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# THE COLLEGE VOICE

NEW LONDON, CONNECTICUT

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 3, 2009

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## Ghosts on Campus

NORA SWENSON  
STAFF WRITER

Ghost stories aren't anything new for many of Connecticut College's employees, faculty and staff who have been around a few years. In particular, Campus Safety has expressed an extensive repertoire for some of the odd occurrences over the years, leading to the belief of omni-scient beings on site.

Last Wednesday October 28, Shamus Denniston, Campus Safety Officer, offered a small gathering in Plant House to discuss the numerous scary encounters he's experienced over the course of the several years he's worked at Connecticut College.

"Working in a space like a college," Denniston commenced his narrative, "it always seems to have the presence of people and activity."

This sensation carries on throughout the year and into the summer, even when most students return home for their break.

"A lot of times over the summer, Campus Safety officers will have to make trips into empty dorms to check up on things, and you'll actually hear music playing, and it will creep you out," Denniston reported.

"As far as Knowlton goes -- never go there," Denniston stated, to which students attending the evening gathering laughed.

"Once, I was sitting in the Knowlton common to watch some television, when all of a sudden, the double doors slammed shut at the exact same time," Denniston then explained that he had proceeded to go and check whether it had been a fellow Campus Safety officer just trying to mess with him, "but it wasn't. I booked it out of there."

occurred for Bryan Fratoni, another officer. "It was reassuring on the one hand to know that it wasn't just me who was spooked," Denniston said, explaining that nobody ever likes to come off as scared as a Campus Safety officer, "but then again, scary that both of us experienced the same thing."

Furthermore, Denniston spoke of darting shadows on the second floor of Knowlton, as well as the ominous basement where doors slam and seemingly perfect wiring goes off every now and then for no explainable reason.

Being a bit curious of the history of Connecticut College, Denniston decided to look into the subject. He discovered that Williams Street is in fact one of the oldest turnpikes in the area, dating back to colonial times. The street once extended to the hallowed spot where Knowlton currently resides. Hanging gallows saw the final days of Olde Connecticut criminals and those accused of witchcraft, as evidence by Gallows Lane just down the road from the Arboretum. It's very possible that your bedroom was once the site of witch hangings!

One other note Denniston mentioned for Knowlton was that in its earlier years, when it was all girls and "young women trained to be proper wives," girls were often set up with Coast Guard Cadets, to which one student emitted a slight gag. Reports exist that at one point, multiple girls desired the same cadet, and when he denied them all, they hung themselves in Knowlton.

But enough about Knowlton. Freeman, Harkness and Windham are all known for occasional suspicious activity, and the occasional call to Campus Safety reporting voices and



KARAM SETHI/PHOTO EDITOR

Will Pasquin '10, Steve Wolff '10, and Rich Spoehr '11 fight to survive in this year's Humans vs. Zombies. For more coverage of HVZ, see Arts and Entertainment.

## The Freshman Seminar Experience

KHIARA SCOLARI  
SARAH SILVERSTEIN  
CONTRIBUTORS

In 2005, the Connecticut College faculty founded the Freshman Seminar program for three reasons: to broaden students' horizons, develop their writing skills and offer the opportunity for a small introductory level class.

In brainstorming ways to make the freshman experience more comprehensive and involved, a group of faculty came up with the freshman seminar: a small class, based on the interests and passions of the professor teaching it, complete with discussion and writing components.

There are two distinctly different sides of the FYS story. The first is a brighter one, composed of students who will quickly say that they find their

respective seminars effective and interesting.

Molly, a freshman in the seminar "Making Theater" with Professor Lowe, knows exactly why she likes her class so much: because the class had not been taught at the college before, Professor Lowe was "making it up" as they went along (in the best sense possible), and was actively including her students in this creation.

"It's a great example of the professor working constructively with the students," she said.

Another student, Quinn, is in the seminar "For Gods' Sake" with Professor Brodtkin, and enjoys "a nice opportunity to take a class I might otherwise not be able to." She said, "freshman seminars are a piece of Connecticut College culture that I'll look back on with fond-

ness over the four years that I'm here."

Quinn's point is exemplified a key piece of the vision for the FYS: a class he might otherwise not have been able to take qualifies as a class that may be "broadening his horizons," thus fulfilling one of the goals that freshman seminars were put in place to accomplish.

A third student, Maia, in the seminar "Immigration to the U.S." with Professor Cole, explained that she enjoys the course because it is informative and relevant.

According to Maia, the seminar's efficacy lies in the amount of feedback that the students in the class receive from their professor, which makes up for the fairly heavy, but not overwhelming, workload.

SEE FYS, PAGE 4



To Denniston's great surprise as well, another recounting of the same circumstance

darting figures, particularly on the upper floors. SEE GHOST, PAGE 4

### NEWS

Sweetest bikes on campus

Learn about the college's Master Plan in regards to cars and check out some of the coolest bikes on campus.

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An insider's guide to Zombieism

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A record number of Letters to the Editor

See what the buzz is all about.

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## NEWS

November 3, 2009 | Editors: Samantha Herndon and Jazmine Hughes | [news@thecollegevoice.org](mailto:news@thecollegevoice.org)

## (Photo) Journalism: Best Bikes on Campus

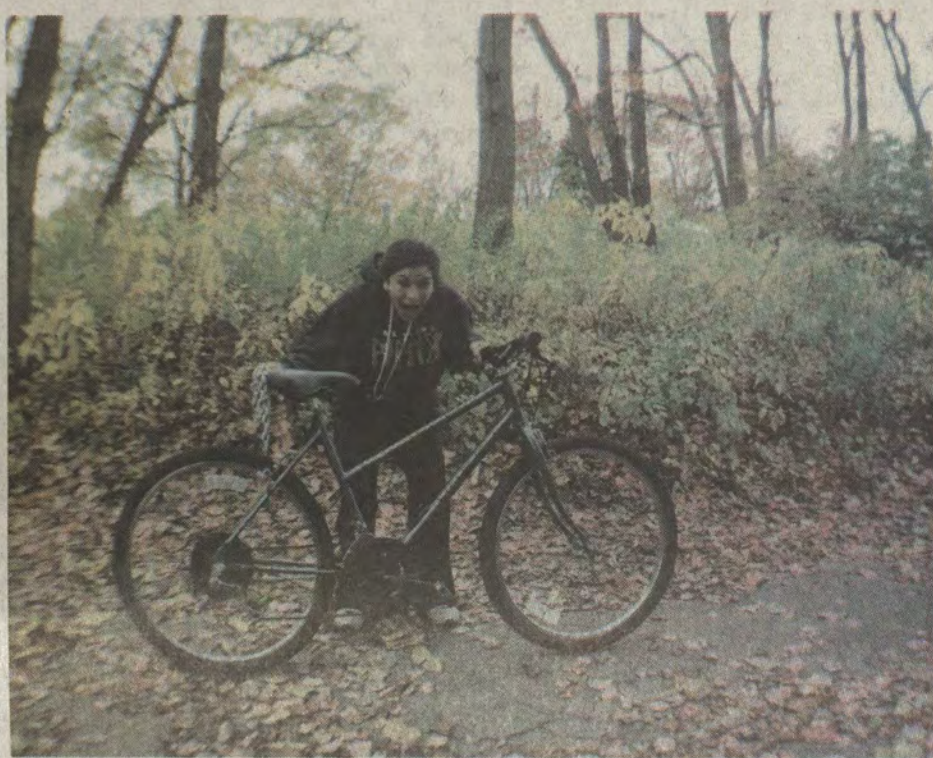
Go back to the days of your college search, and recall browsing a Conn brochure or clicking through our website: classes walking through the Arboretum, the beckoning "Connecticut College" sign at the main entrance surrounded by foliage, students using the Green as an active social and athletic space – this is all true of our school, with one critical element missing: vehicles. With an immense amount of students – about fifty percent – with cars on our campus and the College's subsequent attempts to find parking for them all, our attempts at becoming "environmentally-friendly" have stood in stark contrast to the amount of smog we produce. However, with the College's Master Plan, which, among other things, is working to make the campus more pedestrian-friendly, the *College Voice* is commending those who have already made the effort to make our campus greener, to those who were eco-friendly before it was cool: we present to you an article in pictures, some of the best bikes on campus.



Dan Seehausen 12



Celia Whitehead 11



Alexandra Puritz 13



Michael Lubars 12



Milan Saunders 13



Dan Seehausen 12



Sara Kruger 10

KELSEY COHEN/PHOTO EDITOR



## Breast Cancer Walk

LAUREN SHENFELD  
STAFF WRITER

October is national Breast Cancer Awareness Month, and Connecticut College students did their part to raise campus-wide awareness about breast cancer by participating in last Tuesday's Breast Cancer Walk. Breast Cancer planned and led by Connecticut College senior, Grace Astrove.

The event, organized by Astrove for the second year, brought together nearly thirty students, passionate about continued public support for Breast Cancer research and spreading awareness about the prevalence of the disease.

Prior to Tuesday's walk, Astrove and other Connecticut College Peer Educators manned a table from which they passed out pink ribbons (an iconic symbol of Breast Cancer support) and health information about Breast Cancer to help educate the student body.

They also promoted the Walk, which has been coordinated by Connecticut College's Peer Educators and supported by the group's advisor, CC Curtis, the College's Director of Student Wellness, for many years.

Last Tuesday, the students participating in the Walk met

in front of the College Center at Crozier-Williams, fashioned in all the pink clothing they could find. Astrove welcomed the participants before they began their walk around campus, using her position as leader of the event to share information about breast cancer, breast cancer research and the importance of supporting organizations, such as the Susan G. Koman Foundation, that are dedicated to supporting women and families coping with the disease, as well to raising funds to aide researchers in finding a cure.

As Peer Educators, Astrove and the other students involved are responsible for planning programs on campus that promote adolescent and early-adult health. When Astrove came to Connecticut College as a freshman and joined the group, she found that the Peer Educator program would allow her to spread awareness about causes to which she felt personally connected and October is national Breast Cancer Awareness Month, and Connecticut College students did their part to raise campus-wide awareness about breast cancer by participating in last Tuesday's Breast Cancer Walk. Breast Cancer planned and led by Connecticut College senior, Grace Astrove.

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"Breast Cancer Awareness has been a personal passion since my grandmother passed away from the disease when I was younger," Astrove shared.

When discussing why breast cancer is something important for college-aged women to be educated about, Astrove made it clear that, "[Breast cancer] is a disease that affects women even as young as 20...it is vital for women our age to [learn how to detect it] now."

Breast cancer awareness and early detection is certainly not something that only Astrove and the peer educators advocate for. Nationally known organizations such as the Susan G. Komen Foundation have made the crusade to

cure breast cancer a national phenomena. Additionally, in the United States' Congress, Congresswoman Debbie Wasserman Schultz (D-FL) has been working diligently to pass a bill regarding breast cancer. This bill will enact a national education campaign that will, "increase awareness among young women under the age of 40 of the threats posed by breast cancer; proactive steps women can take to reduce risks of developing breast cancer; and early detection techniques that lead to early diagnosis and treatment of the disease (The EARLY Act, H.R. 1740)." With the campaign, "The EARLY Act," the Congresswoman hopes to make people understand that, "[Breast cancer] strikes women from all backgrounds, races, and ethnicities, the rich and the poor, the old and the young."

Especially because of the national spotlight on breast cancer research and education, it is no surprise that Astrove hopes that the Walk will continue every year at Connecticut College, for as long as, Astrove powerfully stated, "Connecticut College is in existence, or until there is a cure for breast cancer."

## Obama Administration's New Policy on Sudan

MEREDITH BOYLE  
STAFF WRITER

Two weeks ago, the Obama administration announced its new policy in regards to Sudan.

Sudan is currently the site of an ongoing genocide in Darfur where an estimated hundreds of thousands have been killed and more than 2.5 million displaced, according to the Genocide Intervention Network. The genocide began in 2003 when the Sudanese government began a counter-insurgency campaign comprised of local militias, collectively referred to as the janjaweed, or "devils on horseback." The janjaweed is known for mass terror of villages, the looting and burning of food stocks and rape of women and children.

Unrest in Darfur originated when Darfur's many ethnic groups began to compete for food and resources. This tension intensified with the outbreak of civil war between North and South Sudan. In 2003, the Comprehensive Peace Agreement (CPA) ended the North-South war, but did nothing to improve conditions in Darfur.

Since then, negotiations to ameliorate the situation have been, to a large extent, ineffective. The United States under the Bush administration was the first to accuse the Sudanese government, and primarily its leader Omar Hassan al-Bashir, of participating in genocide, but the Bush policy towards Sudan yielded no concrete results.

Connecticut College professor Tristan Anne Borer

compares the Bush plan to the new Obama plan, "If we think of the new Obama administration approach as one of sticks AND carrots" (or pressures and incentives or isolation and engagement), "the Bush administration approached the issue much more from the first half of those equations--sticks, pressures and punishment."

Bush's plan mandated engagement with Bashir and the imposition of sanctions to

campus, STAND (Students Taking Action Now Darfur), said, "While the policy looks promising on paper... the real test for the Obama administration will be the implementation of the new Sudan policy. This means providing no incentives before substantial progress is made within the Sudanese government, and getting worldwide support to end the genocide. The only way the plan will succeed is with the cooperation of the Sudanese government."

Indeed, the United States cannot achieve these intended ends alone. The new plan will require multilateral support in order to work properly. Such support may be found more easily now than during the Bush administration because President Obama has superior relations with the United Nations, who are instrumental in coordinating foreign assistance.

Bigwood emphasized the importance of a new, effective policy, "The United States is one of the world's leading powers. We have the moral obligation to interfere with the Darfur conflict because it is happening before our eyes, we are completely aware of its magnitude and we have the power to pressure the global community into protesting the violence. The United States cannot miss a chance to use its influence and stop a genocide from continuing. Obama's plan is impressive and has the potential to make positive changes. The U.S. needs to make peace in Darfur a priority and convince the rest of the world to do the same."

force Bashir to secure a safe and stable Sudan. Bush was criticized, however, for taking too soft a position when dealing with a leader recently accused of crimes against humanity.

Indeed, the same criticism has been mirrored with regards to Obama's new policy. The new plan outlines three principal strategies: to assure a definitive end to conflict and genocide in Darfur, to address unimplemented areas of the CPA and to ensure that Sudan does not provide refuge for international terrorists. To do this, Obama plans to execute a combination of incentives and pressures to work with the Sudanese government as opposed to isolating it.

Annie Bigwood '11, president of the student-run anti-genocide movement on



STAND (Students Taking Action Now Darfur) every Monday night at 9 in Larabee common room.

### ConnSexual

Look out for a new online study of Conn students' sexual behavior and dating habits: the ConnSexual Study is coming next week.

This study builds on previous studies at Conn that date all the way back to 1974 and provides a unique and historical opportunity for current students to compare their romantic habits and choices to three previous decades of Conn students.

All students will receive an email link to a questionnaire that will only take 15 minutes to fill out and are completely anonymous.

The residence hall with the highest participation rate will win a huge pizza party. This study is being conducted by faculty and students in the Department of Psychology.

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## Ghost Stories: A Haunting at Connecticut College

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Two years ago, the Harkness housefellow even called into Campus Safety to report that on a regular basis, he would wake up in the morning with the drapes open and items seemingly reorganized without his knowledge.

To this comment, many students who were floor governors or student advisors and had arrived on campus earlier at one point had recalled a lot of abnormal activity when not all the students on campus had returned.

Now if you're thinking you're safe just because you don't live in one of these more southern campus dorms, don't rejoice quite yet. After all, you more than likely frequent another part of campus that gets just as much attention from the visitors as anyone living in the dorms might.

The Connecticut College events and catering staff, for example, who work behind the scenes in the Smith Dining Hall, have numerous recollections of scary events, from lights flickering at the mention of a cook who died from heart failure several years ago, to doors unwedging themselves before one's eyes for no apparent reason.

Theater buffs might be forewarned of eerie activity in Tansill and Palmer, the latter being known for "Ruth," a regular ghost.

Setting up for events is a common duty for catering workers, and one case in particular which occurred last spring in Tansill Theater, spooked Events and Catering Supervisor Heather Park and worker Patrick Adams.

"We were setting up for an event one time," Adams recounted, "when all of a sud-

den, Heather and I both started hearing a piano playing... almost like a Western style tune." The pair brushed it off, until a short while later, "we heard the sound of footsteps shuffling along side us." At that point, the two were scared out of their wits and made a dash for the exit.

Catering Production Specialist Marian Balestri and Lead Catering Assistant Rosemary Hecker-Sholley likewise acknowledged the presence of spirits on campus, who seem to make a presence every now and then.

"We've grown used to it," Balestri said. "You just acknowledge them and continue about your business."

For Heather Park, it almost conflicted with her work. "Heather used to work in Knowlton's dining hall," Balestri said. "But after about two weeks, she had to relocate, it got so bad for her. It's almost as though she attracts spirits." Now working in Smith, things are better, but the occasional paranormal activity still occurs.

Might a pleasant stroll through the arboretum to take your mind off the creepiness that is our campus? Unfortunately, that's probably haunted too. Reports of a screaming woman there once led four Campus Safety officers into the tree acreage.

"All of the officers admitted to hearing the sound of a woman calling for help, so we ventured in," Denniston recalled at the Plant meeting. "We got to the pond and the sound seemed to come from the opposite side, so we split up in pairs and thought we

could corner it at the other side."

To their astonishment, however, as soon as they



reached the other side, the voice sounded on the side from whence they came, and the words, "Go away."

Nothing more was ever found, but it brought about fear amongst some of the college's Campus Safety officers.

Just across from the arboretum rests Harkness Chapel, an especially known location for supernatural occurrences. Ranging from organ note playing, to periods where the basement will rumble all around, to spotting figures in the distance of the church and around the stained glass windows.

Established by Mary Harkness, a devout Catholic, many years ago, it seems that most of the strange happenings have transpired post removal of the cross steeple after it was replaced with a weather vane.

Shain Library, Warnshuis

Health Center and Fanning have all spurred Campus Safety calls of suspicious activity over the years – once again, typically concerning slammed doors, voices, shadows and unrecognizable figures.

As Denniston laughed, "Either we aren't doing our job as Campus Safety, or there are a lot of ghosts around here!" Of course, though the beliefs surrounding the ghosts seem to have considerable support, Campus Safety is doing a great job of keeping the community safe.

One final place is the Plex: does anything lurk the hospital-like quarters, considering it's much newer than the rest of the buildings on campus?

"Harris. Harris has a ghost," Park of catering stated. "It's a little girl who resides behind the ice cream box." Many of the regular Harris dining staff have spotted her numerous times, and some are even able to draw her if asked.

Tennyson Jacob Wellman, visiting assistant professor of Religious Studies, was especially intrigued by this story. "Nobody really knows why a young girl would live in Harris," as it's typically assumed that a given place must be old to have much history to it.

Wellman is currently teaching the Religious Studies 305 course entitled Vampires, Miracles, Ghosts, and God(s): The Supernatural in American Popular Culture.

"It was interesting to see that once our class started gaining familiarity with one another, students started sharing their intimate fears and suspicions of supernatural activity they had witnessed or overheard on campus," Wellman noted.

Furthermore, Wellman spoke of the culture of Connecticut

College, and how technically, it is represented by its students and faculty, "but a large part of it is all based on the staff who work and have almost a better grasp of the true nature of the school, and what goes on when everyone leaves."

So where exactly do we go for here, with spirits apparently lurking everywhere?

"Well, for one thing, if you do ever feel uneasy, of course, just call a Campus Safety officer," Denniston reassured. "By this point, we're pretty used to the creepiness, so we're always glad to happy to help others out."

Denniston also raised the point that in the United States, to many, we are not very comfortable with the idea of spirits. "In Europe and Asia, however, spirits and ghosts are second nature, and old architecture is part of what makes history so great."

For anyone truly inspired by the idea of ghost stories, Denniston suggested the website <http://theshadowlands.net/ghost/>, where over 16,000 ghost story experiences have been shared, including investigations from the past twelve years.

As far as the possibility of hosting ghost tours on campus for future Halloweens? Denniston stated, "We'll look into getting top hats, if we do."

Why would former residents-- students or otherwise-- choose to remain on our campus after all of these years? As Denniston commented, "College is a fun place where you spend four years of your life and inevitably will want to return to, so it makes sense that dead people would want to as well!"

## First Year Seminars

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

These three students seemed to look for similar traits in their classes: a manageable workload ("involved, but not overwhelming"), an interesting topic and a professor who gives ample feedback and gets to know students.

Residential seminars are also well liked, and allow freshmen to meet others in their house. Most students in these seminars find the FYS to be effective, confirming that for some, the administration's goals for the seminars were being met.

While many students gush over their positive freshmen seminar experiences, others feel that they aren't getting enough out of their classes.

Whether it is lack of interest in their topic or an absence of engaging material, many students find their freshmen seminars to be disappointing — not what they had expected, unhelpful, even stifling.

Freshman Meghan Rossini was able to get her first choice seminar: Critical Thinking and Psychology. Rossini explained that she was initially drawn to its interesting description on the school website and her desire to take a psychology class for the first time, especially with her interest in pre-med. However, so far the class is not what Meghan expected.

Instead of focusing on psychology, the class has been concentrating on critical thinking and its many steps.

"Although I am learning a lot, the topic is not very engaging," she said. "It's definitely the content matter that bothers me, not the teaching style. The

teacher really tries to engage us, but the topic just doesn't interest me."

Many other students in the class expressed similar concerns, as many of them also plan to go into a medical field. Instead of being able to discover if psychology is an interest of theirs, they are learning about a subject that does not necessarily interest them. While the class discussions focus on critical thinking, Meghan remains optimistic that more psychology will be introduced.

"The semester's not over yet," she quipped.

Another student, who chose to remain anonymous, was not placed in her first choice seminar. The seminar in which she enrolled is highly literature-based, which she describes as, "basically sophomore year English class all over again."

When choosing her seminar, the anonymous student sought to take a class on a topic entirely new to her. However, classes like "Meaning of Life" and "Chinese Music and Politics" filled their capacity earlier, leaving her with only one available seminar.

She explained that the emphasis on writing structure in the class is repetition for her, as she has already learned college-level writing skills in high school. She elaborated that the class spent a week going over how to write an effective thesis.

"I know there are kids who need this type of writing help and who don't know how to write effectively," she said, "but I know how to write a thesis and structure and es-

say. It can be helpful for some people but I just find it very redundant."

She continued, "If people are able to get into Conn, they are already at a level of writing where they don't need to go over the basics." Pausing to think, she added, "While there's always room for improvement, I don't think we need the emphasis."

When asked if her freshman seminar, a class whose purpose is to ease first year students into college level work, effectively helped her succeed in her other classes she responded, "I would be fine without it."

Despite increased efforts to improve the FYS program, some students still feel that it isn't enough.

A student in the Cuban Revolution seminar who has chosen to withhold her name feels that her seminar is a waste of her time. This seminar was not her first choice. Her first choice, "Science, Technology and the Body," was cancelled, leaving her with few options that related to her interest in medicine.

When asked if she at least liked the class she said, "Some of the discussions are interesting but it's just not enough. I'm not really interested in the material and the workload has been ridiculous. The amount of reading is not doable for anyone."

Instead of finding her freshman seminar helpful, this student is finding it to be an incredible burden.

"This class," she said, "made my first few weeks here a lot more stressful than they needed to be. I'm stressing

about a class and is not even close to what I wanted."

Though it may not seem apparent to some unshapen students, the college is very conscious of assessing and improving these classes.

When a professor devises a potential FYS, either by his or her own accord or by the request of a department, it is first brought before the department that is "sponsoring" the course. The department makes suggestions for, asks questions about and thoroughly reviews the course. They make sure that the new course fits in with the needs of the department (satisfies a major or minor, for example) and that it has an overall value to the general curriculum.

After this process of review, the course is sent to the Academic and Administrative Procedures Committee (AAPC). Usually, if the AAPC has questions about the course at this point, they are slight concerns due to the thoroughness of the departmental review and the form through which the course is submitted.

If the course passes this second round of examination, which it almost always does, it is sent to the faculty for one final review, and then becomes an official course.

This entire review process happens before course registration begins. Throughout the semester, the Center for Teaching and Writing hosts an array of workshops and check-in points for the professors teaching freshmen seminars in order to ensure that their goals are being met, as well as to give professors an opportunity

to confer with each other.

At the end of each fall semester, a survey is sent out to all freshmen asking about their experience with their respective seminars. After all these measures, it is hard to understand how students find problems with their seminars at all — and how these problems were not caught and dealt with far before the first day of classes.

According to Dean Ammirati, these FYS surveys have a significantly high return rate, indicating that the information taken from them is likely accurate.

Surveys say the seminars are effective, and the majority of freshmen are happy with their FYS experiences.

They also indicate that student satisfaction goes up even higher with residential seminars and when the professor is also the students' advisor.

It's nearly impossible to have 100 percent of the seminars taught by a student's faculty advisors, but the percentage continues to climb.

"The satisfaction with these seminars is real," said Dean Ammirati, "and I think that there is a wide enough range of courses for everyone to find something that they like, even if maybe they weren't sure about it in the beginning."

Surely, the administration also takes into account the negatives of the surveys, and is always trying to look for new ways to improve the classes. Overall, though, the majority of first year seminars are doing their jobs — whether some students like them or not.



# Weekly Camel Roundup

**SAM PERLEY**  
STAFF WRITER

With another week comes another helping of impressive performances by the Camel athletes.

**Men's soccer** found themselves on both sides of 1-0 games this past week. Oscar Brown '12 chipped in a goal in the eleventh minute of a 1-0 victory over Colby College on October 24. Alex Martland '10 made three saves for the shutout.

Following the win that sealed their first winning season ever in NESCAC, the Camels fell to Keene State by another 1-0 score on October 27. With a spot already clinched in the NESCAC playoffs, the Camels hope to finish the season strong, as they get ready for postseason quarterfinals, which begin November 1.

The **women's soccer** team also split their games in the past week. A showdown with Mitchell College on October 21 ended with a dominant 4-0 beat down of the cross-town Mariners. Brigi Palatino '12 knocked in two goals for the Camels who also got contributions from Jacqui Durand '12 and Sharon Katz '10. Goalender Bailey Andrews '10 had a quiet day in goal with one save for the shutout as the Camels out-shot Mitchell by a 35-1.

Three days later, the Camels suffered a tough loss against Colby College on Silfen Field. With the 2-0 defeat and no playoff berth this year, the Camels unfortunately were unable to end their season on a high note after a final 3-0 loss against Wesleyan University on Freeman Field October 30.

In perhaps one of the best seasons any team has had at Connecticut College in the past few years, the **volleyball** team continues to dominate the NESCAC.

However, the Camels took on some tough out-of-conference

competition on October 24 with home matches against the Coast Guard Academy and Endicott College. The red-hot Camels lost a little bit of steam with a 3-0 sweep courtesy of the Bears from Coast Guard but responded with a hard fought 3-1 victory over the Gulls of Endicott.

The doubleheader on Saturday was followed with a trip to Rhode Island College on October 27. The Camels notched their 20th win of the season with 3-0 sweep of the Anchor-women.

Sitting 2nd in the NESCAC standings, the Camels will likely enter the playoffs on November 6 with home court advantage with the hopes of potentially bringing home a NESCAC championship.

The **field hockey** team continued its season with a difficult three game stretch in only five days. The Camels jumped to a 3-0 lead against Babson College on October 22 before the Beavers stormed in with a five-goal onslaught to win 5-3.

The Camels then responded with two victories over Colby College and Gordon College on October 24th and 27th, respectively. In the Colby game, the Camels recorded a 3-1 victory with the help of Hanna Wagner '12 who scored two goals for the team and helped the Camels end a six game losing streak.

Three days later, the Camels defeated Gordon by a score of 5-2. Abby Hine '11 tallied a goal and an assist for the Camels' second straight win. Even though field hockey concluded their season with a 3-2 loss on October 30 against Wesleyan University, they should still be in position for a playoff berth when postseason play begins on November 1.

The Williams College 8K Plansky Invitational took place on October 17 with plenty of impressive performances

turned in by the **Camel cross country team**. Finishing right behind RPI overall with a third place finish, the Camels' Doug Wright '12 finished 2nd amongst other collegiate runners in the 8K with a 26:29. Shawn Mulcahy '11 and Tim Murtagh '13 finished in 6th and 22nd place respectively in the invitational, which rounded out the top three finishers for the Camels.

On the women's side of the meet, seven ladies finished in the top 15 to lead Connecticut College to a 2nd place finish behind RPI. Faye McKenna '11 (2nd), Kerry Darmody '12 (6th), Lindsay Paiva '12 (7th), Kelsey Taylor '11 (8th), Colleen MacPhee '10 (10th), Chiara Pandolfi '11 (11th), and Julianne Fowler '12 (14th) all earned All-Invitational honors.

The team returned to competition a week later with a third place finish at the Wellesley College Invitational on October 24. Melanie Poole '11, Clare Murphy Hagan '13 and Maura Hallisey '13 finished in the top three for the Camels with 14th, 18th and 21st place finishes respectively.

The **girl's tennis** team traveled to the Women's Intercollegiate Tennis Tournament in Amherst, MA on October 16-18. Becca Heupel '11 and Cassie Smith '13 teamed up for doubles and recorded two victories and a loss over the weekend. Heupel and Smith knocked off a mixed doubles team from Babson and Roger Williams and the number two team from Colby College. The girl's lone loss came to Middlebury College's two best players.

The **men's tennis** team took a trip to Stonehill College in Eaton, MA on October 4. The Camel men finished in second place out of six teams with an impressive performance by George King '13 who reached the finals of the #1 player bracket before falling to Holy

Cross' Matt Wierzel. Colin Tsai '12 also reached the finals for the Camels in the #3 player bracket before losing to Merrimack's Sean Pahler.

Moving to the pool, the **water polo** team took part in the Division III Eastern Championship at Washington and Jefferson University in Pennsylvania the weekend of October 26. The Camels nabbed a 3rd place finish in the tournament with two victories over Penn State-Behrend.

In the second victory over the Bears to seal the third place finish, Sam Burns '13 led the way with six goals and received help from teammates Nick Sizer '12 and Sam Mitchell '11 who contributed with four scores each of their own as the Camels cruised to a 19-13 victory. Mitchell was also awarded First Team All-Invitational honors and was accompanied by Brendan Kempf '10 and Burns who each took a place on the tournament's Second Team. The Camels conclude their season on November 6-7 at the Northern Division Championship taking place at Harvard University.

The **women's rowing** team took part in the long standing Head of the Charles Regatta on October 19 in Cambridge, MA. Abbe Schickner '12, Alex Heilman '12, Jessica Truelove '11, and Lesley Gaughan '12 joined coxswain Robin Ly '11 for an excellent 10th place performance in the 29-team field.

The team then turned in a bronze medal performance as they finished 3rd out of 13 teams at the Quinsigamond Novice Challenge on October 26 in Worcester, MA. Johanna Collins '13, Lillian Beck '13, Amy Cheetham '13, Koreen Shoham '13, Seana Siekman '13, Andie McRae '13, Caity Sprague '13, Lila Douglass '13 and Maureen Sweeney '13 teamed up for the all-freshmen third place finish in the regatta.

## Yanks vs. Phils: A Fall Classic Blast From the Past

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 8

games, and it won't be over once this article goes to press. But if they don't, the Yankees will win easily.

Chances are slim that this Yankees team, full of All Stars, is going to suddenly be terrible during the Fall Classic. They have had less rest since winning their League Championship Series than the Phillies, but I think that this makes little difference. I'm pretty sure that every player on this team was expecting to make it to this point, and I think they will all play the best baseball of their careers in this series.

So Conn Yankee fans, enjoy your day in the sun; your team's \$208 million payroll certainly seems to have paid off this year! Prediction: Yankees in 7

*Note: For discussions of the Yankees' and Phillies' lineups and pitchers, see my AL and NL playoff preview articles at thecollegevoice.org.*

# Why I Love Pedro Martinez

## Rediscovering An Old Love

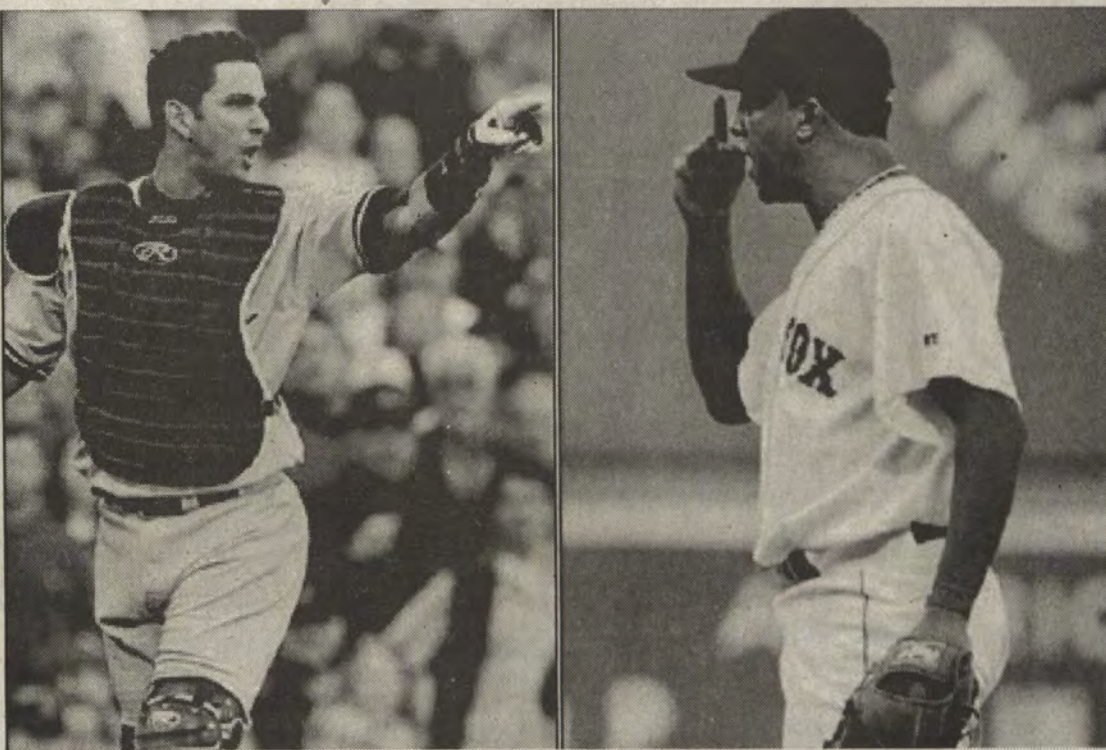
**MIKE FLINT**  
SPORTS EDITOR

When the Red Sox did not resign Pedro Martinez after the 2004 season I was apathetic. Maybe I was a little sad to see Pedro go, but overall I didn't really care all that much. Red Sox General Manager Theo Epstein had made the decision to let him sign elsewhere, and at the time anything Theo did was fine by me. Epstein had just handed Sox fans our first World Series in 86 years, and he had done it behind one of the gutsiest trades- the Nomar Trade- in recent memory. So, see ya, Pedro. It was good knowin' ya.

From there, Pedro fell off my radar screen as a baseball fan. He signed with the Mets, a team overshadowed by the Yankees and a team I couldn't care less about, and limped into retirement on mediocre pitching and a handful of injuries.

In Boston, the Sox kept winning and proved Theo right. Manny, Papi, and Schilling carried the spotlight without any trouble, and I didn't miss Pedro at all.

But then this summer I started coming to a realization- I had forgotten how good Pedro was. Every once in a while NESN would play an old, flashback game of one of Pedro's dominant Red Sox performances. As I would sit



Bad blood between Pedro Martinez (right) and Jorge Posada (left) started the famous brawl in the 2003 ALCS.

this tiny, little Dominican man absolutely annihilate the opposition.

In one game against the Devil Rays in 2000, Pedro hit the first batter of the game, Gerald Williams, who proceeded to charge the mound and land a punch on Martinez. Pissed, Pedro went on to pitch a complete game shutout, striking out thirteen, and giving up only one hit, breaking up his no-hitter in the bottom of the ninth. It was Pedro at his finest.

Then, after seeing his interview on Thursday before Game

2 of the World Series, in which he stated that he was "the most influential player that ever stepped in Yankee Stadium," my realization was complete- I love Pedro Martinez. I had just forgotten over the past few years.

Looking back, there were two main reasons I loved Pedro while he was with the Sox, and those reasons haven't changed a bit since he left.

### 1999 and 2000

Over his career, Pedro was one of the best pitchers to

ever play the game with his dominance of Major League Baseball reaching its peak in the 1999 and 2000 seasons. In 1999, Pedro had one of the best pitching seasons of all time, going 23-4 with a 2.07 ERA and 313 strikeouts (earning the pitching Triple Crown). For his performance, Pedro unanimously won his second Cy Young Award and came in second in the Most Valuable Player ballot (a controversial vote that he should have won). Then in 2000, Martinez went 18-6 with a 1.74 ERA

and a 0.74 WHIP, constituting arguably an even better season than the one before. All in all, over the two-year span between 1999 and 2000, Pedro allowed 288 hits and 69 walks in 430 innings with 597 strikeouts, a 0.83 WHIP, and a 1.90 ERA. Numbers like that are unfathomable in baseball today. There is not a pitcher in the game today that could even come close to putting together two seasons of such historical magnitude. He was absolutely incredible to watch.

### Loved in Boston, Hated in New York

Pedro fully embraced the Red Sox-Yankees rivalry, and Sox fans, including me, loved him for it. He taunted the New York media, challenged Yankee players, and fought with Yankee coaches- most notably when he threw the elderly Yankees Bench Coach at the time, Don Zimmer, to the ground in a brawl in 2003. He took on the whole city in 2004 in the "Who's Your Daddy?" game, and even brought Yankees fans to their feet in 1999 when he one-hit New York in one of the greatest games ever pitched in the old ballpark. His goofy, even childish, personality made him adored by Sox fans and a great teammate in the clubhouse. He made Boston fans smile and Yankee fans cringe, and for that he will always be my favorite Sox player



## ARTS + ENTERTAINMENT

November 3, 2009 | Editors: Racine Oxtoby and Kris Fleming | arts@thecollegevoice.org

## New Kids on the Block

N2O Bursts Out With Laughter, Applause and Acclaim

MATT GENTILE  
STAFF WRITER

N2O, Connecticut College's only short-form improv group, kicked off the year with their opening performance on October 16. They had another show this past Friday's FNL.

With the departure of recent key members – such as last year's leader Karl Langberg, actor Jeff Church and David Kelly (currently abroad in Scotland) – the group had big expectations to be met. After all, these guys were some of the most popular showmen on campus, and there certainly was some question on what the shows this semester would be like.

The group was always great, but with the departure of these fine fellows, things, for better or worse, would certainly be different.

It turns out that their most recent show was a huge hit, gathering the same attendance as usual (that means, all seats taken up, people sitting on the aisles because they have nowhere else to sit).

New on the scene were two freshmen, Hailey Fyfe and Quinn Menchetti, and sophomore Anders Neilsen. All three triumphed in their first perfor-



New members of N2O feed off of the humor and energy of the vets in last Friday's show in Cro's Nest. Photo by Karam Sethi.

mances. Fyfe, in the first dating game, gave a dead-on impression of Keira Knightley.

Their subsequent show, Friday Night Live, which performed in Cro's Nest, was once again filled up beyond maximum capacity (a third of the audience was standing). While

not as long and extensive as the first show (this one clocked out to about an hour), it was still packed with laughs and entertainment.

One of their funniest skits included a game called "The Academy Awards", where three performers were placed in a

scene of a fictional movie that has not been made yet. They made the scene up as they went along, pausing if the bell rang to begin an Oscar award winning style speech.

While the FNL was not the best N2O show I have seen, these two past shows have

proved a lot for this comedy troupe.

The important thing to realize is that they are back.

With funnyman Will Brown screaming (everything this man says is just hilarious), Elizabeth Krieg using her wits and instincts (which always seems to create something humorous), and the triumph of new members and recurring performers, I would say N2O is in for one hell of a season.

One thing to take note of is that improvisational comedy, unlike a play, is a very hard thing to describe. What makes improv so special is that it is a moment that you had to be there for – if you miss it, then it's gone forever.

As one of the most interactive forms of theatrical performance, it's always great that this group gives it their all and puts up truly awesome, hilarious shows for us, and the students love to go because they love to be entertained. It is here that they can forget about their problems, whatever they may be, and just enjoy a unique, enthralling, and raggingly hilarious performance.

## Let's Do The Time Warp Again!

Thursday Night is a Drag with a Screening of *The Rocky Horror Picture Show*KIMMIE BRAUNTHAL  
STAFF WRITER

In 1975 a new cult era was born. Named *The Rocky Horror Picture Show*, it was more than just a British satire on science-fiction and horror movies, it is now a thirty-four year long run of a mind-blowing experience, the longest in the history of "midnight movies."

This experience will be available for Conn students to enjoy and embrace on Thursday, November 5 at 11 PM in Cro's Nest, made possible by freshman Matt Rolin and junior Racine Oxtoby.

Since the theater department is doing the play version, Oxtoby thought showing the movie in the near future would be a logical choice.

She said, "I wanted to do the showing this semester because a) I didn't want to encroach on (the theater department's) territory, and b) I wanted people to get prepared for what kind of show they will be seeing. I'm not sure if props will be allowed at the play, but it's basically the same atmosphere."

Rolin and Oxtoby give Conn students some things to keep in mind for those who have never seen it before.

According to Oxtoby, "There will hopefully be some intense people at the showing and hopefully they don't scare all the other people away. I want it to be enjoyable for everyone."

Rolin agreed, saying, "People are surprised at how into it people are."

They both also agree that the plot is confusing. I recommend reading the plot Wikipedia gives, if anything, before you see the movie on Thursday. A little hint: the main character is a Sweet Transvestite from



Photo from Web

Transexual, Transylvania.

Something also noteworthy is that along with the cult following of the movie is the costumes and props that go along with it. How did that start, you ask? Oxtoby filled us in.

"Back in the 70s, people were at a showing, and someone shouted at the screen 'buy an umbrella, you cheap bitch' because the character Janet was using the newspaper to keep herself dry. So people will bring newspapers to the show and put them over their heads during the scene and everyone else will squirt them ('No super soakers! Little tiny squirt guns,' Rolin interjected).

There are other scenes. Like one scene Tim Curry says "a toast" and throws toast in the air. There's a wedding and you throw rice (Rolin mentions that confetti is easier to clean up)."

Rolin elaborates, saying, "Rice is almost impossible to clean up. At one of the showings a guy threw rice and they said that if (the person) threw rice again, they'd never be allowed back in the theater."

As far as bring-your-own-for props and costumes, Oxtoby said, "We're providing props. I would love if people dressed up—I'm going to have red hair so I might as well be Colum-

bia. But I've seen people dress up as Dr. Frank-N-Furter (the main man in drag) before too."

Some of their favorite parts of the movie experience to look for are exciting.

Oxtoby's favorite moment is "the rush of the big lips coming at you in the beginning and everyone is saying 'let there be lips.'"

Rolin's favorite parts are "not really fit to print," he claimed, though he has high hopes for first comers.

"I hope they do the 'time warp.' Some just sit there trying to be all normal but it doesn't work. Don't be normal (the normal is doing the

dance)."

Oxtoby added, "I hope (first timers, aka Rocky Horror Virgins) come, first of all. And I hope they're not scared out of their minds. It's a lot to take in the first time."

Even though it is an intense experience, it is an amazing one. Oxtoby and Rolin hope to see you there.

And in the wise words of Dr. Frank-N-Furter, "Don't dream it, be it."







## SPORTS

November 3, 2009 | Editors: Sarah Haughey and Mike Flint | sports@thecollegevoice.org

# Three Camels Inducted into Hall of Fame

**SARAH HAUGHEY**  
SPORTS EDITOR

Amidst the excitement of Fall Weekend, three alumni watched as their plaques were unveiled in the Hall of Fame Room in the foyer of the Charles B. Luce Fieldhouse on October 24. The honorees include: Kim Holliday McElderry '97 (field hockey), Susan Mabrey Gaud '68 (tennis, field hockey, basketball, lacrosse), and Sarah Pitt-Del Cristo '86 (swimming).

After the induction ceremony, the three women were treated to an invitation-only dinner with Eva Kovach, the Connecticut College women's rowing coach/senior women's administrator and associate athletic director, as the featured speaker.

**Kim Holliday McElderry '97**

In her three seasons at Connecticut College, she proved to be one of the best field hockey players in the College's history. McElderry became a Camel as a sophomore in 1994, after transferring from Division I University of North Carolina, where she played on scholarship.

She brought her Division I skill to Connecticut College, leading the Camels to a 30-17-1 record during her three years with the program. Starting all 48 career games at forward, McElderry broke school records with 41 career goals and a total of 87 points.

After earning NESCAC Player of the Week honors



several times, she was named to the United States Field Hockey Association (USFHA) Regional All-America Team in both 1994 and 1995.

After her senior season, McElderry was awarded Most Valuable Player by her teammates and coaches. In addition, she was selected to play in the North-South Senior All-Star Game and was named to the USFHA All-America Second Team. In the spring of 1997, she earned national exposure when Sports Illustrated magazine featured her in the "Faces in the Crowd" section.

McElderry graduated Connecticut College with a Bachelor of Arts degree in psychology-based human relations and a minor in child development. She now lives in Stamford, CT, with her two children and husband, a member of Fairfield University's Athletic Hall of Fame.

**Susan Mabrey Gaud '68**

As a four-sport athlete at Connecticut College, Gaud truly set herself apart from



From left to right: Susan Mabrey Gaud '68, Sarah Pitt-Del Cristo '86, and Kim Holliday McElderry '97

her classmates. Tennis was her primary sport as a Camel, and she attained the honor of New England Women's Tennis Champion in both 1966 and 1968. During her tennis season, she also managed to be a four-year starter and captain of the lacrosse team prior to the passing of Title IX (a federal law resulting in additional athletic opportunities for women nationwide). In addition to lacrosse, Gaud also captained both the field hockey and basketball teams during her four years at Connecticut College.

Gaud was not merely a star athlete, but she also received recognition for her outstanding involvement in other extracurricular activities and her academic achievements. During her time as a Camel, she was president of the Athletic Association, class representative on the Judiciary Board and class treasurer.

In 1968, she received the Charlotte Pyle Award, which is given to the College's



outstanding senior athlete. Upon graduating Connecticut College, she was honored with the American Chemical Society Senior Award for her impressive work in the chemistry laboratory.

Susan now lives in Evanston, IL with her husband Henry T. Gaud Jr. and her two children Emily Gaud and Henry T. Gaud III.

Henry followed in his mother's footsteps and recently graduated Connecticut College in 2007. He still holds track and field records at the College as a decathlon standout.

**Sarah Pitt-Del Cristo '86**

Proving herself as a ground-breaker during her four-years with the Connecticut College swimming program, Pitt-Del Cristo led the team to a four-year 32-11 record, including four straight winning seasons. A dominant competitor in the butterfly, breaststroke and individual medley, she made an instant impact as a freshman in 1983, when she broke four individual school records and

was a member of three record-breaking relays.

After both her freshman and sophomore seasons, she earned the team's Most Valuable Swimmer award and became the first Camel swimmer in history to not only qualify but to also compete at the NCAA Swimming and Diving Championships.

As a senior, she continued to influence the Camel team after breaking additional school records and helping to lead the 1985-86 team to their first undefeated season with a perfect record of 11-0.

Upon graduation, Pitt-Del Cristo, the four-time New England Championships qualifier, departed the College with five individual records in the 100-yard butterfly (1:03.12), 100-meter butterfly (1:11.95), 200-yard butterfly (2:20.37), 200-meter butterfly (2:45.00) and 200-yard individual medley (2:26.59). In addition to her individual achievements, she was also a crucial member of four record-holding relay teams including, 200-meter medley relay, 400-yard medley relay, 200-yard freestyle relay and 400-yard freestyle relay.

Sarah currently lives in Cos Cob, CT with her three sons and husband Carlos Del Cristo '86, a former men's lacrosse player at Connecticut College who continues to be ranked ninth in career goals (93) and 14th in points (117). Sarah's brother William '90 also attended Connecticut College and was a member of the men's swimming team.

## Player Of The Week: Oscar Brown '12

**MIKE FLINT**  
SPORTS EDITOR

This issue's Player of the Week is sophomore soccer player Oscar Brown. In the Camels' past three games, Brown has a goal and an assist, involving him in all of Conn's goals over that span. All season, Brown has provided a force for the Camels on the outside of the midfield, and he leads the team with eight assists. Recently, men's soccer captured their first winning season since 2000, and the Camels took on Wesleyan on Sunday in the first round of the NESCAC Tournament.

**VOICE:** You lead the team in assists and are second in points.

*What has made you so successful creating scoring opportunities this season?*

**BROWN:** Well I owe it to my teammates. We all work really hard out there and we also know and understand how each of us play so that makes it easy finding them on the field and the other way around to create those good opportunities.

**VOICE:** How has the coaching change this season affected your play?

**BROWN:** My game hasn't really changed dramatically ever since Coach Murphy came. I guess the one big thing is my defensive role on the team and how important it is for all of us to play on both sides, offense and defense.

**VOICE:** Why has the team improved so much since last year?

**BROWN:** We are a much more organized team than we were last year. We all understand our roles on the field and what has to be done to get the win.

**VOICE:** What does it mean to you, and to the team, that you guys will finish the season with your best record in years?

**BROWN:** Well it obviously makes us really proud to know that we've accomplished something that no other Conn College soccer team has done in a while. And it also makes us look forward to the future because we know that this team can only go up from here.

**VOICE:** What are your expectations for the NESCAC Tournament?

**BROWN:** We're going in wanting to win the whole tournament. We know it's not going to be an easy task, but we are a very confident team and know that we are capable of beating any team in the league.

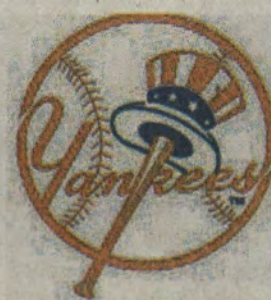
**VOICE:** Other than soccer, what are your main interests in and out of the classroom?

**BROWN:** Besides soccer I just like to spend my time hanging out with friends, whether its playing some Fifa, going to the gym or playing some basketball, going to the movies or anything else.



Oscar Brown '12 in action against Wesleyan on Friday.

## A True Fall Classic



VS.



**NICK WOOLF**  
STAFF WRITER

Let me preface this 2009 World Series preview by saying that my playoff predictions were way off the mark this year. I watched the Cardinals squander several chances to win against the Dodgers, and on Sunday, October 11, I witnessed the demise of the Red Sox at Fenway Park (this was also the first playoff game I had ever attended; in retrospect, it was not a good experience). With my two World Series picks out of the playoffs within twenty-four hours of each other, I wondered how both of these teams could have performed so badly.

In the end, it wasn't their year, and now I will present my thoughts on this year's World Series.

By the time you read this, the Series itself may be over, but know that I am writing this preview on the eve of Game 1 in New York. Speaking of which, the pitching matchup in this game is an ideal one: It will be the Yankees' CC Sabathia against the Phillies' Cliff Lee. These aces were teammates on the Cleveland Indians not quite two years ago, and now they're facing each other on the big stage. I expect this game to be a pitchers' duel of course, since both of these

guys are capable of pitching well into the late innings.

High-intensity matchups like this one are what the Fall Classic is all about. It's about two high-powered offenses going at each other. It's about the return of former Red Sox ace Pedro Martinez to Yankee Stadium to start Game 2 for the Phillies. It's about Rollins vs. Jeter, Howard vs. Teixeira, and Lidge vs. Rivera.

These two teams proved that they are the best in the MLB this year, but now only one question remains: Which team will be able to say that they are the best team when all is said and done? It pains me to say this, but I believe that, after almost a decade of disappointing finishes (read: championship-less finishes) for the Yankees and their fans, 2009 will be their year to celebrate championship number 27.

If there were any team from the National League that could give this Yankee team a run for its money, it would be the Phillies (a month ago I would have included the Cardinals as well, but they certainly showed me that they were not ready for postseason play at all this year). I certainly hope the Phillies bring their A-game during this series; if they do, the World Series will go seven

SEE CLASSIC PAGE 5



## OPINIONS

November 3, 2009 | Editor: Alfred DeGemmis | [opinions@thecollegevoice.org](mailto:opinions@thecollegevoice.org)

## Shooting at Tax Collectors

LELAND STILLMAN  
STAFF WRITER*"Be wary of strong drink.  
It can make you shoot at tax  
collectors... and miss."  
— Robert A. Heinlein*

Recent discussions of the honor code have, in my opinion, failed to discuss the fly in the ointment. That fly is a drunken fly, buzzing feebly, stuck in the ointment, making a mockery of the high-minded discourse surrounding our Honor Code. I seek now to pluck this fly from the ointment, and place the blame for its odious presence upon an unexpected foe.

Our honor code currently obliges students to comply with one law in particular with which they do not agree. Should persons under the age of 21 be allowed to drink? Clearly, yes. Why? You will let us vote for our leaders, you will let us die for our country, why will you not let us consume alcohol? Is it so devilish a thing, and why then do we consider it so wonderful? And if you persist in calling it devilish, then who are you to judge us for what we think of this Dionysian tonic? Are you not flesh and blood as we are? Get off your soap box.

When one law becomes a farce, all law becomes a farce. People today roll their eyes at lawyers and courts and tort suits, because they are spurious, asinine, and wasteful. So why do we have laws that beget such mockeries of justice? The simple answer is the tyranny of the majority. The other answer is that people have so thoroughly given up on holding their representatives accountable, of passing laws worth obeying, that no such representatives remain in power. Thus, our

laws have become farcical. How is this serving our democracy? How is this null law protecting or serving humanity?

It is refreshing when someone comes forward with a protest to such tragedies. The Get REAL campaign is a petition to make liquor laws that make sense. It is being signed by student government associations across the nation.

Forcing college students to hide their drinking makes their drinking dangerous. Students passed out in dorm rooms are the ones who die, not the ones drinking at keg parties. While our administration takes a lot of heat for not allowing kegs anymore, the real culprit is the state of Connecticut.

Which brings me back to the Honor Code. Honor is a word charged with a past of racism and misogyny reaching back to a societal elite. But the cream rises to the top, along with the scum, and so honor also persists also as an august and beneficent ideal. I believe in our Honor Code. I believe it can bind us together as no other creed can. I believe that it can direct and focus our efforts here to benefit humanity. But our discussions of the Honor Code always seem slightly hollow to me. Why is this?

The dilemma posed by the Honor Code is that it is legally constrained to conform to a law that we do not agree with: namely, the consumption of alcohol. How can a code of honor, a code of honesty in a sense, remain valid when we violate it in good conscience? Why should our Honor Code be forced to comply with laws that are, in our opinion, inappropriate to our circumstances as intelligent, responsible adults?

In this debate, we must realize that our fight lies not with the ad-

ministration, nor with the students of the Judicial Board, but with a government that has exceeded its mandate.

Why should the state of Connecticut regulate alcohol consumption for college students?

I have found in recent times that much of what we seek to do in bettering the world is thwarted by uncaring bureaucracy, the monolithic "establishment." The establishment seems bent on controlling every part of our lives, always on the pretense of protecting us, of bettering us. I too find such patronizing intentions insulting. I think their result is such destructive legislation as the current liquor laws, which lead to promising young lives being lost in the solitude of dorm rooms because their drinking was illegal. Would it not be better to let them get drunk in public, if it meant they did not die in private?

I once thought the school administration was the culprit in denying us our rights, not to alcohol in particular but to many other rights. I have since realized that the school's hands are in many respects tied by liability that it should not bear. Why should our school be responsible for our actions? Are we not adults? Can we not make these decisions for ourselves? Why can't we drink? Why must this be a violation of our honor?

In closing, I will salute my progressive fellow liberals who consider imbibing to be our natural right, and encourage them again with the words of Lieutenant Robert A. Heinlein: "Being right too soon is socially unacceptable."

This article was written while under the influence. And the author will awake to maintain that it is only better for it.

## College Alcohol Culture

*Editor's note: This is the first in a series of letters being published by the SGA Executive Board about issues SGA is working on this year.*

PETER FRIEDRICHS  
SGA PRESIDENT

A week ago I walked through the Harvestfest tent and witnessed two students selling "They say a Camel can go weeks without drinking" t-shirts. The back of these t-shirts features an anthropogenic camel carrying a funnel and a keg and exclaims "NOT THE CAMELS I KNOW."

I do find these t-shirts amusing, but they are also deeply troubling.

After having a few discussions with SGA and administrators, I have decided to sign the Get REAL statement on alcohol culture. This statement condemns the effects that the change in legal drinking age has had upon college students and challenges students, administrators and elected officials to accept responsibility. If you talk to staff and faculty that have been at the college a long time, they will talk about a time when staff, faculty, and students would co-mingle in the bar. A time before hospital visits and dorm vandalism. A time when the point of a weekend night was to have fun and not to get shit-faced. What happened?

For reasons five minutes on Wikipedia can explain, the national drinking age was changed to 21. As a few new generations of students passed through America's colleges, the emphasis on juvenile drinking behavior shifted from culturally acceptable socialization to banished criminal behavior. Underage drinking has now become a national epidemic. The number of hospital visits, sexual assaults, binge drinkers and deaths has increased dramatically in the last fifteen years. Connecticut College is a prime example.

Drunk driving has decreased nationally in the 25 years since the drinking age was changed. Our campus bar was established as an effort to encourage students to stay on-campus instead of driving back drunk from New London bars.

Since the drinking age was changed to 21, drunk driving on here at Connecticut College has increased. Why? Because in an effort to curb the epidemics listed above, the college has cracked down on underage students' access to alcohol. Gone are the days of kegs and faculty/student parties. As a result of this crackdown, student drinking has moved off-campus. Students drive drunk back from off-campus underage-friendly parties. Students also drive drunk around campus, rationalizing that the distances are short, the terrain familiar, and the roads private.

As students, we must come to understand the consequences of our actions. So must our administrators and our lawmakers. Students, understand that the natural reaction to a decade long increase in hospital visits is a loss in privileges. Administrators, understand that when you tighten the rules, then more and more students will venture into the world of locked doors and pulled shades: where there are no rules, no leaders to lead and enough drugs to kill. By forcing adults to become criminals, we have created a monster. Why don't we do something before another one of us dies? Students, understand that the law puts us in a difficult position, it puts administrators in a difficult position and it puts police officers in a difficult position. Also understand that they only people who can do anything about it are us. We have to take control of our behavior.

Since the Camel t-shirts were introduced two months ago, they have been seen by a multitude of campus visitors, parents and residents of our hometowns. Ask someone on the street who knows our school about the first thing that comes to mind when they think of Connecticut College. It's not academic excellence, our Honor Code or liberal arts, what the leaders of this school want it to be. It's drinking. Connecticut College has a reputation for heavy drinking. Every time you wear these shirts, realize that you are reinforcing this idea. I can tell you I've been to other schools and they drink more and throw way better parties. We rarely have keggers and I haven't seen a funnel in a long time. When we have kegs and funnels, we lock them in our closets to hide them, just as we lock doors while we pregame. The t-shirts reflect a culture which does not exist here, but they do perpetuate a reputation that does exist. If you want to be treated like responsible adults who can enjoy a few drinks without punching out a window or blowing a .35 on the hospital gurney, than start acting like it.

*If you're interested in learning more about the Get REAL statement and the national movement to lower the drinking age, check out [www.chooser-responsibility.org/getreal](http://www.chooser-responsibility.org/getreal)*

## Sack SAC!

DONALD BUDGE  
COLUMNIST

There are several fine organizations that make Connecticut College the place that it is. Select students volunteer many hours of their precious time to get a taste of sweet, sweet bureaucracy and the opportunity influence and control aspects of the campus culture. Whether these motivated individuals join Student Government Association (SGA) or Student Activity Committee (SAC) for resume boosters or for the sheer love of paperwork I do not know. But I do know that many students are compelled to formally and informally criticize nearly everything these organizations do without attending a single meeting or knowing exactly what they do.

While some students do make relevant criticisms through educating themselves by attending SGA meetings and taking part of the process, the former is the much more American approach. Ever since our country's birth, the everyman has been ranting and raing about injustices that he/she

did not fully understand, and you know what happened? We invented freedom and became America. So in the spirit of the founding fathers, I'd like to make some misinformed and baseless attacks of my own.

What has SAC done for the student body this year? What exactly was Conn's "Block Party"? Are the members of SAC planning to cancel Floralia and have lobster dinners every night? I don't know the answers to any of these questions, which means SAC isn't doing much of anything. Instead of making their intentions and actions clear, SAC committee members hide in the shadows, squandering our funds on so called "Tent Dances" that don't happen in tents. False advertising is just one of the diabolical tactics this group of Washington Fat Cats dupe the student body with while they pocket the extra funds they did not spend on events. I attended the so called "Block Party" this year, only to find that Cro is not a block, and there was no party.

Worse yet is the lack of imagination and effort of SAC. Instead of creating fresh and fun events like a

campus wide pillow fight on Harkness, er, Temple Green, or a massive treasure hunt, they have Cro Dances. While the first four hundred weren't too bad, as a senior they seem a bit stale. Sure I love seeing fellow students awkwardly grinding in a room that's over one hundred degrees and then overpaying for something at Oasis snack shop (who doesn't?) but there is something to be said for variety.

I can't understand why SAC is having trouble pleasing an immensely diverse student body with incredibly varied interests. How is it taking them so long to create events that appeal to Lax Bros, Hipsters, Stereotype #3's, and the rest of the school? While I may not have the answer to this question as I'm busy writing articles for the universally acclaimed College Voice, I'm pretty sure it involves ice cream, Crossfire and James Brown. See that didn't take too long. I've already come up with three events which SAC can steal (hint) when they want to win the hearts of everyone here.



JUSTIN LEVY

Spicy Black Bean Soup starring Boof in "ZOMBIES!"



# To the Women of Connecticut College: Take Control Over Your Stereotype



Courtesy of Connecticut College Archives

LILAH RAPTOPOULOS  
MANAGING EDITOR

In the past three years I've watched and edited debates on microaggressive dismissals of race and class, inconsistencies in disciplinary and campus security actions, and the disintegrating effects of cyberbullying on a community. They've held too many defensive, repeated points and accusatory finger pointing. It seems the next in line has begun to appear, Gender with a capital G, rolled into our consciousness by members of the Women's Center: in the past three weeks, the *College Voice* has printed six articles and three letters exploring societal and local gender issues.

At last week's dialogue entitled "What Does Gender Mean at Conn," I found ten Center members and three professors determined to promote positive dialogue on campus about the inequalities that our women face. At the event, Center members asserted unyieldingly that women were less likely to take on leadership positions at Connecticut College. A few felt that they weren't respected as leaders here because of their gender, and many suggested that the administration was not doing its job to protect us or encourage forward momentum.

Five days later, in a 10/27 article entitled "The Moral Tortures of Hooking Up," Riordan Frost offered up my least favorite hypothetical example of what he called a common sexual scenario: John and Jane are faced with the prospect of having sex after a night out drinking. John asks for it, persists when Jane says no, and in response "Jane becomes annoyed, but feels flustered and socially pressured...so she eventually gives in, and they have sex." In retrospect, John is proud of his choice and Jane is left feeling regretful and insecure.

Yes, tremendous value exists in recognizing the societal problems women face, and we will always need activists to refresh our eye for gender consciousness. But just acknowledging the inequality makes the Women's Center look too much like a Women's Shelter, a safe haven for the disempowered to gather and recuperate. It's important to then take the step past awareness and into empowerment - the goal has to be active, focused not on promoting general dialogue, but aiming to realign a demeaning self-perception that many women have.

Riordan's story, the key and sole scenario in his piece, is among the most common used to exemplify the dangers of alcohol-induced consent. He offers it up on a plate, as if the thought had never crossed our minds. And yet just presenting the story is perpetuating the problem; it's one that has socially conditioned me to see myself as a victim, fitting among others to imply that in my life I will likely be emotionally, physically, and/or professionally debased by men. It suggests that women are not in control of the decisions they make, and dangerously reinforces to any girl waking up after a sexual experience that violated is how she should feel.

I am fortunate enough to have grown up with positive female influences in my mother and older sisters. They have given me a strong sense of my entitlement as a woman, which in many ways is a leg up; the mindset that followed has allowed me to feel nothing but supported, respected and safe at Connecticut College. It's important for those like me to recognize that not everyone has been so lucky - and it's equally important for those who haven't to know that this mindset is attainable for them as well. It will not happen by just recognizing the inequality. Dare I bring up the looking glass self, the developmental method we naturally use to create a shallow sense of who we are by basing our identity on how others see us. Now, as self-aware adults, it is time to actively take control of how we want to be seen as women: deliberate in our actions, clear in our goals, respected in our opinions.

To reach empowerment on any level, in any marginalized situation, be it of class, race, religion or sexual orientation, is to acknowledge and be sensitive to societal prejudices, but refuse to let them get in our way.

# Being Black at CC

JAZMINE HUGHES  
NEWS EDITOR

Prompted by both a postcard in my mailbox encouraging me to discuss "Being Black at Connecticut College" and the 18 years of blackness I have under my belt, I've compiled my own list of ten things that encompass the "black experience" at Conn, for those of you who missed it (I know I did—it was raining really hard, and Being Black, I didn't want to chance getting my hair wet).

Be forewarned: I embellish. A lot.

## 1. Initiation into ALANA.

There is a plethora of opinions on the ALANA Big Sib program, a voluntary additional advising program in which a freshman-of-color is paired with an upperclassman-of-color. Note the "-of-color" requirement: I've had friends who have wanted to participate in this program, as it is quite similar to the role of a Student Advisor, but they were turned down due to their pesky skin pigment, or lack thereof. As one friend put it: "Well, it's not called WALANA, so I can't be in it. I mean, what's the point of having a club that everyone can be in? That's stupid."

## 2. Lobstergate.

Let's not even go there.

## 3. Explaining your hair.

Last year, I had an epiphany. Damali Ayo, author and public speaker, came to our school for a presentation. Within her talk, she showed us a shirt that changed my life: emblazoned on the front, in dark, take-me-serious letters, the shirt read: "Touch your own hair." Being Black at Connecticut College, I think I have singlehandedly risen awareness about how many times a month I wash my hair (The answer is two to three — Being Black, most black people wash their hair every week and a half to two weeks). The slightly frightened looks I get after giving this information—"...can I touch it?", hand precariously over my head, as if bugs and worms will sprout out at any second—become amused when I begin to explain that I don't use gel, but I put grease in my hair.

"But your hair is SO GREASY."

Yes. That's because I put grease in my hair.

## 4. Awkward racist instances.

Anything from coloring in a picture of your black friend's face with marker to rapping along to a song and forgetting that it's "nigga," not "nigger" is just... awkward. So... stop it.

## 5. Being the only black person in the room.

It's the third class of your freshman seminar, and your name is the only one that your professor knows thus far. Assuming that it is your knack for registering for classes online with flair, you look around and realize that, Being Black, no one else in the room looks like you, so it'd make no sense for the professor to call you Elizabeth like she does three other girls. This also means that you're called on more often, which sucks.

This instance can be compared to its opposite: that is...

## 6. Being one of two black people in the room.

Walking down the street on a sunny day, you see someone in the distance waving enthusiastically at you. Slightly confused, you wave back, and they yell, "Hey, Alex!"

Your name is Jazmine. Well, my name is Jazmine. Not Alex. Alex is the other black girl with hair.

Well, this is awkward. You're in front of Cro and they're emerging from the LGBTQ Center. Do you pretend it never happened, or do you stammer, "Um, no, I'm... um... not who you think I am," and run away?

Or what about in the classroom: a professor double checks that you've chosen to sign up for a particular assignment.

"Let's see. We have you down for... the cultural

significance of and recipe for fried chicken, yes?"

Sighing exasperatedly, you say, "No, no, no, that's not me. I'm writing about cornbread and collard greens."

## 7. "You don't really act black." / "You are the whitest black person I know."

There is much to say about the above phrases, but it can be summed up in one sentence: Just don't say it. Being Black, I am, for lack of a better word, black, despite the fact that *Stuff White People Like* can be adequately be retitled *Stuff Jazmine Really, Really Likes*.

In essence, however, the above phrases are offensive and just plain weird. Is there some type of Being Black guidebook that I've failed to read? You, master of arbitrating blackness—can you get me a copy? Pointers? Tips? Being Black means being yourself, not adhering what people think you're supposed to be.

## 8. The chance that you'll end up on the website/in a brochure.

In an episode of *Scrubs*, main characters Turk, a black guy, and JD, a white guy, are reminiscing over their college days. Turk asks, "Remember our college brochures?" JD replies, "Yeah, they put you on the cover. So what?" Turk exclaims, "Yeah — twice!" and the camera zooms into a picture of four or five smiling college students, arms linked, with Turk's face superimposed on two bodies.

Thankfully, our campus has not reached that level — but flip through a viewbook or peruse the website: nearly every picture shows Conn as a happy land of diversity, in not just race, but sex/gender, height, and colors of the students' Connecticut College hoodies. Being Black probably places you in a top position to be featured in Conn materials.

...Still I'd love to be featured on the website. Not even gonna front.

## 9. "You're my first black friend."

Always whispered ashamedly while drunk, I've received this — compliment? Confession? Secret? about my friendships in relation to me Being Black — four times during my time at Conn. While this is fathomable, given the demographics of schools and neighborhoods, and the fact that most people don't choose where they attend high school, it still strikes me as odd that some people have gone eighteen, nineteen years without having a single black friend. I got my first white friend when I was around four. I mean, she was a Barbie, but I made plenty more [non-plastic] white friends.

## 10. Being invited to talks about Being Black at Connecticut College.

Because that wouldn't happen to anyone else.

For my entire life, I've classified myself as "human". Two arms, two legs, ten fingers, a bellybutton, crappy eyesight. Birthdays, boobs, boogers—humanity wasn't anything to think about it, it was just something to be. Being reminded that I had to be conscious about Being Black was odd to me, hence this criticism. Given my exaggerations and openly admitting that, yes, sometimes I do perpetuate things in the aforementioned list, I still don't understand why this is such a hot topic at Connecticut College. We are somewhat homogenous in our campus' racial composition, but instead of realizing it as a reality of a small liberal arts college in New England, we critique and analyze and beat it down with questions, talking about it every chance we get. I am not saying that there shouldn't be a dialogue about race at Connecticut College, because there very well should, but why must this dialogue be constant?

My trip to my mailbox was ruined by my invitation to Be Black, something I've been doing since birth. Again, I did not attend the talk, thus I cannot adequately criticize it for being unnecessary. But why does my time at Connecticut College have to be an experience? Why can't I just be black?

# On Partying at 'Mo Sun,' — Or, Not

SAMANTHA HERNDON  
NEWS EDITOR

In the mid-1800s, the Trail of Tears forced tens of thousands of indigenous people from their homes. The federal government bought or seized their land through bribery, purposeful miscommunication, coercion and brutality.

On March 7, 2009, my friend Elizabeth Durante '10 was murdered by a drunk driver — a young sailor who can be seen on Mohegan Sun Casino security cameras staggering out of that establishment not long before the vehicular crash.

These events are not unrelated.

Tribal casinos, which litter New England today, serve only to propagate the exploitation of Native Americans,

perpetuate the immobile ethnic castes of the modern U.S.-American class system, and glamorize gambling and alcohol overuse as an escape from the drudgery of work, life and quotidian lucklessness.

The privileged students of Connecticut College may derive pleasure from the out-of-the-ordinariness of visiting neighboring towns' casinos. Getting dolled up according to porn star-inspired gender constructs to have drinks purchased for you by slick, Jäger-swilling hunks at Little Black Dress Night must be the most titillating of thrills. Catching overpriced cockroach from some touring fogies way past their prime, in an auditorium whose absurdly ornate stylings caricature the Pequot tribe and where dehumanizing cheerleading 'competitions' are held, is the ultimate in stimulation — if you're a skeezy old man who's just won a tenner

on the table games.

We are, however, students at a "highly selective private liberal arts college," as our website now so boorishly boasts, where free and cheap cultural and intellectual events are constantly taking place — not to mention the plentiful goings-on in nearby Mystic, Niantic, Middletown, New Haven and Providence. We are educated on the pervasive nature of injustice in our society. We know too much not to claim responsibility for where we spend our time and monies.

So, can't we do better than Mo Sun?

Indian casinos are not good for their patrons, not good for the tribes (already shat on by the white man six ways to Sunday), and not good for the victims of

SEE MOHEGAN SUN, PAGE 11



## The Camels Hump

### An Advice Column

ANN DALY,  
ALEXANDRA LEITH  
COLUMNISTS

Sex and relationships. We love them, we hate them, but we are all involved with them in some way. Here at The Camels Hump, we believe that if you're going to do it, you should know how to be safe, how to be successful and how



to talk about sex and relationships in a healthy, positive and informed way. So we're here to help you. If you need advice on what to do, how to do it or how to talk about it with your friends after the fact, you've come to the right place. Welcome back to The Camels Hump - shall we begin?

Questions?  
cc.camels.hump@gmail.com

How do you put a condom on an uncircumcised penis? I was with a guy this weekend and even he was having trouble! Is there a certain process that he and I just aren't aware of?

An informal poll of most known uncircumcised men on campus, conducted by yours truly, came back with only one unfortunately unhelpful result: according to guys in the know, there is no official method of putting a condom on an uncircumcised penis; you

should be able to just do it the same way as you would with a circumcised one. If you would like, however, several of them have kindly volunteered to help you practice your technique.

However, as your question suggests, that is not always the case. While there may not be one way of getting a condom on their uncut penises, known only to a secret underground community of uncircumcised men not including your beloved, there are certain things you can try in order to ease the process.

One thing you could try is going up a condom size; for all you know, the difficulties you are having are due to the condom being too tight, not the presence of a foreskin. If

you do that and are still having problems, consider investing in a glycerin-free, water or silicone-based lubricant (never use oil-based with a condom, as it breaks down latex), and put a small amount inside the condom before you put it on. This should make it a much smoother process.

Another thing you might consider is the specific penis you were dealing with when you were faced with this challenge. In most cases, when erect, an uncircumcised penis will look almost exactly the same as a circumcised one, as the foreskin retracts itself. It could have been that, at the time of your attempt, the guy's penis was not fully erect, in which case the foreskin would still be in place and cause some snags. Even if the foreskin was retracted, however, it is always extremely difficult to put a condom on a penis that is not fully erect, circumcised or not. If in hindsight you realize that you were dealing with an un-erect penis, don't let it get to you. There are many reasons why guys may experience erectile difficulties, and in most cases it is something to do with him, not you.

If that wasn't the case, it may be that the guy that you were with is in possession of a foreskin that, even when the penis is erect, maintains the sort of presence at the head of the penis. If that is the case, try gently pulling it back while you put the condom on.

If none of these ideas is helpful in your next adventure with an uncut penis, remember that there are alternatives to male condoms. A female condom, for example, would completely eliminate this issue.

function of ass applies neither to the mouth, which we have tarnished with tooth paste, nor to the armpits, which we have defiled with deodorant. Must we forsake all our slovenly habits for the sake of backdoor stimulation?

All that being said, I realize that asses are fun to play with, and for this reason I would suggest that the health center begin distributing ass condoms. Whatever that means I'll leave to the scientists.

If you must lick a poophole, do it in a way that respects your partner's God-given right to a dirty butt.

-Jake Schnaidt

to be clean at all times, there would result a not so trifling consequence. The ass is arguably the last bastion of human filth that our society has allowed us to possess, and I believe we need to defend our right as naturally grimy beasts by taking a stand against rampant ass play.

The ass, as our dark hole of excretion, serves to let us know of the success, or failure, of our diet. It does so in a manner which may appear revolting at first, but the scents emerging are mere reminders of healthy digestion. Thus, they are somewhat gratifying, and they help us remember this great principle: we eat to poop, and in turn, we poop to eat.

This transitive nature of the

## The Cost of Cutting

DAVID VARTANIAN  
CONTRIBUTOR

It's Friday morning and you're hung-over. Better judgment tells you to get up and go to that 9 AM class that you regrettably signed up for, but your head is in a fog and that bed is just so comfortable. You turn your alarm clock off and drift back to sleep. This seems to be an all too common scenario for the average Connecticut College student.

One of your more responsible friends scoffs at the lack of effort; "This is your education, and you waste it away sleeping through class."

In all reality, missing a class or two probably won't make too much of a difference in the long run, but this being a capitalist driven society, let's explore how much you actually "waste" by hitting the snooze button a few too many times.

For the Connecticut College student living on campus paying full tuition for 2009-2010, a hefty \$51,150 is paid to the college to take care of just one academic year. This number can be broken up into two lumps of \$25,575 for each semester you attend. Of this \$25,575, \$1,965 is spent on the rooms, giving a space for a student to sleep and live on campus, and \$2,442.50 is spent on board, which includes meals everyday, custodian work and other basic living conditions. The rest goes towards your academic tuition as broken down on the table below.

Starting Cost	\$51,150 = \$51,150
Per Semester	\$51,150 / 2 = \$25,575
Minus Room	\$25,575 - \$1,965 = \$23,610
Minus Board	\$23,610 - \$2,442.50 = \$21,167.50
Academic Costs	\$21,167.50

So now we know that of the costs, \$21,167.50 goes towards paying for your classes. Let's take the situation of an average student and see what this actually means. With the normal course load being four classes, this translates to roughly \$5,291.88 per class, per semester.

This being the generic Connecticut College class, it meets twice a week, every week, throughout the semester. When you divide the number of times this class will meet in one semester (29), by the implied cost it takes to attend this class, you calculate \$182.48.

This means that for the average one hour and fifteen minute class period you are paying nearly \$200 to be there every single time. To put that in perspective that is almost twenty-three times the Connecticut state minimum hourly wage. What else in your life that you have spent \$200 on do you normally treat so casually?

Before this turns into a guilt-ridden rant towards Conn's fine students, let's flip this argument towards the faculty. Let me paint another scenario. You're walking to class trying to go over in your head the study materials for the big midterm today. You don't feel quite ready, but hey, it's now or never. Walking up to the door, you notice that the room is empty, and a glimmer of hope is lit inside you. There it is, the always praised "Class \_\_\_\_\_ has been cancelled today."

The immediate reaction to this news is happiness, but once again let's explore the situation economically. According to the Connecticut College website, the average class size is eighteen kids, and with the established estimate of \$182.48 per student per class that means that the class in total paid \$3,284.64 for a day that they didn't even receive.

Since it is overwhelmingly the practice not to have a replacement class, literally thousands of dollars are spent on nothing. We should be fair and realize that professors do take the time outside of the classroom to meet with students if help is needed and hundred office hours, but still a professor of a large class of over a hundred kids would be wasting roughly \$20,000 of the students' money!

These numbers are just that, numbers. There is no moral argument presented here, but more of a request to think about how your money is being spent. Whether or not you decide to sleep though the alarm next week, at least now you'll have something to think about as you try and drift back asleep.

## Mohegan Sun

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 10

the irresponsible manslaughterers who leave the casinos driving drunk. These are not isolated incidents; only a month after Liz Durante was killed, Iris Soto of Willimantic died in an accident with a driver coming from the casino whose BAC was over twice the legal limit. Alcohol has drastic negative on tribal members, too. According to the National Survey on Drug Use and Health, from 2002-2005 American Indians and Alaska Natives were more likely than members of other racial groups to have a past year alcohol use disorder (10.7 vs. 7.6 percent), defining the disorder according to the DSM-IV.

Coping with a disappearing culture may lead Native Americans to drink, and tribal casinos, with their emphasis on ignoring the problems of the real world with hyperconsumption and play, contribute to problems of substance abuse.

That Mohegan Sun features a casino of the wind, sky and earth, is a colonizer's slap in the face to the native tribes of the region. Grotesque

levels of material fetishism represent capitalistic greed at its worst, not the self-sustaining culture of respect for which the Pequots and other area tribes are known. The casino's website boasts, "Featuring the world's largest fully functional indoor planetarium dome and Wombi Rock, a multi-level onyx and alabaster structure housing a lounge and dance floor, Casino of the Sky continues to honor the traditions of the Mohegan Tribe." Do the many shops filled with designer goods made by children in the developing world honor these traditions, too? The only possibly good reason to go to Mohegan Sun is free cone day at the Ben & Jerry's there — and even then (especially then?) it is incredibly important to make sure none are driving under the influence.

Mohegan Sun's lame new marketing campaign says "Consider it your edge."



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## EDITORIALS

November 3, 2009

E-mail: [contact@thecollegevoice.org](mailto:contact@thecollegevoice.org)

## Editor's Voice

Notes on my "rant" from last week's issue: every group on campus that I'm involved in, or work with, thought that my editorial was about them.

What does this say?

I think it furthers my point that it is a widespread, universal problem. I didn't have any one group in mind when I wrote the piece, nor was I targeting anyone.

I was inspired to write my "rant" from my recent experiences and frustrations with the uncreative approaches to solving problem I've observed throughout the campus.

If the topic was relatable to so many different people, I feel that really says something: we all know, and in some ways acknowledge, that we're not being as productive as we should be.

We're all guilty of reverting back to cookie-cutter solutions

to issues just because it feels safe, even if it's not the ideal choice.

We're all guilty of diverting a problem to someone else, rather than stepping up and taking responsibility for its resolution.

We're all guilty of not always communicating and collaborating effectively (or even at all).

Next week, the editorial staff and I are taking some gigantic risks in the paper's layout to promote our online edition, and I'm super excited about it.

We noticed that our previous strategies weren't as effective as we'd like, and decided to try something new. Maybe it will work, maybe it won't, but it's worth a shot.

Playing it safe and not taking risks sounds boring. And it is.

-Claire

With regards to the recent article about sexual assault on college campuses in general and at Conn in particular, I have a few concerns. The first is that the article does not give a satisfactory definition of what a sexual assault is. Because it lacks a definition, the readers, unless highly informed, would have no idea what exactly the college is suffering from. Secondly, the article gives a statistic from the AAUW which says that "65 percent of sexual attacks on a college campus go unreported." This is a dangerous generalization. Which college campuses? In which states? Are we talking about State schools, the Ivy League, or NESCAC? How could the AAUW possibly know that the above is the case? In addition, there seems to be an assumed meaning of "reported." How would anyone know if something had occurred without having it be reported to them? If the assumed meaning is "reported to the police", that would be useful to know, for example. Therefore, I find the statistic very weak and of little value, unless it is further clarified.

Unfortunately the article ignored the basis for the data, and from which schools the data was drawn from. In fact, there is not even a number

given for how many sexual assaults occur at all, anywhere, whether at Conn or UConn. In addition, the article seems to use "assault" and "attack" indiscriminately, adding uncertainty to the discussion.

This ambiguity of data severely undermines the persuasiveness of the article to anyone who bothers to actually think about what the article is saying.

Third, the sample size of interviewees regarding access of sexual assault resources is pitifully small; how can one base an assertion pertaining to the whole college based upon the answers of eight students? Let's assume that the sample actually reflects Conn accurately. If that is the case, then why would the article assume that we knew what sexual assault was, exactly? If we are collectively ignorant of the remedies, how can we possibly be expected to know the actual definition?

This is not to devalue people who have in fact been raped, as that is an offense and crime against the person and the community. All I ask for is clarification, not a call to hysteria.

Sincerely,  
Travis Lynch

## Letters to the Editor

I am writing in response to the article "Tackling Sexual Assault" which appeared in the October 27, 2009 issue of *The College Voice*. I am very pleased to see *The College Voice* helping to raise awareness about the issue of sexual assault on campus. As someone who has worked in the field of sexual assault prevention and education for many years, I recognize that raising awareness is the first step in addressing this issue.

However, as a community, we must also mobilize and address this problem through the use of prevention and educa-

tion programming.

Currently, Connecticut College has an all-male peer education group called One in Four working on this very issue. The group is named after the statistic that one in four college-age women will be survivors of sexual assault or attempted sexual assault. The men in this group are working to help other men on campus understand what they can do to assist friends and loved ones who are survivors of sexual assault, and how they can actively intervene in high-risk situations. While most rapists are men, most men don't

rape, and One in Four tries to empower men to take a stand against sexual assault.

One in Four is always looking for new members to get involved in our rape prevention and education efforts. Any men interested in joining One in Four should contact Greg Goodfellow at [Gregory.Goodfellow@conncoll.edu](mailto:Gregory.Goodfellow@conncoll.edu).

Again, thank you for raising awareness of this very important issue!

Regards,

Adam R. Lalor, Assistant  
Director of Admission

The article that appeared in *The College Voice* (10/27/09) served as an important article about sexual assault on the Connecticut College campus.

However, the Offices of Student Life would like to provide some additional context for the issues raised that are available and valuable in the article.

While informal canvassing of student awareness of the College's sexual assault policy and support systems are helpful, having reliable data is important when substantiating whether students are aware of the available resources regarding sexual assault.

For example, our office gathered data through a campus wide survey conducted last October that explicitly asked how students perceive services here on campus. Of the 575 Connecticut College students surveyed, 87 percent indicated they had received information on sexual assault/relationship violence from the College.

Clearly, our goal is for all students to know the resources available to them but our data

suggests we are making progress on this front.

Beyond data, the staff in the Offices of Student Life recognize the critical role students can play both in setting the standards of this community and in referring students in crisis to the appropriate resources. We have intentionally incorporated sexual violence education in student leader training, orientation, and residence halls programs throughout the year.

Three weeks ago, the Office of Student Life received a grant award from the Dept of Justice Office of Violence Against Women to support our efforts in expanding the conversation/awareness on sexual violence on our campus.

Finally, to clarify a point in the article about the College's Clery Act statistics: the statistics are the number of reported sexual assaults. Considering that sexual assault is nationally one of the most under reported crimes, we know that the reported statistics do not truly reflect the number of

sexual assaults on campus. We do know through self-reported data, both men and women report having unwanted sexual experiences.

As the College continues to explore new ways to engage students about sexual assault and violence against women, we encourage students to take action, become a better advocate by furthering your education on these issues, and attend one of the many programs (peer education programs, housefellow/floor governor programs, 1 in 4 programs or women center programs) sponsored throughout the year. As campus administrators we are committed to this endeavor but we need students to get involved and join us in creating a campus environment that promotes respect for all.

Sincerely,

CC Curtis  
Dean Sarah Cardwell  
Dean Jocelyn Briddell

## THE COLLEGE VOICE

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Last week's op-ed "The Cost of Inaction", a reaction to the panel discussion of Peter Singer's ideas that took place on the 23rd of October, contained numerous fallacies.

First, the writer agrees with Professor Singer's 'idealistic solution to eradicate poverty through sustainable development aid'. 'Sustainable development aid' is a contradiction of terms—aid rewards need, not productivity, and thus encourages need, and not productivity. Thus, aid cannot lead to development, as true development for both living beings and economies requires independence from aid; and aid is not sustainable, because it is doomed to being an unending investment in something that does not have the means to develop.

Second, she states off-hand that "'our' affluence is founded on the natural resources and labor of the South", referring to the developing nations of the world. But, while slavery did play a role in the industrialisation of the United States, it achieved the opposite effect of what the writer claims: it was the southern states that exploited the labour of human beings, and it was they that comprised, until the last few decades, the least-industrialised region in the nation. Perhaps she is instead referring to private trade between the U.S. and the developing world. But private trade is founded on agreements between two consenting parties—and because both parties must consent to an agreement before any exchange can be made, private

trade does not exploit anyone, and in fact usually benefits every party involved. If the people of this nation are so wealthy because we have used the labour and resources of the peoples of other nations, doesn't it follow that those peoples have benefited from this exchange?

The writer goes on to say that 'in a post-colonial, globalized world, we directly benefit from and perpetuate the world's established inequalities'. But how do we benefit from inequality? Is she stating that we gain wealth from the fact that we are wealthier than others? Such a statement confuses cause and effect. And to equate 'having' with 'having more' is to assume that one's possession of a good comes at the expense of another's possession of that good, which is to assume that the total of all goods currently in existence has never been different and can never be added to. If this were the case, how is it possible that the average quantity of goods consumed by each of the billions of people alive now is many hundreds of times greater than the average consumed by each of the few millions of people that inhabited the earth ten thousand years ago?

One might claim that this reality is possible because humanity is currently consuming more natural resources than can be replenished by nature—and to a certain extent this is true. But to claim that that is the sole reason for this phenomenon is to assume that the natural resources required

for the production of a given good can never change—and this assumption does not hold against the weight of historical evidence.

Food was once cooked over wood-burning fires; then it was cooked over gas-burning stoves; now most people use electric stoves to cook their food, and in a few decades electricity will be produced using primarily renewable resources, such as sunlight, the wind, and ocean waves. Computers were once owned and operated only by government agencies because they were the size of warehouses and cost hundreds of thousands of dollars to build — now hundreds of millions of people own a computer because they cost a few hundred dollars each and can easily fit on the top of a desk. How did this happen? Advances in technology reduced the amount of resources needed to make a computer, which reduced the cost of making one. And it was not Peter Singer who made this so, but engineers working for their own profit. For all of Peter Singer's good intentions, he cannot impose his wishes upon reality and expect them to magically come true—the only aspects of reality that he has the power to change are those that relate to him individually. Wishes and aid will not 'eradicate' poverty—but freedom and independence will empower individuals to overcome it.

Sincerely,

Daniel Hartsoe