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THE COLLEGE VOICE

NEW LONDON, CONNECTICUT

MONDAY, OCTOBER 25 2010

VOLUME 36 • ISSUE 5

Very Few Rules

An hour with Wayne Ong

STEPHEN DWORKIN
CONTRIBUTOR

I was out of breath by the time I arrived at the Myers Dance Studio, ten minutes late. A woman tapped on my arm. She was carrying a baby. "No shoes," she said, glaring at my shoed feet.

I held my sneakers loosely in one hand as I slid in my socks across the floor towards my writing professor. She had her hand on an Asian guy's shoulder. "This is Wayne," she said. "He's a good one. I'm sorry to give him up." Wayne smiled pleasantly at me. Then he fell backwards and became an arch, his hands and bare feet all flat on the floor.

"Uh, hi," I said. "We can go downstairs. But I'll wait until you're done stretching."

"I'm just waiting," he said calmly.

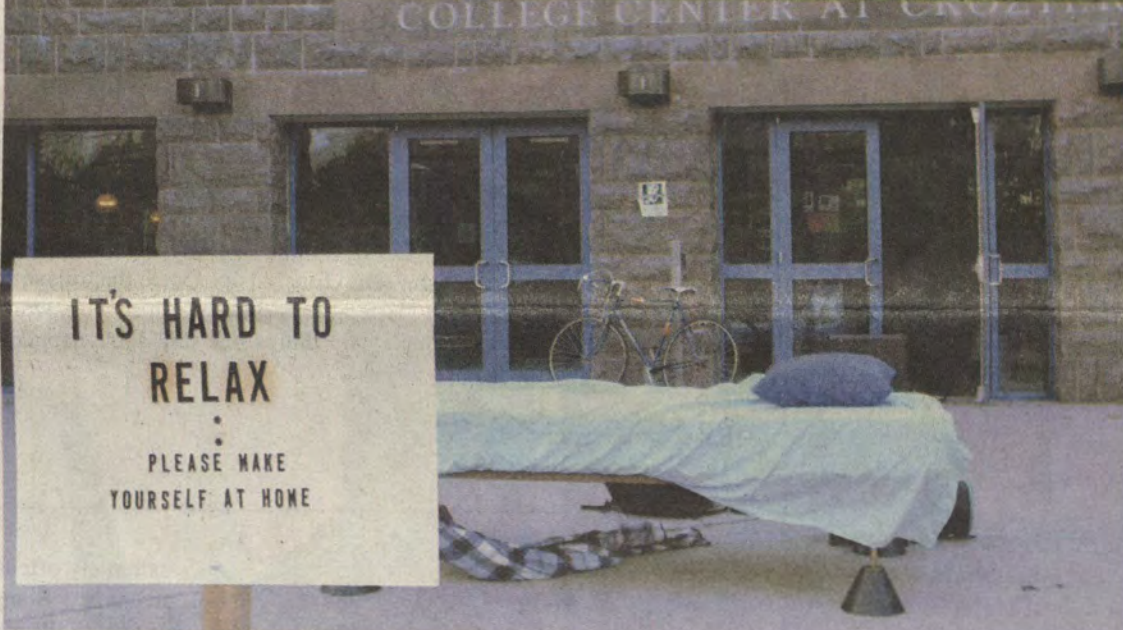
It was at this point that I realized I had no idea where I was or what the hell I was doing there. Interviewing is not an easy skill, especially when each of your subject's motions makes you feel less and less at ease with your own physical ability. As Wayne lead me down a staircase into a familiar part of the student center, I ceased feeling stupid long enough to wonder: how do the professionals do this? Aren't they nervous to interview George Clooney or Barack Obama? I'm intimidated enough as it is, and I'm interviewing some guy named Wayne.

As it happens, Wayne proved almost as soon as my flat, directionless interrogation began that he isn't just "some guy." The theme of the interview, as my professor so optimistically stated in the week before's class, was "flying and falling." I was falling all right. Wayne is one of the most fascinating people I've ever met and I had no idea how to handle him.

We sat at a table facing one another. Wayne was wearing a tight, gray shirt with rolled up sleeves. His arms were in his lap; I could not see his hands. I asked him about his origins, hoping for

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• TAKE IT EASY •



FROM TOP: AMELIA SMITH/ STAFF • TANAHA SIMON/ PHOTO EDITOR • DUNCAN SPAULDING/ PHOTO EDITOR

On Wednesday, one popped up in the center of Tempel Green, followed by one on Thursday in front of the Crozier Williams Center and the last on Friday outside of Harris. According to Matthew Mitchell '12, the beds were part of a student-initiated art experiment that came out of professor Ariana Hamidi's Film 270 class, *Creative Mythmaking in a Digital Age*. It was an experiment to see how students would interact with a change in their environment. According to Mitchell, "On the green, the bed was so far from the path that people felt comfortable sitting on it. Generally, people interacted the least with the bed in front of Harris - you felt like you were being watched by too many paths nearby. And at Cro, the bed was so close to the entrance that you had to interact with it - there was no choice." Generally, students found the temporary additions both confusing and refreshing. One student cuddled up under covers on the green and was removed by Campus Safety early Thursday morning.

Our Town

Mostly hits home

COLIN PUTH
CONTRIBUTOR

The Thornton Wilder classic *Our Town* has been commended for shying away from traditional theatrical plays, and Connecticut College's production was no exception. While it is a play with little music and no props or formal scenery, the haunting storyline and exceptional student performances were enough to keep the audience entertained and intent throughout.

Our Town opens with a detailed explanation of Grover's Corners by our narrator and stage manager, played by Liz Buxton '13. She stays with us throughout the play, introducing the town where our characters mature.

It begins on a spring morning in 1901, where you are introduced to a typical morning in the Gibbs and Web households. You quickly see that they are classically modest families, where the fathers go to work, the mothers take care of the house, and the kids are sent to school. You meet the local milkman and postman as they make their rounds, listen to various small talk, and realize you are witnessing a completely average morning in Grover's Corners. However, while there is no immediate dilemma or noticeable goal anyone is trying to reach, you can't help but take an interest in the residents of the town. Their sense of familiarity with the town and each other stands out, and you find yourself wanting to know more about this chillingly ordinary lifestyle.

With the exception of two tables and a few chairs, there are no props to be found, but the characters' power and emotions made me forget I was looking at a naked performance space. When Mrs. Gibbs, played by Sarah Rhodes '12, was out gossiping with Mrs. Webb, played by Susanna Kavee '11, I didn't need to see the peas they were stringing in order to climb deeper into the performance. The dialogue and interaction between all characters was powerful enough to keep me interested.

It is a production that relies entirely on its actors, but our Camels delivered one hundred percent.

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OPINION

Bring Back My Channels!

SARAH WEISS
STAFF WRITER

Late night TV is not the same without Regis Philbin. With the switch this year to the cable service provider MetroCast, there has been a change in our channel lineup. The change has resulted in the removal of some beloved stations. For me, the removal of the Game Show Network (GSN) is a tragedy. I love *Who Wants to be a Millionaire*, specifically the old-school Regis Philbin-filled episodes. Last semester I tuned into GSN promptly at midnight to de-stress after a day laden with classes, meetings, homework and

everything else that fills up my time.

GSN was my safe haven, my guilty pleasure. Watching Regis pretend to know all the answers while intelligent contestants became millionaires was a way to relax and think about something besides the stress in my own life. I would play along with the show, testing if I knew the answers when the contestants did not. There have been several occasions on which I stopped what I was doing to seriously consider whom I would use as phone-a-friend lifelines if I ever made it on the show.

Coming back to Conn this year, with the

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Shanking the Competition

Interview with volleyball player Sarah Shankel

MELANIE THIBEAULT
STAFF WRITER

Ever wonder what it's like to be a member of Conn's women's volleyball team? (Hint: sure, you have). Well, lucky for you, I bribed Sarah Shankel '14 with Fiber One bars and Special K cereal to share some information with me about her life on and off the court. It also helped that she is my roommate.

Okay, champ, let's start with a basic question: What does it mean to you to be a member of this fine team?

It's pretty B-awesome, as in beyond awesome. They're the coolest kids ever. We work really hard. 7 AM lift? Check. Our goal has always been to be NESCAC champions, so we hope to accomplish that this year.

How did it feel to score the winning match point against

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EDITORIALS/LETTERS

OCTOBER 25, 2010

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THE COLLEGE VOICE

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To the Editor:

On Wednesday October 13, 2010, at the Teach-In on Homophobia & Bullying, I was listening carefully in the audience to the compelling words of the members and allies of the LGBTQ community, Elizabeth Garcia, the Dean of Multicultural Affairs and Claudia Highbaugh, the Dean of Religious Life. The moment I walked into the 1941 Room, I asked myself a critical question: why am I not in the panel representing the student body as the Chair of Diversity & Equity (D&E)? Aren't I the one who deals with all of these issues of minorities on campus? Isn't this my job? Then, I realized that I can't be the only face of diversity in this campus and that this task does not only involve my input or the input of the speakers, but our collective actions as members of this community.

Our own agreement to share governance says that we don't need to have the title of Dean of Multicultural Affairs, or Chair of Spectrum or Chair of Diversity and Equity to stand up to the rest of our peers and fight for human rights. Heck, we're only undergraduates once; let's start doing something for the sake of our time.

I am not writing this message as the Chair of D&E, but rather as one of your peers. I am not writing this message because I have to, but rather because it's what I want to personally share with you. I am not writing this message to say that I know how to solve these issues but to reach out to you to find the clues.

A simple reality that I am beginning to understand further is the segregation of this campus and perhaps, the world itself. However, it's not a segregation of ethnicity, socio-economic background, color or sexual orientation. It's a segregation of our similarities. As paradoxical as it might sound, it's the human condition I am referring to: our thoughts, our judgments and our goals are the reasons that distance us from one another. We neglect that our similar traits as human beings can make us a strong bunch but we can be even stronger if we can connect through our diversity of reasons.

I firmly believe that the missing link to our own understanding lies within each individual. Today is a day to take seriously; it's our chance to begin to figure ourselves out, to put our own reasons in question and to find what truly makes us human. Then, it's up to you and me to define our time being alive.

- Pablo Tutillo '13

Editorials

"I'm gay."

It's difficult to describe the breathless tension that precedes such a simple sentence—a first-person contraction introducing a three-letter word. *I*, me, myself, *am*, in a state of being, *gay*: a homo, a faggot, everything the other boys ever told you you were. To attach such a familiar preposition to something so abstractly dangerous is a terrifying undertaking.

Equally difficult to explain is the journey this statement takes, this *I'm gay*, from a trembling whisper to your best friend in a parked car to an impassioned shout in a parade, to an off-handed statement of fact to a complete stranger.

One evening in eighth grade I went to Borders with my family with the unexpressed intention of buying Christina Aguilera's *Stripped* album. I feigned browsing for twenty minutes, and eventually made my way to the check-out with the jewel case and \$20 of saved allowance. I handed the CD to one of the girls behind the counter who looked at it, looked at me, and said, "This isn't for you, is it?" Then they laughed.

My 13-year-old face flushed. "No," I said, and tried to smile at the apparent ridiculousness of the idea. When the barcode wouldn't scan, I figured God was trying to tell me something and scurried away, muttering, "Nevermind."

Certainly, not all of us have had it so tough. Some dated the quarterback while others spent eighth period plotting a bully-free route to the bus home. Some came to terms with themselves in high school or college and some have been so enviably self-aware since learning long division.

It's hard not to envy these, for whom high school was acne and Homecoming and spin the bottle instead of isolation and self-loathing, but it doesn't help anything.

For all our range of experience, some better than others, LGBTQ people are alike in that we have each been confronted with the demon of ourselves. Somehow, at some point, we have looked at ourselves

and seen someone so fragile that it's difficult to feel anything but pity and defeat for the face staring out of the mirror.

Even as I write this, I'm reminded of Christina Aguilera's "Beautiful" music video, its well-intentioned melodrama uniting freaks and weaklings in a tragically determined front of soldierers-on, championed by no less than the stud-nosed, raven-slash-golden-haired X-tina. The good-natured irony with which I can recall every shot of the video reminds me how far I've come.

As a senior in high school, with the intention of sticking it to a number of people and entities, not the least of which was Borders, I finally bought *Stripped*. I marched up to the counter at Barnes and Noble, proudly handed my selection to the boy at the register and was immediately disappointed by his lack of disgust. Indeed, he seemed entirely indifferent to the personal breakthrough I was having.

Still, it didn't matter. It wasn't about him. It wasn't about the girls at Borders, or the boys who threw away my t-shirt after gym class. It was about me.

Coming out, being out, is a process of making peace. The world is changing, slowly—too slowly for us to live by its standards. Making peace is not about complacency in the face of injustice; it's about being okay enough with *you* to stand up for yourself. It's one thing to chase controversy from the other side of the rapids, and entirely another to steer yourself through them. How drastic a change, and yet how imperceptible.

In retrospect, that *Stripped* seems to have been a major turning point in my life seems entirely appropriate. From "Beautiful" and "I'm OK" to "Loving Me 4 Me" and "Fighter," Christina gets me.

And, really, what more could we ask than to be gotten? In the words of so many others who know, *it gets better*.

- John Sherman
Managing Editor

Dear members of the LGBTQ Center and community,

We're sorry. The Teach-in gave a very different message than the news article printed in our October 18th edition. We appreciate your letter and respectfully apologize for the errors in our reporting, and the misrepresentations that went unedited. We are aware that it gave the impression that we misread the important messages of the LGBTQ community. We acknowledge the Center's worthy goals, respect and stand for what its members stand for, and apologize that this article fell short. Producing a weekly newspaper provides constant learning experiences—this week, we implemented a restructuring of our entire system of editing to make sure things like this don't happen again. You can be sure that they won't.

Respectfully yours,
The Voice editorial staff

To the Editor:

Those of us at the LGBTQ Resource Center involved in the teach-in were troubled by the article printed in the October 18 edition of The College Voice and its representation of the event. We were pleased that it was extensively covered and that the author was clearly well-intentioned. However, many of the points raised by speakers were misrepresented in the article.

Professor Jennifer Manion was quoted as saying that "nearly 41% of LGBTQ youth will attempt suicide." This statistic was actually given regarding the percent of transgender youth who will attempt suicide and specifically highlights how difficult it is to be transgender in our society today. The actual rate of attempted suicide among LGBTQ youth in general is still alarmingly high at four times the national average.

The quote attributed to Currie Huntington '11 stated, "being queer is too fundamentally entrenched in our society for our lives to be changed by a law maker's signature." This misquotation gives the opposite impression intended by Huntington. He said that legislation cannot bring about change because the idea that it is not okay to be queer is deeply ingrained in our society. The idea that being queer is in any way entrenched in our society is a complete misrepresentation of the status of queers in society today.

It was stated in the article that Jessica Bombasaro-Brady '11 said that she was "brainwashed with hate speech against the LGBTQ community before it had even occurred to her that she herself might have such a sexual orientation." Bombasaro-Brady was not herself brainwashed against the community, but stated that her first introduction to a gay person was a story of violence. The story of Matthew Shepherd's death made her aware of the struggles of LGBTQ people. Having heard so many stories of violence against LGBTQ people, she warned the audience not to become as numb to violence and suicide (not gay rights, as the article stated) as she has become.

Christopher Bylone, a Residential Education and Living Area Coordinator said, "Even at 2AM when you are at a party, if you hear homophobic remarks or see harassment around sexual orientation, those are the times you need to step up and speak up for those of us who are not present." In the article, this quote was changed to refer to sexual harassment, which, while an important issue, was not the focus of the teach-in. There is already a campus-wide movement to challenge sexual harassment, but this is a separate issue requiring attention on this campus.

The article, when discussing problems with counseling services, referred to transgender students as "gender or identity-challenged." This is an

extremely offensive way of referring to transgender students. Being transgender does not make one gender-challenged; rather, it means that one's gender does not align with the sex assigned at birth. Similarly, transgender people are not identity-challenged. Instead, a transgender person often has a very acute sense of identity. The idea that transgender students are challenged in some way is commonly seen in society, and one of the goals of the teach-in was to raise awareness and to change this notion.

The bathrooms in Crozier-Williams were not made transgender on the day of the teach-in. Rather, they were made gender-neutral, meaning anyone of any gender identity could use any bathroom. Transgender is a term that can refer only to people. Applying it to a bathroom would mean that the bathroom was meant only for transgender students, or that the gender identity of the bathroom did not correspond to the sign on the door.

Although it may not have been intentional, Andrew Sowle '13 was incorrectly referred to by female pronouns in the article. This is highly ironic given that the nature of the speech delivered by Sowle (a male-identifying and male-presenting student), which stressed the importance of respecting the pronoun preferences of all people. This may have been an attempt to use the correct pronouns based on the assumption that Sowle is transgender because he was speaking about trans issues. Sowle, rather, was speaking on behalf of a marginalized minority. This is a good opportunity to point out that allies can speak on behalf of a group of which they are not a part and are valuable because they can do so with relative safety.

Professor Manion was inaccurately quoted as saying that people should never assume that being straight is a privilege. The idea that she would say this is absurd and demonstrates a complete lack of comprehension about the whole event. She made no comments similar to this, but believes quite strongly that heterosexism and straight privilege are active forces in society. She, in fact, offers workshops at the center on these topics.

This article clearly demonstrated to us how far we have to go in changing perceptions and educating this campus about the LGBTQ community. That such an obviously well-meaning article could misrepresent so many aspects of the teach-in highlights the level of misconceptions in society. In order to educate the Connecticut College community, we urge people to continue coming to LGBTQ Center events and workshops.

Sincerely,
The LGBTQ Resource Center Staff and Director

THIS WEEK IN PICTURES



NEVENA DELIGINEVA/CONTRIBUTOR



JAMISON HERMANN/CONTRIBUTOR



SHANNON BRADY/CONTRIBUTOR

Conn alumnae **Shake the Baron** played at Oasis Pub in New London on Saturday. Their new full-length album drops on Tuesday, Oct 26.

Students sample local eateries at New London's annual Fall Food Stroll.



TANAHA SIMON/PHOTO EDITOR

The Clothesline Project: SafetyNet Peer Education Group displayed student-made tshirts outside Shain Library to raise awareness about domestic violence as part of Domestic Awareness Month.



TANAHA SIMON/PHOTO EDITOR

Check out thecollegevoice.org for this week's slideshow of fall foliage at Conn



LAURA DIETMANN/CONTRIBUTOR



MEREDITH BOYLE/NEWS EDITOR



NEVENA DELIGINEVA/CONTRIBUTOR

Very Few Rules : An Hour with Wayne Ong

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

a metaphysical answer that would translate into a brilliant narrative.

He responded with something about basketball and Singapore and his brother. My hand wrote down everything that came out of his mouth without consulting my brain first, which is just as well because I wasn't paying attention to a thing he was saying. Instead, I was trying to figure Wayne out. He's a good-looking guy. He has a symmetrical face and clear skin. But his jaw was clenched in a way I'm not used to; the words and syllables were clear and controlled, rolling off of his tongue like beads of mercury. I found myself scared to make direct eye contact.

"That's interesting," I said to his answer. It probably was. "So what types — types? Styles? — of dance have you done?"

"In the army they taught us Jazz dance," he said. "And we did some Chinese folk dances. Our company performed for other troops and for the community, acting out what we referred to as 'national values.'"

The army! He was in the army back in Singapore. I suddenly understood the coolness. He told me about performing in front of an audience of thousands in a convention that showcased Asian aerospace technology. He told me about performing in the streets of Singapore in the International Basking Festival.

"In the U.S.," he said, "you have street performers all over the place. But in most other countries you need a license. It's called a basking license. And so they have an annual festival to promote basking. Hey!"

He was waving to someone. I didn't turn around. "Well, in some American cities you probably aren't allowed to just perform without permission," I said, trying to appear wise. "Let's get to a more difficult subject: what are times when you have felt like you are flying and felt like you are falling?"

Wayne immediately outdid me. "I believe in planning. I believe there is order in the universe and order in God. In the past I have had many dreams while training in which I can perform the move I am training for. Every time I have one of those dreams, I can feel myself performing the move. Then, when I finally achieve the performance in real life, like when I did a split-jump for the first time, it feels exactly how it did in the dream. The dreams are answering me when I ask to learn

something new in dance. My body simply has to catch up to the dream.

"Dancing is flying," he said. "You fly when you lose conscious control and your body takes over."

"What about falling?" I asked. "When have you fallen?"

Wayne hesitated for a moment. He broke into a smile as he greeted another passerby, then his lips relaxed once again. "I've never really been afraid of falling," he said. "I've stumbled in performances and dropped flags. One time..." His arms shot up from below the table. He cascaded them over each other in a loop. I was astonished. "One time I was twirling a flag like this. And I dropped it. I kept going; that's all you can do. But all I needed to do was wait another eight counts and I was back where I had dropped the flag." He windmilled his arms rapidly. His hands were like a torrent of water. In a flash he had nabbed an invisible flag from somewhere next to the table and transitioned smoothly back into the dance. "I got it again and continued."

"Wow."

"It's like my choreographer told me. 'Once a performance is over, it's over.' There's no reason to freeze or get scared."

"Have you ever physically fallen?"

"Many times in rehearsal," he said. He nodded to yet another person walking by then



KIRA TURNBULL/STAFF

Ong rehearses in the Martha Myers dance studio.

looked back at me. His eyes were caves that stretched back far beyond my vision. "I was riding my bicycle downtown this last summer and a car crashed into me. Before I knew it, I had leapt off of the bike and tumbled on the ground. And thank God." Wayne placed his palms together in prayer. "Thank God, because I would have been dead otherwise."

"How do you think you were able to leap that quickly?"

"When you fall so many times during practice, your body remembers. Your body remembers how to fall. I black out between falling and landing. My body takes over. I am not afraid to lose control."

I thought about Anne Rice's book *Interview with a Vampire*. At the end of the two-hundred-year-old vampire's story, the teenager who has been listening begs to become just like him. I thought about begging Wayne to teach me how to fall. I saw within him some earnestness, some faith that I haven't before seen in anyone my age. His experience in the military has taught him control—control over his motions and emotions—but he has discovered within himself an even deeper sense of it. I imagine it's like having your brain think for you.

"Do you find other dancers have similar feelings?" I asked.

"It is a gift to dance," he said. "All dancers know this. To be able to express yourself is a gift. You have to share a piece of yourself when you dance in front of a crowd, or paint, or play music. But dancing is unique because there is only one instrument: the body. And very few rules."

At this moment, writing suddenly seemed plagued with rules. Rules are everywhere. The Singapore army must have plenty of rules. I commented aloud on Wayne's bravery.

"I often have dreams I am falling," he said. "They, like my other dreams, teach me before I experience it what falling feels like. I simply pray and wake up. I know what falling feels like because I have dreamed it; therefore I don't fear it. My dreams are telling me that I will fall someday, which is what happens to all dancers once in a while. But I'll let my body take care of it and I will get up."

I heard the class descending the staircase. Someone flung open a door and a crowd rushed past. Everyone was eager to get to the next place in his or her life. Wayne stood up. I noticed he was still barefoot.

"More often than not," he said, "I dream that I am flying." •

SGA Suspends Club Evaluation

JAZMINE HUGHES
NEWS EDITOR

Since the club allocation process finished this September, SGA's Finance Committee has been reevaluating the rules for club approval. Finance Committee set forth a moratorium to halt the SGA approval and funding of clubs until next semester, due to concern about their swiftly depleting funding budget and the consistent increase of clubs with overlapping goals. The Assembly passed it on Thursday, October 21. Subsequently, the Finance Committee created an Organizational/Club Process Review Task Force to spearhead the club evaluation process on campus.

This does not mean new clubs cannot be created. As outlined in the proposal put forth by the Task Force, clubs are still encouraged to "meet and start planning, talk to the staff members of the Office of Student Engagement and Leadership Education, write a Constitution, put on meetings, get the word out on their group [by] promoting it to the campus, and seek Collegiate Link Status."

David Colled '11, SGA Vice President for Finance, is leading this mission. "When we really look at the rules, we could approve a club that wouldn't meet the criteria of what a club is. Clubs come in and ask for money. Finance Committee cannot give them the money they want, so they can't function successfully," said Colled in an SGA meeting. "[This year] we saw that we can only allocate 51 percent of what clubs request, and we'd like to give them more. After our deliberations, we felt that the entire process could be improved. We saw a lot of flaws."

Said Bradley Maykow '12, a member of both the Task Force and Finance Committee, "In order to fix this process, we felt it was necessary to halt the current process to make a program that fosters the creation of a stronger, and more connected student organization/club program for the future."

Not everyone is happy.

"I understand the need to reevaluate clubs," said Amy Smith '12, president of Dance Team. "The purpose of a club is to promote student involvement and allow students to meet others who share similar interests. However, this reevaluation should have occurred at the end of last year instead of the beginning of this year, after clubs presented their budget proposals in front of the Finance Committee."

She continued, "In a time when freshmen are just beginning to get their feet on the ground and discover their passions here at Connecticut College, they either don't have the funding to improve a club, or they can't start a new club of their own. It's basically a whole year taken away from clubs — 25 percent of a student's time here at Conn. It's both frustrating and disappointing."

The Task Force will be in evaluation talks until early November, when they will present their thoughts to the SGA Assembly. The Task Force plans to hold an open forum to hear students' opinions, and eventually meet with all club presidents.

Finalized changes to the club approval process will appear in early December and be voted on by SGA before the end of the semester. •

Evaluating the United Nations

Expert panel speaks about challenges to the UN in the 21st century

MEREDITH BOYLE
NEWS EDITOR

Students filled the Blaustein lecture hall on Friday as government professors Tristan Borer and William Rose, and economics professor Maria Cruz-Saco discussed aspects of the United Nations to celebrate Sunday, the annual UN Day.

The efficiency and purpose of the UN has recently come into question, specifically in light of the troubling discovery that United Nations peacekeeping troops on the ground in the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC) failed to prevent the mass rape of women in a nearby village.

Professor Rose began the discussion with a description of the challenges the UN faces when handling peacekeeping operations during civil wars. The original intention of the UN, formed in 1945 after World War II, was to aid in situations of conflict between countries, which worked well until the climate of conflict changed to a more intra-state nature. In turn, the notion of peacekeeping also to evolve.

"Peacekeeping has a mixed record," Rose said, citing pessimism towards UN

operations, specifically in the contexts of Somalia, Rwanda and Bosnia failures. Despite the fact that the United Nations has elicited more success stories than failures, the failures are what the media propagates, and thus are what resonate more with the public.

Professor Borer elaborated on the theme of UN inefficiency in her discussion of the UN Security Council. The Security Council, one of six principle bodies under the United Nations, is in charge of the establishment of peacekeeping missions, among other things. It is comprised of 15 member states, five of which are permanent members with the power of the veto. This group, nicknamed the P5, are France, China, Russia, the United Kingdom and the United States.

"The most undemocratic part of the UN is the veto power of those five states," Borer said.

Many countries, mainly Germany, Japan, Brazil and India, charge the Security Council with being "Eurocentric" and not representative of world-wide interests. In fact, over 100 countries worldwide have never sat on the Security Council. For

any of these countries to become permanent members, all of the P5 must agree - if any one of the P5 uses a veto, the matter is immediately declined. This veto power has massive implications for a country like Japan, whose

postpone the major decisions, such as Security Council reform, for the future.

To this, the entire lecture hall chuckled, insinuating that the likelihood of reform in the near future is low. Professor of Government

The entire lecture hall chuckled, insinuating that the likelihood of reform in the near future is low. Professor of Government David Patton called from the audience, "Don't hold your breath!"

request for membership is likely to be vetoed by China, regardless of how legitimate Japan's claims to membership may be.

Borer concluded by stating that the current status of reform of the Security Council remains in a deadlock because of the above complications. She mentioned that the overall attitude of the international community is to

Professor Cruz-Saco closed the Common Hour with a discussion on how to promote social empowerment and inclusion abroad, based on her own experiences working with the United Nations. She said that the UN has a very comprehensive approach when dealing with these problems, but has trouble enforcing policies in the world of sovereign states. Those who disobey human rights treaties often face no more than moral authoritative consequences from the United Nations.

Cruz-Saco also mentioned that the organization is burdened by the task of housing so many powers under one umbrella. "I would like to see it become a more efficient institution," she said.

Much of the time allotted

CONTINUED ON PAGE 5

Meet George Jepsen

Writers and editors interview candidate for Connecticut Attorney General

ELLIE BENNER
WEB CONTENT EDITOR

With the midterm elections fast approaching, the many races that will be decided on November 2 across the country are beginning to heat up. Current Attorney General for Connecticut Richard Blumenthal is running for the Senate seat vacated by Democrat Christopher Dodd, which leaves the race for Attorney General wide open. The *College Voice*, represented by Jazmine Hughes '12, Matt Mitchell '12, and Seth Nigrosh '14 and myself, had the opportunity on Thursday, October 14 to interview the Democratic candidate for Attorney General, George Jepsen.

Jepsen served as the Stamford representative to the Connecticut State Senate from 1991 to 2003, where he was the majority leader for his final six years in office. He received his law degree from Harvard Law School and has been an attorney more for than 26 years. He ran for Lieutenant Governor with Bill Curry in 2002 and served as the Democratic State Party Chairman from 2003 to 2005.

In the interview, Jepsen presented himself as a pro-business politician whose first goal, if elected, would be to create more jobs for Connecticut by promoting business and encouraging green practices, which he said would benefit us both environmentally and economically. He discussed his opponent Martha Dean as someone whose beliefs are "way outside the political and cultural mainstream of Connecticut, and outside the mainstream of constitutional interpretation."

He expressed no doubt that the current Attorney General will defeat Linda McMahon in the race for the Senate. When asked what he learned from his losing campaign for Lieutenant Governor in 2002, he candidly said, "Losing sucks."

Jepsen discussed his family life, love for cooking and advice for college students looking to get started in politics: "Campaigns are always looking for bright volunteers. It's a meritocracy in the sense that if a campaign is doing its job, if somebody shows talent, they're going to move up in the ranks because there's always more to do." •



George Jepsen talks with Middletown residents in September. Photo courtesy of the Middletown Press.

On the first thing he wants to do as Attorney General:

"The biggest issue in CT right now is our economic environment. The most pressing need is job creation, and I think all elected officials need to ask themselves what we can do to improve the business climate in the state... The area that an attorney general can have the most direct impact is in advocating for energy conservation. One of my reasons for supporting conservation is to wear my environmentalist hat, but it's also an economic development hat. Studies show that in Connecticut we can significantly reduce our consumption in energy in a very cost effective way. If we reduce our consumption of energy, in the long run it will bring down energy cost and prices, but more significantly, a dollar we don't spend on natural gas is a dollar that stays in Connecticut and doesn't go to Louisiana, for example. Those dollars spent locally will have a ripple effect on the economy at large, and will help local businesses and in the long run create jobs."

On opponent Martha Dean:

"Connecticut is a progressive state on social issues. On Pro-Choice, Martha is Anti-Choice. I favor sensible gun control regulation, Martha would sweep the books clean on any regulations on firearms. I oppose discrimination based on sexual orientation, Martha opposes marriage equality, and opposes other anti-discrimination statutes that we have in Connecticut. With respect to the constitution, and this came out very clearly in the last debates, Martha supports a nullification doctrine, the most extreme expression of state's rights, that led directly to the Civil War. Nullification is outdated, it's wrongheaded, and it would destroy the United States even short of a civil war."

On George Jepsen the man:

"We have a beach house not too far from here, and my idea of a good time is to have a lot of family and friends over, and they can go hang out at the beach all they want while I stay in the air conditioned house and whip up a big meal. I have 40 cookbooks. I cook a lot of Caribbean food, Northern Asian, a lot of mainstream Italian - you know, sauté up some garlic and go from there - and, of course, I like to cook large hunks of red meat on grills." •

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Judicial Task Force Solicits Student Help

Campus works together to reform Honor Code policy

DAVID SHANFIELD
STAFF WRITER

"Under what circumstances would you all report somebody for an Honor Code violation?" asked Associate Dean of Student Life Sarah Cardwell at the Judicial Task Force's open forum on Wednesday night.

The students in attendance responded immediately the following: vandalism, assault and academic violations. Not a single person in the room said they would report someone for an underage drinking offense alone.

Why?

Because, they offered, they witness underage drinking on a regular basis and receive no consequences for not reporting the violations.

"I think people are more likely to write someone up if they believe that if they don't, it will lead to personal repercussions for them," said Alex Shapiro '11.

People may be hesitant to file a report, said Taylor Gould '13, a Judicial Board Representative, due to the nature of the system. "If you are going to report a violation, your name has to be associated with it," he reminded the group. There are no anonymous reports.

On Wednesday, October 20, the Judicial Task Force hosted the second of three open forums to discuss proposed changes to the Honor Code policy. While the turnout was less than spectacular, at around seven in total, the discussion was energetic and intense.

The conversation began with the debate about whether alcohol and drug violations should be dealt with in the same way as other Honor Code violations, or whether they should be handled as separate, unrelated incidences.

Duncan Spaulding '13 said that when he is told that a friend is going to J-Board, he automatically assumes that they must have committed a horrible offense. Upon discovering that the reason for their hearing is an alcohol or drug violation, he imagines "they're going to get a slap on the wrist and a warning, and then they're going to go to CHOICES, which isn't really that bad."

Despite feeling like J-Board consequences for alcohol violations are meager, Spaulding was hesitant to say that processing drug and alcohol violations in a more traditional, probationary manner would be a positive change.

Cardwell proposed that alcohol and drug violations could still be considered Honor Code violations that were simply processed differently.

"There's also a possibility," she added, "that you could say alcohol and drug violations are not Honor Code violations, but just college policy that we treat separately."

Spaulding supported the idea of a distinction between Honor Code violations and college policy. "I don't think you should get a slap on the wrist for an Honor Code violation, because the range of punishments for an Honor Code violation are huge," he said.

"I personally like the umbrella Honor Code," said Julie Sizer '11, referring to the current Honor Code, which encompasses both academic and social infractions. "It might be best to have [drug and alcohol violations] handled in different respects, but still under the entire breadth of the Honor Code."

In response to Sizer's statement, Spaulding voiced concern that, because alcohol violations are currently encompassed within the Honor Code, there is a significant amount of hypocrisy within the Judicial Board, as some of the representatives most likely have and do consume alcohol underage.

"I think too many times we equate the Honor Code with J-Board," replied Julie, "when really the Honor Code is in every part of this community."

Conor Walsh '11, Chair of the Judicial Board, agreed that the Honor Code is more than just a judiciary process. He was concerned that incorporating alcohol and drug policy in the Honor Code would encourage students to "pick and choose" which aspects of the Honor Code apply to them.

"It's dangerous because it can spiral out of control," said Walsh. "We can lose sight of what the Honor Code really means."

Walsh explained that rules students break every day diminish the value of the Connecticut College Honor Code. He used dining hall policy as an example, referencing the rule that reads, "Food and/or service ware may not be taken from the dining hall."

Dean Cardwell relayed another potential suggestion: creating a separate board to deal with alcohol and drug infractions, which was limited to board members to those 21 and over.

"I'm worried that if [alcohol violations] are separated from the Honor Code, and possibly even if you adjudicate them separately, it will alienate an already alienated non-drinking population," said Shapiro.

Ron Birnkrant '12 did not share Shapiro's concern. "If you chose not to drink under 21, that's commendable, but I don't think you need the school commending you on your actions," he said. "Would you feel more honorable because the Honor Code encompasses drinking as well? To me, that's selfish."

Shapiro met this opposition by stating that while those who don't partake in underage drinking may be a minority on campus, the drinking age is still the law.

At this point, Cardwell introduced the last topic of conversation: the composition of Judicial Board. Currently, Conn's J-Board consists of eight voting members, two from each class, and a chair that only votes in the case of a tie. After speaking to other schools with similar judiciary processes, the Judicial Task Force has found that in comparison, our J-Board is extremely small. Davidson College's judicial board has thirty members, ten of which hear each case. At Haverford College, Cardwell said there is a "much larger pool of trained students that can be pulled for cases from time to time, like a jury pool."

Walsh liked the idea of increasing the number of participants involved in the judiciary process. "It would open up the process a little bit to the community and get more students involved," he said.

While no definitive answers were given and no conclusions were made, the discussion helped inform students of the inner workings of the judicial process, and the students were offered the opportunity to challenge, evaluate and make an impact on the Honor Code policies that ultimately impact them the most. •

Evaluating the United Nations

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 4

for the Common Hour was used to answer an abundance of questions from the audience, which ultimately spotlighted the topic of whether the United Nations' legitimacy and popularity are on the rise or decline. The panelists unanimously agreed that the UN is a necessary body, but needs to improve several major systems if it wants to gain and hold legitimacy in the future.

"Believe it or not, the United Nations is much more respected outside the United States than inside," said Cruz-Saco.

Jacqueline Fulgham '14 attested to this. She has lived in many countries throughout her life, including Jordan, where she witnessed the United Nations provide aid to many refugees in camps. She asserted, however, that for the UN to thrive, it must strive to gain authority everywhere.

"Keeping legitimacy is important so that the UN doesn't become obsolete," she said. "It needs legitimacy to enforce policy."

Echoing this sentiment was Teddy Fisher '12. "Clearly the UN is a dynamic organization that does a lot of things right," he said. "The biggest challenge is that the UN faces a large credibility issue, especially in the United States."

Professor Borer outlined one of the largest problems with the United Nations: "The UN is successful at mopping up what states haven't done," she said, referring to a lack of political will in the international community to cooperate on solving humanitarian problems, instead of simply throwing money at them. Nevertheless, she added, "if you were to ask a refugee in a camp how helpful it was to get food from the World Food Programme, they will say, 'Yes, the United Nations is helping us.'" •

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Harris: End the Early Bird Special!

JULIA CRISTOFANO
STAFF WRITER

Around six o'clock every evening, as I'm sitting in Coffee Grounds pretending to be productive, I hear my stomach start to growl and I begin to experience that sinking feeling of dread as I realize it's time for dinner. It's time to go to Harris.

Now don't get me wrong, there are tons of things I love about Harris (like that warm, fuzzy feeling you get when you spot an empty booth) but dinnertime in our dining hall is not a pleasant experience overall. Especially now, as the weather is getting colder, trudging to Harris to be confronted by a massive line of people is quite unpleasant. And by a line, I don't just mean waiting as the person in front of you rustles through his bag for his ID

— I'm talking about standing in a line that extends beyond both sets of double doors, leaving you to shiver outside in the sweatshirt you never realized was so thin.

Even after you actually get into Harris, avoid crippling yourself on the backpacks strewn on the floor and find a table that can accommodate you and your entourage, you still have to get food. The lines for food (heaven forbid it be taco night) are another debacle in and of themselves.

So why does it seem as if the entire campus is trying to cram into Harris at the same time? That's right: because Harris closes at 7:30.

For the first few weeks of school I was willing to accept this dinnertime craze as just another part of college life to which I would simply have to adjust. However, over fall break, I had

the eye opening experience of visiting a friend of mine at Skidmore College. I spent the majority of my first night recovering from my state of disbelief after we breezed into Skidmore's main dining hall at quarter after six. This expedited entrance alone was thrilling enough, but when I learned that their dining hall stays open until eleven on weeknights and nine on weekends, my jaw literally dropped. For a school of relatively the same size I find it preposterous that the Conn dining hall only stays open until 7:30, closing almost four hours before Skidmore's.

I'm not someone who needs instant gratification, so if I have to wait an extra few minutes to get my food I can handle it. But I find it ironic that, as a school that promotes healthy eating and lifestyles, our dining hall closes at 7:30. This certainly accomplishes the opposite. As a student without a car, if I want food after 7:30 the only things I can find on campus are baked goods at Coffee Grounds (although extraordinarily delicious and usually vegan), curly fries at Cro, or day old pizza my neighbors ordered the night before.

No wonder there's so much talk about the freshman fifteen.

However, if there is one group

of people that Harris' hours affect the most, it is probably our student athletes. These students are some of the fittest people on our campus who practice year round while also juggling their academic schedules. Unfortunately, practices for the majority of these sports fall right within the five-to-seven time frame: prime dinnertime. The current fix for this problem is to embrace your inner senior citizen and hurry through your early bird special at 4:30, run to practice as you feel the mashed potatoes sloshing around in your stomach and later that night suffer pangs of hunger at 8:30. Lovely.

But the college has a "solution" to this situation called a Cro Pass. As the name implies, a Cro

Pass is a slip of paper that allows you to eat at Cro for free, saving you from paying \$5 for a bag of grapes. Aside from these day-old looking grapes, the only things to eat at Cro are a variety of pizzas, pints of ice cream and watery coffee. This assortment of food can barely be considered dinner and even at that, it is certainly not a healthy one.

Cro is not a substitute for Harris. Neither is Domino's, Mr. G's or Golden Wok. All I want is for Harris to stay open a little later. It could be for only a couple nights a week, even just until eight o'clock. I'm not expecting miracles here. I just want an extra half hour to sit down and eat dinner. Is that too much to ask? •



ALICIA TOLD/STAFF

Bring Back My Channels!

SARAH WEISS
STAFF WRITER



PHOTO FROM WEB

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

removal of GSN, I have lost my default channel, my television getaway. I miss Reeg. I miss late night episodes of *Pyramid* from the '70s with Dick Clark. Where else can you watch a much younger Betty White guest star to help a contestant win \$10,000, or see what Dick Clark was like in his prime (a time before *Dick Clark's New Years Rockin' Eve* was hosted by Ryan Seacrest).

Then there are the even-later-night episodes of *Password* that air in black and white and come on when you know you should already be asleep. Another favorite of mine was original episodes of *Family Feud* hosted by the hilariously creepy Richard Dawson. In every episode, Dawson kissed all the female contestants on the lips, and believe me, these women eagerly awaited their kisses.

Let us not forget Alfonso Ribeiro's *Catch-21*, which you have to watch to simply stare and wonder "what is Carlton" doing hosting a game show!?"

Brenner Green '12 had his own GSN ritual: "Every night at 9:30 my friends and I bonded over watching Jerry Springer's show *Baggage*." The removal of GSN from our lineup has taken away his tradition. "I thought they were trying to make the channels more educational, but GSN is educational. Disney is not educational."

The Disney Channel is one of the new additions accompanying the cable service provider switch. Other new channels include Lifetime Movie Network, Turner Classic Movies, Great American

Country, Country Music Television, Trinity Broadcasting Network, QVC and the Home Shopping Network. While some may be jumping for joy to watch Hannah Montana or order jewelry "as shown on TV," I would give all of these away for GSN any day of the week.

Women's Entertainment (WE) is another upsetting loss. "I miss WE TV's wedding show marathons, like *Whose Wedding Is It Anyway*," reported one junior. Without WE she can no longer find the inspiration she craves for planning her friends' future weddings.

Other channels missing from the new network provider include G4, home of *Ninja Warrior* (a fantastic Japanese obstacle and endurance show) and IFC, which plays repeats of great shows that were prematurely canceled like *Arrested Development* and *Freaks and Geeks*.

Again, for me, the loss of GSN hurts the most. As my friends could attest to, my TV could be turned on at anytime to find GSN as the default channel. Last year I would clean my room and do my homework to Howie Mandel on *Deal or No Deal* or Bob Saget's *I vs. 100*. This year, it feels like the loss of a friend. GSN was my religion, and the late night game show hosts were my gods. **

*Carlton refers to the Tom Jones-loving character on *The Fresh Prince of Bel-Air*.

**I do not actually nor have I ever considered GSN a religion or prayed to game show hosts. This was solely for emphasis. •

The Social World of The Social Network

A film that tries to define this generation does us little justice

SHANNON KEATING
CONTRIBUTOR

Matthew Gentile's article in last week's issue of the *College Voice* heralded *The Social Network*, screenwriter Aaron Sorkin's latest box-office triumph, as "a perfect movie." Maybe it's just me, but is there even such a thing as a perfect movie? Probably not, especially if we discount *The Godfather*.

Regardless, I found the film far from perfect.

First of all, I liked it. At times, I even *really* liked it. The dialogue is punchy and crisp between actors Jesse Eisenberg and Andrew Garfield as they wage exceptional legal war with each other. Some scenes are wonderfully constructed: the socially inept, extensively characterized Mark Zuckerberg verbally sparring with then-girlfriend Erica Albright is smartly done, and the Winklevosses rowing their way to a painful near-win in England is both cinematically stirring and comical.

I appreciate the movie for what it is: an entertaining two hours. I thought it was mildly thought-provoking with regard to business ethics, the technology age's social climate and interpersonal ties that fail to hold. I refuse to glorify it for what it most decidedly is not: a factual representation of Facebook's origins, or (maybe more importantly) a film to define this generation.

I can appreciate that stylizing an otherwise less-than-exciting story was necessary both to create a more compelling angle and to raise philosophical and moral questions about the socially-networked teens and twenty-somethings of this era. As someone who laments the progressively crude simplification of human interaction yet cannot wrench herself from her computer, I pride Sorkin on the aspects of his screenplay that shed light on this relevant phenomenon. At a party, Justin Timberlake, as the suave Sean Parker, crows about the developing trend towards living life just to post the resulting pictures online; the sentiment strikes close to home.

However, I find precious few other examples in Sorkin's construction. He seems far more interested in portraying a college world still dominated by the attractive, old-moneyed elite, without whose approval a genius computer programmer seemingly cannot succeed in a social sense. The plight of the geek definitely has some relevance, somewhere, but at the Ivies the geeks are the masses. According to Nathan Heller, a Harvard grad writing for *Slate*, the blazer-wearing, snooty exclusivity of the clubs referenced in *The Social Network* have all but vacated the mainstream of Harvard culture.

Though it's useless to tear down the film for its rather gaping factual inaccuracies, it's worth noting that the real Mark Zuckerberg did not create the website of our time out of spite for an ex or even to snub the echelons of Ivy society. The girl upon whom Erica Albright is based was indeed called a "bitch" on Zuckerberg's blog, but it still remains unclear if they ever had a romantic relationship at all. In fact, Zuckerberg has been dating a girl named Priscilla Chan since before Facebook even began; she is a brilliant Harvard graduate and her presence in his life suggests that Zuckerberg was not the lonely, can't-get-a-girl nerd Sorkin depicts so dramatically.

So why is Priscilla entirely absent from the film? Why does Sorkin fail to indicate that Zuckerberg's Facesmash website was a Harvard hot-or-not spinoff that rated both girls and boys? These are facts that contradict the message of loser-boy misogyny Sorkin wanted to create. He has publicly stated that he did not bend what he saw as reality to prove a point — he fully believes that the rampant sexism in his film is a genuine depiction of spiteful nerds' and finals clubs members' attitudes.

"I didn't invent the Fuck Truck," he says on television comedy writer Ken Levine's blog, adding that girls who are always high and happily taking off their clothes, as well as Eduardo's "psycho-girl-

friend," are "REALLY real." The character, Christy, who in a fit of jealousy sets a fire in Eduardo's room, is at best a very conflated mixture of two allegedly existing people.

Of course such girls exist. So do boys who see girls as objects and prizes. But where is the authenticity, the believability, in a movie that tries to say these disappointing aspects of humanity are a standard — and even more disappointingly, a generational standard?

Maybe you don't care that Jesse Eisenberg did fantastic justice to Sorkin's version of Mark Zuckerberg, but not to the real man behind the social network. I'm still not sure if I do. But for me, this film is less about the possible social detachedness that can come with getting to know online personas better than physical people and more about greed, and the price with which it comes. It is about a snivelly-voiced prick of an undergraduate student who coldly cares for no one in a world where money, power and sex are valued above all else. This film was a fabrication — a well-written, even fascinating fabrication, but one I found to be loosely based on the events it follows, and barely based on the real-world culture it demeans.

Yes, our generation was and is deeply touched by Facebook and the powerhouse websites that flank it. Yes, some of us would prefer to express meaningless tidbits of our lives in 140 characters or less rather than facilitate meaningful discussion. But do we primarily classify ourselves by the words we type on our screens? Are we more motivated by spite and ruthless ambition than we are by our individualism, our passion and our love?

Some people are like *The Social Network*'s characters, from the "psycho" to the snobby to the cruel, but to say the movie defines our generation is to blanket-categorize us unfairly and to debase the accomplishments we have brought upon this world, as well as the ones we have yet to achieve. •

A Closer Look at Going Abroad

EMMA AUGUSTINE
CONTRIBUTOR

"Whatever you do, go away!" exclaimed a SATA professor at this week's study abroad info session. Eager sophomores packed into Hood Dining Room late Tuesday afternoon, anxiously inquiring about going abroad and the exciting opportunities study away provides. I sat glancing around the table, sneaking a peek at the destinations that other students had their hearts set on. Inevitably, going abroad will give students a chance to gain experience and knowledge in a different atmosphere. Personally, though, the idea causes me a lot of stress. Taking a semester to adventure makes me question what part of education I should focus on as a college student.

As a newly declared English major with a double minor in dance and gender and women's studies, I have a lot to accomplish on campus. I also took a semester off to work in the fall of 2009, and plan on graduating with my class by completing classes over the summer and adding extra classes to my schedule in future semesters. I am having trouble deciding whether or not the experience of studying abroad will focus my energy on my academics and liberal arts experience, or distract me, overwhelming me with a new environment.

The majority of students here have the privilege of being able to study abroad and do so for good reason: the experience adds to the strictly academic college

education, giving students a chance to network, meet new professors and create relationships with classmates from other universities who share similar interests. Still, I wonder if students debating whether or not to study away face too much pressure. Adults (mostly parents) constantly tell me that I have to go away during college because it's "the time to do it." But should everyone feel the need to go abroad during these short four years?

I decided to take a step back

and reconsider my options. I talked to a few students about their abroad experience, the lovely and knowledgeable Dean Andrea Rossi-Reder and helpful advisors at the Office of Study Away. As I settled into the chair at the table of her welcoming office, Dean Rossi-Reder explained, "Connecticut College has a reputation for sending lots of students on away programs, which is partially why so many students feel the pressure to study abroad. However, study abroad is not right for everyone.

For pre-med students and students with multiple majors or minors, traveling abroad may not be a necessary component of their programs or interests."

Later, I chatted about traveling abroad with Katie McCormack, an energetic advisor in the Office of Study Away. McCormack and I discussed the pros and cons of going abroad and why students may feel that pressure. As I was explaining why I think studying away is a difficult decision to make, she added that the pressure to partake in the programs is often enforced by students and peers, not faculty advisors and professors.

Walking out of Fanning, I realized that leaving campus for one semester is not the only way students can travel while they're in school. If you feel that you are bound to the New London campus due to a rigorous major, or involvement in a strict seasonal sport, then the Office of Study Away will be delighted to help you apply to go abroad over the summer. Additionally, you can travel after college with the office's help.

Students should not feel as if they are missing out if they cannot go abroad in the traditional manner. For some, studying abroad may be embodying the mission statement of the school: developing one's "intellectual, emotional, spiritual and creative" comprehension. It depends on what you think will accelerate your education.

Michael Flint '11, who had a fantastic experience in Greece,

embraced the abroad experience. After hearing him describe his trip, I discovered that you get out of the abroad experience what you put into it. This may seem like an obvious concept, but what I mean specifically is that it's important for one to set goals in order to return to campus motivated to continue studying. But as Dean Rossi-Reder stated, this is not the case for everyone. Emily Rogers '11 enjoyed her six-month abroad experience in New Zealand. However, the academic standards differed from those at Connecticut College. "My academics were not as valuable abroad as they are here. You also get more time to complete assignments here," she said.

This standard depends on the program and country you travel to. Rogers added that although her schedule was not as rigorous, many students who travel to places such as the United Kingdom experience more intense academic expectations.

Gaining insight on the study abroad experience from upperclassmen gave me a sense of relief. While I would love to travel, at the moment I want to explore what is here at Conn. Why do I want to temporarily pass up this wonderful opportunity? Because staying here has equally wonderful opportunities; they are just different ones. One simply needs to do some exploring to find them. Therefore, to restate, "Whatever you do, go away!" I would argue, "Whatever you do, adventure!" •



Nick Rodricks '12 is one student who chose to study abroad. Find the Camels Abroad blog on thecollegevoice.org to read more about that experience.

PEep This: CC Curtiss' Army of Educators

JERELL MAYS
STAFF WRITER

Among the students of Connecticut College, one question and one question only burns within their collective souls.

What the heck are CC PEeps?

Although this is a vast exaggeration, it is not entirely without truth. I myself only discovered the group's existence less than a week ago, when I was charged with writing an article (the one you are reading) about them. Surely this must have been an oversight on my part. In the avalanche of acronyms that make up Connecticut College (CELS, CISLA and CCBES, just to name a few), CC PEeps must have slipped under my radar alone. To prove this theory I randomly selected two Camels, both of them freshmen, and asked them whether or not they knew what CC PEeps was. One of them greeted me with a blank stare, and the other one asked, "Is it some type of candy?"

Despite being unaware of their existence, the two freshmen and I quickly discovered that we had in fact already come into contact with the CC PEeps (whether we knew it or not) at the Camel 101 program during orientation. This program taught us, as well as the

rest of the freshman class, some valuable tips for surviving college parties where alcohol is present; for example, think twice about whether or not you really need that fifth or sixth shot. But surely this wasn't all they had done. So then, what are CC PEeps really?

"CC PEeps are a group of student leaders focused on health promotion on campus," said CC Curtiss, Conn's very own Director of Student Wellness and Alcohol/Drug Education. Curtiss has been the advisor and trainer of the group since it was formed in August 2005. "The four major areas we focus on are sleep, stress, mental health and alcohol. We also participate in wellness campaigns for events like the tent dance."

The CC PEeps, comprised of students from all grades, organize awareness campaigns to help promote a healthy campus lifestyle, and on a campus that lately seems to be trying to break some kind of record for weekly ambulance transports, these programs don't feel particularly out of place.

Although they certainly promote "positive values," two words that often gain a collective eye roll from anyone who remembers health class in high school, the students do put quite

a bit of effort into integrating this positivity into a "fun format," both to garner the interest of the student body as well as to avoid that squirming feeling one gets when viewing an after-school special.

It's not that most students don't already know the basics of healthy college life (i.e., study hard, get enough sleep, don't overstress yourself and keep an eye on your blood-alcohol content) so much as they don't wish to hear it when they are told, often for the umpteenth time in their life, by someone who is at least ten years older than they are. There is an unavoidable

difference of age that reduces the effectiveness of communication, and the CC PEeps seek to avoid that reduction due to the fact that they are college students themselves. "The students are given creative control over the programs," Curtiss said.

Who are the CC PEeps specifically? I discovered one living in my very own building. I asked Allie Faber '14 about her early opinion of the group.

"I just started in the past couple weeks, but I feel it's a necessary program," she said. I then asked her about what the CC PEeps had been up to lately.



"This week is Alcohol Awareness week, so

there will be some programs in Harris regarding that. We also arranged the recent breast cancer awareness walk."

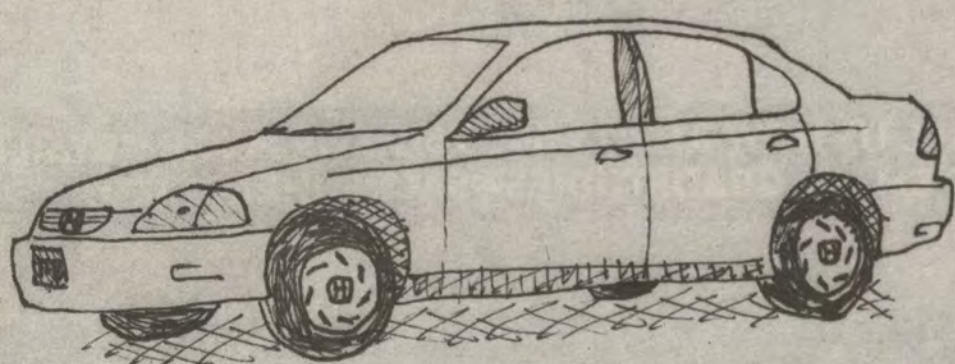
Breast cancer awareness? That explains why the other day when I walked into Harris, several girls standing at a table told me to take a pink ribbon "if I liked second base." With a statement like that, why not take a ribbon? In fact, hardly anyone

that walked by refused one.

More importantly, it got my attention. It certainly got my attention a lot faster than a table full of somber expressions and a polite, "please take a ribbon," would have gotten. Now this isn't to say that the modus operandi of handling sensitive issues, such as alcohol poisoning or suicide, should always be comedic in nature. But comedy, or at least a kind of ironic silliness, can really make a difficult topic easier to discuss. Think of those "Save the Ta-tas," wristbands. They're not the classiest accessories, but they're probably pulling in quite a bit of cash for the cause against breast cancer.

The point is this: the CC PEeps seem to have a sense of humor, something that seems almost mandatory in a group trained by CC Curtiss (if you haven't attended one of her presentations, you're missing out). Thanks to this sense of humor, the feedback from students has been generally positive, at least according to the surveys e-mailed to the freshman regarding their opinion of orientation. If you filled out those forms, then congratulations: your approval is keeping the CC PEeps going. And so far, the going seems pretty good. •

THOUGHTS FROM SPANISH 101:



¿Qué Honda?

JOHN SHERMAN / MANAGING EDITOR

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Mother, Should I Trust the NGOs?

JAZMIN ACUNA
COLUMNIST

The images on television of fat-bellied African children staring at cameras with fly-filled eyes, or Latin American indigenous groups fighting to preserve their ancestral homelands always moved Mary Jane to the point of tears. In defiance of her father's desire for her to study business or "the real stuff," as he used to call it, she went on to take social science courses in college in an attempt to understand the causes behind the tragedies that upset her conscience.

In her four years there, Mary Jane learned how her privileged life stood in sharp contrast to the fragile security of many people living beyond the borders of her country. Guilt and urgency took possession of her: guilt over having been excessively sheltered all of her life, and urgency to to give back for being born in such a privileged part of the globe.

Determined, Mary Jane decided to channel these sentiments and turn them into the motors of her career. She romanticized the idea of traveling foreign roads with unpronounceable names, while helping the dispossessed. She imagined herself — khaki-colored cargo pants, ranger boots and a Lonely Planet book in her backpack — fully engaged in her humanitarian apostleship against famine, illiteracy, AIDS, homelessness and other issues. In one of her visits home during her senior year, Mary Jane made the grand announcement to the family.

"I want to work for an NGO," Mary Jane said. And so she did.

Not one day passes by without people pursuing kindness in many ways. Even the smallest gesture, like giving up one's spot in the supermarket line to someone in a hurry, helps make coexistence a bit more bearable. But most significantly, the hotspot for the display of compassion is in the

Southern Hemisphere. It is here that the bulk of generous actions seems to take place, particularly those coming directly from or sponsored by Western countries. The common ordain: bring the injustice of an unequal order to an end.

Non-governmental organizations (NGOs) fall at the center of what works as a market for the supply of global empathy. Primarily funded by powerful governments and multinational entities such as the United Nations, the army of the warm-hearted grew at an exponential rate in the 1990s. This NGO enterprise was not the result of a sudden change of heart in the Northern Hemisphere. Strategically, it developed at a time when the democratization effort, understood in terms of liberalization of markets and the decrease of state-provided social services, was at its zenith in the former Soviet Union, Africa and Latin America.

In order to ease the social convulsions of the economic and political changes of the Washington Consensus or the International Monetary Fund's neoliberal "shock therapy" doctrine (a sudden release of currency control coupled with trade liberalization and withdrawal of state subsidies encouraged by intergovernmental organizations — which proved to be all shock and no therapy), policymakers put stress on the strengthening of "civil society." In reality, this rhetoric was an attempt to cover up the inability of developing states to provide basic goods and services to their people. The romantic "grassroots empowerment" idea sold well. The sprawling number of NGOs in the Southern Hemisphere during this decade was only the advent of what has become a trend in development.

Run by locals who depend on European or American aid, or by members of the new generations

of the former colonizer countries, NGOs have created a monopoly on humanitarian work. In the same way, many students who have not considered finance and wish to go down a more socially-minded road have fallen into the trap of thinking that an NGO is the only available option. But while we may think that we are joining a kinder side of humanity and setting ourselves above those (so-called) bad profiteers, we might in fact be deceiving ourselves.

Surely, NGOs continue to play an important role to fill in many societies, and it would be unfair

To admit that NGOs work in a primarily selfish world and that they are run by selfish people is to face a fact.

to hold all NGOs to the same criticism. Many of them direct attention to matters that can pass unnoticed by governments, and a few have been at the vanguard of revolutionary change that truly benefited majorities and minorities alike. At the same time, ignorance regarding the development of NGOs, their undertakings and their real impact on progress, has led to mixed results.

To admit that NGOs work in a primarily selfish world and that they are run by selfish people is to face a fact. Yes, altruistic intentions exist. I have them, you have them, we all do. But generous ideals are a far cry from genuinely altruistic actions. No matter how much we like to think of ourselves as selfless beings, the fact remains that survival is imprinted in our genes. NGOs are not spared from this instinct. They are made up of people that need jobs to satisfy their needs. Whether it's conscious or unconscious, would these people really want to achieve their goals if it meant they'd no longer have a

job? Take a guess.

Antagonistic relationships among NGOs themselves are a telling sign of their many limitations. Every year, hundreds of thousands of them jostle for limited funds that come from popular donors such as the Ford Foundation, USAID, the European Union and others in order to carry on with their projects. But NGOs, rather than mastering skills that lead to the success of their social experiments, end up becoming experts in proposing grand-sounding projects. The task often involves only a computer and the e-mail address of a funding office in the northwestern quarter of the world. More often than not, that is all it takes to dispatch a large amount of money into the NGOs' bank accounts.

The most important tool used by NGOs in attracting benevolent donors is making it sound as if the fate of an entire country or people is at stake and can be vastly helped by a donation to one of their proposed projects. They make it sound as if viable solutions can only come from the programs they want to create. But if just half of what NGOs propose is accomplished, we should consider it a major success.

Even when it would make more sense for NGOs to work in conjunction with others that have similar aspirations, a desire for special recognition motivates them to act in rather fragmented, inefficient ways. Number estimates are hard to establish, but in India alone the estimate is that more than a million NGOs are working on the ground for significantly fewer than a million problems.

Gender and the environment are among the most pronounced concerns for these entities at the moment, which will inevitably change according to what becomes fashionable. Cohesive efforts are rare, and if NGOs ever come together to coordinate

strategies, issues of power and hierarchy flourish, rendering talk of collective action a joke.

As disheartening as it can be, there is a lesson to be learned from acknowledging how NGOs can capitalize on the very issues they claim to fight against. Disempowerment is not just what many want to remedy, but it is the reason for their existence. Yet, the money keeps on flowing from the North to the Southern recipients of international pity, without a pause for reflection or reconsideration. Caught up by the charity complex of this world, this cycle of condescending paternalism seems unending.

Serious development efforts, which should involve strengthening the capacity of states to deliver to their people, are mostly out of the picture. I wonder why the USA's Marshall Plan in Germany post-WWII made no mention of civil society. Could we even imagine a bunch of NGOs in charge of the reconstruction effort? If we look at contemporary issues like the Haiti earthquake, we see it already fading into the background and losing the public's attention. Meanwhile, the country is still waiting for a development strategy that is cohesive and smart, allowing it to move from the status of aid-republic to respectable, independent statehood.

If we want to change a corner of this justice-deprived world, we have to speak the human rights language like we mean every word we utter. This has the serious implication of demanding that our leaders stop treating humanitarianism as a show of goodwill for the cameras or a cute topic for fancy cocktail conferences. It also involves looking at the broader context in which our actions occur. Although we all have a well-intentioned Mary Jane inside us, anxious to go out there and save the world, goodwill alone may just not be good enough. •

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ARTS

OCTOBER 25, 2010

Editors: Racine Oxtoby & Matthew Gentile

arts@thecollegevoice.org

Sex: Our Bodies, Our Junk

Decent humor fit only for the awkward thirteen-year-olds in all of us

SHANNON KEATING
CONTRIBUTOR

Sex: Our Bodies, Our Junk,
229 pages of precisely calculated,
punch-by-punch sex gags, is a

compilation of charts, blurbs, anecdotes and hey-didja-knows from the "Association for the Betterment of Sex." Perhaps more accurately, five guys who write funny things in shows and magazines decided to get together and write a funny book. Scott Jacobson (*The Daily Show*), Todd Levin (*The Tonight Show with Conan O'Brien*), Jason Roeder (*The Onion*), Mike Sacks (*McSweeney's*, *Vanity Fair*), and Ted Travelstead (*Esquire*) have together assembled an incredibly comprehensive and structurally satisfying sex manual that makes fun of sex manuals.



I approached this compilation with high hopes. I'm all for de-tabooing sexual discussion, and what better way to encourage frank and open discourse than an in-your-face humor book? I looked forward to an easy and amusing read.

As irresponsible and at times outright odious as it is moderately amusing, the guide plunges first through human reproductive anatomy (penis sweaters and rating your genitals on the Harrison Ford scale are discussed), before reviewing pick-up lines to be avoided (isn't that all of them?). A favorite deserving mention: "Do you come to this hospital chapel often?" But to my slight disappointment, and in contrast to my initial expectations, the lines that made me smile - let alone laugh - were relatively few and far between.

It is the kind of book that you see on the gift shelf at Borders and flip through while the person you accompanied there peruses the New Fiction aisle; it is a good way to pass fifteen or twenty minutes, maybe even a half an hour, before the diagnoses of phony professionals begin to blend together and you wonder if you should start getting offended by the allusions to gang-bangs.

But, with some special stamina, there are gems to be found. Should you ever need to tell your partner about the STD you now share, you could try, "My friend Danielle bought her fiancé a sweater he didn't like, but the store wouldn't take it back. What if I were Danielle, you were the fiancé, the sweater was herpes, and the no-return policy on the sweater was the lack of a cure for herpes?" There is similar advice aplenty, from a Did I Just Lose My Virginity checklist (#7: "knuckles chapped and bruised from fist-bumping yourself") to the best places to masturbate in public while evading detection ("#3: Meet-and-greets for users of Friendster.com").

While the introduction hails the volume as one for "man or woman, gay or straight," some words of warning: women and gays, proceed with caution - I didn't see it at first, but this was probably obvious from the get-go. In books like these, no group goes unsatirized, and yet those with whom the authors do not sexually identify seem to bear a significant brunt. The book calls the female orgasm a myth, claims the vagina will never be happy, and that women can get their husbands to give in to threesomes without argument, while the reversed situation is oftentimes an insurmountable struggle. (I do concede that gender jokes like these are funny to some people, but it just gets excessive!)

There is this bizarre chapter on homosexuality tacked on to the end for "heterosexuals like you" to be primed in "same-sex arts." The ridiculous male gay stereotypes, like "Leather Daddy" and "Insufferable Old Queen," are absurd enough to poke fun at the ridiculous gay male stereotypes that actually exist in our culture - okay, I get it. The female "Bull Dykes" and "Garden-Variety Lesbians," however, who respectively dress like the Brawny paper-towel mascot and are turned on by abusive men, seem uncomfortably similar to the stereotypes they are presumably satirizing.

But of course, if you are even willing to commit to a book brimming with as much sardonic gusto as *Sex: Our Bodies, Our Junk*, you are doubtlessly not easily offended, else the references to bestiality and necrophilia, among other tasteless and so-appalling-it's-basically-expected sexual tidbits, would have sent you walking at a fast clip (running in Borders is discouraged). The shock factor tends to fizzle, though, after the 1002nd inappropriate reference, which I would think does nothing but sap a reader's attention, as well as reveal that a single subject cannot really be fresh, biting, and hilarious for over two hundred jam-packed pages.

There are arguably a handful of reasons to soldier on from chapter to chapter, even through songs to teach your children about oral sex, and "litterboxing" fetishes: everyone has a different humor palate, after all, and you're bound to be amused by something(s). Though initially I found the quiz: Are You Sexually Attracted to Animals unfunny - the question: "Complete the following sentence: 'Old McDonald had a a) cow, b) pig, c) dark and disturbing secret'" nearly changed my mind. And then I thought, what is wrong with me? But perhaps encouraging alarming self reflection can be chalked up as one of the book's unconventional charms.

Buy *Sex: Our Bodies, Our Junk* if vulgar humor holds a very special place in your heart, if decently funny jokes are the kind you want to revisit time and time again or if you have a particularly impressive attention span. If not, it's best left on the Borders shelf, instead of costing you nineteen dollars and attracting unwanted attention at your bedside table. •

Looking into Conn's Reflexion

New spoken word club hopes to spread love of poetry throughout campus

JOHN KELLY
STAFF WRITER

"Fuck you!" said Kelli Bannister '13, in the most congenial voice possible, followed with a bout of laughter.

Witness the spoken word. It has the power to sway thoughts, evoke powerful emotions and, on some occasions, make people mildly confused. I was caught off guard by this unusual juxtaposition and abruptly stopped absent-mindedly stabbing at the snow peas on my plate. But verbal harassment wasn't the goal of Bannister, the co-president of Reflexion, the new spoken word group here at Conn. When I stopped by, she was giving a vivid demonstration of one of the many exercises done in their innovative workshops, this particular one focusing on identifying emotion absent in its conventional textual connotation.

The workshops are just one illustration of what the group intends to do for the campus community. Since the beginning of this semester, Reflexion has been picking up where FLIP (Free-Lance Integrated Poetry), a former slam poetry group at Conn, left off. But unlike FLIP, which was just a weekly meeting time for people to come spit their poetry, Reflexion is throwing its doors open to complete beginners and the dedicated poets alike.

"We're reaching out to people who have no experience, and those for whom poetry is their world," says Madeline Noi '12, the group's senior advisor. Their aim is to allow people to grow and improve their ability to express themselves through poetry. They want to attract people who might be too intimidated to try spoken word.

Reflexion seeks to make members comfortable with both being on stage and in their work itself. Their workshops, which are held on Saturdays in Cro from twelve to two, are centered around improvement in the areas of voice, performance and content. But that isn't to imply that meetings are in any way nailed down to a formal structure.

"It's not just 'serious quiet time', it's almost like an N2O skit if you were to walk in on us - we do a lot of improv exercises," says Noi. As the group comes to-

gether, the conventional subsidies and spontaneity takes its place.

In the exercise "Yes and..." everyone breaks off into pairs; one person in the pair has to say a line that starts off a story. Going along with that line, the next person must quickly continue the story with a line of their own, based on how they interpreted the words of their partner. But with two different minds trying to create one story, the interpretations of one another's words are often misaligned. Chaos ensues. Productive chaos, that is.

"You get compounded, personalized perceptions of what someone else is thinking," says Noi. When performing spoken word the subjectivity of the poem's meaning is more pronounced; members of the audience may or may not respond the way one expects. Such exercises train the poet to assume the varied responses of the audience while remaining independent in what he or she wants their poem to mean.

Although the executive board of Reflexion is a dedicated one, they are by no means the dominating force in running the club. "I find it important to emphasize that even though I lead exercises, others have the opportunity to lead as well," says Noi. "I do it with them because I'm learning myself." A theater major, for example, would be welcome to lead them in a performance workshop if he or she wished. The absence of a single, absolute leadership in the group encourages every member to contribute in whatever way they can and feel valued. This spirit of mutual improvement is a fundamental principal guiding Reflexion. "We're really trying to build a community here," says Andy Schwartz '13, the group's other co-president.

The openness of the group is reflected by the diversity in experience among members. Some have performed spoken word; others have only witnessed it in action. Still more people have only written verse and want to branch out and learn how to express their work vocally. But everyone gets something from the workshops; one could even say that having such a dynamic group of individuals is key to their success.

"No one member in the group is alike," says Bannister. "In that

respect, I think we're opening each other's eyes."

"There were perspectives in the last workshop that I would have never thought of," adds Noi. "I could have sat for hours and never would have thought of it that way."

Reflexion has thus far created a welcoming environment at their meetings in which people can safely express themselves, but it remains their goal to spread this spirit as much as they can. They already have a bonfire performance planned for Friday October 29 in Cro Pit for poets and non-poets alike, or people who just want s'mores. The event will aim to bring attention to breast cancer and domestic violence awareness.

Noi also plans to use her connections with OVCS to reach out to schools in New London to enhance children's means of expression. "We want to encourage the youth to use their voices instead of their fists," says Bannister, emphatically.

In looking at the backgrounds of the group's e-board, the reasons for their dedication to poetry become clear. Noi began writing poetry when she was in seventh grade and her teacher asked the class to write poetry in their journals. She realized that she liked it and continued writing long after the assignment was finished. Bannister found inspiration in women such as Queen Latifah, who empower other women through vocal representation. "As a kid, music was my refuge," she says. When she realized that she wanted to say more than what was being said in the hip-hop community, poetry became her outlet. Schwartz began seriously writing poetry as a high school sophomore. His cousin, Adam Gotley, a published poet, inspired him to begin writing.

For all of them, poetry has not merely been about performing, but has also been an empowering component of their lives. As a group, Reflexion is aiming to show the campus community the same uplifting power of spoken word. "Being creative doesn't stop at doing a good performance, it's how you carry yourself," says Schwartz. "Being creative is always a positive thing." •

Writing About Write about Love

New Belle and Sebastian album delights, meets expectations

KRIS FLEMING
STAFF WRITER

If any group has perfected the creation of quirky indie pop, it's Belle and Sebastian. They've been writing songs about love and loss, filled with jangly guitar and organ hooks, since many of us were blissfully unaware that such music existed (and I really would not want to meet an eight-year-old whose favorite band was Belle and Sebastian). This pattern continues with the band's latest effort, *Belle and Sebastian Write About Love*. It's been four years since the group released their last album, the critically acclaimed *The Life Pursuit*, but the time off has not been spent evolving the musicality of their songs. Instead, the group continues doing what they do best: making indie kids dance and think about stuff.

The opening track "I Didn't See It Coming" captures this mood perfectly, as it begins,

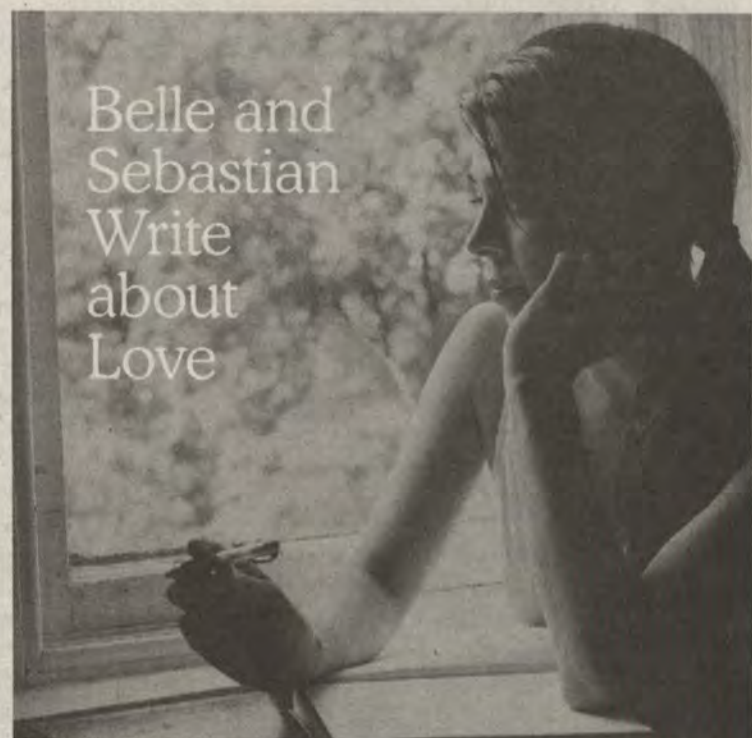


PHOTO FROM WEB

"Make me dance, I want to surrender / Your familiar arms, I remember." It's a rather subdued melody, not charged with much

anxious energy (that's saved for later), but it does lay the foundation of the album, serving as the

CONTINUED ON PAGE 10

Our Town Divides Conn's Citizens

Two writers have their say about Tansill's first show of the season

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Julian Gordon '14 and Hailey Fyfe '13 maintained a strong chemistry as George Gibbs and Emily Webb, exemplifying love in a delightful teenage manner. The small talk between Howie Newsome, played by Conor McCormick-Cavanagh '14, and his customers gave me a further sense of the town, as each conversation revealed just how small the community was.

The production's use of the entire room allowed me to get even closer to the residents of Grover's Corners. The audience was aligned against the wall, and the performance took place right in front of us. For much of the production I felt like I was right there with these characters, observing their daily routine in the same living room or street corner.

While community and marriage are some concepts of the play, *Our Town* is not an uplifting production. The entire performance maintains a morbid foresight, and while it is not completely announced, the audience knows the story will not

have a happy ending. However, the storyline's chilling sense of routine and entrapment is exactly what I was hoping for. *Our Town* differed from traditional plays by featuring three acts with two intermissions. This changed the atmosphere completely between acts. Although there were no new characters, and the town remained the same, each act began with greater sense of despair than the one before it.

I walked out of *Our Town* thinking about just how thought provoking a performance it was. Wilder intended to make his audience realize the importance of living, but it was the impressive job of the actors that emphasized his point so well. The messages conveyed in the story were delivered concisely in Conn's production of *Our Town* and made for a very entertaining night in Tansill Theater. •



ANDREW NATHANSON/CONTRIBUTOR

Clockwise from top-left: Emily (Fyfe) and George (Gordon) talk with the Stage Manager (Buxton), taking on the role of a soda shop owner; the Stage Manager, now acting as a minister, weds Emily and George; a young Emily talks with her father (Marz); Mrs. Webb (Kavee) chats with her neighbor, Mrs. Gibbs (Rhodes); Emily weds George while her father looks on.

A Second Opinion...

MATTHEW GENTILE
ARTS EDITOR

Director Leah Lowe's production of *Our Town* is ambitious in scope, featuring

a somewhat excessive running time of 150 minutes with two disorienting ten-minute intermissions (something usually done with plays that are three hours), and an ensemble cast that gives us a nice glimpse of the theater department as a whole.

As a whole, the cast does a good collective job at portraying this small town. But I find the techniques of playwright Thornton Wilder to be disorienting and disengaging. Almost Brechtian in its alienation technique, the play attempts to show how much heart it has encompassing themes like love and death – but in essence, the core emotions are lacking from the script stage.

But my question is, why choose this play? I think the story was too melodramatic for this particular cast, and as a result, the production shows off its strengths along with its weaknesses, and with its weaknesses, we see *Our Town*'s reach occasionally exceed its grasp, which is not a dishonorable thing. •



A Look at Hip-Hop's Freshest New Voices

JEFF BAIRD
FICTION EDITOR

Hip-hop is changing again. Over time both its sound and its voices have grown more diverse. Like it or not, a bevy of young talent is flooding the scene, saturating a genre rooted in social change with college songs and party music. With so many new artists these days, it can be hard to pick out the good ones – I know – and I'm here to help. Don't be fooled by the hype, here are the underground's best and brightest new voices:

Kinetics & One Love:

I've talked about these guys before, and I'll talk about them again, because it doesn't get much better than this. These Cornell grads have been making some of the best mp3s that the blogosphere has to offer since we entered college. The group's vocalist is the NYC-born Kinetics, famous for his battle-rap background and socially conscious lyrics. While at Cornell, he majored in international relations. Add to this the productions of the Maryland-based One Love, who

majored in music at Cornell and studied classical and jazz theory for years before making the transition to hip-hop.

What you get is the intelligent, innovative and catchy music this group has become known for, scoring a songwriting deal with Atlantic Records after writing the chorus and music for B.o.B's hit "Airplanes" last year. Now they are turning back to their own music again, and recent releases like "Halley's Comet," and especially "Sign Language," featuring Wynter Gordon (of

Flo-Rida's "Sugar" fame) are the cream of the crop, blending One Love's signature productions with Kinetics' smooth flow, storytelling ability, and one-liners. Be sure to check out all their new music as well as last year's release *Fading Back to Normal*.

Chiddy Bang:

After the breakout success of "Opposite of Adults" (sampling MGMT's "Kids"), these Drexel students have blown up, performing across the country and earning a feature from Pharrell on their pre-album EP *Chiddy Bang: The Preview*, which dropped last month. Their signature sound features rapper Chiddy (born Chidera Anamege) rapping over Xaphoon's beats made from chopped up indie and pop samples and drums. Some of my favorites include the Pharrell-laced "The Good Life", "Fuck You" – a mash of the hit Cee-Lo track, and "Truth", which samples Passion Pit's "Better Things". Look out for their official debut *The Swelly Life* next spring.

e-dubble:

With sharp instrumentals and cognitive lyrics, this Philly-born and Baltimore-based producer/rapper is one of the most progressive new artists I've heard. After a brief gig in the music industry (which ended when the label he was with went under), e-dubble planted himself in Baltimore where he and his friends are now fixing up an old warehouse into a recording studio and working on their debut as the group Young English.

With all this going on, e-dub still drops a Freestyle Friday on his Facebook page every week. If you haven't heard his debut *hip-hop is good* yet, then you have some kind of a treat waiting for you.

Hoodie Allen:

This is a name that's going to start coming up a lot more over the next couple years. Hoodie Allen (born Steven Witz) is a Long Island-based rapper and self-defined "college-educated music nerd". First popping out in 2009 with his debut *Bagels and Beats EP*, this indie-hopper returned to the spotlight last month with the release of his newest mixtape, *Pep Rally*. Backed by the production of Obey City, whose samples include everyone from Marina & The Diamonds to Death Cab for Cutie, these genre-benders have injected hip-hop with yet another splash of alternative sounds and indie pop. *Pep Rally* is chock full of smooth flows and witty punchlines, especially evident in the blog smash "You Are Not a Robot". Other notables include "Swimming With Sharks", sampling VV Brown, and "January Jones." •



PHOTO FROM WEB

Writing About *Write About Love*

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 9

introduction to how Murdoch, Martin and Jackson will fulfill what the album's title suggests. This idea of remembered love goes along with many, if not all, of the following songs.

The next track, "Come On Sister," is much more vibrant, utilizing a chip-tune style synthesizer to go along with Murdoch's guilty conscious lyrical flow, where he asks, "Did you ever say an honest word? / Did you ever say a pretty word?" Turmoil and angst in my indie pop record? Surely you jest. In all seriousness, the song is great and captures everything a fan would come to expect from Belle and Sebastian.

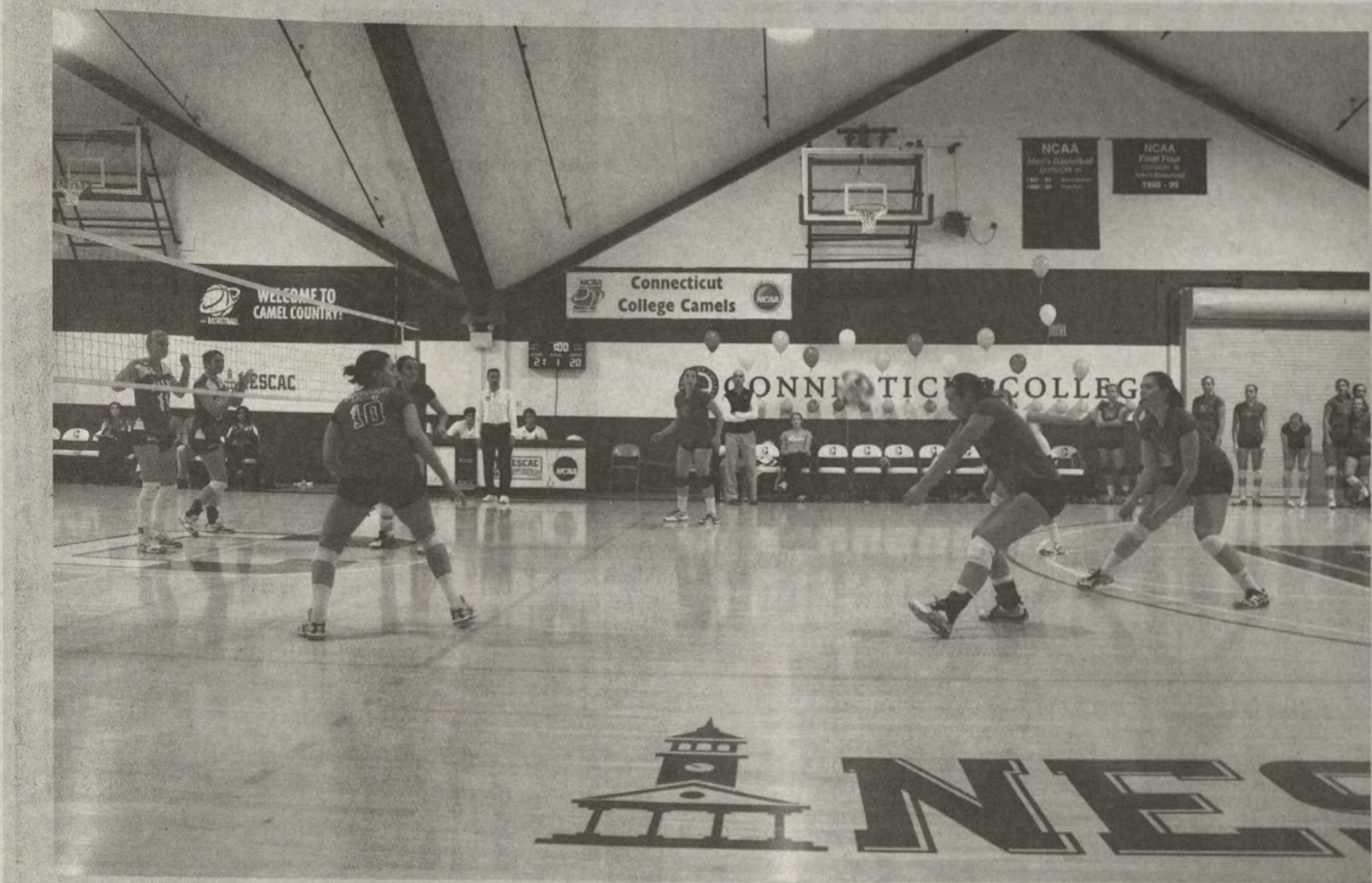
"Write About Love," the title track and main anthem of the album, tries to make sense of the line between optimism and pessimism. The song opens with a call to "Write about love, it could be in any tense, but it must make sense," meaning that the experience of life itself is more important than the current state of it. Carey Mulligan, an odd but surprisingly acceptable guest performer on the track, belts out the chorus about how she hates her job and is generally dissatisfied with the mundane state of everyday life. She even has to eat her lunch on the roof to escape boredom, any office dweller's

dream if they've recently watched a movie like (500) *Days of Summer* (but then they run the risk of jumping off said roof). Despite this, it is pointed out by Murdoch that life only seems dull when a deliberate attempt is made. The second verse, "The seconds move on (if you watch the clock) / And the sky grows dark (if you're looking up)" shows that life is better without focusing on the trivial. If you don't want the clouds to be grey, just don't look up.

The last track, "Sunday's Pretty Icons," is a decent enough closer in which Murdoch and Martin contemplate the prospect of heaven, and reach the conclusion that, "Every girl you ever admired / Every boy you ever desired / Every love you ever forgot / Every person that you despised is forgiven," which is probably the most optimistic portrayal of what the afterlife can hold.

In the end, the album has some stand-out hits, but also carries a lot of unmemorable moments (such as the snore-inducing Norah Jones track). It's a common problem that plagues many artists, and I won't hold the band accountable for a minor lack of creativity in some departments. After all, they've been pumping out quality albums since the Backstreet Boys were still relevant, and where are those guys now? •

Shanking the Competition



MIGUEL SALCEDO/STAFF

MELANIE THIBEAULT
SPORTS EDITOR

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Williams?

Oh, just super. Actually, I wasn't really aware of the score. I don't like to watch the score because it will make you go crazy, especially in the fifth game. It's too nerve-racking. I play it cool like a polar bear.

What's a typical day for you like?

Well, I like to keep my day packed full of excitement. Kicking it off with a nine o'clock class, struggling to stay awake. Followed by yet another class where I, again, struggle to stay awake and wonder why I created my schedule as such. Then, I grab a quick bite to eat for lunch and go back to my room and do homework while having overwhelming feeling of "God I have so many friends," as I sit by myself. Then I go to practice, followed by dinner with the fabulous Lady Camels. After dinner is really when the fun starts where I do more homework. Then I crawl up with my dinosaur blanket and go to bed. Try not to be jealous.

With six games left, two of which are conference games before the NESCAC finals, how do you think the team is doing? Where do you see the Camels headed in the next few weeks?

I think we're doing pretty well. We let a few games slip that we probably shouldn't have, but I think we're progressing well as the season goes on. We continue to work hard and I see us as being very successful within the NESCAC.

How do you physically and mentally prepare for a game?

To mentally prepare, I usually go over the scouting report and jam out to some Enrique Iglesias. To physically prepare, I run and go through the team warm-up.

Do you have any notable nicknames?

Oh, so many. Basically any variation of Shankel: Shank, Shanks, Shanky, Shankadoodle, Shanky Wanky (don't like

that one; I disapprove), Shankanator (that one makes me feel fierce; has a bit of Arnie in it), Southpaw, Red (for obvious reasons), Ginge, Giny and straight-up Ginger. I think that's covered them all. It's a little overwhelming how many names I have. It's like I have twenty identities... like Jason Bourne.

I'm well aware of your lack of coordination. How many times a day on average would you say you fall?

I don't fall. I gracefully stumble into things.

What is your favorite pair of athletic shorts?

Black Nike running shorts; Reeboks are posers.

If you could eat one thing for the rest of your life, what would it be?

Special K Vanilla Almond with one percent milk. Two percent is too much; I need to maintain my boyish figure.

What do you do in your spare time (if you ever have any)?

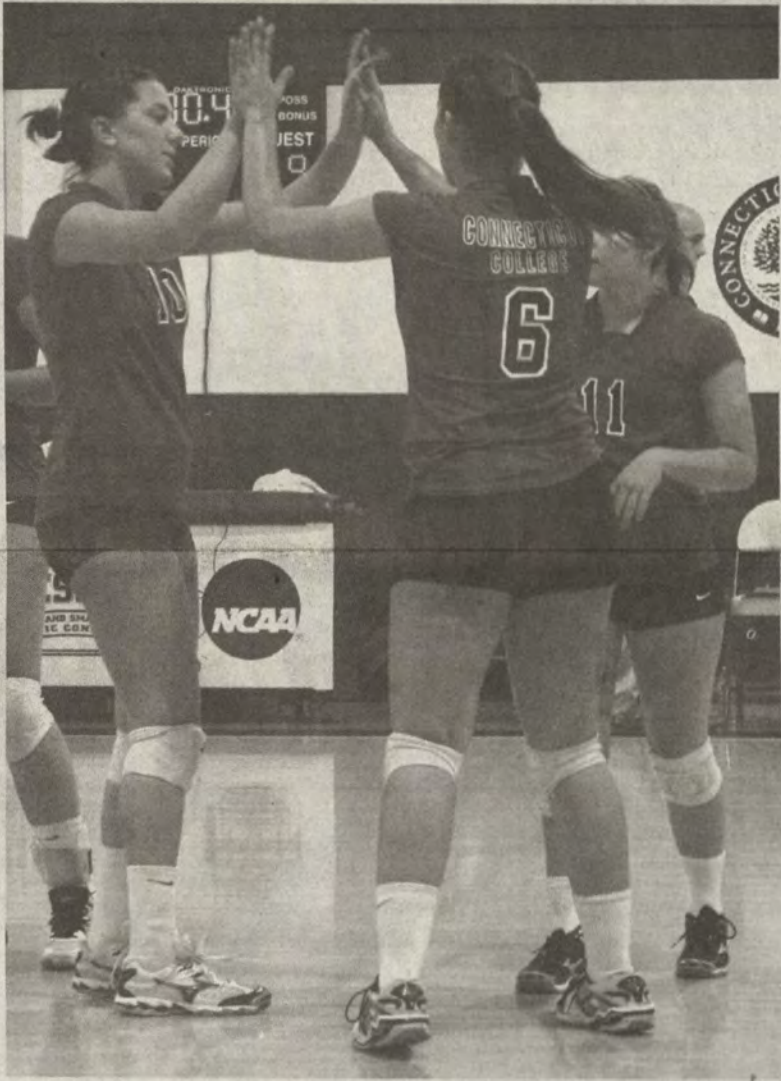
I contemplate how to get Enrique [Iglesias] to be my Spanish tutor. I also like to run- a lot. Watch *The Office*, some *Modern Family* or *Community* if I'm feeling it. Back home, I would box, lots of boxing, rock climb, salsa dance, swing dance, play some cops and robbers — the legit kind, none of that nonsense like children running around a playground. I also struggle to learn how to longboard. And, no, just because I'm from Colorado doesn't mean I like to ski.

What do you have against skiing?

Skiing is like being in a very cold, miserable place with your feet glued to two sticks. Oh, wait, that is skiing. But props to all who do it.

What are you going to do with your life once volleyball is over for the season?

Probably take up professional sandcastle building. It's always been a dream of mine.



POWER RANKINGS

COMPILED BY THE TUFTS DAILY

A relatively tame Week 7 across the board led to very few changes in the latest installment of the NESCAC Power Rankings. Amherst retained a stranglehold on the top spot, and tits 2.73 overall set a new mark for the best average of the year.

Middlebury and Williams continued to flip-flop for second place, and this week the Panthers took control of the position, as its men's soccer team earned top honors. The Ephs were once again undone by their field hockey team, which averaged a conference-worst 9.38 ranking and consequently sunk them into third.

Spots four through 11 remained stagnant as the league heads toward playoff time.

| THIS WEEK | SCHOOL | FOOTBALL | MEN'S SOCCER | WOMEN'S SOCCER | FIELD HOCKEY | VOLLEY-BALL | AVERAGE | LAST WEEK |
|-----------|---------------|----------|--------------|----------------|--------------|-------------|---------|-----------|
| 1 | AMHERST | 1.50 | 3.88 | 2.38 | 4.75 | 1.13 | 2.73 | 1 ↔ |
| 2 | MIDDLEBURY | 5.25 | 1.13 | 3.38 | 3.25 | 2.88 | 3.18 | 3 ↑ |
| 3 | WILLIAMS | 1.63 | 2.88 | 3.63 | 9.38 | 2.88 | 4.08 | 2 ↓ |
| 4 | TUFTS | 8.88 | 5.88 | 1.13 | 2.13 | 4.13 | 4.43 | 4 ↔ |
| 5 | BOWDOIN | 8.13 | 2.25 | 6.88 | 1.00 | 4.25 | 4.50 | 5 ↔ |
| 6 | TRINITY | 2.88 | 8.13 | 4.88 | 4.25 | 6.88 | 5.40 | 6 ↔ |
| 7 | WESLEYAN | 4.38 | 8.63 | 5.88 | 5.63 | 9.75 | 6.85 | 7 ↔ |
| 8 | CONN. COLLEGE | — | 8.13 | 8.75 | 7.13 | 5.88 | 7.47 | 8 ↔ |
| 9 | COLBY | 5.75 | 6.25 | 9.88 | 8.25 | 10.88 | 8.20 | 9 ↔ |
| 10 | BATES | 8.25 | 8.00 | 8.00 | 9.25 | 8.13 | 8.33 | 10 ↔ |
| 11 | HAMILTON | 8.38 | — | — | — | 9.25 | 8.81 | 11 ↔ |

The poll was devised as follows: Each voter ranked all NESCAC schools in each sport, and those scores were averaged to create a composite ranking for each sport. The composites were then averaged to determine each school's overall ranking. Note that Hamilton does not compete in field hockey, men's soccer or women's soccer in the NESCAC, and Conn. College does not compete in football.

This week's list was determined by polling Amro El-Adle (Amherst Student), James Reidy and Seth Walder (Bowdoin Orient), Mike Flint and Nick Woolf (Conn. College Voice), Katie Siegner (Middlebury Campus), Ann Curtis & Emily Gittleman (Trinity Tripod), Alex Prewitt (Tufts Daily), Whit Chiles (Wesleyan Argus) and Meghan Kiesel (Williams Record).

DESIGNED BY STEVEN SMITH/TUFTS DAILY

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LILAH RAPTOPOULOS/EIC

Women's and Men's Crew traveled to Boston this weekend to race in the Head of the Charles regatta. The Head of the Charles is the largest regatta in the world, hosting teams from New England to Australia. The day-long event features a variety of vendors giving away food and other items near Harvard Square, as well as a designated area for rowers and college alumni to hang out and socialize. This year, Conn alumni flocked from all over to cheer on the Camels and enjoy the festivities. The Women's team finished 11th out of 30 teams in their division, and the Men's team finished 30th out of 31.

Sailing

Stu Nelson Women's Intersectional Regatta

MONICA SCHACHTEL
CONTRIBUTOR

Camels were previously known for their dominance on land, but now they have conquered the seas. At this weekend's regatta, the Stu Nelson Women's Intersectional, the Camels beat out the competition and finished in first place with a total of 97 points. They did so despite undesirable weather conditions, and bested tough opponents from eighteen other colleges and universities that included: Brown, Harvard, Stanford, Tufts, and Yale.

All of Conn's skippers and crew preformed well, but by Sunday, the final results were in. Camels from the A Division, Maggie Shea '11 and Stephanie Kapinos '13, had a great 7th out of 18th place finish with 67 points. Conn's sailors from the B division, Atlantic Brugman '13 and Katrina Salk '11, finished fantastically in first place with a total of 30 points.

Conn's victory comes a week after the Camels finished in 8th place against a similar field in New Haven. Instead of having to fight the difficult waters of New Haven's open-sea setting, Conn used its familiarity with the Thames to its advantage. The home waters allowed the Camels to sail incredibly well, finishing ahead of their #3 ranked Connecticut rivals, Yale, and proving their ability to compete with the nation's best programs.

Last weekend's win raises an interesting issue concerning Conn Sailing. Currently, Conn is one of the only sailing programs in the country without a boathouse. After driving up to Boston on Saturday to watch the Head of the Charles and seeing the amazing boathouses that Harvard, MIT and Boston University have to boast about, it really is a wonder that Conn is able to compete on a consistent basis with programs with so many more resources.

It's understandable that Conn may not have the financial means to build boathouses like the ones on the Charles River. But with all of the athletic funding being pushed around to other teams, you would think sailing, one of the college's most consistently successful sports (despite it being the only Division I sport at Conn), would see some of that money sent their way.

Right now, Conn sailors are forced to store their sails in their boats without cover. Considering the harsh weather conditions we all grow accustomed to here in New London, the sails are worn down and damaged much more at Conn than at other schools with boathouses. If anything, it seems as though the sailors deserve at least a building to store their equipment- even if it's not a boathouse. Such a facility would not only improve Conn's success on the water, but would also draw more talented sailors to New London and save the school money in the long-run by limiting damage to sailing equipment.

Next Saturday, on October 30, the Camels sail again to try to claim another victory at the Erwin Trophy Regatta, hosted by the Coast Guard. I would advise all who are interested to take the short trip down to our the waterfront to catch a glimpse of this spectacular, yet subtle, sport. If Conn places well, they will qualify for an invitational tournament in Florida at the end of the season.



Mike Crosby '12 heads the ball in last Wednesday's Men's Soccer game vs. Tufts. Conn lost in double overtime 1-0.

IN CASE YOU MISSED IT SCORES SO YOU DON'T MISS IT GAMES

Volleyball (16-6):

10/23 Conn 3 - 0 Endicott
10/23 Conn 3 - 1 Coast Guard
10/21 Conn 3 - 0 Salve Regina

Field Hockey (6-6):

10/23 Conn 0 - 3 Colby
10/19 Conn 2 - 1 Babson

Men's Soccer (5-6-1):

10/23 Conn 2 - 0 Colby
10/19 Conn 0 - 1 Tufts

Women's Soccer (5-4-3):

10/23 Conn 2 - 1 Colby
10/20 Conn 1 - 2 Tufts

Women's Cross-Country:

10/23 2 out of 8 teams @ Gordon College Invitational

Men's Water Polo (4-10):

10/24 Conn 13 - 7 Washington & Jefferson
10/23 Conn 3 - 13 MIT
10/23 Conn 10 - 8 Washington & Jefferson

Volleyball:

at Mitchell College: Wednesday, Oct. 27 @ 7 PM in New London, CT

Men's Soccer:

at Wesleyan University: Friday, Oct. 29 @ 3 PM in Middletown, CT

Women's Soccer:

at Coast Guard Academy: Tuesday, Oct. 26 @ 7 PM in New London, CT

Field Hockey:

vs. GORDON COLLEGE: Tuesday, Oct. 26 @ 3:30 PM on the Artificial Turf at Silfen Field

Sailing:

Victorian Coffee Urn: Saturday and Sunday, Oct. 30-31 on the Thames River