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CONNECTICUT COLLEGE, NEW LONDON, CT

INSIDE:



NEWS

David Milstone chosen as new Dean of Student Life.



A&E

Tim Stevens devoted his summer to seeing far too many movies so you didn't have to.



SPORTS

Kessler's Korner returns to the College Voice.

College Financial Outlook Remains Optimistic

JAMES ROGERS
NEWS EDITOR

According to the Financial office, the College will be operating under a balanced budget for the second year in a row. Last spring the Board of Trustees unanimously approved an \$86.2 million balanced operating budget for the 2002-2003 academic year. This is a \$2.4 million increase from last year.

In its recent history the college had been operating under a principle of deficit spending that led to a debt of nearly \$1 million by 2000. Paul Maroni, Vice President of Finance, remarked that immediately after this trend was realized the college began to alleviate the financial situation by decreasing spending. By 2001 the college had

reversed its deficit and created a small surplus of \$47,000.

In addition to balancing the budget, the college was able to settle its affairs with former Claire Gaudiani, who was asked to resign during the 2000-2001 academic year after thirteen years as President of the College. According to the NEW LONDON DAY and the college's 2001 Income Tax Form 990, the President was awarded \$581,617 in employee benefits and severance pay, in addition to her salary of \$316,793 for that year. According to Gaudiani and Duncan Dayton, chairman of the College's Board of Trustees, the President's severance package "was tied to contractual obligations related to length of service and fulfillment of the college's

capital campaign." The package was said to be "comparable to that of other departing college presidents."

At the time these figures were announced, after a one-year wage freeze and ten layoffs of full-time employees, some members of the faculty felt that the package was too much. As Professor of psychology Joan Chrisler told a reporter from THE DAY, "given the situation on campus with layoffs and budget freezes, a lot of people are outraged at the amount of money given to former President Gaudiani."

But time and money seem to heal most wounds. Fred Paxton, Professor of History and Director of the Toor Cummings Center for

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Percentage of Freshman Saying Yes Exceeds Expectation

BY ASHLEY SCIBELLI
STAFF WRITER

On the first night of orientation, the incoming freshman gathered in Palmer Auditorium, they were eagerly greeted with the announcement of being the largest class in the history of the college.

"Five hundred two students!" exclaimed Martha Merrill, the Dean of Admissions. A few nights later, during a speech from the J Board, the freshmen were briefed how all five hundred freshmen were extremely fortunate to be a camel. Between the whispers and wonders of where the other two

students disappeared, a few other students were pondering over how they were one roommate less and now had a single! What about the rest of the freshmen stuck in a quad or triple?

The matriculation of five hundred new freshmen was not planned by Admissions since application numbers, as well as the admitted rate, actually decreased this year from the past two years. However, Connecticut College more students are saying yes to acceptances; there was about a five percent increase in yield, or the amount of students matriculating for the 2002 school year. Dean

Merrill accredits this increase to the networking of her admissions staff, fellows, and Conn students to prospective high school students. However, while the increase in students is extremely advantageous for the camel community, where does the school house them?

Dean Merrill worked exclusively with the Dean of Residential Life, Conway Campbell, to determine where to house the surplus of students this year.

Many students wonder about that double that used to be a single last year in a dorm or the basement of Larrabee which is now opened up as housing, however, these situ-



Lauren Mitchell '03 reads "Incantation" by Czeslaw Milosz at a Memorial Sunset Service in the U.S. Coast Guard Academy's Leamy Hall. It was the second of two September 11th events co-sponsored by the Academy and the College and also featured a reading of Walt Whitman's "America" by a cadet and performances by the Coast Guard Cadet Jazz Band, the Connecticut College Chamber Choir, the Cadet Glee Club, and members of the Connecticut College concert Band. The first event was hosted by Conn in Harkness Chapel and offered a place of quiet contemplation and prayer. Two panel discussions on topics related to 9/11 are being offered September 24 and October 1. (Matison)

ations are not uncommon. Conway explained that the square footage for every room on campus has been measured so that the footage in a room corresponds with the number of students. According to Dean Campbell, there are no "forced situations" of a double living in a single; square footage corresponds with the number of students in a room. The basement of Larrabee has also been used before as housing, not just office space. So clear the cobwebs in the basement and get along with however many roommates you have in your room because next year, most returning sophomores are still guaranteed a

single. With only a fifteen percent chance that returning sophomores will have a double next year, Connecticut College is still holding true to its word that most students will have a single. However, what happens if next year's yield is higher than expected again? The renovation of Marshall and Hamilton or maybe even a new dorm could help increase elbow space. However, until then, this year's freshmen will just have to hope that they are not part of fifteen percent that will have a roommate.

Controversial Speaker Claims War on Terrorism 'Off Track'

BY NATALIE BOLCH
STAFF WRITER

Just one day shy of a year after the most tragic terrorist attack in the history of the United States, Middle East Expert Daniel Pipes addressed Connecticut College students concerning the topic, "One Year Later, Where Are We?"

A columnist for The New York Post and author of ten books including his most recent *Militant Islam Reaches America*, Pipes has served in both the State Department and the Department of Defense. As a recent appointee into the Department of Defense's Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency (DARPA), Pipes' main goal is to explain the role of Islam in today's world to the larger public. In addition to this, Pipes remarked that he strives to help students understand the complex issues surrounding the war on terrorism, for finding the right balance between civil liberties and security is often hard.

Pipes argued that this war, which has consumed the lives of Americans for the past twelve months, is "off track." He stated matter-of-factly, "You can't win a war unless you can name your enemy...and my understanding is that we are not naming our enemy!"

He described Islam as being divided into two hemispheres, not geographically, but by the beliefs of the Muslim community. These two groups are deemed "Militant Islam" and "Modern Islam." Militant Islam describes those Muslims who adamantly believe that Islam is the answer regardless of the problem. "Militant Islam is a modern, 20th century ideology, arising at roughly the same time as fascism and Marxist-Leninism. It is attractive to a small percentage of Muslims. It is a mechanism, a blueprint, for taking over governments and running societies. It is something very different from Islam."

Modern Islam, Pipes argues, is the solution. In terms of these two parties, Pipes also stressed the fact that while Militant Islam is not the only enemy of the United States during this time of conflict, it is both the strategic and ideal enemy of our country. It is his hope that Muslims and non-Muslims will join together to fight this tyrannical ideology.

Pipes boldly emphasized the fact that because Militant Islam thrives on its success, "We must modernize Islam!" This is the most radical time ever in Militant Islam and, as is reflected through the attacks on September 11, 2001, the United States must take action to help restore the Islamic nation. He stated that the "heavy lifting" should be done by the United States; that we must



Daniel Pipes speaks of the eve of September 11th on the fundamental differences between Modern and Militant Islam and how those differences should shape American foreign policy. (Matison)

When reached for comment, Zaveer said, "Pipes expressed his opinions with due respect, but I was disappointed he didn't bring up the topics that stir emotions of certain people. At a college campus we are supposed to learn, and we could have from good discussions that come from different opinions."

Pipes speech kicks off a series of services and speakers over the next month. The following day a memorial service was held at the US Coast Guard Academy commemorating the events of last year. At the event a commemorative flag was bestowed upon President Fainstein by the Admiral Van Sises of the Coast Guard in a display of friendship and renewed commitment between the two institutions. There are also two more events coming up to provide a forum to more discussion on these issues.

"I hope a lot of people—especially everyone who attended this talk—attend the two other follow-up events because this is only one side of the story, one opinion, so I encourage everyone to come and hear other perspectives," Zaveer said.

Settlement in Athletic Director Discrimination Case Remains Unsettling

BY DANIEL JARCHO
STAFF WRITER

After a long series of negotiations between Connecticut College and former Athletic Director Kenneth McBryde, the two parties "reached a positive and amicable resolution of all issues between them." Still, skepticism remains in many areas concerning the events leading up to and in response to this settlement.

With the end of McBryde's 5-year contract with the college approaching this past summer, a review board including members of the college faculty and administration and also student-athletes conducted a performance review of Mr. McBryde to determine his future at the college. Following the review, it was decided that McBryde would not be rehired for another 5-year term as Athletic Director and Phys. Ed. Department chairman. Professors William Frasure and Stephen Loomis, who led the performance review, stated that the reasons for not rehiring McBryde "are personnel matters and confidential." Following this decision, McBryde filed a 30-page lawsuit against the college, claiming that race discrimination and retaliation for insisting investigation of NCAA violations among CC staff unfairly contributed to the board's decision not to rehire. As a part of his suit, McBryde sought \$15,000 for damages and reinstatement as athletic director.

Negotiations between McBryde and the college led to the settlement on June 21 under all charges concerning race discrimination were dropped. Trish Brink, director of media relations at the college, said in an interview with The Day, "McBryde has been offered a generous severance package designed to support him in the transition to his



McBryde reached an "amicable" resolution with Conn and settled his lawsuit, which alleged racism amongst other issues, and settled out of court this summer.

next venture, which we hope will be a positive, productive experience." However, despite the amicable resolution, McBryde was not reinstated to his former position.

Reactions to the settlement have been split, sparking concern among supporters on both sides of the issue. McBryde, in reference to his "generous severance package," has been criticized for essentially taking the money and running, while others have accused the college of simply buying out Mr. McBryde in order to hush-up the issue to uphold its reputation as a politically correct, non-discriminatory institution.

In the joint statement of Mr. McBryde and the college, McBryde states "At this point I believe that race discrimination was in no way a factor in [President Fainstein's] decision. Furthermore, I believe that the college is not a racist institution." Despite these final statements from McBryde, sources found evidence to suggest some indications of racial

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EDITORIAL & OPINION

The Time Has Come to Cut Oil Dependency

On the first anniversary of the September 11th tragedies, it is important to take a step and analyze our progress, particularly in reference to opposing terrorist sympathizing and supporting countries. When President Bush took the podium and delivered his speech following September 11th, he issued a clear doctrine: either you are with us or against us. How firmly have we held to that doctrine?

In analysis, one glaring failure is present. Why are we still in bed with Saudi Arabia, a country that consistently trains and supports terrorists, including some of those involved in the September 11th hijackings? Time and again, the Middle East in general has proved to be a nearly impossible area for the United States to deal with and yet we as a country maintain relations (and at times protect) one of the region's biggest offenders. Why? The answer is simple and distressing: oil.

The time has come to slash our dependency on foreign oil and not to simply pay it lip service. This cannot be achieved by drilling in Alaska, a solution that does not address the true problem, which is our country's out-of-control consumption. Even if Alaska were to yield oil, our desire and need for it would inevitably lead us back to Middle Eastern oil at some point.

More radical changes must be made, beginning with addressing gas mileage of vehicles. The United States Congress should pass a bill that states by 2008 every car released will get at least 24 miles to the gallon. Many makes of Sport Utility Vehicle consume gasoline at outrageous rates, which is even more distressing when one considers the popularity of the SUV.

Gas prices should not be slashed. This is a widely unpopular choice to be sure, but must be done. There has to be consequences for the overuse of gasoline and nothing gets Americans attention more than hitting them in the pocket books. However, there must also be tax credits for farmers and small businessmen who do large amounts of traveling to fulfill their duties and deliver their products.

Finally, the United States needs to turn to alternative fuels. The fact is that this is no longer science fiction. Cars that do not need gasoline are not the things of movies and books any longer. In California, several buses are running on hydrogen, nature's most abundant element, and produces only water as waste. In the Midwest billboards advertising ethanol, fuel made from corn dot the landscape. Hybrid cars are here and available for purchase at this very moment.

There is no longer an excuse to rely on oil to the extent which this country does. Even the inconvenience of such a switch is being reduced less and less everyday. Look at our campus and our uses of alternative energy. We have every reason to make the switch, whether it be environmental, financial, or diplomatic, and no reason not to.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

United We Stood

To the editors,

On the anniversary of the September 11 tragedies, I sat in Leamy Hall at the Coast Guard Academy and felt betrayed. There, in front of me, were Conn's senior administrators and, on stage, President Norman Fainstein. They looked on with pride at a memorial featuring students from both institutions and the president boasted about being a patriot. However, just last year on our very own Conn College campus was a benefit concert that brought together 800-900 people in Palmer Auditorium. Not one senior administrator or the president was in attendance. They were all out of town on business—a fact that seemed to concern them only when they realized the magnitude of the event. While it is understood that the meeting was very important, when plans for the concert began, the meeting was supposed to be held here at Conn and the intention was to send invitations to all the trustees.

The Music Student Advisory Board, made up of 6 students, put hours and hours of time into a concert in which all proceeds benefited the Untied Way September 11 Fund. The program consisted of 10 campus music groups involving over 100 student performers. During the week before the concert, certain administrators attempted to dissuade the Music Department from holding it because a group of NYC relief workers were hoping to come speak. The administrators were worried about the embarrassment of not being on campus when the NYC crew came up. The result was a beautiful night being swept under the rug only days after its success.

Besides the tiny six-member Music Advisory Board working together to make sure everything ran smoothly (while performing in various groups that night) there was a superb crew of about 5 more students who worked backstage the whole night, moving chairs and risers and a piano. We almost completely filled the bottom of Palmer Auditorium...maybe missing it by about 2 rows. The audience was mainly students, from the campus and otherwise. The Music Department Faculty was our support throughout the planning, as we hit roadblocks and pessimism regarding almost all facets of this concert. The whole night surpassed the expectations of the Advisory Board and many other people as well. For the first time in Conn history, all the music ensembles and a capella groups joined for a single effort. Also a first for Conn was having all the capella groups organize and sing a tune together. It was a wonderful night that united everyone and the immediate feedback was very positive.

So why is there no record of this event in print? The administration did not even acknowledge the Advisory Board or performers upon learning of the success of the concert. To the administrators: How selfish to disregard the efforts of your students because you were not able to attend. The concert happened and, though you have not felt the chills from the poignancy of the performances that night, it does not mean that you can ignore it. It is bad enough that there was no support, but not to recognize the importance of that night is a failure, on your part, as educators and role models for the students.

To my fellow Music Advisory Board members from last year: Matt Sbalcio, Carolyn D'Alessio, Rose Schweikhart, Christy Killion, and Brahim Kerkour, and to all the performers of that night: Thank you for your initiative and for pulling together as a student body to demonstrate that this campus is united. You pulled off what everyone thought was improbable and made a reality of what started in my mind as an ideal response to a nationwide catastrophe. You did not go unrecognized by the community or the rest of the campus and the respect of that full audience is the most concrete proof. May we never forget the tragedy of September 11, 2001, but heal and learn as we move on.

Elise Daniledes '03

Wal-Mart vs. Target, The Battle Rages On

To the editor,

Turned off by Wal-Mart's Kathie Lee fashions, banal pronunciation or smiley face logo cautioned against in last week's issue of The Voice? Here's a real reason to choose Target over Wal-Mart for all your super-shopping needs. In May of 1999, Wal-Mart made a corporate decision to refuse to sell the prescription contraceptive drug Preven. The drug, which works by preventing the fertilized egg from attaching to the uterus wall, is FDA approved and backed by the American Pharmaceutical Association.

There are 2.7 million unintended pregnancies in the United States every year. 48% of women ages 15 through 44 have had an unintended pregnancy, and 53% of these women were using contraception at the time they were impregnated. In respect for a woman's choice and control over her body, and to ensure that every child that is born can be provided for, Preven is an essential option. Studies have shown that emergency contraception can potentially half the number of unintended pregnancies and abortions that occur annually in this country.

Wal-Mart has never excluded any other prescription drug from sale, and consumer demand for Preven is very high. The decision to refuse the sale of Preven is a blatant decision on the part of top Wal-Mart executives to impose their personal views on birth control upon the American public, to the particular disadvantage of American women. I urge Connecticut College students to boycott Wal-Mart, and write the corporation a letter informing them of your decision. Patronize Target, even with their lack of a crafts department or plastic figurines, in support of their continued sale of Preven despite attacks from anti-choice groups. Never underestimate the power in your consumer dollar as a method of instigating social change.

To get involved in this and other pressing feminist campaigns, join the Feminist Majority Leadership Alliance, a student-run campus organization. Contact me, Sara, at x4215 for more information.

For equality and choice,
Sara Walker '05

HOW DOES ONE BECOME A 'MIDDLE EAST EXPERT'?

KIP LYALL • VIEWPOINT

Connecticut College recently had the privilege of being visited by Daniel Pipes, a "Middle East expert." The night before the talk I was told of the event and of the speaker's apparently conservative views. It brought to mind an infomercial I saw over the summer starring another conservative "expert" on Islam, who spoke of how evil they all are. My curiosity as to whether Connecticut College students would be the beneficiaries of such teachings and of how one becomes worthy of such a title as "Middle East expert" drove me to attend.

I am happy to report that it is a good thing that most of our school is not as curious about such things as I am, though the relatively few students who were may have marveled at Dr. Pipes' ethnocentric rants and incomplete thoughts about the state of our world and our war on terror. Did he fail to realize that his description of Militant Islamics as people that "seek to take over governments and impose their views" fits perfectly with our own government's foreign policies? Former CIA official John Stockwell can name over 200 such cases in which it does. Dr. Pipes claims that in the rise of Militant Islam the "causes are not economic"; the fact that for a long time in Afghanistan the only alternative to starvation for a boy was to join a Taliban school where they would be fed and taught nothing but Islam leads me to disagree. His inventively compassionate solution to dealing with this militant movement, in the case of Afghanistan, he says is simply to "bring out the B52s and destroy it." Apparently our government is in the good hands of experts such as he.

Pipes' shallowness of thought was further demonstrated by his assertion that the terrorists' success was in the "destruction wrought on Americans" on 9/11. No, their success lies in the fear that their actions have

caused in the wake of last September. It is that fear, spread by narrow-minded speakers such as Dr. Pipes, which has resulted in the blind faith of many Americans in their government. It's a holy war that these people want and any justification for Washington to pursue its militaristic agenda will only fuel the tension that already exists between Islam and the West.

Conveniently, a "Middle East expert" can disregard atrocities committed by the United States and simply conclude that the actions of terrorists are a result of their "resentment of the U.S." Do they resent the massive carnage we've brought upon the civilian populations of Vietnam, Laos, Cambodia, Nicaragua, Afghanistan or Iraq, to name a few? Perhaps it's the fact that it was our own CIA that was so adept at training and funding al-Qaeda and other "freedom fighters" to fight their holy war against the Russians. Maybe it's our country's increasing nuclear stockpile that they resent, or our production and use of chemical weapons, some of which were handed out to Iraq to help fight Iran in the 1980's. Dr. Pipes wouldn't say, but according to a 1997 report by the Defense Science Board, "historical data shows a strong correlation between U.S. involvement in international situations and an increase in terrorist attacks against the U.S."

Whatever the reasons for it, Daniel Pipes made it clear that his solution to our current dilemma regarding the Islamic world is to extend and intensify the policies that helped generate such animosity towards the U.S. in the first place. He concluded that increased U.S. aggression may "only make things worse, but I'm willing to take that chance."

Well, he's the expert.

The Orientation Issue this year mistakenly identified former SAC Chairperson Lyman Smith '03 as still holding the position. This year's SAC Chair is Rick Gropper '04. The Voice regrets any inconvenience this may have caused.

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OPINION

THE SINGLE LIFE

NATALIE BOLCH • DROMEDARY DRIVEL

Beep, beep, beep...the sound of an unfamiliar alarm clock echoes throughout my dream as I wonder whether Branford could feasibly be having a fire drill this early in the morning. My eyes dehydrated and my muscles sore from sleeping in a contorted position, I struggle to examine the numbers displayed on my bedside table reflecting the time. EIGHT A.M.??? I know I didn't set my alarm clock for eight o'clock in the morning; I don't have class until 11:30!! As consciousness sets in and my nightly hallucinations become reality, I realize that the ominous tone that interrupted a peaceful night's sleep is not my alarm clock, but that of my roommate who is attending an eight-thirty geology lab.

Not all Connecticut College students, however, are fortunate enough to be awakened by three harmonious forms of agitation each morning. This esteemed privilege is attainable only to those who live in a freshmen quad.

The three-roommate-luxury which, mind you, denotes zero semesters worth of priority for its occupants, also comes equipped with personal space the size of one's bed (only, however, when charismatic visitors refrain from treating the bed as a couch), countless hours of homework completed via desk-lamps, and frequent trips to the library made not with the intent of studying but, instead, that of escape. For, as fellow quad-dwellers know well, a solo minute is rarely found during nine consecutive months of sharing a one-room home.

But oh the lavishness of living in a single! Counting Crows can resonate throughout the day as often as I desire, and I can freely change my clothes without the fear of unexpected entrances. Furthermore, it is official; my snooze button actually works on my year-old alarm clock! Repeatedly depressing the rectangular magnet marked "snooze" and listening to the constancy of my alarm's siren has never felt so rewarding. And even more exciting is the fact that each morning the florescent lights in my ceiling spy on me as I dress for class rather than the temptation of darkness accompanied by three sets of fluttering eyelids belonging to my roommates who are still absorbed in their dreams.

Nonetheless, my Branford room is much missed. Few students on this campus have resorted to convening in the bathroom for late-night discussions, simultaneously participating in intimate conversation while swinging on the bars in the shower. In addition, quad inhabitants rarely eat solo meals in Harris, for it is extremely atypical for the full sum of roommates to be missing in action. Late night at Cro those in a tetradic living style can most certainly find someone to walk home with. Not to mention the fact that four people make up a much more enjoyable ice cream trip to Friendly's than one!

So yes, the life of single-living has its advantages. It is a lifestyle complete with rewards, freedom and, most importantly, a door that you can close behind you. The life of a quad, however, encompasses frustration, claustrophobia and, most importantly, bonding for life with three very understanding comrades.

AS AMERICAN AS A YELLOW HUM-VEE
CONNECTICUT IDOL

BRAD KREIT • VIEWPOINT

No, contrary to popular opinion, I didn't graduate. I went abroad (to Honduras, since everyone who remembers that I went abroad forgets where I went) and enjoyed myself thoroughly. After a relaxing summer, I came back across the country from Oakland to Connecticut by way of old station wagon to arrive here in late August.

Traveling back was great. For the first time in my life, I got to see Niagara Falls in Canada, quite a pretty place, even though things like wax museums and Planet Hollywood made it look a little like a strip mall had gotten sick on a barrel trip over the falls and vomited everywhere.

Coming back, I even got to see the Western Hemisphere's largest cross in Texas. It was so big that I could see over all the Suburbans and Explorers that populate the nation's highways. By the time I had made it to Conn, I was half-convinced that, with today's growing car size, it's a good thing that Eisenhower's highways can accommodate tanks.

As popular as environmentalism is, it apparently won't stand in the way of our God given rights as Americans to drive huge vehicles everywhere we go.

Things in Texas really are big. I mean, where else but Amarillo in Texas can you find a hotel with a 72-ounce steak, free if eaten by one man in one hour? (Women: this is Texas steak, and unless you're cooking it, you belong nowhere near it). In case you want to work off your four and a half pounds of beef, you can swim at the hotel's Texas-shaped swimming pool. Maybe stuff like that — burning calories — is for California health-nuts like me. Real Texan Men let their fat hang out like teenagers at a 7-11.

Just like in the commercials played so frequently on the 49ers vs. Giants NFL season opener, Real Men will gas up their yellow hummers — unofficial truck motto: "A gas station owner's best friend" — when they want their 72 ounces of grilled cow meat.

That's a man, which I suppose I'm not because I drive a Subaru car and I don't even eat meat. And unlike Texas, pretty much anyone can mess with me. Even midgets and children.

So it's probably a good thing that when we go unilaterally bomb the crap out of Iraq because they possess a lot of oil — jeez, I'm sorry; I mean because they are such a terrorist-harboring, weapons-of-mass-destruction-kind-of-country, the bastards — that I have no qualms about following our current president's example and dodging any draft that might come my way. No, rather than bomb Iraq so we can drive gigantic trucks, I'd much prefer to see us invest money in developing alternative energy vehicles.

Nobody really cares what I have to say about international politics, though, and no one will unless I inadvertently throw a wrench into some bureaucratic machine, like a draft. No, in the end, international politics is just too big for me.

But here's something that's just my size. Last weekend, I went to the Can Kickers show on campus, and will now honestly write something which I never thought I'd say: I really enjoyed that DIY blue-grass band. At one point, drummer/washboard player Doug Schaefer took the mic and said something like, "You can't imagine how cool it is to look out from up here and see the whole room dancing."

And sure enough, hippy kids, liberal arts kids, were spastically square-dancing to this music that — good as it was — none of us would ever listen to under ordinary circumstances.

No, some kids dancing at 2:00 in the morning in Connecticut won't solve our political woes — whatever you believe they are — but if you can get a peak over the Hummers and Explorers dotting the landscape, the carefree dancing kids really are something pretty.

Come be our editorial cartoonist and mock others without fear of reprisal. Call x2812

THE SUMMER OF THE PAYOFF

COLEY WARD • VIEWPOINT



arts institutions.

A lot happened this summer, and you can read about most of it on the front page of this paper. But if you want the dirt from somebody that was here from graduation day to Memorial Day, somebody that witnessed it all first hand, then listen up, because I'm about to tell you how it really went down.

First, we found out that Claire Gaudiani's package was larger than anyone ever anticipated. An enterprising young reporter at The Day got hold of the college's tax forms and figured out that our former president received a severance package of nearly \$600,000. That doesn't include the roughly \$300,000 she got in salary for the fiscal year 2000-01.

A few professors have suggested to me in the past that if the school were not so image-conscious it could probably find a few things to sue Gaudiani over. The idea of Claire being taken down a few pegs is enough to make a lot of faculty foam at the mouth. The fact that Claire is not only being let off the hook, but that she walked out the door with nearly a million dollars, is

Contrary to popular opinion, Connecticut College does not shut down the day that students pack up for the summer.

While you were off slaving away at your unpaid internship, filing documents and getting coffee for a State Senator and calling it workplace experience, and professors were off sunning themselves and sipping martinis on a tropical island and calling it research, the administration here at Conn was working through the dog days of June, July and August to help keep this school among America's top liberal

just too much for a lot of people to take. Suffice it to say that when somebody announced the amount of Gaudiani's severance at a spring faculty meeting, the reaction was not pleasant.

Next, Ken McBryde, Conn's former athletic director, settled his lawsuit with the college. According to The Day, McBryde got \$15,000. In return, he penned a letter saying that there was never any racism at Conn — it was all a big misunderstanding.

Here's my take on the McBryde situation. Either he made up the claims of racism, as his letter would seem to suggest, or he sold out for fifteen grand. Either way, he didn't display a whole lot of integrity. I figure he probably thought he could get more money when he filed the suit. How could he have known the college had already spent all of its payoff reserves on Claire?

Finally, there were those four pesky buildings in New London: Crocker, Bacon, Cronin, and one other dinky one that doesn't seem worthy of a name. I'm not even going to bother to explain how the college ended up with these duds, but know this: it was definitely Claire Gaudiani's fault.

This summer the college auctioned off the buildings. They got less than \$1 million. That means the investment that resulted in Conn's ownership of the three buildings in the end cost the college almost \$2 million.

Here's a list of things that money could have purchased, in descending order according to need: a new dorm, a new roof for the athletic center, or a set of bagpipes. Why the bag pipes? Because I'm going to need to find a new hobby soon if Norm doesn't start wearing hot pink to student funerals, giving Voice editors the finger, or doing any of the other "flamboyant" things that Claire used to do. It's just not as much fun being a columnist here when nobody gets your Claire jokes.

OH, THE HUMANITY: HOLLYWOOD'S DISASTER MOVIE EPIDEMIC

TIM STEVENS • COMPLAINT OF THE WEEK



Ugh. When will it end, I ask you this.

What has me barking to the cosmos you might ask? Disaster movies.

It is understandable that the entertainment community would attempt to tap into such provocative fare as natural disasters to produce films. One cannot help but be drawn into realistic depictions of city or countries teetering on the brink of catastrophe where the problem is averted or certainly reduced in devastation by people coming together to save one another selflessly.

In practice, however, the results are significantly different.

The modern roots of the genre begin in 1974 with the release of Earthquake and Towering Inferno. Earthquake was a ridiculous endeavor, headed by Charlton Heston who can always be counted on to turn in a ham fisted, over the top performance, and here succeeds brilliantly in that endeavor. It did manage to grab an Oscar, but allow me to remind you that so did Pearl Harbor. Towering Inferno, on the other hand, starred Paul Newman and Steve McQueen, two of the coolest people ever, and is pretty much the benchmark for disaster movies.

Fast forward to the 90's and suddenly, Hollywood has rediscovered natural disasters. First came Twister. You remember that one, right? The movie where there was, oh I don't know, 6,000 tornadoes over a 2 day period. Perhaps I am being unfair; after all, it did feature a reoccurring gag about a cow in a tornado and truly, nothing is funnier than livestock tossed about by the forces of nature.

The next year comes and brings with it Volcano and Dante's Peak. Hmm...all the disasters in the world and both chose volcanoes as their destructive force. Both very bad, but Dante's Peak did reinforce the well-established rule of disaster films: the family dog must live. This is laughably carried to the Nth degree when Grandma pulls a raft to safety through superheated water and dies in the process, all as to prevent the dog from doing the same. I guess Grandma was gonna die soon enough anyway.

This double disaster trend was duplicated with Armageddon and Deep Impact, with Armageddon being an unholy behemoth of a film, filled with

stars and awful Aerosmith songs the drew money to it in defiance of all logic that movies should be good and occasionally watchable. Meanwhile, Deep Impact was the most thoughtful intelligent disaster film in recent history and I think myself and some poor guy who was expecting a porn film were the only two to see it.

You can say this for all of those films, however. At least they chose actual disasters. The two worst offenders ever could not even be bothered with that much. They are, of course, Hard Rain and Atomic Twister. With Hard Rain, I have two problems, a.) The title is bad. Really bad. With Volcano, its all too obvious title was followed up with the greatest tagline of all time, "The Coast is Toast." For Hard Rain even that was too much effort. b.) The disaster is ridiculous. Rain. RAIN!!!!!! Anybody else having a hard time with this? That thunderstorm that blew in here last week was hard and while it sounded like the end of all that is, it couldn't even knock out power for more than 15 seconds. I don't remember anyone feeling the need to call the National Guard or screaming about how we were all going to die. Perhaps I wasn't listening close enough. If the movie was called Flood, maybe I could get into it, but Hard Rain? Come on.

Atomic Twister decides to do Hard Rain one better. It is going to create a disaster and choose a highly derivative title. Oh yeah, and be released directly to cable. Atomic Twister concerns a tornado which somehow gobbles up a nuclear power plant and becomes radioactive so that it not only picks up cows as it moves across the landscape, but also turns them into mutated killing machines. If you think I am just being ridiculous, you really have no idea.

All of this indicates a dangerous path. We have reached the bottom of the barrel for disasters. So, what is next? Black Ice? Fog? Wind Gusts? Flurries? Or perhaps more combinations: Volcanic Asteroid, Nuclear Earthquake, or Starring Carrot Top and Pauly Shore? When the next one comes out don't see it. No matter how many Bruce Willis and Bill Paxton and Pierce Brosnans they throw into it, avoid it. You won't have to waste your money on a god-awful film and maybe, just maybe, I won't have to see a lousy preview for a lousy disaster movie the next time I take in a flick at the theater. Until that happens, color me anxiously awaiting Fog.

THE WAR ON IRAQ: A LEGITIMATE CASE OR AN ILLUSION

MARINA IVANOVA • VIEWPOINT

Only a year has passed since the devastating attacks of September 11, and America is yet again preparing to engage in another conflict — war with Iraq. The premise for the war is that Saddam Hussein has in his possession weapons of mass destruction, yet a congressional hearing of the investigating committee that was sent to Iraq a few months ago to detect any traces of such weapons indicated that they were unable to find any such evidence. National Security Advisor Condoleezza Rice, Vice-President Cheney, and Secretary of Defense Rumsfeld are basing their accusations on nothing more than pure speculation and conjecture. The administration's serious charges against Iraq are irrational and unsubstantiated to a large degree. Rice was quoted to say that if the world does not deal with Saddam Hussein's impudence now, tomorrow might be too late if he decides to "use a nuclear weapon against the US or Great Britain." She also claimed that war with Iraq was not a question of "why now," but rather a question of "why not." Why? Because there exists such a thing as legitimacy in the conduct of war, applicable to all nations in the world. The International law based on the United Nations charter clearly outlines the proper behavior of nations in such a case — using diplomatic means to solve crises and clashes. Apparently no such rules apply to the Bush administration. If the government is going to endanger human lives in one more of its innumerable wars against "evil," then the President should be able to stand before the nation and honestly declare that all other options of dealing with Hussein were exhausted. Is this the case? Not at all. First and foremost, the administration is obligated to seek approval from Congress (which it has blatantly avoided

for a long time). Secondly, after laying out the facts and making its case, Washington and its allies must enforce the already existing cease-fire agreement of the United Nations Security Council (the same 1991 cease-fire agreement that left Saddam in power). And only after all this has been accomplished does the US have the legitimate right to go to war. We have to ask ourselves as citizens of the US, what good will this war bring us: death economic recession, possible oil crash, worsening of already volatile stock markets, inflation, and more unemployment. Is the administration waging this battle for the welfare of America and the world, or is this just another attempt of fulfilling its interest in the far east? It seems as though the government is conspicuously attempting to create the illusion that somehow the war on terrorism is linked to the war on Iraq. The administration is not only blatantly violating International law, but it is also arrogantly declaring that any countries that refuse to join them in the war are inevitably supporting the terrorists.

In an article in the New York Times, Senator John Kerry (D., MA) pointed out rightly that regime change in Iraq is a worthy goal, but regime in itself is not a nearly worthy reason to go to war. He further stated that the goal of global security rests primarily in the willingness of countries to realize the importance of obeying the procedures of international law and community. The United States is in a critical position right now of coming to that realization. It is also absolutely essential that we clearly see the fragility of humanity at this point of our existence and act in a sensible and human way.

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ARTS&ENTERTAINMENT

A Vacation Sacrificed...

Another summer movie season has come and gone, and this one was nothing short of miraculous. This was a summer movie season that actually produced intelligent well-made films. Ladies and gentlemen, I kid you not. In comparison with last summer where I only gave four movies four or more stars (including a ridiculously biased four star rating to "Jay and Silent Bob Strike Back." I'm not taking it back, I am just pointing that out), this summer boasted seven. However, against the backdrop of such a surprising turn of events (could Hollywood finally be respecting their audience?) the bad movies seem that much worse. For every "Road to Perdition," the entertainment community gave us a "Mr. Deeds," or worse, a "Bad Company." Without further ado, here is how I wasted my summer for all of you.

**About a Boy ****1/2**

Hands down the best comedy I have seen in sometime. Based on the book by Nick Hornby, who also wrote High Fidelity, it tells the story of Will a 30-something who discovers a "brilliant" new avenue to have no strings sex and still come out the hero: single moms. In his search for further conquests, he joins a SPAT (Single Parents Alone Together) and creates a fictitious child. Soon, his playboy lifestyle as a human island is threatened by 12-year old Marcus (Nicholas Hoult) who decides the surest way to cure his mother's (Toni Collette) suicidal depression is to have her couple up with Will because every family needs back up. Hugh Grant, continuing a trend started in "Bridget Jones' Diary," leaves behind his foppish oh-so-cute Englishman persona that worked so well for him in "Four Weddings and a Funeral" and "Notting Hill." As enjoyable as he was in those, his performance as the self-centered Will and his transition to someone who sings with his eyes closed (it makes sense, trust me) is perfect. Though Grant should be singled out, there is not a bad or even average performance in the entire film. Less close to the book in terms of dialogue than "High Fidelity" was, but far closer in tone, "About a Boy" is so good it is beyond comprehension that is directed by the same people who brought us "American Pie." The best comedy of the year, bar none.

**Austin Powers in Goldmember **1/2**

The opening moments of the newest "Austin Powers" is the most masturbatory, self-indulgent, self-referential gift Hollywood could have given itself...and it is absolutely brilliant. It spoils the fun to say who or how many cameos are squeezed into those first minutes for it must be watched to be fully appreciated. Unfortunately, the good news stops there. The rest of the film is tired and draggy. Gags that were funny the first two films seem forced, even when the script goes as far as to acknowledge that very fact. The new villain is uninteresting, Michael Caine is clearly just there to pick up a paycheck as Austin's negligent father, and the ending smacks of "I'm kind of tired of writing this script now," carelessness. The

only pleasant surprise is Beyonce Knowles and how well the Destiny Child singer embraces her inner-Pam Grier to create the blaxploitation era heroine, Foxy Cleopatra.

Bad Company 1/2

For my money, the single worst film of this summer. Joel Schumacher may one day direct another movie to that erases some of the hideousness of "Batman and Robin" (the worst thing ever, its pall on his record can never be fully removed) but this is not it. Far too little humor for a movie starring Chris Rock, far too little acting ability for a movie starring Sir Anthony Hopkins (proving here, if there was any doubt left, that he is very much about the paycheck), and far too little action for an action movie, it failed in every possible way.

Bourne Identity *1/2**

messes. Finch is rife with the potential to chew scenery but Williams instead maintains a placid demeanor and speaking voice and renders Finch all the more frightening for it. Hillary Swank, Martin Donovan, and Maura Tierney all provide excellent moments of assistance, but this movie truly belongs to Williams, Pacino, and Nolan.

Lilo and Stitch ***

Reinforcing the idea that anyone who predicts the demise of type of filmmaking purely on the basis of three or four films is an idiot, "Lilo and Stitch" was the most successful "typical" animated film since "The Lion King." The reason is simple, it is really good and Disney finally realized that they have to do a little more than simply release a movie for it to make money and gain attention. An original story and some real diversity (Disney tends to avoid that sort of thing like the plague) certainly helped as well. The biggest problem with it: the Elvis music. Don't get me wrong, I appreciate that he revolutionized music. I just can't listen to it. And after a summer that treated the anniversary of his death like the Second Coming, if I never ever hear "Hound Dog" again, I will shed no tears.

Men in Black II *1/2

While not the worst movie of the summer, this is certainly the most disappointing. Less a movie and more of a collection of scenes that seemed to be linked together by some nonsense about a powerful talisman and aliens destroying Earth, "Men in Black II" starts off well enough. It quickly becomes apparent, however, that more time was invested in writing out zeros on Mr. Smith and Mr. Jones's paychecks than on writing the script. The biggest offender is Jones who was hysterically dry in the first film, but is now merely a somnambulist. A titanic waste of talent that just makes me sad.

Minority Report ****

There exists two Tom Cruises: Tom Cruise the movie star who give us such movies as "Mission Impossible 2" and "Cocktail" (a bad, bad movie); and Tom



Cruise the actor who makes movies like "Vanilla Sky" and "Rain Man." Here, fortunately, we are dealing with Tom Cruise the actor. It is also refreshing to see Stephen Spielberg lending his vision to something besides history films ("Amistad," "Saving Private Ryan"), trash ("Jurassic Park II: The Lost World"), or carrying forth Stephen Kubrick's last film ("A.I.: Artificial Intelligence"). The result is the best movie Cruise has made since 1994's "Interview with a Vampire" and Spielberg's 1998 "Saving Private Ryan." Refusing to play the typical blockbuster game and deliver all flash and no substance, the film instead muses on the existence of fate, whether or not it can be altered, and to what extent, and where do we draw the line in our search for justice as Cruise's beloved Pre-Crime begins to hunt him for the murder of a man he does not even know. Of course, there is a bigger conspiracy afoot as Pre-Crime is soon to go beyond its trail period in Washington, DC to a nationwide police force. In addition to Cruise, the film features star-making turns

by Colin Farrell and Samantha Morton. The film's final take on fate does seem to contradict all that came before it and the ending is a little too sunny considering the noir tone that permeates the film that could have been improved by one line that ended up being cut from the completed print referring to the number of murders that were committed in Washington, DC in the year that followed.

Mr. Deeds **1/2

Adam Sandler has starred in some of the classic comedies of our generation. No one under the age of 25 has any right to be walking around if they have not seen "Billy Madison" and "Happy Gilmore." He has even proven that he can act too in the great, low key 80's flashback, "The Wedding Singer." He also has a tendency to make true pieces of junk as well, like "Going Overboard," "The Waterboy," or "Little Nicky," or dully mediocre movies, as in the case of "Big Daddy." "Mr. Deeds" is no "Little Nicky," but neither is it "Happy Gilmore." It is a mostly bland movie that seems to be "Big Daddy"'s twin. Just stay home and watch "Happy" or "Billy" for the 33rd time. You'll have a much better time.

My Big Fat Greek Wedding **1/2**

As you have already been told a dozen times by now, this is the sleeper hit of the summer. And deservedly so. There is nothing here you have not seen before, a girl uncomfortable with her own culture and family, her family that is entirely devoted to



one another and the expression of that culture, her outsider boyfriend who the family cannot understand why she would choose instead of a good boy of their own culture, and finally the journey that leads to her accepting her culture and her family accepting her boyfriend (I hope I haven't ruined it for anyone). However, it is such a delightful movie that what does it matter if it has been done before. Funny and touching, it in no way collapses under the layers of sentiment and Greek pride. A movie done right.

Reign of Fire **1/2

Dragons have taken over the world, the Americans want to fight them, the British want to wait them out. Yeah, it wreaks of cliché, but with Matthew McConaughey chewing up scenery as if his life depends on it, some very cool looking dragons, and such smart touches as "Star Wars" now being part of the mythology of this near-future Earth, you'll be too busy being entertained to care.

Road to Perdition **1/2**

Sam Mendes follow up to "American Beauty" does not disappoint. Once again collaborating with Cinematographer Conrad Hall, every moment is a beauty to behold (if one will forgive the pun). However, none of that would mean anything without strong performances to capture and in this, "Road" does not disappoint. Tom Hanks proves his versatility by playing the emotionally thawing hitman Michael Sullivan without indulging in the melodrama many other actors might be unable to resist. Quite a few pounds heavier than most of us are used to seeing him with and sporting a thin mustache, Hanks looks every inch a bulldog, willing to protect his master's life or interests to the death. In this case, the master is father figure John Rooney. Paul Newman allows the murderousness of the aging crime boss to be visible just below the surface, even as he plays the kindly grandfather to Michael's children. The story hinges on the relationships of fathers and sons as Rooney betrays his surrogate son Michael for his genetic son Connor (Daniel Craig) and Michael is left with nothing in this world except his oldest son Michael Junior (Tyler Hoechlin). Michaels Sr and Jr begin to pick apart the Rooney empire in the hopes that they will give up Connor, the murderer of Michael's wife and youngest son. Instead, they send fellow hitman Maguire (Jude Law) who enjoys taking pictures of his victims as they lay dying. Jude Law with thinning hair (he helped the cause by pulling some of it out) and rotting teeth disappears into Maguire, further proving he is a serious actor, not just an attractive one. In the end, Michael Sr. gets his one true wish, and we are left with a seemingly innocuous quote that is so crushing in the film, "He was my father."

Scooby-Doo *

Nostalgia sometimes makes us do silly things that help us to realize that what we remember the past being like really was not all that accurate. This movie is an example of this. Some of us may remember those "meddling kids" from Saturday morning cartoons and smile and I assure you that it is better this way. This movie had a huge potential to be a funny deconstruction of Scooby (as in the case of the "Brady Bunch" movies) but instead opts to be an 87-minute live action episode of the cartoon. The only good I can say about it is that Matthew Lillard does not merely play Shaggy, but rather becomes him. Sure, it is no Robert DeNiro into Jake LaMotta, but hey, it is still pretty impressive.

Signs ****

The third commercially released film written and directed by M. Night Shyamalan sees him delve into yet another area of the paranormal, the alien invasion. As in the case of "The Sixth Sense" (ghosts) and the criminally underrated "Unbreakable" (super powers), Signs does not follow the expected path. Instead of the blockbuster battle in the skies we are usually given, as in an "Independence Day," this film focuses on what is happening to a family while the world is seemingly ending around them. It is

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agent saga opens that what writer-director Robert Rodriguez has done is created a film that treats being a government agent like you used to when you played it in the backyard as a kid. It is all there, the overly elaborate tasks, the fanciful landscapes, and of course, heaps upon heaps of unbelievable gadgets. If you surrender to this, the movie is just a lot

Gugino and Banderas, as well as the always excellent Steve Buscemi as an accidental Dr. Moreau figure.

Star Wars Episode 2: Attack of the Clones **

First the good news: this is a far better movie than "Episode 1." Now the bad news: it still does not measure up to Episodes 4-6

becomes an almost religious experience to take in. Connie Sumner is a wife and mother bored with suburban life and finds an intriguing diversion from it all in the form of a used book collector Paul (Olivier Martinez). From the moment he "rescues" her from a windstorm she is drawn to him. While her husband Edward (Richard Gere)



of fun, though not as much as the first. It needs more of the Cortez parents, Gregorio (Antonio Banderas) and Ingrid (Carla Gugino). In the first film, they were the best

("A New Hope," "The Empire Strikes Back," and "Return of the Jedi"). Lucas does right by the fans with a far less complicated story and beautiful battle and chase sequences, including fan favorite Yoda cutting loose. Ewan McGregor is more comfortable in the skin of Obi Wan this time around and is the only actor who does not seem to be little more than a digital plaything for Lucas to do with what he chooses. Natalie Portman and Hayden Christensen as Padme Amidala and Anakin Skywalker respectively seem less like humans and more like the puppets used in the earlier three films. They display zero chemistry and Lucas's horrific dialogue does little to ease the burden. Excepting the battle sequences, the wonder of the "Star Wars" franchise seems to have slipped through Lucas's fingers. The entirely digital worlds and special effects laden shots are beautiful to look at but seem as substantial as cardboard.

Sum of All Fears ***

First Jack Ryan was one age and a novice. Then he was older and Mr. Secret Agent. Now, he is younger than he was in the first place and a novice once more. Oh yeah, he became unmarried (not divorced, as in hasn't met his wife yet) and his children no longer exist. If you cannot get beyond this sort of thing, I suggest steering clear as it is likely to drive you up a wall. However, if time being twisted like a pretzel does not bother you, then "Sum of All Fears" is an enjoyable popcorn movie. Ben Affleck is good at channeling Alec Baldwin's version

is at work, they meet up in his New York apartment. However, what begins as an adventure quickly becomes a sick cycle of masochism, culminating with a brutal bout of sex between the two in the stairwell of Paul's apartment. It only becomes worse when Edward's premonition of Connie straying is confirmed by a private investigator. Diane Lane has not been this good since, well, ever. She fluctuates between Connie's lust for both Paul and a change, her love for her husband and child, and her self-loathing. Richard Gere, following another good turn in "The Mothman Prophecies," is in danger of making us respect him again following such tripe as "Autumn in New York" and "Runaway Bride." He allows himself to look and act his age for the benefit of the film. The ending may prove unsatisfying for many, but its ambiguity is real and far preferable to a simple wrap up.

Windtalkers **1/2

Beautifully shot war sequences do little to obfuscate the fact that director John Woo and screenwriters John Rice and Joe Batteer have taken an intriguing concept and reduced it to a buddy movie. Nicolas Cage does a fine job with the haunted bitter Joe Enders, a soldier who led his battalion to the slaughter, but has been much better. That is essentially the story of this movie; everyone in it seems satisfied with just being decent and not trying any harder than that.

XXX **1/2

Big, loud (I mean really, really loud), and dumb. Vin Diesel is a very cool, if arro-



of Jack Ryan (although not as good as he was at channeling Baldwin's "over-the-top real estate executive in "Glengarry Glen Ross" into an over-the-top lead stockbroker in "Boiler Room"). The Neo-Nazi villains are slightly disappointing in the wake of the real world villainy we have experienced, but they do their job well enough. The real question is whether the Jack Ryan franchise survives another actor switch, and the answer is yes.

Unfaithful ****

Adrian Lyne, the director behind "Fatal Attraction" and "Indecent Proposal," is at the top of his game with this film. Yes, he is still terrified of women and their potential to kill or psychologically unravel the men in their lives through their sexuality. Make no mistake, however, it is not misogyny and the man is a genius storyteller. Every shot is so perfectly composed that a simple shot of water swirling away suds on a plate

gant, individual and this movie showcases that, and unfortunately little else. An interesting concept (an anti-hero secret agent for Generation X and Y) that little is done with, "XXX" proves both Diesel's star potential and his need to jettison director Rob Cohen as soon as possible. The guy just does not make good movies. In both this and "The Fast and the Furious" he takes concepts that should provide a director with the ability to create a non-stop action film and instead manages to make them drag in the middle 45 minutes. Certainly, Asia Argento's brutally bad acting or the lousy script does little to help Cohen out, but plenty of directors have created great action films with poor screenplays and actors ("Predator," anyone?). If Diesel is serious about being taken seriously, this is a career plan he needs to kick loose of quickly.

a perspective shift that makes all the difference as Shyamalan delivers another brilliant film that, while the weakest of his three efforts, is leaps and bounds ahead of anything in the same category. The score, by James Newton Howard, only reinforces this as it is wholly unique and fits the film perfectly. Recalling Hitchcock's "The Birds," Shyamalan increasingly isolates the Hess family as the reality of an alien invasion becomes impossible to deny. On top of it all, the patriarch of the family, Graham (Mel Gibson) is an Episcopalian minister who has abandoned the faith after the death of his wife, and concluding that there is no higher power looking out for humanity. As usual, Shyamalan's screenplay and direction effectively blend the normal interactions of a family with humor and fear and makes it feel real. A particular highlight is Gibson's hilarious reading of "I am insane with anger," when told to curse by younger brother Merrill (Joaquin Phoenix). He builds scenes just long enough to maximize tension without overwhelming the moment, most effectively displayed in the first video of the aliens. As in "Unbreakable," the ending is a little disappointing, in this case because so many seemingly disparate elements, such as the daughter's quark about drinking water, the son's asthma, the wife's dying words, and her accidental killer's theory on what the aliens fear, are pulled together as to make it unbelievable. Still it is a minor complaint and more one born of my disagreements with the director's philosophy than a true flaw.

Simone ***

Writer-director Andrew Niccol's returns to the fertile theme of what is real (as in The Truman Show and Gattaca, both of which he penned) in a story of Viktor Taransky, a pretentious director who longs for the days when directors and studios controlled the actors, not the other way. His most recent film has been derailed by Nicola Anders (wickedly played by Winona Ryder) who walks when she discovers her trailer to be shorter than another on the lot. After a string of flops, this all but ensures the end of Taransky's career. That is until Simulation One, Simone, a computer program that can embody the best parts of any actress minus the ego-stroking or big contracts. Soon, however, Taransky's Frankenstein is more than he can handle and his repeated attempts to do away with her serve only to make her more popular. Before he knows it, he has been arrested for Simone's murder. After

not maintain its momentum.

Spider-Man ****

The first movie that I have geeked out on in sometime, "Spider-Man" is almost everything I could have hoped for. Tobey Maguire is Peter Parker, by turns smart, self-effacing, arrogant, thoughtful, and guilt-ridden. Willem Dafoe avoids being a clone of Jack Nicholson's Joker as Norman Osborn/Green Goblin, including a truly spooky scene involving a mirror. The script is thin in places, particularly when it comes to fleshing out Kirsten Dunst's Mary Jane Watson



(most of the groan-worthy lines in the script are either said by or to her). However, it is impossible after watching J.K. Simmons' vitriolic turn as newspaper editor J. Jonah Jameson not to forgive and forget. The best

part, with Banderas sending up his tough guy image by, amongst other things, showing how short he really is and Gugino suffocating as a mother who longs to rejoin the spy business. In this one, Banderas still gets



this, the film flies wildly off the tracks and a slick satire about the star making machine of Hollywood and the desire to destroy our idols is reduced to an ending that is far too pat and undermines the film as a whole. However, up until that point, it is funny, smart, and cutting. It is just a shame it could

comic book movie in the past decade (and possibly beyond), it proves that they need not be loud, garish, unfunny empty products.

Spy Kids 2: Island of Lost Dreams ***

It dawns on you shortly after this second installment of the Cortez family's secret

to parody himself, but not nearly enough and Gugino does little more than congratulate her children and her husband. Cutting the maternal grandparents from the film (Ricardo Montalban and Holland Taylor) would have been a welcome alteration and would probably have yielded more time to

ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

Rock concert to benefit Nicaraguan University

A benefit concert to raise funds for a Nicaraguan university that was established for the indigenous population of the country's Atlantic coast region will feature the popular rock band "The Samples" Saturday, October 12, at 8 p.m. in the 1962 Room at the College Center at Crozier-Williams at Connecticut College. The college is located at 270 Mohegan Avenue.

General admission is \$20. Tickets will be on sale through the Connecticut College box office (860-439-2787). The benefit concert is organized annually by members of the Connecticut College Student Activities Council (SAC). "The Samples"

"The Samples" have appeared on NBC's Tonight Show and, most recently, on NBC's Late Night with Conan O'Brien August 2. The group is currently on tour performing and promoting their new CD titled "Anthology in Motion, Volume I." According to RollingStone.com, after the band "adopted an improvisational neo-hippie jazz-pop style, the group began touring, winning fans in each town they appeared."

The Nicaraguan university,



The Samples will perform a benefit concert at Conn on October 12.

known as URACCAN, or the University system of the Atlantic coast of Nicaragua, was selected as this year's beneficiary at the suggestion of Connecticut College senior

Samantha Scala, a former SAC member. Scala has been volunteering in Nicaragua for the past six years through a non-profit organization called Bridges to Community,

based in Scarborough, N.Y. She explained that while there are well-established universities on the west coast of Nicaragua, there had been no university system on the east

coast designed to benefit the indigenous population there.

"There was a brain drain," said Scala. "Many of the students from the Atlantic coast who could afford it headed to the universities in or near Managua, and they never moved back to the east coast." She noted that through her and other students' volunteer work there, "we are trying to form more of a bond between the University students and college-aged students from America."

The URACCAN university system, begun in the 1990s, is the first university system of its kind on the Atlantic coast of Nicaragua, according to the Bridges group. It now has four campuses, in Bluefields, Puerto Cabezas, Siuna and Nueva Guinea. URACCAN offers a unique curriculum that is designed to benefit the indigenous people of the Atlantic coast "by striving to preserve the local language and culture of the region. Located in areas rich in natural resources, URACCAN has developed programs that provide students with the necessary skills needed to protect the natural resources surrounding them."

According to Bridges, the school has been very successful in the past 10 years. "However their desire to grow and develop in hindered by basic needs," Scala said they need basic supplies and materials, and libraries, classrooms and laboratories need books, equipment and other educational materials.

Ranked among the most selective private liberal arts colleges in the nation, Connecticut College has an enrollment of 1,800 men and women from 43 states and 61 countries. The college is particularly known for interdisciplinary studies, innovative international programs, paid internships, and a wide range of student-faculty research opportunities. Founded in 1911, the college operates under an 80-year-old honor code and has no Greek system. The scenic 750-acre campus is managed as an arboretum and overlooks Long Island Sound. For more information, see www.conncoll.edu. Connecticut College is located at 270 Mohegan Ave., New London.

Connecticut College students may purchase discounted tickets at \$12 through Sept. 30 and \$15 from October 1 to 12.

Sneak Peak at OnStage Fall Schedule

By NANCY DINSMORE
ASSOCIATE A&E EDITOR

With a new semester comes a new season of the Connecticut College OnStage series. This fall, the college community has many treats in store, with a variety of performances in all artistic disciplines scheduled to take place. From theater to dance to music, here is a sneak peak of what will soon be coming to an auditorium near you.

Kicking off the series, Noche Flamenca will be performing in Palmer Auditorium on October 5. This troupe from Spain has become one of the most successful flamenco companies in the country. Their performance has been hailed by The New York Times as, "A soul-stirring tour-de-force of theater..." One of the dancers, Soledad Barrio, was the 2001 winner of the New York Dance and Performance award for Outstanding Creative Achievement.

On October 24, piano virtuoso Emmanuel Ax will perform in Evans Hall. He is one of the most well-known pianists of today. Born in Poland, Emmanuel Ax began to study piano at age six and was educated at the Juilliard School under the instruction of Mieczyslaw Munz. A Grammy-award winning musician, he is in demand throughout the country and regularly performs in major cities including Boston, New York, and Chicago.

On October 30, the Theatre de la Jeune Lune will stage their acclaimed production of Hamlet in Palmer Auditorium. The story of Shakespeare's Hamlet is a familiar one to most people, but it continues to fascinate audiences around the world with its intricate story that combines love, jealousy, madness, and betrayal. The Theatre de la Jeune Lune is a company committed to "looking for the new in the old." They have been bringing imaginative performances to audiences for 24 years.

The last event in the series taking place this fall will be Cantigas de Santa Maria. This concert will be held on November 9 in Palmer Auditorium. Performers include the Boston Camerata, the Camerata Mediterranea, and L'Orchestre Adalkrim. Contemporary musicians blend European and Arabic techniques in this unique performance of King Alfonso the Wise of Spain's songs dedicated to the Virgin Mary.

More information about all of these events can be obtained at <http://onstage.conncoll.edu> or by calling the Box Office at (860) 439-2787.

MOVIE TIMES

Hoyts Waterford 9
Blue Crush (PG-13) Fri-Sun 7:05 9:35
City by the Sea (R) Fri 1:50 4:20 6:50 9:25, Sat-Sun 11:30 1:50 4:20 6:50 9:25
My Big Fat Greek Wedding (PG) Fri 2:15 4:35 7:00 9:20, Sat-Sun 12:05 2:15 4:35 7:00 9:20
One Hour Photo (R) Fri 2:05 4:30 6:55 9:15, Sat-Sun 12:00 2:05 4:30 6:55 9:15
Signs (PG-13) Fri 1:55 4:15 6:45 9:30, Sat-Sun 11:35 1:55 4:15 6:45 9:30
Spy Kids 2 (PG) Sat-Sun 12:10 2:20 4:40
Stealing Harvard (PG-13) Fri 2:25 4:45 7:20 9:40, Sat-Sun 12:20 2:25 4:45 7:20 9:40

Swimfan (PG-13) Fri 2:10 4:10 6:40 9:00, Sat-Sun 12:15 02:10 4:10 6:40
XXX (PG-13) Fri-Sun 1:45 4:25 7:10 9:45
Hoyts Groton 6
Barbershop (PG-13) Fri 3:45 7:10 9:35, Sat-Sun 1:20 3:45 7:10 9:35
City by the Sea (R) Fri 3:40 7:00 9:25, Sat-Sun 1:15 3:40 7:00 9:25
FearDotcom (R) Fri-Sun 4:00 9:10
Serving Sara (PG-13) Fri 6:45, Sat-Sun 1:25 6:45
Stealing Harvard (PG-13) Fri 3:35 6:30 9:15, Sat-Sun 1:30 3:35 6:30 9:15

Swimfan (PG-13) Fri 4:10 7:15 9:40, Sat-Sun 1:40 4:10 7:15 9:40
XXX (PG-13) Fri 3:50 6:50 9:30, Sat-Sun 1:10 3:50 6:50 9:30

Hoyts Mystic 3
The Good Girl (R) Fri 4:10 6:50 9:15, Sat-Sun 1:50 4:10 6:50 9:15
Possession (PG-13) Fri 4:00 6:40 9:10, Sat-Sun 1:40 4:00 6:40 9:10
Signs (PG-13) Fri 3:50 6:30 9:00, Sat-Sun 1:30 3:50 6:30 9:00

'Swimfan' is a Stomach Churning 'Fatal Attraction' Knockoff

Swimfan

★☆☆☆☆

Rated: Pg-13
Length: 84 Minutes
Starring: Jesse Bradford, Erika Christensen, Shiri Appleby, Dan Hedaya
Directed by: John Polson
Summary: Teen "Fatal Attraction" clone drowns under weight of poor concept, direction.

By TIM STEVENS
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

I have two problems with "Swimfan". The first is that it is yet another film that demands we accept college age (and older) actors as high school students. Sometimes it works and sometimes it has to be done. In this case, however, the only one remotely near high school age (and the only one who could pass for a high school student) is Erika Christensen at 20 years old. The rest of the high school cast is at least a year older than I am and I am a senior in college now. It would not bother me nearly as much if this were a story in which the fact that they were in high school was so integral to the movie that it could not be overlooked. However, since the school's campus looks like a college, all the students behave like they are in college, and nary a parent to be seen (they all live at home, but everyone's, Jesse Bradford's mom, seems to have chosen this particular week to go away), it would seem an easy enough trick to move it to college and an environment more fitting to the actors' ages. The other problem is that there is no build up in



tension. The key to any good affair-gone-bad movie is the slow dawning to the lead that his sin may end up leading to his own death and how each subsequent between the two becomes more and more dangerous. Here, there is no such ratcheting up of the tension. This is owed to two different factors. The first is the trailer. It literally gives away every problem that Madison Bell (Christensen) will inflict upon Ben Cronin (Bradford) with one exception that you will see coming from a mile away anyway. When you already know how she is going to try to "win" him back from his saintly (of course) girlfriend Amy Miller (Shiri Appleby) than there goes most of the fun. Additionally, Madison is way too creepy way too quickly. Even before Ben and her make with the pool sex, she seems murderous. You cannot believe Ben would want to have any contact with her at all because you feel like she is ready to stab him (and anyone else) to death from the moment she appears on screen. You cannot possibly sympathize with Ben because you cannot imagine doing anything with Madison except

maybe reporting her to the nurse for psychiatric evaluation. Thus, the frights are replaced with one hour long queasy feeling in the pit of your stomach. There is also the whole business about getting us to believe in the competitive world of high school swimming, which pushes my ability to suppress disbelief to its breaking point, and whether or not the fate of Madison's previous boyfriend was an accident that unhinged her or did she cause it. These matters are never really resolved, but I am betting in a movie of this caliber, that will be the least of your concern. The movie is predictably from the first moment to the last. Nothing that will be important later on in the story is presented with anything less than jackhammer subtlety. Even the rip off of Fatal Attraction's preoccupation with water is done so artlessly as to set the majority in or around a pool. There may be room in the world for a Generation X and Y era "Fatal Attraction," but this certainly is not that movie.

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Claude & LAUDE
Siamese brother and sister

When we were born our father was horrified. He wanted us separated immediately. It was not right for a boy and girl to be one...

Since we shared a heart, only one of us could survive. Yet our father insisted. So, one night, our mother disappeared with us...

For which we are very grateful. But, did she have to make us wear such ridiculous costumes? Remember to smile at the judges.

Jane Stern, Sept. 2002

NATIONAL NEWS

Bush Demands That U.N. Confront Iraq



Bush addressed the nation Thursday on the need for war with Iraq.

BY BARRY SCHWEID

AP DIPLOMATIC WRITER

UNITED NATIONS (AP) — Raising the specter of war, President Bush told skeptical world leaders Thursday to confront the "grave and gathering danger" of Saddam Hussein's Iraq — or stand aside as the United States acts. Hesitant allies asked him not to go it alone.

From the United Nations' cavernous main hall, filled with wary friends and one bitter foe in Iraq's ambassador, Bush said the body must rid the world of Saddam's biological, chemical and nuclear arsenals or risk millions of lives in a "reckless gamble."

Behind the scenes, U.S. diplomats reported progress toward a U.N. resolution giving Iraq a firm deadline — just weeks away — to disarm or face dire, but thus far

unspecified, consequences.

"If Iraq's regime defies us again, the world must move deliberately and decisively to hold Iraq to account," Bush said in his 15-minute address. "The just demands of peace and security will be met or action will be unavoidable. And a regime that has lost its legitimacy will also lose its power."

Bush gave Saddam a chance to avoid confrontation, but only if Iraq meets a series of strict U.S. demands that no U.S. official, including Bush, expects Iraq to meet. The biggest challenge to Saddam: Remove or destroy all weapons of mass destruction from Iraqi soil.

The address was Bush's answer to deep reluctance among U.S. allies — and American lawmakers — to use force against Saddam despite Iraq's decade-old defiance of U.N. resolutions. By coming to the U.N., Bush rejected the advice of some senior administration officials who had urged him to confront Iraq alone and without delay.

Many world leaders welcomed Bush's attempt to reach out, but counseled him to give Saddam every chance to allow U.N. weapons inspectors to return. Others objected to any talk of war, and a few fretted openly about their bleak choices.

"We are facing a lot of very, very difficult challenges and choices, and I guess we will have to choose among a lot of bad options," said Norwegian Foreign Minister Jan Petersen.

Addressing the General Assembly just before Bush, U.N. Secretary General Kofi Annan urged caution. "When states decide to use force to deal with broader threats to international peace and security, there is no substitute for the unique legitimacy provided by the United Nations," he said.

But he also seemed to back Bush's charges against Saddam, suggesting time was running short for Iraq to admit weapons inspectors.

"If Iraq's defiance continues, the Security Council must face its responsibilities," Annan said.

Defiant as ever, Iraq's U.N. Ambassador Mohammed

Al-Douri blasted Bush.

"He chooses to deceive the world and his own people by the longest series of fabrications that have ever been told by a leader of a nation," Al-Douri said.

In Washington, Senate Majority Leader Tom Daschle of South Dakota said, "I don't think that the case for pre-emptive attack has been made conclusively yet. That doesn't mean it can't be." Democrats like Daschle are struggling to balance their concerns of going to war against the political dangers of bucking a popular president.

Senate Foreign Relations Committee chairman Joseph Biden, D-Del., who on Wednesday said he strongly opposes unilateral U.S. military intervention, welcomed Bush's speech "as a powerful indictment, by the United Nations own standards, of Saddam Hussein's contempt for the world."

Republican lawmakers praised Bush's speech and urged Democrats to yield quickly on a resolution authorizing action against Saddam — an act that would make Iraq an issue deep in the midterm election campaign.

At the United Nations, the tension was palpable as Bush mingled with world leaders. Before their addresses, Bush and Annan posed stiffly in a corridor until Annan murmured to the president, "Let's shake." Then the two joined hands and Bush placed an arm across Annan's back.

In the speech, Bush bluntly asked, "Will the United Nations serve the purpose of its founding or will it be irrelevant?"

After completing his remarks, Bush drew a deep breath and blew it out again, his cheeks puffed and his frame slumped into a high-backed seat.

Bush does not believe Saddam can avoid confrontation with the United States, advisers said as the president laid out his conditions.

"If the Iraqi regime wishes peace, it will immediately and unconditionally forswear, disclose and remove or destroy all weapons of mass destruction, long-range missiles, and all related material," Bush said. He also

demanded that Saddam stop supporting terrorism, persecuting minorities, trading oil illegally for other goods and account for a U.S. pilot and soldiers from other nations missing since the Persian Gulf War.

Administration officials likened the demands to those Bush imposed on the Taliban in the run-up to war in Afghanistan.

Bush did not spell out the consequences of Saddam's refusal to comply, but senior administration officials pointed to language in the address that points to the potential for military action: "The purpose of the United States should not be doubted: The Security Council resolutions will be enforced."

There were doubts, however, from every corner of the world.

German Finance Minister Hans Eichel, for example, warned that an attack on Iraq could wreck Germany's economic recovery.

Bush countered the concerns with a damning account of Saddam's regime, including the attempted assassination of Bush's own father — former President George H.W. Bush.

He said Saddam has stockpiles of deadly chemical and biological agents, and could build a nuclear weapon within a year if he secured fissile material.

"The first time we may be completely certain he has nuclear weapons is when, God forbid, he uses one," Bush said.

Secretary of State Colin Powell, who is here with Bush, will begin working Friday with the Security Council's four other permanent members — Russia, China, France and Britain — on a resolution giving Saddam a deadline to disarm. Of the four, only Britain has supported Bush thus far, but U.S. officials said Bush's decision to go to the U.N. first had build momentum for his case.

The resolution may not spell out the punishment if Iraq doesn't comply, but it might address Bush's desire for a tougher weapons inspection system, perhaps one backed by force, officials said.

Reeve's Recovery 'Unprecedented'

BY DANIEL Q. HANEY

AP MEDICAL EDITOR

"Superman" star Christopher Reeve's against-odds improvement has stunned doctors, who say it is the first documented case of such progress over paralysis years after catastrophic spinal cord injury.

They believe intensive physical therapy is key to the modest, though important, changes Reeve has seen since his injury in 1995. However, they cannot predict whether improvement will continue or if the same approach will help others with long-term paralysis.

"We are talking about an unprecedented amount of recovery. There is just no basis to talk about how much more to expect," said neuroscientist Naomi Kleitman, head of spinal cord injury research at the National Institute of Neurological Disorders and Stroke.

The first clear sign of change occurred one early November day almost two years ago, when Reeve twitched his left index finger. By then, he had been immobile from the neck down for more than five years, unable to feel or move anything. But the movement was the start of a slow rebirth of sensation and control that he says has changed his life for the better.

Reeve, who turns 50 on Sept. 25, still must use a wheelchair. All but one hour a day, he uses a ventilator to breathe. But he can feel human touch, experience pain and move his fingers, wrists and legs.

"His was the worst-case scenario," said Dr. John W. McDonald, who oversaw his treatment at Washington University School of Medicine in St. Louis. "Nobody in the world would have predicted he could recover."

Reeve was thrown from a horse seven years ago and landed on his helmet, breaking his neck and damaging the thumb-size bundle of nerves that carries messages between the brain and the rest of the body. At least three-quarters of the nerve fibers were severed, and what remained did not work. Over the years, his muscles withered, his bones thinned, and he suffered repeated bouts of infection and life-threatening complications.

After years of his own exercise efforts, the actor began in April 1999 an approach called activity-based recovery, which involves repeated electrical stimulation of the muscles. The idea is that constant motion could re-educate the remaining nerves in the spine to carry signals and perhaps even sprout new branches to connect to healthy fibers above and below the injury.

For an hour three times a week in his home, Reeve sat on an exercise bicycle while electrical stimulation made his legs pump the pedals. Similar stimulation was done to other muscle groups. Next he began weekly aquatherapy, working his muscles in a pool for two hours at a time.

McDonald described the results in a report in the September issue of the Journal of Neurosurgery: Spine, including an interview he did with Reeve during the summer.

Now, Reeve can tell hot from cold. He can feel about two-thirds of the normal sensation of being touched and half of the usual intensity of pinpricks. This ability to feel lets him know when he should shift his weight, so he can sit in a wheelchair up to 16 hours a day without getting pres-



Christopher Reeve has recently regained sensations and partial mobility in his body.

sure sores. In the water, he can make flying motions with his arms and walk. However, he still requires around-the-clock nursing care, and out of the pool, he cannot raise his arms or walk without being held up.

Reeve told McDonald that knowing he can breathe on his own has relieved his terror of a ventilator failure, and life with his family is much more normal.

"They know I am healthier, stronger, and that on any day, I might have a surprising recovery," he said. For instance, after a recent session in the pool, "my ability to push off from the wall against resistance was about twice as strong as it was weeks earlier."

Gaining sensation has also been important. "It makes a huge difference if someone touches you on the hand, and you can feel it," he said. "You make a much more meaningful connection."

Typically, doctors tell paralyzed patients that most improvement occurs in the first six months with no hope of recovery beyond two years.

"The truth is, we don't know," said Dr. Kevin O'Connor, head of spinal cord injury recovery at

Boston's Spaulding Rehabilitation Hospital. "Given this report, it's really unfair to patients to say there is a time limit."

Doctors say they also cannot be sure, from a single case, whether repetitive movements actually do revive the wiring of the spine to carry lost messages. But several said they believe Reeve's unusual course of physical therapy played a role in his recovery.

"I can't help but think it had something do with it," said Dr. John Jane, who treated Reeve at the University of Virginia soon after the accident. "People often begin to recover right away. The fact is, he did not. It's the late recovery that is so absolutely unique."

A study under way by McDonald, comparing 20 patients who get repetitive movement and 20 with usual care, may help answer this.

Reeve, certainly, hopes this is just the start. "My recovery means everything to me, because while some people are able to accept living with a disability, I am not one of them," he said. "I want my life back."

Marker Set for Unknown 9/11 Victims

BY CONNIE CASS

ASSOCIATED PRESS WRITER

ARLINGTON, Va. (AP) — In a single casket, remains that symbolically represent all 184 victims of the attack on the Pentagon were buried with full military honors Thursday at Arlington National Cemetery, the resting place of the nation's unknown soldiers.

In a quiet postscript to the nation's Sept. 11 observances, Defense Secretary Donald H. Rumsfeld eulogized the dead as patriots who died "here at home, not on a faraway battlefield."

He offered special condolences to the families of five victims whose remains were never identified, including 3-year-old Dana Falkenberg, who died aboard American Airlines Flight 77.

"Today, these five join the unknown of past wars even as we pursue the war that is still unfolding," Rumsfeld said, standing next to the flag-draped casket.

A granite monument with five sides, like the Pentagon, will be placed over the grave next week. It will stand on a hill with a tree-dappled view of the spot where the hijacked jet smashed into the Pentagon.

Names of all 184 victims are inscribed on the 4-foot-5-inch-tall marker. "It cries out, do not forget. Do not forget, Americans," Brig. Gen. James T. Spivey Jr. said in his funeral address.

Some 1,000 relatives of victims sat solemnly, some hugging and weeping, many holding pictures of their loved ones, as the crowd sang "Amazing Grace" on Thursday.

After the funeral, a caisson drawn by six horses carried the casket behind the U.S. Army Band and two platoons of service members from the Army, Navy, Air Force and Marines.

The service marked the end of a year of Sept. 11 burials at Arlington.

Individual funerals from the Pentagon attack began here on Sept. 25; the last was April 9. In all, 64 of the dead had already been buried at Arlington, most of them next to the site of the new monument.

Many other victims, including some who were working inside the Pentagon on Sept. 11, did not qualify for an individual burial site at the nation's most prestigious cemetery, which is limited to active duty personnel and certain former service members.

All the cremated remains buried Thursday were determined to have come from victims, because they did not have a genetic trait shared by the terrorists, said Chris Kelly, spokesman for the Armed Forces Institute of Pathology.

Some of the remains buried could not be linked to an individual victim. Others were identified after a victim had been buried, and were included in the shared grave at the family's request.

The hijackers' remains were turned over to the FBI in February. Any other remains, such as ash, that could not be partially identified as victims were disposed of by the mortuary at Dover Air Force Base in Delaware, Kelly said, to ensure that no terrorists were committed to hallowed ground.

Donna Teepe buried her husband, retired Lt. Col. Karl W. Teepe, in a similar Arlington service on Oct. 15, when she was still too dazed to note the bugler playing taps and other ceremonial flourishes.

"I missed a lot of it," she said, watching hundreds of other family members line up to file by the shared casket. "It's good to see it now."

Reading The Break

continued from page 10

Reprinted from Vol 25, Issue 10

of your weekly readings. My round is complete now. And again, you and I find ourselves on the putting green together, involved in a different match. The putt you face is difficult, but make-able, and is to close your opponent out. I am your caddy. You must make the stroke, and feel the correct speed. I can check the grain of the grass, and try to relax you, but it is your putt. All I am here to do is read the break.

Freshmen Perspectives

CONN-templations of a CONN freshmen

BY SHONA SEQUEIRA
STAFF WRITER

"Don't step into the shower without shoes!" Newsweek Magazine
 "Don't forget to drink your milk!" Good old mom
 "Don't forget the booze!" Experienced older brother
 "Don't forget to go to mass!" Grandma
 "Don't forget to go on the pill!" Cosmopolitan Magazine
 "Don't forget to break all the rules!" Your best friend

You've heard all the advice. You've watched all the movies. You've read every Barrons/Kaplan/Newsweek college guide you could get your hands on. And yet once you arrive on campus, all that smug self-confidence and knowledge that you came armed with fizzles out faster than a can of Diet Coke. As an international student, for me the transition of coming to college was coupled with the transition of coming to a new country. Most students who come to study from abroad only get to see the colleges of their dreams in glossy brochures or on flashy websites (unless you are one of the lucky few who get to make that famous college trip in your junior year at high school!). How do I put into words the curious amalgam of fear, excitement, anticipation, and awe that I felt when I first saw Conn for real a few days before orientation? The college was even prettier in reality, yet, because it was deserted, it seemed to lack that something which makes a college a college, let alone a home. I saw that soon change, however, once orientation began.

I remember thinking that if I could get through my first night at college I could get through anything. Spending that night alone in my quad (international orientation is a day earlier), the only person on my floor, (well, at least I had the bathroom all to myself for a day!) I stayed up wondering what my roommates would be like. They were just names on paper then. What would they look like? Would they be the "roommates from hell" that I had heard so much about? What if they all ganged up on me? Would they be (god forbid!) cat people? Meeting the people I was going to live with for an entire year was definitely awkward and though people like to refer to it as a "honeymoon phase", we now seem to be getting along just fine. We learn a lot from each other; they find it incomprehensible that I have never seen snow or that I have never eaten a Thanksgiving dinner! During my first two weeks I could not understand their obsession with American Idol, but I gradually started to see what all the fuss was about (Kelly Clarkson over Justin any day!!!).

Adjusting to college life is probably one of the hardest experiences that you have encountered thus far. You miss your mom when you have to deal with that big bag of laundry lying in your closet, and you miss her when you crave a home-cooked meal. There are the questions that plague you at every instant. Will I fit in? Will I make friends? Will the food at Harris ever get better!!!! I wonder if I am ever going to figure out the whole Yankees-Red Sox rivalry that creeps its way into even the most academic of classroom discussions! Every day you walk on campus and search earnestly for a friendly or familiar face. And, sometimes, when you do locate that face none of the countless orientation name games you played can help you remember the person's name! The general perception is that international students help enrich American campus life, but I believe that international students too have a tremendous amount to learn from their American peers. I marvel at the informal and relaxed approach to learning in classrooms here. It is also fascinating to learn about the stereotypes associated with different States. People from California are generally viewed as "cool" whereas people from Maine or Ohio seem to be the butt of all jokes! At Conn, I find myself immersed in a world that I yearn to become a part of, to savor for the next four years. How am I coping with my new world? Well, the day I started referring to my dorm as "home" was the day I knew that I was doing okay!

Settlement in AD Discrimination Case Remains Unsettling

continued from page 1

discrimination prior to the settlement. In the college's defense, Mike DiMauro from The Day wrote, "[The college] said that personality conflicts throughout the administration, more than race, led to the bad reviews, a divided athletic department." Brink added, "The college completed an objective and fair review of Mr. McBryde's performance as a senior manager at the college." The decision was based solely on this review."

Race issues aside, different sources disagree over the decision reached by the review board. His critics, going back to his hiring over five years ago, would argue that McBryde was never fully qualified to fill the position of Athletic Director at CC, citing that he was only added to the list of job applicants because of former president Claire Gaudiani's attempts to increase the number of minorities among the college's faculty. His supporters have highlighted the success of CC athletics under McBryde, pointing to the fact that while he served as A.D., six Camel squads qualified for national tournaments, eight earned spots in the national rankings, and 25 student-athletes were named to All-America teams; all seemingly clear indications of a successful tenure. In addition, McBryde played an integral role in the completion of the college's athletic hall of fame located in the Charles B. Luce Field House. Despite all the diverse opinions that have been expressed throughout the investigation and after the settlement, the fact that Mr. McBryde and the college managed to come to an amicable agreement has been comforting to many, while in some respects it leaves questions unanswered.

CDC Confirms West Nile Organs Link

BY KRISTEN WYATT
ASSOCIATED PRESS WRITER

ATLANTA (AP) — Having confirmed that West Nile virus can be spread through organ transplants, federal health officials have found new evidence that it may be transmitted through blood transfusions as well.

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention said Thursday that it is investigating five cases of people infected with West Nile who also received blood transfusions. That includes a Georgia woman who died and became an organ donor.

In each case, health officials are tracing donated blood to see if the donors had the virus, too. They said Thursday that one of these patients, a woman in Mississippi, did

in fact receive blood from three infected donors.

Still, they said it will be very hard to determine whether this patient — or any patient — got West Nile through the blood, or whether it was transmitted by a mosquito bite.

"There is no single laboratory test that's going to tell you the person got it from a mosquito bite or from a transfusion," said Dr. Lyle Petersen, deputy director of the CDC's vector-borne disease division. "So unless something highly unusual happens, like a transfusion recipient in an area where West Nile virus transmission is not occurring ... it's going to be very difficult to sort out natural mosquito infection from transfusion infection."

Officials added that they were testing the

BY ABIGAIL KUCH
STAFF WRITER

The grass was soft and the evening sky silhouetted the stone buildings that had become our homes that morning. My head spun and my vision revealed a blurry horizontal line of my new peers chanting "wizards, witches, and elves" and taking on a new identity of little monsters playing on Conn's green. I looked from left to right and found I was not the only freshman distracted from bonding with people at whom I would be staring at for the next four years. My thoughts retreated to my unfinished dorm room and sleep deprivation. Oxford American Dictionary defines orientation as "acquainting a person with a new environment." The orientation I attended could not have acquainted me with any singular face or name I would remember because a rehearsed smile and handshake are not realistic measures in discovering a person's real identity. A maelstrom of camp flashbacks was created in my mind and

on top of all the new tribulations of the first college experience, I was trapped picturing myself as a twelve-year-old in a blue uniform singing songs in a circle.

The humor in the roommate survival skills skits brought light to real scenarios and also broke some tension in an auditorium replete with nervous freshman. German information regarding the honor code and other issues seemed valuable in group discussions. It gave us a chance to formulate our own opinions about certain topics and allowed us to expand ourselves by listening to other students. One freshman student who wishes to remain anonymous, however, says that "The only real thing was the honor code meeting, but it was too broad." Another freshman comments how she was intrigued by her group's discussion.

We felt conflicted when the easiest way to formulate a new friendship was by escaping a mandatory three-hour meeting in Palmer and instead, reaching salvation in someone else's dorm room. Initially, lectures were helpful and

informative and as they persisted past our attention spans, others began counting the seconds on their watches. The remaining hours of the lectures were drained by daydreaming and gum chewing. I found myself feeling sorry for those who had envisioned a perfect freshman orientation and for those Residence Assistants, Peer Advisors, and others who invested hours of preparation. Alissa Brammer comments that "It was good, but I thought it was enough already."

We freshmen are far from anti-social or ungrateful. College is an immense step within itself and we are mature enough to kick over our comfort zones and meet new friends without an older student or adult standing behind us with a list of conversation starters. Ashley Kenerson states, "We needed more time to organize ourselves, chill out, and meet people on our own." The first hour was good to pressure us, but after that, we needed time on our own to go meet people.

After moving from West to East, Freshman Still Ends up Home

BY LAUREN MATISON
STAFF WRITER

My flight to Connecticut College began three weeks ago, traveling across the country from Los Angeles, to a place I already felt was my home. After three previous visits, including one overnight stay with four freshmen this past spring, coming to Conn was just another trip—only this time it was permanent.

What surprised me least when I first arrived to school at the end of the summer, with two duffle bags, three suitcases, an Adidas soccer bag, a set of parents, and a huge oversized camping backpack, was how completely congenial the students were to each other. I overlooked the few fakes whose handshake and thin smile you could immediately read as artificial, and focused on the people whose warm smiles lit up their faces as well as mine. The 150 students who decided to get a jumpstart on the forming of friendships were all huddled around the lobby of Cro, chattering away about the this and that: Where are you from? Why here? What dorm? As I leapt from one interesting and animated person to another,

the typical apprehensive questions I had asked myself on the cross-country voyage to Conn of, "Will I ever find best friends here like the ones I had at home?" "Are these the people I'm supposed to be friends with for the rest of my life?" were soon answered.

Every face was enthusiastic, energetic, and eager to begin the four-day COOP bonding adventure. Long before I stepped onto the Greyhound bus, I knew it was going to be an unforgettable experience that would launch, in the best way possible, a wonderful four years at my ideal college. I had stars in my eyes throughout the trip and all the way back to Conn. When I returned from an incredibly rigorous and rewarding hiking excursion on the Appalachian Trail, with people who have now become my good friends, I didn't realize the long drawn out week of orientation that was to follow. I'll let the cynical news writer on orientation week convey my thoughts on how fun and anything but boring it was...

Then one Thursday morning I awoke, surprisingly enough, to the sound of ocean waves splashing out of my alarm clock; louder and louder and LOUDER every second until

I jolted upright in my bed for fear that my room was flooding with water.

And then it hit me: today is the first day of classes. I had no idea what to expect from ma classe Francaise or my government class, (that I thought would be a breeze via AP Govt. before discovering otherwise). I am in College, where time management is everything. And how many times have I been told that? In high school, balancing all my extracurricular activities with academia was only semi-problematic. If anything, having such a demanding however structured schedule was the only way I knew how to succeed in everything I involved myself in. Here in college, inching closer to the arduous, anxiety-generating atmosphere of an adult working world, would that still be the case? Could I handle all my integral interests? The answer I gladly gleaned in the third week of classes was yes.

It could just be my gift of driving myself up the wall with exhaustion, exercise, English papers and an extroverted mouth, but every day when I get back to my sauna of a room, unload my bag of rocks, greet my sweet singing roommate and watch a miraculous sunset setting

beyond the chapel in the west I know that life doesn't get much better than this. Nothing beats a s'mores Sunday night study break, mushy Monday movie night, concerts, coffee and candy in Cro, getting slammed between two shirtless senior guys in a co-ed soccer game, early jogs on cool, quiet mornings, frozen yogurt with Oreo toppings in Harris, the blaring silence of the Chinese Reading Room, and a group hug with my remarkable new friends on a Saturday night with Bob Marley playing in the background. This is only a fragment of my incredible experiences so far as a Connecticut College Freshman. It scares me that tomorrow is September 11th, and that a whole year has gone by already since the horrific hijacking happened. I know this next year is going to fly by just as fast. I wish it wouldn't. I'm having the time of my life, savoring every minute of every day. I don't intend to be overly gushy about this school, it being only the third week of classes with tons more work and stress to come, but as of now I don't want college to ever end.

U.S. Life Expectancy Hits New High

BY LAURA MECKLER
ASSOCIATED PRESS WRITER

WASHINGTON (AP) — Death is on the decline for babies, adults and older people alike, with AIDS, homicide, cancer and heart disease all claiming fewer lives, the government reports in its annual look at American health.

Life expectancy reached a record high of 76.9 years, with the gaps between blacks and whites as well as men and women narrowing over time.

The report released Thursday looks at health trends spanning the second half of the 20th century and finds improvement on almost every measure.

"When you take the long view, you see clearly how far we've come," said Health and Human Services Secretary Tommy Thompson.

With better medical care and a drop in smoking rates, death rates for heart disease have been cut in more than half, and they have declined even more dramatically for stroke and other cerebrovascular disease.

Death rates from injuries, particularly motor vehicle crashes, have also fallen since about 1970, with safer cars on the road and more people wearing seat belts.

It's not all good news. Death rates for diabetes, along with the number of cases, are climb-

ing, largely the result of a sharp increase in obesity.

All of these factors contribute to life expectancy, and people are certainly living longer.

The average baby born in 1900 could expect to live 47.3 years and that gauge has been climbing ever since. By 1950, life expectancy had risen to 68.2, and it reached 76.9 in 2000.

Throughout the century, women and whites have lived longer, but those gaps are closing, the report shows.

In 1950, whites lived 8.3 years longer than blacks. By 2000, that gap was 5.6 years.

For gender, the gap was at its peak in 1970, when women lived 7.6 years longer than men. By 2000, the gap was 5.4 years.

The report, produced by the National Center for Health Statistics, found drops in death at every stage of life and for many diseases. Specifically:

—Infant mortality: The portion of babies dying before their first birthday was at a record low in 2000, 6.9 per 1,000 live births. That rate has fallen 75 percent since 1950.

—Young deaths: Mortality among children and young adults, between 12 months and 24 years, declined by more than half since 1950. Researchers credited drops in death rates in accidents, cancer, heart disease and infectious diseases. Homicide and suicide rates generally

increased over the half century, though they have been falling since the mid-1990s.

—Adults: Death among adults age 25 to 44 declined by more than 40 percent between 1950 and 1999. During the mid-1990s, HIV was the leading cause of death for this age group, but these rates have fallen significantly.

—Older adults: Mortality among adults age 45 to 64 fell by nearly 50 percent, including drops in heart disease, stroke and injury. Cancer is the leading cause of death in this group, and those death rates rose slowly through the 1980s and then began to decline.

—Heart disease: Much of the improvement in life expectancy is traced to falling heart disease rates. In 1950, just over 585 people in the United States developed heart disease for every 100,000. By 1999, that had been more than cut in half, falling to just under 268 people per 100,000.

—Stroke: In 1950, nearly 181 of every 100,000 people died of stroke and other cerebrovascular disease. By 1999, it was just 62 per 100,000.

The report, which also examines trends in the use of hospitals, found fewer people being admitted and shorter stays for those who do go in. It found a sharp drop in use of home health care, a reaction to new Medicare payment restrictions.

blood screening test for the disease available. And health authorities have repeatedly said that the benefits of transfusions for sick people far outweigh the risk of catching West Nile.

Most people who get the virus show no symptoms at all, but infection can be deadly in the weak and elderly.

At the Food and Drug Administration, which regulates the nation's blood supply, Dr. Jesse Goodman said: "In none of these cases is it considered proven that transfusion transmitted the virus, but let me turn that around and say that at FDA we are very concerned about this. So is CDC."

"We regard some of these findings as suspicious but in need of further study," he added.

transplant patients who received organs from the infected Georgia donor and then developed West Nile were almost certainly infected by their transplants. On Thursday, they confirmed that this was the route of transmission.

One of these four patients died of West Nile encephalitis, a brain inflammation caused by the virus. The three others are recovering, two after developing encephalitis.

Nationally, the West Nile toll continues to climb, with 1,295 people confirmed with the disease, and 54 dead. Those numbers will continue to climb because the disease is now in its peak transmission period, Petersen said.

Even if officials conclude that West Nile can be transmitted through blood, there is no

SPORTS

Reading the Break Satran Returns to Bring Camels Back to the Promise Land

BY MATT PRESTON
SPORTS EDITOR

"And now on the First tee, a second year professional, hailing from Coventry, Rhode Island, Ryan Woodward."

With that announcement from the starter, I tip my hat to Feature-Writing Tour's small gallery, step up to the tee box, and prepare to take my first swing.

Before making my debut last season I had paid my dues in the minor leagues; by covering the men's hockey and lacrosse teams and the women's soccer team I worked my way out of the farm system. As a rookie I tried my hand at many ridiculous experiences including



RYAN WOODWARD
Reading the Break

mascot-ing, powerlifting, a n d NASCAR-ing. Though I was not always successful, I did it all with a smile, or giant camel head, on my face. On a small campus that may

sometimes get repetitious and mundane I try to make things fun (at least for me).

With that in mind I am much more relaxed than the first time through, but nonetheless the nerves run through my fingertips proving to me I am both excited and ready, ready to play my game.

A "College Voice" advertisement hangs on my dorm-room door. It features a picture of what may as well be me, face down on the ice, in full hockey gear, framed by the words: "Not going pro? Try writing Sports for the Voice." I'm trying.

Growing up I played every sport offered to me at either the pick-up or organized level: hockey, soccer, baseball, basketball, Nintendo, golf, chess, lacrosse, tennis, and ping-pong. Growing up I was in shape. Times have changed, however, and as a member of the Ultimate Frisbee and club hockey teams, I lead a slightly less motivated life. My body does not enjoy movement as much as it once did; the only things still in shape are the fingers that gracefully glide over the keyboard, and the only time I'll ever push myself to the next level involves the glowing-yellow elevator buttons in the new plex, as I consciously avoid stairs.

I know my sports, but I do not plan on simply impressing my opinions of the greater sports world into un-wanting ears. I was told by Division I coaches that I could've played Division I soccer, if only I could grow two more inches. I tried, but came up about two inches short, at a measly 5'11." I was told by Division III coaches that I could've played Division III hockey, if only there was one more spot in the locker room for me. There was space left, unfortunately it was in the bathroom, and I'm not even allowed to use that anymore. So through my lifelong process of being good at the sports I loved, just not talented enough, or not big enough, or even not good-looking enough in uniform to make the team, I have learned that for me, life extends far beyond the boundaries marked by white chalk, dasher boards, or red stakes.

This is true for many people on this campus; as a Division III school, many Camels have lives off of the court as well as on, and there are also many things going on behind the scenes that are just as interesting as what is happening on center stage. From my left-wing position here on the back page I hope to show you that.

Through the power vested in me by the Lords of the Featurials I have been given free range.

I'm not quite talented enough to write editorials, and the term feature-piece is so uninteresting it makes even me feel like featuring my attention some place else, so now I write Featurials (a little term I conceived for lack of better description of my efforts). Among many other defini-

Tom Satran '94 left Connecticut College in 1999 after spending the better part of a decade in New London. But, after a three-year hiatus, the one time captain of Camel Basketball has returned to coach the blue-and-white. Satran signed back on with Connecticut College in July to becoming the eighth head coach in the history of men's basketball, filling the void vacated by reigning NESCAC Coach of the Year Lynn Ramage.

"It's very exciting," said Satran of his first head coaching opportunity. "The chance to be a head coach is in itself special. To be a head coach at your alma mater is very unique."

Satran's life as a Camel began twelve years ago as an incoming freshman in the fall of 1990. Four years later, Satran graduated and continued his basketball career as an assistant on the high school level. After just two years away from Conn, however, Satran aspired to return to the college ranks. He got that opportunity when a former coach came calling.

"I was very fortunate to meet Coach Miller when I was a player," said Satran of former men's coach Glen Miller, who guided the Camels during Satran's final year on the varsity squad. "I was out of school two years, coaching in high school, and wanted the chance to come back and give college coaching a shot. Coach Miller gave me that opportunity."

From 1996 until 1999 Tom Satran was assistant coach of the Connecticut College men's basketball team under Glen Miller. Then, after the now legendary undefeated season and run to the NCAA Division III Final Four, Satran fol-

Edmed Ready to Resurrect Women's Volleyball

BY BONNIE PROKESCH
STAFF WRITER

After many years of instability within the Connecticut College women's volleyball program, a new coach has entered the scene ready to take control and give the team the motivation and leadership it needs to thrive.

Coach Joshua Edmed was hired over the summer to fill the position of head women's volleyball coach for the Camels. Leaving Iowa Wesleyan College, where he coached women's volleyball and served as director of the college's sports management program, Edmed arrived at Conn with high aspirations to strengthen and enrich the volleyball program.

One may ask how someone in at Iowa Wesleyan would find out about an opening at Connecticut College, and, more importantly, why that person would decide to move. Edmed may have been in Iowa for a couple of years, but he maintains strong roots in New England. After earning his bachelor's degree in sports management and his master's degree in athletic administration at Springfield College in Springfield, Massachusetts, he returned to his alma mater in 1999 as a graduate-assistant coach in women's volleyball and helped to coordinate a program that captured the 2001 NCAA title.

While his strong ties to the area may have influenced Edmed to answer a call posted on the web for a new volleyball coach for the lady Camels, he claims the main reason



Former Captain Tom Satran '94 brought back to replace Lynn Ramage as head coach of men's basketball (Faries).

lowed his mentor to Division I ranks, as Miller accepted a job to coach at Brown University. Thought, it was only a short stint at Brown, as Satran soon parted ways with Miller for another assistant coaching job, this time at New York University.

But, as if it were destiny, Satran returned to Conn this summer as one of three new head coaches, with a genuine excitement to come back to the campus he knows so well.

"It's great to be back," Satran simply stated of his third return to New London. "I can't wait to get started."

Unfortunately for Satran, his first season as head coach may not

be as easy as the early years of his first coaching stint at Conn. In his first head coaching assignment, Satran is not only replacing the reigning coach of the year, but also inheriting a team that has been to the postseason each of the last five seasons. The problem is, however, the graduation of six seniors has resulted in the loss of key starters and team contributors, so the rookie coach may have his work cut out for him. Satran, however, is not going to let the past influence the present.

"I'm not focusing a lot on the past, I'm thinking about the future,"

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Quiet Disgrace



Matthew Kessler
Kessler's Korner

With so much going on in the world of sports these past three weeks, not to mention the one year anniversary of September 11, the fact that a team stocked with multi-million dollar NBA players representing the United States of America at the World Championships of Basketball finished in sixth place just may have slipped below your radar screen. What should prove to be a huge step forward for basketball programs in foreign countries will ultimately come to represent an even larger step backward for basketball in America.

Maybe even more troubling than the American's play on the court, which was severely lacking in numerous areas, namely teamwork, passion, and the desire to win, was the fact that while every other country was being represented by their best players (the exception being Canada, absent Steve Nash) the U.S. had no Kobe Bryant, Allen Iverson, Tracy McGrady, Ray Allen, Kevin Garnett or league MVP Tim Duncan. At least Shaquille O'Neal, who would make 7'5 Yao Ming look like Gary Coleman, and Jason Kidd each had a legitimate reason for not participating, due to injury. The others just needed some time off to rest, and really couldn't afford to give up the nightclub scene for a month to represent their country. How patriotic. To think that more kids, far more kids, look up to professional athletes like an Allen Iverson, who was busy throwing his naked wife out of his mansion and then hunting her down at his cousin's apartment (being from and living in Philly this past summer, I was able to follow this sad saga everyday) than parents, teachers, police officers and firemen is truly incomprehensible.

The head coach of the U.S. team, Milwaukee Bucks coach George Karl, summed it up best following his team's third consecutive defeat, 81-75 to Spain (whose players were just too tall to play soccer).

"The money and greed of the NBA. Does that have an effect on our competitive nature? Yeah, you can write that."

Apparently, Karl was not a too happy that his players turned each game into a series of one-on-one shootouts, led by well-known gunners Paul Pierce of the Boston Celtics and Baron Davis of the New Orleans (no not Charlotte) Hornets. These players, along with their teammates, whom they must not have recognized were wearing the same colored jerseys with the letters "USA" embroidered on the front, thought they could win every game on sheer talent alone. Once they realized other teams weren't going to turn into poster boys looking skyward, mouths agape as Michael Finley or Ben Wallace completed ally-oop jams on their heads, they didn't seem to possess the fundamentals such as jump-shooting or defense that European players have been drilled on since the time they could walk straight.

Further adding insult to injury, the tournament was held in the basketball capital of our country, Indianapolis, Indiana. After going 58-0 in previous international competition while using NBA players, including 5-0 to start the tournament, the U.S. was embarrassed on three consecutive occasions. One would have thought the first loss, to Argentina, would have served as a wake-

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Swimming Team Hopes to Climb the Ladder Under New Guidance

BY BONNIE PROKESCH
STAFF WRITER

Imagine arriving on the Connecticut College campus just before classes are to begin, being given an office with many windows, none through which you can see outside, and having to figure out how to organize yourself before you begin your first head coaching job. This is the scenario that the newly-hired head swimming and diving coach and director of the aquatics center, Marc Benvenuti faces today.

Benvenuti, who is originally from Waterford, Connecticut, graduated from Tufts University with a Bachelor of Science degree in biology and environmental studies. While at Tufts, he left his mark as one of the top swimmers in the New England Small College Athletic Conference (NESCAC) history, earning the All-American title five times. He currently holds records at Tufts in events including the 50-yard butterfly, the 200-yard freestyle, and the 400-yard medley relay.

After graduating from Tufts, Benvenuti became the lead assistant coach to the Princeton's men's swim program. While he was satisfied with his job at Princeton, he felt as though the opportunity to become the head coach at Conn was one he had to pursue. As he explained, "I was not looking to leave Princeton. I accidentally found out about the

opening when I was looking on the web."

Ultimately, Benvenuti decided to apply for the position at Conn because he sees it as "a program and a school with a lot of potential." Once he was offered the job, he accepted because, as he explained, "one can only be an assistant coach for so long. I would have been happy to have stayed at Princeton a little longer until an opportunity like this came up. But this one came up, and so I jumped at it."

Now that he is beginning to get settled into his new home in Camel Country, Benvenuti's primary focus is on preparation for the upcoming season. "I think our first objectives, especially for the women, is to move up in the NESCAC standings and possibly send more people to the NAAs. For the men's team, our primary concern is getting more bodies in the water," he commented.

While the incoming freshmen class will add numbers to the squad, both teams will be lacking in size. Benvenuti invites any student who wishes to swim to talk to him about joining the team. "Anyone who swam in high school and is willing to work hard is welcome to swim," he stated. He is eager to become better acquainted with the college community and looks forward to advancing the aquatics program at Conn.



In his first season as head women's volleyball coach, Joshua Edmed hopes to erase the memory of last year's 2-20 season (Dinh).

They are now working hard, and we are on the right track."

As for what volleyball fans should expect this season, Edmed claims that the program is going to be run a little differently than it has in the past, which will hopefully result in some wins.

Edmed, who will also serve as the lead assistant to Laura Hungerford, the head women's basketball coach, during the winter season, is excited and ready to take on the challenge of improving the women's volleyball program and leading the team through a season of growth and success. He encourages all members of the college community to come to the Athletic Center and check out a game. The team's home opener is a double header against Tufts and Wesleyan on September 20. The first game begins at 6 p.m.

the position interested him was because Connecticut College "is a school that I believe in the philosophy of. I feel comfortable recruiting here because I know that students will get a good education. This school provides a good environment for a student athlete."

Edmed claims that everyone has been very welcoming since he arrived on campus. "All of the other coaches have tried to help me through the transition. Everyone has been really helpful," he commented.

As for the struggling volleyball program that he hopes to rejuvenate, Edmed feels as though the process is going to be one dependent upon "small steps." Last year the women were 2-20, and thus, this year, the relatively young team must face and overcome their haunting past. Edmed knows his task is not a simple one, yet he is confident that the women are on the right track to improvement. He explained, "I think the fact that there has been little consistency in coaching over the past few years has really hurt the program... Things are going to be done differently this year. While I definitely think turning the program around will take a few years, we've made some great progress already."

The new coach, who has been involved in various clinics and grass roots youth programs and has served as an NCAA Youth Education through Sports (YES) Counselor, knows from his experience in such programs that trust is one of the most important factors on and off of the court. As he commented, "I had to gain [the players'] trust early on.

Camel Scoreboard

Women's Soccer:

-9/8, at Amherst, 0-2
-9/11, vs. Coast Guard, 4:00 p.m.
-9/14, vs. Williams, 12:00 p.m.

Men's Soccer:

-9/11, at E. Connecticut St., 4:00 p.m.
-9/14, vs. Williams, 2:00 p.m.
-9/19, vs. RI College, 4:30 p.m.

Field Hockey:

-9/11, at Smith, 7:00 p.m.
-9/14, vs. Williams, 12:00 p.m.
-9/20, at Springfield, 4:00 p.m.

Men's Cross Country:

-9/14, Middlebury College Invitational, 2:00 p.m.
-9/21, UMass Dartmouth Invitational, 11:15 p.m.

-10/5, Connecticut College Invitational, 12:00 p.m.

Women's Cross Country:
-9/14, Roger Williams University Invitational

-9/21, UMass Dartmouth Invitational, 12:00 p.m.
-9/28 Bates College Invitational, 2:00 p.m.

Women's Tennis:

-9/10, at Trinity, 1-8
-9/12, at Wesleyan, 3:00 p.m.
-9/17, vs. Holy Cross, 4:00 p.m.

Sailing:

-9/14, Southern Series at Connecticut College, 9:30 a.m.

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