loser."

The generation that inherits this world, if there is anything to inherit, must secure its future existence now.

Do not allow this government, "for the people" to become people for the government. Remember the words of General Omar Bradley after Hiroshimas and Nagasakis, "We shall not be given another chance. There is not enough room in the world for both civilization and atomic conflict."
Scientific advance is in this field.
This semester, the Biochemistry and Microbiology classes, in a combined effort, performed a genetic transformation experiment. The Biochemistry class extracted DNA from one strain of bacteria, and the Microbiology class inserted the DNA into a different strain of bacteria, thus changing its genetic makeup. By performing this experiment, the students learned some of the theories and practical applications of genetic engineering.

In these times when the value of a liberal arts education is being questioned, the professors in these two science departments are providing their students with practical skills and theories, which will allow them to enter a career in genetic research. These professors, who at times are forced to work with outdated and obsolete equipment, should be commended for keeping their students and themselves up to date on what U.S. News & World Report calls "one of the hot careers of the 1980's."

Early impressions, that having to pay directly for education made American students more serious about their study, more motivated as students in Britain.

By Paula Green

Education in Britain is funded through a graduated income tax.

If you have any questions, the professor is more than willing to help. He or she has a PhD in the subject and is well acquainted with the material. If you are a student, you will not be confused or intimidated.

LIBERAL ARTS

This is not an intellectual challenge, but rather one of a mechanistic sort: a demand to keep pace with "going-through-the-system," therefore making academics have shuffled him along.

Students start to be labeled at age five by insufficient grading -a direct correlate of the amount of time spent in "drilling" and in "referring to" textbooks. This has led to a student's feeling of being "slagged" by the professor or by the system itself.

The aim of an American education begins at college, while the primary goal of an education is to develop critical thinking skills.

Unfortunately, that can barely be done independent of the individual's efforts.
Morality in Media

by Rob Mahoney

Media plays a role that is essential to a democratic society. A significant reason for this is because it has been considered the "watchdog" over abuses and corruptions of power. Since Watergate, journalism has enjoyed an era of righteous reputation. Reporters have come to consider themselves as guardians of the public interest, or a more popular phrase "the public trust." This role has remained nearly unchallenged by a grateful public, and a central government recovering from the wound of humiliation.

Journalism has always been considered a somewhat idealistic vocation. There are no specific guidelines for reporters, but there are implicit conventions of the profession known as the "journalist's creed." Breaking the law seems to have become an accepted convention of that creed. Some of the nation's most respected reporters are quite frank, and even glib in admitting that they break the law for what is considered the "public good." Reporters justify their unethical behavior as necessary for the greater good of society. This behavior is in fact a statement from reporters that they are above the law. The First Amendment of the Constitution asserts that "Congress shall make no law...abridging the freedom of speech, or of the press." This frees journalism from control by the government. It does not give reporters the right to exist outside the law. The law is the basic foundation of our society, under which all people's natural rights are protected. Like anything else, if it is fallible, however, the law is the only true "public good." Reporters by breaking the law, are in gross violation of society's laws.

The practical side makes the profession as vulnerable to abuses and corruptions of power as any other private or public enterprise. The fact that journalism is a business cannot be ignored, as William Peter Hamilton of the Wall Street Journal stated. "A newspaper is a private enterprise owning nothing whatever to the public, which grants it no franchise. It is therefore affected with no public interest. It is emphatically the property of the owner, who is selling a manufactured product at his own risk." Journalism occupies a distinct place in society. It exists in a limbo where reporters must perform on the fine line of the law. Responsible reporters should be able to do their job well using and interpreting the law to their advantage. Criminal behavior is inexcusable, and nothing more than lazy journalism. When reporters place themselves above the law, they undermine society and the very public they claim to protect.

Freshman Orientation

by Kim Norton

Last April, many students were accepted by Connecticut College and they awaited the new school year with excitement. But as the summer progressed, the freshmen began to worry about leaving their family and friends. Ominous prospects of 3-hour orientation labs, ten-page critical essays, and "all-righters" intensified their anxieties about coming to college. When they finally did arrive at Connecticut College, the people offered a warm welcome. The actual freshman orientation program, however, did not meet the needs of the students.

Within three days of arrival, the new freshmen had to choose courses, register, buy books, matriculate, socialize, and get I.D.'s. Many students felt confused and deserted. Connecticut College should revise its orientation program so that freshmen don't become swamped with numerous responsibilities that they have a hard time dealing with in such a limited amount of time.

The first three days at the college proved overwhelming for many students. They received a catalogue, along with a time schedule of classes, and were forced to arrange a schedule within 24 hours. Then, they had to meet with their faculty and have him or her approve the schedule. Once the students had all the proper papers signed for registration, they proceeded to their classes in the morning. The gym was crammed with 400 students pushing and shoving each other for position in the lines.

Anxieties could be lessened if an orientation program took place before the freshmen arrived in September. The college should invite the new students to visit the campus for two or three days in the spring. Before they arrived, the freshmen could tentatively compose their course schedules. They would also have the opportunity to speak with upperclassmen and faculty about their choice of courses. They could even be able to register at this time. Through this process, the incoming students would have that much less to worry about in September.

Several colleges require students to attend a spring orientation program which has proven to be quite helpful in many cases. In September, the students fears and anxieties are minimized because they have had a taste of college life. Subsequently, the first few months of school proceed much more smoothly. Connecticut College should implement a similar freshman orientation program to make the adjustment to college life easier for new students.

Moreover, the students had to do a variety of other things before the day was through. There just wasn't enough time for the students to do everything that was expected of them. Freshman suffering from homesickness, anxiety, and tension can't cope with such pressures.

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