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THE COLLEGE VOICE

PUBLISHED WEEKLY BY THE STUDENTS OF CONNECTICUT COLLEGE

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FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 12, 1999

CONNECTICUT COLLEGE, NEW LONDON, CT

SGA Votes to Endorse College Initiatives

Six Academic Initiatives Passed by 17-0,8

By JOSH FRIEDLANDER

editor-in-chief

This Thursday, SGA voted 17 to 0 (with 8 abstentions) in support of the six academic initiatives of the College's new strategic plan. Next Wednesday, a special meeting of the faculty will convene to take a similar vote.

Formerly called *Thinkworks*, the new strategic plan sets academic goals of obtaining full funding for student internships, enhancing study abroad opportunities, expanding involvement in New London, increasing campus diversity, establishing new majors and programs, and bringing more visiting scholars, artists and distinguished professionals to campus.

Despite Dean Ferrari's bulletin broadcast informing the campus of the vote, only four students were in attendance. Two came to represent SEAL in an unrelated issue, another questioned how issues of sexual orientation were represented in the plan, and this article resulted from the attendance of the fourth.

Dean Ferrari asked SGA to support the plan in its entirety, and although there were no specific objections, the assembly spent an hour debating whether it should table the vote for the next week.

Senators Scott Montemerlo (Wright) and Matt Cipriano (Burdick) both complained of receiving the newest update to the proposal only earlier that day and wanted more time to gather the consensus of their dorms before voting.

Said Montemerlo, "We can go back to the dorms and find out. That's what we do as SGA."

"We're here to represent the student body," said Cipriano, "not ourselves."

Montemerlo called for an end to the discussion, and to table the vote for the next week, but the assembly

SEE SGA ENDORSES

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CAMELYMPICS '99 AND THE WINNER IS...



Students showdown in a checkers competition, eventually won by Windham's Christopher Peters.

SECOND PLACE
Freeman

FIRST PLACE
Hamilton

THIRD PLACE
Jane Addams

STUDENT GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION Two Finance Committee Members Resign

Amidst Allegations of Confidentiality Breaches, Members Resign in Protest

By CHRIS CIARMIELLO

associate news editor

One member of the Finance Committee resigned last week amid accusations of leaking confidential information, causing another member to follow suit in protest of his dismissal.

According to Brian Bieluch, '00, a member of the committee told chair Rebecca Hirschman, '01, that Bieluch had spoken of confidential matters outside of committee meetings.

Hirschman said that Bieluch admitted a breach in this encounter. "Brian and I did discuss the matter and he told me that he did tell some people what had been said in meetings."

Bieluch said that Hirschman asked for his resignation, but he denied that he had admitted to leaking information. He said Hirschman would not tell him who had given her this information.

"This was so out of the blue, so random, so without basis. I told her I wouldn't resign unless she could specifically tell me what violation I had committed," said Bieluch, adding, "But she would not be specific."

Hirschman said she could not talk about specifically what information was in question, because all committee matters are confidential. "What is said in meetings is confidential so people can speak freely and say what they want without being inhibited."

However, she said that she gave Bieluch the specifics of the breach. She said, "He couldn't remember what he said or when he said it," but that he acknowledged disclosing the information in question at some point.

Shortly after this original encounter, Bieluch received a message from Hirschman asking him to meet again. According to Bieluch, Hirschman indicated on the message that he had earlier admitted to breaking confidentiality.

Bieluch then received a letter from Hirschman which said that he had admitted the breach and again asked for his resignation. He said he refused, denying the charges.

Hirschman said that Bieluch did

not try to contact her and avoided her after their discussion.

The committee was then called together to decide how to deal with the situation. Bieluch said that Hirschman told the group that he had admitted to breaching confidentiality, which he denied when allowed to speak.

The committee then met in private. Hirschman said that, "not wanting to make a decision as to whether or not someone was telling truth, the Committee voted to place Brian Bieluch on permanent probation. Following this, Bieluch tendered his resignation."

"When I saw they weren't going to kick me off, I didn't want to take up more of their time," he said. "I felt I was limited in how effective I could be as a member. I told them, 'You guys have important work to do. You've spent enough time on this.'"

Immediately following the meeting, committee member Diana Marter, '02, resigned. While Hirschman said that Marter's resignation was "not directly linked to Bieluch's," Marter said, "I didn't have any intention of resigning until I saw how unfairly Brian Bieluch was treated. It was a reaction to how the chair dealt with the issue."

Hirschman declined to comment on this discrepancy, saying it would put her "in a very awkward situation."

Marter cited the Student Government Association (SGA) meeting earlier in the year in which Film Society presented a proposal which called for Bieluch's removal from the committee. "They thought I had a bias towards them," Bieluch said.

She had also been upset when Hirschman did not deal with what Marter thought was a more blatant breach of confidentiality at the beginning of the year.

Marter cited the Student Government Association (SGA) meeting earlier in the year in which Film Society presented a proposal which called for Bieluch's removal from the committee. "They thought I had a bias towards them," Bieluch said.

SEE FINANCE COMMITTEE

continued on page 6

Community Gathers to Remember Life of Hillary Fein '03

By COLEY WARD

associate news editor

A memorial service was held on Thursday, November 11, in Harkness Chapel to mourn the passing of Hillary Fein '03. The College chaplains conducted a series of readings, psalms and hymns, after which those assembled were given the chance to offer their memories of Hillary.

Standing at the podium, preparing to recite a poem, Seth Davis '02 paused to voice his frustration over the loss of his friend. "This is the best way I can say goodbye to her," he said.

Sadly, it seemed Seth's frustration was shared by everyone at the service. As one speaker after another rose to address the assembly, it became clear that all any of the speakers had to offer were vague descriptions of Hillary's interests and personality.

President Claire Gaudiani said of Hillary, "her faith made her strong... and her faith makes us strong now." She spoke of Hillary's sense of balance - her work on the crew team, in the classroom and of her strong religious beliefs, all information culled from Hillary's roommate information survey.

This is, in a unique way, the greatest tribute paid to Hillary because, while most students at Conn never got the chance to know her, there is no denying the sadness displayed by those who did. Though she was only afforded two

"She left a place that is empty, not just with dormmates and teammates, but in all of us."

Emmett Jarrett
Associate College Chaplain

short months here, her presence affected the lives of the people around her in ways they could have never fully appreciated. And while the words articulated by her friends might have seemed inadequate, the emotions expressed by those at the service more than spoke to the uniqueness of Hillary Fein.

Greg Barnett '03, a good friend of Hillary's at Conn reflected, "in an unfamiliar place, Hillary was one of those people who stood out in a crowd - that was easy to get to know. It's such a tragic loss. It's saddening that we didn't have more time to get to know her."

Hillary's father wrote a letter to his daughter that was read aloud at the service by his son Bruce. In it, he said, "if there were words that would not cheapen your life's worth, we would sum them all." Fortunately for Hillary's father, he needn't have feared a lack of words to describe his loss, for on a day where words proved insufficient, the tears of those gathered in Harkness Chapel communicated all that needed be said.

And so it was, that as the bell atop Harkness Chapel tolled eighteen times, once for every year that she was with us, the friends of Hillary Fein sat in silence, doing the best they could to say goodbye to her.

"In an unfamiliar place, Hillary was one of those people who stood out in a crowd - that was easy to get to know. It's such a tragic loss."

Greg Barnett
Class of 2003

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PHOTO BY CODY ZALK

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IN PURSUIT OF JUSTICE: THE PRINCIPLE OF THE MATTER

Robertson Continues Search for Late-night J.A. Parking Lot Vandals

By ROBERT KNAKE

editor-in-chief

You're a typical Conn senior. You didn't think you had an enemy in the world. Yet, someone decided to put huge scratches in the side of your car.

That's what happened to Ted Robertson '00, and he is still pretty peeved about it. On Thursday, September 30th, at about 2 a.m., Robertson parked his car in one of the two spots outside the rear entrance to Jane Addams dormitory. The next morning, there were scratches up and down the right and part way down the left side of his 1994 Red Toyota 4-Runner.

"Why would anybody do that," asks Robertson. "I didn't think I have any enemies on campus, and I can't figure out who did this."

Originally, Robertson thought it might have been connected to the rivalry between the crew team and the sailing team of which he is a member. Robertson quickly decided

against this judgement and started running his month long ad-campaign in the CONNtact.

Initially, the CONNtact ads issued a \$100 reward, stating "Come to me with the name of the person(s) that keyed my Red Toyota 4-Runner and I will give you \$100 dollars. It will be totally anonymous and give you enough money for all those extra schoolbooks that you have always wanted, or a trip to the Bahamas."

The ad didn't only make an appeal to students' wallets. "Clear your conscience, be a good citizen and tell me," read the end of the ad, "because I know you know who did it."

Robertson believes this. "Somebody's got to know who did this. Nobody goes out and does something like that and just feels good about it themselves. They must have told somebody or somebody must have seen."

And, if someone knows who did it, why should they tell Robertson? "Because it's the right thing to do. If somebody knows they are just as

much, or maybe not just as much, but still to blame. I mean, how can you let this be gotten away with?"

Some students have mocked

Robertson for taking this so seriously, especially when he upped his offer from \$100 to \$400. He is aware of this and changed his ad to play on it,



Part of the \$1400 in damage that motivated Robertson's search for those responsible.

stating "You will both clear your conscience and for once and for all get rid of these annoying ads."

Adds Robertson, "they did \$1,400 of damage, so I think it's worth getting pissed about it and offering \$400 to find out who did it."

The mocking doesn't bother him. "Even my friends have come up to me and joked about making up somebody to get the money. Random people have been like 'oh you're Ted. You're the guy with the ads,' and that's fine."

According to Robertson, no one has actually tried to cheat him out of the money, but he has had one person call with a name of who did it. That person refused the money.

Robertson and Campus Safety are both still interested in seeing the incident resolved. Robertson filed a report the morning after and says that Campus Safety was immediately responsive and has continued to be but that it is sort of a "he said, she said" situation. It will be hard to find out who committed the crime for certain

unless "someone's conscience gets to them and they admit it."

Jim Miner, director of Campus Safety, is still working on the case. "It is still an active investigation, so I cannot comment on it," said Miner, adding that Campus Safety is following up on additional leads. In the meantime, Campus Safety has been stepping up patrols in South Lot in order to prevent any further incidents.

When asked about rumors that there were a series of similar incidents around the time of Robertson's, Miner said that he was not aware of any and that Robertson was the only person to file a report with campus safety. "If there were any additional incidents, Campus Safety would like to be made aware even at this late a date."

Robertson still thinks that the person or persons responsible should come forward. Said Robertson, "I hope they think long and hard about what they did, and I hope they realize it and will come back around to them because this sort of thing always does."

PHOTO BY STEVEN HUGHES

Editorial/Opinion

Veterans Day Celebrated Throughout U.S., Except at CC

Yesterday, throughout the United States, Americans celebrated Veterans Day: a day set aside by Congress over 70 years ago to remember those that have given their service, and sometimes their lives, for the purpose of defending the freedom of our nation.

That is, Americans everywhere, except at Connecticut College, celebrated Veterans Day.

While Veterans Day was celebrated as a legal public holiday throughout the United States, no visible sign of Veterans Day could be found at Connecticut College. No extra flags were flown; nor was there even a Dean Ferrari bulletin broadcast. And of course, classes carried on, as per usual.

Our lack of acknowledging Veterans Day is particularly ironic, given our location in Southeastern Connecticut, an area whose economy has historically relied upon the defense industry. In addition, we are located directly across from one of the major branches of the U.S. Armed Forces, the U.S. Coast Guard Academy.

We're not suggesting that a day of classes be cancelled; however, our celebration of Veterans Day, or lack thereof, must be improved. With 25 million living veterans in the United States, including many who work, teach and study at CC, it is far too important a holiday for academia to ignore.

College Should Come Together in Times of Tragedy

A little over two weeks ago, one of the newest members of a small community of 1600 students died.

Yesterday, we finally held a memorial service for that student, Hillary Fein.

While a peer's death at any age is difficult to deal with, death on a college campus is especially trying. As College students, we are at an age of invincibility; time is of almost no concern. At the same time, we become wrapped up in a routine of preparation; we study and complete internships in order to broaden our résumés so that we may begin to search for future careers. We live our collegiate lives preparing for the future.

In addition to the obvious and great impact that this young student's death had on those who immediately knew her, her death was traumatic for our entire community of students. The death of one in our community immediately pulls us out of our everyday world, and reminds us of our finitude.

So how shall we deal with such a crisis?

The freshman class council had the right idea; they immediately put together a card for Hillary's family, gathering hundreds of signatures from various members of the Conn community.

Along those lines, we would have liked to have seen more of an immediate reaction from the entire community. Dean of the College Arthur Ferrari's campus-wide bulletin broadcast was informative, but if such a crisis were to occur again in the future, perhaps we should gather immediately as a College community, stopping all life at the College, if only momentarily, to remember the life of one of our own.

We suggest such a forum solely as a means of dealing with future crises at the College. Undoubtedly, the work of administrators, staff, and students was exemplary in helping our community remember and grieve over the loss of Hillary Fein.



CARTOON BY GEORGE BASKETTE

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Racial Diversity Must be Forced to Make Campus Integration a Reality

Last week, Elise Daniledes wrote a letter describing some of the short comings of Claire's new "Five Year Plan." Although I agreed with the general message of her article, I found some of her points disturbing.

She wrote, "Transforming the campus to accommodate diversity is forcing the issue, and students seem to feel that we are obsessed with the topic of color diversity rather than individual/interest diversity." I believe that the racial diversity issue must be forced in order to make campus integration a reality. Martin Luther King once said, "The Negro's great stumbling block is not the White Citizens Council or the Ku Klux Klanner, but the white moderate who is more devoted to "order" than justice, ... who paternalistically believes he can set the timetable for another man's freedom."

The segregation on campus today is mostly a result of "white" students who choose to ignore their own fears and prejudices in exchange for "order." If our parents, or grandparents, had forced this issue then maybe the "Five Year Plan" would be unnecessary, but instead it is our responsibility.

"Unity House" and other "multicultural" residences do not cause segregation at this school. "White" students, and our administration, cause it. The burden of ending racism does not fall on the oppressed, it is the responsibility of the majority in power, "whites," to end a problem that they have created. Those who do nothing to stop racism, and those who accept it, are causing its existence to continue. If the majority does not make greater efforts, then a common ground cannot be created for all races and ethnicities.

The solution to the campus segregation problem is education. Humans naturally fear the unknown, and fear causes us to move away from what is different. We can only quell our racial fears by being forced to confront them. If we are exposed to the history and culture of other races and ethnicities, then we will know how to focus on what we have in common.

The only way we can do this is through the increased implementation of multicultural and diverse curriculum. This is where I think that the "Five Year Plan" is not ambitious enough. I think that there should be a multicultural general education requirement. If every student is required to take two or more classes that focus on an ethnic or racial group that is not their own, then a common ground can be built, and classes will not become segregated.

Silent segregation has plagued this campus because our administration has and continues to practice racially bias admissions tactics, all schools do. If our admissions department is truly unbiased, then why do they ask applicants to specify their race? I think racial demographics could be determined after enrollment. Although the admissions system was already biased, most people only complain now because the bias was switched against the majority.

Affirmative action only levels the playing field. More "white" students are accepted at this school because our education system is designed to make it easier and more interesting for "white" males. The English department, for example, requires all majors to take two survey courses of English Literature that focus on the writings of dead white males. Why isn't African American, or Asian American Literature required? Is this a case of ethnocentrism or is it another situation where people in power do not want to force the issue?

Willis Taylor '00

Response to Cohen: Ban on Firearms Won't Solve Ills of a Violent Society

Okay, first off, I'd like to say that I do agree with you that America does need tighter restrictions on who can own a firearm and what kind of firearm they can own. The federal government should have a more efficient and restrictive system of background checks for gun ownership. I think that it would even be a good thing to tax ownership of certain types of firearms especially handguns and other "small arms." However, an outright ban on the possession of firearms is not plausible and will do little or nothing to solve the ills of a violent society.

Contrary to the "facts" stated in your editorial, it is actually much more difficult to legally purchase a firearm in the United States today than it was fifty years ago. Landmark gun control legislation passed here in United States during the late 1960's and early 1990's has placed many restrictions on firearms including—enacting waiting periods, restricting the number of firearms a person can buy per period and banning so called "assault weapons."

Statistically, the vast majority of legal firearm owners will never use their weapons towards another human being. These Americans use their firearms legally for sport and just-in-case defense. Putting restrictions on legal firearms purchases will not prevent illegal sales of weapons from "the trunk in a theater parking lot," as suggested in your article. The sale and possession of cocaine is illegal in the United States, yet everyday thousands of people purchase and sell the substance. There will always be cracks in the system and people that want to get firearms illegally will always have the ability to get them. It's just one of those sad truths of society.

As for your idea to scrap the Second Amendment, I think that you should examine the "logical" backing of your opinion a little closer. Let's just assume for a moment that you and all of your anti-gun friends got elected to Congress and repealed the Second Amendment. Let's also assume that the appeal of Second Amendment was affirmed by the Supreme Court, and you and your anti-gun buddies are free to do as you please to the populous of the United States. Let me remind the readers of *The Voice*, that these are very, very big assumptions these aren't the kind of things that can be accomplished with the whisk of pen.

Admittedly, if these laws were enacted it would be fairly straight forward to stop the legal production and importation of firearms into the United States, but what about the people who already legally owned firearms in the U.S.? Would we just take their private property without due process or reimbursement? Should we have Federal storm troopers kicking in the doors of private citizens who have never committed a crime against their country or its citizens? Funny, that doesn't sound like the America I grew up in.

But let's give you the benefit of the doubt. You've confiscated all of the legally owned firearms in America. What about all of those guns that criminals have illegally? How are you going to confiscate them—they're not registered! Also, think about this by banning the production of legal firearms you are going to create a greater demand for firearms in the criminal underworld. Since guns can't be produced here they'll have to be imported illegally from other countries; probably, from countries that don't like us and really don't care about what happens on America's streets.

The guns that are going to be coming over from Russia (or any other place where there's a whole lot of arms lying around unattended), wrapped and hidden in the hull of some ship aren't gonna be your run of the mill 9mm pistol—it's going to be really nasty stuff like AKM's with selective fire. That's gonna make life a whole lot more interesting in America.

So, what should we do about violence in American society? Honestly, I don't know. But I'll tell you one thing you're only fooling yourself if think repealing the Second Amendment is going to solve the ills of a violent society.

Jason Hamilton '01

Shot at Goowdin Lowers Quality of Voice

Some of the issues of the *Voice* this fall have been excellent, newsworthy. Nor can one complain about the professional facelift the paper got last year. But I wish that editors would monitor each other's reporting style.

In the Oct. 29th issue, Knake wrote in a front page report on UNH's bringing "Law to Campus" that Dean Goodwin was "acting like a cheer leader for the temperance movement." Smiles are interpretative and a reporter's job is not to interpret, but to convey "what, where, when, why..." the facts. Reporters should reserve such comments for the editorial section.

Joking about or smearing a person on the front page of a newspaper really is not cool no matter how good it may make a writer feel to do so.

Reporting is an obligation which requires objectivity; otherwise, readers will not take the writers or the paper seriously, and that for the *Voice* would be a loss.

Catherine Phinzy '71
College Archivist

CORRECTIONS

The headline on Jennifer Platt's letter to the editor (November 5) incorrectly stated Platt's view as "Activism Still Alive, Especially on College Campuses." In fact, Platt's view is that the "trend [on college campuses] is towards apathy and indifference, not towards activism."

Tammie Clayton '01 is not an RTC student, as reported in "Seven Incumbent Counselors, CC's Graduated Victorious" (November 5). She is an undergraduate junior.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Letters to the Editor are due by 5:00 p.m. on the Wednesday preceding publication. *The College Voice* reserves the right to edit letters for clarity and length. No unsigned or anonymous letters will be published. However, names may be withheld upon the author's request. *The College Voice* will not publish letters deemed to be a personal attack on an individual. *The College Voice* cannot guarantee the publication of any submission. Letters should be double-spaced, no longer than 500 words, and must include a phone number for verification.

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OPINION

New London Redevelopment Not Here Yet

BRET COHEN



When I look at downtown New London, I see coffee shops, book stores and hundreds of Conn students milling around happily in their new found home. Then I wake up.

For some reason, the movement to "revitalize" New London and to bring students into the community has become the life mission of our College's president Claire Gaudiani, and I just don't think it is realistic or in the interests of the students.

While I do not hold any sort of strong contempt for New London or its population, I, like the majority of Connecticut College students simply choose not to hang out in downtown New London.

Simple reason: there just isn't anything there. Now I know President Gaudiani has grand visions of a beautiful downtown in the future where students will love to come have fun,

but I just don't see it happening. New London has been on a downward spiral for many decades, and it will take hundreds of millions of dollars and many years to turn it into a place where students are going to spend their time and money.

Even if New London somehow became a beautiful and fun city, there is still and always will be the question of distance. The downtown area is not within walking distance of our campus which will always pose a great obstacle to students even if the city was greatly improved. The College is not physically close enough to the downtown area that businesses will ever be able to survive based on our students.

I don't know about most people on this campus, but I am perfectly happy not being in a city. Sure, it would be nice if there were a fun city closer than Boston or New York, but I don't really care. I came here knowing that the campus was not in a city and was a closed campus, and that was a positive, not a negative for me.

President Gaudiani is reaching far beyond her role as president of this College by investing so much time, money and effort in New London. Her focus should be on the campus itself, not the city of New London.

In my two years here, I have literally not seen Claire once around campus. I have heard of her being at some event or meeting once in a while, but I have literally never seen her. And I don't want to yell hypocrite, but if President Gaudiani loves New London so much and sees so much promise for it, why doesn't she live here?

The bottom line is that New London is not going to turn into the pretty little college town that President Gaudiani sees in her mind. The effort and time involved in such an undertaking is far beyond the realm of the realistic. If President Gaudiani wants to do her job, which in large part should be governed by student desires, she should start looking at our campus. Downtown New London is not our home and never will be.

Put Away Your Podiums and Pick Up the Phone

JOSH FRIEDLANDER



I went to Woodstock, this past summer, and although there were several glorious distractions—drug use, music, nudity—for me, the most memorable characteristic of the festival was the widespread exhibitionism.

Under the glare of rowdy male mobs, women gladly disrobed, most often responding to the cry "show me your tits," but also—on occasion—stripping completely bare.

Before the hovering, crane-guided cameras, undulated crowds paraded their faces and bodies before the sweeping, electronic eyes of MTV. As herds of Americans, we have adapted our group mentality to respond openly and vibrantly to the eyes and ears of media and our fellows in the herd. When that camera's red light appears we know we're "On the Air." We know that it's ShowTime.

In a very complicated way, this mentality has affected our approach to politics. On this campus, in the last few weeks, I have noticed that many of our campus leaders seem far more concerned with appealing to a crowd than approaching serious issues with

either true leadership or an honest desire to affect change.

SGA recently held a forum to get a handle on how students feel about the alcohol policy. Four students came, but that's not very surprising. What truly perplexes me is this: each dorm has a Senator. Why didn't SGA make all the Senators go door to door in their dorms and then report on student opinion? It would have been less theatrical, but more effective.

Why did SGA assign to a group of student the task of writing a letter to Vice-President Lynn Brooks asking him to help them keep Cro open longer hours? Why not send those students to visit Mr. Brooks? His schedule is very busy, yes, but how long would it have taken to call him? (Also, as an unrelated criticism, why were they writing to Brooks and not the new V.P. of Finance?)

In a desire to "stand tall before The Man" and present a strong public face, many vocal student leaders are not providing helpful criticism. Under the guise of justifiably attacking an entrenched group of administrators, they are really—many times—slandering individual, hard-working members of the community.

When students complain, in public, that homecoming was poorly planned, to whom are they targeting their criticism? Well, I'll tell you—it

isn't a committee or even a whole department; it's one very committed lady in the Office of Alumni Relations.

And while I hate the argument "Let's see if you can do better?" I will say this: Do you know what she went through to plan that weekend? Even if many people hated every minute of homecoming, there should be a certain minimal level of respect displayed in their criticisms. And if they really want next year's homecoming to occur as they would have it, does it make any sense to attack the person who—most likely—will be planning the event again next year? It makes no sense to put someone on the defensive. It accomplishes little.

There are things that people on this campus say in print and to each other that they would never dare say to the coordinator of homecoming if they spoke to her in person.

But like the Woodstock crowds flailing and posturing before the cameras, we find ourselves mesmerized by the appeal of an immediate, universal soapbox, wasting speech that we find later to be useless and regrettable.

It would be better for all of us if we put away our podiums and made more of a personal effort. The phone directories have finally appeared. Use them.

Hirschman and Bieluch go Head to Head Over Finance Committee Resignations

Bieluch chose to resign; issue has been blown out of proportion

Hirschman's demand for resignation groundless; greater problems plague Finance Committee

This letter is in reference to the recent resignation of Brian Bieluch. I would like to clear up any confusion regarding this matter. After discussing the matter with Brian, it was my duty to request his resignation from the Finance Committee. He refused and asked that the matter be brought to the Committee for a vote. The Finance Committee placed Mr. Bieluch on permanent probation due to an alleged breach of confidentiality.

There are two rules that one must abide to in order to stay a member of the Finance Committee. The first is attendance. Every member is allotted two unexcused absences. When a third occurs, he/she is asked to leave the committee. The second is confidentiality in references to individuals and what they have said during meetings. This allows members to speak and vote freely without feeling pressured by those not on the committee (such as an organization whose proposal is being discussed). One cannot be removed from the Finance Committee for personal reasons, only the two stated above. These two were agreed upon at the beginning of the year by the members of the committee.

A previous member of the committee was asked to resign earlier in the year because he did not abide by the attendance policy, yet nobody had a problem with that (i.e. there was no *Voice* article). Brian was not asked to resign by the Finance Committee, yet resigned of his own free will. This was his own decision, not that of the Finance Committee members or myself. When I requested his resignation, it had no relation to the Film Society letter brought before SGA or Brian's open biases towards certain organizations. It was directly related to a question of breach in confidentiality. I feel that this matter has been blown out of proportion and hopefully this letter has cleared up some of the issues at hand.

Rebecca Hirschman '01
SGA Vice President

Two weeks ago, I resigned from my position on SGA Finance Committee. I had not planned to write publicly on the subject, but Finance Committee chair Rebecca Hirschman's letter to the editor this week changed my mind.

Rebecca's letter is inaccurate and misleading. Three weeks ago, Rebecca did ask me to resign from Finance Committee, but this was not the first time she had done so. After my first meeting, Rebecca told me that she "had the power" to remove me from the committee. She was displeased with my views and disagreed with the way I voted on several issues.

I'm the first to admit that I do not go along with the flow; I question; I'm a pain. When an organization asks for a large amount of funding for an event attended by few students, as a student who pays a mandatory student activities fee, I ask, "Is this a reasonable, prudent use of our money?" Rebecca calls this my "open bias towards certain organizations." I call it being responsible with the very limited amount of money Finance Committee has.

Most recently, Rebecca asked me to resign from the Committee for "breach[ing] confidentiality as to what a particular member has said during meetings." To this day, I still have no idea what Rebecca was talking about. I haven't broken confidentiality. I asked her to present specific evidence; she refused. The Committee investigated and could find no evidence of a breach of confidentiality. My suspicion is that Rebecca heard off-hand comments from another Committee member and ran full-speed ahead with them, without investigating.

In the end, I decided to resign from Finance Committee. Rebecca wants a Committee of members that agree with her, and I do not currently have the time nor energy to fight her at every turn on this. Nonetheless, I still wish Rebecca would recognize that divergent views are not democracy's greatest weakness, but are instead, its greatest strength.

The irony of her accusation is that a serious confidentiality breach occurred last month, although no investigation took place. Members of Film Society, upset that they had not received the additional funding they requested from Finance Committee, read a statement to the SGA Assembly containing specific details of the Finance Committee meeting dealing with their proposal. They specifically blamed me for voting against their proposal, although the vote was unanimous. Rebecca's conclusion was that the Film Society simply made-up these details. Rebecca chose to not look into the matter further, but if I were on SGA, I probably would.

I have the greatest respect for fellow Committee Member Diana Marter, who resigned in protest over Rebecca's attempt to remove me from the Committee. Diana's integrity is impressive and greatly admirable. I am only sorry that Diana will no longer sit as a countering force on the Committee.

My hope is that SGA will take a serious look at Finance Committee and the entire finance process. Some hard questions need to be answered. Why are club members not allowed to present to Finance Committee, explain their requests and answer questions? Why is everything about Finance Committee confidential, when the C-Book (which governs SGA) makes no such requirement, and members never voted on such a policy? If everything is confidential, how are clubs ever to know how they can revise their proposals to answer Finance Committee's concerns? What protections exist to ensure that club funding cannot be cut arbitrarily by Finance Committee? SGA should and must reevaluate the finance process, in order to make it fair and equitable for all involved.

Brian Bieluch '00
Editor-in-Chief
The College Voice

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FLU PREVENTION WEEK will be mid-November. NOVEMBER 15-19, 1999. No appointment will be necessary. Locations and times to follow.

Editor's Note: *The Voice* values reader comments and letters but would prefer to receive them on floppy disk via email at ccvoice@conncoll.edu

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Arts & Entertainment

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 12, 1999

PAGE 4

House of Blues Brings Down the Garde

By DAWN HOPKINS

staff writer

Who knew the blues could be such a good thing? At the Garde Arts Center on Friday, November 5, New London found out just how good a case of the blues can be. Three bands performed in celebration of the House of Blues, which offered an eclectic mix of styles from swing to R&B to rock. Performing were C.J. Chenier and the Red Hots, Clarence "Gatemouth" Brown and The Fabulous Thunderbirds. Each band offered an interesting blend of various instruments and moods.

The first act was C.J. Chenier and the Red Hots, a Louisiana band. While classified as blues, the band was energetic and offered numerous songs ranging from the deep blues to songs that were reminiscent of oldies but goodies. The interesting instruments included a zydeco, a washboard and a sax, accompanied by a keyboard, drums and a bass guitar.

C.J. Chenier, also known as "The Crown Prince of Zydeco," gave a thrilling performance that enthralled the audience as he masterfully played the zydeco and sang. Especially in-

triguing was the washboard player, whose quick hands kept a unique beat. It had some people dancing in the aisles. Another great aspect of the group was that each member got to do a solo to illustrate their talents, and a few of the members remained on stage to help accompany the next act by Clarence "Gatemouth" Brown.

When "Gatemouth" appeared on stage, there were smiles and hollers throughout the audience and rightfully so. Dressed in Western gear to fit his modern urban Texas guitar blues, he jovially conversed with the audience and proceeded to play the humorous song, "Strange Things Happen," a song that invoked audience interaction and fit the style he called "American music, Texas style."

His multi-faceted talents as a musician were shown in his playing of the guitar, viola and fiddle. His energetic attitude came across clearly in all his music and blended nicely with the drummer, keyboardist, and sax player from the Red Hots.

After intermission, The Fabulous Thunderbirds came on to further entertain the audience. Young and old alike were moving to the beat of this

roadhouse Texas blues band. The group offers a blend of blues, rock & roll and R&B. A long solo harmonic performance by the vocalist Kim Wilson was impressively dynamic. The other members of the band include Jimmie Vaughan on guitar, drummer Fran Christina and Preston Hubbard playing bass. The audience was so enthusiastic about the performance that they regularly shouted positive remarks.

For the final performance, all three groups converged on stage to finish the night with an upbeat mixture of their myriad of styles. It was a great performance and left the audience both satisfied and cheerful. The band members were also available to sign autographs following the performance.

Moreover, while the performance was wonderful on its own, the newly restored Garde Theater was also a pleasant experience. On Friday, November 19, there will be another opportunity to listen to the blues, with a performance by Keb Mo—a great opportunity to experience not only the music but also this fresh hotspot for the arts downtown.

Picking a Bone with the "Bone Collector"

By JESSE ERDHEIM

staff writer

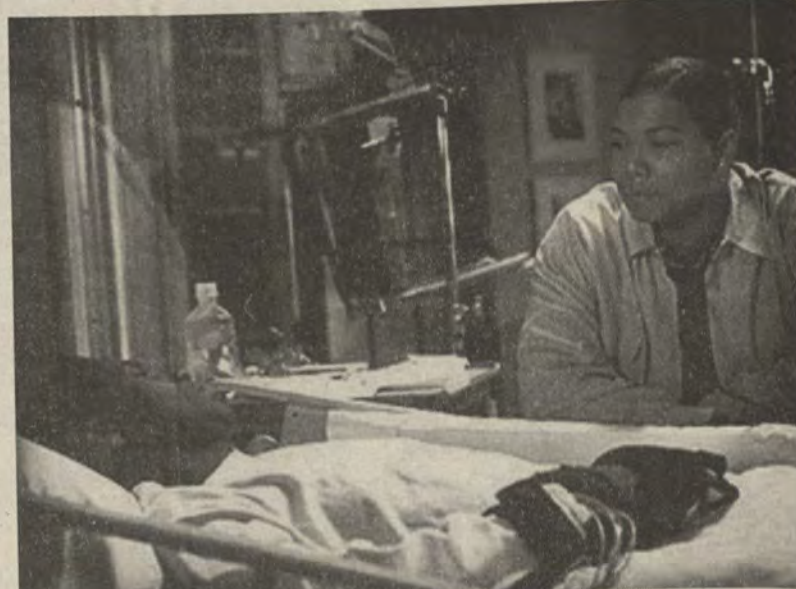
The Bone Collector, a new psychological thriller from Universal Pictures, fails to live up to its grandiose hype. The studio advertises the movie as a new entry into the premiere suspense movie category, a genre that includes *Seven* and *The Silence of the Lambs*. News Flash, Universal: *The Bone Collector* stinks.

It's a stylized piece of filth posing as a scary movie. Although for an hour and 45 minutes the movie produces some frightening scenes and nail-biting suspense, the ending is completely devoid of any credibility. I left the theater thinking I had been conned out of six dollars and two hours of my time.

The movie has a promising beginning. Lincoln Rhyme (Denzel Washington), a brilliant paraplegic New York City detective, hunts a serial killer, but his limited physical capabilities force him to recruit policewoman Amelia Donaghy (Angelina Jolie) as his partner. Amelia becomes Lincoln's eyes, arms, and legs on the case and relays information to him through state of the art technology at his bedside. Washington and Jolie have chemistry, and the stubbornness and persistence of their characters provides for some interesting developments in their relationship and the case.

However, when the detective duo eventually figure out the identity and intentions of the killer, the movie degenerates into complete rubbish. Even prior to the ending, Jeremy Iancone's script is far from Oscar worthy, but at the film's conclusion, the writing turns from bad to shameful. One has to wonder who approved the movie for release and allowed Iancone to write the script.

In any event, when the villain's



Queen Latifah comforts Denzel Washington in "The Bone Collector."

identity is finally revealed, the murderer turns out to be a ridiculous choice who lets loose some of the most dim-witted dialogue I've ever heard. For example, at the final confrontation between Lincoln and the killer, the murderer asks Lincoln if he wants to become a zucchini. How frightening! I couldn't tell if I was in the middle of a climactic scene or somebody's horrible attempt at stand-up comedy.

Prior to its horrendous ending, the movie displays some of the most gruesome and absorbing murder scenes I've ever seen. They rival the part in *Seven* when the obese man is fed spaghetti until he explodes. *The Bone Collector* shines only when Philip Noyce's highly stylized direction examines the crime scenes and the audience sees the effects of a madman's work. Noyce, who previously directed the psychological thriller *Dead Calm*, knows how to handle this type of material.

The best part of the movie revolves around the adroitness of the actors. Angelina Jolie mimics Ashley Judd's role in 1997's *Kiss The Girls* and plays the part enthusiastically. I've liked her ever since she stuck out in the dreadful David Duchovny vehicle *Playing God*. Jolie successfully creates tension while investigating the crime scenes, and even refuses at one point to chop off a victim's hands so they can be fingerprinted.

As always, Denzel Washington is a joy to watch. Over the years he has established himself as one of the premier actors in Hollywood, playing roles such as a disgruntled army private in *Glory*, a blue collar detective in *Devil in a Blue Dress* and a lover in the heart-wrenching *Mississippi Masala*. While his charm guides us through this mess of a movie, you can't help thinking this isn't the kind of demanding role that made him a star. Maybe he just needed a break.

Thought-Provoking *American Beauty* a Must See

By GRACE ALBINSON

staff writer

If you have not already seen *American Beauty*, go to the nearest theater immediately, if for no better reason than to develop an opinion on a movie that has created quite a stir. The story is based around a middle-aged man and his reaction to his fear of growing older and of his life evading him. *American Beauty* is both a comedy and a tragedy. We laugh at the absurd problems of the main character at the same time as we identify with his failure.

The protagonist, Lester Burnham, played by Kevin Spacey, has a pathetic existence as a man who is ignored by his wife, unloved by his daughter and unneeded at work.

Lester's life abruptly changes when one evening, after being dragged to a performance of his daughter's pom-pom squad, he becomes entranced by the youthful beauty of his daughter's 17-year-old friend. The object of Lester's infatuation—Angela Hayes, played by Mena Suvari—becomes Lester's figurative angel, awakening him to the beauty of life and inspiring him to action.

But the movie is not about a Lolita-esque relationship. Instead, it is about a yearning for youth, power, respect and beauty. As a result of his encounter with Angela, Lester chooses an alternate life of impulse and immediate gratification. After blackmailing his boss for \$60,000, he quits his job, buys a bright red 1970 Pontiac Firebird and passes his days lifting weights and smoking pot in his garage.

The end of the film relays an unconventional victory to Lester. His triumph is in his seizing his life, giving up everything for a few scattered moments of freedom and beauty.

Lester transcends his former submissive self, and becomes a hero by taking control of his destiny.

American Beauty conveys a message of the fleeting beauty of life that should be recognized and experienced. But it also seems to suggest that gratification of the self should take precedence over everything and everyone else. The film conveys its *carpe diem* theme by its heroic portrayal of the main character and its suggestion that it is honorable to abandon one's wife and family in the pursuit of bliss. In the end, Lester is victorious, but his victory is one characterized by selfishness and a loss of faith.

Kevin Spacey and Annette Bening in *American Beauty*

Risking the accusation of being a sexist film, *American Beauty* also presents a less than appealing view of its main female character, Lester's wife, Carolyn Burnham, played by Annette Bening. She is portrayed as a money-grubbing, cold and insensitive materialist with no morals.

Although one could argue that the film presents most of its characters sympathetically, it nonetheless risks being seen as not "politically correct" and borderline sexist and homophobic. In some ways, the film also seems to justify any immoral action with the idea that we are all merely victims of a cruel and inhumane society.

All the acting is exquisite. Yet at the same time, the intelligent and honest quality inherent to Kevin Spacey's acting is a little too convincing for the ideals embodied by his selfish character.

The dialogue of *American Beauty* is crisp and concise, enhancing the cast's excellent performance. The artistic imagery of the film is captivating—the teasers give just a tantalizing taste of the rich cinematography that characterizes *American Beauty*.

Despite its pitfalls, the film communicates a valid message. *American Beauty* is both entertaining and comical, as it provides a thought-provoking portrayal of modern American suburban life.

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SGA Endorses College Academic Initiatives

continued from page one

voted down his motion.

Montemerlo asked Dean Ferrari, "What would happen if we tabled this?"

"I'd be disappointed," responded

Ferrari, "After thousands of people hours, this seems like a reasonable [proposal]."

Chair of Academic Affairs Sarah Vermeylen explained that students have been working with faculty and administrators to create and edit the proposal and that previous student

input had been taken into consideration.

"We've been working on this all year," said Julia Greenleaf, Presidential Associate.

The Assembly is comprised of 32 members, 25 of whom were present for the vote.

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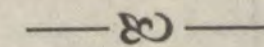
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ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

Variety the Spice of Death in *Bringing Out the Dead* Soundtrack

By CARA CUTLER
staff writer

The soundtrack from the motion picture *Bringing Out the Dead* is a good CD if you are looking for something with a lot of variety. The 12 different bands represent mellow guitar and vocals, Motown and some '90's favorites. The disappointment is that most of the songs do not represent the bands' best work.

I did not see *Bringing Out the Dead*, but would expect that the songs chosen went well with the movie. In making the songs so apropos, how-

ever, the selection they had to choose from was tremendously limited. This can be seen in the choice of Van Morrison song, *T.B. Sheets*; the song deals with tuberculosis, which is more relevant than *Moon Dance* in a film with a protagonist who is a paramedic.

Regardless of the reasoning behind putting *T.B. Sheets* on the soundtrack, it was disappointing, because *T.B. Sheets* is not one of Van Morrison's best works. Yet, with a smooth blend of bass, guitar, organ and vocals, it was actually one of the

best songs on the album.

What I liked most about the CD was the inclusion of old, familiar songs. One of these songs is *Red, Red Wine* by UB40. In addition to *Red, Red Wine*, Martha Reeves and the Vandellas song, *Nowhere to Run*, is on the soundtrack. These two favorites helped muscle the soundtrack along. Two songs by The Clash, *Jamie Jones* and *I'm So Bored with the U.S.A.* were also on the album.

One of the most interesting songs was one that I had never heard before, *Rang Tang Ding Dong* by The

Cellos. I liked this song because of the background vocals which smoothed the music together, though I did not understand the chorus: "I am the Japanese Sandman from across the sea."

While *Bringing Out the Dead* has a variety of music and musicians, the songs chosen are poor representations of the musicians. Fans of the bands would be disappointed if they bought the CD because they recognized the names of a few bands. Even so, *Bringing Out the Dead* is one of the better soundtracks recently released.

Good Italian at Good Prices in Groton

By LUKE JOHNSON
a&e editor

Although quite unassuming from the outside, tucked into the corner of a strip mall in Groton, the North End Deli offers a good value and fast, friendly service. Easily described as a Paul's Pasta with a longer menu and a shorter line, North End Deli offers a full lunch menu of deli sandwiches and salads as well as their dinner menu of Italian entrees to take out or eat in their homey, laid back dining room/deli.

Once seated at one of the small tables that cluster around the deli counter, the server rolled up a small cart with salad fixings to be prepared

to order. Although the selections were limited to chick peas, tomato, cucumber and red onion, everything was fresh, and the novelty of having a salad made tableside helped. The tangy, sweet White Zinfandel vinaigrette was a good compliment to the greens.

The entrees arrived promptly after the salad and light, herbed garlic bread that is included with each entrée. The kitchen was quite accommodating, adding gorgonzola to the salad and removing shrimp from the penne and vodka cream sauce, even altering the check accordingly.

The penne was cooked to a perfect al dente, and the vodka cream sauce struck an excellent balance be-

tween piquant tomato and vodka and cream. The house special, chicken, sundried tomato and artichoke hearts in a rich broth of shallots, herbs and white wine, was delicious - flavorful yet not too rich.

Served in individual ramekins, the lasagne was impressive; stuffed with cheeses, ground beef and sausage. After a brief scare over the color of the meat, the server explained that the sausage remains pinkish even after cooking, the well-seasoned lasagne was much more enjoyable.

Although portions are large enough that doggie bags might be needed, (especially for pastas) the array of desserts was tempting and

varied. The tiramisu and four-berry torten were both quite good - the flavors of the berries were especially robust, and the tiramisu was a rich blend of marscapone and ladyfingers in a chocolate crust.

Most interesting, however, was a heap of shredded phyllo with a center of nuts, honey, and orange water - what shredded wheat should be. The interesting textures and sweet liquor of this dessert suggest what shredded wheat should be. There were, however, murmurs of "It's like eating a Fraggle!"

For a good meal that's more reasonably priced, closer to campus, and less likely to keep one waiting on line, the North End Deli is a good option.

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Question Man Asks: 'What do You Think that Yellow Sculpture Outside of Cummings is?'

By CODY ZALK
staff writer



"I think it's a leg-a bent leg. But I'm not that big of an art girl so I don't really know what it is."

Elizabeth Hansel, '02

"I'm not the right person to ask for this."

Nathan Croteau, '01

"A news paper box that you put a quarter in and out comes the newspaper. Or a French fry."

Alicia Brooks, '03

"Looks like a 'L-7,' ya know 'Loser'"

Will Dubiel, '03



"I don't know, I've always hated it."

Evan Allen, '01

"I'd probably say a breast."

"No, not at all. It's a lion."

"Honestly, a lion."

Greg Yogoda '03,
Anthony Pacific '03,
and Alyssa Wyman '03
(respectively)



"Oh, that thing? Toe cheese, obviously."

Sock Man, '02



The Sculpture in Question... PHOTOS BY CODY ZALK

Dynamic Violinist Janet Acker Performs to Appreciative but Meager Crowd

By JAY STEERE
staff writer

With all the fireworks of Camelympics, the Janet Acker violin recital was overshadowed by raging dorm spirit. Still, the performance was an impressively varied affair, with pieces by Beethoven, Debussy and modern composers Andrew Imbrie and Havergal Brian.

The piece by Imbrie was specially composed for Janet Acker. The choice of pieces reflected the talents of both Acker and accompanying pianist Allen Brings, and their ability to perform the most intricate and lively music. The music was crisp and performed with a wit that is becoming a rare thing in the majority of today's

performances.

Acker opened with *Legend* by Brian, a dynamic composition that kept the listener guessing at every turn. It opened with an explosive burst of violin and piano, then quickly settled into a more soothing melody. The melodic range soon increased. Then, it turned forceful and very intense and started to build to a brighter tone. It finished in a capricious dance-like manner that helped to balance out the previous, more melancholic parts of the music.

The next piece was Beethoven's *Sonata for piano and violin*, a sonata, which displayed Beethoven's mastery of thematic development. This piece also demonstrated Acker's incredible dexterity and ability with the

violin and the wonderful coordination between the two instruments. It finished with an aristocratic sound, which would have not been out of place at an 18th century ball.

The third piece was the one composed for Acker. It catered to her unique style of quick and decisive playing, including high pitches and plucked notes. Although this piece was quite remarkable, it was a little too removed from the rest of the program, and it was hard to maintain a mental flow with the music.

Claude Debussy's sonata started off in a somber mood, which quickly gave way to a great exclamation. This piece then changed once again to a more solemn tune, right before its great finale.

When all thought the performance was over, Acker stepped forward and said that she would play another piece, a Scottish dance. It turned out to indeed have a distinctively Scottish flair and a tune that was meant to be danced to. This was a great cap to the performance and served as a good contrast to the other works the two artists played.

Although the fervor of Camelympics understandably takes precedence over such recitals for most students, the campus should remember that there is a wealth of talented performers like Acker, who pass through Conn nearly every weekend, and are most certainly worth the walk down to the south side of campus.

MOVIE TIMES

MYSTIC 3 Music of the Heart (PG) Sat/Sun 12:30, 3:30, 6:40, 9:30; Fri, Mon-Thur 3:30, 6:40, 9:30	<i>Anywhere But Here</i> (PG13) Fri-Sun 10:40, 1:10, 4:20, 7:10, 9:40 Mon-Thur 1:10, 4:20, 7:10, 9:40	Daily 4:45 <i>Superstar</i> (PG13) Daily 12:35, 2:40, 7:30	Fri-Sun 10:25, 1:10, 3:45, 7:20, 9:55 Mon-Thur 1:10, 3:45, 7:20, 9:55
<i>Double Jeopardy</i> (R) Sat/Sun 12:40, 3:40, 7:00, 9:20; Fri, Mon-Thur 3:40, 7:00, 9:20	<i>Light It Up</i> (R) Fri-Sun 10:30, 1:00, 4:00, 6:40; Mon-Thur 1:00 4:00, 6:40, 9:05	HOYTS WATERFORD 9 Pokemon: <i>The First Movie</i> (G) Fri-Sun 10:00, 10:45, 12:15, 1:00, 2:30, 3:10, 4:45, 5:30, 7:00, 9:15; Mon-Thur 12:15, 1:00, 2:30, 3:10, 4:45, 5:30, 7:00, 9:15	<i>The Messenger: The Story of Joan of Arc</i> (R) Daily 12:05, 3:15, 6:30, 9:45
<i>American Beauty</i> (R) Sat/Sun 12:50, 3:50, 6:50, 9:25; Fri, Mon-Thur 3:50, 6:50, 9:25	<i>The Bone Collection</i> (R) Fri-Sun 10:10, 12:50, 4:10, 6:50, 9:25; Mon-Thur 12:50 4:10, 6:50, 9:25	<i>Light It Up</i> (R) Fri-Sun 10:50, 1:20, 4:15, 6:50, 9:20 Mon-Thur 1:20, 4:15, 6:50, 9:20	* <i>The Bone Collector</i> (R) Fri-Sun 10:30, 1:30, 4:10, 6:45, 9:30 Mon-Thur 1:30, 4:10, 6:45, 9:30
HOYTS GROTON 6 Pokemon: <i>The First Movie</i> (R) Fri-Sun 10:00, 12:15, 2:30, 4:40, 7:00, 9:15, Mon-Thur 12:15, 2:30, 4:40, 7:00, 9:15	<i>House On Haunted Hill</i> (R) Fri-Sun 10:10, 12:25, 2:50, 5:00, 7:20, 9:45 Mon-Thur 12:25, 2:50, 5:00, 7:20, 9:45	<i>Dogma</i> (R) Daily 1:15, 4:00, 6:55, 9:50	* <i>The Insider</i> (R) Daily 12:00, 3:10, 6:30, 9:40
	<i>Bringing Out the Dead</i> (R) Fri-Sun 10:05, 4:50, 9:35 Mon-Thur 4:50, 9:35	* <i>Anywhere But Here</i> (PG-13)	<i>The Bachelor</i> (PG13) Fri-Sun 10:40, 1:45, 4:25, 7:05, 9:25 Mon-Thur 1:45, 4:25, 7:05, 9:25
	<i>The Best Man</i> (PG13)		<i>House on Haunted Hill</i> (R) Daily 7:40, 10:00
			<i>Elmo In Grouchland</i> (G) Daily 10:15

NEWS

Diwali Dinner Celebrates Indian Festival of Lights in Style

By COLEY WARD

associate news editor

To celebrate Diwali, the Indian New Year, the Connecticut College Asian Students Association (CCASA) held their fourth annual Diwali Dinner with Indian food, singing, comedy and dancing. CCASA president Ryan Chan '00 explained the goal of the event as "a celebration of the Indian New Year, a good event to enrich and entertain people who may not know much about In-

dian culture."

CCASA is a group of approximately 30 Connecticut College students who meet once every two weeks for discussions, movies and other entertainment pertaining to Asian life and culture. The Diwali Dinner is usually the group's largest project, although plans are in the works to hold a similar dinner to celebrate the Chinese New Year.

The event has grown tremendously from its inception four years ago, when it was a small meal in the

Cro's Nest for an even smaller group of students. Held in the 1962 Room for the second year in a row, the Diwali Dinner is quickly becoming a popular Connecticut College tradition - two hundred people attended this year's celebration, the largest number in the event's history.

Of course, the opportunity to eat food from a place other than Harris doesn't hurt the dinner's popularity. Catered by Gateway of India, which is in Old Saybrook, the menu included nan, an Indian flatbread, and

savory dishes like kheer, mattar paneer and golab jamun.

One of the secrets of the dinner's success is its ability to involve both the performers and the audience in the celebration. CCASA went to great lengths to explain the significance of the different performances. Featured were traditional Northern and Southern Indian dances, Nepalese songs and a big finale dance piece. This year there was even a skit, parodying the stereotypical Hollywood movie, written by Vetri Nathan

'03.

Chan said of the audience, "They were lively and participated a lot. They shared their appreciation, and that's what the performers wanted."

For their part, the performers seem to get as much out of the dinner as they put in. Nathan, who was born in Bombay and was one of the performers, noted "It was good to be with people of my culture, I usually don't try to be, but it was a relief - very nice."

After the last guests had filtered

out, the event's organizers expressed their relief at having pulled off a successful dinner. Nathan pointed out that "[the performances] seemed kind of sketchy the day before, but it turned out to be good."

"I haven't slept in a month," Rao tiredly explained. "Everybody has put in a tremendous amount of time."

But she and the rest of CCASA won't have much time to recuperate. The Chinese New Year is only a few months away.

Two Finance Committee Members Resign

continued from page one

Bieluch and Marter both said that Film Society claimed Bieluch had taken control of a Finance Committee meeting regarding the club when Hirschman had stepped out of the room. The two stated that it would be impossible for Film Society to

know anything about these events unless the club had received inside information.

The two both said that their main problem was not the proposal itself, but Hirschman's handling of the situation. "The chair (Hirschman) allowed the discussion of confidential information to continue, without ex-

plaining what it meant," said Marter. Bieluch said that he was upset that this apparent breach was not looked into with the same intensity as his alleged breach.

Hirschman said that she did leave the room and instructed the committee to wait until she returned to vote on the issue. "I guess they didn't hear

me, but that was okay," she said.

She said that after leaving the room she saw Film Society President Jason Ihle, and told him that the committee had not yet voted on the issue. She said that this discussion was not a breach of confidentiality because it did not disclose specific information.

Hirschman said that the Film Society then came up with a proposal that "was not fact based. Nobody really knows where they got the information from."

As for her handling of the situation, Hirschman said, "The only person that could close the discussion was the President," because the open forum is considered Parliamentary procedure. She said she told the Film Society "that this wasn't the place to discuss this, and that that wasn't what happened."

Bieluch thinks that his treatment is a person issue with Hirschman. He said that he often dissented on issues, and that "she wanted 'yessers' on the committee. Honestly, I think she doesn't like me, because I don't go along with everything she says."

Hirschman, however, denied any personal reasons for the charges. "For any committee on campus, the chair can ask a person to resign. But they can't ask the person to resign for personal reasons. It has to be for something going against the standing rules for that committee."

Bieluch said that he thinks "a lot of changes need to be made with the committee." He discussed a regulation which forbids club treasurers from being present when their proposals are discussed, saying that they are not given a chance to respond to questions or misunderstandings.

Hirschman responded by saying that the committee liaison is responsible for clearing up any questions about the proposal before official discussion.

Bieluch also said, "I hope more people get involved and try to change things. The sense I got was that Becca wasn't necessarily looking for new ideas. She wanted committee members to go along with her."

Hirschman said, "I didn't want Brian to resign. Everybody feels really badly. He was a great committee member." She also said that she was surprised that the resignation of a committee member who violated the attendance policy earlier this year was not as contested. She suspected that *The Voice* had personal issues with her, which she did not specify.

Brian Bieluch is Editor-in-Chief of *The College Voice*. However, he did not participate in an editorial capacity for this story.

Hybel Analyzes Role of U.S. in International System

By JODRAN WILLCOX

staff writer

Professor Alex Hybel spoke in front of sixty students last week in Ernst Common Room to discuss his new book, *Made in the USA: The International System*.

Hybel, the Susan Eckert Lynch Professor of Government, specializes in U.S. Foreign Policy, International Relations Theory, and Democracy in Latin America.

In his discussion, Professor Hybel outlined the history of the United States' rise to preeminence and the formation of the international system. He raised the idea that the open and competitive nature of the U.S. political system has been one of its greatest assets. It has encouraged the creators of U.S. policy to seek out problems and rectify them with greater vigor. He proposed that this ability to adjust to change and redress mistakes has kept the U.S. as the world's dominant nation, a position in which Hybel predicted that it will remain for some time.

Professor Hybel also addressed the issue of political analysis. This

is the idea that every three or four years a new interpretation comes along to explain the state of politics in the world, discrediting old theories. He said that opinions he believes in strongly could thus be disproved in the future.

Professor Hybel's style of speaking seemed to engage the audience. He did not spend much time behind the podium, instead talking directly to the audience. At times he was aggressive in his manner, speaking authoritatively and getting within inches of the crowd. Students said Professor Hybel generally kept his statements precise and compact and digression to a minimum.

Most of the faculty present also expressed support both for the night's lecture and Hybel's argument itself. Prof. Swanson called Hybel "a very active and important scholar" who had in the night's lecture demonstrated "great skill at revisiting history and picking out points that other researchers have missed."

Professor Hybel is in his ninth year at Connecticut College. This is the fourth book he has published.

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CamelSports

MEN'S BASKETBALL

Men's Hoops Warming Up; Ayers, Tatum Should Lead Camels

By MATT SKEADAS
associate sports editor

Unless you've been living under a rock for the past year, you know that the Connecticut College Men's Basketball team is good. Very good. Last year was the best season in Conn basketball history, as NESCAC opponents fell one by one. The team coasted through the season undefeated before eventually falling to Hampden-Sydney in the Final Four.

This year, however, we will not see the same Camel team. Gone are three senior starters, including the team's top rebounder and all-time leading scorer, Zach Smith, field goal percentage leader Chris O'Leary, and all-time three-point shooting leader Dwayne Stallings. Smith will be hard to replace, as his inside-outside game was impeccable, with the ability to post up a smaller defender, stick the three, or drive to the hoop and draw the foul. Smith also led the team in blocked shots by a large margin. O'Leary was a solid contributor, who took high percentage shots and got to the line. He boxed out and worked hard for defensive position. Stallings was a shooter, plain and simple. He hit threes in key situations and could often ignite a big run with his pinpoint accuracy.

But perhaps the most significant departure is that of head coach Glen Miller. Miller was the most successful coach in Conn history, who in six short seasons turned a 6-18 team to a National Power. His practices were intense, and he allowed no room for failure. Miller moved up I-95 to take the reigns at Brown University, another step up in what is sure to be a wonderful coaching career.

Even with these losses, there is no reason that this year's team cannot match or even exceed last year's accomplishments. Stepping in to take control of the team is Coach Lynn Ramage, who at East Stroudsburg State was named the Pennsylvania State Athletic Conference (PSAC) Eastern Division Coach of the Year in 1998. He has 15 years of collegiate coaching experience, and has his own style of bringing out the best in his players. "I know no one makes mistakes and I feel our job is to teach the team in the best way possible." Although his style may be slightly more laid back than the ultra-intense Miller, he certainly "demands the best," from his team.

Guard play dominates division three basketball, and the Camels have no shortage of talent there. Starter Mizan Ayers ('02) and junior Aaron Taylor combined last season to form a truly lethal point

guard combination, and with a year of experience under their belt there is no telling what they can accomplish. Both exhibit good ball-handling, with the ability to break down presses oftentimes single-handedly. While Ayers is the better perimeter shooter, Taylor possesses a good drive and is an excellent free-throw shooter. Unfortunately, Taylor is currently sidelined with an injury, but hopes to get back on the court soon.

The perimeter game should not be a problem with senior co-captain Jason Ashur and sophomore Vaidas Nutautas. Ashur is the top returning three point

forwards in the NESCAC and draw contact. He also possesses an uncanny ability to hit the three and is a talented ballhandler. Sometimes a step too slow on D, he nonetheless plays up to the situation. Wanting the ball in his hands at crunch-time, and delivering, has earned him the apt name of "Game Day". He will have to be successful in order for the Camels to go far this year.

Up front is where the real problems begin. Sophomore Rich Futia is the only consistent offensive player in a bunch that will have problems guarding any significant size. Futia, a two-time NESCAC

will be invaluable. Junior Sam Freedman was buried on Miller's bench last season. He sometimes shies away from contact and tends to fall in love with the outside jumper instead of using his size to his advantage. He is certainly able to contribute, only time will tell.

Rounding out the bunch are six talented freshmen who will certainly make a case for playing time. Kevin Harrington provides depth at the three-spot, while Aubrey Hodges is an adept inside-out player who will challenge the incumbents. Ali Rahman, Joe Tremblay, Michael Strangfeld, and Travis are all sure to be factors in this season and the years to come.

So how does this year's squad compare to last? The depth at the guard position will allow Conn to press on D and run the break on offense. The ability to rotate fresh bodies was highly valued by Miller and is sure to be a valuable asset for Ramage. In order to run the break effectively, however, the team must be able to get the ball off the glass quickly. The defense needs to set up the offense and that will depend on the front line. Taylor would start for most any D-3 program, and his All-NESCAC defensive selection proves that he is capable of seriously disrupting the opposing offense. All great teams have great play at the point guard position, and Conn. may have the best duo in the country. The perimeter shooters will keep defenses honest and allow Tatum and Futia to do their work down low.

The old adage goes "Offense wins games, Defense wins Championships," and it will certainly hold true this year. There will not be much competition in the NESCAC, but if the team hopes to go far once again into the tournament, it will have to be on defensive work. Scoring will not be a problem, but stopping a talented forward or center may be. Although admittedly there is a lack of height in division three play, there is always the occasional big man (e.g. Hamilton's Michael Schantz a year ago) that will cause problems. Although Shea is an extremely hard worker, he nonetheless will find himself undersized at 6'2". Someone will need to step up and anchor the inside D. There are no limits for this team, so hopefully we can enjoy yet another euphoric season here at Conn. The first match-up for the camels is November 23rd against Elms, and their first home game is December 11th versus Hunter at 3 pm. Take a break from class and go watch our men rule the court.



PHOTO BY KIM HILLENBRAND

shooter. He will be expected to shoulder more of the scoring load this year, but has not yet showed a multi-faceted offensive game. His shooting touch is exquisite, but he must demonstrate an ability to create more for himself and his teammates by improving his dribble and first step. Nutautas is probably the most fun Camel to watch, with his dazzling passes that never cease to amaze. His shooting is underrated, and with the departure of Stallings he will get a chance to truly showcase his offensive skills. Co-Captain Bill Bassett '00 and sophomore Leland McKenna did not see much of the floor last year, but now have a fresh start with a new coach to vie for minutes.

At the three spot lies by far the best offensive threat for the Camels, junior Kareem Tatum. A two-time second team All-NESCAC member, Tatum, like Smith, possesses an exceptional inside-outside game. His strength allows him to overpower many of the undersized small

rookie of the week, shot 54% last season and will certainly score points and rebound. He does have a tendency to hack, however, and will need to be in games late for the team to have a chance. Junior Tope Adekanbi has reportedly significantly improved his game from last year. He is always capable of the crowd-pleasing slam, but has to develop a post game this year. He had a tendency to fall asleep on D last year, so if he is to garner a starting role this year defensive improvement is a must. Jason Shea ('01), is a quality defender who is not afraid to bang down low with often times larger players. His ability to defend the post will be very important to the Camels in the post-season when bigger teams are encountered. Unfortunately when Shea is on the floor the team is handicapped offensively. He does not possess the offensive skills of his teammates and often times struggled at the line. If his free-throws improve he

MEN'S HOCKEY

Camel Icemen Sharpens Their Skates



PHOTO BY DARIN RAMSAY

Men's Ice Hockey players cross the blue line work on breaking the puck out in preparation for the upcoming season

By NED DEBARY
staff writer

Get ready to cause some ruckus in the rink, because the 1999-2000 men's ice hockey season gets underway next weekend. This year Conn College Hockey has a strong returning squad. Returning forwards are Tom Holt '02, Brian Fredrick '02, Craig Sliva '02, Darrel Cristina '01, Tim Hannigan '00, Parker Sides '00, Tim Flaherty '02, Matt Levinson '02, Tim Boyd '01, and Pete Helfer '01. Returning on defense are John Richardson '02, Jon Hoose '01, Captain Andy Stephenson '00, Matt Coleman '02 and Matt Heath '02. Matt West '02 makes the switch this year from forward to defense. In the net, Captain Justin "Jud" Brackett '02 returns to his reign as the best goalie in the league. Also returning in the net after an excellent 1998-99 season, is Tim McRae '02. The new additions to the team are freshmen Mike Hasenauer, Adam Rogowin, Dave Pepalma, Erick Petzel, Bret Kaugle, Bret Roth, and Andy "Ace" Holand.

Coach Doug Roberts is in his

21st season coaching at Connecticut College. "We've had a great pre-season," said Roberts, "The captains Andy and Jud have been doing a great job getting people in shape. We have a very young team with seven freshman and ten sophomores. Overall we have a great team Unity. Our four lines are well balanced and we have great work ethic. Our first four away games will be tough. Then we have Thanksgiving tournament against four teams that are not in our league, but are very good. Everyone seems ready to go. I'm very pleased with the condition of the team."

The Camels' first games are away on November 19th and 20th against Norwich and Middlebury College respectively. Middlebury has been number one in the league for the last five years, but Conn has beaten them the last two seasons. The following weekend the team plays Colby and Bowdoin away. Sophomore John Richardson said, "We have a tough schedule ahead, but everyone is fired up to go out there and win." So get fired up to cheer for these Camels.

A CAMELYMPICS PERSPECTIVE BY THE VOICE'S SPORTS EDITOR

Hamilton Takes Top Honors in Fiercely Contested Weekend; Freeman and Jane Addams Take Second and Third Place

By CHARLES HASSELL
sports editor

This happens every year. The fall sports are over, the winter sports haven't begun yet, and here we are sports fans lingering in athletic purgatory. That's when it happens, a sports extravaganza that not only everyone can watch and enjoy, but actually participate in. I'm referring of

course to that greatest of contests, Camelympics. Whoever came up with this idea certainly did the College a great service. And as long as we're talking history, let's take a look at this tradition.

Camelympics has been around for five years. Each year yields a final winner, but did you ever wonder which dorm can be considered the greatest champ? Well, in order to determine this, we must examine

each winner. The first year of Camelympics, 1995, produced Marshall as champion. However, the fact is I don't think the first year is a fair consideration, because who really knew about Camelympics? It had never been done before, so probably the dorm spirit was not at its height. Consequently, the first in this case is most likely not the best.

The following two years were won by KB. KB has a number of inherent advantages in the competition, the most obvious being that they have the most people. They also typically have a lot of freshman, and let's face it, freshman are more likely to get hyped and into something like Camelympics. No offense to you high-spirited upper-classmen (of which I'm one), but lots of the cheering and spirit I see comes from frosh. KB is also a very cool dorm, making it a desirable place for upper-classmen (including athletes) to reside. The more athletes you have, the more young spirit you have, and the larger pool of participants you have to draw on, the more likely you are to win. Having said this, it's no surprise that KB won, and actually their victory would be the rule, not the exception.

This brings me to the most recent dynasty, that of Hamilton. Hamilton won last year on sheer guts and spirit, and the story of this year's victory was not much different. A hard-core nucleus of repeat Hamilton residents, coupled with an inspiring house governor and house fellow encouragements, made "Hammy" the place to be this Camelympics. Despite the fact that Hamilton is burdened with nearby Lambdin construction, and they don't have the population or freshman count that a lot of dorms do, they still rallied their troops in prime fashion.

The dorm rolled to victory with six gold medals, four silver, and six bronze. Dorm-wide participation and presence in most events was a spectacle of dedication and desire to win. Another element of any great champion was clearly evident as well: confidence bordering on arrogance. Nobody ever wins anything unless

they think they're the best, it's that simple. The confidence and athleticism of Hamilton was especially obvious in the five-on-five hoops, as they coasted to gold despite often playing five-on-four due to poor officiating. Said Camel baller Rich "Skills" Futia '02, "As far as five-on-five basketball, there really wasn't much competition." Added sophomore hoop-star Mizan "Pretty Good Kid" Ayers '02, "Bottom Line: everyone else was playin' for second." Hamilton also dominated the CAMEL shootout, and as two-time winner Pete "Mr. Gold" Nash '02 walked off the floor he wondered aloud, "Any other basketball players want to shoot against me?"

Other golds included Tom "Stud" Holt's '02 golf victory, which he summed up in these words: "Not only was I impressed by the efforts of Hamilton, but I was also very impressed by my own efforts in the golf pitch." Ann "Deezull" Kratzinger '01 took gold in the arm wrestling, and afterwards she declared, "I kicked ass". Josh "Uter" Cohen '02, who served as a great inspiration for everybody, also captured a gold of his own in the ping pong. Said Uter, "It was a great win. I am so proud, and if anyone wants to play some pong-bring it on!" Finally the 50-meter relay team brought home a gold as well. Participant Ned "Rider" deBary '02 had this to say, "No one came close to touching us, and I even stopped to smoke a butt halfway through."

Hamilton was seemingly unstoppable in the athletic events, taking a silver in bombardment that, according to Travis Galloway '02, "Was bullsh**. We should have won-we beat Windham once." Another controversial silver was in flag football, which came down to the last seconds. Quarterback Zack "Bullet arm" Bluestone commented, "We deserved to win. We're obviously superior to our peers- physically and mentally." But the most exciting contest of the entire games was the five-on-five soccer. Led by housefellow Quinn "Dorm Daddy" Witte '00 the team battled valiantly for over 2 hours,



PHOTO BY ANDY SEGUIN

Freeman team members celebrate their victory, with spectators cheering them on. The medals shown were earned in trivial pursuit and the spelling bee, two of the more fiercely contested events.

before finally taking a silver medal. Said Witte, "I was proud to lead such an awesome dorm to a camelympics victory." Other soccer members included Wilbert "Pele" Quintanilla '02, Liza "One Bad Chick" Hansell '02, and Tim "Suki" Aslin '01. The fourth silver for Hamilton came in the tug-o-war, which Alan "Tiny" Baldwin summed up: "We almost won. Gimme a beer."

Not to be forgotten were the six bronze medals, and invaluable support of the fans. Leslie "Punk" Rosen '02 said, "I cheered a lot, it was lot of fun," and Lilia "Skate or Die" Tyrell '02 added, "I don't know why the other dorms even bothered to show up. Hamilton rules." It was that kind of confidence that carried "Hammy" to victory. Mark "Turtle-neck" Gessener '02 had this to say: "I am Camelympics", and Ian "Train-ride" Knox '02 claimed that despite

his absence, "I was there in spirit." A few final comments really sum it all up for Hamilton: sophomore Dan "Motor mouth" Taub said, "Throughout all the events it was evident that Hamilton was superior", freshman Lindsay "Disco" Barnard '03 added, "What? We won camelympics?", and Zach "The Pimp" Joslow '02 concluded, "We kicked ass."

There you have it folks. The stats are in, the votes have been cast, and based on numerous biased comments, Hamilton is clearly the all-time champ. Two years running Hammy has dominated Camelympics like no other, and it will be a sad, sad day when they destroy the old dorm this summer. When Hamilton goes down it will leave behind a dynasty cut-down in its prime, and a standard which all future Camelympic athletes should strive to match.



PHOTO BY DARIN RAMSAY

ABOVE: Saturday's Camelympic soccer match-up, pitting participants from almost every dorm.