

Connecticut College

Digital Commons @ Connecticut College

2011-2012

Student Newspapers

12-5-2011

College Voice Vol. 95 No. 9

Connecticut College

Follow this and additional works at: https://digitalcommons.conncoll.edu/ccnews_2011_2012

Recommended Citation

Connecticut College, "College Voice Vol. 95 No. 9" (2011). *2011-2012*. 11.
https://digitalcommons.conncoll.edu/ccnews_2011_2012/11

This Newspaper is brought to you for free and open access by the Student Newspapers at Digital Commons @ Connecticut College. It has been accepted for inclusion in 2011-2012 by an authorized administrator of Digital Commons @ Connecticut College. For more information, please contact bpancier@conncoll.edu.
The views expressed in this paper are solely those of the author.

THE COLLEGE VOICE

NEW LONDON, CONNECTICUT

MONDAY, DECEMBER 5, 2011

VOLUME XCV • ISSUE 9

School Policy Unaffected by Change in State Law Regarding Marijuana Possession

ANDREA AMULIC
STAFF WRITER

Although the use or possession of non-medical marijuana is still illegal in the state of Connecticut, recent legislation has decriminalized the possession of small amounts of cannabis. In accordance with SB 1014, which took effect beginning in July 2011, the criminal penalties for the possession of less than half an ounce of marijuana have been removed and the classification of the offense has been changed from mis-

demeanor to civil violation.

The fines for this offense have also been drastically reduced: first-time offenders will be cited and fined \$150, and fines for subsequent offenses may increase to amounts from \$200 to \$500.

Support for this legislative change comes from numerous findings, including those of the Connecticut Law Revision Commission of 1997. After comparing data from states that had decriminalized cannabis with states that still imposed criminal penalties on cannabis possession, the commission determined that decrimi-

nalization is cost-effective, is not associated with increased cannabis use at the state level (indeed, they found larger increases of cannabis use in states that imposed criminal penalties) and is not correlated with rates of alcohol or other drug use.

The change seeks to re-appropriate the state's legal resources, thus allowing for greater attention to be paid to more serious criminal offenses. Sarah Cardwell, Associate Dean of Student Life at Connecticut College, said, "I think it's a fine change. Decriminalization is quite different

from legalization," and noted that the change is administrative, rather than moral.

But what does the decriminalization of marijuana in Connecticut mean for the student body of Connecticut College?

As it turns out, not that much. Dean Cardwell said, "The college's policy on marijuana use has not changed in accordance with the new law because the legislation targets fines and logistics."



CONTINUED ON PAGE 4

Parking Shouldn't Be a Pain



MELANIE THIBEAULT
ARTS EDITOR

As a sophomore, I was excited at the prospect of bringing my car to campus this year, though I was disgruntled at the prospect of paying \$150, double the price of two years

ago. Students may not want to pay, but if they're like me, they're going to reluctantly fork over the cash in exchange for having a personal method of transportation all year. Or, if they're more inclined to break the rules, they're going to forfeit registering their cars and instead park

illegally on campus, probably until they get caught by Campus Safety officers, and sometimes, even after.

I know that many new parking regulations have been implemented this year after proposals set forth by SGA in past years, and I can't say that I'm happy with all of

the changes. Since many members of SGA who worked to install this plan have graduated, the current students are left to deal with the implications and frustrations that have resulted from this new parking system.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 8

NBA

Lockout Comes to A Close

BEN STEPANSKY
STAFF WRITER

I'm going to be honest with you. I was secretly hoping that the NBA owners and players would not reach an agreement before the entire season went down the drain. I was getting used to a sports-world without professional basketball. I'm not going to get into the technicalities of the agreement, because frankly, I care about them less than I care about when the Jersey Shore season begins, but the question still remains: how the hell did it take this long!?

Don't get me wrong, I love my Boston Celtics...during the basketball season. But during the other five or six months of the year (depending on how long the NBA makes me waste my early summer nights indoors watching a two month long playoff), I am focused on baseball or football whole-heartedly. In fact, this winter I was all geared up to focus on my UConn Huskies protecting their most recent National Title and my new interest in the Boston Bruins defending their first Stanley Cup in nearly 40 years.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 12

This Week in Photos



IN THIS ISSUE

NEWS



4 Interview with Alice Maggin '91

OPINIONS



7 Google+ vs. Facebook

ARTS



10 Conversation with Kinetics of Kinetics and One Love

SPORTS



8 The Curse of the "Dream Team"

EDITORIALS /// LETTERS

THE COLLEGE VOICE

"The views and opinions expressed in *The College Voice* are strictly those of student authors, and not of Connecticut College. All content and editorial decisions remain in the hands of the students; neither the College's administration nor its faculty exercise control over the content."

Jasmine Hughes
Ipek Bakir
Ayano Elson

Editor-in-Chief
Managing Editor
Creative Director

News Editors

Opinions Editors

Arts & Entertainment Editors

Sports Editors

Photo Editors

Fiction Editors

Head Copy Editor
Webmaster

Web Content Editor

Multimedia Editor

Advertising Manager

Finance Manager

Public Relations Director

David Liakos
David Shanfield
Ethan Harfenist
Jerrell Mays
Devin Cohen
Melanie Thibault
Dan Moorin
Jesse Moskowitz
Tascha Simon
Hannah Plishtin
Sarah Fasano
Alex Soffron
Annie Mitchell
James Finucane
Emily Rempell
Meaghan Kelley
Sarah Kosofsky
Sarah Weiss
Shannon Keating

STAFF

Writers

Molly Bangs
Amber Villanueva
Andrea Annisic
Jeff Nand
Kyle David Smith
Mollie Doherty
Nora Swenson
Megan Reback
Calli Savoca
Ben Stepanuk
Emmaline Deibl
Allison Caboon
Gregory Vance
Ignacio Sterling
Julian Notano
Amanda Coggin
Caeli Smith
Casey Dillon

Ali Rossi

Alex Schwartzberg
Nora Britton
Lily Plodkin
Amanda Nadle
Savannah Berger
Chris Guit
Kyle David Smith
Heather Holmes
Libby Carberry

Illustrators

Catherine Morahan
Alicia Todd
Miles Saunders
Amy Williams
Caroline Dylag
Sam Manick

Copy Editors

Annie Mitchell
Squatcha Dumay
Caroline Lazar
Andrea Annisic
Heather Holmes

Photographers

Hannah Plishtin
Liza Gordon
Megan Conallo
Liz Charley
Duncan Spaulding
Savini Arvey

Contact Us

contact@thecollegevoice.org
(860) 439-5437
270 Mohegan Avenue
New London, CT 06320

Editorials

I have two housemates. One is Carolyn, who has provided our 360 Mohegan home with crayons and Sesame Street coloring books; the other, Kerry, has an unnatural capacity for presidential facts and brings home a lot of granola. 360 apartment three has become our home: a patriotic-themed posterboard of house rules adorns our living room wall (Rule #8, if you're cooking for us, no rules apply; Rule #8a, if you're cooking, it is for us), and we leave love notes for each other on our bathroom mirror. Our refrigerator is filled with cheese. In our specialty housing application, we referred to ourselves as a three-headed monster. I don't think we've ever been more accurate.

The senior mentality is centered around capitalizing on all the opportunities we've been given in the time we have left: we're encouraged to appreciate our professors, to explore previously undiscovered corners of the curriculum, to take advantage of Conn-specific opportunities. The literature we received as prospective students about Conn's strong points has turned into a checklist: have I consumed enough camel cookies? Have I sat on Tempel Green with a book? Have I truly experienced the beauty of the Plex at night?

As our time in college has progressed, one of our chief objectives has been to make connections. One of our school's chief assets is the ability to foster that goal. Conn is known for its small student-faculty ratios, and students are expected to create relationships with professors that ultimately reap some benefit, be it an unofficial mentorship, the agreement to a last-minute independent study or a recommendation. Through College Relations, alumni are invited back to the College to wax poetic on their time here, but also to provide insight on where they are, and more importantly, how they got there. The list of deans and administrators is prolific, which means that there is an abundance of people to reach out to for life advising or for

an enlightening conversation. The community we've found ourselves in is embedded with opportunities that are contingent on these connections.

But as the semester comes to an end, I'm focusing less on these formal relationships, and more on the ones I've built outside of the classroom: the ones that will read over a paper at 11 PM for me, that will pick me up an extra coffee, that cover my room in creepy photos and that attempt, though halfheartedly, to fill my room with partially-inflated balloons for my birthday. The turbulence of finals has re-allocated the focus from friends to work; the return from winter break will grant us some early-semester free time before we're bogged down with work yet again, and then we graduate. The canned question at the end of a prospective student interview has become "what's been your favorite part about being at Conn?" I tell them it's the people I've met here. My summer roommate who became our multimedia editor, my Office of Admission peers that can commiserate over write-ups, the College Voice staff who are having as much fun on issue nine as they did on issue one: college is not only about building connections and compiling resources to improve your life for the future, but also about creating relationships that enhance where you are now. It's important to learn and gain experience, but it's also important to have fun. This isn't something that can be administratively sanctioned or outlined in the course catalog, but it remains integral to our experience.

I'm grateful for the time we've had thus far, and I'm excited about the time we have left. I'm also really sorry I didn't do my dishes.

- Jasmine

Free Speech

of any college in the country (and for that matter the world) would be a good start, especially when (as you point) our diplomas may not even be valuable enough to secure us a job.

If this group is really serious about their goal of dissenting, and I hope they are, I would like to see a little bit more fire in the bellies. Obviously coming from the college on the hill makes it difficult launch these attacks, and I think that everyone in the Occupy Movement who comes from means realizes that even though they are not in the one percent the privileges that they have at the very least complicate their position. That being said I think we can all agree that our system is tragically flawed. The facts speak for themselves, but what I want to know is why should anyone stand with the 99 instead of with the 1 percent when coming from Connecticut College both positions might be readily available. No doubt you will say huge inequities and injustices oblige us to commit ourselves to restoring order so that the majority can benefit. But if the people of the majority are not willing to do anything more than take trips to NYC and downtown New London in between classes and whatever other

activities we have here, and our most radical idea of dissenting consists of a letter to SGA than I'm not sure what to think of the objections in the first place. The reactions to these injustices don't match the injustices themselves and I'm beginning to wonder if this is something even worth caring about. I realize these things take time, but I think CC Dissent can do better, and if they can't then they really need to reconsider what they're doing in the first place.

That being said I wish the group the best of luck, and urge them to be more bold in their demands. Let us not forget that our very own president, Big Hig, is part of that so objectionable one percent as well. Are we so blind as to not see beyond our noses? Who are we dissenting from if not the very system we involve ourselves with? Dissent ought not to be understood as field trips we take to down towns and wall streets. We have to acknowledge that dissenting might involve realizing that our institution, our parents, our friends, and ourselves are part of the problem. At the very least we are complicit in the problem. I realize people have a lot to loose here, potentially their degrees and relationships with people they value,

but if those aren't worth loosing in the name of justice then the whole point of dissenting is moot. I hope at least with this post to allow CC Dissent to see that there really are things that can be done that are far more drastic than involving SGA in the argument. I will personally not do those things, that's why I'm not a member of CC Dissent. I just don't think it would be worth confronting such potentially harsh realities, and the intricate complication of Connecticut College's place within and outside the one percent. But if you are will to dedicate yourself to this movement and the idea of Dissent then you must be willing to take that leap, if not than this group is nothing more than the kids on the hill playing around with the ideas of a revolution in their free time.

All the best,

Michael Natriello '12

World News

ATLAS has compiled headlines of world news not normally seen on the front page of the New York Times.

THE AMERICAS

COLOMBIA— Columbia's government may have just lost more than \$100 million to education subsidies for 180,000 students who were falsely enrolled. These registers included multiple entries for individual pupils, students who never attended lessons, and for students who never existed. Education Minister Maria Fernanda Campo said that areas found to have entered these false entries would have their budgets cut.

OCEANIA

AUSTRALIA— Sydney will soon be home to the Southern Hemisphere's largest recycling and landfill site. Costing over AUD\$300million, this hole is over 150 meters deep and will be filled with 12.5 million cubic meters of industrial waste over the next twenty years. The landfill is owned by Dial a Dump Industries and will open next week.

AFRICA

SOUTH AFRICA— Nando's, a fast food chain in South Africa known for its mischievous ads has recently put up a TV advertisement that makes a parody of Zimbabwe's President Robert Mugabe's as "the last dictator standing." The group allegedly received threats from a youth group loyal to President Mugabe. The video shows a sad Mugabe look alike dining alone at a table set for Libya's Muammar Gaddafi, Uganda's Idi Amin and other late autocratic rulers.

EUROPE

ITALY— The Italian police have crashed their most expensive patrol car—165 thousand Euros worth Lamborghini. This accident occurred in the Italian town of Cremona where it was on display at a student jobs fair. The car was damaged beyond repair.

ANTARTICA

There is a rift that has been gradually forming at the Pine Island Glacier in West Antarctica. The crack runs for twenty miles and is continues to grow every day. In the near future, growing at this rate, an iceberg the size of Berlin could be found floating about the oceans. Scientists anticipate that this could occur by 2012.

ASIA

CHINA— In Beijing, the public security bureau launched a 6-month crackdown on "black jails" operated by private security firms. Black jails are temporary detention centers created to hold petitioners and people who come to Beijing to report their individual problems to central government. These firms have been illegally detaining people, using violence and have ownership over several other underground jails. There are approximately 300,000 private security guards in Beijing, many of which are unlicensed.

THIS WEEK

DECEMBER 5, 2011

monday

Combat Spin Class

3:00 PM

Spinning Room, Athletic Center

Connecticut College Concert Band

7:00 PM

Evans Hall

tuesday

Israel Study/Advocacy

4:00 PM

Harkness Chapel Library

Hebrew Cafe

6:00 PM

Coffee Grounds

**"On the Nature of Being Woody: How Advances
in Genetics are Shaping Our Understanding of
Secondary Growth in Plants"**

11:50 AM

Olin 014

wednesday

Connecticut College Jazz Ensemble

7:00 PM

Evans Hall

Thomas Smith and Tucker Mullin:**Just Cure Paralysis**

9:00 PM

1962 Room

thursday

Senior Thesis Exhibition Opening Reception

4:00 PM

Cummings Salon

Connecticut College Orchestra Concert

7:00 PM

Evans Hall

Savor the ATLAS Flavor

7:00 PM

Unity House

Yankee Swap Camelingo

10:00 PM

1962 Room

friday

Global Environmental Justice Seminar

11:45 AM

Bill Hall 409

**Trim a Holiday Tree and Create
Holiday Ornaments**

1:00 PM

Olin Lounge

**Things Went Awry Some Time Ago: Dance
Department Faculty Concert**

7:30 PM

Palmer Auditorium

N20 Show

9:00 PM

Oliva Hall

School Policy Unaffected by Change in State Law Regarding Marijuana Possession

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

The Student Handbook says, "Federal, state, and/or local laws govern the use, possession, and distribution of illicit drugs and drug paraphernalia." However, Conn's policy on marijuana use frames the nature of the violation as an unhealthy lifestyle choice to use drugs, and focuses primarily on the illegal status of marijuana in the state.

Sanctions are therefore educational, not monetary, and have not been amended to reflect the decriminalization of marijuana because use of the drug in any amount is still illegal. Alicia Cauteruccio '12, Honor Council Chair, said, "The student code of conduct isn't about punishing students but about encouraging healthy habits. We don't place people on social warning right away for minor offenses because we are more interested in addressing the choice at an educational level."

Dean Cardwell explained that, following the restructuring of Conn's judicial system last year, minor drug

use offenses are addressed as violations of the Student Code of Conduct at the administrative level, and not by the Honor Council. Students found in possession of minor amounts of marijuana are instead required to meet with Dean Cardwell personally and to attend educational workshops.

After three offenses, however, the matter is dealt with by the Honor Council, as it is reflective of an unhealthy pattern of behavior. Both Cauteruccio and Cardwell expressed their satisfaction with the newly restructured system.

Dean Cardwell said, "I think the change has been very successful, and it has made the process less bureaucratic and more focused on educating students about good decisions." She noted that it has become easier to address conduct violations on a personal level at the root of the problem, and that matters of honor are now regarded more seriously.

Conn's status as an educational institution allows for certain inconsistencies between college policies and state law, so long as these policies



are enacted with the primary goals of education and safety in mind.

The Student Handbook opens with the assertion that Conn's judicial system operates under a different set of standards from the court system: "The Honor Code, Student Code of Conduct, Student Bill of Rights and Adjudication Procedures are integral to the educational mission of the College. They are designed to foster an effective learning environment and support the values of our educational community. They are not based on, nor are they intended to mirror, the rights or procedures in civil or criminal court proceedings."

In fact, the Honor Council operates under the principle of "preponderance of evidence," and not "beyond all reasonable doubt," because the goal of the proceedings is not to punish students but to inform them about the consequences of their actions.

Therefore, the college justifies its approach to the discipline of minor

drug use violations by noting its educational value.

Other instances in which Conn policy differs slightly from state law have been regarded less favorably by students, most notably the procedure regarding room searches. According to the Student Handbook, if a student refuses consent to having his or her room searched, the matter is appealed to the on-call staff member at the Student Life office, and this staff member must approve or deny the request. A search warrant does not need to be obtained for room entry to be approved. (An officer of the New London Police Department, however, would be required to obtain a search warrant, and would need to be escorted by a Conn employee to perform the search).

While some students may claim that this practice violates their legal rights under the Fourth Amendment to the U.S. Constitution, Dean Cardwell defended the policy by

noting that unauthorized room entry is not a common occurrence and is approved only under circumstances in which the safety of the student or the community is at risk.

"We operate under a different set of standards here," she said. "We don't use principles of 'reasonable suspicion' or 'probable cause' necessarily, because we are not the legal system. Rather, we assess the situation to determine if there is a safety risk, and act according to our best judgment."

Since the disciplinary policies of the college are designed to encourage members of the college community to make healthy and safe decisions, its policies may occasionally reinterpret state and federal legislation.

Although students may hold different opinions about the perceived fairness of these policies, Cauteruccio noted, "It's important that people are informed about and understand the rules." •

Deutsche Bank



Agile minds explore all possibilities

Taking your first steps with a global leader will give your career a real head start. Here at Deutsche Bank, we can give you direct access to some of the greatest minds in banking — people who are setting the pace and shaping the future of the entire industry.

We hope to see you at our upcoming Corporate Presentation.

Date
Monday, December 12th,
6:00pm – 7:30pm

Venue
Room – Blaustein 203

Learn more at db.com/careers/CC

Passion to Perform

DEUTSCHE GUGGENHEIM,
BERLIN, GERMANY



Walk of Exploitation

Operation 21st century stages artworks highlighting corporate exploitation

CASEY DILLON
CONTRIBUTOR

Last Wednesday, Operation 21st Century and the Provenance Center of New London hosted an art exhibit in Cro to shed light on corporate practices complicit in human exploitation in various forms.

Faculty, staff, students and other members of the community waded through the exhibit, reading the facts and statistics about human exploitation on each of the artworks, guided by an orange ribbon (as orange is the color of freedom, according to event organizers) and chains dramatically connecting the chairs.

From these pieces, visitors learned that many of the biggest companies in the United States are complicit in human exploitation, including Wal-Mart, Coca-Cola, Gap Inc., Forever 21 and Nike.

Human exploitation includes sweatshop labor, slavery and trafficking. Parents will send their children to work in dangerous conditions, and, according to one of the featured pieces, companies like Gap even go so far as to force their female workers to have abortions.

Although it might seem unthinkable to many Americans that this sort of injustice exists, the information provided at the exhibit endeavored to demonstrate the prevalence of these practices.

Operation 21st Century has teamed with the Provenance Center on State Street in New London to establish ties between the campus organization and community groups with similar interests to develop new awareness-raising tactics.

Center president, owner and director Nadesha Mijoba said, "The Prov-

enance Center is a vehicle for raising awareness, understanding and recognition of the issues impacting humanity through social and environmental justice activism" through the creative arts.

Though Nadesha has only been involved with the issue of human trafficking for about nine months, she knows a lot about the industry and its economic impacts.

Why do parents subject their children to such extreme hardship? Because any extra income is welcome, maybe even necessary, for survival of these families, she said. Why do companies force workers to work overtime with little to no pay? Because, she argued, in a capitalist market economy, the cheaper a product is made, the cheaper it can be sold — and more profits can be made.

The purpose of the exhibit was not to create a sense of guilt or to stop people from shopping at certain stores, organizers emphasized. Instead, Operation 21st Century and the Provenance Center hope to encourage people to be conscious consumers, to be aware of what they are buying and where those products come from.

If consumers discover that they are not comfortable with how the products are being made, Operation 21st Century and the Provenance Center hope that they will do something about it.

Students passing through the exhibit commented that it was "inspiring" and, though many were already aware of the better-known charges against companies like Hershey's, Abercrombie and Fitch and Coca Cola, some students commented that it was "disturb-

ing" to learn that some of their favorite companies would participate in these crimes.

In the words of Sadie Jacobson '15, "You couldn't ignore it. You had to face it."

When a group of young girls asked Nadesha if they were bad people for wearing clothes from the brands targeted by the exhibit, she responded that no, they weren't, and no, they shouldn't throw away all their clothes. Instead, she recommended writing letters to the companies.

She argued that consumers should "give [corporations] a chance to show that they care" about their workers' welfare as well as to give them an opportunity to change their practices.

One of Nadesha's favorite stores is Banana Republic, and when she learned of their use of sweatshops in Saipan, she wrote executives at The Gap, Inc. a letter telling them how she "love[s] their product, and want[s] to keep buying their product," but would no longer do so if they do not make a commitment to ending these human rights violations.

She still has not received a response to her letter, and has since stopped purchasing clothes from Banana Republic.

Though one letter might not be answered, companies would find it much harder to ignore large-scale pressure and activism.

For this reason, Operation 21st Century will be starting a petition campaign next semester to ask companies with exploitative practices to shape up, and also to thank companies who do treat workers ethically. •

Centennial Speaker Series Concludes with Alice Maggin '91

DAVID SHANFIELD
NEWS EDITOR

On Friday, December 2, Connecticut College wrapped up its centennial speaker series "Great Beginnings: Conversations with Alumni" with a discussion with Alice Maggin '91. Maggin spoke to an audience gathered in Evans Hall at 8 PM, preceded by a dinner in Bluestein with Bridget McShane, Director of Alumni Relations, and a handful of students.

While a student, Maggin designed her own major, titled Power and Impression Studies, which incorporated her interests in history, government, philosophy and religion. She also minored in studio art, threw in track and field and served as editor of *The College Voice*.

Maggin is currently producer for ABC's *World News with Diane Sawyer*, where she chooses, covers, films, edits and produces nightly news stories. She lives in Manhattan with her husband, Wayne Nelson, producer of *Dan Rather Reports*, and their seven-year-old daughter.

During the dinner, Maggin spoke about her experience at Conn, her family life and told stories from her career.

Maggin discussed having to follow an unmanned aircraft by plane in order to cover its crash, which occurred in South Dakota. She also mentioned dropping her daughter off at school with Jon Stewart's son, in response to a question about how she felt about *The Daily Show*.

Shortly after eight, the formal discussion began in Evans to a small but engrossed audience, centered around an interview with Maggin conducted by Gracie Pearlman '14.

The interview began with Pearlman asking Maggin why she chose to come to Connecticut College. "I wanted a small liberal arts school," Maggin explained, and the school's proximity to her hometown of New York made Conn appealing. Originally, she had expected to transfer to another school, but that notion was driven away "within about six minutes of being here," she said.

Maggin credited her Conn education with teaching her "to express myself and ask a lot of questions, skills that drove me towards journalism."

As Conn does not offer any courses in journalism, Maggin said it was her time at *The Voice* both provided her with experience and sparked her interest in the field.

Originally she had expected to move to Washington, D.C., and work in politics after graduating, but once she began working in news broadcasting, she never looked back.

"Television journalism can be a drug," Maggin said. "There's amazing

answered, "safety is your number one concern" when it comes to reporting overseas.

She recounted having been shot at, pepper sprayed, and driven around in armored cars. "You get dropped into Jerusalem, you have no contacts there."

She also explained the importance of the role of the translator or "fixer" who sets reporters up with contacts who are willing to speak with them. Maggin also addressed issues in dealing with lan-

their plane into the World Trade Center. That's going to be my story for the day."

However, upon arriving at work, it quickly became clear that the situation was far more serious than she had originally suspected, and eventually her husband informed her that there had been a terrorist attack.

Maggin, along with George Stephanopolous, now the co-anchor on *Good Morning America*, immediately took the subway downtown, which Maggin ad-

tragedy is not what defines Maggin's career as a journalist.

When asked about her favorite story that she ever covered, Maggin recalled having done a report on a woman who held therapeutic horseback riding sessions for disabled children, mainly those suffering from cerebral palsy. What made the story so interesting, though, was that the horses used for these sessions were both caught and trained by prisoners at a nearby penitentiary.

When Maggin and her team arrived on scene, they first shot footage of a boy who, in his wheelchair, seemed sad and uncommunicative. "We put him on a horse and his face lit up, he giggled, he spoke," said Maggin. "It was truly a magical moment. Then we went to the prison where they were training the horses, and we showed the prisoners the video of the kid on the horse that they trained. They were crying, and it was an incredible piece. It was all cylinders fired, the news gods were smiling. It worked."

During the interview, Maggin also spoke about the struggles of having to produce news for ratings. "Our average viewer is a white, urban, fifty-six year old woman," she explained, "so we do a lot of stories that appeal to white, urban women."

In doing so, Maggin conceded that *World News* might not appeal to a wide range of viewers who producers wish were watching the show; however, those stories ensure the continued support of the show's current demographic.

Maggin also addressed the individual "identities" of the ABC, NBC and CBS news programs. She described ABC's coverage as somewhat "soft," while CBS shows the most "straight news."

After the formal interview, the forum was opened up to the audience with a round of questions and answers. One student asked how Maggin had successfully moved up the ranks in her field from a research assistant to her current position as a producer.

In response, Maggin quoted what she considered to be the best advice she had ever received: "Whatever job you have, find a way to make yourself indispensable." •



Gracie Pearlman '14 interviews Alice Maggin '91 in Evans Hall.

HANNAH PLUSHTIN/PHOTO EDITOR

adrenaline and a sense of satisfaction."

Later, she spoke about her current position at ABC News and her daily routine and responsibilities. Her day begins with a morning call, in which all of the producers meet to discuss all the stories they find interesting, which ones they are going to cover and how they're going to cover them differently. They find many of their stories from the AP Wire, as ABC News is a member of the Associated Press, but Maggin also admitted that she finds many stories to cover from reading the *New York Times*.

In reference to a question asked about the difference between national and international reporting, Maggin quickly

guage barriers. "It's harder to tell a story when people aren't speaking English because you don't get the emotion," she said. "You can say what they're saying, but if you don't understand what they're saying it doesn't have the same impact."

While at ABC News, Maggin worked with a team that covered the September 11 attacks, for which they were recognized with the 2001 Peabody Award, one of the most prestigious journalism awards in the United States.

When asked to recall that experience, Maggin began by explaining that when she saw smoke rising from the North Tower of the World Trade Center, her first thought was "some idiot has flown

mitted might "not have been the smartest move." When they were about two stops north of the World Trade Center, their car stopped, the lights dimmed and smoke began to fill the subway. Finally, though, they were able to exit the subway and reach street level.

"It was like a nuclear winter," Maggin recalled. "There was nobody on the streets, ash falling." Maggin ended up spending two weeks in a rented apartment with a view of Ground Zero, covering the developments in the story as they unfolded.

While the September 11 attacks are undoubtedly a huge moment in the timeline of American news coverage,

SGA News & Minutes

ALI ROSSI
SGA CHIEF OF COMMUNICATIONS



PHOTO COURTESY OF ALI ROSSI

President Leo Higdon, Director of Events and Catering Merrill Collins and Professor Ruth Grahn of the Psychology Department and Chair of the Faculty Steering and Conference Committee came and signed the Covenant, a formal agreement to strengthen shared governance and improve consultation and communication throughout the campus community. The Assembly discussed other important campus issues with President Higdon such as sustainability, the availability of wireless internet and the offering of student social events, pictured above.

The Assembly discussed online course evaluations and the reason for the shift to an all-online format as opposed to the old format where individual departments had their own evaluation processes. The criteria of evaluation are now streamlined and made more comprehensive across different academic departments, as discussed in a recent public email by Mihir Sharma '12, Chair of Academic Affairs, and Professor Grahn, who have led the change.

The Blackstone House substance-free lifestyle policy is being reexamined. We heard a presentation about different options to consider for the house, such as designating it a wellness dorm or rotat-

ing substance-free living among different floors and dorms.

SGA approved the reconfiguration of the House Environmental Representatives (HER) program to become the Community Organizers for Sustainability Transformation (COST) program. This new program was proposed by students looking for more ways to get involved with sustainability issues on campus who saw the HER program as inadequately supported by the administration and thus not living up to their needs. COST will require more involvement from participants such as multiple meetings, required readings and peer education, and will offer interested students a chance to become more educated on issues of sustainability and allow them to share this information with students on campus in a more organized and informed manner.

Finally, we approved the purchase of renewable energy credits from 3Degrees, an environmental commodities firm. By purchasing the credits, the school will be contributing money to a Renewable Energy Fund at the firm that funds renewable energy efforts across the country. The purchase of these credits is said to offset the electricity that is spent here on campus. •

Information Services News and Events

Fearing Finals? Don't Panic... Information Services to the rescue!



Extended hours at Shain Library:

- Round-the-clock hours begin Thursday, December 15th at 8 a.m. and end Tuesday, December 20th at 2 a.m.
- Computers, printers, quiet study space
- Books, journals, library databases, films
- Wireless printing from your dorm room
- Leisure DVD, Book & Audiobook collection – for when you need to relax!

Need research help? Ask a librarian!

- Shain Library Reference Desk during daytime hours (x2655)
- Email libref@conncoll.edu or chat with us (ccrefdesk on AIM, Yahoo!, and Google Talk)

Greer Music Library (Cummings Arts Center, lower level)

- Open extra hours, until 9 p.m. on Friday and 10 a.m. - 10 p.m. Saturday, December 16-17
- Study space, wireless access, laptop printing
- Online audio databases for both research and music listening!

Blue Camel Cafe

- Open regular hours (8:30-midnight) during finals week. Come in and caffeinate!



CONNECTICUT COLLEGE

OPINIONS

SGA Passes
Solar Panel
InitiativeALEX SCHWARTZBURG
STAFF WRITER

"Be it enacted, by the Student Government Association that Renewable Energy Fund monies from Academic Years 2011-12 and 2012-13 shall be approved for the purchase and installation of solar photovoltaic renewable energy generation at Connecticut College if and only if the newly installed combined generational capacity is 45kW or greater." Thus spoke SGA!

Last week, in a unanimous vote, our student government took a significant step towards utilizing sustainable energy. According to Elias Kauders '12, SGA Chair of Environmental Affairs, "\$100,000 in total - [will] be spent on installing solar photovoltaic (PV) renewable energy generation on campus."

This is good, because it means that the annual \$25 increase in our college's tuition would go towards decreasing our annual \$3 million electric bill, making our campus more sustainable and lending a little more validity to the assertion that Conn is an environmentally sustainable campus.

While the environment is not something I cared about too much before I came to Conn, I remember all too well going on the admissions tour and seeing the solar panel in front of Cro and being told about Conn's commitment to the environment. Every time I see a tour guide walk by, I hear the same thing. Thanks to Kauders and SGA, the selling point symbolized by the Camel panel will be predicated slightly more upon reality than vague assumptions.

As I said, the resolution passed in a unanimous vote. "I think that's a pretty rare thing," says Kauders, "and it shows that this is something all of us, regardless of differences or disagreements, can really rally behind. What's more, we're calling for a truly substantial project, and it's fantastic to be able to go to the administration and the other stakeholders in this project and be able to say listen: this is something that we really want, that we're unified on and that we're willing to put our money where our mouth is. We just hope that the college will respond positively and match our contribution. It's the only way this project will happen, and it's a fantastic opportunity for the college—they can install a \$500,000 solar panel installation and pay only 20% of the cost. That in itself will pay off in only five to seven years, and then we will be making money."

At least three of the proposed panel installations would generate 0.9% of our campus' electricity. If the administration funded all of them, the total energy we would generate would be 3.6%. That might not sound like a lot, but that would be 3.6% of a \$3,000,000 electric bill, which would mean that we would save \$108,000 per year. So by 2021, we will have saved over \$1,000,000.

Do you like the environment? Do you like money? Do you think that Conn would be a better place if it was spending less money? If your answers to any of these questions are yes (and you go to Conn), then you can take comfort not only in the knowledge that the student government that represents you feels the same way, but also that they have the initiative to proactively address the issue. •

The Blackest Friday



ILLUSTRATION BY AMY WILLIAMS

Shoppers crowd into a Walmart to take advantage of Black Friday sales.

A commentary on manic consumerism

EMMALINE DEIHL
STAFF WRITER

Black Friday scares me. Although I have never actually participated in Black Friday and I never intend to, the name itself implies a dark and dangerous day. I am not averse to shopping and reaping the benefits of holiday sales; I always love a good deal and enjoy time spent browsing through stores. However, I prefer to shop in peace without having to fight my way through hordes of overzealous shoppers or stand in line for hours. For me, part of the fun of shopping is taking the time to browse my options and find something worthwhile. Personal shopping preferences aside, Black Friday disturbs me for other reasons.

The day after Thanksgiving, a holiday in which we are supposedly being thankful and appreciative for how much we already have, is dedicated to consumerism in its most intense form. Black Friday reveals the strength and allure of capitalism and how much of our culture is based on endless consumption. I watched television for about an hour on Wednesday night, which was plenty of time to become thoroughly tired of commercial after commercial featuring eager shoppers getting insanely good deals on clothes and electronics. I am not rejecting all capitalism outright, but when it is continuously forced in my face it starts making me deeply question the moral values of our society.

In addition to constantly spreading

messages of greed and consumption, Black Friday seems to be expanding its reach, even overshadowing Thanksgiving itself. In an effort to attract shoppers and boost sales, some stores promoted "Black Thursday Night," and started their sales at 10 PM on Thursday. In other words, if you are someone who really wants a good deal and would go so far as to line up in advance before the store opens, Black Friday has now seriously impinged on your Thanksgiving. Not everybody does something special for Thanksgiving; but if you do, and if you plan on taking advantage of Black Friday, your schedule

sonal time for employees strikes me as wholly unnecessary. Thanksgiving is a national holiday and people deserve a full day off, as is the tradition. Instead, Black Friday has reduced the time spent at home or with family for both consumers and retail employees, which could be avoided if stores remained closed for only a few more hours.

Another reason to avoid the Black Friday madness is the annual physical danger involved. Every year there are stories of people getting trampled by the rushing crowd, yet no one ever seems to take this into consideration for the next year. For

gifts certainly does not sound like my idea of a good time.

To be fair, Black Friday is not all bad. Certain stores have extended their sales into the weekend, and while the sales may not be quite as good, they at least offer shoppers a way to indulge in some holiday shopping while avoiding the craziness of Black Friday. I spoke to some friends who went shopping later in the evening who said they were able to avoid the rush, which seems much more reasonable than piling in all at once.

Secondly, if we accept capitalism as our economic system, the logical thing to do is to try to improve it, and Black Friday is a way to boost consumer spending and thus the economy, an effort that generally works. This year's Black Friday sales were widely considered to be successful for retailers. Consumers can find genuinely excellent deals on merchandise, and it is a chance to acquire something that you cannot justify buying otherwise.

To me, it is not the intent of Black Friday that is disturbing so much as the over-the-top execution of it. What should be a chance to do some fun, early holiday shopping and help out stores can turn into an unnecessarily intense consumerist feeding frenzy. Perhaps the idea of excessive buying, which seems greedy, can one day be transformed into an effort to acquire gifts for others and share in the holiday spirit. •

These violent incidents are troubling; getting assaulted while shopping for holiday gifts certainly does not sound like my idea of a good time.

is getting a little tight.

One major controversy that arose this year was the reduced Thanksgiving break that some store employees received. Traditionally, stores close for Thanksgiving and employees get to enjoy a day off. This year, Thanksgiving break was cut short for many retail employees in order to accommodate masses of shoppers, who were also cutting short their own holiday. This reduction in per-

instance, this year, a woman shopping in the videogame section of a Wal-Mart in Los Angeles pepper-sprayed some twenty people for reasons not entirely clear (either she was protecting herself from what she felt was a dangerous mob, or she wanted a competitive edge). CNN reported that there was Black Friday violence in at least seven states. These violent incidents are troubling; getting assaulted while shopping for holiday

We know you have opinions.
We'd like to know what they are.
Write for the *Voice*.

Meetings are held every Monday at 10 PM in the
Voice office (Cro 215). Bully!

It's the Finals Countdown

JERELL MAYS
OPINIONS EDITOR

When you think about it, Thanksgiving break was hardly a vacation. Sure, plenty of us treated it as such, but for every minute I spent lounging around my home in a food-induced haze, the voice of the dutiful student (whom I had temporarily banished to my subconsciousness) would occasionally break through and manage to whisper that most frightening of words that gradually pushes itself to the forefront of student minds near the end of a semester: finals.

Finals are intimidating. Perhaps they're supposed to be, but this intimidation certainly doesn't make life any easier in the weeks following Thanksgiving break. Many professors assigned exams to be taken the week directly after; a fair portion of my break was spent buried in a botany textbook. Other instructors took the high road and decided to inform students of their end-of-the-semester assignments well in advance of the break.

Take my film class, for example. Our final paper will be a cross-analysis of Ridley Scott's *Blade Runner* with *La Jetee*, a French, experimental short film. My professor reminded our class of this a few weeks ago, but I've known since September because it's on the syllabus. The library has copies of both films on reserve, I've already seen *Blade Runner* once and I've actually had some spare time this week. So, why haven't I started it yet?

There is a certain paralyzing quality to that stressful two weeks prior to finals week that, for me, seems to cause less productivity at a time that ironically demands more. My professors have all suddenly decided to altruistically ease up on their small assignments, no doubt in anticipation of the workload with which we will all soon be saddled. I'm hardly complaining about this, but now

I have another problem: the illusion of safety that is hanging over my head. There may only be a little over a week until finals, but to me it feels like more. What I end up doing is stressing about work while simultaneously trying to relax with the pre-finals-freakout-leisure time to which we no doubt all feel entitled.

At first, I thought I was being presumptuous and lazy to assume that, having just come out of a five-day break, I somehow deserved even more time off. Then I realized I wasn't alone. "There's a pressure to have as much fun as you can beforehand and spend time with your friends," said Cara Einbinder '14, whose final project for one of her anthropology classes will involve a study of Pygmy tribes. "At the same time there's a lot of work to do, and there's a lot of pressure to do that."

So either we're both being too inactive, or maybe the recent vacation didn't fully provide the mental holiday it promised. I know that most of my friends spent the better half of their breaks either working on final projects, or studying intensely for upcoming exams.

If you're like me and most of your classes are in the humanities, papers are your major concern. I greatly prefer this; my experience with exams a la obligatory, Area Three general education requirements was less than kind to my GPA. Furthermore, there just seems something cruel about a cumulative, final exam that seems to endorse cramming rather than memorization. Final papers have always struck me as better indicators of knowledge gained; you can cram before an exam only to forget it all in a few days, but a good paper demands more attention. "Exams are not accurate assessments of how much students have progressed, or the amount of knowledge they have gathered in the classroom," said Devin Cohen '12,

who is graduating at the end of the fall semester. "Placing students in highly pressured situations might be representative of real world settings, but placing them in a controlled setting where they must eloquently regurgitate a semester's worth of information is not."

Of course, not everyone feels this way. Some students relish the idea of sitting down and, within a few hours, being done with a class rather than having to deal with the more long-term stress that comes with the freedom of having a final paper. You can procrastinate on studying, but we all know the much more intense pressure caused by stalling on a paper until the last minute. I can't even say with any certainty that I'm not going to be one of those students you see in the library at 3 AM during finals week, sweating into their coffee over the twenty-page essay that's due in six hours that they knew about weeks in advance, and yet somehow couldn't really work on until the last minute. I don't recall having this problem last year; I had four papers during my freshman year fall semester, and was so thoroughly determined to not let them get the better of me that I actually found myself finished rather early. I remember thinking, "That wasn't too bad. I could have wasted way more time."

This seems to be the culprit for me. I effectively disarmed myself last year, hyping finals up to be more intimidating than they actually were, and this year, I'm totally underestimating them. This realization had me questioning whether or not I should have spent last Saturday locked in my room at my desk. I think the important thing to remember in the next few coming weeks is, as always, balance. Freaking out over finals isn't going to make it come any faster or end any sooner, but it never hurts to have a few dozen thesis statements lying around either. •

Right Said Fred!



ILLUSTRATION BY ALICIA TOLDI

Dear Fred,

I want to buy my boyfriend something for Christmas, even though we have not been seeing each other for that long. Our relationship is very relaxed and fun and I want to get him something that shows that. I was thinking about getting something that we could use in the bedroom that we both would like, but I'm not sure where to start. I also do not want the "sexy gift" to seem trashy; rather, it should be something that would bring us closer. Any advice?

Gift-Seeking Girlfriend

FREDERICK MCNULTY
SEX COLUMNIST

Dear Gift-Seeking Girlfriend,

Whenever the holidays roll around, the fun nature of the season often gets lost in the stress of what gifts to purchase. Add a significant other into the mix—especially one from a relatively new relationship—and that's just a recipe for stress. How does one know what to purchase? How does one avoid being "trashy?"

I would begin by making sure that your significant other will appreciate a sexual gift for Christmas, as opposed to being offended. Some Christians may be repulsed to receive a sexy gift on the birth date of their lord and savior. If this is the case, then maybe you can give him the sexy gift in conjunction with another item, or just hold off until another holiday; Valentine's Day will be here before you know it.

In my opinion, a gift is only "trashy" if it is perceived as such. For example, my holiday wish list actually included potato chips as a requested item. While some people would be downright insulted to receive a bag of potato chips for a present, I would be thrilled because I could use them in my dorm room. The old saying could not be truer: "One person's trash is another person's treasure." In regards to a sexy gift, you should find out whether your boyfriend would like such a gift before purchasing one. As long as your heart is in the right place, then do not be afraid to take a chance!

Now that we have tackled the question of whether you should purchase a sexy gift for your significant other, let us handle the question of what to buy. What, if anything, have you and your boyfriend used before? What have you done together in the bedroom? What have you and he mentioned that you would like to try? Think back to your sexual experiences and conversations with him.

Gift giving can be the perfect excuse to try something new. However, if you give something too confusing,

you run the risk of losing the meaning of the gift. If you are convinced that a surprise gift might be the right decision, then think of what you want to say to him after he unwraps it—an explanation has the potential to change everything. On one hand, do not be afraid to take a risk, but keep in mind that your boyfriend should not have to struggle to understand the gift you give.

You mentioned that you would like to purchase a gift that you will both enjoy. While it may be tempting to purchase him a sexy gift that he alone can enjoy, such as a Tenga Egg, aiding his masturbation will not achieve the original goal of mutual bedroom enjoyment. Purchasing a g-spot vibrator with the intent that he will use it when you two are together may also seem like a good idea, but it also might come off as if you are putting your own pleasure above his. Focus on what both of you can enjoy.

There are a plethora of sex shops, both on the internet and in traditional stores, that are at your disposal. Megan Andelloux, a feminist sexologist who recently spoke at Connecticut College, warned that, due to the unregulated nature of sex toys in the United States, one should be careful when purchasing sex toys; they can potentially contain unsafe toxins or chemicals and still be legally sold. She suggested using the Good Vibrations adult retail company, though that is not to say that there are not other great retailers available.

Overall, you will have to decide if purchasing a sexy gift for your boyfriend is the right thing to do for your relationship. The fact that you even had to ask whether it would come across as "trashy" demonstrates to me that you do have some doubt in your mind. If worst comes to worst, do not be afraid to talk to him about it. If you end up purchasing the sexy gift, remember that it should be for both of your enjoyment. Do not let this stress you out. Have a happy holiday and good luck! •

Google+ vs. Facebook: Social Media Showdown

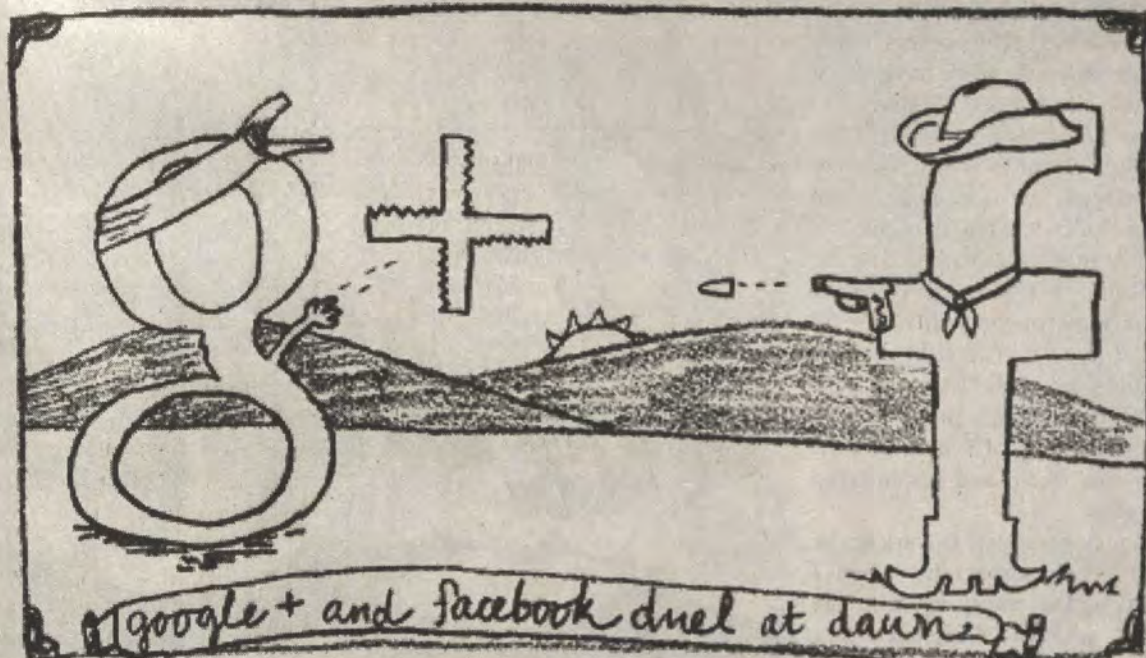


ILLUSTRATION BY ALICIA TOLDI

CHRIS GIRI
STAFF WRITER

Time and time again, Google has attempted to expand its web empire into the realm of social networking. Try though it may, Google's efforts in the form of Buzz, Wave and Orkut have failed thus far to touch Facebook's monopoly. Google+ is almost certainly the site's most ambitious attempt yet, claiming a more practical and integrated feature set than its chief competitor.

And Google+ certainly does have a lot to offer. Though it lacks some of the sharing options offered by Facebook, in particular newer auto-sharing features like Spotify and news reader, the site is actually about your friends. No, not those 600 people that you kind of knew in high school that now spam your news feed, but your actual friends. Every feature of the site is about making it easy to compartmentalize your friendships—aside from the Circles feature, which allows you to separate information-sharing based on what circle of connections you place friends in, Hangouts and Huddles focuses on group video and messaging chat rather than just one-on-one.

Though these features seem good enough on paper, this article won't touch on how well the site actually functions. This is, simply put, because I don't have any friends who use Google+. Sure, I added a few friends to my circles when I first got an account

late this summer, but not a single new post has appeared in my Stream since August. This Google+ abandonment is one half of the vicious cycle that seems to be holding the site back, along with the absence of the aforementioned auto-sharing options that the Zuckerberg camp is so fond of.

Sure, auto-sharing may be a thinly veiled data mining scheme that sends all of your web activity to Facebook (who converts it to warehouses of hundred dollar bills with the help of advertisers), but if you're even remotely concerned about your privacy you probably stopped using the site a few years ago. One could argue that it's a bit evil of Facebook to sell all of your data without making this more clear, but maybe it's a necessary evil. It's the connections to everything from iPhoto and Photo Booth to location-aware mobile activity that do such a good job of making sure you can't forget that Facebook has you under its spell. Since the site already has a healthy portion of us invested in it, there are plenty of people to populate the newsfeed. It really is a vicious cycle, no doubt aided by the allure of that mindless newsfeed scrolling we can't help but fall into every so often.

Auto-sharing is part of a bigger push toward developer integration that has completely altered the side in recent years, both for the end user and Facebook's revenue stream. Though sharing

of news and photos tends naturally to make up the meat of social networking, third party offerings from Farmville to Bumper Stickers have helped to diversify Facebook's offerings. Though it offers a limited catalogue of games, Google+ leans toward a closed ecosystem, populated primarily with Google-developed features. The logic here is pretty simple: Google's open Android mobile platform has had trouble capturing the market with the ease that the closely-curated iOS has had. That being said, it may come to a matter of personal preference between Facebook's unlimited catalogue of mostly mediocre applications or Google+'s small, integrated platform.

Though it would be tricky for Google to make its site as addicting as Facebook without jeopardizing privacy, it's certainly possible. Considering Google's sprawling monopoly over web interaction, they could do a better job of promoting use of the site. However, even if Google+ had the strongest possible set of features, there's a chance it would take more than a strong competitor to dethrone Facebook. Facebook's got an incomprehensible critical mass advantage that makes the notion of packing up and moving to Google+ a bit too much of a gamble for most users. At the rate Facebook has been under fire over privacy concerns, though, the wait may not be long before users have had enough. •



Tracy Schaperow,
Psy.D.

Clinical Psychologist
860.447.2047

PsychologyCT.com

Dr.Tracy.Schaperow@gmail.com

Dr. Schaperow specializes in helping college students to overcome anxiety, depression, and relationship struggles, while planning for a successful future. Located two miles from campus

Get Out of My Dreams, Get Into My Car: Melanie Thibeault Prays for Better Parking

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

While the decision to prevent freshmen from registering their cars on campus doesn't affect me, and thus doesn't really bother me, but I know if I was a freshman this year, I would be disappointed at having to wait another year to have a car on campus when freshmen were allowed to register their cars in previous years.

"It's almost impossible to get off campus as a freshman without a car. I understand that there are parking issues and we're trying to be green, but it creates a feeling of intense claustrophobia for us when we're stuck on campus," said one freshman.

Though it's against the new parking regulations, some freshmen still have their cars on campus. "I have a car on campus because I need to get off campus sometimes and remind myself that life exists outside [of Conn]. I feel like the car restriction for freshmen was a big mistake on Conn's part," said the freshman.

Not only are freshmen not allowed to have their cars, but parking spots have been reallocated for the remaining three classes. There is a sophomore parking lottery sys-



An empty parking space in central campus.

tem: some sophomores are delegated to park in lower campus— by the Athletic Center, Abbey House, Winchester and the Ridge— which used to be just for freshmen. Other sophomores received parking spaces in the North/South lots and Upper Campus, which, by the name, implies that they are allowed to park on campus, not across the bridge (or Route 32) and down the AC stairs. Juniors and seniors are allocated upper and lower campus spots based on in which part of campus they reside.

I am one of the unfortunate ones who is required to park in Lower Campus, even though I live in the Plex. There are plenty of student spots surrounding the Plex, most notably in the gravel lot behind it. Parking spots are the same for the whole academic year, which not only frustrates me, but it also bothers many other sophomores who have been banished to the Athletic Center.

Evelyn O'Regan '14 said, "The stairs to get down to the AC are icy and dangerous in the winter, and when the AC is closed at night, it's scary to be down there alone."

For some, it's just an inconvenience to have his/her car down by the AC, far away from the dorms. One sophomore said, "I have to park at the AC, but I usually park in South because I babysit off campus multiple times a week, and it's just too far to walk."

It's an inconvenience to park at the Athletic Center, especially when I notice all of the empty spots in the gravel lot, which is designated as a North/South lot. In my experience, it's never been full; there may even be more spots available than there are cars. If the spots are there, why can't I take one?

Cassandra Saimond '14 agreed with this point. "I don't think that sophomores should have to park at the AC because there is plenty of

tive to make the campus more environmentally responsible." I disagree that the new regulations are having a serious impact on either of these issues. I don't think the parking changes have made Conn any more pedestrian friendly or green than last year. There are always cars driving around campus, sometimes going much faster than the speed limit. Students with unregistered cars on campus add to the vehicular population. Delegating students to Lower Campus doesn't mean they never bring their cars to the main campus.

Members of other classes are also frustrated with the new system. In the past, parking on campus followed a hierarchical scale— freshmen parked at the AC, sophomores and juniors could park in the North/South lots and seniors were allowed

its own large parking lot to the side behind Larrabee.

A newly instated rule allows students to park in faculty spots on weekdays between 5 PM and 2 AM. "I am glad they allow us to park in faculty spots after 5 PM now," said Kurz, "but they can start ticketing again at 2 AM. No faculty member is coming back to campus at 2 AM. It seems like a useless way to make money rather than enforce that spots are available for faculty."

It is clear that faculty and staff need parking spaces, and the allocation of such is not my complaint, but as full-time students who live in the dorms and apartments, this is our home during the school year. Not every student needs a car, but for students who work or volunteer off-campus or who live close to home and drive back and



PHOTO FROM WEB

to park in central campus or in spots in front of their dorms. This practice ended, however, at the beginning of this year.

"The way parking is now revoked all the senior privileges that I was looking forward to," said Carolyn

forth occasionally, having a car is necessary, and having a place to park should be a right, not a privilege.

"I understand that faculty need parking spaces as well," said Kurz, "but we, as students, live here 24/7. I don't think the old parking system was perfect, but I think it made more sense than the way it is now."

Democratizing the parking system at Conn has only created more inequality and frustration among the students. While I'm openly irritated by the fact that I have to park far away from my dorm, it's more frustrating to know that students in my class were granted parking spots in Upper Campus (in front of their dorms), whereas juniors and seniors, like Kurz, are being shafted after abiding by the hierarchical system for years. There has to be a more just way to assign parking spots than a random lottery system. It should be based on class year or location of one's dorm to make it fairer for all students. And if there are empty parking spots in any of the lots, I don't see why those banished to the AC aren't allowed to request a new parking location. A dialogue needs to be created about issues like these. We might be students, but we are adults, and this is our home. We should be able to have a say in how we live.

Not every student needs a car, but for students who work or volunteer off-campus or who live close to home and drive back and forth occasionally, having a car is necessary, and having a place to park should be a right, not a privilege

parking up [on campus], and I don't think that they should give parking tickets for parking in the wrong lot, especially because there are so many unregistered cars. I figure if I paid \$150 to park here, I should be able to park where I want and not get ticketed for it."

In an article about the new parking regulations written for the *Voice* by Sarah Weiss in October, she quoted Director of Campus Safety Stewart Smith as saying, "The changes are part of a long-term plan to make the campus more pedestrian friendly, combined with a student-led initia-

Kurz '12. "It seemed like they doubled the price of a parking permit, took away half of the student spaces and then removed privileges based on class year or living location. It's somewhat frustrating because I abided by the parking regulations for the past three years thinking that senior year would be different."

As a resident of the 360 Mohegan apartments, Kurz has trouble finding a parking spot outside her dorm. There are more faculty spots than student spots, even though the only faculty building kind of near the apartments is Winthrop, which has

S.O.S. SEMINAR ON SUCCESS!

HOW TO SUCCEED IN LIFE AFTER COLLEGE

A Professional Day for
JUNIORS AND
SENIORS

SATURDAY,
JAN. 28, 2012

1-4:30 p.m., ending with light
refreshments and hors d'oeuvres

Topics include:

- Set yourself apart from the crowd
- Real world advice from alumni who have been there
- Networking roundtables and reception with alumni



**FREE
SURPRISE
GIFT!**

Register today at:

[HTTP://SOS.CONNCOLL.EDU](http://sos.conncoll.edu)

Breaking Dawn Breaks Expectations

A professed *Twilight*-hater explains why she enjoyed the latest film in the blockbuster series

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

The franchise has come a long way since 2008's release of the first film, throughout which the acting was cringingly weird and terrible, and a gross sexual tension oozed from the space where violence and pain should have been. (When they meet, and for a good long while, Edward is attracted to Bella in the sense that there has never been anyone else on Earth he wanted to eat so badly. Gives a whole new meaning to the phrase "sexual appetite," am I right?)

But budgets have grown exponentially, and there's a new kid on the refurbished block: Bill Condon, who directed both *Dream Girls* and *Gods and Monsters* (the latter for which he won a Best Screenplay Oscar). He somehow got pulled into this daunting project, and has remolded a ridiculous novel into an actual film instead of a joke.

I am going to guess it was Condon who told monotone, glassy-eyed Kristen Stewart to stop the painfully awkward sputtering, shrugging, lip-biting and hair-tousling and start actually acting like a real person. The new Bella of *Breaking Dawn Pt. 1* is a relaxed, expressional and smiling version of her zombie-like self of movies past. And while Edward is as much a stoic vampire as ever, Robert Pattinson gives him some human vitality that, until now, has been missing. Edward grins warmly and genuinely without looking like he is going to kill anybody, and frequently, he laughs.

The transformation of the two

central characters this time around is, I think, the apex of a shift from an all-consuming, creepy and disturbing love story to a toned-down, more responsible and enjoyable fairytale even I could swallow.

What Condon did was cut the bullshit.

Bella and Edward have a wildly expensive, springy white wedding, and then gallivant off to a private island near Rio to frolic on the white sands and consummate their relationship at last. If this film had adopted the same spirit of the last three, these events would be punctuated with a sloppy slew of heavy breathing, too-long embraces and desperate muttering.

Instead, the relationship finally feels natural. Bella doesn't spend all her time drooling over Edward's godlike good looks to the point where she can't even function properly. Instead, the two swim, play a lot of chess and seem to take pleasure in each other's company without needing to constantly smell each other, which, unfortunately, has heretofore been a major plot point. The audience willingly or not is swept up in their surprisingly easy joy, which is augmented by a lovely and

dreamy indie-pop soundtrack featuring Aquilung and Iron & Wine.

Their joyousness crumples, appropriately so, when Bella is somehow impregnated with an assumedly half-vampire fetus that grows at an alarming rate, drinks her blood and kicks out her ribs. Where I was prepared to get infuriated at the screamingly anti-abortion agenda, instead I felt the power of Bella's choice to stick out the atrocious pregnancy.

Stewart takes on her hardest Bella performance yet with a shocking amount of strength and grace. The impending birth is the focal point of the film, and Condon makes it just as disturbing as it should be. An emaciated, gray-skinned Bella toddles around the worried members of Edward's family with her bruised stomach, head held high.

This movie is still ridiculous. There's a laughable

werewolf powwow scene, Edward makes problematically calculating comments and Condon awkwardly navigates the disconcerting occurrence of Jacob "imprinting" on a newborn baby (look it up). But there is just something here — hints of personality and delight more or less absent from the books and previous films, all feminist-unfriendly soft-core porn without real passion or heart. Maybe it was just my very, very low expectations, but consider me impressed.

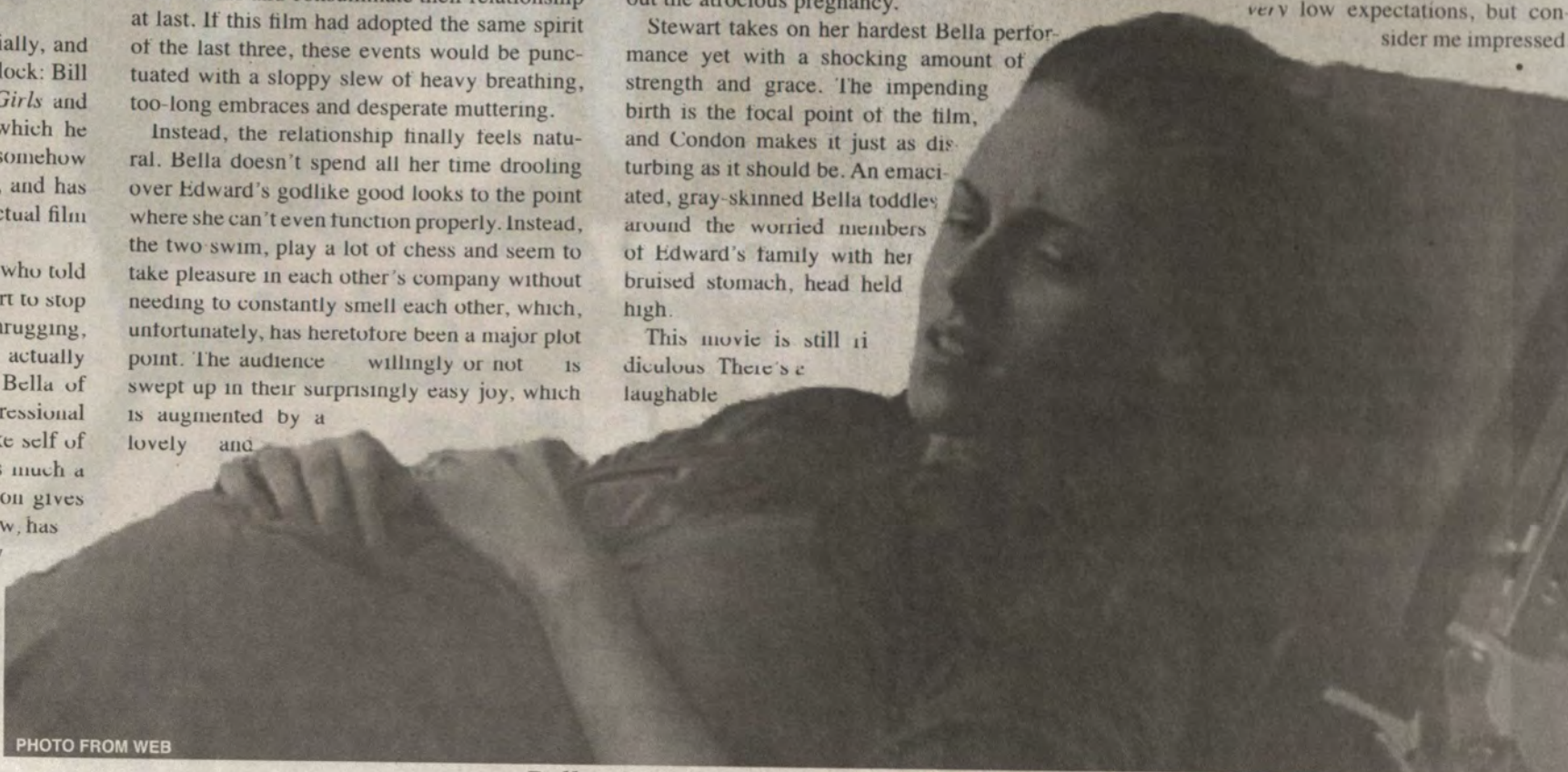


PHOTO FROM WEB

Bella giving birth was one of the most graphic scenes of *Breaking Dawn Part 1*.

Discover your inner artist.

Like us on Facebook

Current Exhibitions

Hello Manga! Japanese Comics and Beyond
Skateboards: Art on the Ply

CONN COLLEGE STUDENTS FREE WITH ID

LymanAllyn
ART MUSEUM

625 Williams Street, New London, CT 06320 | Phone: (860) 443 - 2545 | Hours: Tues. to Sat. 10am - 5pm; closed Sunday, Monday, and major holidays | lymanallyn.org



AMANDA LEE / CONTRIBUTOR

An Interview with Kinetics

Rising hip hop star tells all about his past, present and future music career

JEFF BAIRD
STAFF WRITER

Two weeks ago, we had the privilege of seeing Kinetics & One Love on campus, where they rocked a sold-out show to over 400 people in the 1941 Room. If you were part of the crowd, then you already know that they are hip-hop's next big talent. The killer combination of Kinetics' intelligent and lyrically-driven raps and One Love's musicianship and pop ear as a producer is unmatched by any new group, and it's only a matter of time before they take off the way their songwriting already has. Backed by an impressive resume — they wrote B.o.B's triple-platinum, Grammy-nominated hit "Airplanes" back when they were still students at Cornell University — Kinetics & One Love are now focusing in on their own sound, with a new album set to hit iTunes next month.

Kinetics was kind enough to answer some questions about his history with hip-hop and what's next for the talented music duo.

College Voice: How did you first get into hip-hop, and when did you start writing yourself?

Kinetics: It's crazy, because I can pinpoint the exact day I started listening to hip-hop. It was March 9, 1997 — the day that Biggie Smalls was shot and killed. I was a little kid, and I had never really listened to rap before. But after Big was shot, all the music channels started playing his videos and interviews all day long, and I was hooked instantly. I bought his first two albums and some of his older music and soon discovered the L.O.X., Black Rob, Pac, Nas and later DMX. Hip-hop would be all I'd listen to for the next couple of years.

When you and your friends are bumping rap at all times, it's kind of hard not to start freestyling and rapping yourselves. The first time I freestyled for an actual audience was at a high school dance. People seemed to be into it. So I went home and started writing songs and handing out mixtapes around school.

CV: You recorded *Fading Back to Normal* while still a student at Cornell University, and now your most recent mixtape was written in New York City. How did your experience at an academically rigorous, private institution influence your work, and how has that changed since graduating?

I'm grateful to have gone to an Ivy League school. I learned so much through such a broad range of classes and through all the resources Cornell has to offer, so now I can actually talk about meaningful issues. I can make obscure references that might challenge you a little bit, rather than

rapping about the same brainless shit on every track. But, to be honest, it was only after graduating and moving back to New York that my music really started to improve. We had a good time writing all the fun, stupid songs that we'd play at our frat parties, but that shit gets old real soon. You can't expect to make relevant music when your only scene is a little college bubble somewhere. It was after I started living and working in Manhattan fulltime that my music hit a level of maturity that I'm now satisfied with. One Love and I have met so many dope artists in this city — either through our writing sessions at Warner and Atlantic or just from doing shows and crossing paths with other New York rappers and DJs — and I've really grown through the inspiration I've drawn from these people. I look back to some of the songs I wrote in college and I just have to shake my head at how corny some of that shit is.

CV: Who are your biggest influences, and whom would you like to work with the most?

I think it's pretty obvious if you listen to my flow that Eminem is my favorite lyricist of all time. It's crazy because you could almost say that we've "collaborated" already, since he spit a verse on a song that I wrote. But I'm still looking forward to the day when I can actually sit down in a studio with him, kick some freestyles and then actually record a song together.

My writing style is also heavily influenced by Immortal Technique, Cassidy and this dude that I've recently been put onto, Hopsin. The second you hear his flow you'll instantly know why I'm so inspired by it.

CV: While a lot of your music deals with social issues, you also have a number of more introspective songs. "Airplanes," for example, exposes a lot of emotions that you dealt with after a breakup. What song of yours do you feel is the most expository about your own life, and what did you learn from writing it?

I would have to say "Hemlock," for sure. I wrote that song right around the same time I wrote "Airplanes," when I was just getting out of this long-term relationship. That's a track that definitely served as therapy for me because my state of mind when I finished the song was so different than when I had started. Listen to the track, and you'll see how the first two verses are really cynical and sarcastic, criticizing the nightlife scene I had been falling into: blacking out every night, going home with strangers, building relationships off of the shallowest first impressions. "And all these couples that are 'takin' a break' / Thinkin' we're makin' memories when we're just makin' mistakes." In reality, I was just bitter

over the breakup, and I needed something to blame it on. But then, finally, when I sat down to write the third verse, thinking to myself how I wanted to conclude the song, I had a change of heart and realized if there was ever a time to be making mistakes, it was right then. And I decided to appreciate the opportunity of starting over. After writing that third verse, when I started thinking about the whole breakup, I almost felt less torn up about it. Like instead of being so low-spirited, I felt...normal...for the first time in weeks. And that was the impetus behind the whole concept of the album. On the track list, we laid out the songs in the exact order that I wrote them, as I slowly started feeling normal again — reflecting on how the writing process had helped me make sense of my own problems.

CV: What has it been like touring the past few years, and what do you think you bring to a performance that is unique?

Touring has been crazy! We recently did a show in China, and that was one of the most eye-opening experiences of my career. We were paid to play a show outside of Hong Kong, then flew to Beijing to film a video on the Great Wall. That's a once-in-lifetime opportunity, you know?

Our show is unique compared to other rap acts because I have One Love on stage with me, who is an actual musician — not just a producer pushing buttons. So he'll play keys live or sometimes we'll cut the track, he'll get on a drum set and I'll just start freestyling while he plays drums. It makes for a more energetic show.

CV: What is your favorite song of yours? Favorite line?

Hah, that's way too hard of a question for me to answer. I honestly can't say, but I did just write this crazy line a few minutes ago: "Someone call a paleontologist / My mammalian body is where my alien knowledge is." You have to say that out loud to hear how dope it sounds, though. Also these lines from the intro of our new album: "I'm sorry if I bit ya, Doberman Pincher / Stray dog, get your face 'ate off' — Hitler / And everything I'm dropping is mean / I'm so nice, a charity compared to me is like the Nazi regime / Hopped in a Beem — no — not the Nazi machine / I ride around in fu**in' light beams and optical streams / You not in my league, ya whole flow trash and ya voice heinous / Every verse poorly executed: Troy Davis." I think most of my favorite songs AND my favorite lines will be contained on this next album. So make sure you cop that shit in January. Then you tell me your favorite lines.

CV: There's a definite rift in hip-hop between the intellectual underground and the mainstream, though your body of work has always seemed to fit well into both spectrums. You've mentioned Common and Nas before as influences, but your sound is decidedly more pop-oriented than theirs. How do you balance this, and is it a conscious effort?

That's why One Love and I complement each other so nicely and why people think our music stands out. Because on one side, I'm drawing from years of listening to underground, east coast lyricists and spitting bars that I could say in a cipher or in a battle that kids will feel, even without or beat or anything. But then, as an additional plus, you have One Love coming along to dress it up with some ill production that you'll dance to and want to play at a party — even if you don't listen to a single word. It's a great balance of both worlds. Plus Tim tends to keep me grounded and makes sure our songs maintain some level of mass appeal. I'll approach him with something crazy like, "Alright so this next song is going to be a seven-minute long story about an immigrant's daughter that will double as a metaphor for the birth of hip-hop, all one long verse, no hook." And he'll just shake his head like, "Hell no, cut that shit up into three verses, 16 bars each, and write a hook, and make sure you can spit it live." Shit like that.

CV: What's next for Kinetics & One Love?

We're currently writing our next full-length album, slated to drop at the end of January, which we'll self-release on iTunes and later on our website. It will be an actual album — not a mixtape, with all original One Love production, no samples. And some of the features on this next project are going be crazy! We have a verse from Jadakiss, a song with Nitty Scott (who just spit at the 2011 BET Cypher), a hook from Wynter Gordon, a hook from the very talented singer/songwriter MIMOZA and of course my man Accent (who just opened for us at the Conn show) will make an appearance or two. In the weeks leading up to the album release, we're going to drop a bunch of new videos to build the hype. And a few weeks after the album, Accent and I will be releasing a joint mixtape that One Love will help write and produce. I'm really looking forward to that mixtape, especially since Acc and I have been writing together for a minute and a joint project has really been years in the making. But in the meantime, definitely look out for the new Kinetics & One Love album hitting iTunes January 25.

The Curse of the “Dream Team”

A Philadelphia native reflects on the disappointment that has been the Eagles’ 2011 season

LUCAS DAN
CONTRIBUTOR

In 2009, when the Philadelphia Eagles signed superstar quarterback Michael Vick fresh off of his 21-month visit to prison, the City of Brotherly Love did not know how to react. Since the first time he stepped on a football field, Vick has been a spectacle unlike any the game of football has ever witnessed. With a cannon of an arm and the speed of a wide receiver, Vick left Virginia Tech as a sophomore and became the first African-American quarterback to be selected first overall in the NFL Draft, joining the Atlanta Falcons in 2001. During six dazzling seasons in Atlanta, Vick showed the world a new way to play quarterback as he filled highlight reels with jaw-dropping runs and led the Falcons to two playoff appearances. However, Michael Vick’s life took a sudden turn in 2007 when he was caught in the midst of an illegal dog fighting operation and faced federal felony charges. With Vick to serve nearly two years in prison during the prime of his career, he lost his contract and filed for bankruptcy. Needless to say, he instantly became one of the most hated men in the history of sports.

Upon his release, Vick agreed to a deal with the Eagles as the third-string quarterback behind Donovan McNabb and Kevin Kolb. Vick worked endlessly, said all the right things, and patiently waited for his opportunity to rebuild himself as a new man. The Eagles traded McNabb and named Kolb the starter in 2010. However, Kolb suffered a concussion in Week 1 and in stepped Michael Vick. He quickly reminded the world what he can do, and by week three Eagles’ head coach Andy Reid named Vick the starter. The season took off from there and Vick had easily his best season yet, finishing 2nd in MVP voting while winning the Comeback Player of the Year. The Eagles’ offense seemed virtually unstoppable, featuring Vick, running back LeSean McCoy, and wide receivers DeSean Jackson and Jeremy Maclin, all of whom are considered stars at their respective positions. They won the NFC East, but due to defensive issues lost to the Green Bay Packers in the first round of the playoffs.

Andy Reid knew he had found a gem in Vick and wanted to capitalize on it. As the longest tenured head coach in the NFL, Reid entered the 2011 season as his 13th with the Eagles. During the previous twelve years, Reid led the Eagles to nine playoff appearances, five NFC Championship games, one Super Bowl appearance, the most total wins, playoff wins, and the best winning percentage in team history. However, almost all Philadelphians will tell you a different statistic about Reid: zero Super Bowl rings. In fact, the Eagles as a franchise have never won the Super Bowl. As a Philadelphia native and die-hard Eagles fan, I know that my city loves and respects Andy Reid. We respond well to winning, and Reid has won many games; however, Reid knows that he was hired to win the Super

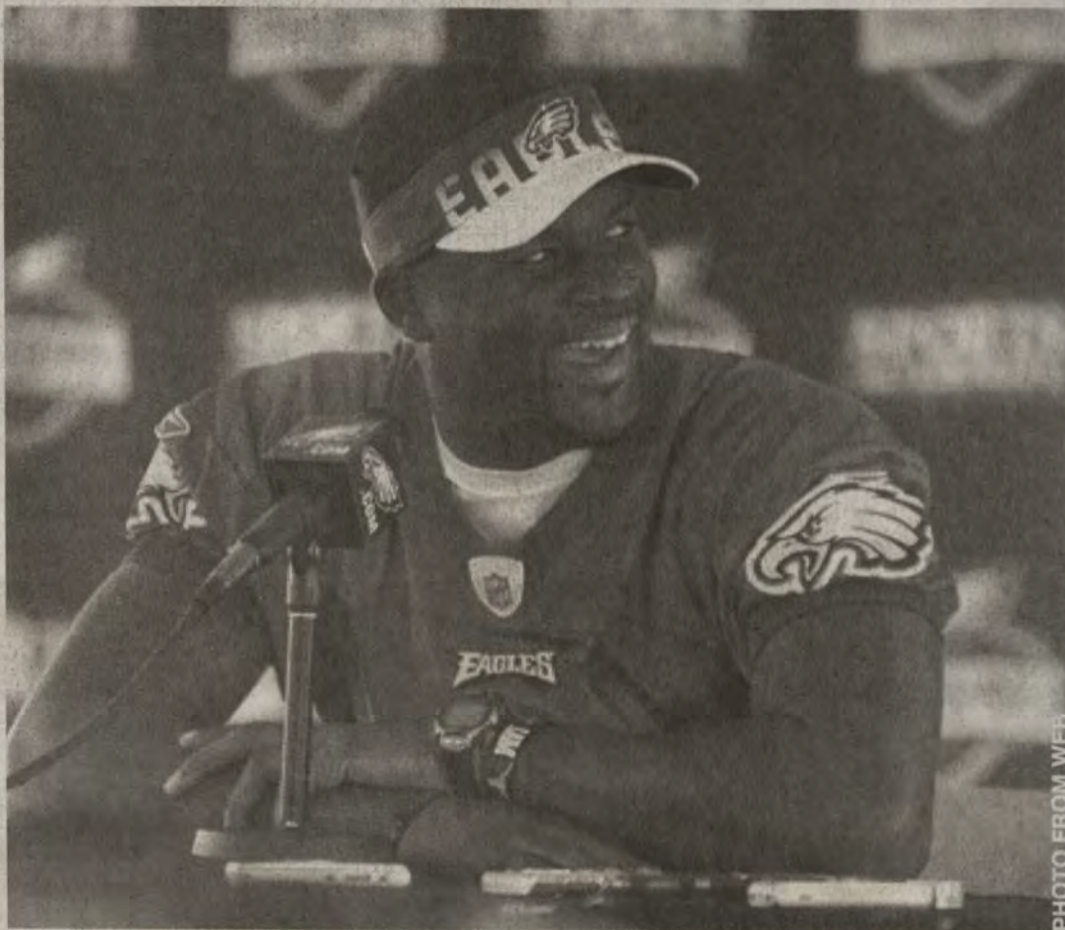
Bowl, and until he succeeds, his job is in serious jeopardy.

That being said, Reid attempted to make 2011 his Super Bowl year in which he would become a Philadelphia hero for eternity. The Eagles dominated headlines for the entire off-season, signing big names daily, including defensive end Jason Babin, defensive tackle Cullen Jenkins, backup quarterback Vince Young, and star cornerbacks Nnamdi Asomugha and Dominique Rodgers-Cromartie. As the Eagles added stars on defense to complement their stars on offense, Philadelphians saw that Reid and the Eagles organization essentially were going all-in. Management clearly believed that if they surrounded Vick with as much talent as possible, this team would deliver the Super Bowl victory that their fans have craved for so long. Needless to say, the Eagles created a buzz in Philadelphia and no one could wait for the season to begin.

Only a day after the Eagles signed Mike Vick’s backup, mentally unstable Vince Young showed Philadelphia the downside of winning big in free agency, as he fed the media a Thanksgiving-sized story in one phrase. When asked about the various acquisitions the Eagles had made, Young simply said, “Dream team.” As soon as he muttered those dreadful words, I could feel a chill go up my spine, and most Eagles fans felt the same way. The media, however, saw it as the perfect opportunity to treat the Eagles like the Miami Heat by implementing championship expectations that had been met...or else. With the fastest, most explosive team in the NFL, the Philadelphia Eagles suddenly caught themselves in a Super-Bowl-or-bust season.

The Eagles kicked off the season against the St. Louis Rams and quickly took care of business. They showed some weaknesses, especially at the linebacker position, but the Rams suffered key injuries and the birds capitalized to start the season 1-0. Next, the Eagles traveled to Atlanta for a primetime Monday night game and Mike Vick’s first start in his former team’s stadium. Everyone, including Falcons fans, expected to see the Mike Vick Show and for three and a half quarters they did. With the Eagles leading 31-21 in the fourth quarter, Vick suffered a concussion and had to leave the game. With Vince Young also injured, third-string quarterback Mike Kafka entered the game. All of the sudden, the Eagles’ defense could not stop a nosebleed as Falcons’ quarterback Matt “Matty Ice” Ryan led two touchdown drives, neither of which Kafka could answer, and the Eagles lost 35-31. The Falcons had finished 2010 atop the NFC and have been nearly flawless at home, so fans could understand the loss; however, with a 1-1 record and an injured quarterback, the Dream Team clearly had some work to do.

If you did not already know, the Eagles and the New York Giants do not like each other. Towards the end of the 2010 season, the archrivals



When Vince Young called the Eagles the “Dream Team,” their expectations went through the roof.

played a game to virtually decide the division. The Giants dominated the Eagles as they led 31-10 with less than 8 minutes left and unveiled to the world the blitz-heavy game plan that could stop Michael Vick. Then, Vick led one of the greatest comebacks football has ever seen, later named the Miracle at the New Meadowlands, capped off by DeSean Jackson’s game-winning punt return touchdown as time expired, which dropped jaws around the world and caused the Giants many cold, sleepless January nights as they watched the playoffs from home. Clearly the G-Men wanted revenge. With a 16-14 fourth quarter lead, Vick once again left the game, this time with a thumb contusion. The Eagles’ defense folded, Kafka did nothing but throw interceptions, and the Giants won 29-16.

As Eagles fans began to see a trend, Vick complained to the league that teams were literally trying to hurt him. This certainly brings morality into question, as a man who plead guilty to the promotion of a vast dogfighting operation only a few years ago now felt like the dog himself. Vick has always had injury problems, but if he faces defenses that want his blood every week, he stands no chance of completing a full season. However, Vick dealt with his thumb contusion and started the next game against the San Francisco 49ers, one of the most physical teams in the league. The 1-2 Eagles looked fantastic, taking their 23-3 lead into the fourth quarter before

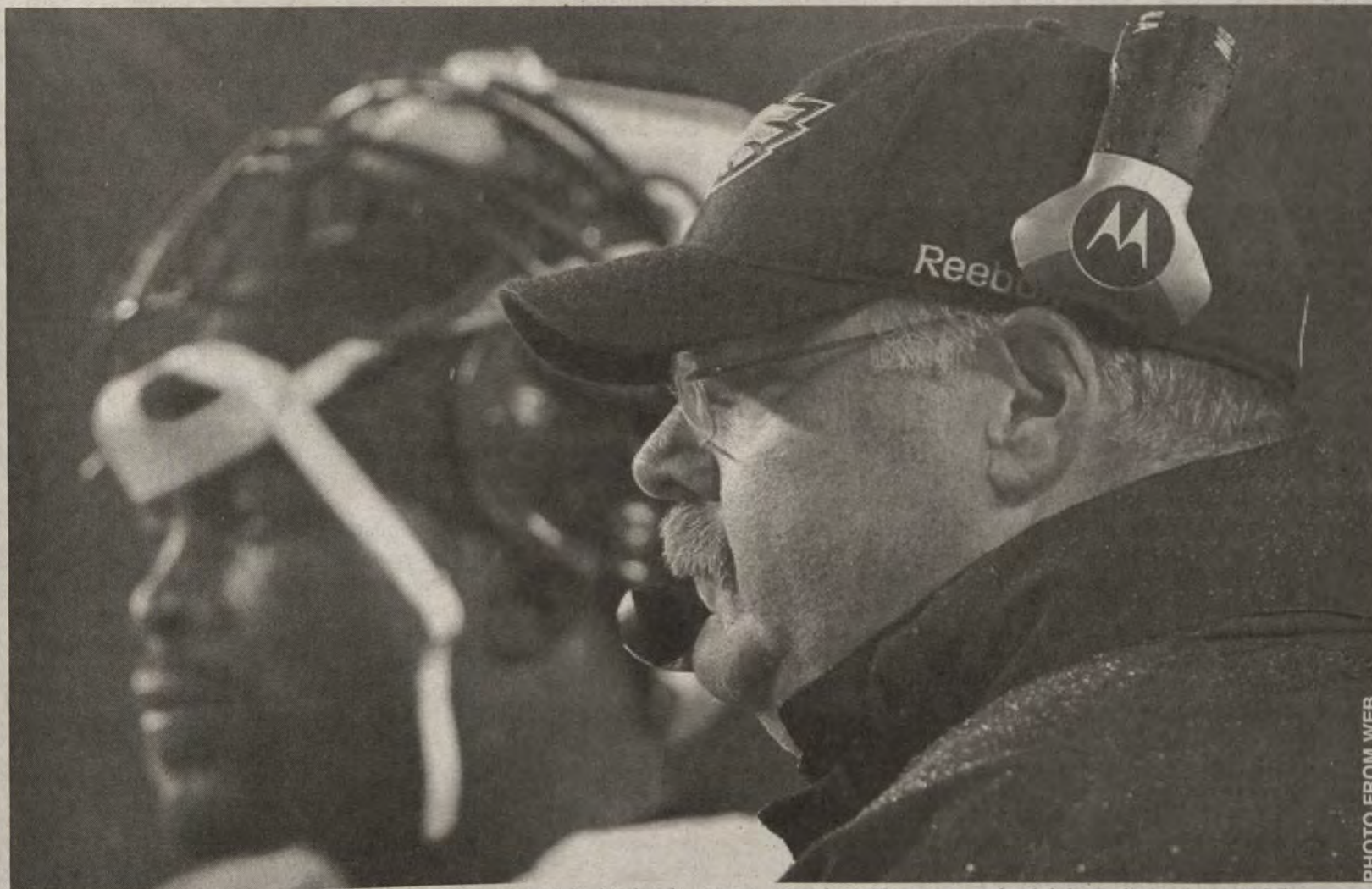
disaster struck. Suddenly one of the most talented teams in the NFL turned into a high school football team, handing the game to the 49ers in the most painful way possible, as a 24-23 loss brought the Dream Team to 1-3 and proved the Eagles’ lack of toughness. After the game, 49ers’ stud running back Frank Gore, widely considered one of the toughest players in the league, said that the Eagles seemed to stop playing after halftime. Anyone who watched that game would agree. Eagles star defensive end Jason Babin then complained that the team was celebrating in the locker room at halftime as if they had already won. Eagles fans were outraged.

The Eagles then lost to the Bills in a similar, boneheaded fashion and their 1-4 record made Philadelphians want to hide from the world. However, after a much-needed win over the Washington Redskins, the hated Dallas Cowboys came to town. After dismantling the Cowboys 34-7 and finally looking like the Dream Team, everyone gladly hopped back onto the bandwagon. The birds looked like they were gelling and ready to roll through the rest of the season. All of a sudden, a 3-4 record did not seem awful.

Not so fast. The Dream Team’s next two games featured two more blown fourth quarter leads against the Chicago Bears and the miserable Arizona Cardinals. At 3-6, the Eagles learned that Vick suffered two broken ribs early against the Cardinals, definitely contributing to one of his worst games ever. With the Giants up next on the schedule, Vince Young was about to see his first start in years. In a very strange game, the defense stepped up and Young led a late game-winning drive as the Eagles kept their season alive by beating the Giants 17-10.

Whenever anything has gone right for this team, they get cocky and blow it. Right on cue, Young and the Eagles looked terrible in their next two games, getting absolutely beaten up by the New England Patriots and Seattle Seahawks. At 4-8, the Dream Team’s Super-Bowl-or-bust season has turned into a nightmare. They will not make the playoffs for the first time since 2007 and could finish with their worst record during Reid’s tenure. Nobody doubts the talent on this team as they have showed flashes of pure brilliance. However, they lack the discipline and fundamentals necessary to close games. It seemed from the start that the Eagles cared more about living up to Dream Team expectations than simply winning football games.

Needless to say, this has left Philadelphians miserable and empty on Sundays. Eagles fans have been consistently ranked the meanest fans in all of sports, but we are simply insecure. With so many great teams and playoff runs without a ring to show for it, we still cannot put our team in the same category as the Patriots, Steelers and Packers. We can blame Andy Reid, Mike Vick, new defensive coordinator Juan Castillo, DeSean Jackson, or even Vince Young for his Dream Team curse. However, no matter whom we blame, we will still watch another team take our ring, and that is a fact we cannot escape. As we often say in Philadelphia, “there’s always next year.” •



Andy Reid put all of his eggs in one basket when he committed to Michael Vick as his starting quarterback. The experiment has left the Eagles last in the NFC East.

223 Thames Street
Groton, CT

11:00 AM - 9:00 PM
Tuesday - Sunday

PAUL'S
PASTA
SHOP

www.paulspastashop.com
860-445-5276

Order On the Court!

After 149 days, NBA players and owners reach tentative agreement

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Then, I wake up one morning and flip on *SportsCenter* to hear that the NBA is cramping my style. Owners and players have reached a new collective bargaining agreement to play a 66-game season beginning on Christmas Day. At least one thing we can all expect from this deal is one hectic season propelled by a shortened free agency period and a condensed training camp and preseason.

All this being said, there are a few storylines that are worth mentioning. For NBA fans across the country, sports media outlets have been seriously hyping this upcoming season. This is partly because of the free agency period that is going to rush by faster than Usain Bolt on speed. This is also due to the rumors that have been circulating involving big name players such as Rajon Rondo, Chris Paul, and Dwight Howard.

For starters, the NBA is doing its scheduling right. With huge matchups on Christmas Day, I know I will be tuning in to the majority of the season-opening

games. These start with a possibly renewed rivalry between the Boston Celtics and the New York Knicks, followed by a rematch of last season's NBA Finals between D-Wade's Miami Heat and Dirk's Dallas Mavericks. A third premier matchup features MVP Derrick Rose and the Chicago Bulls against the LA Lakers and their new coach, Mike Brown. The Orlando Magic and Dwight Howard will face up against the Oklahoma City Thunder and last year's leading scorer, Kevin Durant. Finally, young star Blake Griffin will lead the LA Clippers up against a young Golden State Warriors team. A fierce and festive Christmas is in the making.

The Eastern Conference has the ability to consolidate its power within four teams at the top of the standings. However, a power shift is eminent if trade rumors pan out. The report that Celtics

Director of Basketball Operations, Danny Ainge, was interested in trading Rajon Rondo have been quelled and for good reason. The Celtics and the original Big Three will not be able to keep up with the Bulls and Heat without the direction of Rondo. However one chooses to look at it, the Celtics are now Rondo's team and he must be at the top of his game to lead the Celtics to any success in the playoffs.

Involved in the Rondo trade rumors as New Orleans Hornets point guard Chris Paul, who expressed no interest in joining the aging Celtics team, but rather cited a desire for a trade to the New York Knicks to join Carmelo Anthony and Amare Stoudemire at Madison Square Garden. This would take some pressure off of Anthony to push the Knicks to

to dethrone the Dallas Mavericks. With the way Dirk Nowitzki took control of this team during their playoff run, it is difficult to imagine them falling from the top. However, division-mates San Antonio Spurs are still looking to collect another ring for the trio of Tim Duncan, Tony Parker and Manu Ginobili.

The Lakers are always a viable choice for a conference title but new coach Mike Brown is going to have to prove his ability to Kobe Bryant and a team that has functioned effectively under the rule of Phil Jackson. If Brown can keep the tempers of Ron Artest (sorry, Metta World Peace) and Andrew Bynum under control, we'll see the Lakers deep into the playoffs.

The true threat to the Mavericks, however, is the storm that is the Oklahoma City Thunder. Kevin Durant will be vying for his third straight scoring crown and if point guard Russell Westbrook can realize that this is Durant's team, I would not be surprised to see the Thunder in the Finals. Guard James Harden will continue to improve and Kendrick Perkins will provide the muscle down low to face up against Nowitzki, Duncan and Gasol.

The team to keep an eye on in the Western Conference is the LA Clippers. If they can continue to build around the crazy talent of Blake Griffin, we could see them playoff-bound in a year or two.

So we're going to have an NBA season after all. No more six-foot-plus men in expensive suits, no more LeBron vs. Durant flag football games and thankfully, no more NBA lockout updates on *SportsCenter*. Still, the best thing to come out of the start of the NBA season is the security that hundreds of workers will receive to know that they will be able to work this winter. There won't be layoffs or payless weeks for stadium workers and restaurant workers in the surrounding area. The NBA season will benefit the owners, the players, the fans and so many others.



David Stern and NBA executive director Billy Hunter have finally reached a deal. The season will kick off on Christmas day.

PHOTO FROM WEB

Men's and Women's Swimming and Diving Expecting Improvement at NESCACs

MOLLY BANGS
STAFF WRITER

On Saturday, November 19, the men's and women's swimming team traveled to Vermont to face Middlebury College and Tufts University. The men swept the competition with a score of 181-107 over the Panthers and defeated the Jumbos for the first time in Conn's history with a score of 150-130. The Camel women lost to Tufts by only three points and were defeated by Middlebury 172-125. "This win marks a very important stepping stone toward eventually getting to the top of NESCAC's and being a powerful team on the national level... it looks as though our preseason training has paid off," said Tim Walsh '12.

Hillary Scott '12 commented, "The meet against Midd and Tufts was an amazing way to start the season. Everyone performed so well, and we completely exceeded our expectations. With the win on the boys' team and close score on the girls', I think that it will give us momentum going forward into this season. Everyone is really excited and motivated to keep working hard."

Standout performances included Sam Gill '14 and his victories in the 50 and 100-yard freestyles (which he swam in 21.79 and 48.03 seconds respectively) and All-American Walsh and his wins in the 100 and 200 yard backstrokes (times of 52.52 and 1:56.21 respectively). On the women's side, All-American Julia Peilock '14 won both the 50 and 100 yard freestyle races in 25.19 and 55.26 seconds and freshman Esther Mehesz '15 kicked off her college career with victories in the 500 and 1000 yard freestyle events, which she finished with times of 5:14.17 and 10:43.81.

In terms of how this season is looking for the Camels, Peilock asserts, "We have a long season ahead of us and our goal is being on top by mid-February for NESCACs. What we do up until then as far as competitions go, doesn't matter that much. We have a lot of training to do to prepare for February."

Still, the swimmers are facing dramatic changes in their roster from last season. "We lost some extremely talented seniors last year, but they have now been replaced with an amazing freshman class. It's always hard when you lose talented swimmers like Sarah Murphy '11, who was third in the nation in the 200 fly, but there is now an opportunity for others on the team to fill that spot in other events," Peilock said of this challenge.

Scott states, "Something that we work on from season to season is competing as a team. Swimming can seem like an individual sport, but we put a lot of emphasis on the team aspect. Everyone is really involved in each other's swims and are always cheering if someone from Conn is in the water. We have a really young team - a ton of freshmen, so instilling in them this sense of team camaraderie is really important to us."

The Camels competed at home against the neighboring Coast Guard Academy this past Saturday and will race on December 10 at Williams College before having a month long hiatus from competitions (as many winter sports often do because of final exams and the holidays). Their next competition is not until January 10 - at Grinnell College. "We get back to school on the 27 and we'll train here until the 29 and then we'll fly to Naples, Florida and train there until January 13," said Brian Gilman '14. "Everyone looks forward to this trip because it's fun team bonding but it is also an important part of our training in preparation for NESCACs."

When asked what the team's major goals and ambitions are for the upcoming season, Scott exclaimed, "Every year we simply want to do better than last year. For the women's team, last year at NESCACs we got the highest score ever, so this year I think we just want to try to beat that. And of course, get faster times!"

IN CASE YOU MISSED IT SCORES

Men's Basketball (1-4):
Conn 85 - 70 SUNY Maritime
Conn - Montclair State

Men's Ice Hockey (1-4):
Conn 0 - 4 Middlebury
Conn - Williams

Women's Basketball (5-1):
Conn 79 - 50 Rivier College
Conn 72 - 47 St. Joseph's (CT)

Women's Ice Hockey (1-3):
Conn 0 - 3 Hamilton
Conn - Hamilton

Men's Squash (5-2):
Conn 4 - 5 George Washington

Women's Squash (1-3):
Conn 0 - 9 Trinity

SO YOU DON'T MISS IT GAMES

Women's Ice Hockey
vs Holy Cross
Dayton Arena
Wednesday, 12/7
7:00 PM

Women's Basketball
vs Yeshiva
Luce Field House
Wednesday, 12/7
8:00 PM

Men's Ice Hockey
vs Manhattanville
Dayton Arena
Tuesday, 12/6
7:00 PM

Men's Basketball
@ Wentworth
Boston, MA
Tuesday, 12/6
7:30 PM

NESCAC POWER RANKINGS

COMPILED BY THE COLLEGE VOICE



This week's power rankings reflect the second weekend of NESCAC winter sport action. The power rankings will be posted weekly and will rank the eleven NESCAC schools based on men's hockey, women's hockey, men's basketball, women's basketball, and the combined rankings of men's and women's swimming and diving.

Amherst remains at the top of the rankings. There is one small move in the top four as Williams edges Middlebury for the number two spot. Conn College drops to the seventh spot with a lowered men's and women's hockey ranking.

SCHOOL	MEN'S HOCKEY	WOMEN'S HOCKEY	MEN'S BASKETBALL	WOMEN'S BASKETBALL	M/W SWIMMING AND DIVING	AVERAGE	LAST WEEK
AMHERST	2	1	1	1	2	1.4	1 ↔
WILLIAMS	3	5	6	2	1	3.4	3 ↑
MIDDLEBURY	1	2	3	8	4	3.8	2 ↓
BOWDOIN	4	3	5	3	6	4.2	4 ↔
TUFTS	6	—	8	7	4	6.25	7 ↑
HAMILTON	9	4	2	9	8	6.4	7 ↑
CONN COLL	10	7	10	5	3	7	5 ↓
COLBY	7	6	11	4	10	7.6	9 ↑
WESLEYAN	5	9	7	6	11	7.6	11 ↑
TRINITY	8	8	4	10	9	7.8	10 ↔
BATES	7	5	9	11	7	9	6 ↓

The poll was devised as follows: Sports Editors, Dan Moorin and Jesse Moskowitz ranked all NESCAC schools in each sport. These rankings were based on NESCAC standings as well as quality wins and influential losses to NESCAC opponents. These scores were averaged to create a composite overall ranking for each school. Note that Hamilton does not participate in women's hockey, men's basketball or women's basketball. Bates does not participate in men's hockey or women's hockey. Tufts does not participate in women's hockey.