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## Childish Gambino

JEFF BAIRD  
STAFF WRITER

"Hard for a Pitchfork, soft for a Roc-A-Fella/Music was my side chick, but now we're moving in together," read the opening raps on Childish Gambino's *EP*, the first rap from the multi-talented performer Donald Glover to garner any media attention. For years,

Glover's public persona was all about comedy — gaining attention through his improv group Derrick Comedy's YouTube videos, writing for *30 Rock*, and landing the co-starring role of Troy Barnes on NBC's *Community*. Little was it known that he was simultaneously releasing hip-hop mixtapes on his blog under the rap moniker of Childish

Gambino. Around the time of his *EP* release, he dropped a music video for "Freaks and Geeks" (which has earned more than five million views to date) and launched a nationwide tour featuring comedy and rap, exposing his side interest and drawing ticket sales through his already popular comedy persona. "Freaks and Geeks" took off,

and presented Glover as a punchline-rapper, so eager for laughs in his music that he'd stretch his humor beyond the lines of appropriateness.

As a fan, I'll be honest: that side of Glover only belongs in comedy. But this is a problem that weighs down many artists: the strive for attention and mainstream success forces many musi-

cians to create inauthentic music. An artist like Drake does this in songs like "Headlines" and "Make Me Proud," which belong nowhere in the dark, gloomy, subdued landscapes of *Take Care*.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 7



Matty Burns '13 and Lamar Ok '12 perform in The Trans\* Show, a student-directed exploration of gender, sex, race, class and culture. See story below.

## Trans\*cending Gender

JAZMINE HUGHES  
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

"Will you make sure to put the star after you type trans\*?" Lamar Ok '12 and Matty Burns '13 are sitting behind me in the College Voice office. After throwing old copy edits into a pile and wiping the table clean of old popcorn kernels, I start typing some preliminary notes as they murmur about the success of their recent collaborative project, last Tuesday's Trans\* Show.

Ok sits, legs splayed, in a beanie hat and a small silver hoop earring in his left ear, Timberlands unlaced. Burns sits opposite him, legs tucked one under the other, sunglasses never coming off from the time we meet in front of Cro's Nest to the time when, late for a lunch date, Burns rushes out, goodbyes and thank yous still hanging in the air.

"Sure," I tell them. "What does the star mean?" Our head copy editor is bound to ask.

"The star means fluidity," Ok tells me. "Writing simply 'trans,' without the symbol, can still imply a binary: transwoman or transmale. The asterisk is an all-inclusive term for identities that conceptualize gender differently, which includes genderqueer individuals." Both Ok and Burns self-identify as trans\*, with Ok comfortable with "he" and Burns preferring simply "Matty."

Their diction contains its own fluidity—Burns and Ok easily weave in and out of each other's explanations and experiences, often completing each other's sentences, reminding the other of an anecdote they should include or citing the other as an inspiration for action.

Though the two were familiar with each other for some time, they began to develop a serious, working friendship after the creation of Versum, a club and support group for trans\* students.

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## Return of the Woolly Mammoth?

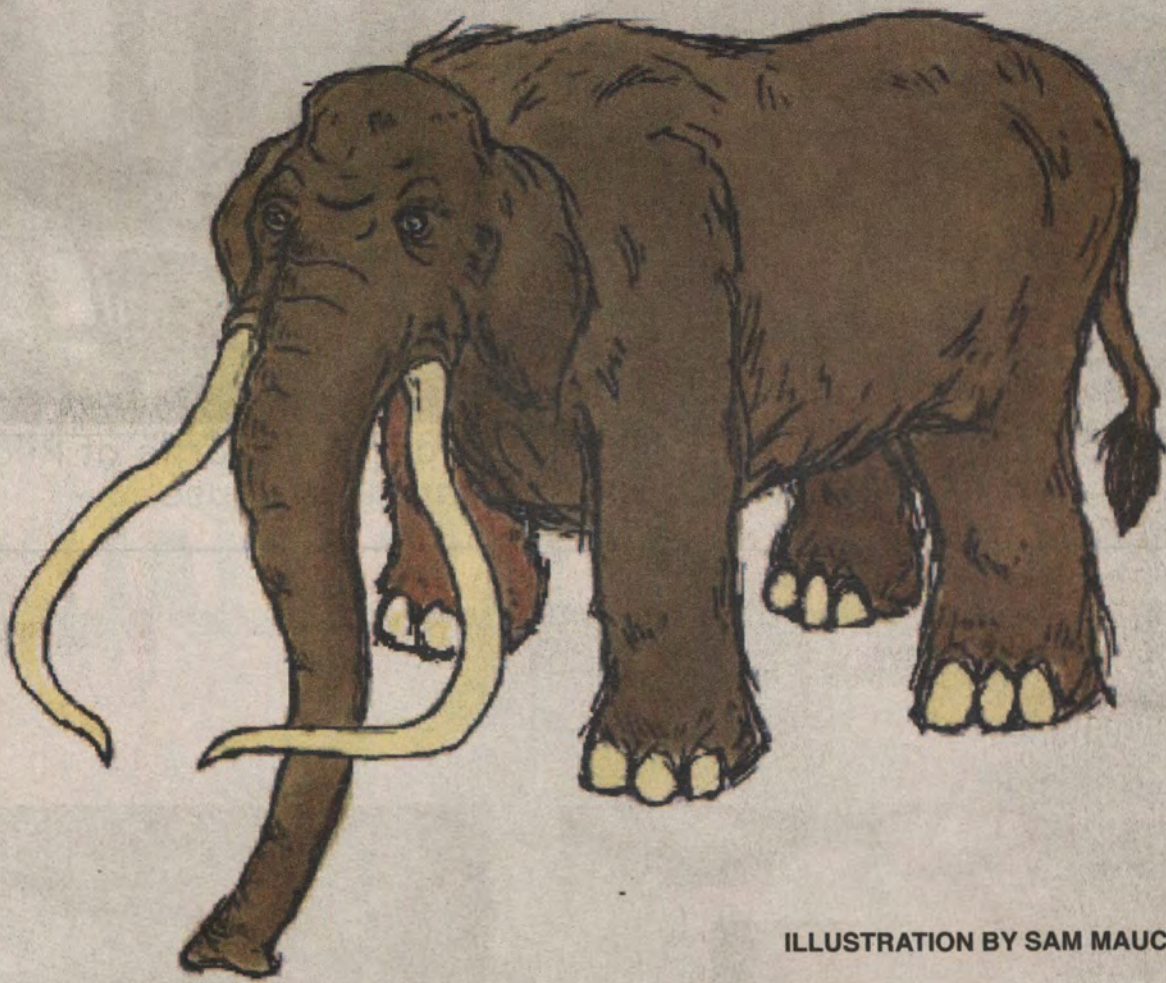


ILLUSTRATION BY SAM MAUCK

GREG VANCE  
STAFF WRITER

Scientists from Russia and Japan recently announced that they plan to start next year on a project to clone a woolly mammoth. If they succeed, they will be the first to ever clone an

extinct animal, which would represent a revolutionary breakthrough in cloning and genetics. Scientists at Penn State University have already succeeded in mapping the woolly mammoth's genome. Cloning a mammoth seems to be the next logical thing.

Could scientists really be only a few years away from turning science fiction into fact? "The ethical issues are interesting and complex," said philosophy professor Derek Turner, "but my overall take on the science is that the Russian and Japanese scientists are being overly optimistic."

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*Editor's Note: This article was inspired by the article "Punched Out" by John Branch, first published in the December 3, 2011 issue of the New York Times.*

This past spring, NHL player Derek Boogaard was found dead in his Minneapolis apartment at the age of 28. One of hockey's most feared enforcers, Boogaard died due to an accidental drug overdose. His autopsy reported the combination of alcohol and oxycodone as the cause of death.

For those unfamiliar with hockey terminology, an enforcer is a player who fights his way onto a team. In many regular season games the toughest players on each team drop their gloves and repeatedly throw bare handed punches to the face of the opposition. Boogaard was one of the most feared fighters in the league.

Boogaard was addicted to painkillers. Like so many other enforcers, Derek was given many prescriptions for pain pills during his professional career. As his career progressed, his body was wearing down from constantly giving and receiving blows to the head, and his drug usage increased. Eventually Boogaard would be taking painkillers constantly, whether it was out for a night of drinking, or after a game. And yet, while pills caused his death, it was the state of his brain that lead to his tragic passing.

Despite his role as an enforcer, Boogaard was never known around the league for being a bully. In fact he was a bit of a gentle giant, a well-respected member of the league. Fighting was simply his job, what the Minnesota Wild were paying him to do. In the final years of his life, however, friends, family and teammates noticed a change in his behavior. Boogaard stopped acting like his usual self and it was obvious.

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Bean and Leaf, a cafe located in downtown New London.



Second Floor of Crozier-Williams, outside of Cro's Nest.

## Best Study Spots on Campus

This past week, photo editor Hannah Plishtin captured the most secretive and studious rooms that she could find.



Seating area of the Oasis Snack Shop.



Jazzman's Café at Ruane's Den, outside of Harkness House.



First floor of Cummings Arts Center, near the Coffee Closet.



Basement of Harkness Chapel.



## 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."

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## Editorials

The past nine issues have been scary. The server, where we keep the files of the *Voice* from the past fifteen years, has occasionally failed; our software has randomly quit, citing a "modal dialogue" with which none of us are familiar; there have been missed photo credits and one time, we forgot that Opinions had a third page. Despite these challenges, the newspaper has become a true student venue — more than Oasis Snack Shop or Jazzman's Cafe. The *Voice* has become a forum in which students can rant, report, explore, implore, discover and dissect knowledge that affects every reader. Our office is full of ideas and old copy edits, our writers filled with issues with which they find passionate, our editors finding ways to make everything tighter, cleaner and better — and then

there's me, just trying to take it all in.

In her Creative Writing classes, Professor Blanche Boyd will often read a piece, then ask: what does "better" look like? This semester, we'll reached our threshold: we've produced ten full, student-run issues of student input, expression and debate that I'm extremely proud of. Our website is vibrant and active, and we're reaching people like we've never before. Here's to a semester of development and cultivation, of collaboration and synergy, of "better." Thanks for reading.

- Jazmine

## World News

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

### OCEANIA

**AUSTRALIA**—Australian officials have been trying to figure out a way to keep koalas safe while they tried to cross highways with a koala-friendly tunnel. The attention and money the government gave the koalas has led a businessman from Queensland to create bumperstickers that say: "Save the Redlands [his city of residence]...Eat a Koala." The bumpersticker raised controversy over the motives and [poor] judgement of the businessman, who claims he is obviously not really endorsing eating koalas—they "taste terrible."

### EUROPE

**GERMANY**—A letter containing explosive powder was sent to the chief of the German Deutsche Bank, but intercepted by police at the bank headquarters. Such a weapon may have been homemade from an item such as fireworks. Recently, members of the Occupy movement stormed a podium where he was speaking. The police are continuing the investigation.

### ANTARTICA

**NEW ZEALAND**—Happy Feet, the little penguin who lost his way at sea this past June and has somehow stranded on the shores of New Zealand, (rather than 3,000 miles northward) has found his way back home! The little guy, who won the hearts of millions with his waddling cuteness, is now disoriented but happy to have returned to Antarctica after so grand an odyssey.

### ASIA

**PHILIPPINES**— A four-seater plane crashed into a crowded slum on Saturday in the Philippines. The slum was situated near Manila's international airport, claiming thirteen lives including three children. The plane apparently suffered engine failure shortly after takeoff, thus crashing into the slum. Additionally, hundreds of residents are now left homeless due to the fire sparked by the crash.

Devin, Dan and Hannah — we'll miss your presence and your sunglasses. Hope next semester is peachy.



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## NEWS /// FEATURES

SGA  
News &  
Minutes

ALI ROSSI  
SGA CHIEF OF  
COMMUNICATIONS

SGA's meeting on Thursday, December 8 was the last one of the fall semester. Professor Ruth Grahn of the Psychology Department, Chair of the Faculty Steering and Conference Committee, came for the second week in a row to the Open Forum. She presented a possible change in weekly class scheduling that would move the time of the common hour from Fridays to Wednesdays.

The Voter Turnout Task Force briefly discussed their plan for elections next semester. Possible ideas include moving the elections to Cro, holding an info session in dorms to talk about the importance of voting for our representatives and having the candidates' table outside of Harris so the student body can ask them questions in a less formal setting than the speech night.

The Assembly approved the recognition of the Relay for Life Club as well as the official name change of COAST, the anti-human trafficking advocacy group, to Operation 21st Century Connecticut College Chapter.

The Assembly discussed the possible implementation of a so-called wellness dorm on campus, a new category of specialty housing. This type of dorm would promote mental and physical health on campus and would hold events in relation to those themes.

The Assembly's one and only formal resolution of the week was the Resolution to Implement Monthly Meetings for House Senators. The resolution was approved under the conditions that the meetings would begin next semester. These new House Senator meetings will be open to the entire student body. The intention is to create a less formal way for Senators and their constituencies to discuss issues and produce new ideas.

In total, SGA passed twenty resolutions this semester. •

A Look into the Life of  
Author, Activist and  
Lesbian-Feminist  
Mab Segrest

JULIA CRISTOFANO  
STAFF WRITER

Coordinator of a prominent anti-racism group in the 1980s, author of three critically acclaimed books, celebrated speaker in front of 30,000 people at the largest conference ever sponsored by the United Nations, one of three parents in a rather unconventional family and a self-proclaimed lesbian-feminist seem like too many roles for one person to fulfill. In Professor Mab Segrest is all of these things and more.

On Monday, December 5, Professor Segrest was the featured guest at a dessert and dialogue in Windham. For well over an hour, she captivated a common room full of students with stories of her personal and professional life before she became a professor and chair of the Gender and Women's Studies Department in 2002. Segrest read excerpts from her many books in her distinctive, light Southern drawl, passed out various publications from her years as an activist, presented family photo albums and sung a few choice verses of a hymn to explain her vibrant past.

Growing up in Alabama during the 1950s and 1960s, Segrest was no stranger to the area's rampant racism and violence. At age thirteen, she was sent to a segregated school, started by parents, including her own, who were concerned and angered by the racial integration of her public school. Her own grandfather was a member of the Klan, and one of her father's cousins was known to have killed at least one activist in the civil rights movement.

Segrest was intent on fleeing this racist culture and, despite staying in Alabama for her undergraduate years, she finally "escaped" to Duke University in Durham, North Carolina. After graduating with an M.A. and Ph.D. in Modern British Literature, she taught at a nearby college into the early 1980s and became involved for the first time in political activism.

Her self-described career as "a teacher by day, lesbian-feminist activist by night" lasted until 1983 when she left her teaching position to help found the North Carolinians Against Racist and Religious Violence (NCARRV) and functioned as the coordinator for this group for the next several years.

During her time with the NCARRV, Segrest was responsible for publishing a weekly newsletter, compiling annual reports of hate-motivated crimes in the community and attending political rallies. Not surprisingly, her involvement in this line of work made her a target of threats as well as an internationally recognized inspiration.

At one political rally she was singled out of the

crowd by an angry man who accused her of being responsible for putting a prominent racist in jail, to which she boldly thanked him for thinking she had that great of an impact. She was also the subject of neo-Nazi hate speech: Segrest was told to call a specified number and was greeted with a message that said, "Mab Segrest is a lesbian and will infect everyone with AIDS."

Despite this adversity, Segrest has been celebrated in both the political and pop-culture spheres alike. In 1995, she was asked to speak at the fourth World Conference on the Women's NGO Forum in Beijing, a non-governmental organization conference to discuss equality, development and world peace. She was also named in the Le Tigre song "Hot Topic" along with other women writers, artists, activists, musicians and feminists that the band idealized.



PHOTO FROM CONNCOLL.EDU

As a lesbian, Segrest was part of a minority of people in a country where homophobia was rampant in both the social and political spheres. As a result, she and her partner were faced with the task of trying to "figure out how to have a life," negotiate work, where one would most likely be fired

for being openly gay, and to navigate a homosexual relationship in a largely intolerant society.

Segrest and her partner, Barbara, were also trying to figure out how to have a child. Not wanting to use an anonymous sperm donor, and wanting to provide their child with a father figure in her life, the two women contacted David, a gay man looking for a similar situation. Together they agreed that he would donate the sperm and Barbara would carry the child. After drawing up a contract to keep any disagreements out of the courts, the three successfully raised a healthy baby girl who is now twenty-five.

With her radical political career and unconventional family, Professor Segrest's life is a story of success and courage in the face of all kinds of adversity. "It showed me how much you can do if you don't let fear stop you," she said. •

Occupying  
Homes and  
Hartford

MEGAN REBACK  
STAFF WRITER

*Editor's Note: This is the sixth installment in a series covering the Occupy Wall Street movement and its effects both on and off campus.*

Several months ago when the Occupy Wall Street movement, which has spawned Occupy protests across the globe, critics predicted that activity would slow, particularly in Zuccotti Park, as winter neared.

Despite the mass arrests by police all over the world, and despite attempts by law enforcement to dismantle encampments, the movement has endured, taking on myriad faces.

In New York City, where the movement first began in September, protesters have adopted a new tactic that focuses on foreclosures, which have been rife since the housing bubble burst a few years ago.

Rather than taking to the streets, Occupy protesters have started occupying foreclosed homes, specifically the homes of people who are about to be evicted because of foreclosure. The movement has been dubbed "Occupy Our Homes," and seeks to place blame on big banks for precarious and "shady" mortgage practices that encourage risky loans, allow highly speculative investing, take taxpayer money for bailouts and carry out illegal evictions.

As a result, a new mantra has arisen from this new offshoot of the movement: "Foreclose on banks, not people."

Since Tuesday, December 6, the Occupy Our Homes movement has attempted to open already foreclosed homes and install homeless families in them, in addition to keeping families in homes that are about to be foreclosed.

Through the use of Twitter and other social networking sites, in addition to the tight-knit network of Occupiers across the country, Occupy Our Homes has taken place in more than twenty-five United States cities. In Atlanta and Seattle, the new movement has actually had some success in getting banks to delay foreclosures and work with their clients on loan modifications.

In Washington, D.C., protesters do not seem to have let up. This past Wednesday, December 8, at least sixty protesters were arrested on K Street NW, which is a historic lobbying hub. Occupiers blocked four key intersections, shutting down the street for much of Wednesday afternoon. Protesters joined with the group "Take Back the Capitol," a union-backed group that sought to highlight the impact of lobbying firms that represent corporate interests.

And while the fervor of Connecticut College's latest group, CC Dissent, seems to have dissipated as of late, the group has moved its efforts downtown, joining the local New London movement.

CC Dissent Organizer Mihir Sharma '12, is working on a facility working group with Len Raymond and Ronald Steed, both New London residents. They plan to visit Occupy Hartford next Thursday, reflecting the group's commitment to supporting other local movements.

In the group's last General Assembly, they decided to continue working locally over the winter, so there will be two general assemblies, allowing New London residents to continue collaborating with working groups.

The New London movement is becoming increasingly diverse, as several students from Norwich High School and Three Rivers Community College recently joined the local effort.

In terms of efforts on campus in the coming semester, Sharma said he knows of a few avenues where the group can act, but that "action is the tough part."

"Can we take a stand to support the service staff at Conn to address the pressing issues concerning contracts and wage rates?" he said, hinting at future projects. •

## Grand Finales

HEATHER HOLMES  
STAFF WRITER

1. Jennifer Jakson '15 says, "I only have one self-scheduled exam, which is actually a disappointment. For my environmental science class, I have to create a website about an important issue threatening life as we know it." Jakson is an art student with a passion for graphic design, which will serve her well in the creation of her website.

2. Jon Markson '12 is working on a final film for his production class with Anders Nielsen '12 for their production class. "We have to shoot and edit a ten-minute film and accommodate all the actors' schedules," says Markson. "I'm also working on my independent studies and year-long projects for my major and my Arts and Technology certificate."

I think finals bring people closer because they all have to go through hell and back."

3. Robert Proctor, Professor of Italian, has asked his Elementary Italian class to memorize the first eighteen lines of Dante's *Divine Comedy* in Italian. In addition to a traditional written final, Proctor's Italian students will recite and write down this excerpt. Proctor believes that memorization and public speaking are essential elements of a liberal arts education.

4. Says Alysia Mattson '15, "I love that I have no self-scheduled finals for this semester. And I have a Ho-Ho-Ho Down for dance!"

A look into five of the most creative, exciting and bizarre final exams that students will be taking this week

5. Cora Schmidt-Ott, a visiting student from the University of Freiburg in Germany, says, "I like the idea of self-scheduling exams, although I'm not sure whether I can handle it well because it requires more responsibility and planning, which can be hard when you're not a very organized person." She describes how different exams at Conn are as compared with those at home in Germany: "Either exams account for all of the final grade and your work during the semester is not counted, or you only have to pass and your grade is determined by the long final research paper—usually twenty or more pages—that you write over winter break." •





# Trans\*cending Gender



## Through performance, two students provide insight into their lives as trans\* individuals

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

"We started thinking about it last spring, because there wasn't a space for trans\*-identified students to talk to one another and express how they felt," said Ok. "I think there was actually a huge bloom in genderqueer students the semester before, so there was an urgency to create a space to collect ourselves and deal with the holistic wellbeing of ourselves and each other." A dance and English double major from Methuen, Massachusetts, Burns uses movement as an extension of Matty's words, pushing and pulling apart Matty's hands to evoke the increase.

Ok, a Providence-born human development major, is working towards a certification in education and will be student teaching next semester. In keeping with his didactic training, he tends to edify, thoroughly explaining every term with which I am unfamiliar and providing me with examples.

In SGA terminology, Versum, which operates through Unity House with the support of the LGBTQ Center, is an affiliated student organization, retaining all the benefits of a club except SGA funding. Their Saturday afternoon meetings, generally held in Matty's room, are small and intimate.

"We check in with each other emotionally, really, and talk about relationships, transitioning (if students are), what bathrooms to use. We just talk about stuff. Human stuff," said Burns.

"Part of us making it an official club is because we didn't want it to have to be rebirthed every time trans\* students flux," Burns continued, gesturing between their chests. "Lamar and I are graduating within a few years, but there will always be trans\* students on campus."

In the second meeting of the year, Ok proposed that the group create a show to portray their experiences.

In formulating the show, Ok was inspired by transmale performer Sunny Drake, after seeing him in a production sponsored by the Theater Department. "I spoke to Drake through email, and I really wanted to educate the community [about] what it means to be trans\*, but I needed it to be a group thing."

The reactions were mixed: some

people were receptive, some were highly uncomfortable. Burns, however, was completely on board.

"I came into the semester wanting to do an exploration of gender—I'd been working with Heidi Henderson, of the Dance Department, in exploring gender through pieces, so I had a lot of ideas of my own, but Lamar really set the tone of the show, and that really got me motivated in creating and branching out way beyond just movement. Then the show became more than just us—we incorporated other trans\* students, and our friends, and ReFlexion. And it became a production!"

The show, held in Cro's Nest, was an intimate portrait into two trans\* students, rife with monologues, spoken word, dialogues and supporting pieces by friends and allies of the trans\* community.

Ten minutes before the show began, there was only standing room left as groups of people crowded at the outskirts of the door, and spilling out into the hallway. The noise of people entering the building a floor below drifted up into the room—any disruptions were met with a resounding "shh!" and a snap back to attention.

"Can I just say that Matty and I expected maybe fifty people?" said Ok, throwing his hands in the air in exasperation. Burns laughs. "There were over 200."

The Trans\* Show commenced with Burns and Ok performing contact improvisation, a form of dance in which partners must continuously stay in contact. "An Afternoon in the Arboretum," an improvised dialogue that revolved around a dissection of a conversation between Ok and a former lover unable to grasp his gender exploration, followed soon after.

Throughout the evening, the two ranted—"Not Gloom, but an Intellectual BOOM in Matty's Room"—and raged, punctuated by songs, spoken word pieces and a monologue by Gender and Women Studies professor Mab Segrest on both sex and gender as a social construction.

"Our skits and dialogues were improvised. It was important that the show was authentic to us in the moment, so to solidify any language about what our gender identity felt inauthentic, because we wake up every morn-

ing and feel a little bit different about our gender experience," said Burns.

The two focused throughout the performance on motion and movement. "The physical aspect was surprisingly," Burns trails off. Matty thinks for a moment, and announces, "I always forget that nakedness is a thing! And I know that can be hard for some people. But Lamar really set the tone for the show..."

"...But Matty really brought the physical aspect," Ok finishes, eager to compliment his partner in performance. "For Matty to put Matty's body out there, that encouraged me to explore my body. It gave me the courage to think about how I feel about my body, so I added that to my performance, inspired by Matty's physicality and its relation to Matty's identity."

"There's a way to find a language in movement that I feel makes it easy for me, because words can be so limiting sometimes, whereas with the body you can say so many things at the same time," Burns explains. "I love exploring and playing with the meaning of our body, with different clothes and different postures and that can make so many different things. Plus, I think there's something so beautiful about the human body, in all its shapes and sizes and various degrees of nudity," Matty grins.

"Our show conveyed a lot of messages about gender and sexuality, but I don't want to ignore race," Ok asserts. "Race is big. Being a trans\* of color is completely different from being a white trans\*. I wrote a letter to my mother, as a piece, and explaining to her why I wasn't able to tell her I was her son because of racial and class barriers which I grew up with."

Burns nods. "I think that was a really strong aspect of our show. So often in queer

trans\* movement, the conversation is often white-dominated, and assumptions of how to come out and express yourself are really based in race or class, and it's not that way for everyone. I think that it was an important part of the show when Lamar said there's no time to be queer, because there are so many other racial burdens. If one day I wanted to give up and become 'straight,' I'd tap into all this privilege, whereas Lamar couldn't. You can't talk about Lamar's trans\* experience without talking about race and class. Nor mine!"

After the show, Ok and Burns held a question-and-answer session.

"I liked the kinds of questions people asked. We were expecting ignorant questions, but everyone had an awareness. In other forums, there was a lot of emphasis on the body, the physical, but these were people questions. Human questions, about the human-human interaction," said Burns.

Burns' and Ok's aim—to break down cultural stereotypes and expectation of gender, and present a newfound perception of gender informed by fluidity—was largely successful.

The triumph of the show prompts

mors of an encore, to which Burns and Ok smile and shrug their shoulders. They're overwhelmingly happy with the reaction they've received. "We've had such an outpouring of emails and thank yous, and people have really expressed a desire to be authentic, and it was such a gift to be able to give that to the community," said Ok.

"The show was our show. It was for the community, but it was also really for us. I'm thrilled beyond anything that so many people came and were supportive and were engaged—and even more, it didn't feel like a pity-driven engagement, but questioning gender and finding the freedom to be yourself," said Burns, squirming with happiness.

The two chatter away while I try to catch my typing up to their words, when, suddenly, Ok burps. "That's not a man thing. That's a human thing." He grins wickedly. \*



Burns (left) and Ok featured on the poster for their production, the Trans\* Show

PHOTOS BY ANNALIAH COGAN

## Sharp Keeps Harris Running Smoothly

DORIAN EHLRICH  
CONTRIBUTOR

Anyone who has dined in Harris for breakfast or lunch has received unusually friendly service, the kind that makes it worth leaving the confines of South Campus. Nowhere else on campus during these hours will the staff greet you with a heartier "good morning" or wear a broader smile while refilling the napkins or mopping the floors. This unusually amiable and efficient service is largely a result of the help Dining Services receives from the Sharp Program.

The Sharp Program is a state-funded organization based in New London established to provide jobs and a means of structure and productivity to working-age people with special developmental needs.

Sharp determines potential workers from within their program, and the organization then contacts establishments, such as Connecticut College Dining Services, that are able to provide these workers with jobs that suit their skill sets.

Sharp, which has been working with Connecticut College for nearly fifteen years, receives forty dollars a day from Dining Services for taking on their special needs clients, while Sharp separately pays each of its clients his or her own paycheck. Sharp workers work Monday through Friday from 9 AM to 2 PM, with holidays off.

Mike Kmec, Director of Connecticut Col-

lege Dining Services, described Sharp as a helpful middle man in the process of arranging for special needs workers to find jobs.

"[Establishments] aren't required to work with Sharp," he said. "They approached us, and we thought it was a great idea. They came to us, and said we have these workers with these abilities. Dining Services decided from there what workers [we] need."

Sharp workers are employed in a variety of occupations, at such employers as TJ Maxx, retirement homes, YMCAs, catering and even Connecticut College Physical Plant.

"There is a huge variety of what their abilities are [here in Dining Services]," explained Kmec, explaining how some Sharp workers refill napkins and mop floors while others work with knives under the direct supervision of the head chef.

Kmec also noted that some Sharp employees have become such an asset to Dining Services that they have been hired full time.

Sharp workers receive full-time training from Sharp before embarking on their jobs, and separate training from each worker's specific vocation before starting at their new position.

Kmec, however, explained that although Sharp workers serving Dining Services do receive training here, a full-time job coach comes to the work site every day to make sure the workers are carrying out their jobs.

"Some days are good, some days are bad," says Kmec. "That's why we have a job coach on hand."

Dining Services' current job coach, Denise, sets up camp at one of the back tables in Harris and spends the day ensuring the workers receive the motivation to work. "They understand they are getting a paycheck, but not necessarily what it's for, since they are going to get some sort of government income."

Denise serves as a source of comfort and support to the workers. "I'm a mom to all of them," she explained. "They take my lead for the most part. I try to walk around, and I think my presence is enough to keep them on task."

The partnership between Sharp and Dining Services can best be described as a happy marriage. "They do an invaluable service for us; I'm really fond of them," Kmec said.

He went on to describe the Sharp workers as the "nicest, sweetest" people he has ever met, citing one friendly worker who wishes everyone "good morning," as well as another employee who loves nothing more than to share a warm hug with each of her coworkers.

"She always asks me to say hi to my wife for her." Kmec glowingly explains that the Sharp workers "wear their hearts on their sleeves. It's special that we can have them here." \*



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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



## OPINIONS

Has the Time  
Come for Woolly  
Mammoths To  
Walk the Earth  
Once More?GREG VANCE  
STAFF WRITER

The cousin of modern elephants, the woolly mammoth was a large creature that once inhabited the cold, northern parts of North America and Eurasia. The species died out nearly 10,000 years ago, relatively recently compared to most other prehistoric creatures we know of.

Most of the woolly mammoth remains that have been discovered are not fossilized, but instead frozen solid. While the remains are usually well preserved and left in an organic state, the extreme cold still does damage to their genetic material. Finding usable mammoth DNA for the cloning process is not going to be an easy task. "The Penn State scientists who sequenced its genome did so by studying a huge number of tiny fragments of mammoth DNA," said Professor Turner.

The mammoth cloning team plans to get its DNA from an extremely

well preserved specimen that was recently discovered in the Siberian permafrost. This ground is normally always frozen, but it is currently melting, partially due to global warming. The specimen, which was found in August, is in such good condition that the cloning team believes it will be able to salvage intact genetic material from its bone marrow. If the team can obtain undamaged mammoth DNA, there is a chance the scientists can successfully clone the mammoth.

Their plan is to implant the DNA in the nucleus of an egg cell taken from a modern-day female elephant. The egg will then be placed in the womb of a female elephant, which will serve as a surrogate mother for the mammoth. Assuming a gestation period similar to that of a regular elephant, the

baby mammoth should be born about a year-and-a-half to two years later. Taking all things into account, the team believes that it could produce a living mammoth in as little as five years' work.

Cloning is a slowly emerging science that has seen some success in the past, with the success of cloning mice and sheep leading to the feasibility of cloning a mammoth. However, a woolly mammoth is much more genetically complex than rodents or sheep, and the use of 10,000-year-old frozen genetic material in the cloning process doesn't sound extremely promising. Even if we assume that the cloning process works out perfectly, there are still some issues. No one

can really say just how well the gestation and birth will go, or whether the woolly mammoth would even be able to survive in present times.

This isn't to say that scientists have no hope of ever bringing a woolly mammoth back into the world, but this cloning team doesn't seem to have a promising plan, according to Turner. "A more realistic approach—and one which I think most scientists would agree is going to be possible—would be to genetically engineer living elephants with mammoth DNA," said Professor Turner. "One research team has already spliced mammoth DNA into a bacterial genome and gotten the bacteria to produce mammoth hemoglobin!"

There is some potential in the way of genetic engineering, but this isn't a potential that's going to come to fruition any time in the next few years. The scientists on the mammoth cloning team seem to be rushing right into their plan and have really overestimated their chances of success. According to Professor Turner, "one of them, the Japanese scientist Akira Iratani, actually has a history of announcing projects like this that haven't worked."

Though the success may not come from this particular group of scientists, it's likely that scientists will successfully bring us a mammoth at some point in the future. However, that isn't likely to be anytime soon. •



ILLUSTRATION BY CAROLINE DYLAG

*The mighty woolly mammoth, a creature who existed roughly 10,000 years ago and roamed the icy Eurasian landscape. Scientists are attempting to bring this fascinating creature back to life by using frozen genetic material.*

Right  
Said  
Fred!FREDERICK MCNULTY  
SEX COLUMNIST

Dear Fred,

*I find myself in a bit of a pickle. I am in the midst of a bit of a love triangle. I have feelings for two girls at the same time. I have spoken to each of them separately and they are both very understanding. I want to talk to them about some sort of compromise. However, I am a bit nervous about making that move. I am having sex with both of them, but no one else. Some of my friends think that this is cheating, but I've been perfectly honest with the two girls. What should I do? Is there anything wrong with that? What do you think?*

Sincerely,  
Is Three A Crowd?

Dear Is Three A Crowd?,

You dance around the issue, but you seem extremely interested in polyamory. Wikipedia defines polyamory as "the practice, desire, or acceptance of having more than one intimate relationship at a time with the knowledge and consent of everyone involved." *Newsweek* magazine estimates that there are approximately 500,000 people in the United States involved in polyamorous relationships. While many people consider non-monogamy to be limited to religious extremists and misogynists, the fact of the matter is that polyamory is a growing trend all over the world.

As long as you are open and honest with all involved individuals, then I do not see the problem. All

*Newsweek magazine estimates that there are approximately 500,000 people in the United States involved in polyamorous relationships.*

three of you seem to be extremely comfortable with a polyamorous relationship. The only concern that seems to be holding you back is the social stigma that surrounds non-monogamy. In my view, that should not keep you from being happy. Be warned that you will be fighting an uphill battle: from the inability to be recognized in a Facebook relationship to other forms of discrimination, we do not live in a society that accepts polyamory as a valid form of a relationship.

I am not quite sure how your friends define cheating. Dictionary.com defines it as "to practice fraud or deceit," "to violate rules or regulations," or "to be sexually unfaithful." Polyamory involves the consent of all members; therefore it can hardly be called "deceit." Polyamory, inherent to its nature, enables people to have more than one significant other; doing so does not "violate" its rules. Lastly, it can hardly be labeled as "sexually unfaithful" when all partners are aware of and have given consent to this type of arrangement. Therefore, we can conclude that polyamory is not cheating.

Of course, there are other argu-

ments that are constantly thrown at the concept of polyamory. In *The Ethical Slut: A Guide to Infinite Sexual Possibilities*, Dossie Easton and Janet Hardy famously argued that polyamory inherently fails, because dividing one's love to multiple people means that less love can be given to each significant other. This train of thought is hardly limited to these two writers, as many people use this argument against non-monogamy, in general. Of course, the truth seems to be a bit more nuanced: for some people, it may be true, but making such a vast generalization seems problematic. Polyamory is not for everybody, but there are many people who are more than satisfied with it.

The key here—and I am trying my best to avoid repetition—is to do what works best for all parties involved in the relationship. One time, I met a young man who wanted to have a monogamous relationship with his girlfriend on school days (Monday through Thursday) and an open relationship on the weekend (Friday through Sunday). While this unconventional approach may seem arbitrary to many people (and, frankly, to

me), it worked for those involved in the actual relationship, which is what mattered. If you—and your two girlfriends—see polyamory as the key to happiness, then do not hesitate!

I am arguing this admittedly polyamory point of view to you, not so I can pretend that I know what is right for your situation, but to explain that you do have other options. Neither monogamy nor non-monogamy is the universally "right" choice for everyone.

There is no reason for you to have to pick between the two girls: from what you have told me, you three seem to be pretty clear about what you all want. You should have a conversation with the two of them at the same time. Explain how you feel, explain what you want and then listen to what they both have to say. If they are as open to the idea of a polyamorous relationship as they were in private, then this conversation should go rather smoothly. Remember to focus on what you all want out of the relationship, as opposed to arbitrary societal judgments. •

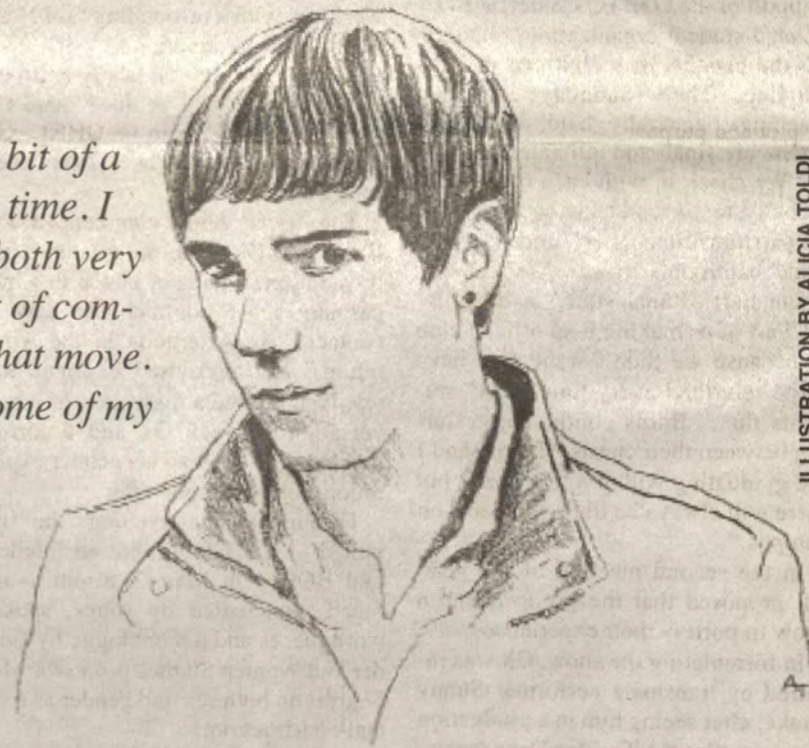


ILLUSTRATION BY ALICIA TOLDI

Thanks for a great fall semester, Conn College.

Have a bully winter break and get lots of rest.

Come to our first meeting next semester on January 23 in Cro 215.

Love,  
Ethan and Jerrell

223 Thames Street  
Groton, CT11:00 AM - 9:00 PM  
Tuesday - SundayPAUL'S  
PASTA  
SHOPwww.paulspastashop.com  
860-445-5276



# Dissecting Descendants

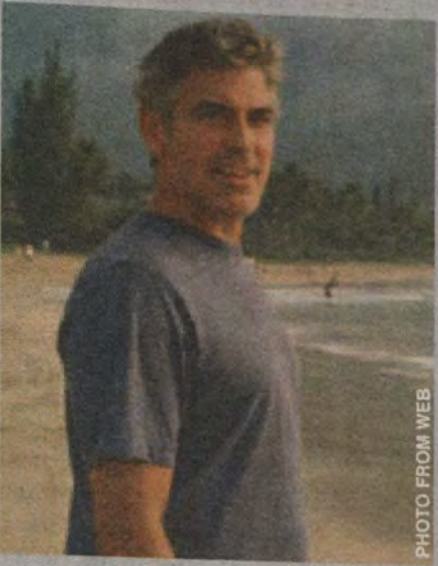


PHOTO FROM WEB

HEATHER HOLMES  
STAFF WRITER

I had my doubts from the beginning. George Clooney, a script full of daddy issues and the perpetually pregnant girl from *The Secret Life of the American Teenager* all in one movie? And, in fact, for the first half an hour or so of *The Descendants*, I felt vindicated. Clooney's narration as he watched his family spiral into dysfunction was predictable and heavy-handed, and we've seen the Hollywood "oh-I-need-to-be-a-dad-now" plot device before. Where, then, does *Descendants* make up for the slow start? In short, everywhere else.

Matt King (Clooney), absent father of two young girls, finds himself lurched from the comfortable position of "parent understudy" to lead role, as he puts it — a terrifying prospect. Matt's wife Elizabeth (Patricia Hastie) is comatose as a result of a tragic boating accident. The movie opens with a silent, gorgeous expanse of Elizabeth jet skiing and laughing, completely elated, and that's the last we see of her alive without life support. From there, we dive into the messy world of Matt's inheritances — a gigantic expanse of untouched Hawaiian land, two feisty daughters, his daughter's dopey boyfriend, endless cousins in aloha shirts and Laird Hamilton, to name a few. This is Sofia Coppola's aimless *Somewhere* with plot and purpose.

*The Descendants* really gets rolling when Matt's daughter Alex (Shailene Woodley of *Secret Life* infamy) lets him know that Elizabeth has been cheating on him — just another casualty of Matt's careless ways. Director and writer Alexander Payne's revenge subplot allows him to inject humor into his script, tastefully executed even in scenes in Elizabeth's hospital room. Payne's humor is organic and believable enough to almost miss it — in one brief poolside scene, ten-year-old Scottie wears a shirt that says "I'm Still Drunk From Last Night" in bold letters. These are snapshots of real life: messy, unedited, funny.

Shailene Woodley's turnaround from *Secret Life* to Alex King is nothing short of stunning. Clooney's reputation is already established, but Woodley's performance came out of nowhere and singularly defined the movie. While I never like to go into a movie with high expectations — "It's up for all kinds of awards," my father told me before we went — Woodley did not disappoint. Clooney, who usually goes for the role of the bachelor, successfully experiments in *Descendants*. At the beginning of the movie, he's borderline despicable: with friends, family, health and more money than virtually anyone else on the island, he still seethes, "Paradise can fuck itself." It takes almost two hours for Matt King to shed his solipsism, but we root for him every step of the way until he finally proves himself as a father.

Payne's best decision with *The Descendants* was to avoid handing out life lessons to the audience. Instead of uniting extended family and friends in grief, Elizabeth's accident creates insurmountable boundaries. Matt and Alex learn to love one another, but both daughters curse openly; Alex's grandfather punches her boyfriend in the face; Matt spends some of his last moments with Elizabeth screaming at her before she is taken off life support. Impending death creates a world of relativism in which almost anything goes and there are seemingly no consequences. Payne creates ugliness where comparable storylines go for unconvincing beauty.

I hate being told to *carpe diem* almost as much as I hate Sarah McLachlan's sad pet commercials. I also uniformly avoid movies that I know will make me cry (and it doesn't take much, because I shed a little tear the first time I watched *Finding Nemo*). But *The Descendants* is different somehow. Elizabeth's inevitable death is a simple and quiet affair — Matt and his daughters sprinkle her ashes into the clear Hawaiian sea and go home. There is tragedy, but mostly there's readjustment. The King family has taken on a new shape and Payne allows us to cry or roll our eyes or leave the movie with a newfound sense of thankfulness, but he won't ever beat us over the head with it. I love that. *The Descendants* believes in "less is more" without becoming plotless. And for what it's worth, both of my sisters and my mother were all crying by the time the credits rolled — not to mention an entire theater of octogenarians — and I didn't choke up once. •

# Gambino Not So Childish

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Glover's widespread attraction is not as a pop artist, though; it's as a comedian. He's built a craft off of going places others wouldn't touch (think his two most popular videos, "Bro Rape" and "Spelling Bee"). Tracks like "Freaks and Geeks" and "Bonfire" are the equivalent of Glover's sell-out pop hits. "Bonfire" is riddled with comedic attempts — some that work, and some that clearly don't — "You can kiss my ass/Human Centipede."

But Glover's music is not about shock value. This isn't Tyler, the Creator, and anyone who's taken the time to listen to *Camp*, *EP*, *Culdesac* or any record of his in full would know that. Glover is the guy riddled with insecurity about his life and music career. Glover follows in the path of artists

like Kanye and Drake not by copying their style, but by imitating their honesty and introspection in his music. That didn't happen in hip-hop until recently, and Glover is just another up-and-comer influenced by the opportunity to be real. *Camp* is an overwhelmingly autobiographical work, and the extremely detailed spoken word closing scene shows that rap for Glover is just a creative medium, and that it could have been a novel or a memoir instead. The songs that don't fit this mold are obvious standouts — "You See Me" and "Bonfire" — and it's not a coincidence that these are the two songs Glover released and performed prior to his album's release.

So much of the current criticism on Glover questions his need for rapping, when it is arguably his worst technical skill. The execution on *Camp*

is substantially better than previous releases, but still not on par with major label LPs. Glover is a producer as well, and had a hand in every track on the album, producing over half of it independent of *Community* producer and friend Ludwig Goransson, who helps bring orchestral standouts like "Sunrise" and "That Power" into full swing. Though Glover's lyrical chops and flow will never contend with the industry's best, his pursuit of a music career is validated by the fact that his music doesn't belong anywhere else. His comedy certainly draws off of previous hardship, but it doesn't allow him to reflect without trying to conjure up laughs. One particular line from 2009's *Culdesac* comes to mind: "Rappers all trying to say that they're better than me/I'm doing three other jobs bitch you better be." Glover will never fully dedicate himself to music

the way others have the luxury to. While claiming he and music "were moving in together," he was recording his new standup special *Weirdo* and filming for *Community*. His skill on its own is not enough to attract a large audience, and it's not intended to. It's a supplement to his persona, a depth to the man who on television is all smiles. His music is honest, and Glover is at his best and most respected when he reflects, and gives a sense of why his music matters. So take his cross-over attempts with a grain of salt, give *Camp* a full listen, and tell me you're not proud that he's taking this seriously. •

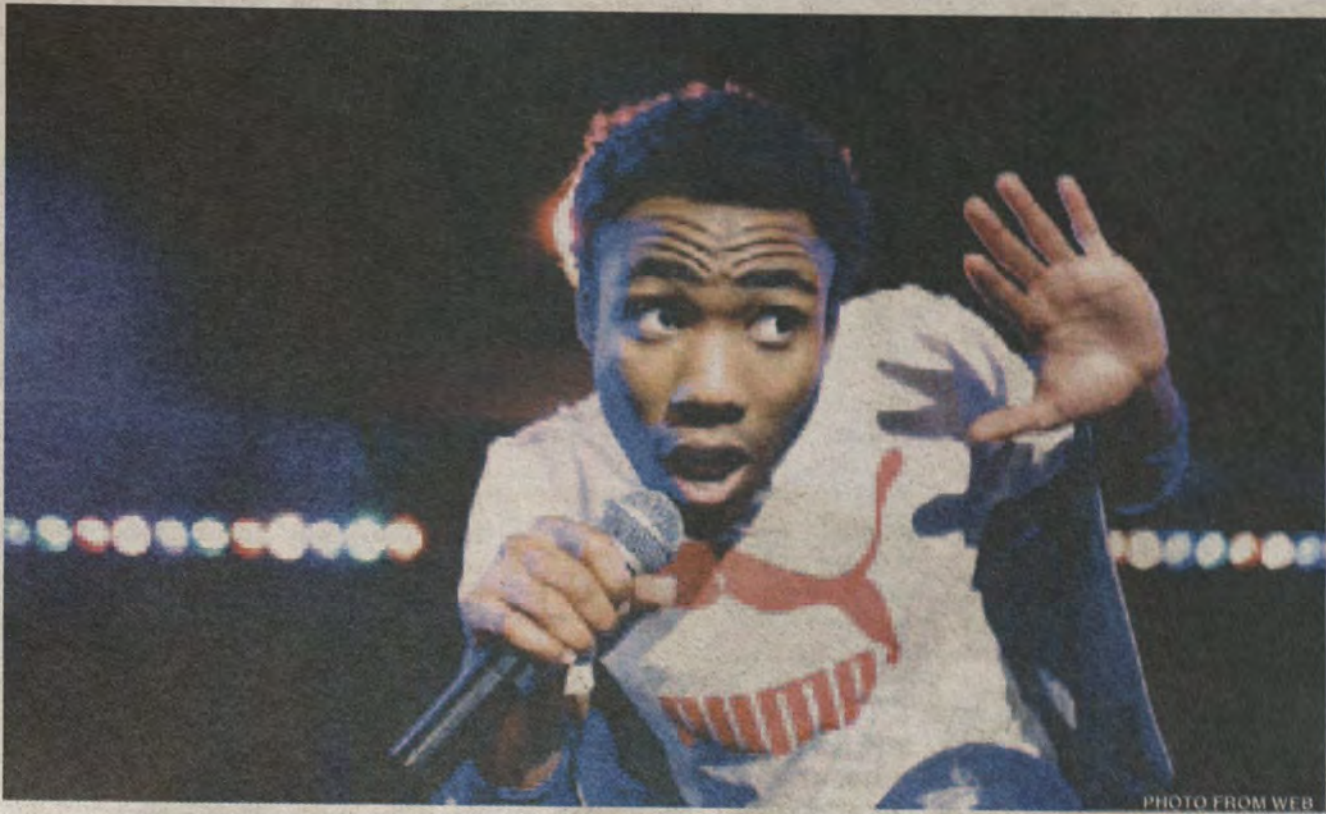


PHOTO FROM WEB

# All That Jazz

Chris Giri critiques the technical and aesthetic appeal of Conn's Jazz Ensemble and Traditional Jazz Band

CHRIS GIRI  
STAFF WRITER

Last Wednesday, the college's Music Department hosted its All That Jazz concert, highlighting the school's Traditional Jazz Band and Jazz Ensemble. Both bands feature students, alumni and members of the staff and are directed by Gary Buttery.

The show opened to a sparsely filled audience in Evans Hall with the traditional jazz band's set. By and large, the set was a fast-paced, horn-dominated affair with most songs featuring a round of solos from the clarinet, saxophone and trumpet. Though both the solos and the pieces in general were very well executed, the aesthetic appeal of these types of songs seemed to be lacking. Instrumentally, the highlights of the set were those that deviated from this formula—the first major inclusion of a leisurely guitar solo in the track "Back in Your Own Backyard," skillfully performed by Andy Stein-Zeller '14, brought a welcome reprieve from the upbeat, fast rolling tracks that dominated the set. This piece also swapped out Buttery's tuba support for upright bass, further shifting the sound of the band. After "Backyard," the band played the song "My Ideal," by far my favorite song in the set. The tempo dropped considerably, and the instruments gradually oozed in over a background of drums, strings and piano. A strong guitar solo, as well as a clarinet/trumpet duet featuring Binsen Li '13 and Alex Owen '12 helped carry the song to a beautiful piano close played by Mark Peele.

Peele, a community musician, also contributed vocals to the song "Lulu's Back In Town." Though his vocal contribution was brief, he brought a pleasantly gritty sound to the set. Aside from Peele, Micaela Tepler '15 and Emily Arner '14 provided vocals. Where Tepler's soprano vocals helped to carry the more fast paced songs, Arner's voice dropped in both pitch and tempo, her warm voice carrying the vocals a bit more clearly.

Compared to the Traditional band, the Jazz Ensemble was much more my style. Opening with the first of two songs written by the Mingus Big Band, the Ensemble's performance of "Boogie Stop Shuffle" opened with a deep, almost haunting drone forward, eventually opening up to feature some of the best solos of the night—Kolton Harris '14 performed a

drum solo that was nothing short of spectacular, and a guitar solo by Erik Caldarone '12 drew a clear distinction in style between his and Stein-Zeller's playing. The song's closing crescendo was far more unique than anything produced by the Traditional Jazz Band, and solidified the song as my highlight of the evening.

The eclectic theme of "Boogie Stop Shuffle" carried through the majority of the Ensemble's set—between the excellent implementation of trumpet mute by Owen in "Makin' Whoopee" and the whole band clapping in the upbeat "There's A Mingus Amongus," dull moments were few and far between in this set.

The Ensemble's final two songs were

among its strongest. "Goodbye Pork Pie Hat," another Mingus track, was smooth and soulful, and was the first song that I felt really allowed Tepler to flex her vocal muscle. "After Mr. Teng," the final song, brought the Ensemble's set to an appropriate close. Featuring a complex, fast paced and generally wild sound, "Teng" was a success both in technical skill and style.

Personally, I tend to lean toward the lush sound of more modern jazz by the Jazz Ensemble. Though the type of music played by the Traditional Jazz Band wasn't quite what I was looking for, it was clear that the technical level of both bands held an impressive level of musical prowess. •



TANAHA SIMON / PHOTO EDITOR

Top from left to right: Andy Stein-Zeller, John Clark, Alex Owen and Binsen Li  
Bottom from left to right: Director Gary Buttery, James O'Connor '15, Ian Scanlan '12 and Alex Zarecki '12





## For Women's Hockey, No Shortage of Offense

IGGY STERLING  
STAFF WRITER

The 2010-2011 season for the Connecticut College Women's Ice Hockey team was successful. Their 12-11-2 record was the first winning season since joining the NESCAC, setting a new mark for the team. Despite finishing one game above 0.500, the Camels finished fifth in an extremely competitive conference, which at the end of the season featured three of the top ten teams in the country for Division III. The Lady Camels were eventually knocked out of the post-season in the NESCAC quarter-finals by Bowdoin in a 2-1 loss.

As the season gets rolling this year, more good things look to be on the way. In their opening weekend, the Camels started off the season with a tough match-up, welcoming the Trinity Bantams into Dayton Arena. At the time, Trinity was ranked ninth overall in the country in the USCHO.com poll. In their first game of the weekend series, the Camels suffered a 3-1 loss, despite out shooting Trinity 40 to 15. The next night however, the Camels solved the problem, blowing out the #9 ranked

team by a score of 6 to 2. In the third period of that game, the Camels really showed what they were capable offensively, outscoring Trinity 3-0 to seal the victory.

There were a lot of positives coming out of the opening weekend, despite going 1-1. Firstly, out of the seven goals scored between the two games, they came from six different players, showing just how much depth this team has offensively. Saturday's 6-2 victory saw nine different players get on the score sheet. When all four lines are contributing on the score board, the Camels are going to be very tough to beat.

At the back end, the Camels continue to look solid. They are lead by returning net minder, Amy Leichter, a junior who finished last season with a 2.65 Goals Against Average and a 0.903 save percentage, playing in twenty-five of the Camels' twenty-six games. Leichter looks

like she will have some help this year as freshman Kelsie Fralick earned a victory in her first collegiate game, stopping twenty-eight of thirty shots giving her a 0.933 save percent.

The Camels show they have good depth at both ends of the ice. Their offense features a relatively young but talented group of forwards, lead by sophomore Courtney Dumont, who led the team last season in scoring as a freshman with eighteen goals and ten assists. She was also named to the All-NESCAC Women's Ice Hockey Second Team, as well as winning the NESCAC Rookie of the Year award.

Dumont looks to continue her success, scoring the lone goal for the Camels in their season opener.



2011 NESCAC Rookie of the Year, Courtney Dumont, will try to take the women's hockey team deep into the playoffs after a fifth place conference finish last season.

Also playing on the top line last weekend was sophomore Olivia Farrell who, as a freshman, finished second on the team in scoring with 21 points, with sixteen goals and five assists. Farrell opened the season with two assists against Trinity. Finishing out the Camels' top line is Ariel DiPasquale '13. Last year, DiPasquale finished third on the team in scoring with five goals and ten assists for a total of fifteen points. After the opening weekend, DiPasquale led the Camels in scoring with two goals, both tallied in the 6-2 victory over Trinity. Dumont, Farrell and DiPasquale proved to be a very dangerous line against Trinity, and should be big contributors all season.

The Camels are dangerous beyond the first line as well. In their first two games, the upperclassmen made a strong showing, with goals from juniors Samantha Schuffenecker and Sam Schoeneberger and seniors Jil-

lian Dolliff and assistant captain Lauren Posillico. On the blue line, the Camels feature only one senior, Katelyn Driscoll, who was also the only member of the D-core to get on the score sheet in the opening weekend after registering an assist. Captain Molly Murphy '13, who is listed as both a forward and defenseman, also leads the blue line. The Camels have balance both ends of the ice with experience and strong upperclassmen leadership, as well as some talented underclassmen. In addition to the strong sophomore class, this season the Camels have ten freshmen joining the squad, with six on forward, three on defense and one in the net.

Overall, the Camels have talent on paper, and had a very strong showing in their opening weekend. After the 6-2 victory, USCHO.com had the Camels in the hunt for a top 10 spot in the polls. Last Wednesday's performance against Holy Cross will certainly help their case. Coming into the game, the Crusaders boasted an impressive 9-1-1 record with their only loss coming at the hands of 2010 National Champions, Norwich. Twice the Camels went down in the

game, only to battle back by means of a power-play goal. 65 minutes was not enough to decide a winner however, and the Camels were forced to settle for a 2-2 tie. Despite the decision, it was a very impressive showing for the Camels. The team went two for four on the power-play and unlike the games against Hamilton, they performed well with a woman down. Fralick also looked good in net, stopping 25 out of 27 shots.

The NESCAC looks again to be just as tough of a conference as it was last year, and the Camels must build off their success from last year if they want to finish in the top four. Already showing there is no problem creating offense, if the Camels can stand tall on defense and in net, they will be a very tough team to play against night in and night out. •

## Does Fighting Belong in Hockey?

The death of NHL player Derek Boogaard calls into question the role of fighting in hockey

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Nevertheless, in 2010, Derek signed a four year 6.5 million dollar contract with the New York Rangers. Boogaard played in 22 games with New York, scoring only one goal and one assist. On November 9, 2010, Boogaard suffered a brutal concussion during a fight against Ottawa's Matt Carkner; it would be the last time Derek played in the NHL.

Boogaard died May 13, 2011 and since that time doctors have conducted extensive research on his brain. Medical experts have concluded that Boogaard had developed a brain disease known as C.T.E (chronic traumatic encephalopathy). A form of dementia, the disease is closely linked to repeated blows to the head. Doctors claim that had his addiction to pain killers not brought an end to his life, the disease would have progressed even further and ruined his brain completely.

Compared to other pro athletes (most notably football players and boxers), who are constantly exposed to head trauma and have developed C.T.E, Boogaard's brain disorder was far more advanced for his young age. His life spent taking fists to the face had ruined his brain function.

Studies on C.T.E. are relatively young, however most medical experts agree that there is a clear link between the disease and constant blows to the head. This begs the question, should fighting have a place in hockey?

For many hockey fans, including myself, the quick answer is yes. Fighting has been a long-standing tradition in hockey. Since I started watching hockey I have seen fights between NHL enforcers and thoroughly enjoyed them. The sport is fast and physical, and watching two players fist fight only amplifies the thrill of the game. Yet, I can't help but reconsider the role of fighting in hockey after the tragic death of the 28-year-old Boogaard.

Boogaard fought because it allowed him to live his dream, to play in the National Hockey League. He did it for the love of the game, and where has it gotten him? No player should be subject to the kind of head trauma that Boogaard sustained during his playing career. His life is more important than something that is simply a tradition, and is especially more valuable than fan amusement/entertainment.

That being said, I think there are a few reasons why fighting should remain a part of the NHL. There are things that happen in the game of hockey that warrant a player fighting. If, for example, an opposing player were to dangerously hit a teammate of mine, or knock my goalie to the ice (it is an unwritten code that you do not check an opposing teams goalie), I would have every right to back my teammate up and fight. It's about sending a message to the other team.

Hockey is a very physical sport,

and sometimes dangerous hits do occur. However, when a player maliciously attacks another, when there is clear intent to injure, he should expect to be challenged to a fight. Teammates should have the ability to stand up for each other; having to sit in the penalty box for an illegal hit is simply not enough.

Additionally, fighting helps fuel rivalry in the NHL. What Bruins fan doesn't want to see Marchand and Subban fight? There are interdivisional rivalries in the NHL that keep the league as competitive and exciting as it is. When certain teams meet there should be fights, not just because the fans get into it, but because it's necessary for the atmosphere of the rivalry. I'm not talking about one enforcer going after another (as would be the case for a Boogaard type player). I mean two players, not necessarily known for fighting, dropping their gloves with a purpose.

With all the young talent coming into the league this is a trend I already see happening. The enforcer doesn't have a role in the post lock out NHL. With new rules favoring offensive productions, teams must have as much skill and talent as possible to win hockey games. The depth of offenses in the league is a testament to the amount of young talent out there, ready to fill rolls other than that of the enforcer.

Even NHL superstars Alex Ovechkin and Sydney Crosby have fought. However, they aren't fighting often and without cause. They are fighting for a purpose- to back up their teammates or even themselves. As I said, hockey is rough sport; sometimes a message needs to be sent.

There is a difference between an enforcer having to fight to stay on the team and a player fighting to back up a teammate. How do you draw that line? Enforce penalty rules that get harsher depending on the number of times a player fights. Introduce fines not only to players but also to coaches or owners if a player is getting into a habit of dropping the gloves. This would eliminate the enforcer in hockey for good.

There is no need for the role of the enforcer to be played in the NHL, no matter what any hockey fan, player or coach may say. The risk is simply too high. The league has already made strides to lower the number of hits to the head that occur during game play, and the same can be done for injuries sustained during fights. NHL enforcers could be a thing of the past if the league instituted rules against repeat offenders.

As with any contact sport, hockey players are vulnerable to being hit in the head. For Derek Boogaard this was something he knew all too well. The enforcer has played a role in the NHL for a long time, but the league must take Boogaard's death as a warning sign. Fighting doesn't have to be eliminated completely, but it must be put into perspective. •

## IN CASE YOU MISSED IT SCORES

Men's Basketball (3-4):  
Conn 55 - 54 Salve Regina

Women's Basketball (7-1):  
Conn 53 - 43 Nichols

Men's Ice Hockey (2-6):  
Conn 5 - 2 Colby  
Conn 0 - 7 Bowdoin

Women's Ice Hockey (2-3-1):  
Conn 1 - 0 St. Thomas

Men's Swimming (2-2):  
Conn 100 - 192 Williams

Women's Swimming (1-3):  
Conn 104 - 194 Williams

## SO YOU DON'T MISS IT GAMES

Women's Basketball  
@ Roger Williams  
12/13 7:00 PM

Men's Basketball  
vs Springfield  
Luce Field House  
12/13 7:30 PM

## NESCAC POWER RANKINGS

COMPILED BY THE COLLEGE VOICE



This week's power rankings reflect the third 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. There were few changes in the standings this week. Amherst still sits comfortably at the number one spot. Bates makes the biggest jump from eleven to eight. Conn College remains at the seventh spot with strong weeks for men's ice hockey and women's basketball.

SCHOOL	MEN'S HOCKEY	WOMEN'S HOCKEY	MEN'S BASKETBALL	WOMEN'S BASKETBALL	M/W SWIMMING AND DIVING	AVERAGE	LAST WEEK
AMHERST	1	1	2	2	2	1.6	1 ↔
WILLIAMS	2	5	5	1	1	2.8	2 ↔
MIDDLEBURY	3	2	3	11	4	4.6	3 ↔
BOWDOIN	4	3	6	6	6	5	4 ↔
TUFTS	6	—	7	4	4	5.25	5 ↔
HAMILTON	7	4	1	10	8	6	6 ↔
CONN COLL.	8	7	10	3	3	6.2	7 ↔
BATES	—	—	8	7	7	7.33	11 ↑
WESLEYAN	5	9	4	8	11	7.4	9 ↔
COLBY	10	6	11	5	10	8.4	8 ↓
TRINITY	9	8	9	9	9	8.8	10 ↓

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.

DESIGNED BY STEVEN SMITH/TUFTS DAILY