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THE COLLEGE VOICE

VOLUME XXIII • NUMBER 2

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 8, 2000

PUBLISHED WEEKLY BY THE STUDENTS OF CONNECTICUT COLLEGE

CONNECTICUT COLLEGE, NEW LONDON, CT

Summer 2000 Brings Successes and Setbacks to New London

By ROB KNAKE

editor-in-chief

Summer 2000 brought a mixed bag of successes and disappointments to New London, three years since the redevelopment push began under the leadership of Connecticut College President and NLDC chair Claire Gaudiani '66.

The city put itself on the map as a tourist destination when OpSail 2000 rolled into port for three days of tall ships, fireworks displays and other attractions. Over 500,000 people attended the event in mid-July making use of the partially completed waterfront park.

"It was the best seat in the house for OpSail," said Chris Riley, spokesperson for the NLDC, about the 1/2 mile long promenade. When completed, the walkway will run from the downtown area to the state park at Fort Trumbull.

The state park which was slated to open only temporarily for OpSail and was going to close down to complete renovations and landscaping will now remain open through the summer season. The site of the former Naval Undersea Warfare Center now boasts sweeping views of Long Island Sound over rolling green grass right down to the water. "What they did down there was nothing short of breathtaking," said Councilman Reid Burdick of the Fort's rehabilitation.

The area around the fort is also shaping up nicely. From the State Park's walkways, the massive Pfizer Global Development Center is due to be completed in May 2001. Pfizer's \$270 million, 790,000 sq. ft. facility will house an expected 2,000 employees, with the direct economic impact to New London of up to \$12.6 million annually in new taxes.

"For a small city to have all this going on," said Riley, "it's going to make a huge impact."

The redevelopment hit a major stumbling block when New London Mayor Ron Nossek waived a proposed motion to fund the renovations of the historic Crocker and Bacon buildings from the City Council's economic development committee. With that decision also died talk of constructing a movie theater, restaurant and bookstore complex near the city's parade ground by Union Station.

Of the failure of NLDC to begin the revitalization of the downtown, Burdick, who sits on the board of the NLDC, said, "We're going to certainly have to pull our horns back...The downtown development project is certainly not where it should be. We'd hoped to be farther along."

Riley and the NLDC are still optimistic however. "There are a lot of terrific things going on but there is an awful lot of work left to be done. It's a terrific time of opportunity for New London and we want to make sure we take advantage of it as much as we can."



Inner-City Activist Keynotes Convocation

The Reverend Jonny Ray Youngblood addressed the college community at Connecticut College's 83rd Convocation Ceremony. The Reverend, an outspoken advocate of city revitalization spoke to the assembly on citizen empowerment and social justice. See interview, page 7. (Photo Trevor Brown)

Conn Slides Two Spots Down in New U.S. News Rankings to Number 27

Gaudiani to Announce New Programs in Mid-October to Enhance Academic Reputation

By ANIL GC

associate news editor

Connecticut College is no longer one of the best 25 national liberal arts colleges in the U.S., or so the new *U.S. News and World Report* rankings say. The rankings, which were made public on September 1, 2000, have placed Connecticut College at the 27th spot, in a tie with Pennsylvania-based Bucknell University. Last year, Connecticut College shared 25th spot with four other colleges: Barnard College, Colorado College, Oberlin College and University of the South, while Bucknell University was then placed one spot below at number 30. While Oberlin has moved up to the 23rd spot and University of the South retains its previous position as number 25, Colorado College and Barnard College have slid down 4 steps down, sharing the 29th spot with two more colleges.

"Ask me as an accepted freshman and 27 means hell of a lot to me. Ask me as a 21 year-old senior on his way to grad school, and it does not mean anything." That was Vedat Gashi, ConnColl Student Government Assembly's Chair of Academic Affairs, reacting to the fall.

Lee Coffin, Dean of Admissions,

thinks that it is "less of a concern that we are off a certain list [top 25 colleges] because we are really right in the middle of the list" as *U.S. News* has brought out a list of top 50 national liberal arts colleges in its first tier, as opposed to top 40 last year. "I think we are fine. Our look at 25 or 27 is being statistically the same," said a meditative Dean Coffin. "Some of the schools bounce around a few places every year. Look at the schools we were tied with last year which were Oberlin, Colorado College and University of the South. Colorado dropped to number 29; University of South, I think, stayed at number 25... So, I think the rankings are as important as we want to make them. I see us as strong as we were a year ago. I do, and a two-point shift is not a concern to me from a recruiting standpoint."

Coffin: "Our Acceptance Rate Target for Class of 2005 Is 28%."

Although Connecticut College has gone down in terms of the overall ranking, it has improved in certain sub-categories like "acceptance rate" (a two percent progress from 2000 rankings' 41% to 39%) and

"freshmen in top ten percent of the class" (a five percent increase from previous 51% to 2001's 56%). This upward shift in these areas have boosted the selectivity of the college, placing it in the prestigious league of "most selective colleges" alongside the likes of Swarthmore, Amherst, Williams and Wesleyan. He observed, "If you look at selectivity, one example - one that I am familiar with - we moved from 25th to 21st...and this is using data for the class of 2003. So, if you then look to the class of 2004 which just arrived, we are going to be even higher... because the data that we just produced for this class is even stronger (an acceptance rate of 32%). So, you know, within that ranking are some really important improvements that get hidden by the fact that they keep changing the formula."

He confidently set the new target for the acceptance rate of the next entering class as 28%.

Connecticut College has also improved in the criteria of "over-per-

formance/ under-performance" by 10 percent (-5 to +5) and "average freshman retention rate" by 2 percent (from 89% to 91%). Its overall score also went up from last year's 77 to 78. According to Conn admission office's *numero uno*, "the way they are calculating it, we improved but somebody improved more to break the tie." He reflected, "You look at the top twenty-five peer schools that are ahead of us. They are great places. So, it is not like you can point to one of the schools and say these are the easy ones to pick up. So, it is already a competitive group and we are staying with them; we have not dropped from 25 to 40. We are competitively where we have always been." When confronted with the dismal fact that we are sharing the 27th place with Bucknell, which was five steps down the ladder last year, he maintained that the descent was not bad, at least not as bad as one that befell Sarah Lawrence College (down to number 50 from number 30). He vehemently stated, "If we had gone significantly down from 25, I would say, 'Oh, that is dramatic!' The group of schools that keeps being around us is still pretty much the same. If you look up and down these categories, I think that we

put from others, including parents, as it studied the issue. As a result of the work of the committee, the College administration determined to continue service at approximately the existing level.

In order to continue that service it was decided that a comprehensive "health care" fee would need to be assessed to each student. This fee was chosen as an alternative to "pay as you go" health services, or a permanent, live-in residential staff.

In response to questions about why the \$450 fee was implemented, Dean WoodBrooks replied, "That's a finance question. We knew that this year we would not be doing business as usual. At the end of last year we were talking about charging a fee of somewhere close to \$150. Over the summer it was determined it would have to be higher."

Carol Keeney RN, parent '01, wrote a letter in the spring of last year in response to the potential health center closing. In it she voiced her fears that a sick student would be put in even greater danger if they were left on his or her own to travel to the hospital. "Let's hope that they have a car to get there, a friend to sit with them, the 'right' insurance to allow them entrance into the facility, and that they are conscious and lucid enough to take charge of their condition."

Mrs. Keeney responded to the new health center changes, saying she does not approve "because, so far, since I've been working at my college, we've had students with concussions, meningitis, etc. We had a

SEE HEALTH SERVICES

continued on page 6

CC Reverses SATA, Vietnamese Students at Conn

By TRANG NGUYEN

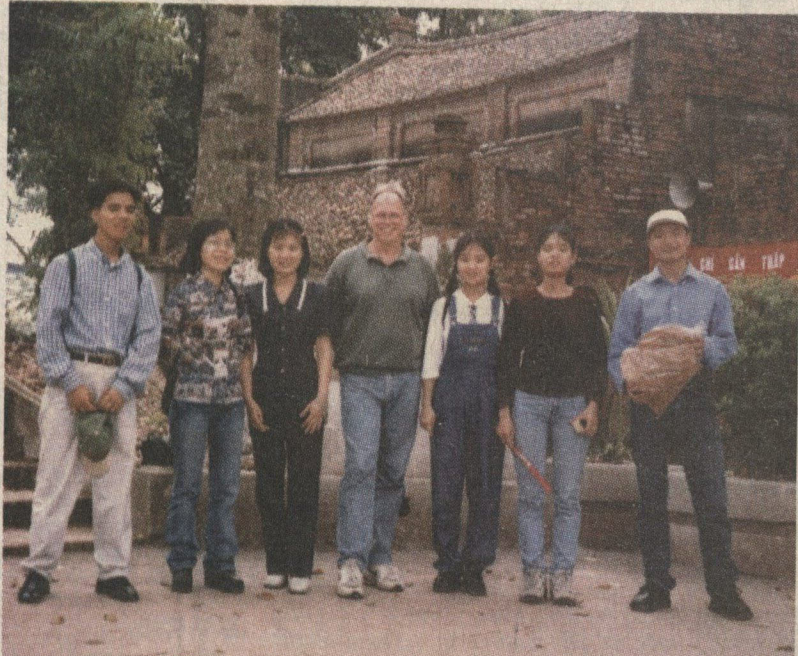
staff writer

A group of five economics students and a professor from the Vietnam National University (VNU) are at Connecticut College this fall semester for a new program—the Reverse SATA. The visitors, like normal CC students, are taking four classes, living in dorms and eating in the dining halls.

Dean of National and International Programs William Frasure said the purpose of this program is to give CC a chance to enrich its intellectual and cultural life and maintain its commitment to a diverse student body. This also conforms to the goals of multiculturalism and diversity in our current strategic plan.

While the new Vietnamese students add an aspect of diversity to Conn, they are also benefitting from the Reverse-SATA program, receiving the same kind of chance that CC students have on SATA, a program that sends CC students to live in another culture for an extended amount of time.

"The program is also a chance for the professor and the students from VNU to have a chance to experience how courses, and economics especially, are taught at CC and how they can learn and benefit from this system" said Don Peppard, professor of economics, who is directing this program.



CC Econ Professor and Vietnam War Veteran Donald Peppard Prepares to return to the US with Reverse SATA students (courtesy)

As Professor Ta Duc Khanh, the VNU professor, puts it, "This program is giving an opportunity for our economics department at VNU to approach the American system. It helps us to review and improve our economic courses and give our students the excitement in study."

Frasure and Peppard selected six students out of twelve recommended by VNU, however, only five students

are at CC for this fall semester. The reason for this is that one student was denied a visa by the American embassy in Vietnam because her family was too poor.

In spite of this setback, everybody is hopeful that things will go well. The students are enjoying their classes. Peppard and Economic Professor Reid Jensen have started to work with Professor Khanh on their

research on Vietnam, which they have always been anxious about.

Arriving in New York on August 19th, after almost four months of preparing medically and working on their English, the group stayed at the homes of Peppard and Frasure for the first few days and made their gradual adjustments to the differences in time and atmosphere between the two countries.

When asked what their first impressions of the United States were, the students said that they love the atmosphere and the fresh air. "I can't believe that there are so many trees here" said Dinh Hong. They also remarked on the friendliness of Americans. "Even a police officer smiled at me on the street today," said Nguyen Tien Vuong.

For Luong Thanh Chung, the number of radio channels fascinates him. As for the professor, he loves his apartment in River Ridge. "I feel as if I am living in a palace." As for now, they are adapting to, and even beginning to enjoy, the variety of food in Harris, after an initial bout of what they called "food shock."

The group appreciates their chance to be here and as Van puts it "We are thankful for this program and people who support this, especially the Frasures and Peppards who have helped us recently and we are

SEE REVERSE SATA

continued on page 6

SGA: Students Left in Dark on College Finances

"The administration has to know that with every excuse they make they are losing our faith."

By TIM STEVENS

staff writer

The Connecticut College student body is not pleased. This much was made readily apparent at the SGA open forum Thursday evening where students, incensed over the past week's announcement of budget cuts, combined with the charge for reduced health services and closed dining halls, came to seek answers and voice their feelings. Unfortunately, while the SGA was more than happy to listen and discuss the issue, they could offer little in the way of concrete answers.

A group of students, too numerous for the seats provided by the SGA, spoke one-by-one on the matter. Some wished to see an annual report on the college's spending, others wanted to know how the college could rip out the squash courts but do nothing to replace them despite a donation specifically for that purpose, and others still desired an explanation on why Connecticut College wished to start acting like its peer colleges. Despite the diverse topics, however, there seemed to be a singular air of disappointment to the group. Most

students expressed their love of Conn before their complaints, a love that seemed for many to make the recent action of the administration so much more painful. Students spoke of betrayal often, but one female student seemed to best sum up the feelings of the students with her statement: "The administration has to know that with every excuse they make they are losing our faith."

Finding themselves in relatively the same position as their constituents, the SGA could do little to shed light on the recent developments. The answers they did provide were unfortunately fairly well known already. Despite this bad news, the SGA wished to stress that this issue is far from dead. SGA President Scott Montemarlo mentioned more than once that some decisions, particularly the cutting of health service hours, the newly implemented "health care" fee, and cafeteria closings, still could be reversed. Additionally, the SGA renewed their commitment to the students by promising to press the administration for answers and immediately inform the student body on anything they find. They will continue to discuss the issue at next week's meeting.

Three Cheers for #27: Ignore the Numbers and See Conn for What it is

Benjamin Disraeli once said that there are three kinds of lies: "Lies, damn lies and statistics."

So why are we so dismayed by the series of contrived, contorted and convoluted numbers produced by *US NEWS & World Report* that would have us believe we are no longer a top twenty-five liberal arts college? The methodology is questionable, the categories irrelevant and, after all, the worst case scenario is they're right and our faculty resources aren't what they used to be. Even if we do have a few more large lecture classes and fewer small discussion courses, we still have a top-notch dance program, a theater department that allows its students a chance to work at the Eugene O'Neil Theater Institute, a guaranteed, paid internship for all students, a science department that is uncommonly strong for that of a liberal arts college and myriad other unique, engaging programs.

The problem is that numbers can't measure Conn's true successes. "Not everything that counts can be counted," said Albert Einstein, and "not everything that can be counted counts." *US News* has no column that gives credit for innovative study away programs, groundbreaking interdisciplinary centers, breathtaking views of Long Island Sound and, among other good things, the only full-size,

full-color newspaper in NESAC. The ratings have ignored the fact that our student body is increasingly engaged and intellectual. They do not recognize that Connecticut College was the first choice for a near majority of students as signified by the continuing trend of higher and higher acceptance rates for the early decision program.

Most of the quality in education, at least in a Connecticut College education, you can't count in an algorithm.

Most of the quality in education, at least in a Connecticut College education, you can't count in an algorithm. This was recognized by *The Fiske Guide To Colleges 2001*. *Fiske* lists Conn as a four-star institution (out of five) and credits the school for its inventive study abroad programs, its Honor Code, and its commitment to community.

Perhaps an even more sensible alternative than *The Fiske Guide* is to not submit surveys at all. Maybe we should just stop sending in our information to *US News and World Report*. Do we or perspective freshmen really need to put so much stock in these often misguided rankings, especially when our campus shines in tours, Open Houses and other programs for high school students? After all, any students that are shopping for a college that's just a number and not a home wouldn't be happy here. For the rest of us, however, Conn offers a great environment.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Campus Safety Destruction of Property Leads to A Call for Cultural Awareness

Dear Friends and Members of the Connecticut College Community,

I am writing you today on a very solemn note. A great loss has occurred, and the ensuing tragedy is limitless. The upcoming days, months, and maybe even years will be difficult for us all.

I ask that on this tragic day, you all find the courage deep down within to brace yourselves for what I am about to tell you. Friends, my hookah is no more, al-naqba has occurred. (For you non-Arabic speakers, al-naqba means "the catastrophe.")

I know that the shock and horror of this news must be difficult for you to handle, and I assure you that no one is as distraught and despaired as I am. I ask that in these times of sorrow we all do our best to remain calm.

Please do not allow your obvious and understandable anger and heartbreak at the hearing of this news get in the way of what truly lies ahead. Last week, we suffered an immeasurable loss. Today, we begin a new struggle.

Before I continue, I feel it would be remiss not to fully address why the demise of my hookah is such a catastrophic event for me, for my friends and for humanity at large. I acquired both the hookah, or nargilla as it is called in the Middle East, and the custom of nargilla-smoking from a Palestinian friend of mine who I met while living in Jerusalem last year.

At great trouble and expense, I managed to return to the U.S. with my nargilla and a year's worth of supplies intact. My intention being both to continue the cultural custom of a people and a place that I came to identify myself with over the year and to share this great custom with old and new friends back in the States.

In Jerusalem, as in the rest of the Arab world I am told, men of all ages partake in nargilla-smoking as a venue for old friends and family to come together to talk, both casually over the weather, and vehemently over politics and other passionate issues.

When I returned to the states this past summer, I informed all my old high school friends that Thursday nights were going to be nargilla nights, and I expected full attendance. To my great surprise and relief, my project proved immensely successful. My friends took on to the custom eagerly. Every Thursday, no matter how many or how few times we saw each in the middle of the week, everyone gathered for an evening of peace, tranquility, and relaxation amongst friends.

In true cultural form, some weeks we engaged in heated conversation over the impending election, and some weeks we'd just lay back and gazed at the summer sky through clouds of thick, apple flavored, nargilla smoke.

As I scrambled around the first few days of Orientation, I constantly invited people to stop by and try out my nargilla, my hope being that a similar custom could be established here at Conn College. Sadly, my nargilla was used just two short times this fall before it was destroyed in the shatter that was heard around the world.

At this time, I feel it necessary to make clear the exact circumstances surrounding the demise of a great symbol of an even greater culture. It seems that on the afternoon of August 31, 2000, as I was sitting jovially in the computer center in the library, lost in the wonders of instant communication with my loved ones all around the country, a different fate was in store for me.

The incident began when my roommate attempted to return from the hospital a day before his scheduled homecoming on September 1 (He unfortunately fractured his elbow earlier that week and required surgery). Upon returning to our room, he realized that he had not brought his key along with him to the hospital. With no idea where I was, he was left with only one option. He went to a neighbor's room and called campus security.

When Officer Doe (the officer has asked that he remain anonymous) arrived, he proceeded to unlock the door as requested. At this point, he was apparently overcome with the desire to "check out our room," clearly drawn by the curious display of a Palestinian and Israeli flag side by side on my wall, and noticed the nargilla sitting on my table. (I should note that another, and more likely, possible explanation is that he was merely trying to help my injured roommate inside.)

Accounts of what happened next are varied and sketchy at best. What is known however, is that the officer informed my roommate that he had to confiscate the nargilla as he inferred that it was an accomplice in illegal activities.

I must pause at this point in the retelling of these events. What happened next is so tragic, so horrific, so incomprehensibly heinous, that it brings me great difficulty to talk about it. Allegedly, the officer then left the room holding the nargilla by the brass pipe. Based on architectural knowledge of the nargilla and close examination of the scene, scientists believe that at this point the glass bowl slipped off of the rubber stopper, fell the approximately 3 feet to the ground, and shattered into anywhere between 50 to 500 pieces.

The bitter irony of these events is that when I went through the traditional channels to find out exactly what happened and how they were planning on making reparations for my illegally confiscated and damaged property, I was informed that I would most likely have to defend myself before the Judiciary Board on charges of

possession of contraband and infringement of the Honor Code. Even more bitterly ironic is that in the approximate four months that I have owned that nargilla, or in the approximate ten months that I have smoked nargillas, I never once smoked marijuana out of any of them.

I want to start off by saying that what angers me most about this situation is that I am now without something that meant a great deal to me, and is completely impossible to replace. Now matter what else comes from this, I will always be saddened that something that brought me great joy and to which I attributed high sentimental value is gone forever.

Having said that, there are a lot of things about what happened in my room that afternoon that seriously bother me. It seems that is against Connecticut College regulations to own anything that can be misconstrued as drug paraphernalia. Before I take issue with that in of itself, I am highly distressed by the fact that that information was never made available. At no point, either during orientation or in any of the literature that was given us, did the College or the J-Board make it known that to own materials resembling drug paraphernalia is an infringement of the Honor Code.

But what really bothers me about this event is the clear cultural ignorance, and thus bias that lies behind it. I highly doubt that any member of campus security would confiscate a tobacco pipe sitting on someone's desk, though pipes can be used to smoke marijuana quite easily and efficiently.

I highly doubt that any member of campus security would confiscate a lighter and rolling papers sitting on a desk, though those can be used just as easily to roll joints as cigarettes. For crying out loud, Phillies Blunts are sold in the campus convenience store in Cro. Now honestly, if you can find me one person on this campus who actually smokes Phillies Blunts as is, I will buy them a year's supply.

Now, don't get me wrong, I would be appalled if campus security started confiscating pipes, rolling papers and Phillies Blunts, and I am not advocating that they begin to do so in the slightest. Rather, I am pointing out the clear cultural bias that lies beneath the policy cited to justify the confiscation and subsequent destruction of my property.

A nargilla is designed, manufactured, and sold for the use of flavored tobacco smoking, which is why they are legal in this country, and my right to own one is defended by the law. (Incidentally, I did some research and drug paraphernalia is illegal under Connecticut law. However, since nargillas are not drug paraphernalia, they are legal.)

The fact that campus security isn't aware of the cultural significance nargillas play in Arabic culture, or is aware and operates on the assumption that students here will use them to smoke weed, is something that I find intolerable. What good is it that we send our students all over the world and openly accept foreign students here if we continue to act on our old prejudices and ignorance?

I've had many people tell me that I am overreacting, that it is just a hookah, and I should get over it. But as I sit here, writing this letter, it seems very serious to me. Is what campus security did right? I have to admit that I understand (gasp) why the officer acted the way he did. I can even understand, though I certainly disagree with, why the policy is the way it is.

I should also note that both campus security and the administration have been extremely cooperative with me, as I have tried to voice my problems to them. I do genuinely believe that what happened was an accident, the officer did not intentionally destroy my property. Accidents happen, and life dictates that we get over them and move on.

However, it seems to me that we also can stand to learn from accidents. I don't deny that other people might very well use instruments similar to my nargilla to smoke weed, but I didn't, and I fell victim because of a rule that in my mind is antiquated and Euro-centric. I want to change the rule as it stands now. I believe that that the College, through their policies and regulations, needs to do a better job of tolerating differences.

We as a college community need to seek ways of communicating and respecting each other better. The officer could easily have waited or returned to talk with me before confiscating my property. Instead, assumptions were made and I was wronged. But much more important than the fact that I feel I've been wronged, is my desire that education and awareness prevent similar events from transpiring in the future.

So now I put it to you. What do you think? Improving cultural awareness is an ongoing task, but it can only be furthered through open and challenging conversations within the community. Therefore I invite you to come talk to me about it. I live in KB, room 107. Stop by, and maybe we can make a difference and change things as they stand now. Maybe we won't be able to, or maybe we don't need to. But this much I can assure you of, the conversations I hope will ensue would be better facilitated if we could smoke a nargilla as we talk.

I wish you all the best as you start off this academic year.

Noah Silverman '04



THE COLLEGE VOICE

Box 4970 • Office (860) 439-2812 • Fax (860) 439-2843
email: cevoice@conncoll.edu

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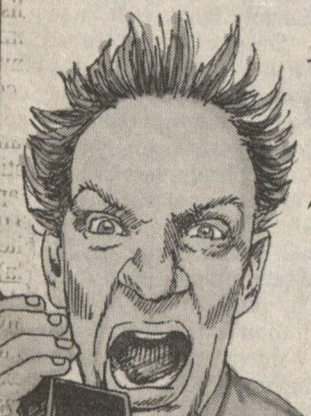
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Women: George Bush Wants to Mess with Your Uterus

NATE AVORN CLOSE COVER BEFORE STRIKING

George W. Bush thinks that it is his business what goes on in the uterus of America. He presumes that he has the right, if not the moral duty, to legislate the very personal goings on of women's reproductive health. If elected, he could make abortion illegal in this country.

The Supreme Court Justices are getting old. Their average age is sixty-six, and Justice Stevens is eighty. When they retire, Bush will appoint pro-life Justices. Presidents usually appoint two or three justices, and this election is especially vital given the geriatric condition of the Court. Given that three of the four oldest justices are pro-choice, and they comprise the base of the pro-choice voting block, the right to chose is indeed in danger.

This goes beyond abortion. The issue is not whether or not you approve of abortion, it is whether or not you approve of the criminalization of certain types of medical procedures. We are part of a generation born into a world where abortion is legal. We never lived at a time



when, should the need arise, you simply couldn't get a safe and legal abortion. As college students, we need to understand that if Bush is elected our choice could be taken away. Think about that the next time you consider not voting.

Do you want the government inside your body? Do you think that Feds have a place in the hospital with women and their doctors? A vote for Bush is a vote for the restriction of freedom. That's one of the reasons that I'm voting for Al Gore this November, and you should too.

I really like Al Gore's attitude about women's reproductive health. Al and I see eye to eye on this issue. We both believe that that the reproductive functions of women are not really our business. He doesn't try to go around telling people what to do, and restricting their personal options. I believe that, with few exceptions, it's not really my concern what goes on inside a woman's body. Al would back me up on that.

What I Did on My Summer Vacation

SARA KELLEY-MUDIE VIEWPOINT

Even though it is one of the most painfully obvious autumn cliches, I have caught myself asking umpteen people this week how their summer was, and I've had just as many ask me. Almost everyone I've asked has responded with the obligatory one word responses of good, okay, or bad, and I am guilty of the same sins of omission. Sometimes it's because I'm rushed, and sometimes it's because I don't think they really care and are only asking out of a sense of obligation or habit.

It's rather disheartening, however, to think that nobody really gives what you say a second, or even a first, thought. Maybe if we were to actually care about the answers we get, we'd also start to care about the answers we give. I just had the most incredible summer of my life, so for those who do care, and in order to get back to my elementary school roots, I have written the proverbial What I Did on my Summer Vacation essay.

I went to Israel. I suddenly understood my grandmother's faith. I began to understand my own. I worked as a Tutor-Counselor in an Upward Bound Program. I spent a week playing trust games while wearing a blindfold. I did an impression of a starfish. I was lied

to by my boss. Contrary to what I always thought I'd do, I did not call her on it. I taught someone how to fold a paper crane and was called an Origami goddess. I was trusted with secrets that had never been told to anyone else. I stood up for something I believed in, and I did not back down, even though it could have meant my job. I left a staff meeting in tears. I discovered my own hypocrisy, and overcame it, to a degree.

I came out to my parents. I went to my first gay bar. I learned how to make a bra out of a napkin (great party trick). I lost track of people and then found them again. I learned that I'm older and younger than I thought I was. I figured out that some of the best times can be had sitting on a bench with friends. I made a conscious decision not to hinder a relationship that everyone else thought was wrong. I was called Flashdance. I watched my little brother go off to college. I realized that I was going to be a senior and needed to start thinking of an answer to the question of what I was going to do with the rest of my life. I found my niche. And somebody told me that I changed their world.

So let me ask you again, how was your summer?

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Student Irate Over Dining Hall Changes

Many of you may not know me, but you will certainly recognize the tone of disgust and annoyance that motivated me to write this in the hope, infinitesimal as it may, be that in some place on some distant planet, Dining Services might get a clue.

I'm a senior, and in the past three years I have seen less and less of breakfast and lunch due to the hours of the dining halls - which to me seem completely arbitrary. At around mid semester during my sophomore year, however, I discovered a hidden treasure, Burdick's dining hall.

After sitting through my morning classes on a diet of coffee, Coke, and mint flavored Snapple Iced Tea, I discovered that I could stop by Burdick on my way from Fanning back to the Plex or Cro to get a quick bite to eat before picking up my books for my 1:00 class and heading out again. I found it was even more convenient when I had an 11:30 class followed by a 1:00 class. While this gave my professors plenty of time to eat, it didn't do much for us students. Not to say I'd begrudge my professors their well deserved lunches, but simply to say that until I discovered Burdick, I rarely ever had one.

Having discovered this wondrous place, I increasingly found myself going to my afternoon classes energized, with a nice ham and cheese sandwich fueling my brain cells. I determined then and there that I was going to write up a handbook for incoming freshman of all the neat little hidden spots on campus that no one really pays attention to, but a lot of people like.

A good example of this is the Coffee Grounds, a friendly place which many call home, and still others call breakfast. Before I wrote this I wanted to discover the best way of eating a healthy breakfast, aside from waking up at 5:00 in the morning. But alas, now that my solid lunch spot is gone, my only advice to everyone is this - learn to like spending money at Cro.

Let's review what we have so far. Burdick was the only place available to those of us with fifteen minutes between classes to eat any lunch at all, aside from the fact that it was actually a quite decent one.

Second, you meddling administration types don't quite realize that this category of student comprises a much larger proportion of the general student body than

the clickers that only counted every tenth or eleventh person to walk through the door might indicate.

I know of at least two occasions where they actually clicked me, the rest of the time no one even bothered to man the door. Third, those fortunate enough to live in Smith-Burdick in the pre-oppression era actually managed to eat breakfast, and many moved there intentionally with this very thought in mind. Don't tell me you professors never wondered why students who lived in Smith-Burdick tended to be a little less loopy than other students were in the morning.

And lest I forget, now that Smith is closed, the Dining Services has effectively declared war on all of the vegetarians on campus. The veggie burgers served in Harris are cooked on the same grills as the hamburgers are. "So what?," you might ask. Well, I'm not a vegetarian, but even I don't trust the burgers that grease up those grills, just imagine how gross that grease is for someone who doesn't eat meat.

I'm not asking you to become all P.C. - the last thing this campus needs is more of that - but at the very least, we should observe the noble ideas that underlie that horribly mutated set of letters: That everyone should be taken seriously, and be given ample access to what their personal beliefs and preferences make necessary. For the vegetarians on this campus, that means at very least, a grill devoted entirely to the preparation of vegetarian foods and nothing else, even if Dining Services chooses to locate such a grill in a newly reopened Burdick, or in the evil imperial fortress of the Harris Dining Hall.

The last thought that I will leave you with I will put in the form of a question. Why, when Harris was revamped during my freshman year did they not put enough room for the students that they had in attendance then? And why, having seen the travesty that was created by that oversight, does Dining Services wish to crowd Harris further?

I hate standing in lines. Get a clue, Dining Services, re-open Smith and Burdick. At the very least re-open Burdick, if nothing else. Don't let a half decent system go horribly bad.

Seth Cole '01

Hoop Dreams

COLEY WARD

The sentiment here at Connecticut College during these times of financial challenge is that we should not dwell on those luxuries that are being taken away. We should instead appreciate those things which we still have, the things that separate us from our peer institutions - the TRIPS's, SATA's, CISLA's, and CELLS's.

But I'll tell you one thing all of our peer institutions have that we don't: a basketball hoop. A simple, run-of-the-mill, backyard, playground-style hoop. Something students can walk to after classes shoot around on.

And, yes, I appreciate that it's insensitive of me to complain as the college is slowly sliding towards financial ruin. But I'm really not asking for that much. We don't need to build an arena or anything. We can dispense with the overhead lighting. Just throw a hoop down on some flat asphalt somewhere.

It's bad enough we don't have a varsity baseball team, but no basketball hoop? Have you ever heard of a college, and any level of school for that matter, that didn't have a basketball hoop? I mean, is this Russia, or what?

And besides, there are plenty of other benefits to having an outdoor hoop on campus. Undoubtedly, with the added running and jumping, the occasional sprained ankle

or skinned knee would occur, and then maybe the school nurse would finally have something to do before the evening detox crew rolled in.

Also, whenever Claire and the faculty clash over one of the president's spur of the moment purchases, a faculty representative and Claire can settle the dispute in a friendly game of 1-on-1. We've seen Claire dancing around in her leotards, we know she's agile. And we know her personal trainer keeps her in shape. Whoever the lucky professor chosen to go head to head with our president, he or she would be facing an uphill battle.

In fact, if anybody is going to support my effort to erect a basketball hoop at Conn, it's Claire. We know she's a big fan of the sport. After all, it was just a couple of years ago that she addressed our men's basketball team with the prophetic advice, "In order to succeed, you have to put out." Words to live by. And in this case, I hope that our president will take her own advice and find the funds, even in this time of financial challenge, to make my dream of an outdoor basketball hoop a reality. It's time to "put out," or in this case, "put up" a hoop. For all the right reasons.

SGA to Communicate with Student Body Through *The Voice*

SGA EXEC. BOARD FIRESIDE CHATS WITH SGA

The SGA Executive Board will have a column in the *College Voice* every week. The purpose of this column is to improve student communication on campus and to explain to the students what the Student Assembly is doing. This is the first in the series of SGA columns that will appear in the *Voice*.

Three branches of governance exist on this campus. The Faculty Steering and Conference Committee (FSCC), the administration, and the Student Government Association. The SGA consists of a ten-member executive board and a twenty-six-member assembly. The executive board is made up of the SGA president, the SGA vice president, the chairs of committees on academic affairs, the Judiciary Board, multiculturalism, residential life, SAC exec, the public relations director, the parliamentarian, and the presidential associate. The assembly is made up of twenty-two dorm senators and four class presidents.

The Student Government Association is the legislative branch of governance at Connecticut College that deals directly with student concerns, issues and policy. In the unique system of shared governance that exists on this campus, the Student Government Association is the branch that gathers, organizes and voices student concerns and issues to the other two branches. The Student Government Association is responsible for not only gathering and listening to student opinion, but also for relaying information and policy to the students from the administration and the FSCC.

The SGA is the branch of governance where any concerns, questions or issue that affect student life on campus are voiced. Any changes to college policy, issues of college life, or areas of concern should be brought to the SGA in order to formulate the best and most organized approach to the matter at hand.

Every year, the assembly votes on selecting Issue Projects. An Issue Project is an area of college life that the assembly agrees is so important and immense that it needs to be focused on and addressed continually throughout the year. This year, the assembly voted on five Issue Projects. The five Issue Projects are the Student Bill of Rights, Activism, the Honor Code, a Review of the College's Direction, and Administrative Relations. Five committees have been formed, each with specific goals and a set direction. Once these committees begin to meet, information on each project will be made available to all students and staff.

Every week the assembly holds an open meeting in the 1941 room at 7pm on Thursday nights. If you have any questions, concerns or comments that you would like to make to the assembly these meetings are your chance. Each week a Student Open Forum is held at the beginning of each meeting. This forum gives students a chance to voice their opinions on any issue of college life. Please feel free to come and make your voice heard. We welcome everyone and encourage you to attend a meeting at one point or another this year.

Connecticut College as an Environmental Image

BRAD KREIT LEFT OF MARX

I'm sure, by now, Conn freshmen and transfers have learned that Connecticut College is a sort of national model for an environmentally sound campus. If you were around for Orientation, you could observe this through the three picnics where students and faculty ate using paper plates and cups, as well as plastic utensils. You could see students and faculty alike diligently practicing their environmentalism, as they drove from Central campus to Harris to eat. Unfortunately, as it turns out, none of this is actually environmentally positive.

Students, faculty, and administration have all behaved in ways that are clearly un-environmental. If Conn is to have anything more than the image of environmentalism, we all need to work to improve our lifestyles. It's easy to fault the administration for this lack of environmental spirit on campus. We have just one freshly graduated environmental coordinator who changes on a yearly basis and no other useful environmental leadership positions. While this year's environmental coordinator is a highly competent guy, it's unrealistic to expect him to be able to handle the day-to-day operations of Conn and to make progress without increased support.

As easy as it may be to blame the administration, students (including myself) need to take greater responsibility for campus environmentalism. Last year's club activism was minimal, and campus outreach from SEAL and SAVE was non-existent. Other than write a weekly column in *The Voice*, I don't know of anything that Earth House did. Simple recycling bins, used by maybe half the students on campus, have been enough to make us complacent. Rather than actively working for difficult improvements, we have reduced our activism to mun-

dane and often insignificant issues.

Beyond the lack of true activism concerning environmental issues, many members of the campus community lead lifestyles that go against the pro-environmental image of the college. For example, most of the longer walks across campus take fewer than ten minutes, so why would anybody, barring drastic circumstances, drive anywhere? It's simply unnecessary. There are also people who don't recycle - another practice that I just don't understand. Connecticut College sticks recycling bins in every room - is it that much harder to empty an extra couple of bins every two weeks?

So for this year, I'm challenging everybody to improve their environmental awareness in some way. Pick something you do on a regular basis and try to do it a more environmentally sound way. For example, I am trying to waste less food this year. Student environmental groups and Earth House: challenge yourselves to have an environmental kick-off event that gets us thinking about Earth Day issues - but let's see it in October or November so that more people campus become involved in environmental issues from the outset of the academic year.

Administration and SGA: challenge yourselves to create some legitimate environmental student leadership positions, rather than house environmental representatives. These students will promote ecological sensibility in a way that administrators cannot. Environmentalism is something that needs to be practiced at all social levels to be effective - it cannot be a group issue exclusively, nor exclusively an individual issue.

A Letter to The College Community from the Chair of the Board of Trustees

DUNCAN N DAYTON '81 VIEWPOINT

As the academic year begins, I am pleased to share some observations and thoughts about our College.

We begin this year as one of the "hottest" colleges in the nation. Admissions statistics on the number and quality of students as well as the number who select Connecticut College as their first choice have improved dramatically. We consistently succeed at attracting the best new faculty, and our innovative academic programs continue to draw students and national recognition. The latest Fiske Guide to Colleges tells students, among other things, that we are known for our "excellent academics, strong study abroad programs, and student-faculty research." Last year in particular produced some tremendous achievements:

- The largest and most selective admitted class in history (applications up 20% last year and 41% over five years, admit rate dropped to 32% from 50% over five years),
- Ten (35 over the last three years) extraordinarily talented new tenure track faculty hired,
- A new strategic plan, drafted and passed with Year One tasked completed,
- Greater financial strength. Although audited financial statements for FY00 are not yet available, we expect to close with a balanced operating budget and have set a balanced operating budget for the next fiscal year,
- The largest single gift from a living donor—\$10 million—which demonstrates confidence in the leadership of the college and the quality and excellence of its faculty, staff and students,
- The most successful fund-raising year ever, with gifts of over \$37.6 million (more than was in the entire endowment in 1988).

In short, the College has never been stronger and has solidified its position as one of the nation's outstanding liberal arts colleges. As the board has examined statistics and trends showing our growth over the last decade, it is clear that we are stronger by ever measure. To ensure that we maintain this momentum, the Board has asked for and received from President Gaudiani her renewed commitment to the College.

Building and maintaining innovative academic programs has required, and will continue to require, steady growth in financial resources. During 1990, when I was elected to the board, the total College budget was \$39 million; this year it is \$84 million. Over the same time, our endowment rose from \$39 million to more than \$160 million at the end of June.

The financial position of the College has strengthened throughout this period. In just four years, from 1995-99, net assets grew from \$125 million to \$191 million. We completed the largest fund-raising campaign in the College's history, reaching 110% of goal and bringing the number of endowed professorships to 39. During this campaign, the College raised \$138 million, of which \$123 million has been received and \$15 million will come to the College in pledge payments over the next few years. More than \$75 million was designated for the endow-

ment, \$24 million for capital projects, \$14 million for special projects, \$25 million for annual operating funds. Alumni participation in the Annual Fund virtually doubled, rising to 50% in 1999. We have financed over \$50 million in capital projects (primarily new and renovated buildings) through very favorable bond offerings. Investor demand for the College bond offering in 2000 was three times the issue available, indicating strong investor confidence. Throughout this period, the College has maintained a strong debt to endowment ratio and manages total debt service (principal and interest) at a conservative 5% of the operating budget. These financial indicators show the steady building strength of the College's financial picture. Clearly, academic reputation and fiscal position have strengthened together.

Just as we can see our successes and the strengths of the College, the hard work before us is also clear. We must continue to:

- recruit and admit a talented and diverse student body,
- raise money for endowment and the Annual Fund to fund the College's operating needs and the new ways of learning that have emerged and will continue to emerge from the strategic plan,
- strive to enhance the College's National and international reputation,
- renovate and expand facilities,
- further deepen our commitment to the larger community around us,
- maintain a balanced budget,
- introduce new budget practices suitable to our increasingly complex institution, and
- improve communications and the ways we work together.

As I look back over the past decade and last year in particular, it is clear to me that we have paid some price for out many achievements. While we were all working so hard, some stresses and strains have appeared within our community. To address this issue, I have been working throughout the summer with a committee of four other trustees and five faculty, as well as with the president and senior administrators, to identify problems and possible solutions. We have had open and candid discussions around issues of shared governance and communications among all segment of the college community. I am buoyed by the work of this committee and am confident it will help put us all on a stronger footing.

Over the last couple of weeks, I have visited campus and talked with a number of groups. At every meeting, I have expressed my pride in our College and my appreciation for everyone's contributions. If you have a question or thought that you would like to share, I invite you to send me a letter or e-mail (dnday@conncoll.edu).

I am proud to serve my alma mater as the board chair and am honored to work with so many talented individuals among our faculty, students and staff. Thanks to the dedicated leadership of President Gaudiani, an experienced Board of Trustees, and a superb senior administrative team, I look forward to a terrific 2000-01 year.

Local Artists on Display at Lyman Allyn

By IAN ABRAMS

staff writer

Situated beyond Cummings and South Lot, the Lyman Allyn Art Museum offers over 30,000 objects of art for viewing by the student body and community at large. September 3rd marked the first of this semester's First Sunday events at the museum, monthly open house events featuring performance artists, refreshments, and the opportunity to view the museum's current exhibitions.

The museum features an impressive range of artistic styles within six visiting displays. In keeping with the tradition of promoting historic art native to Southeastern Connecticut, three exhibits draw upon the work of craftsmen in the New London County area. An exhibition of the work of Pasquale Montesi, a 19th-century Italian immigrant living in Norwich, featured the artist's intricately constructed models of ships seen during his stint as a seaman.

Montesi relied completely upon his own memory for the ship models, and added imaginative touches, resulting in stunning pieces which, although not intended as replicas, are evidence of his master craftsman-

ship. The largest model stands nearly six feet tall, and is approximately seven feet in length, with impeccable attention to every detail down to the canvas used to fashion the sails.

Another exhibition pays further tribute to Norwich artisans. A collection of Windsor chairs, bureaus, and a grandfather clock reflect Connecticut's location between several unique urban centers.

The construction of these pieces is evidence of the craftsmen's ability to synthesize this urban sophistication while preserving the quaint touches of their regional handiwork.

An exhibition of materials pertinent to the U.S. Coast Guard, funded by the Academy's class of 1945, rounds out the display of regional pieces in the museum's temporary collection. Paintings of Coast Guard officers stand alongside those of ships, as well as blueprints and other paraphernalia relevant to that institution.

The three remaining exhibitions take a turn towards modernism and abstraction, featuring photographs by Jane Greer, and painted work by Pat Steir and Richard Johnson.

Greer's display centers around photographs taken of dolls in disrepair at the Doll Hospital in New York

City. Nothing about these photographs of dolls in graphically violent and sexual situations reflect the youthful innocence that comes to mind when one thinks of a "doll display."

Greer uses the medium of these lifelike inanimate figures to address the own vulnerability that she felt as a child, proclaiming youth as the primary avenue for abuse and exploitation. In the pamphlet, Greer claims that her own experiences with familial assault stopped as she became "too visible" upon reaching adolescence and developing her individuality. Her striking photographs depict abusive situations with figures that have no individuality or identity to safeguard against their degradation.

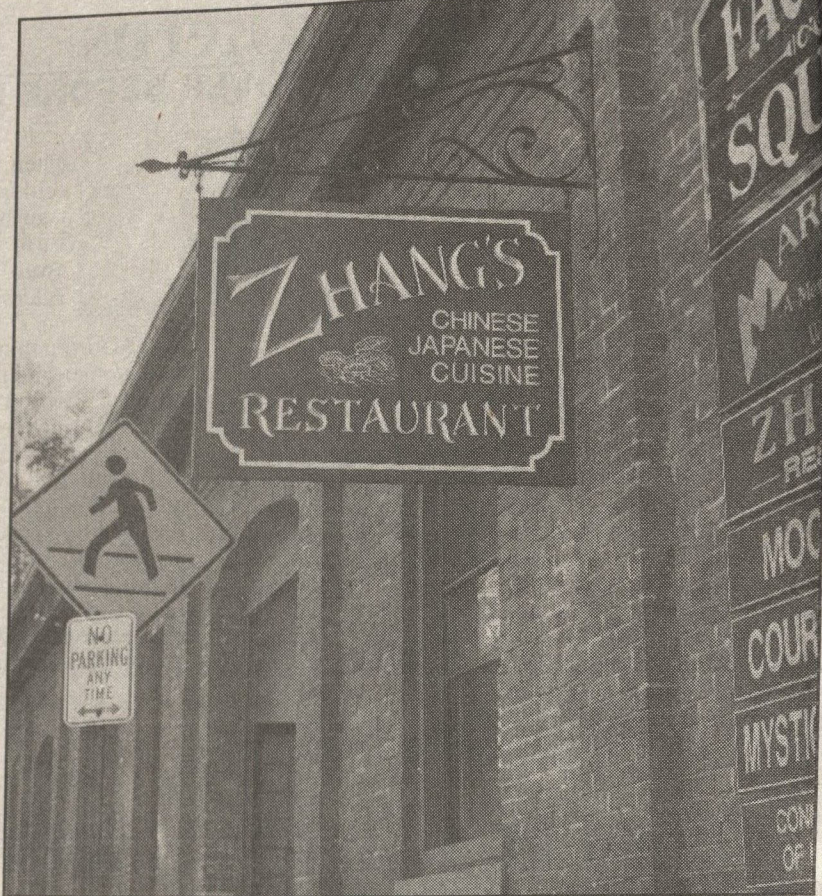
Richard Johnson's *Fleurs du Mal* display uses floral imagery to depict decay, loss, and the ephemerality of beauty. His pieces, composed in a medium of acrylic and plexiglass, provoke the viewer with luminescent, active colors, and the canvases are wisely left outside of glass frames, allowing the texture of the paint to create a feeling of intimacy and accessibility. However, their content is that of beauty captured immediately before a plunge into decrepitude, preserved only for a moment, paper-thin

and wispy images superimposed upon the busy colors beneath.

Finally, Pat Steir's exhibition of waterfall paintings offers a valuable insight into the importance of artistic style. Covering 25 years of Steir's work, the paintings are testament to her singular vision, and her decision to allow that vision to mature, incorporating new ideas, without complete reinvention of her process. The waterfalls range from large black canvases with long egg-colored streaks of paint, to stunning oranges and golds and, in one case, a circular canvas. All of the work present seeks to depict beauty in a way almost diametrically opposed to Johnson's—instead of decay and frailty. Steir's vision is one of endurance and energy within life's perpetual flux.

A visit to The Lyman Allyn Museum is an outing that no Connecticut College student should miss. First Sunday events are a great opportunity to enjoy live music and food while touring a valuable campus resource.

The Museum's hours are 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., Tuesday through Saturday, and 1 p.m. to 5 p.m. on Sundays. Admission is \$3 for Connecticut College Students with ID.



A new addition to the panoply of fine dining in Mystic, Zhang's offers Chinese and Japanese fare with flair. (photo by Trevor Brown)

Counting Crows in Concert: With Live, a Great Show

By JESSE ERDHEIM

staff writer

The current Counting Crows/Live tour boasts some of the strongest acts in rock today. For years, Adam Duritz and his Crows have wanted to hit the road with the poetic Ed Kowalczyk and his band mates. Duritz's idea seemed ideal for fans of this genre who have hoped that the Counting Crows would be able to find another musical group capable of matching the soulful energy emitted during a Crows performance. Adam Duritz's personal touch during performances makes each audience member feel like an important part of a tight-knit family, comprised of the band and its fans. To no surprise, the Counting Crows and Live each ardently displayed their appreciation for each other's music at the joint concert at the Hartford Meadows Music Theatre, on August 23, 2000.

Galactic began the show with an altogether unsatisfactory set. It was filled with irritating dances by their sometimes lead singer, who could not sing, and overextended instrumental work by the seemingly talented backup members of the band, who

demonstrated a minute amount of passion for their songs.

While the roadies set up for Live, Adam Duritz appeared and stressed the importance for fans to register with *Rock The Vote*. The Counting Crows front man was interrupted during his plea by an enthused fan that exclaimed, "Vote Republican!" To which Duritz responded, "What kind of idiot comes to a rock concert and says vote Republican?"

Over the course of the evening the Counting Crows publicized their interest in promoting safe sex, as fully decked out Trojan Men and Women distributed free condoms outside of the arena.

When Live began their performance, guitarist Chad Taylor and bassist Patrick Dalheimer appeared first, moving quickly around the stage while pounding out riffs on their instruments, providing the necessary sound for singer Ed Kowalczyk to make a grand entrance. The band played older hits, such as "Lightening Crashes" and "Lakshmi's Juice," in addition to numerous songs off their new album, *The Distance to Here*. Adam Duritz joined Kowalczyk for a heartfelt rendition of "The Dolphins Cry." The two

singers jumped around and hugged each other like long-lost friends.

Live concluded its set with an enthusiastic version of "I Alone," which brought the crowd to its

feet and inspired dancing and cheering. The Counting Crows finally took the stage towards the end of the evening.

The Counting Crows opened with the slow piano ballad, from the *Cruel Intentions* soundtrack, "Colorblind." For the next hour they played a mixture of old songs and new ones. The songs were ranging from an upbeat version of "Mr. Jones" to the slow and tender "All My Friends," which explains how all of Adam Duritz's friends have found love and their place in the world, while he is still in the process of searching for both. However, after this song, Duritz talked to the crowd about how he had fallen in love with a girl on the road, which evoked much emotion from the supportive audience.



The Crows concluded their set by bringing all of their family members, plus the members of Live and Galactic, on stage to play their latest single, "Hangin' Around," in a somewhat cheesy but touching performance. When the Crows returned for an encore, Adam apologized for the evenings rainy and chilly weather and then launched into a meaningful version of "Rain King."

On the way out of the arena, as the Trojan Man eagerly distributed his paraphernalia to the crowd, I could not help but feel privileged to be a part of a family that provides not only entertainment but protection for all of its members. And I couldn't stop myself from thinking, "You just don't get that kind of a feeling from a Brittany Spears' concert."

New Asian Cuisine Spices Up Mystic

By KUSWANTIE PARASRAM

staff writer

Zhang's Restaurant is one of the newest eateries in Mystic, located on 12 Water Street, and serves only the finest of Japanese and Chinese cuisine.

When I walked into Zhang's, I felt as if I was in Japan. When I looked up, I saw colorful and decorative umbrellas of different sizes hanging from the ceiling. My eyes then drifted to the orange lanterns hanging on the corners and my ears were attracted to the soft, soothing, relaxing instrumental music from the East playing in the background.

As a neatly dressed hostess was escorting me to my table, I could immediately feel the woman's friendliness through her voice. I was given the option to choose where I wanted to sit, either in the back in the comfortable booths, on regular chairs or at the Sushi bar.

At Zhang's, there are a myriad of Chinese and Japanese foods to try. Sushi figures prominently, from California rolls and salmon rolls to more exotic sashimi specials. If you are not a sushi lover, other Japanese entrees include an array of teriyaki, soups, and tempura.

Zhang's also has a good selection of Chinese fare. The Ma Po Tofu was smooth textured and spicy, and the

orange beef was crisp and flavorful. The seafood bird's nest was a bit bland, but the presentation was excellent.

The average cost for one person to enjoy a decent meal, including non-alcoholic drinks, is reasonably priced at about \$15. The main course was excellent, and accompanying many of the Japanese entrees is a simple salad dressed with a tangy carrot-ginger dressing which was very appealing to my taste buds. Miso soup was also included in my sushi meal, but the strong salty taste was not to my liking. If you are a miso fan or seaweed lover, I would encourage you to have it because as my guest said "it is an opening to the meal. Just as bread is to the American meal, soup is part of the Japanese meal," concluding the soup "was very good."

The service was excellent and the waiters were very patient. Their attitudes toward young children were very friendly and cheerful. Kids were given toys to play with, until their meals arrived, and they were served drinks in huge ceramic bird mugs.

Based on a five California roll scale Zhang's restaurant obtains four California rolls because of its excellent food, service, great environment, friendly wait-staff and good value. If you are interested in going to Zhang's Restaurant call (860) 572-5725, open from 11:00am to 10:00pm everyday.

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EVE6 - PopRocks Try to Find Fizz

By JESSE ERDHEIM

staff writer

It seems that a new era in music is approaching as pop musicians valiantly attempt to reinvent their image. One reason for the popularity of pop music is its simplicity—an upbeat verse, followed by a harmonized chorus filled with lyrics that people remember after hearing a song for the first time.

Lets be honest, in this day and age, one could do a lot worse than sing like N*Sync. Yet, nobody seems to have had the intelligence to pass on my advice to the pop quartet Eve 6, who clearly are entertaining the idea of becoming a hard-core band, as they tour clubs throughout America in support of their new album *Horrorscope*.

On August 25th, the band kicked off their American tour at Lupos, a small club in Providence. As the crowd of pierced and tattooed teenagers entered the club, I couldn't help but wonder whether the Jockey Store in the area recently had a sale, as most of the fans wore tight undershirts, or "wifebeaters."

After making the crowd wait for more than an hour, the opening band, Turning Blue, took the stage playing its first punk song. The audience exploded with supportive shouts. Turning Blue played for 30 minutes and I'm not sure if the band ever played more than one song throughout their whole set. You couldn't tell when one song ended and another one began. Obviously, Turning Blue has listened to one too many Rancid albums.

Following the punk band's set, the audience was forced to endure 45 minutes of preparation. After which a Limp Bizkit rip-off band, Good



The boys of Eve6 looking pretty while trying to recapture a hardrock past

Charlotte, who hails from my native Maryland, appeared and proceeded to incite violent moshing and crowd-surfing for no other purpose than to distract the impressionable audience from the band's pitiful attempts at songwriting.

When Eve 6 finally took the stage, my sweaty, violent fellow audience members pushed, punched and took whatever other means necessary to get close to the band. The first thing I sadly realized was that Max Collins' vocals, while not entirely excruciating, fell a bit short of outstanding. The band performed for

an hour and the set included "Open Road Song," and "Leech" from their self-titled album, as well as "Amphetamines," and "Promise" from *Horrorscope*.

The songs were accompanied by numerous asides from Collins, who at one point wittily proclaimed, "this next song is about getting head in the shower," after which the band launched into a passionate version of the song "Showerhead."

As Eve 6 finished its show with a loud and version of "Inside Out," the crowd erupted in an apparently pleasurable moshing extravaganza.

Whipped: Just For the Masochist in You

By MICAH WEISBERG

staff writer

★★★★☆

Whipped traces the lives of three friends over the course of seven weeks in New York City. Every Sunday, Brad, Zeke and Jonathan meet in a "Seinfeld"-esque local deli where the three discuss their sexual exploits of the past week, each one trying to top the other.

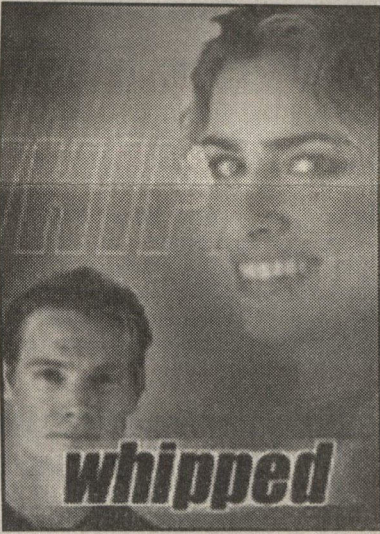
The movie does a pretty good job of portraying these tales through a series of flashbacks and dream sequences. They are comical at first, but not enough to sustain a humorous tone throughout most of the film.

It initially appears that the three men are doomed to a future of one-night stands, until they each meet the girl of their dreams and fantasize about the possibility of actually having a meaningful relationship. What they don't know is that they have all fallen for the same woman, Mia (Amanda Peet), who is strikingly similar to Cameron Diaz's character in *There's Something About Mary*. Mia is the perfect girl — she appears to be interested in everything.

You can probably see where this is going. What follows is a mediocre execution of a cliched plot.

Three guys find out that they are sleeping with the same woman. Each feel that they have a special connection with Mia and therefore believe that they have a legitimate reason for why they are the one.

The comic scenes are few and far between, and the jokes are ones you have probably seen before; the movie lacks any real surprises. You keep waiting for something to happen, but it never does. The characters' per-



sonalities seem exaggerated and forced. Brad, the over-confident frat-lawyer on Wall Street; Zeke, the smooth-talking screenwriter who, at one point states "I secrete mystery, chicks dig mystery;" and Jonathan, "the shy and sensitive" one who will usually choose Vaseline over spending the night with someone, are somewhat stereotypical.

Whipped is a good example of a straight-to-video release. It lacks the creativity and sincerity that would otherwise prolong its stay at the box office. The movie seemed to be a big conglomeration of several other movies that revolve around the pursuit of the girl and the rush to get laid. It attempts to be *American Pie* or *There's Something About Mary*, but falls short in every way. The movie clocked in at just under an hour and a half. In the end, the only ones feeling whipped were the audience.



Faculty Art Exhibition 2000



Although students know their studio art professors primarily as instructors of their craft, Conn's Art professors are established artists in their own right. The annual Faculty Exhibition is a reminder of the great talents one can find haunting the studios. Here is just a taste of what can be seen in the exhibition, currently on display in the Cummings Arts Center. Top: Pamela Marks, *Pigeonnier #3*, 2000, watercolor on paper, 15" x 15". Above: Ted Hendrickson, *Ocean Beach from Alewife Cove*, 1999, gelatin silver prints, 20" x 60". Below: Andrea Wollensak, *Study for GPS Bellagio Series*, 2000, iris digital print, 10" x 20".



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NLDC Efforts Seen In New London 101 but Freshmen Response to the City Divided

STEVE REYNOLDS

staff writer

Approximately 100 freshmen toured New London last Saturday, participating in the third annual New London 101, a program designed to familiarize new students with the city.

Three buses transported the students to the city for the three-hour tour, which ran primarily along State and Bank Streets, and then by other places of importance, which were pointed out by community members and college students.

Darlene Kornegae of the Office of Community and Public Affairs explained the goal of NL 101, saying "In bringing people to the city, and getting them to come back, more businesses will come to New London. These new businesses will in turn bring even more people to the city. The main thing is to get students downtown and point out places of interest. The hope is that they come back again."

Getting people to come back to New London is something that the NLDC has been struggling with for quite some time. The NL 101 program, which began years ago, provided city officials with a valuable sense of visitor feedback. The initial response was not favorable.

Said one bright eyed freshman female while walking down State Street past several empty storefronts, "One of the things that gets me is it's Saturday and there's no one here."

In past years, response from CC students has improved, albeit marginally. Last year, students (last year) freshmen reactions to the city were varied. While one girl said enthusiastically, "I like it. There's actually a lot more to do than I thought." Another offered a half-hearted "it's okay." A third student was more negative, saying "there's nothing happening here."

Kofi, a freshman from who lives in The Plex, was enthusiastic about possible return trips to NL, though he was disappointed in his failure to locate a music store. "Definitely, I would come back. I was looking for a record store, but I like the atmosphere with the small stores and restaurants. It was a really nice place."

Some others, when posed with the prospect of a return trip, responded with an unconvincing "maybe."

Students participating in this year's tour observed many new or



Students were toured along Bank Street and State Street (above). In foreground is the Soldiers and Sailors Monument. The downtown area was slated for redevelopment beginning with the renovation of 3 historic properties which was postponed indefinitely after a Monday City Council meeting. (Photo by Rob Knake)

renovated buildings that those from previous years never saw. Much of this change has been due to the work done by the New London Development Corporation (NLDC), an organization headed by Conn President Claire Gaudiani dedicated to redeveloping and enhancing New London.

One of the first stops along the tour, the Garde Art Center, impressed many students. The Garde is one of the numerous buildings targeted for redevelopment, and the students seemed enthusiastic about returning. Naja Alvarado '04, was particularly struck by the facade of the building, saying, "it was beautiful."

Other buildings highlighted early on in the tour that have been the result of the effort to bring more business to the city were the Alva Gallery, Connecticut College Downtown and Harris Place.

Kornegae was enthusiastic about the direction New London is going. "When I did this tour last year, there were many empty buildings for rent. But now as more people are coming

to New London, these spaces are being taken."

Which isn't to say there isn't still more work to be done. Sections of buildings still remain vacant, and the streets were for the most part devoid of people, a fact that Kornegae attributed to the Labor Day weekend.

The tour made its way to Bank Street, where the group stopped and marveled at the Soldiers and Sailors Monument and Union Station. Students were told about the high-speed Amtrack Acela rail, which will make its debut here later this year, connecting New London with major east-coast metropolises Boston, New York, Philadelphia and Washington D.C.

Highlights of the tour along Bank Street included the Road House, the Capitol Theatre, Mugz and Hygenic Art Galleries. Although students on last year's tour were told the Book-A-Zine was going to be closed, New London's adult books and movies shop was still present, drawing snickers from the touring students.

A brief stop at the U.S. Customs house, the site of the historic Amistad case, ended the first part of the tour. After some confusion spurred by a sudden downpour of rain, a missing tour group and a hit stop sign, the buses were finally on their way.

The buses made their way past Starr and Tilly Streets, two areas that Conn is working to refurbish. Places such as the Shaw House, the Lawrence and Memorial Hospital and Mitchell College were pointed out to the students.

On the way back to Conn, students were able to see the construction of Pfizer Global Research Center, the centerpiece of the New London renaissance. Upon completion, the Pfizer facility is expected to bring needed jobs and revenue to the city.

Freshmen listened as the tour guide discussed the historical area of Fort Trumbull. The buses then made their way up Williams Street past the Coast Guard Academy and returned the students to Conn.

Activist Juliette Beck to Kick Off Common Ground, Common Hour Series

On September 15th "Common Ground, Common Hour" kicks off the fall 2000 semester with a presentation from Juliette Beck of the international human rights organization, Global Exchange. Perhaps best known as the key organizer during the November 1999 Seattle protest where over 50,000 demonstrators shut down a meeting of the World Trade Organization, Beck currently works as an Economic Rights Coordinator with Global Exchange. She joined the group in January 1999 to launch the grassroots campaign against Gap, Inc. sweatshops.

Since 1996, Juliette has coordinated the California Fair Trade Campaign, a coalition that educates and advocates against the expansion of NAFTA-style, corporate-managed trade agreements and undemocratic institutions like the World Trade Organization. The coalition works to promote fair trade policy alternatives that protect the rights of workers, communities and the environment. Last spring, Juliette has helped spread "the spirit of Seattle" from coast to coast while organizing against the World Bank and International Monetary Fund as part of the Mobiliza-

tion for Global Justice. As a national spokesperson for the mobilization, Juliette appeared on C-Span, National Public Radio and was featured in *The New Yorker Magazine*, the *Washington Post* and the *Sunday Times* of London.

Most recently, Juliette has spearheaded Global Exchange's U.S. democracy work aimed at sparking public debate about the corporate corruption of democracy and the need for an overhaul of the political system to allow for third parties, public financing of elections, and increased public participation in the political process. Juliette received a bachelor's degree in 1994 from the University of California at Berkeley in Environmental Studies.

While at Connecticut College, Juliette Beck will also meet with students from the Holleran Center's PICA class as well as hold an afternoon mobilization training session with student groups such as S.E.A.L., S.A.V.E., Youth for Justice and Amnesty International.

For more information contact Darlene Kornegay, Office of Community & Public Affairs at ext-2104 or email: dykor@conncoll.edu

Reverse SATA

continued from page 1

really feeling at home here."

The idea for the Reverse SATA program came from President Claire Gaudiani '66, who obtained full financial support through a grant from the Andrew Mellon Fund. Vietnam was chosen as the first place for the Reverse-SATA experiment because of the close links forged between CC

and VNU during the 1999 SATA-Vietnam program. The TRIPS program in Vietnam last spring break involving the economics department was another success. This fall, the College is hosting the Reverse SATA and a new adventure is ahead with SATA Vietnam '01.

Health Services

continued from page 1

student with a serious concussion who needed to be monitored. What do you do with a student who needs to be monitored? Where does he go?"

VP Maroni added in defense of the schools decision, "It should be noted that when the health services fee is added to the comprehensive fee, the College remains within the

middle of the range of peer schools in terms of total annual costs to the student. In fact, the College's ranking within the range does not change with the addition of this fee, and the College continues to provide greater hours of health care related service than most within the peer group."

US News & World Report Rankings

continued from page 1

isted decrease in 'alumni giving rate.' 'That's a mistake.' Then you have a real story! You have discovered something!" interjected Gaudiani. "Last June, we closed with 100%."

On asked what accounted for the massive shift in "faculty resources rank," President Gaudiani said, "They change what they count each year. Last year, they counted things one way, or counted things in there that they did not count this year...I do not know what is in the algorithm [Emphasis added]... I do not know what they [US News] counted inside the number, because we have more money for faculty, stronger number of Ph.D.s teaching. I simply do not know the answer." When asked whether she thought that the criteria might have changed this year, she added, "I don't know. I think so, because you couldn't change that much unless you changed the criteria."

Expressing her dissatisfaction at the unpredictable weighting system of the US News rankings, she said, "They change the weight of the factors in the algorithm year by year. So, one year, they might say 'endowment counts 20%; another year they might say, 'endowment counts 25%; one year, they might say, 'reputation counts 40%; another year, they might say, 'it counts 30%.' So, year to year, it is not constant...So, to compare statistically year to year is not a legitimate use of the statistics. The public does not understand that...There are two features. One: the ordering changes in how heavily they group, and the weight in the algorithm of the different portions, and then [secondly] what they actually count inside each of the five areas."

Critically, she added, "There are other people who say, 'This is ridiculous; it is to sell the magazine.' If you look at the research from Alma College, which, last year and the year before, tried to start a national campaign against these ratings, you see the critiques of the ratings that I am telling you about."

On asked whether she had ever written to the *U.S. News* about her dissatisfaction with the recurrent re-ordering of the algorithm, she replied that she had not only thought of writing but had visited them several times

to address the issue. "I have been on panels in front of thousands of people, with them on the panel with me, talking about the ratings," uttered the disillusioned President. According to her, the *U.S. News*, at those instances, justified their actions by saying that "they change it each year to improve the algorithm." "So, it's hard to argue with that," fretted Gaudiani.

Dean Coffin had his own complaints about the new rankings. According to the Horizon Building supremo, Connecticut College had sent students' SAT scores to the *U.S. News* instead of ACT scores for this year's rankings.

In spite of some upward or downward fluctuations in the aforementioned criteria, Connecticut College's scores have also remained constant in some categories. Its "financial resources rank" and "graduation and retention rank" have remained constant at 18th and 30th positions respectively, so have "student / faculty ratio" at 11:1 and "reputation score" at 3.7.

President Gaudiani and Dean Coffin both viewed the stagnation of the college's "academic reputation score" as a salient issue and expressed an urgent need to boost it. Dean Coffin told the *College Voice* that the reputation score constituted a significant portion (25% according to this year's "Exclusive Rankings" issue of *U.S. News*) of the overall ranking.

"If you look at the academic reputation score, it has not changed," contemplated Mr. Coffin. "Three people on every campus vote for that: the President, the Provost and the Dean of Admission."

What we need to do, as a college, is to look at the gap between what we are doing at Connecticut, which we know is exciting and innovative, and why that message has not come through in the minds of other deans, provosts and presidents...in part because they are focused on their own institutions. For example, when I vote on the survey, I don't always know everything about our peer schools, but [I am] still forced to vote 1 to 5 on each of them."

Having identified a spot where we are not moving, if we were to move from 3.7 to 3.8, for example, we would be up where the other 3.8 are. That's our agenda this year. Those of us who work on public relations side

of the college will look for ways to communicate the strength of our strategic plan, great success of our alums [sic], TRIP courses and the opportunities we are giving the students. I can pick up many schools that are terrific places but not exciting. They do not do anything new, but they have a better reputation score because they are a hundred years older than we are."

The college president shared the dean's opinion. She also mentioned that a Trustee Committee on college relations had been working for three years to prepare the plan that the trustees and she started off at last year's October board-meeting to improve the college's reputation. She added, "I also speak at Harvard each summer to new presidents."

Gaudiani was reticent when asked to provide examples of upcoming new projects towards that end. "Probably not now," declared Gaudiani. "I will announce these after the next board meeting [in mid-October]."

Dean Coffin was more communicative in this regard. The young, visionary, enthusiastic dean remarked, "You can do things like sponsor symposiums on the college that deal with a topic that's of interest to many college presidents and deans [whom] you would invite to Connecticut College, ostensibly for a topic about public policy or co-education [or something like that]. While they are here and we are the host, it's an opportunity to highlight what we are doing, and, so, in very subtle ways, you force the President of Wesleyan, Trinity, Bates and the likes to come to New London, look around and say, 'Wow! This place is deeper and stronger than I thought.' In doing so, you have not overtly gone to their offices and said, 'we have a stronger reputation than you think' but you've brought them to a mutual event that gives us a way to have a conversation at certain broad purposes as well as an institutional one."

He acknowledged that reputation-building was a slow process. Student leader Gashi agreed, "These things need time to percolate."

Dean Coffin, however, envisioned Connecticut College developing its reputation by one decimal point soon. "Next year, we will be number 23," predicted a sanguine Coffin. "In five years, we will make it to the top twenty."

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Convocation Speaker Youngblood Speaks About Work as Inner-City Activist

BY COLEY WARD AND TIM EVENS

news editor

Voice: What first inspired the Nehemiah Project?

Reverend Johnny Youngblood: The people of the area recognized that we were true to the biblical description. We were in reproach even unto ourselves in that our community was readily portrayed in the media as everything from one of God's slatterns, to the beginning of the end of civilization, to Burma after the bombing. This is the way people referred to the place we called home: where we worshipped, where our children attended school, where we owned property, and we were steadily, every period, electing people to office while the quality of life in our community was steadily deteriorating. We soon discovered that our community was the victim of plant shrinkage, redlining and all of the other horrors that can happen to a community to turn it into what the media portrays it as being and then blames it on the people. And what we did was, as church members in particular, we decided that we would move beyond denominational boundaries and recognize that the problems of the community were common problems. If there was a Roman Catholic Church on this corner, or a Baptist church on this corner, or a Pentecostal church here or wherever, we were all different in terms of our basic religious beliefs. But in terms of everyday life we were victimized by the same vicissitudes. So, we recognized our limitations and decided to call in people who were good at community organizing. That group turned out to be the Industrial Areas Foundation, also known as the Solominski Institute. After bringing them in, they started to show us how to galvanize our people, how to pool our resources, how to capitalize on our influence, and how to tap our own, basic, selves and recognize that we knew what we wanted and we knew what we needed better than the people we elected to office.

So after a period of retreats, reflections, evaluations, studies, interviews, and just analyses, we said, "hey, what we will do is we will see it as our mission to force the people in office to do for our communities what they're supposed to do and we will hold them accountable and we will allow them to hold us accountable." That was a promise that we made 18 years ago and we now have 2700 single-family row houses where we have literally rebuilt three communities. All our houses are occupied. These are homes owned, first time home ownership. The real joy that I have is not only do people get a chance to own their own homes but 52 percent of the people who buy Nehemiah homes come out of public housing and people who at one time paid 800 dollars a month rent public housing now pay maybe less than 400 dollars a month mortgage with their own home. I think I may have answered two or three questions there.

V: With your project, what did you feel separated it from other revitalization projects in the past?

RY: This project was done by the people who lived in the community. We were not the recipients of outside do-gooders who came in to superficially do good for us while they at the same time kind of claimed all the benefits of these beneficent acts. So this was a project that we made it a point to keep for ourselves and not give to anybody. So this was done, in the words of the Preamble, for the people and by the people.

V: How successful have you been in encouraging businesses to relocate to this area?

RY: That has not been one of our efforts thus far. In Brooklyn we have not done that. There is some talk now about us possibly trying to bring a supermarket into the area where we just built a few hundred homes. We are not sure that we want to get too much into that because when we do that we may provide a few jobs, which is better than none, but we wind up negotiating again with people outside the community and what we recognize is that building up people is as important as building homes. So what makes Nehemiah important is that we not only build homes, we build people, organize people, and these people know how now to take care of their community and hold public officials accountable.

We do have a sister organization in the New York City area that has put together a Pathmark. They have been able to get Pathmark to come in. So for us in Brooklyn economic development, calling in and inviting in big businesses, we have not done that just yet. We've tried to make sure that we have a stable community and we are working now to get a visionary community so that the people can have a sense of ownership. What we would like to do is find out what they want just as we did with the housing so when they know what businesses they would like to have then we in turn will work with them to try to talk and negotiate those businesses into the community.

V: I have read that your goals with the Nehemiah project were to, #1, build affordable housing for

people in public housing, so they could own their own homes; #2, to encourage businesses to move into the area; and #3, to investigate the causes of low income jobs in the area and see what could be done to provide better wages and benefits for the residents of East Brooklyn. Now you have said that you have strayed from the goal of importing outside businesses. What have your findings been about the causes of low income jobs?

RY: Well we haven't strayed from...we just made the decision that we would not set to bring in, I guess what you sometimes could call the usual suspects. Maybe such, as in a "hip little city", Starbucks and Barnes and Noble. I mean a hip little city when you're talking about Pfizer, that's not exactly hip, that's above hip, you understand. So what we did is we decided that we would wait awhile, rebuild these communities before we actually started to invite businesses in. Now what we have done, in terms of increasing the income and looking at why our people are so victimized by low income is that we have actually put together a team who did the necessary research. We went before the city council of New York, we agreed with the present mayor, Rudolph Giuliani, to disagree. We approached the mayor, tried to have a relationship with the mayor. We said to the mayor this is what we are going to be working on in the city. What we decided to work on is what's called a living wage bill. Not a minimum wage, but a living wage. A living wage bill would mean that everybody who worked would receive a minimum wage of \$25,000, which would include benefits. This was over against this whole business of temporary workers who came in, put out long time workers, put them out to pasture, and at the same time never got any benefits for their work. What we did was we went to the city council and we said to them that we wanted to challenge them to make it a point to have written into the contract of anybody who received city, state or federal subsidies that the people who work for you must work for this living wage not for minimum wage. So that is what we have done. We took that from our sister organization in Baltimore, Maryland called BUILD (Baltimoreans United in Leadership Development). Governor Schaeffer, who was at one time the mayor of Baltimore, had worked with them and the put together a state bill called the living wage. Well, in New York City we were able to get the city council to pass the living wage bill. So that is what we have done in terms of increasing the income of our citizens.

V: As you mentioned, you are not very familiar with, beyond this interview, with the current New London Redevelopment...

RY: Sounds good though. And it is very interesting. You said its President Guidiani's project. So you're telling me that the President of a college put together an initiative to rebuild the city? The President of a college? That is rare.

V: A question about how they compare. When you spoke of your project you said it was about rebuilding the fabric of the neighborhood. A lot of the criticism leveled at Guidiani's project says that it focuses on industry and commerce, not the neighborhood. Do you feel that both approaches are a manner to rebuild a city?

RY: Oh yeah. I mean it is inseparable. You cannot rebuild the city physically without rebuilding the people morally and at the same time you can't rebuild them morally without refurbishing them economically. We put together a video called the Democratic Promise and it should be shown somewhere in the New York within the next few months. Well, Solominski said that he did his thesis project with the mob in Chicago and in the worst neighborhoods. His conclusion was that poverty was an incubator for crime. So there's a high possibility that if people had jobs, decent paying jobs, then crime would be lower. You cannot separate the economic from the moral and from the material. They always go hand-in-hand.

V: You started this project back when Reagan was President. Is it easier today?

RY: No, no...it is only easier in that we know more now about what we can do because we've actually done it. So it is easier for us. But each administration seems to feel that it is their job to almost defy any kind of citizens' groups who would think along with them let alone out think them. So, it is no easier. It is just a little...it is really just a little more adventuresome. It is nice to walk into the offices of people who have the responsibility of enhancing the quality of life and say to them we have a track record. So we meet as equals now.

V: What about the upcoming elections in New York...do you take a role in politics at all?

RY: In a sense it is inevitable to take a role in politics. But when you talk about electoral politics we...we struggle hard to declare ourselves non-partisan. And the reason we decided to do that is because the per-

sonal office is not what matters, it is their platform. So now what we do about our organizational skills is that we decide what our agendas are and what the agendas should be for our community. Rather than asking a political candidate to...rather than our signing on to a political candidate's agenda or platform we ask them to sign on to ours because if we are starch, dyed in the wool democrats...the democrats will not necessarily do for our communities what should be done. So what we have decided is that no matter who is in office our communities need new life pumped into them with consideration in terms of economics, etc. So we will have to work with them, no matter who. Therefore we declare ourselves non-partisan.

Now we do push voter registration and beyond that voter mobilization which is getting people to the polls. We make it a point to, our church is the lead church in this, we register people who are eligible especially just before their eighteenth birthday or people who have been recently nationalized. We register them and then we make it a point to call them prior to the day of election, to call them on the day of election and if they are people who need rides we make sure that they get rides. This is all without any kind of government funding. We feel this is a part of our moral responsibility. Our church is multi-ethnic which is really wonderful because our church over the past few years has had to provide interpreters so that when Latinos showed up at the polls that the pollsters could not understand we had to have people there during the day and during the night to translate and then explain to the people how things worked in the booth. We have gone as far as to have a voting booth ordered and placed at the church, let's say, two to three weeks ahead of the election so that our people could practice as to what to do when they went in. So we are electorally involved that way. All of the candidates are welcome to speak at our churches. We have about 38 churches in EBC and they are all invited. But we again work hard to declare ourselves nonpartisan.

V: Do they (the candidates) often accept those invitations to speak?

RY: They accept the invitations... Let me put it like this: the newer ones always accept our invitations until they get in office and they get challenged by us like everybody else, because they think it is going to be business as usual when they get people to vote for them. Those people in office who know about us are a little bit reluctant about accepting our invitations because we tell them what we want them to do when they attend our rallies. We tell them they have 5 minutes and that's all. We tell them this is what we would like you to say, let the people know where you stand. You said this to us behind closed doors, say it publicly. So therefore, because they feel we are confrontational and we have a mind of our own, they sometimes will shy off. But those who recognize us for who we really are, they show up and they're glad to support us because we have made them look good. We've had congressional people to write articles stating that we, by way of our work, sometimes over and against them, saved their congressional district, bringing people back in and therefore they were able to be re-elected to offices where they make good salaries. So they recognize the worth of our work, sometimes they are just a little bit hesitant about dealing with what we would call our style.

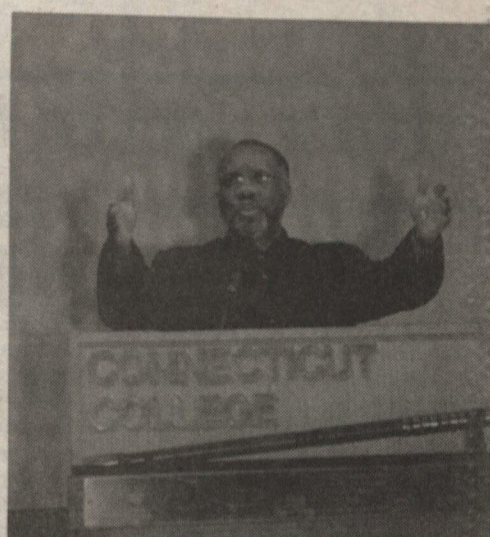
V: Do you do anything other than inviting politicians to speak, do you do anything else to educate the congregation to the different platforms?

RY: Yes. First of all, we are a dues based organization. That means that every church, every hospital, every home or association has to pay dues. Now I am a clergyman so I'm not out of order quoting the Scripture. There is a passage in the Scripture where Jesus says, "Where ever a man's treasure is where his heart is," so by way of our organizations paying money, our churches and all paying money into this one organization, people's hearts and minds are gonna want to know what is happening to our money, where the heck is our money going, so they want to hear about what EBC is doing. What I make it a point to do, and I teach this in our seminars nationally and locally, that now this is a form of mis-

sions, it is a mission on to our ministry. So what I do on Sunday mornings is I announce what the EBC is doing, what items we're taking on, what our agenda is, what meetings we've had, what our future goals are. So that means that just about every Sunday our people are informed of what's happening in our organization.

The next thing is three times a year we have what is called 10-day training where we train leaders around the issue of power, public and private, around the issue of values, and then we get a chance to hear stories from all around the country from the various IAF affiliates who have signature pieces to their credit. We may hear from Baltimore where they have done the Living Wage Bill and when they also put together a state scholarship...not a state scholarship piece, but a corporate scholarship piece that is just utterly magnanimous. People will be there to talk about Nehemiah. In Texas they have done they've done things like... the former governor, before Richards, I think his name was White, he went to the Rio Grande Valley at the invitation of I think 2 or 3 of our affiliates there. When he went to the Rio Grande Valley, it just so happened that it rained there the day that he was showing up. They wanted to show him how poor things were along that line right next to Mexico and that something needed to be done. It just so happened that with the rain, the water appeared, as it usually is, rusty. Not only that, feces literally flowed in the streets that he had to step over. So he went back to Austin and put together a bill, I think of several hundred millions of dollars in order to infrastructure work in the Rio Grande Valley. And that was because of our organizations, their push, and of course, the providence of rain that day.

In California, I don't know about the most recent minimum wage increase, if there has been one, but several years ago it was our affiliates in



the state of California that went to Sacramento and forced the hand of the Governor to raise the minimum wage of the state of California. So our people know because it is all to their benefit and that is how we steadily get the word out. Those stories are told when we do ten day training three times a year. We do it in November, we do it in March, and we do it in July and then we have local training where EBC itself makes about three local trainings for six nights in a row where we steadily recruit new leaders and steadily recruit new institutions. We talk with people about what they feel the agenda of their community should be. We keep a repertoire with our people.

V: I imagine that there would be quite a few questions regarding the close workings of church and state in your community. Do you get any criticisms from people on that?

RY: Only verbal, nothing legal. Nothing legal because we try to make our work as legal as we possibly can. Every now and then we will have people who will raise the question why are we churches doing this and sometimes we can be a bit facetious and we say because the politicians who were elected are not doing what they are supposed to do, so somebody's got to do it. We genuinely feel that it is our moral duty, our ethical duty, and part of our faith to enhance the quality of life for everybody.

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Men's Soccer Preview: Youthful Enthusiasm Amidst Transition Year

By **MATTHEW B. KESSLER**

associate sports editor

The nucleus of what should be a dominant men's soccer team within the next two years has arrived on Connecticut College's campus as the team prepares for what is termed as a transition year. With only three seniors and one junior on this year's roster, a core of returning sophomores and promising freshmen will have to lead the way as men's soccer faces one of its most difficult schedules in team history, which begins this Saturday, September 9th, at NESAC (New England Small College Athletic Conference) rival and Division III power Williams College.

Coming off the heels of a disappointing 4-9-1 season, head coach Bill Lessig has implemented a new system that now features three attackers and a diamond shaped midfield formation, backed by three defenders. Anchoring this new formation will be sophomore stopper/defensive midfielder Jeff Fier. "It's going to take a lot of hard work," says Fier. "It has the potential to be effective. It requires the whole team to work hard and work well together." Adds senior captain Keith Toohey, "I don't think everyone has adjusted to it. Right now it seems to be effective."

Toohey, who will be sidelined for the first two-to-three weeks of the season while rehabbing an injured hip flexor, will be looked upon to provide veteran leadership to an extremely young team once he returns

to the field. One of only two seniors expected to receive significant playing time, Toohey isn't concerned that the lack of experienced upperclassmen will have a negative effect on this year's squad. "It's always nice to have a few upperclassmen, but we have a strong core of sophomores that played in all 14 games last year. They should have gained a lot of experience so I don't think it should be a problem."

Included in the strong core of sophomores expected to lead this year's team is Fier, leading returning scorer Erich Archer, starting goaltender Zach Roth, and dynamic playmaker P.J. Dee. Archer looks forward to the challenge of assuming a leadership role on the team. "I've never played on such an optimistic team. We're all in really good shape and the guys are pumped. We're not worried about the lack of older guys. The returning sophomores have to jump up and be the older guys." He adds, "We have good team chemistry and good players. We're coming together pretty well. Coach is giving the younger guys some leadership and working us pretty hard."

Despite the obvious enthusiasm of this year's squad, questions remain. How quickly will the team adjust to its new system? Who will step up and consistently put the ball in the back of the opponents net? Will a defensive backfield composed of three freshmen be ready to play in one of the toughest soccer divisions in the

nation? Only time will tell.

"We're moving forward this year," Fier says. "Last year was an

off year, a rebuilding year. This year we added some key younger guys and I think from here we're really start-



Men's soccer prepares for opening game versus division power Williams.

ing to go forward."

Starting goaltender Zach Roth hopes to provide a calming influence for the three freshmen defensive starters, which include Aaron Schuman, James Paltan and Nate Appel, talented soccer players just one year removed from high school competition. "I just want to play well and make the freshmen feel comfortable and make sure they have confidence in me," says Roth. Roth will try to duplicate last year's stellar rookie performance, which saw him register a 1.86 goals-against average in 13 starts.

Several players will have to share the offensive load this year. Last year's team scored just 15 goals in 14 games and its two leading scorers have both departed. The entire team must contribute at the offensive end. Toohey looks to the midfield to provide the offense. "I think a lot of scoring is going to have to come out of the midfield. We don't have one elite scorer. We're hoping for someone to step it up and become the one goal scorer everyone looks to." Fier the team right now. We could use a little more up top. Our offense could pull together." Senior Abdoul Diagne, Junior Patrick Kennedy and Freshmen Darrell Comrie will be looked upon to provide the scoring up front.

With youth comes optimism, and this team certainly possesses its fair share. After struggling through last season, Men's soccer looks to take a large step towards the elite of the conference this season as its freshmen

and sophomores gain invaluable experience while battling several top Division III team's. Despite the fact that the team begins the season with six of their first eight games away from the friendly confines of Harkness Green, including matches at perennial NESAC powers Williams, Amherst and Middlebury and intrastate rival Trinity, these young camels remain unfazed.

"Honestly, I think this team could really go pretty far," says Archer, who no doubt will play a key offensive role if the Camels are to do so. "We're really young. We are all taking on leadership roles earlier than we would have. Best possible scenario, we could take the NESAC." Concedes Roth: "I don't think we're looking to do all that well this year but we're definitely looking to do really well next year and get as many players as possible the experience they need to do so." Fier's opinion falls somewhere in between the two. "I think we have the potential with a little bit of luck and if some things go our way, we could be at the top of the NESAC."

The goal of this year's team is to develop the younger players with an eye towards the future while at the same time putting itself in a position to win every game it plays. As Toohey, its savvy captain put it best, "I just want to see the team do as well as possible and overcome adversity and strive to be the best. I want the younger guys to do well and gain experience. In two years they are going to be a really strong group."

Inaugural Varsity Men's Water Polo Season to Kick-off

By **CHARLES HASSELL**

sports editor

Perhaps you faithful readers out there recall last year's run of water polo articles. Touted last year as Conn's newest sport, the team kicked off with a coed club team in the fall of 1999. Following that successful initiation, the first varsity water polo team in Conn College history, a women's program, took to the water in the spring of 2000. After a much-better-than-expected campaign by the women, it is the men's turn. On August 28th, 2000, the first men's varsity water polo team in school history donned their Speedo's and caps.

The man behind the new program is none other than Coach Ken Ralph. He obtained an IOC grant to begin a program at Conn, part of an overall effort to expand the popularity of the game at the collegiate level (most good water polo is solely in California). And after much hard work on Ralph's part, and the good-sported willingness of many men and women to give the new sport a try, our school now has two fledgling teams of unlimited potential.

That said, the 2000 season will very likely be a building year as many of the members have never played the game before (and none have played for more than a year) and the competition will be very good. These aquatic camels are slated to compete against some of the best teams in the nation (divisions 1 and 3), and it has even been rumored that at some point this season the men will face players who tried out for the Games in Sydney. Suffice it to say they will be challenged. However, every small moral victory will loom large as the team works to find its style and

rhythm while also improving their basic skills daily.

Returning members of the team include co-captains Jason Hill '01 and Charles Hassell '02, and John Traversi '03, Andrew Longmire '02, Zack Bluestone '02, Ned deBary '02, and Alex Mroszczyk-McDonald '03. Sorely missed will be Rob Travieso '02 and his defensive vigilance, but he will return next season. In addition a slew of newcomers will play a huge role (However in keeping with Dean Smith's famous rule, rookies will receive no local ink in preseason articles).

The team will look to Hassell and Traversi for 2-meter play in an attempt to replace invaluable graduate Jordan Kaplan '00. Longmire, deBary, and Hill will provide a defensive spark and offensive power from the drive, while Bluestone and Mroszczyk-McDonald will fiercely guard Conn's goal (and hopefully Alex will buy a vowel, Vanna). From the newcomers one should expect explosive speed, defensive aggressiveness, and additional goal scorers. Under the watchful helm of Coach Ralph and pool deck drill sergeant (and North Carolina native) Bill Johnson, the team will be expected to improve quickly and open many eyes come November.

So bear in mind the next time you are on the Stairmaster gawking at Al Gore's daughters in Time magazine, and you notice 12 jacked guys in caps tossing some yellow balls around the pool, that these men need your support. They will open the season with 3 home games on September 23rd, and they need a loud, possibly inebriated, packed-house crowd to set the mood. So be there.

Women's Soccer Preview: Impressive Freshmen Blending Nicely

By **ERIKA SENNESETH**

staff writer

With arguably the best freshman class to grace women's soccer at Connecticut College, this year's women's team may be the team to watch this fall. The roster this year has an astounding eleven freshmen, all of whom will have to learn the Camels' style of aggressive play and make a quick adjustment to college level soccer. So far, the general consensus is that the team is adjusting to working together quite well. Sophomore midfielder Lesley Gerberding stresses the, "great chemistry on the team this year." Junior goalkeeper Elayna Zachko agrees, commenting, "The team this year has clicked already, you wouldn't know that we have eleven new freshmen. This can only lead to success." Junior defender/goalkeeper Laura Knisely says that the new freshman are, "a key component of the team who possess an amazing amount of talent and will be able to step up to the challenges

facing us this year."

After a disappointing end to last year's season, the Camels are confident that they are ready for a challenging but competitive year in the NESAC (New England Small College Athletic Conference). "We want to make an impression on all the teams we play that we are an incredible team and hard to beat," Zachko states, "Of course we also want to win." Senior co-captain Sheila Dobbyn also has an extremely positive outlook for the season. "With last year's season out of our system, I feel as though we are starting with a clean slate and a young group of talented players. Some of the incoming freshmen seem to have a great nose for the goal, and we've suddenly become a much faster team." That quickness may be due in part to hard summer training and the dreaded "Wuyke run", which the team does with the track coach William Wuyke every Saturday.

Although the freshmen will play a key role on this year's team, the

upperclassmen will be counted on to provide veteran leadership for the team to be successful. The teams first scrimmage occurred only a few hours after the roster was posted and all ready a sense of unity could be felt on the field. Senior midfielder and co-captain Lisa Marlette used her beautiful ball skills to get around players and distribute the ball in smart simple passes while the outside mids used speed to bring the ball up the flanks. The team's speed and style of play is very quick, clean, and smart with great movement off the ball to open passing lanes.

The majority of the freshman looked confident and didn't hesitate to take the open shot for themselves when the opportunity arose. The team also had great rebound shots on offense and seemed to use each other well for support passes that led to an attack. The defense was involved well in the play and recovered quickly the few times they were beat. Knisely agrees that so far the prospects for the team are looking great, "I have to

admit that I am very excited about the upcoming season. We have a very strong and talented team, and with a little work and determination, I think we could be unstoppable this year."

The team's first game is this Saturday, September 9th at 2:00pm on Harkness Green versus Middlebury. Though this is Conn's first regular season game with Middlebury, although they have played them well in past tournaments. Freshman Midfielder Rebecca Arnold feels ready for the upcoming game. "They've had the same amount of workout time as us so we should be even competition...the long pre-season was a great experience for our team to practice and prepare together." Freshman midfielder Kirsti Fitzgerald feels the team has been preparing well in practice with, "lots of fitness," and a "huge focus on defense." Anyone who saw the girls coming up from the A.C. soaking wet and muddy after working out in the pouring rain last Saturday would undoubtedly agree with her.

Sports Update: Results and Upcoming Games

Women's Field Hockey:

9/9 (Sat.) Middlebury *, 2:00 p.m.

9/13 (Wed.) at Smith, 7:00 p.m.

Men's Soccer:

9/9 (Sat.) at Williams *, 2:00 p.m.

9/13 (Wed.) at Eastern CT, 4:00 p.m.

Women's Soccer:

9/9 (Sat.) Middlebury *, 2:00 p.m.

9/14 (Thu.) Coast Guard, 4:00 p.m.

Women's Volleyball:

9/9 (Sat.) Salem St. w/ Wesleyan

Men's Cross-country:

9/9 Fordham Invitational

Women's and Coed Sailing:

9/9 Man-Labs Trophy at MIT, 9:30 a.m.

9/9-9/10 Captain Hurst Bowl at Dartmouth, 10:00 a.m.

Women's and Coed Sailing Results:

9/3 Harry Anderson Trophy at Yale T, 7th/21

1) Boston College 91, 2) Kings Point 106, 3) Tufts 108, 4) Dartmouth 112, 5) tie between Harvard and Georgetown with 117, 7) Tie between Navy and Connecticut College with 134, 9) MIT 137, 10) Stanford 142, 11) St. Mary's 162, 12) University of Vermont 178, 13) Yale 189, 14) Boston University 208, 15) Brown 212, 16) Coast Guard 229, 17) University of Rhode Island 237, 18) Roger Williams 244, 19) Mass Maritime 245, 20) Maine Maritime 292, 21) Duke 304.

Connecticut College A Division: Matt DeNatale and Liz Hall 8th (74). B Division: Wes McMichael and Kendra van der Caag 8th (60).



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