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Connecticut College

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Ellsberg 'Explodes' on Campus

The College Voice

WHO IS THIS MAN?

PARTY INSIDE
Daniel Ellsberg visited the campus October 25. THE COLLEGE VOICE had hoped to interview Mr. Ellsberg but circumstances prevented this. The thanks for getting the project together go to both the Harkness Chapman Board and the Government Department's Bernsteins Fund. Our centerspread this issue revolves around the party scene on campus. This is the first of a two part series. The second will be concerned with facts and figures as well as a variety of opinions.

Page 2 is no longer an editorial page. We decided that our newsmagazine format dictated the change. Opinions and letters will not be used as a means of deter-

Black Perspective

By BYRICA PHILLIPS

As a black woman attending Connecticut College and residing in New London, I feel it is important that I express my views on how this situation affects me. Connecticut College is a very small, liberal arts college. When this is added to the fact the New London is a small city, the situation can imply subtle but real conflicts.

I should explain what I mean when I speak of education. Academic growth is an important part of education. Equally important, though, are social and political growth. I feel that these two areas are seriously neglected in the education of students at Connecticut College.

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By JORDAN TRACHTENBERG

Daniel Ellsberg, champion of free speech and the Pentagon Papers, visited Connecticut College this week, leading a new movement to end nuclear proliferation. Ellsberg, in his current tour throughout the nation, is attempting to alert Americans to the danger of nuclear arms. His group, Mobilization for Survival, believes that a protest movement, in the manner of the anti-Vietnam war moratoriums of the late 1960's and early 1970's, can become a significant factor in the goal of bringing an end to the nuclear arms race.

As an employee of the Rand Corporation and the Department of Defense in the late 50's and 1960's, Ellsberg was involved with relaying information concerning the war effort in Vietnam to the Pentagon. Upon his return from Indochina, and subsequent role in the writing of a study concerning American policy decision-making in Vietnam, Ellsberg soured on the war. His release of the Pentagon Papers, the trial, and the case's dismissal are now history. From the experience of Vietnam, Ellsberg has learned that an educated, involved populous can make a difference. His present cause needs such support.
At the time, days after hearing Dr. Ellsberg, we feel that we have the man who released the Pentagon Papers, was coming to Conn. Of students at Conn and students throughout the nation know very little about the man. By PAUL SANFORD that the mention of Ellsberg's foreign policies of the United Pentandm Papers was a major factor in the emergence of a news media which operates in. Anybody with the capability of ending life on the American Government is a necessity. It Johnson and Nixon Administrations in Vietnam the American people by the actions of the government to certain high officials, and that our own blind paranoia Jed to the current standoff in the world would be doomed. Yet Mr. Ellsberg explained that the American countries was one quite large deception. The neutron bomb would only be utilized on defenseless civilians who would be unable to retaliate. The former government official also sighted several instances where two American ad- ministrations weighed seriously the thought of using nuclear weapons in Vietnam. As the North Vietnamese were clearly no real threat to the security of the United States, one must question the existence of any moral standards in our foreign policy. The Pentagon contemplated the destruction of several million lives with no possibility of military retaliation by the enemy.

Ellsberg, in an attempt to shock his audience, explained the devastation which could be brought forth by the use of the new, and highly controversial, Neutron Bomb. This device has the capability of inflicting radiation upon its vic- tims, which will lead to a slow agonizing death over a period of days or weeks. The bomb is being sold to the American public as a deterrent to nuclear attack from Russian tanks in Eastern Europe. The neutron bomb, it is said, Earth must be put under more careful scrutiny. Anybody with the capability of ending life on the American Government is a necessity. It America is not the champion of freedom as claimed by our leadership. The double cross of the American people by the actions of the Johnson and Nixon Administrations in Vietnam should make it clear that a closer evaluation of the American Government is a necessity. Anybody with the capability of ending life on Earth must be put under more careful scrutiny.

So what do we get excited about?

By PAUL SANFORD

The flyers were posted several days in advance. Daniel Ellsberg, the man who released the Pen- tagon Papers, was coming to Conn. At the time, days after hearing Dr. Ellsberg, we feel that we have profited from his visit. The fact is however, that a great percentage of students at Conn and students throughout the nation know very little about the man. Dr. Ellsberg has played a very important role in influencing the foreign policies of the United States, and his release of the Pen- tagon Papers was a major factor in the emergence of a news media which operates independ- ently of the government. How can we explain, then, the fact that the mention of Ellsberg's name often elicits such responses as "isn't he the guy...?" How soon can we forget? Is Daniel Ellsberg anything more than a footnote from the long-forgotten Vietnam War? Our brothers and sisters probably do not understand our generation's lack of political awareness.

To say that we are politically apathetic is a tremendous understate- ment. The student ac- tivists of the late 60's and early 70's are responsible for the changing attitudes of the 60's and 70's. In fact, Ellsberg was one of the last to "jump on the band wagon." After spending a good part of his life contributing to the shaping of a corrupt, imperialist foreign policy, Ellsberg realized that the United States military command was not infallible. He began to question the actions of our country and even- tually, he concluded that it was time for change. Dr. Ellsberg probably never would have come to this profound realization if the young anti-war demonstrators had not taken action.

Ellsberg before lecture at Palmer

Daniel Ellsberg understands that America is not a generous, policy- making power. The American people are only a segment of the general public which is able to participate in making decisions. We have little to lose. As we face a future of poverty, unemployment, pollution, and war, the American government is not the champion of freedom as claimed by our leadership. The double cross of the American people by the actions of the Johnson and Nixon Administrations in Vietnam should make it clear that a closer evaluation of the American Government is a necessity. Anybody with the capability of ending life on Earth must be put under more careful scrutiny.

Similarly, the involvement of today's youth might precipitate this same kind of ideological change in the American government. We are the temporary decision makers. In many instances, the student population is the only segment of society which is able to participate in making decisions. We have little to lose. As we face a future of poverty, unemployment, pollution, and war, the American government is not the champion of freedom as claimed by our leadership. The double cross of the American people by the actions of the Johnson and Nixon Administrations in Vietnam should make it clear that a closer evaluation of the American Government is a necessity. Anybody with the capability of ending life on Earth must be put under more careful scrutiny.

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At Kent State, a protester throws a rock at police from the same area National Guardsmen killed four students seven years ago.

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Food in Harris disturbs vegetarians

By WIN MORGAN

A letter appeared in THE COLLEGE VOICE a few weeks back that caused me to chuckle. The writer chided the dietician for her thoughtlessness in serving ham before a Jewish holiday and offering only one fish alternative. Imagine that situation every day without the alternative and you have described the situation of the campus vegetarian. Fifty of these students have formed a union to consider the issues at hand.

Vegetarianism means the belief in or practice of eating only plant material. This meaning has been extended to include those who abstain from flesh foods, thus encompassing many who eat eggs and dairy products. The reasons for being a vegetarian are as varied as each person, but a few common bases do exist.

The most common— and most accepted— reason concerns the health of the individual. Since animals are higher on the food chain, they store more toxins in their systems which we ingest and store when we eat meat. By avoiding flesh foods, we avoid these poisons to a significant extent. Meat is also a high fat food and is relatively hard to digest. Since one can get at least as high a quality protein from vegetable matter without involving it, some cannot condone supporting a practice that slaughter it for flesh. Others object to killing and a toxic environment with little comfort and then think it immoral to breed and raise an animal in a captive environment. Since one can get at least as high a quality protein from vegetable matter without involving it, some cannot condone supporting a practice that involves it.

One much more involved argument against eating or growing flesh foods involves the efficient use of our natural resources. Since an acre of land can produce fifteen times more protein with vegetables than with meat, we should opt towards the former in deciding what to cultivate. The benefits of this increased efficiency would allow for less depletion of the soil and more food per person in the world. Of course, the controversy involves the method of food distribution. Yet the proponents of this view are more than willing to spend time to explain their ideas. A good overview is presented in Francis Moore Lappe’s book, Diet for a Small Planet.

One hundred vegetarians subscribe to the meal plan at Connecticut College. By complementing the foods offered them, they form a balanced diet for a Small Planet. The space here is much too small to do more than let the community know that there is a vegetarian contingent on campus. Fifty of these students have formed a union to consider the issues at hand. The union only considers the improvement of non-meat items. So far, the dietician has been receptive to modest requests such as supplying what germ, soy sauce, and yogurt. However, many more important goals need to be pursued which eventually will lead to a separate meal plan for vegetarians and higher quality food for the community as a whole.

Vegetarians who go to Conn are here in spite of the inadequate food plan offered. Now they are starting to change the plan to make it more amenable to future students. Very little has happened as yet, but they are appealing to the student body as a whole to help them attain their goals. These include: less overcooked vegetables, more vegetable soups and casseroles, and natural peanut butter, juices, and cheeses.

The space here is much too small to do more than let the community know that there is a vegetarian contingent on campus. If anyone is interested in getting to know more about the practice, contact the Vegetarian Union through box 893.

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Social Chairman might as well have been on vacation

By JANICE BAREFOOT

WHY HAVE YOU DONE MR. DAVIS?

Before interviewing Bill Davis, I really had my doubts about the effectiveness of the social board. Just what exactly has the Social Board Chairman accomplished since being elected last spring? Although I do not have a positive reply to offer, as the man said, "I have an answer for everything."

The absence of any concerts on campus this semester has certainly not passed by unnoticed. Mr. Davis's excuse for this glaring error was that he was not informed last spring about the scheduling committee's meeting. Although representatives from the dance and theatre departments were present, the only student organization represented was the film agency. So when the haggling over dates in Palmer commenced a representative of the student body at large was not even present. This was unfortunate for Bill Davis because now the only date he can get in Palmer is in early December. The possibility of a concert at this time is highly doubtful because Davis feels it is too close to finals. This theory is questionable as it seems people do become.slightly twisted at this time of year and probably would enjoy a concert. Well, maybe next time Bill will be able to make the meeting.

Another gap in the social life at Conn this fall has been outside parties. The sculpture court is always good for a few blows before the weather gets cold but we certainly haven't seen any. I was informed that the administration was limiting the use of the sculpture court for special parties and events. It seems that the noise level was a bit much and complaints had been received form as far away as Groton. Davis did say that he has attempted to get the sculpture court as have several other people with no success.

When questioned about the lack of kegs or music at picnics earlier in the year such as Labor Day, Davis was only able to say that there wasn't enough time to plan for it and he wasn't really too aware of the situation.

Many of us missed the big night soccer game that proved so successful last year. Social Board backed the idea fully but the final decision of the Athletic Department was not to go ahead with the game. One major problem was the cost of lights which were free a year ago but would cost $800 this year. Davis mentioned the possibility of a night lacrosse but it seems doubtful that the players would be able to see the ball.

Davis was able to paint a slightly better picture when speaking of the future. Roomful of Blues will be here on November 5 and Otis and Ridley on the 18th. The National Lampoon Show will be performing November 9. There are bids in for Southside Johnny and The Pousette Dart Band but it looks doubtful that either will play before the end of the semester. Asleep at the Wheel is a foreseeable possibility.

The Social Board is trying to promote alternatives to Cro parties. Several outings to baseball games were sponsored. In addition it is now customary for a non-alcoholic beverage to be served at all parties, therefore satisfying the straighter elements of Conn and the too-toasted elements at the same time. Bill Davis felt that Homecoming was a success, and hoped to see more things like the very popular Floralia of last May.

The potential for a good social scene is certainly present. The key to the matter is generating new and different ideas. The next question is whose responsibility is this? Bill Davis remarked that one purpose of the Social Board is "to respond the student body."
By SCOTT CALMAR

Hiding my "Bring Back The Beatles" T-shirt under my jacket, I cheerfully slid a one dollar bill out of my pocket and into the sweaty palm of the partially intoxicated automaton who had been sequestered by her dorm to take money from people who should know better. An old hand at these affairs, I held out my old hand to receive a beautiful smeared entrance stamp which appropriately read "H. West & Guilding Co., East Hartford" (or was it PARTTYYME? Isn't it always Partyme?)

How many times have I been able to use the line, "I see you were at that party Saturday night!" in my Monday classes, simply by gazing in the general direction of a hand. A nice girl/never gets to those parties, a good girl washes the stamp off afterward; a single girl who has let her habits slide lets the stamp remain for at least two days, and my type of woman makes new friends -- not to mention some slightly stained sheets.

Breaking through the proverbial crowd that always stands by the entrance looking for Williams School girls -- or boys -- I attempted to locate the beer. No more than 400 people turned to look at me when I came in, so my conscience was eased -- my outfit was socially acceptable, a T-shirt, pair of jeans, old earth shoes and my tribute to semi-formality: a corduroy jacket.

Scouting for the beer at one of these parties is like trying to find the New Years Ball in Times Square at 12:58 on December 31st. After only nine minutes, a black eye and a dislocated shoulder, I was fortunate enough to offer the previously used cracked plastic cup that I scrounged off the floor to the burly fellow manning the sometimes functioning beer tap. With a smile not unlike that of some slightly stained sheets.

Phase II: Cruising (or social voyeurism a la Kras). With glass in one hand and my other gently adding my verbal "excuse mes" as I threaded through the crowd, it occurred to me that there are three reasons why the student body comes to Conn College parties. First and foremost: to get laid. With any luck, the answer will be yes and you just might get lucky. Who knows -- it could develop and mature into something permanent -- a meaningful relationship that will span the course of a week or two.

Not that the big L is the only reason for attending campus parties. A large secondary factor is that there's nothing else to do. You can only insist in a complex room for just so long before them cinder blocks start doing funny things to your eyes. And the bar is more expensive than parties where you can get all you can drink for one dollar -- until the beer runs out.

In the process of writing this, I was virtually raped by someone's opinion that, perhaps, the most important reason one attends these shindigs is for the purpose of getting drunk. Now be honest, I told him (or her, I don't remember) no matter what your excuse, can't you admit that deep in the back of your mind, somewhere, there is that hope to find a mate -- to not have to sleep alone -- a night or two of whipped cream and maraschino cherries.

I contend that this is a basic human drive and that Connecticut College is a size of 1600 students (of which about one-fifth regularly attend these gigs) makes for a slightly warped, comical Dustin Hoffmanesque parody of that basic instinct. As for getting drunk, in the words that I have heard quoted so often, and sometimes even use myself, "If you can't get f----d, get f----d up!"

But what can I, as a concerned social butterfly do, you may ask? Well, you can find yourself a partner in a respectable manner: on an academic committee, in the music library, even fighting for a cause, like more political power for bird-watchers. Or you can get an electronic pong set for your television. Either way, I've seen my last of those semi-formals. No one will dance with me after this is printed anyway.
SPORTS

Cross Country on the Move

By WALTER SIVE

Last weekend, the cross country team placed fifth amongst eleven competing teams in the Tri-State Championships. This marked the culmination of an extremely successful season in which the Camels posted a 17-11 record. Not only did Saturday's meet represent the accomplishment of this year's team, but it also indicated the arrival of Conn as a serious competitor in intercollegiate cross country competition. Since its humble beginning two years ago, the cross country team has arisen as one of the most accomplished sports at Connecticut College.

Despite this success, Sam Gibson, who has been one of the mainstays of Connecticut's cross country team, quit after this season's first race. As captain last year and also for part of this year, Sam was instrumental in keeping cross country at Conn College and at least partly responsible for the success of this year's team.

In an interview with THE COLLEGE VOICE, Sam gave his reasons for dropping out. "Throughout the beginning of this year's season I had ambivalent feelings about DiPace and John Katz. We had a serious competitor and was more interested in establishing a national team. I stayed on the team until I felt the program was strong enough to go on without me."

Sam went on to describe how the cross country has emerged at Conn College and what his hopes were for the future. "He called the previous two years "a time of gestation for the sport." During that period Sam worked closely with Athletic Director Charles Luce and Cross Country coach Mark Connolly to develop the team. Letters were sent to prospective students encouraging them to join the team and other efforts were made to recruit students already on campus. Right after he was elected captain at the end of the first season, Sam recommended that Cross Country course start and stop on campus in order to promote more student awareness in the sport.

As the season began to close, Mr. Luce, Sam and Mark were looking with great anticipation towards the fall season. The team was granted varsity status and they were given more meets with tougher teams. Sam said, "The quality of running was much better this season, there was a lot individual improvement for Don Jones, Mike DeLisi and Paul Smith. We had a lot more participation and awareness as compared to the previous year when there were a number of goof-offs and there was not much with personal performances. Our first year it functioned more like an organized daily routine for running while in our second year we were a serious bunch of competitors."

This past summer, Sam, Mr. Luce and Mark were concerned whether or not there would be a program this year. Sam stated, "There were only three people returning from last year's team and we had little response from letters sent out to accepted freshmen. Yet, the first day they had practice there was a surprisingly good turnout." Among the new runners were Colin Carterley and Ted Fisher, who were later to break the course record for a Conn Student.

With other new runners like Win Morgan and Kevin Shustari it looked the team would finally have some depth. Sam said, "After a week of practice we saw that we had a very solid team. We had Colin and Ted in front with a pack of four or five potentially good runners behind them. With such a setup there would be a lot of compression. Compression is the term cross country runners use to describe the effect of having a lot of runners pushing and pulling each other along. "We were overwhelmed with the turnout and the enthusiasm we saw in the team," Sam said. Compared to previous years "the team was a lot closer and did a lot more things together. There was a real spirit of camaraderie."

With a talented and serious bunch of competitors, Mark Connolly and Mr. Luce led the team through a most successful season. At the end of the year, among the new runners were Colin Carterley and Ted Fisher, who were later to break the course record for a Conn Student.

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In response to the growth of the team Mr. Luce said, "Things have come a long, long way. I really didn't think it would happen this quick. Mark Connolly, Sam and other seniors are the ones who have made the team possible. They deserve a lot of Credit." Looking to the future Sam said, "In a school of this nature and with our type of athletic program, cross country can be very successful."

In retrospect, Sam stated, "With this school there was a unique opportunity to start a program. It has been a good experience and much credit should go to Mark Connolly and Mr. Luce for their unselfish efforts."

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COVER STORY

Griswold discusses activity fees, athletic facilities and Ames

VOICE: In order to alleviate this year's problem of an insufficient student activity budget, will the trustees agree to raise the student comprehensive fee for this year? If not, why?

GRISWOLD: I talked to the President about that and we're certainly going to try to do something about it. I think that anyone on campus recognizes the problem of finding extra money for all the things we would like to accomplish, but I think we should discuss it and we will. 

VOICE: There have been statements that are not true. Is that right?

GRISWOLD: No, I think that will come up when it is time to prepare the budget; that will be one of the considerations that will be going into effect on that.

VOICE: What are the chances of raising it? 

GRISWOLD: I think that it was increased perhaps by the cost of living increase and I think there is nothing beyond that and I think if the administration recognizes the need and the problem, we will do everything we possibly can to adjust that upward and not to have to get into that yet.

VOICE: For the last three years there have been constant statements from the development office that the remaining funds for the new library will be to the tune of $5 million but, there is no guarantee that has been forthcoming. Are the statements simply hearsay? Hopes? Realistic?

GRISWOLD: Well, we hope to attract one particular individual to do something important out of a foundation and unfortunately he had a heart attack and he would have to be released able to get back to him in detail. His health is frail and he goes first to Washington and then to Florida and I have hopes of seeing him, but if he's not up to it. Beyond that, we're preparing on winding up for a major campaign and are taking this year to prepare for it, which means organizing people and utilizing the "call committees," so I think that's what we have to do and it's better to take your time and do it all than to rush into it.

VOICE: Of course, there haven't been any change and the future isn't certain at all?

GRISWOLD: Well, it's certain we're going to have to get that money one way or another.

VOICE: How do the trustees keep in contact with campus life (i.e. the student body)? And, in your opinion, is this method effective?

GRISWOLD: The principle occasions are the five board meetings which the trustees attend and part of the meeting procedure is to have committee meetings. There is a committee in every field of concern and interest activity. From the standpoint of students, the Student Trustee Liaison Committees have been a very effective bit of communication and I think it has worked very well. They meet for an hour and a half before the board meeting.

Then, of course, the outgoing senior class elects one of their classmates to serve on the board and he's called the Resident Trustee and the Resident Trustee has communications from the President's office in the midterm between board meetings, and then there are any reports in various subject-academic, social, otherwise. The trustees have copies of that, so they are well-informed. And, then the evening before the board meeting, we generally have a little cocktail reception and then a dinner and a discussion after dinner and at least once a year the students are invited in that dinner meeting. We had a meeting, for instance, at Unity House a year or two ago, where the students expressed their views and asked the trustees a lot of questions-

it's a good two-way communication. Another time we'll have the faculty from certain departments. So, I think we're generally pretty well-informed.

VOICE: How do you see the financial situation of Conn College or other small private liberal arts colleges in the near future?

GRISWOLD: Well, it's a real struggle for independent education generally. We've done a remarkable job in holding the line and demonstrating discipline and recognizing what we can do and can't do in the years that are left in the last two years, it got away from us a year or so before, we've updated the accounting controls and got the information sooner. But, it's a real problem.

VOICE: How about the more distant future?

GRISWOLD: Well, we're just going to have to struggle and this a yearly thing. We've got a five-year plan, but I don't know that means a whole lot. But I'm also involved at Yale and in the last two years they lost nearly $1 million dollars and you can't keep going on that indefinitely.

I hope that some day the state and federal governments will recognize (particularly the state) that okay we've got $1 million here and they will understand that the state's expense if we don't have a college here. The state has done a little bit in this direction. They have given us for the last two years, $1 million dollars, but that was the nectrictious. Well, if you divide that up, I think we get $85 thousand dollars. That's better than nothing but that's not solving the problem. But, that's a political fact of life.

VOICE: Recent reports from the Admissions Office have shown that Conn College has serious difficulties in attracting male applicants because of the lack of physical education facilities. This being an immediate problem, what do the trustees intend to do about it at the present time?

GRISWOLD: Oh, yes, and he's coming at an exact right time. I think that the Board of Trustees was very pleased to have John Detmond come, it was quite a stroke, and we've lined up an excellent successor to John Detmond's job who is a real pro and for the last seven or eight years has been with the consulting firm in the field of fund raising and advised and consulted colleges and institutions like libraries and what-have-you.

VOICE: Therefore, you feel that Roy Welch, the new Director of Development, will be able to help and improve President Ames in his fund raising duties?

GRISWOLD: Oh, yes, and he's coming at an exact right time. I think John Detmond's job as Director of Development was to do the fund raising for a major new campaign (preparation) and this is going to be a good time for the College to get a successor who would have been in from the start. Roy Welch will be here part-time and then at the end of the year, beginning January, he'll be full-time.

This is an ideal time for a new man to come in and contribute to the new campaign. He knows exactly what the score is and I'm sure he'll help us do it much better. His experience is great; he's a very pleasant man and I think he'll fit in here beautifully.
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Jonathan Goldman as Jeremiah

Sitting is an entertaining experiment

By ALICE WILDING-WHITE

Michael Richards' one-act play, Sitting, opened last night, October 27th, and will run the 28th and 29th as 7:00 pm and today at 4:30. The play, which writer-director Richards defines as an absurdist tragic-comedy, is playing in the Experimental Theater, Palmer Auditorium Room 202.

Sitting "deals with abstractions — not concrete realism," according to Richards. He considers the play to be of the same genre as Waiting for Godot by Samuel Beckett. It is a cycle which has neither a beginning nor an ending. The action, which takes place in a park, has been going on already for years, and it will be continuing for years after the play ends. Richards explains that the play is like a camera that has photographed 45 minutes of the lives of the characters. If the picture had been taken two years earlier, or two years later, it would still be the same.

R ichards uses simple scenery, lighting and props in order to depict the tone of the play. The stage is empty except for a few cubes which represent park benches, a garbage can, and the stump of a tree. The number of props and costumes used is minimal. As a result, the stage reflects the emptiness of the lives of the three old men.

Michael Richards is doing the play as part of an Independent Project. He began working on Sitting during a playwriting course last year.
Richards is doing the play as part of an Independent Project. I was at the Eugene O'Neill Theater that he began working on Sitting during a playwriting course last year. Richards feels that he was influenced most strongly by the philosophy of Samuel Beckett, which is primarily absurdism.

Richard is a Theater Major and has acted in plays at Conn, theiam Repertory Theater, and the University of New Hampshire. After he graduates from Conn this spring, he is planning to pursue a career as a playwright.

What has made the production of Sitting possible, has been the creation of the Experimental Theater. At the moment, the theater is only partially constructed. Fred Grimsey, Director of Theater Services, hopes to develop Room 382 into a small playing space, which would seat about 50 people.

During the day, the seats would be taken away, and the space could be used as a classroom. The theater would not be for full-scale productions, but rather for skeletal, experimental works. The scenery is simple, consisting of boxes and slabs of wood which are painted black and can be used to represent a number of things.

Sitting is the first play to be performed in the Experimental Theater. Hopefully, students will continue to write and direct their own plays through the Experimental Theater, as it provides unique opportunities and surprisingly good entertainment.

The play explores the emptiness of human relations and shows how fragile they are.

Rock & Roll with a twist of Jazz

BY DAVID ROSENBERG

Everytime Steely Dan releases a new record they expand the definition of rock & roll. Well, rock & roll again has a new definition. The Dan's new album, AJA (pronounced "Asia") on ABC Records is rock & roll as it has never been known before. Just as the United States creeps closer and closer to socialism, Steely Dan approaches jazz. The well known backup artists on AJA are all from the elite jazz-funk circle. Tenor Sax star Tom Scott is featured on three tracks. Wayne Shorter of Weather Report (perhaps the greatest living sax player) is highlighted on the title track. Other well known jazz players include Joe Sample, Victor Feldman, Larry Carlton and Lee Ritenour.

The undertone is jazz, but the overall effect is pure Steely Dan. To call Steely Dan a group is an oxymoron. Actually only Walter Becker and Donald Fagen (the founders of the group and songwriters) and guitar player Denny Dias have appeared on all six of the group's records. Since 1974 Becker and Fagen have constructed a new group for each album. With AJA they have gone one step further; they have constructed a new group for each song.

For this album the band employs six drummers in their seven song album (only Bernard Purdie plays on the whole album). The lyrics as usual are strangely melodic which, when combined with the typically sad and cynical lyrics, makes for a hypnotic effect.

One experiences the affect of AJA instead of just listening to music.

Each song is memorable and poignant. One experiences the affect of AJA instead of just listening to music. Two songs are throw backs to styles found on earlier Steely Dan records. "Home At Last," highlighted by the opening piano riffs, sounds very much like the songs found on their last album, "Royal Scam." The final track on the album is a cutting, violent, cynical song, sounds similar to the music found on "Countdown to Ecstacy."

"AJA," the title song, is more freely jazz than anything that the group has previously done. The tone twists and turns slowly like an autumn leaf falling to the ground, filling eight minutes of musical space in a timeless manner. "Deacon Blues" is perhaps the nicest song on the album. This song is fast moving, making it hard to believe that it is seven and a half minutes long.

Unlike many groups Steely Dan has not sold out. In AJA they have upheld their consistent level of excellence. One can only hope that these songs will grace the A.M...air waves...too sophisticated I'm afraid.

GETTING OFF

FRIDAY OCTOBER 28

THE THEATRE: THE WARSAW MIME COMPANY will present "Beyond Words" at 7:30 pm. Tickets are $3.00. Call 914-249-8870 for information. Radio City Music Hall: Presents Linda Ronstadt. 8pm. Admission $1.00. Call 212-757-3100 for New York City information.

SATURDAY OCTOBER 29

BUS TRIP: Sponsored by the Art-Art History Departments. Leaves Cummings at 8 am. For the $9.00 roundtrip tickets, call the Art Department Secretary. This is not a tour. TRINITY: See the Connecticut CAMELS against Trinity in Men's Soccer at 10:30 am.

MONDAY OCTOBER 30

RADIO CITY MUSIC HALL: Presents Linda Ronstadt. 8pm. Tickets are $8.50 and $7.50 at Ticketron. Call 212-249-8870 for information.

TUESDAY NOVEMBER 1

NEW HAVEN: "Seascape": Paintings from the collection of the center for the visual arts. Through December 15. Yale University.

WEDNESDAY NOVEMBER 2

ART EXHIBIT: "Artist's Works of Papers" 3:30 to 5:00 pm.

THURSDAY NOVEMBER 3


THE PALLIDIUM: Presents Charlie Daniels at 8pm. Tickets are $7.50 and $6.50 at Ticketron. Call 212-249-8870. FILM: Looking For Mr. Goodbar at Grotton Cinema I, Grotton Shopping Center. Call 445-6401 for times and other information.
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