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THE COLLEGE VOICE .ORG

NEW LONDON, CONNECTICUT

SPECIAL ONLINE ISSUE

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 10, 2009

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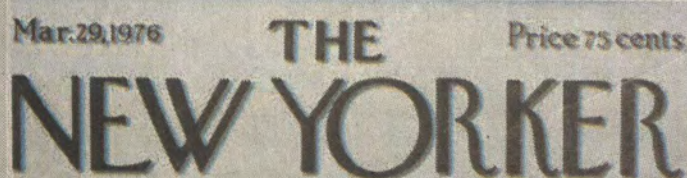
Richie Pallai, Jr. (8)



EXTRA EXTRA!

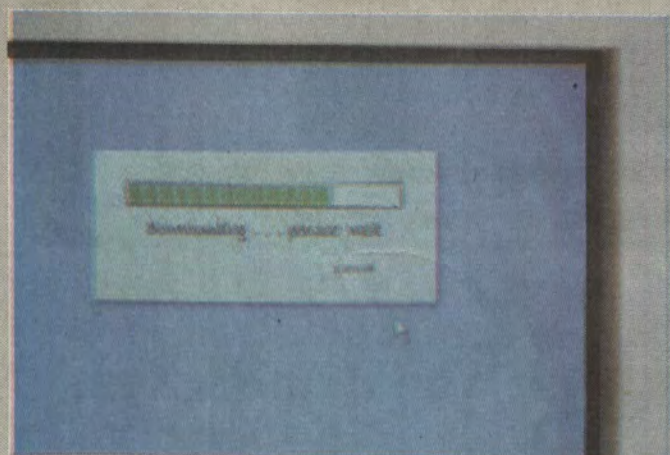
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NEVENA DELIGINEVA/STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER



"Anything you really care about can't be funny at all, [because] we cannot both laugh and feel. Cartoons provide distance [from sensitive subjects] because they're not real things... Humor is about freedom, especially the freedom to offend." -Robert Mankoff

SEE "THE NAKED CARTOONIST", PAGE 3



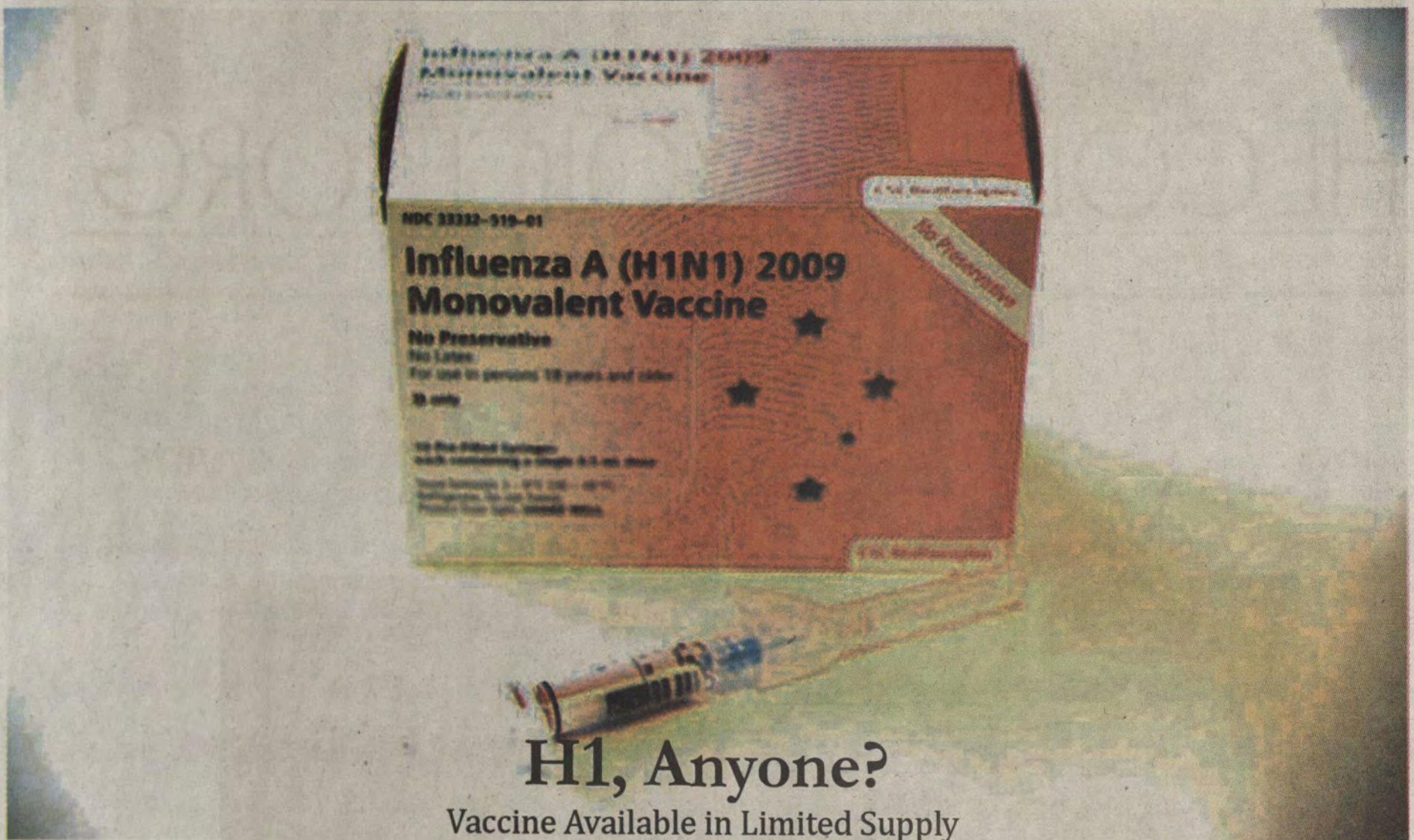
I check my Ethernet cord, go to the bathroom, brew a cup of tea and check again: still, nothing. I am not alone in these midnight frustrations; accessing the internet at Conn has become a campuswide waiting game, and no one is winning...

SEE "WOES OF A MIDNIGHT BANDWIDTH SEEKER", PAGE 4



The Scuds bring us improv comedy in (literally) epic portions...Each "Haroldic" journey is about twenty minutes of loosely linked scenes, each more outrageously funny than the last...

SEE "THE SCUDS", PAGE 7



H1, Anyone? Vaccine Available in Limited Supply

JULIE MCMAHON/STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

SARAH WEISS
STAFF WRITER

A campuswide email recently reported that currently 27 students are ill, which brings the semester total up to 85 students and 1 staff member who have reported flu-like symptoms.

In the midst of swine flu hysteria, there is finally a preventative measure: the H1N1 vaccine.

However, before rushing to receive the vaccine, one should research the side effects. Some scientists fear the new vaccine is linked to Guillain-Barre Syndrome (GBS), a potentially deadly and paralyzing disorder.

A confidential letter warning British neurologists of the dangers of the H1N1 vaccine was leaked to the British *Daily Mail*, written by Professor Elizabeth Miller, head of the United Kingdom Government's Immunization Department of the Health

Protection Agency. Miller discussed the consequences of the swine flu vaccine used during the mass vaccination in the United States in 1976.

The 1976 vaccine was withdrawn from use after only ten weeks of distribution due to the discovery of the dangerous side effects, such as GBS. The vaccine was said to have increased the risk of GBS by 800 percent. Over 500 cases of GBS were found and 25 people died from respiratory failure after severe paralysis.

Some are asking why the current vaccine is being rushed out for distribution without being first thoroughly tested for potentially harmful side effects.

On a national level, pregnant women and children are being given priority for receiving the vaccination, though vaccine trials on these subgroups are not yet complete. Doctors suggest

the risks of contracting the H1N1 disease are higher and more dangerous for pregnant women and young people. They say the risk of contracting H1N1 is more significant than the risks of the vaccine.

Despite concerns about side effects of the new H1N1 vaccine, doctors in both the United States and the United Kingdom have claimed there is no legitimate evidence that the swine flu vaccinations of 1976 caused the hundreds of cases of GBS and the resulting deaths.

The common side effects of the H1N1 vaccination are reported to include headaches, malaise, muscle pain, chills, nausea, fever and vomiting.

These effects do not differ greatly from those of the regular seasonal flu vaccination.

Other scientists and health officials claim that the Center for Disease Control and Prevention's (CDC) spread of the

swine flu pandemic is unjustified and misleading. Some officials have reported that the distribution of flu vaccines as a general practice is useless and ineffective.

Dr. Anthony Morris, former Chief Vaccine Control Officer of the United States Federal Drug Administration (FDA) argued, "There is no evidence that any influenza vaccine thus far developed is effective in preventing or mitigating any attack of influenza."

A recent campuswide email said that Connecticut College is a state-designated site for distributing the H1N1 vaccine and has now started offering the vaccine to a limited number of students according to the criteria and priorities determined by the state of Connecticut and the CDC.

If additional supplies become available, Student Health Services will offer the H1N1

vaccine to more students.

While a number will certainly get the vaccination if it becomes widely available, others voice concerns.

One student explained why she does not want to receive the vaccine: "I don't really think it's necessary. Swine flu is overhyped. I don't want a vaccine that has been rushed to be put out and is the first round of a vaccine."

In light of the 85 students who have reported flu-like symptoms so far this semester, campus administration has been taking steps to keep students informed about taking preventative measures against the H1N1 disease which include washing your hands frequently, covering coughs and sneezes with a tissue and avoiding close contact with sick people.

dining.thecollegevoice.org

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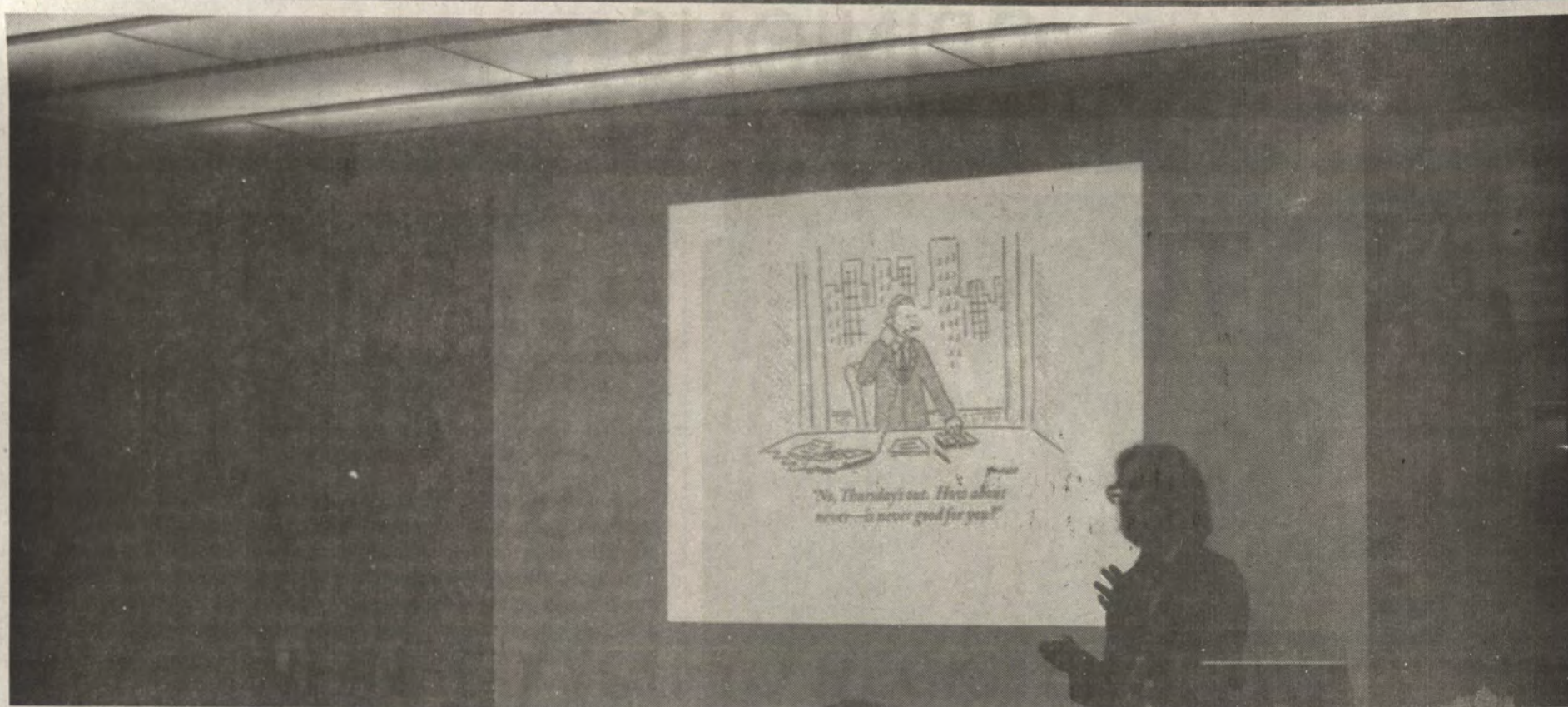
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KELSEY COHEN/PHOTO EDITOR

The Naked Cartoonist

New Yorker Cartoonist Bridges the Gap Between Religion and Humor

MEREDITH BOYLE
STAFF WRITER

Robert Mankoff, cartoon editor for *The New Yorker* and author of over nine hundred cartoons, is not a cartoonist who draws naked, but he is the author of a book titled *The Naked Cartoonist: A Way to Enhance Your Creativity*.

Last Thursday, Mankoff visited the College to give a lecture titled "Comedy, Tragedy, Religion and Me."

Organized by Assistant Professor of Religious Studies, Sharon Portnoff, the lecture was sponsored by 'The Saul Reinfeld Memorial Lecture in Judaic Studies,' which brings a distinguished speaker to campus to speak in areas of Jewish

interest every year.

"I selected Robert Mankoff to speak this year because of his expertise on the role of humor in American business, politics and life. He has recently been speaking at various venues about the role of humor in Jewish life," said Portnoff.

Mankoff began the lecture by debunking the sign in the Chu room prohibiting cell phones, "I'm from New York — we're busy people!" His cell phone did indeed ring in the middle of the lecture.

As cartoon editor of *The New Yorker*, Mankoff reviews over 1,000 cartoons per week, claiming that the immense number of cartoons he rejects can sour his personality.

An ironic twist, Mankoff said

his own cartoons were rejected from *The New Yorker* for two years straight before he finally was accepted.

"People ask me how I come up with cartoons, and the short answer is: I think about it," Mankoff said of his creative process.

Aside from discussing his role as cartoon editor, Mankoff's lecture centered around humor in general, not necessarily specific to cartoon, though they were frequently used as examples throughout the presentation.

Historically, the concept of "sense of humor" did not develop until the 1850s. People who laughed during that time were considered to be either making fun of people, or crazy.

Mankoff kept the crowd of roughly sixty audience members laughing throughout the talk as he discussed three humor theories: superiority (for example, *America's Funniest Home Videos*), relief (bloopers) and incongruity (humor in which things don't exactly match up, like *Monty Python*).

Towards the end of the talk, Mankoff integrated the idea of religious humor, particularly in regards to anti-Semitic jokes that were published in *The New Yorker* in the 1920s.

"Jewish humor," he claimed, "makes fun of itself."

In the case of cartoons that associate with religion and other touchy subjects, Mankoff said, "Anything you really care about can't be funny at all,"

because "we cannot both laugh and feel."

He explained that when laughing at a joke, the audience must be somewhat removed from the situation in order to find it funny. Usually, he said, "cartoons provide distance [from sensitive subjects] because they're not real things."

However, Mankoff did acknowledge that cartoons have the power to emotionally damage those exhibited in the drawings; however, he concluded that their offense comes from deeper issues, not just an immediate reaction to a drawing in a magazine.

Mankoff said, "Humor is about freedom, especially the freedom to offend."

This is NOT a test!

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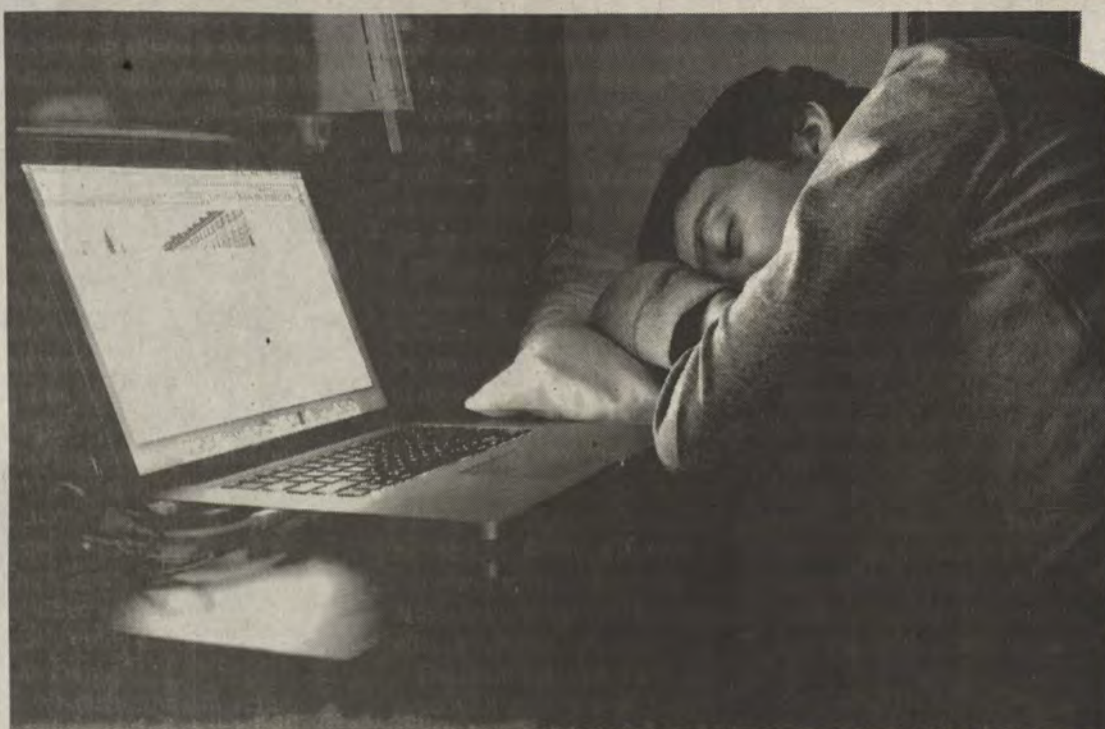


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CONNECTICUT COLLEGE

OPINIONS

November 10, 2009 | Editor: Alfred DeGemmis | opinions@thecollegevoice.org

DUNCAN SPAULDING/STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Woes of a Midnight Bandwith Seeker

RACHEL BLITZER
COLUMNIST

My eyelids flicker as I stare at my computer screen, transfixed by the loading bar on my browser, inching slowly toward the finish line: 100 percent.

It is 1 AM on a Tuesday and I have been attempting to connect with Moodle for the past ten minutes to no avail. I check my Ethernet cord, go to the bathroom, brew a cup of tea and check again: still, nothing.

I am not alone in these midnight frustrations; accessing the internet at Conn has become a campus-wide waiting game, and no one is winning. This drastic decrease in Internet speed is due to a dearth of bandwidth available at certain hours of the day.

Conn's current service plan allots the college 70 MB of bandwidth, which is easily maxed out during the peak hours from 10 PM to 2 AM. When the bandwidth is at capacity, the network speed slows to a trickle.

Lee Hisle of Information Services (IS) attributes the increased bandwidth demand to changes in the nature of internet activity: "It used to be peer-to-peer music downloading clogging the pipes; now it is video applications, especially video downloading and streaming."

Whatever the cause, the Internet is getting to be prohibitively slow. Students have

been unable to load YouTube videos, Skype their friends abroad or even access Moodle. The last complaint is the most alarming; the inability to access a vital academic resource is unacceptable.

IS has recognized the importance of the issue and is working on ways to alleviate the bandwidth burden. The most plausible solution floated so far is a simple increase in the amount of bandwidth purchased from the service provider; a boost to 100MB would cost an additional \$15,000 per year. This sum translates to roughly \$8 per person. A few years ago, students voted to have the annual tuition increased by \$25 in order to offset the college's carbon emissions. This referendum passed and was approved by the administration.

While such a process is time-consuming, the principle of the idea is unobjectionable; a similar resolution for the purchase of more bandwidth would surely survive a student vote. The \$15,000 should not be difficult to raise, whether through such a resolution or through a rehashing of the IS budget. Purchasing the additional 30MB is both feasible and cost effective, but is it enough?

Lee Hisle postulates that even with the additional 30MB, bandwidth demand would exceed capacity: "What

we know from other colleges with similar usage patterns is that students will saturate the additional bandwidth in pretty short order."

The next logical step would be to push past the 100MB mark and purchase more bandwidth. However, in order to effectively implement that purchase, the physical hardware that conveys the Internet signals would need to be updated. That renovation would require much more capital and labor than a simple purchase, and at this point in time, there is not a portion of the budget set aside for such revisions.

The Conn College community is in quite a technological quandary; do we simply purchase the maximum amount of bandwidth that the system can handle and hope that YouTube will go out of style? Or do we assail the already cash-strapped administration and demand an overhaul of the system that, most of the time, is adequate for our Internet needs? In order to keep the system operating at even a passable speed in the next few years, the amount of bandwidth purchased must increase to 100MB per year.

This is feasible within the next academic year and has a

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"Being Black" at Connecticut College

SKYLER VOLPE
CONTRIBUTOR

A few weeks ago I opened my mailbox to a navy blue postcard that read "Being Black at Connecticut College" in bold yellow print. It was an invitation to a discussion on matters such as what it means to identify as Black at Connecticut College, how African Americans experience the college, whether or not there is such a thing as a Black community on campus, and what are issues of interest to this community, if it exists.

I am a biracial student; my mom is Haitian and my dad is Italian, so I wasn't surprised that I was invited to this discussion, but I was surprised that Unity House and Umoja, who sponsored the event, assumed that I was African American.

In society's search for political correctness, we've been trained to equate "Black" with "African American," when the two are not synonymous. Just as there is not, and never will be, a universal white identity, there is not, and never will be a universal black identity. It's a simple fact; not all Black people come from Africa.

I think we've reached a point where nobody really knows what the definition of "Black" is. Is it simply a matter of skin color? Does darker skin make you "blacker"? Or is it a question of attitude; the ways that you walk, speak and behave?

I've noticed in my two months here that people on this campus tread very lightly around the subject of race, but maybe it's time that race is discussed outside of minority groups.

Black kids know what it's like to be Black at Connecticut College, so shouldn't the goal be to educate the rest of the campus community? It's sad that people need to be invited to initiate discussion behind closed doors at an event, but if that's the only way that discussion can start, shouldn't everyone be invited? In having segregated discussions about race, we aren't giving minority students a voice. We're doing just the opposite. Yes, it was important in the 1960's to have Black Student Unions at liberal arts colleges when there were only a handful of Black students attending them, but now our goal should be to strengthen the voice of the Black Community in the greater college community, while honoring those pioneers who helped to get us here.

You don't need to be Black to do that.

Why Obama Will Fail

WELBITH K. MOTA
COLUMNIST

Rush Limbaugh is onto something when he says that President Obama will "fail"

I've come to the conclusion that those of us who voted for President Obama saw in him the stuff that good national leaders are made of. I think that after eight years of Bush, the majority of the country was looking for something other (or more) than a mere political leader. We wished for a president that would go inside our stale political system, only to return to the periphery. We believed that Obama was the guy. That's why we struggled when comparing Obama to Kennedy or Clinton or to any other politician - deep down we thought of Obama as more like M.L.K or Mandela, or maybe even Oprah.

I think that those of us who voted for Obama had good reason. We are the heart of this country - a diverse yet common group of people - looking for someone who could reasonably 'unite' America and, as much as possible, the world. We are a group of rational idealists, who feel in our soul that unless something radical...

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A Response From the Deans

It is exciting when student's find their voice especially when it focuses upon gender issues here at Connecticut College. However, after the four of us received a letter by a group of students explaining why they felt concern about Connecticut college's sexual assault prevention environment and the present state of the Women's Center, which was followed by a front page article written by a different pair of students in the *Voice* on October 27, we have felt compelled to respond collectively and in kind.

We were dismayed to find that the tone and spirit of both the letter and article were unfair and failed to take into account the extraordinary and unprecedented progress this campus has made with respect to resources for women students in just three years

time. As administrators who value the college's emphasis on shared governance, we were disappointed not to be afforded the opportunity to engage in a constructive dialogue about the many issues raised.

There has been a tremendous amount of work and effort to transform the campus on issues related to gender education, sexual assault and violence against women. This work has mostly been generated by the offices in the Dean of the College Community division and especially by the Dean of Multicultural Affairs and the Offices of Student Life. While there is much work yet to be accomplished, much has already been done to improve the lives of students, to improve the safety of our campus and to project more programming into the campus com-

munity.

As four newcomers to the College, one of the initial concerns we had was to find a suitable location for the Women's Center since it had been housed in a dismal and tiny room in the Jane Adams residence hall. In the summer of 2007, President Higdon and Dean Bengochea worked with the Offices of Student Life to identify and designate a centrally located space for the creation of a new Women's Center.

[Read the rest online at
thecollegevoice.org/letters]

Sincerely,
Dean Armando Bengochea
Dean Jocelyn Briddell
Dean Sarah Cardwell
Dean Elizabeth Garcia

Ever wondered why we chose the camel as our mascot?



Find out how our mascot fares against our rivals online at
www.thecollegevoice.org

A Very Selective Singer

DANIEL HARTSOE
COLUMNIST

In his lecture at Conn on October 23, Peter Singer, Professor of Ethics at Princeton University, claimed that 'there is something wrong with not helping those in need'.

First, this claim begs a simple question: Who is to define 'need'? Should each individual define what he 'needs', and thus, according to Professor Singer, what others owe him? Would this not lead to a world in which it were each person's duty to serve others, and his right to be served by them?

Or should 'need' be defined by the people who wish to help those they consider to be in need? In other words, should Peter Singer define the common needs of all human beings?

Politicians throughout the twentieth century have defined the 'needs' of their countrymen and proceeded to attempt to meet them — through welfare programs, pension programs, medical insurance programs, public housing programs and

other numerous arrangements.

What distinguishes Peter Singer from the politicians that spend other peoples' money to satisfy other peoples' alleged 'needs'?

What distinguishes Peter Singer is that he is advocating for the fulfilment of every human's basic needs for survival — food, water, shelter and medical care. These, he argues, are the true needs of every human being.

But what does 'medical care' mean? The hunter-gatherers of pre-history had no doctors to turn to when they got sick — did they have a right to what today is considered 'basic medical care'? Of course not — an individual can't have a right to something that doesn't exist. Then are there rights that are born with the advent of new creations? Does any being have any right to anything that is created by individual beings?

Suppose that there is a group of humans inhabiting a forest in which the only thing they

consider fit for eating is honey. Since there exists no other source of nutrition for these people, by Professor Singer's logic they each have a right to a minimal share of honey.

Suppose that one of the forest-dwellers goes on a journey to the arctic tundra, bringing along with him ten jars of honey to sustain him through the trip. A group of humans lives in the tundra — but there is no source of honey.

Does each of the tundra-dwellers have a right to a share of the forest-dweller's honey? They don't even know what it is, and they don't need it for the satisfaction of their need for bodily sustenance — they hunt wolves for food, and eat nothing else. They could not have considered a share of honey as their right before the forest-dweller arrived — and yet the forest-dwellers estab-

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Conn's Own Budget Crunch

Are students being shut out because of financial constraints?

CHARLES COCHRAN
CONTRIBUTOR

This past August, a student of the class of 2011 withdrew from Connecticut College because he could no longer pay the tuition. Although on financial aid, his freshman year he was forced to take out a \$13,000 private loan to cover the remainder of tuition not paid by the college.

His sophomore year financial package was less, and he was forced to take out a further \$20,000 as a private loan. His junior year, his financial aid package shrank for a second time. He would have had to take out a further \$25,000 in private loans stay at Connecticut College. He is now attending a state school for his junior year, with an accumulated debt of \$45,000 to \$50,000.

If he had taken the third loan to stay at Connecticut, he

would potentially be close to \$100,000 in debt by the time he graduated.

I, myself am in debt \$1,700 and struggling to save with my campus job. It is a surprisingly heavy burden to have little money.

But to be in debt \$50,000, without much parental help? The thought terrifies me.

Why did this happen? Is it the recession? Is it making colleges raise their tuitions? Is it straining families to pay the tuition? Is it both?

According to the *New York Times*, the cost of liberal arts colleges nationwide has risen 4.4 percent this fall, or \$1,096

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A COLLEGE VOICE LEGEND RETURNS TO THE FRAY IN

"JacquesAttiques"

OUR CAFFEINE-ADDLED EDITOR SPOUTS OFF ABOUT LIFE

"Life's Short, Talk Fast"

BECAUSE DONALD BUDGE CAN ONLY GET FUNNIER

"Budge This!"

[While you're there, check out our Dining Guide, videos, slideshows, etc. etc. etc.]

Alumni Blues

JACQUES SWARTZ
BLOGGER

There's surely no greater threat to today's collegian than all the friends and loved ones who insist life after graduation will be nothing short of a miserable disappointment. Whether it's a financially-strapped parent anxious about your job prospects or a five-month-out graduate eager to bestow some early worldly wisdom, it feels like everyone's just at the ready with their own noxious mix of pity and preemptive pessimism.

I especially hate any invocation of the so-called "Real World". As in, "Senior Year, eh? Well enjoy it now, buddy, 'cause the Real World is a whole 'nother story."

As if everyone graduates from a vast diversity of experiences at College into some singular,

uniform s---hole existence. Setting aside the gross condescension implied here that nobody under 22 has ever known "real" hardship, the biggest issue with this line is how it infantilizes those to whom it's addressed. The basic assumption of the Real World postulate is that College has done nothing but spoil and soften you, and the four years you've spent in pursuit of intellectual growth have, in fact, ruined your personal fortitude and hopelessly disarmed all your internal resources.

This whole phenomenon gets exacerbated pretty bad by the mainstream media, who love

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Visit www.thecollegevoice.org for a Justin Levy original comic book, *Welly and the Luohan*

Tasteless Television: The Maury Show Live In Stamford

ELLIE BENNER
COLUMNIST

I recently attended a taping of *Maury* in Stamford, Conn. with a carload of my friends. I was interested in seeing what it was like behind the scenes of *The Maury Povitch Show*, now known as just *Maury*. This program has been part of American culture since 1991, incidentally the same year that *The Jerry Springer Show* premiered.

Maury is considered the more civil of the two shows, as it does not encourage physical confrontation between its guests. Maury Povitch has been in broadcast journalism for more than forty years, in which time he has worked in Washington, D.C. as well as outlets all over the country. Somewhere along the line, he

made the switch to a morning talk show host and has never looked back.

Before attending the taping,

I was conflicted as to whether the stories told on the show had any truth to them at all. The theme of the taping I at-

tended was cheating spouses who were given lie detector tests to prove whether they were telling the truth. When

the show began, I saw that Maury's guests were not fabricating their tales, however the producers of the show were pushing them to be as dramatic and exaggerated as possible when arguing their side of the story.

One woman was convinced her husband was cheating because he was found showering with his boxers on. When the lie detector revealed that he was not, a look of absolute relief came over her. (The validity of these lie detector tests is always questionable, but for the purposes of this article, I will assume that they are all true.) However, when she did not fire back at his denials of



SEVERAL WHAT?
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Editor's Voice

On Internet Speeds and Taking Risks

What did you think of our "gigantic risk" issue?

We pretty much threw traditional layout out the window, and it felt pretty good.

Hopefully you appreciated a bit of creativity, and will check out our online edition where you can read additional content, watch videos and comment (though you can always write a Letter to the Editor - which are also now available online!).

However, there's a lot going on in the Conn online world, aside from the *College Voice* presence: students have been making themselves loud and clear about how they feel about the slowed Internet speeds on campus.

The Facebook group "Connecticut College need more bandwidth!!!" created by Alex Marcus of ConnCollConfessional and HelpDesk fame now has over 525 members, and is growing every day.

The comments have been productive for the most part - people telling stories of slowness, how it has affected their work (Moodle has slowed, not just Skype and Hulu).

Some alumni have also put in their two cents, suggesting that although spouting off on Facebook and garnering sup-

port is a good start, students need to go further and take a stand - by going to Open Forum at SGA, talking to their house senator or collaborating on an ACL (Above Current Level) request through the PPBC which, if passed, could allocate additional funds to Information Services' budget. This would allow the college to purchase a better Internet service plan.

SGA's been talking about this issue for the past few weeks, but more research needs to be done.

I, for one, am getting more and more frustrated with the Internet speed every day. I went online around 10 PM on Saturday and it was around the speed it used to be last year (since most everyone was out and not in their rooms).

I miss that speed!

If you miss being able to watch your favorite shows online, chatting with friends and family on Skype and being able to conduct research for class without waiting 30+ seconds for a page to load, take a stand.

Be pro-active. Nothing's going to change if we don't push the issue, and explain why this is so important.

-Claire

Letters to the Editor

Response to "On Partying at 'Mo Sun,'—Or, Not":

Although I agree with last week's article "On Partying at 'Mo Sun,'—Or, Not" there was information in the article that I think is based on assumptions and generalizations that I feel needs to be addressed.

The first generalization came in the first paragraph, which stated that the Trail of Tears forced tens of thousands of Native Americans out of their homes, and although this is relevant when discussing other tribes, it is not when discussing the Mohegan Indian tribe of Connecticut. Unlike other tribes, which were being forced from their homes in the 1800s, the Mohegans had made deals with colonists and the state of Connecticut, not the federal government, two centuries earlier to sign over their land. The Mohegan tribe, although a victim of oppression, was not a victim of the Trail of Tears.

The article later states that tribal casinos, "Litter New England today." According to the National Indian Gaming Commission, there are two tribal casinos in New England, both in Southeastern Connecticut, one in Mashantucket, CT, and one in Uncasville, CT. It is clearly inaccurate to say that they litter all of New England,

when in the five other New England states, residents and governors have successfully fought to keep their states casino free.

The article continues by making two general statements, both of which are stereotypes and assumptions that the author fails to provide evidence for, stating that tribal casinos, "Serve only to propagate the exploitation of Native Americas, perpetuate the immobile ethnic castes of the modern U.S.-American class system." Later in the article, the author states that Indian casinos are, "Not good for the tribes (already shat on by the white man six ways to Sunday)."

I would like to counter these arguments by looking at the background of the history of Indian gaming. In the 1980s when the act was passed, President Reagan cut federal funding to Indian tribes by one third, from 3.5 to two billion dollars. Throughout the country, tribes were devastated and needed some way to regain the money, which they used to maintain their tribal governments and facilities. For many of these tribes, including the ones in Connecticut, gambling was seen as the best possible

solution.

In response to this, Congress passed the Indian Gaming Regulatory Act, which provided tribes with the legal opportunity to open casinos. Congress describes how they wish for tribes to use casinos as a, "means of promoting tribal economic development, self-sufficiency, and strong tribal governments." In response to the success of casinos, many outsiders challenged them, saying that casinos were unconstitutional and against the law.

However, the Supreme Court shot down that view, and continued to assert the importance of casinos in Indian culture, stating in a ruling that, "tribal games provide the sole source of revenue for the operation of tribal governments and are the major sources of employment for tribal members."

Tribal casinos may degrade culture, as the article points out because of mockeries of Native American culture such as the casinos...

[Read the rest online at thecollegevoice.org/letters]

Sincerely,
Katherine Sartiano

What did you think of our "Special Online Edition"?

Let us know! Check out thecollegevoice.org and comment to your heart's content or write a Letter to the Editor. We've been bombarded with Letters lately, and it feels good. Makes Sundays in Cro 215 worthwhile.

Response to "Rugby Finishes Strong":

I was particularly flustered by your coverage of the rugby team's most recent season.

Obviously flawed writing within the article notwithstanding, what concerned me most was the disparity between the headline and the article.

Specifically, the headline and the first sentence of the article

were opposite. Justin Levy clearly does not understand the importance of writing a headline that describes the article.

For shame. His hackneyed and stilted style that dismissed the rugby team as a bunch of amateurs must have been incorrect, the headline said so!

The blame cannot fall on

those who allowed Justin to write such a slanderous article, nor on any editors. I'd like to publicly denounce Levy for such biased and anti-factual garbage tainting my *Voice*.

Angrily,
Justin Levy

THE COLLEGE VOICE

"The views and opinions expressed in *The College Voice*, as in all student publications, are strictly those of the 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."

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Response to "SACK SAC":

I am writing in response to the article "Sack SAC" which appeared in the November 3 issue of *The College Voice*. This article was full of "misinformed and baseless attacks" that spotlighted the ignorance with which the article was written.

I am going to use this response to combat the confusion between what is fact and what is fiction. This article was intended to be satirical but in my eyes it was unnecessarily driven and slanderous. The writer of this opinion piece added fuel to a pointless fire.

The Student Activities Council (not in Committee) has done a great job in an attempt to cater to the "immensely diverse student body with incredibly varied interests". One lesson that was passed on from past SAC chairs is the fact that you cannot please everyone on this campus with one event but rather with an assortment of activities.

SAC is comprised of many different committees that plan activities all across the spectrum.

The Off-Campus Committee plans excursions to Holiday Bowl, Laser tag and Koto for dinner. The FNL committee puts together a concert every Friday night.

The Variety Committee puts together cookie decorating, game shows and traditional Cro dances, which are packed every time they are planned.

SAC also has a Fundraising committee that plans events with the goal of having a great FLORALIA.

Co-sponsorship is also a main aspect of SAC because we support every other club on this campus financially and that fosters diversity in events.

The only factual thought in this opinion article was when he states many students on the Connecticut College campus are quick to pass judgment on organizations such as SGA and SAC without attending a single meeting or doing research and informing themselves of the purpose of the aforementioned organizations.

The writer of "Sack SAC" based his statements on his personal experiences because

in my time on SAC I have never seen him at a single SAC meeting. Furthermore, it has been greatly advertised that Open Forum occurs every Sunday at 7 PM in the 1941 room thus if he had brought these opinions to the appropriate setting, they would have been properly addressed rather than a passive-aggressive exchange in print. The basis of Open Forum is so that any student on this campus can express any concerns or ideas for future events.

If anyone has suggestions for events and activities that SAC should plan then feel free to email sac@conncoll.edu and we will not hesitate to plan events that students want. That is why we are called the STUDENT Activities Council, to make sure your college experience is a great one.

Sincerely,
John Meade
Chair of SAC

ARTS + ENTERTAINMENT

November 10, 2009 | Editors: Racine Oxtoby and Kris Fleming | arts@thecollegevoice.org

Theater Preview: *Doubt: A Parable*

Students Take On the Tony-Award-Winning Play

MATT GENTILE
STAFF WRITER

You may have heard that John Patrick Shanley's hit show *Doubt* is opening its doors at the college next weekend. This last week, I had the privilege of being able to talk to the cast and the director about the upcoming production.

As you may or may not know, *Doubt* was recently a critical and commercial success on Broadway, with Brian F. O'Byrne. It won several Tony Awards including Best Play, Best Director and Best Actor.

It was also adapted into a 2008 film starring Philip Seymour Hoffman, Meryl Streep,

Amy Adams and Viola Davis: all of whom were nominated for Oscars in their respective performances.

The play has received overwhelmingly strong critical acclaim. Now, returning director Nancy Hoffman brings the play to the Tansill Theater.

"I think it's such a great play for a college to do because it has so many layers. It poses so many rich questions to the audience about ethics, to the point where it will force you to talk," said Hoffman.

The cast is small, featuring only four actors on stage. It consists of two seniors, Charles Cochran and Sarah Hornbach (both of whom were

seen in Hoffman's directorial effort *Language of Angels* last year) and sophomores Kristin Hutchins (debut) and Shani Brown (*Hair*).

"It's certainly the biggest role I've ever had," said Cochran. "Father Flynn is a very complex character to tackle - it's been a lot of fun, and it's definitely the best acting experience I've had at Conn."

"One of the biggest challenges about playing this role is figuring out whether or not she is the absolute hero or the absolute villain. It poses a real

WANT TO READ MORE?
CHECK OUT THE REST AT
THECOLLEGEVOICE.ORG

Scuds Review

CELIA WHITEHEAD
STAFF WRITER

The Scuds bring us improv comedy in (literally) epic portions.

Behind the scenes they limber up their spontaneity with traditional theatrical games (zip, zap, zoop anyone?) because once they enter a "harold" (the official term to describe their form) there's no holding back.

Each "Haroldic" journey is about twenty minutes of loosely linked scenes, each more outrageously funny than the last.

Quixotic, this band of brothers and sisters galumphs through the dangerous but fertile desert of the unknown. They don't fall back on used stereotypes like

anarcho-syndicalist peasants or killer rabbits; their characters are diverse and original, for example the carnivorous luggage channeled by Katie Lynch or the mad inventor of the Bumbershoot Extreme, an umbrella equipped with a rain-drop obliterating machine gun.

One member describes their show as "a comedic theatrical adventure into the wacky whimsy minds of Katie, T-Pain, M-Diggity, Mark Walberg, The Sniper and a few others who can't settle on just one nickname for themselves".

No pop culture reference is too tacky and no scene is too 'far

CHECK OUT THE REST AT
THECOLLEGEVOICE.ORG

"Some Assembly Required": Dance Club Show



TANHA SIMON

View more photos online in our dance show slideshow.

Go Downtown! Friday Nights in the District

CELIA WHITEHEAD
CONTRIBUTOR

Fret not if you missed out on the excitement taking place in New London all evening last Friday, with Conn students and local New Londoners alike flocking the streets of downtown to take advantage of stores staying open until 8 PM or later, featuring special events, demonstrations and music, because *Friday Nights in the District* will continue every weekend until December 18.

Last Friday's highlights included an inspired improvisational performance by Theodore Geisel's Flying Laboratory at MUSE Gallery, Henna tattoos at Flavours of Life, fortune telling at Arci-

olinda, caramel apple making at Fiddleheads, ghost stories by the New London Historical Society and free admission at the Custom House Maritime Museum.

Conn students delighted in a plethora of ten to twenty percent discounts to local restaurants throughout the night including Northern Indian, Chaplin's, Passion Coffee House, Bangkok City Thai, Gianni's, Dev's on Bank St. and Left Bank Bistro.

The Friday night lights of New London are only going to get brighter. We can look forward on November 13 to a *Zombie Walk* starting from Spirit Gallery at 5:30 PM, *Kissable Lips 4 Everyone* at Flavours of Life, free admis-

sion to the Custom House Maritime Museum, an "Empty Canvas" at Aticc Boutique, *Friday Night Magic* at Sarge's Comics at 8 PM, Hour of Power Yoga from 5:30 - 6:30 PM at Blissworks Yoga, and a possible surprise joint improv comedy show with the SCUDS and N20 and "Bad Boys": a new play directed by New London's Michael Maguire at Golden Street Gallery.

You can find out more about *Friday Nights in the District* on Facebook.

As the weather gets colder, New London's energy is becoming warmer and brighter so be sure to get downtown Friday nights throughout the semester: it's the place to be!

LINCC - Linking Connecticut College and New London

Facebook: *Friday Nights in the District, Upbeat in Downtown New London*

Album Review: Ryan Leslie's *Transition*

JEFF BAIRD
STAFF WRITER

Few new vocalists are as intriguing and diversely talented as the Harlem-raised R&B producer, singer, songwriter (and occasional rapper) Ryan Leslie.

After scoring his first big hit with Cassie's "Me & You", which he wrote and produced back in 2005, Leslie has become a highly sought after songwriter and producer, working with everyone from JoJo to LL Cool J.

A self-taught multi-instrumentalist and academic genius (Leslie scored a 1600 on his SATs at age 15 and skipped his senior year of high school to graduate from Harvard before turning 20), Leslie's work reflects his intellect, widely evident through his prowess in musical composition.

It seems to come easily to him as well: *Transition* is Leslie's second full-length release in nine months, both albums of minimal features (just one guest verse per album) where Leslie has also done all of the writing and producing. Even with this influx of new material, backed by Casablanca Records, Leslie's albums and singles have seen little push (his self-titled debut has sold a mediocre 90,000 copies to



RYAN LESLIE *TRANSITION*

date) and he is still far from a household name.

If the lead single "You're Not My Girl" (which has yet to chart) is any evidence, his sophomore attempt may not sell any better - however, the album itself is much firmer. *Transition* is an eclectic short set of eleven songs that fits together more by its uniqueness and experimentation than through the actual music.

Unlike much of modern-day R&B that is predominately pop-focused, Leslie strays away from this enough to gen-

Photo from Web
erate a soulfulness, while adding in a little bit of synth-pop flash and flair. This undoubtedly works to his advantage in creating an album that feels linked and compact, yet the absence of a radio-ready single keeps the album from having any real kick.

While many of the songs are

LIKE WHAT YOU SEE?
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THECOLLEGEVOICE.ORG

FUSION Preview

LAUREN SHENFELD
STAFF WRITER

Superstitious? If so, then you should know that not going to the Connecticut College Asian and Asian American Student Association (CCASA) production, "Fusion: The Pan-Asian Experience" might elicit bad luck.

Tickets are running out fast for this yearly event (formally known as Diwali and Intoxic-Asian), and Friday the 13th's program is certainly something members of the Connecticut College community should not miss.

CCASA is one of the most active clubs on campus whose mission is to "provide a supportive environment for Asians and Asian Americans." CCASA achieves this through all-campus programming such as movie nights, performances and lectures that "raise awareness of cultural, political, social and academic issues that concern Asians and Asian Americans."

As can be determined by the cultural and ethnic differences among the 300 to 350 students who come to CCASA's fall entertainment production each year, CCASA is certainly not a group on campus that attracts only those students who identify as Asian.

The producers of the show, seniors Justin O'Shea and Khanh Pham, CCASA's executive board and Artistic Director, junior, Wayne Ong, certainly have furthered this message through greater variety and number of acts that one can look forward to seeing in Fusion this year.

"We are really working hard to make sure our programming is truly pan-Asian," O'Shea said. "CCASA hopes, especially with Fusion, that we draw from Chinese, Japanese, Korean and Vietnamese cultures, in addition to Indian and South East Asian."

Before this move to create a more pan-Asian event, CCASA's fall production was called Diwali and exclusively featured Bollywood acts and South-Asian music.

This year, attendees can look forward to an authentic Chinese Lion from Singapore, amazing, student-choreographed and performed dancing that highlights traditions from all over Asia, and the traditional "Bhangra," or Punjabi modern hip-hop.

If the exotic dancing, music and costumes are not enough

...ENOUGH WHAT?
CHECK OUT THE REST AT
THECOLLEGEVOICE.ORG

SPORTS

November 10, 2009 | Editors: Sarah Haughey and Mike Flint | sports@thecollegevoice.org

Volleyball Competes in NESCAC Tournament

Takes Down Wesleyan, Trinity Before Losing in Semis

EMILY WEBB
STAFF WRITER

The Connecticut College Women's Volleyball team packed the stands at Luce Fieldhouse for their final league game against fellow Connecticut school and rival Wesleyan on October 30.

Although not accurately reflected in their record, the Wesleyan team was anticipated to be a difficult match for the Camels. The first two games, in what eventually pushed to a five game match, reflected the intense nature of both teams. In game one the Camels pulled out a 25-23 win, which was soon answered in game two with a 25-23 win in favor of the Cardinals. Each team garnered one more game, to force the fifth. In the final game, Connecticut College pulled away with the victory.

Although the team held strong as a unit, several key players stood out in the match versus Wesleyan.

Sophomore outside hitter Amy Newman was on fire with her remarkable 28 kills and 21 digs. Despite fighting an injury this season, Newman was able to consistently contribute to the Camels success.

Another key player was Senior Lauren Wise who, in her last home game for Camel volleyball, supplied 14 kills and 14 digs. The team's only other senior, Meg Christman tallied

10 kills and 5 blocks in her final game in Luce Fieldhouse.

The Camels, who had previously qualified for the playoffs, were fighting for first place in NESCAC with this victory. This battle intensified when Tufts University, who had previously



Terlizzi 12 celebrates after the Camels win against Wesleyan.

held first place in NESCAC, lost to Trinity College. This loss was quite unexpected and put the title of league champion and location of the NESCAC Tournament in limbo. Tufts University, Connecticut College, and Williams College each

went 8-2 in league, but Tufts garnered the honor of hosting the playoff tournament.

NESCAC tournament play began on Friday, November 6, and continued on through Sunday evening.

In their quarterfinal match, the third-seeded Camels took on the Trinity Bantams. Conn had no problems with their Hartford rival, beating the Bantams in straight sets: 25-19, 25-20, and 25-18.

Conn opened the match with a 6-0 run behind kills from Amy Newman. Newman finished the night with 16 kills, leading all scorers, and was helped along by teammate Chelsea Manning '11, who tallied 34 assists in the match.

On Saturday, the Camels took on Williams in the semi-finals. Conn had previously lost to the Ephs this season, going down in straight sets, 3-0.

Much to Conn's dismay, the result was no different than before. Once again, the Camels fell in three sets, ending a magical season for the team and the College community as a whole.

Volleyball was the only varisty sport to make it past the first round of NESCACs this season. With strong underclassmen leading the way for most of this season, you can only expect the Camels to be

CHECK OUT THE REST AT THECOLLEGEVOICE.ORG

Your NASCAR Classmate

SAM SILTON
STAFF WRITER



Richie Pallai Jr. 13

Richie Pallai, Jr. Some of you know him as an athlete, others know him as a classmate, but there are a select few of us here who know him as a NASCAR racer.

While the weather was still warm, Richie went to races around New England nearly every weekend. He has competed against, and out-driven others that were aged up to fifty years old.

In fact, since the beginning of August, he has placed in the top ten in four out of five races. Although he is not yet racing against the likes of Dale Earnhart Jr. and Jimmy Johnson just yet, he is getting closer to competing against big names like these.

Currently, he races on the Whelend modified tour; which is a minor league in NASCAR.

VOICE: When did you start racing?

RPJ: I started at age 16.

VOICE: When and how did it feel to get your first win?

RPJ: My first win came on June 30, 2006 in the SK light division. It happened in Stafford Springs, Connecticut at the Stafford Motor Speedway. It felt unbelievable. I took the lead on lap 18 out of 20. It was my first year ever racing!

VOICE: What has been your greatest achievement in this sport?

RPJ: I won the 2009 Spring Sizzler on April 26. This event was in the SK Modified division, which is the equivalent to the Daytona 500 of NASCAR racing.

VOICE: Do you have any future plans in this sport?

RPJ: Well, I made my debut in the NASCAR Whelen Modified Tour on October 4 of this year and qualified 3rd. This is the minor NASCAR league. In April, the tour is starting up again at the Thompson International Speedway. In total I will have fifteen races on this tour. I'm traveling across the eastern seaboard from New Hampshire to Tennessee and Virginia.

VOICE: So do you expect to go to the official NASCAR league?

THE ANSWER AND MORE AT THECOLLEGEVOICE.ORG

Camel Frisbee Flexes Muscles

Conn's Annual Ultimate Tournament a Success for Both Teams

NICK WOOLF
STAFF WRITER

Connecticut College's fall disc tournament happened on Halloween this year, and it hosted games for men's and women's teams from all over the Northeast on Tempel Green. Conn's two teams were both ready to play, and they each found success throughout the day.

On the men's side of the tournament, Conn College swept the competition out of New London! By beating Hartford, Southern Connecticut, Holy Cross and Olin, the men's team put on a show and won their own tournament. Captain Jonah Guerin '11 remarked, "It was a great weekend for us...our team is young, which is a good thing."

The team had also been to tournaments at Yale and New York this year, and they closed out the fall season on a high note. As it turns out, both of Conn's ultimate teams have benefitted from the addition of several talented new players who are making positive impacts thus far.

The women's tournament brought teams from four other schools to campus: Tufts, Skidmore, Mount Holyoke and Smith. These teams all competed fiercely, and no one went home without a loss. The Conn women won one match (against Mount Holyoke), and according to captain Anna Membrino '11, "It was a great win for our young team."

With fourteen new members this year, the team certainly is young, but it seems that they have what it takes to make the spring season even more successful.

Membrino joined the team during her freshman year, and she enjoys, among other things, "the emphasis ultimate puts on player-mediated play."

No refs? No problem! Ultimate is all about the idea of "The Spirit of the Game." According to the Ultimate Players Association's website, "Ultimate relies upon a spirit of sportsmanship that places the responsibility for fair play on the player." Conn's players know all about honor codes, and they have had no problem embracing this ideal.

With the Halloween tournament behind them, the disc teams now head into the winter hiatus looking forward to Spring Break 2010. They will both be practicing for what promises to be an epic trip to Savannah, Georgia, for the annual High Tide tournament in March. The teams will both compete against colleges from across America; Conn players wouldn't want to spend their break any other way.

Until March rolls around, the men's and women's teams will.

WHAT WILL THEY BE DOING? FIND OUT AT THECOLLEGEVOICE.ORG

NFL Midseason Review

SAM PERLEY
STAFF WRITER

Following up my midseason college football report a few weeks ago, this week I focus on the professionals in the NFL with some quick thoughts on each team as they hit the halfway point.

AFC East

The New England Patriots lead the division with a 5-2 record, and quarterback Tom Brady has regained his old form after missing all of last season with an ACL tear.

The New York Jets, who have a rookie head coach in Rex Ryan and a rookie quarterback, Mark Sanchez, have been inconsistent. While they have been very impressive in some games, they have also looked lost and mistake prone in others.

The Buffalo Bills continue their tradition of yearly underachievement with a 3-5 record. Quarterback Trent Edwards is injured and big off-season free agent signing Terrell Owens has been virtually a non-factor.

Rounding out the division, the Miami Dolphins have continued to completely confuse their opponents with their elusive Wildcat Offense, but have not show up in some games and have blown some big leads. Quarterback Chad Pennington is also out for the season with a shoulder injury.

AFC North

This is where we see one of the biggest surprise teams of

the year. The Cincinnati Bengals have rebounded well from their 4-11-1 record in 2008 to be tied for first in the division. Running back Cedric Benson has blossomed into a fine player after being left for dead in Chicago because of maturity and behavioral issues.

Tied with the Bengals are the defending Super Bowl champs from Pittsburgh. The Steelers got off to a rough start this year losing safety Troy Polamalu, but they have rebounded with some impressive defensive performances recently.

The Baltimore Ravens have shown substantial improvements in their offense under second year quarterback Joe Flacco. A rough three game losing streak in the middle of October, however, sent them into third place in the division.

Lastly, the Cleveland Browns have distinguished themselves as one of the worst teams on and off the field this season. Cleveland has still failed to resolve its quarterback issues, and Head Coach Eric Mangini and owner Randy Lerner have been taking plenty of heat from the fans and media.

AFC South

Heading down south, Peyton Manning's Indianapolis Colts continue to look dominant as they always do. They hit the halfway point with an undefeated 7-0 record and the leagues number one ranked defense.

The Houston Texans are

two games over .500 for the first time in the history of the franchise. Quarterback Matt Schaub has played superbly thanks to receiver Andre Johnson.

The Jacksonville Jaguars are trying to rebound from a disappointing season in 2008, but have failed to really make a whole lot of noise in the division. Now, the Jags are hearing rumors of ownership relocating the team because of poor ticket sales.

Finishing off the division is the basement-dwelling Tennessee Titans, who have fallen from glory after going 13-3 last season. The Titans are 1-6, the team ranks close to last in defense, and they have played most of the season with aging 36-year old quarterback Kerry Collins.

AFC West

Rookie head coach Josh McDaniels has led the Denver Broncos to the top of the AFC West even after trading franchise quarterback Jay Cutler to the Bears over the off-season.

The San Diego Chargers sit below Denver at 4-3. Although they are a game over .500, the Chargers have not beaten a team with a winning record yet, and they have failed to really impress anybody so far.

The Oakland Raiders continue their reputation as one of the most completely mismanaged teams in all of pro sports.

READ ABOUT THE NFC AT THECOLLEGEVOICE.ORG