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## INSIDE:



## NEWS

SISTER mentoring program receives a \$3,000 grant from The Women's and Girls' Fund



## A&E

Ted's Victorian Pub & Restaurant offers fair American fare.



## SPORTS

This year's tiny swimming team hopes to survive in a large pond.

## Two Students Injured When River Ridge Balcony Collapses

By DANIEL JARCHO  
STAFF WRITER

On the night of Thursday November 8, several students were gathered in one of River Ridge apartments, currently occupied by Bob Young and Jed Gallagher. The events of the evening were brought to an abrupt halt when two students, Filipe Lima and Sam Isa, fell 15 feet to the ground after the concrete south wall of the balcony severed from the balcony floor, leaving Lima with a broken arm, and Isa with injuries to his skull.

This incident obviously brings up an issue of maintenance and more importantly an issue of safety for students living on and off-campus. Young, who was in the apartment when the events unfolded, said, "If something like this can happen, it seems pretty obvious that there isn't much concern for students' safety on the part of the college. It also speaks something about an obvious flaw in the design of the building. Who knows? There could be plenty of other things around campus that are unsafe."

Conway Campbell, Director of Residential Life and Housing/Student Life, defends that "The College does the best that we can to insure the safety of the students. However, there are things like this that are unanticipated. We try to limit these unexpected occurrences with things like our balcony policy. We have policies like this because structurally, the balconies are not meant to support many people at the same time. If these policies are observed, students should feel safe as far as structure goes."

So far, the college has taken several steps towards insuring the



The broken balcony wall lies on the ground beneath apartment number one (Kreit).

safety of the students living in the River Ridge apartments and in other areas of campus. The night of the accident, Physical Plant installed 2x4's to act as an immediate repair to the void left in the balcony wall. Jim Norton, Director of Physical Plant Services, said, "The

day after the incident we installed a wooden railing with the proper spacing between boards to meet the building code requirements. Ultimately we will go back and replace the masonry wall that existed before." Physical Plant has

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## Merrill Named New Dean of Admission

By BEN MORSE  
ASSOCIATE NEWS EDITOR

Two weeks ago, Martha Merrill's was named the new Dean of Admissions & Financial Aid at Connecticut College, culminating a long and twisting road to the head admissions position that spanned over twenty years.

Merrill graduated from Connecticut College in 1984 with a major in Psychology. A native of Wayland, Massachusetts, she moved closer to home following graduation, taking a job as advertising manager at a Boston area financial firm.

"The feel of the corporate world was something I never really got used to," admitted Merrill.

It was a unique association that she had formed during her years as a student, a romance with John

Merrill Jr. that brought Merrill back to Connecticut in 1988. Merrill Jr. had been an admissions officer while she was still attending the school. Martha and John were married and she took a job with the Office of Admissions as a temp. John eventually moved on to a job with a New London stock firm, but Martha remained in admissions with her alma mater.

"I had been out and experienced life outside of the school and didn't find it to my liking," commented Merrill. "I had an opportunity to remain a fixture in a place I was happy, why not take it?"

"I love the collegiate and academic environment here today just as much as I did when I was a student," said Merrill. "I might not be going down to Cro and hanging out

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## Two Students Work to Bring New York Times to Campus

By COLETT WARD  
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

Two students are on a mission to bring a quality newspaper, other than The College Voice, to Connecticut College.

If Alex Band '02 and Kate Keene '02 have their way, faculty, students, and staff will soon have access to the New York Times free of charge.

Band and Keene propose that the College adopt The New York Times College Readership Program, which offers a reduced price to colleges and universities that order The Times in bulk.

The two senior friends say they are tired of feeling like they are cut off from the outside world.

"I think it's time to start talking about something of substance in the

dining hall," said Keene.

The College Readership Program offers institutions an opportunity to customize their readership program to meet individual goals and objectives. Participating institutions have free access to all of The New York Times educational resources.

"Classes will be more interesting if professors can assume that students have been reading the newspaper," said Band.

The largest obstacle facing Keene and Band is the issue of funding. They are lobbying to procure financial resources from the Student Government Association, from the College, and from parents and alumni.

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## Nation's Diversity Woven into Understanding of Flag

By KATE WOODSOME  
STAFF WRITER

The United States' public has assumed a new identity since American soil was attacked on September 11. Once considered to be voters, commodities, or taxpayers, US citizens now are known as, "Fellow Americans." President George W. Bush's call for patriotic unity to serve as a force against evil has manifested into an overwhelming display of the American flag. The red, white, and blue unfurled across the nation has made its way onto the Connecticut College campus, even as some community members struggle to understand its meaning.

Flags plastered on cars, dorm windows, in potted plants, and in Fanning Hall indicate both the faculty and students' desire to be supportive members of the American community.

Senior Mark Oswalt is comforted to see the stars and strips of Old Glory hanging on his wall. Although he always has had an affinity for the flag, its meaning has become more poignant since the attacks. He considers the cloth to be a unifying force.

"It makes people feel like they're part of the team. Like the 'in' crowd," Oswalt explained. "Everybody always wants to be a part of the group."

Oswalt does not think the US government is perfect, but feels America's actions, past and present, are just. He plans to apply to the Air Force after college. Although he would use the Air Force primarily to fulfill a lifelong dream of flying, Oswalt is ready and willing to serve his country.

"Patriotism is realizing that other



An American Flag decorates an office door on the first floor of the Fanning Academic Building. Patriotism has been fervent on campus since the Sept. 11 attacks (Spezia).

people before you have allowed for you to be here today,"

**Patriotism on Campus**

Recognition of the privileges of the United States by the US government and of the lives lost in the attacks is exercised by most flag-wavers on campus. One fresh-

man posted a flag outside of the Freeman Dormitory to show support of American troops and to pledge allegiance to his country.

The student, who prefers to remain anonymous, claimed he is comfortable outwardly show his pride. He said, "I'm not hiding behind the flag. I've always stood behind America."

He doesn't understand how anyone could oppose the patriotic display and tells skeptics to talk to people who suffered a loss in the attacks. "It's not a question of, 'Why would I?' " he said. "It's a question of, 'Why wouldn't I?'"

An increase in patriotic displays can be attributed to the fact that people's identity as Americans has been threatened. Psychology professor Jefferson Singer said that the upsurge in patriotism and displaying of the flag is a way for people to feel comforted.

"If people feel that the flag or symbols of patriotism are in jeopardy, then in extension they feel their own lives are in peril," he explained. "They feel that there's been an attack on symbols they hold collectively."

Jacqueline Alexander, chair of the college's Gender and Women's Studies Department, agrees that to many, the flag symbolizes a strong, unified society. This token, however, is blemished by institutionalized disparities amongst classes, races, genders, and religions.

"In light of such inequity, what appears to be the symbol of a seamless nation is somewhat frayed," she said.

She feels an examination of American society would show that the country cannot be defined by a

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A dining hall employee returns to work in Freeman dining hall on Monday (Spezia).

## Freeman and Jane Adams Dining Halls Re-open for Dinner

By ELIZABETH KNORR  
STAFF WRITER

On Monday, the Jane Addams and Freeman Dining Halls sprang back to life after having been closed for dinner since October due to staffing challenges.

The two south campus dining halls are now running on their regular schedule: breakfast, lunch, and dinner are available in Jane Addams on Monday through Friday, and lunch and dinner are offered at Freeman on Monday through Friday.

In October, a general announcement was made to students explaining that dining halls would be closed indefinitely for dinner. The message promised that the dining halls would re-open as soon as possible. No definite date was given, making the re-opening this week a pleasant surprise for students.

Mary Zawieski, Director of Auxiliary Services explained, "The reason why we closed was lack of staff. The staffing challenges have been resolved."

Whether the dining services will be able to maintain this schedule

remains to be seen. When asked whether students should expect future dining dilemmas, Zawieski replied, "I have no idea. I can't predict the future."

As long as staff is available, the dining halls will remain open.

The convenience and varied atmosphere that these dining halls offer brought relief to many students. For the past few weeks, Harris was the only dining hall open for dinner, which meant a very crowded dinnertime and a long walk for students living on south campus.

Reflecting popular sentiment, south campus resident Megan Simonds '05 said, "I'm extremely happy about the re-opening. It was a pain to walk to Harris, especially when it was cold."

Simonds also commented on the appeal of Jane Addams, saying, "It has a very homey atmosphere. There's always a familiar face."

Lauren Horowitz echoed this sentiment. She lives on central campus, but sometimes chooses Jane Addams because, "It's more laid-back than Harris."



# EDITORIAL & OPINION

## Balcony Collapse a Symptom of the Disease that is Poor Maintenance; College Must Evaluate Housing Safety

A week ago, two students fell through a River Ridge balcony wall and were severely injured. According to witness accounts, the students fell through the south wall while leaning against it. The wall was made of cement.

An investigation is currently underway. Physical Plant has contacted an engineer, who has recommended reformation of the apartment balconies on campus. The fact that an engineer has recommended reformation of campus balconies suggests that the balconies were not strong enough in the first place, while students were living in their apartment.

Jim Norton, head of Physical Plant, said that the balcony walls are capable of sustaining 200-300 pounds. The River Ridge balconies have been designed to withstand 200 to 300 pounds, yet they are apparently incapable of supporting two or more normal size people leaning against them. If they are designed to be incapable of supporting more than two people leaning against them, the residents of the River Ridge apartments should be informed.

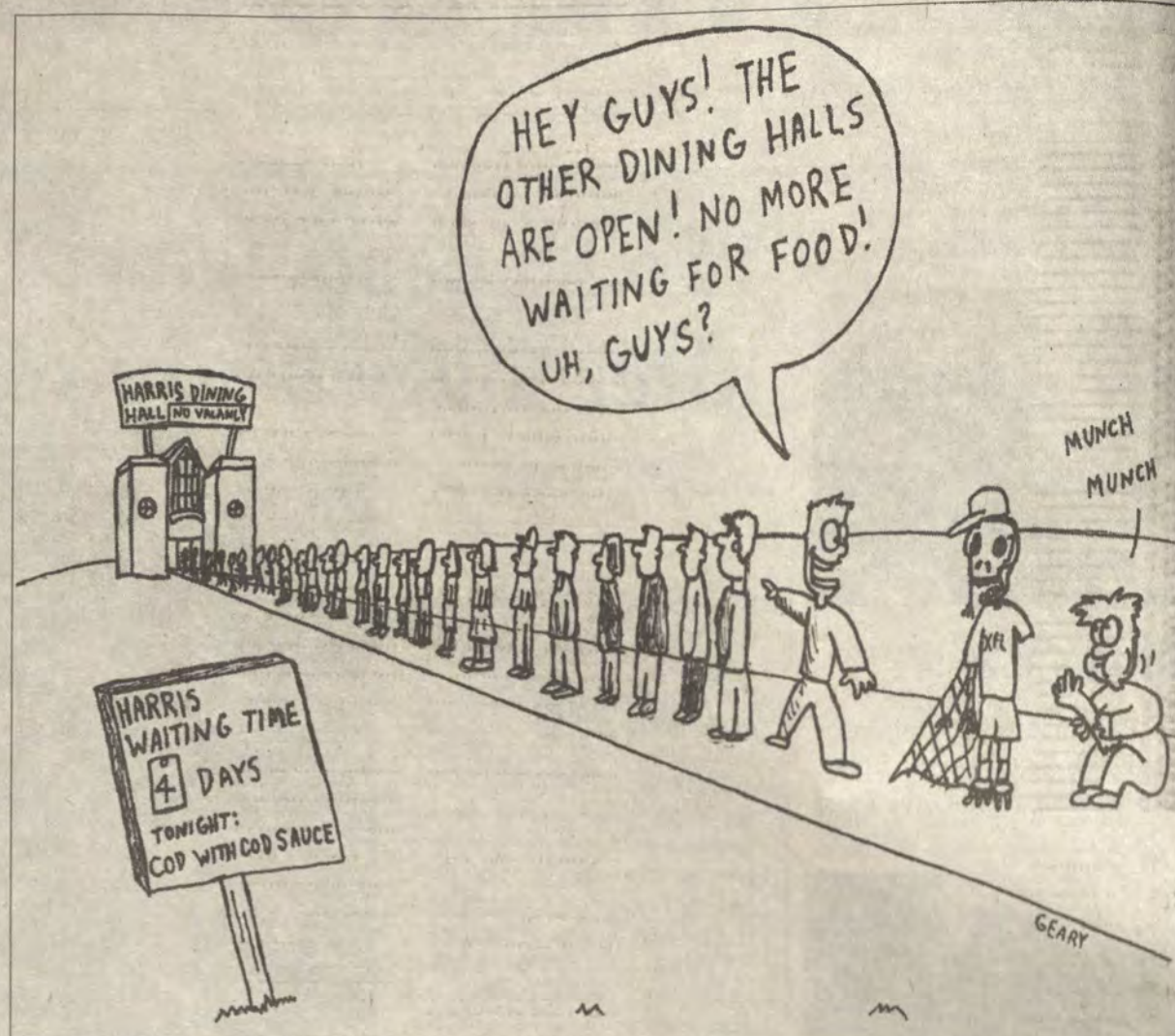
If, on the other hand, the wall collapsed because it should have been able to the College was forced to defer maintenance in order to save money, then it must seriously consider how it prioritizes its upkeep of college facilities.

The River Ridge balcony collapse is symptomatic of a larger maintenance problem on campus. Physical plant is understaffed and under-funded. The College has been forced to delay Plex renovations in recent years, it has been unable to replace a leaky athletic center roof because they have had to put other budget items first.

If it turns out, in the course of investigation, that the accident occurred because of deferred maintenance, the administration must stop waiting for an accident to act. Hopefully, this accident will prevent any further, avoidable incidents.

Soon, more students could be moving into off campus housing as the College looks for creative solutions to handle the impending Spring housing crunch. Physical Plant should perform a thorough check of any off-campus housing before they use it. They should not wait for a balcony to collapse to call an engineer.

Thus far, the administration has taken the appropriate responsive steps. They are investigating the accident, they have contacted an engineer to consult on the building maintenance, and they are planning to fortify the River Ridge balconies.



## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

### Study Indicates That Trash is Creeping Into Conn's Recyclables

To the editors:

On Thursday, October 25, 2001, while passing through Cro, you might have noticed some students across the street on Larabee green. You might have wondered, "Are they playing with garbage?" How they eagerly dug into those trash bags with big smiles and goofy gloved hands might lead to such an impression.

In actuality what you witnessed was the annual Trash Composition Study run by the College Environmental Coordinators. The purpose of the study was to assess how successfully we are recycling on campus.

Trash was collected from the non-recyclable bins in dorms, academic buildings, health services, and Cro. Not all the content of the bags was non-recyclable. In the bags, we found glass bottles, aluminum cans, office paper, cardboard, and low quality paper that all could have been recycled. Some of the materials had been soiled by food remains and could no longer be recycled,

which is even more reason to recycle the first time around.

Of the 136.5 pounds of trash that were sorted, the following amounts of recyclable materials were found: 11 pounds of high quality paper (8.06%), 16.5 pounds of bottles and cans (12%), and 19.75 pounds of low quality paper (14.5%). The overall component of recyclable materials disposed of in the regular trash was 35.1%.

This year's trends show a decrease in the campus' recycling efforts.

The campus recycling program was established in 1970. Trash composition studies have been conducted since 1989. In that time a fluctuating pattern has been discerned.

Aside from acquiring statistics to determine trends throughout the years, the trash composition study also serves as a reminder. As a college community we have a well-developed and long-standing recycling program. Recycling facilities are provided in every building on campus making recycling easy. Blue and gray bins have been provided for every dorm room as well. If you do not have these bins please contact the environmental coordinators at extension 5218.

The Trash Composition Study reveals our daily

habits. Whether or not we each recycle does not reflect on statistics or individuals. We are privileged to live in a community that has made recycling so easy and accessible. Now it is up to us to follow through and throw things in the right bins. If you have any questions about what can be recycled and what cannot you can contact the Environmental Coordinators at 5218.

-Leigh Tillman '03

### Afghanistan, Student Argues, is not Mister Roger's Neighborhood

To the Editors:

Kabul was "liberated" yesterday. According to the news media, "Streets of Kabul are full of joy". There is something in the air we're told. Afghans celebrated jubilantly and showered flower petals on the triumphant Northern Alliance soldiers. Kids flew kites and men got rid of their beards as an expression of freedom. The women came out on streets for the first time in six years. The Taliban are gone forever. "They are history" as many would put it. In the International Politics courses next semester, the students all over the US will be taught why Operation Enduring Freedom was justified; because America won the war in Afghanistan — simple as that! This is the same reason why Operation Desert Storm was justified, why the Vietnam War was not justified. The Taliban vanished as quickly, and even more dramatically, as they appeared on the horizon in 1994. They say "all's well that ends well". Today, all is good. Bye Bye Mullah Mohammad Omar. End of story.

Except that it's not! Thomas Friedman wrote in an article in New York Times last week: "You need only spend an afternoon walking through the Storytellers' Bazaar here in Peshawar, a few miles from the Afghan border, to understand that America needs to do its business in Afghanistan — eliminate Osama bin Laden and his Taliban protectors — as quickly as possible and get out of here. This is not a neighborhood where we should linger. This is not Mr. Rogers's neighborhood... What makes me say that?... maybe it was the cold stares and steely eyes that greeted the obvious foreigner. Those eyes did not say "American Express accepted here". They said "Get lost!" Welcome to the third world, Mr. Friedman. Al-Jazeera and other news networks today broadcast videophone pictures of black-turbaned Taliban supporters on the streets of Afghanistan and quoted the people of Kandahar as saying "We'll die for Bin Laden". Why are some Afghans rejoicing in the streets as the Taliban flee while others are out on streets to support Bin Laden? It sounds utterly paradoxical, extremely confusing and totally mind boggling indeed.

But it really isn't. The people of Afghanistan are neither celebrating the liberation from Taliban nor protesting in favor of Bin Laden. They might be doing what they are but definitely not for reasons we THINK they are. If you ask somebody who's hungry and starved for days, how much is one plus one, he'll probably reply "two loaves of bread". I doubt the Afghans even know what "Talibanism" or "Bin Ladenism" is. These ideas are for people like us, who can "afford" to gather in living rooms for Desert and Dialogues and discuss such issues over pizza. The people who are directly "in the line of fire" have other things at stake, other important issues to deal with; they can only see the trees and not the forest. Have you ever wondered why Saddam Hussein is still so popular in Iraq, no matter how much the rest of the world — American or non-American, Muslim or non-Muslim — hates him. I think that anything called "Talibanism" or "Bin Ladenism" does not exist... "Anti-Americanism" does! So is there a difference? Yes, there IS a difference and a gigantic one too.

If we think we can remove the Taliban or Bin Laden from the scene and get rid of terrorism, we are grossly mistaken. Nobody supports the Taliban or Bin Laden for killing people and oppressing women... people support them for waging war against America. In other words, another nobody can stand up tomorrow and claim to be fighting against Americanism and people from the third world will rally behind him.

The million dollar question — that I and others like me try to avoid at every cost nowadays, I admit — is what should America do if not bomb Afghanistan. It is a difficult question to answer indeed and I don't claim to have an answer. American bombing comes at a cost, not to Americans, but paid by the innocent civilians of Afghanistan. Americans have nothing to lose and on the other hand, there is a good probability of a reduction in terrorism against US (at least in the short term); so Americans are right when they question "why should the bombing stop?" Unfortunately, this is the same argument the rest of the world uses to "justify terrorism" against America; the rest of the world did not lose much in the 9-11 tragedy and chances are bright that one day America will have to seriously pay heed to their grievances. It is a vicious circle and the question is not how long will we kill each other at other's expense... but how long will we kill each other at our own expense.

Surely, someone will have to break the cycle. Someone will have to be the first one, if we are to coexist peacefully on this planet. I don't mean to suggest that it should be America, which should take this first step; probably that'll be asking for too much, especially after a tragedy of the magnitude of World Trade Center. But it'll definitely help if Americans can reach out to the rest of the world and look into why people in the developing countries are so ready to hijack planes, crash them into skyscrapers and throw away their own lives. Probably, they've forgotten the true meaning of the word "life" and what it stands for. And it'll definitely be a big step towards establishing peace in the long run if American thinkers and philosophers could stop judging wars on their "outcomes" and rather look into the "causes" of wars to justify them. Meanwhile, the rest of the world, which is equally responsible for bringing us to the "breaking point" where we stand today, will do all of us a big favor if it stops demonizing the West in general and America is particular.

Until that is done, the world will continue to move in the direction of "the clash". When Princess Diana died, she was immortalized, in words of Prime Minister Tony Blair, as "Princess of Hearts". Yesterday, the Taliban ceased to be rulers of Kabul. Fortunately or unfortunately — thanks to American government's "War against terrorism" — they are now "Rulers of Hearts" for many in the third world.

-Usman Amin Sheikh '04

### Student Requests More Regular Publication of Conntact

To the Editors:

What's up with the Conntact? It's just kind of ridiculous that it's arbitrary whether or not it's going to be there on any given day, and it really doesn't work for anyone if it's only there sometimes. And the people that do it are getting paid to do it, so maybe they shouldn't get paid when it isn't there... (I've also heard that there are problems with the printer or something, but I mean come on, why can't they go to the library and print something off in microsoft word?) Please get the Conntact out, most of us use it and need it to know what's going on and to tell others what's going on... We miss the Conntact!

-Darren Dluogo '02

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## OPINION

## BRAD AND KEANU'S EXCELLENT COLUMN

BRAD KREIT • LEFT OF MARX



No actor is more triumphant than Keanu Reeves. A talented musician and a gifted actor, he embodies the most excellent spirit of Generation X in such classic movies as *Speed*.

And who would ever contest casting Keanu Reeves as the Buddha?

It is precisely his calm, enlightened wisdom that made him anything but a bogus choice for his role as the Buddha in *Little Buddha*. And it is one tiny piece of this actor's extraordinary wisdom which I find particularly inspiring and feel compelled to share.

"All I have ever wanted is to be accepted as a serious actor or as a serious musician or a serious something." - Keanu Reeves

Words to live by. They are most non-non-triumphant.

If I could humbly try to sum up Keanu's wisdom, I would put it as follows: No one from my generation has any direction. You should take me seriously while I dabble around and aimlessly pursue various endeavors, because I deserve it. I am serious about each thing I dabble in.

\*\*\*

If Keanu seems outdated, however, it could be that he's on the old side. He's not from the current generation of young stars.

So take your pick, any of today's stars will do. With wisdom like, "Oops I did it again," "Bye, Bye, Bye," and "Backstreet's back, all right!" Who wouldn't be proud?

If music's not your thing, we have poets. Have you ever read Jewel's *A Night Without Armor*? I mean, nothing says poetry like a pun in the book's title.

I guarantee you, Emily Dickinson is rolling over in her grave from jealousy—unless of course Dickinson was cremated. Then it becomes much more complicated.

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## WHEN I AM AN EMPRESS...

SARAH GREEN • VIEWPOINT



It's that time of year again. It's so that time of year, again. When the student is worn out, stressed out, run down, and fed up. Thanksgiving break is tantalizingly near, but, and I quote, "It's the biggest blue balls ever!" (My source, of course, wished to remain anonymous.) The weary student arrives home for a few precious days of gluttony, which are necessarily overshadowed by impending final exams, before being thrust—all too soon—back into the vortex of despair that is the three weeks before winter break.

Hence, in this final column of the semester, I present you with a plan, a plan to break the endless spiral of despondency and promise a brighter tomorrow.

Below is a list of what I will do when I am appointed Empress of the Universe. I suggest that you follow suit in case you are ever appointed Empress—or Emperor—of the Universe. After all, think of how ridiculous you would feel if you got to be Emperor or Empress of the Universe and couldn't remember all the stuff you wanted to do. So without further ado, here are what I shall call the Mandated Official Orders of my future reign (from now on these will be referred to as MOOs):

MOO #1: Non-fat will cease to exist. This is because non-fat is a waste of space. Non-fat is my enemy. Rather, everything will have all the fat that it is supposed to have, but fat will increase metabolism. Eat fat, get thin. I will likewise forbid the existence of instant coffee, as it serves perhaps even less purpose than non-fat.

MOO #2: Come spring, Red Sox games will be televised in Connecticut. They will also be broadcast on static-free radio. I got sick and tired of seeing the darn Braves on TBS morning noon and night as though we were living in the middle of Georgia. I live in the Northeast for a reason, by Jove, and that's because I'm a Sox fan. (It's actually a kind of chicken-and-egg

Ken Kesey, a youth leader from a couple generations ago, died recently. No one I've told here seems to care, or even knows who Kesey is, but he wrote *One Flew Over The Cuckoo's Nest*, which is definitely a modern classic.

I guess besides me, people don't read much, but *One Flew Over The Cuckoo's Nest* definitely deserves a night of curled up in bed reading. Without armor, if you will.

It's really a good book.

\*\*\*

Kesey led the Merry Pranksters somewhere in between the beats and the hippies, but I'm not going to write a eulogy for the man here.

I will say, though, that he was from a generation of people who never seemed to be able to learn to reflect enough to live up to their potential.

Look at Bill Clinton.

\*\*\*

I'm going abroad next semester to Honduras, and one of the things I'm most excited about is that I will get to relax, and not be so easily accessible by phone, e-mail, etc. any time anyone wants to talk to me. And it's not just because I want my family to leave me alone.

I'm looking forward to having time to reflect. I'm looking forward to being able to spend an hour or two eating dinner, not because I eat two hours worth of food, but because everyone believes in taking time out of the world just to sit and talk.

I worry that too many people I know are too busy too much of the time, and have turned life into being busy, not being happy. I worry I do that sometimes, too.

I'm glad I've made time for myself in the future—I hope my friends are able to do the same.

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On that note, have good finals, Happy Holidays, and Happy Regular Days. Graduate well, if you're graduating.

In other words, don't be busy. Live life.

As our most triumphant 16th president, Abraham Lincoln says in *Bill and Ted's Excellent Adventure*: "Be excellent to each other. And, party on dudes!"



thing, but anyway...) If I can't see the games, what's the point? In a subset to this MOO, which I will call MOO 2a, Red Sox ticket prices will be lowered substantially by fining Dan Duquette every time he fires someone for no reason. For every pitcher over 35 acquired by the Duke, ticket prices will go down a further 10%.

MOO #3: No more co-ed bathrooms! Let's face it: you don't want to go in front of us, we don't want to go in front of you. Enough said.

MOO #4: If we must have co-ed bathrooms, we shall at least make those partitions between the shower stalls taller, so that the 6'10" guy down the hall can't see me naked.

MOO #5: Whether or not you think that military action against Afghanistan is justified, I think we can all agree that we'd rather live in a world without violence. When I rule the world, I will not resort to air strikes and special forces, but to the untapped resources we have at our fingertips...yes, that's right, Harris food. Picture this: instead of carpet bombing Afghanistan or imposing economic sanctions on those other troublesome "rogue" nations, we will send them cartons and cartons of humanitarian aid, in the form of Harris food. The Taliban will be running to do our bidding! (Or to the bathroom.)

MOO #6: A system of underground tunnels will connect all the buildings on campus, so that the poor fools in JA and Freeman don't collapse, frozen and stiff, making the icy trek to Harris in February. (This will be especially important if next semester sees those old, familiar "staffing challenges" in the south campus dining halls.) In fact, as long as we're going to have underground tunnels, why not install moving walkways, like they have in airports? Walking was such a 90's trend anyway.

MOO #7: In ancient Rome, villas were equipped with faucets that dispensed wine. I do not think it is unreasonable to demand of such a fine institution of higher learning the same that a well-to-do gentleman of Classical times could expect.

And that is all I have to say. Until January.

## SOMEBODY SPEND SOMETHING

COLEY WARD • VIEWPOINT



Two students are trying to bring The New York Times to campus. Alex Band '02 and Kate Keene '04 have done their research and have determined that in order to supply students and faculty with free copies of the Times on a daily basis, it will require roughly \$12,000.

Administrators have said that they are unsure such an expense can be justified, especially in light of the College's bleak financial situation.

SGA is excited about the idea, but doubtful that it can find any money to subsidize the project.

\*\*\*

I went to the Study Abroad Office this week to inquire about studying in South Africa next fall. I was told that it didn't look good. It's getting tougher for seniors and sophomores to study abroad, especially during the first semester. Juniors get priority these days.

I was told to look in the course catalogue and I did and it's true—I have no priority. Essentially, I'm screwed.

\*\*\*

Why is it so important that students study abroad during their junior years? Quite simply, it helps the college keep track of the number of students who will be on campus every semester. It helps them fill every single bed possible. And filling all the beds means maximizing profits.

When I came to this school, I came largely because I was impressed by the priority the College gave to study abroad experiences. I feel the College still values study abroad, but it just can't afford to place the same priority on international study as it used to. These days, revenue is the top priority.

Our reluctance to bring the New York Times to campus illustrates how revenue shortcomings are tapering the College's commitment to international experiences. Providing The Times would be consistent with the College's emphasis on international study. It would enable students to keep track of global news while existing in the bubble that is Conn. Unfortunately, it's too expensive. The bottom line will rule again, no doubt.

Which brings me to my point.

I miss the days of not knowing how much money we owed or how much we were spending. I miss the days when it felt like anything was possible, when programs and teams were being created, not dismantled. I miss Claire.

When Claire ruled the school, students were being encouraged to study abroad, not discouraged. Even the seniors. A newspaper would have seemed like a routine request.

Of course, the reason I'm getting screwed now is not because Claire left, but because of what she left behind, namely a gargantuan debt. I guess it's not really Claire that I miss, but the bliss that accompanied our ignorance of our financial excesses. Penny-pinching is no fun, and it seems like these days that's all we do.

So if you're a wealthy philanthropist, or thinking of becoming one, this is your chance. We need newspapers and I want to go abroad next year.

Ideally, you could send me a plane ticket wrapped in a New York Times.

## A HOUSE DIVIDED

ERIC SEVERSON • ... AND JUSTICE FOR ALL



"I am a freeman, an American, a United States Senator, and a Democrat, in that order." These words, spoken by President Lyndon Johnson, serve as a reminder of what is most and least important in political matters. Though Johnson himself sometimes failed to follow his own ideals, I think that his words have particular significance in light of what is currently taking place in Washington.

Johnson's essential point was that American citizens should have their priorities straight when they think and act in the political arena. The highest priority of Americans should be to secure for themselves the blessings of liberty spelled out by the Declaration, the Constitution, and the Bill of Rights, whether this means supporting or opposing the government's agenda. In other words, true patriotism consists of supporting the idea of our freedoms as Americans, not just supporting the institutions that make up America. This is why Johnson called himself a freeman first and an American second.

Johnson lists his party affiliation last, indicating that it is the least important of all that he held sacred as a political leader. The legislative agenda of any political party must come last in the hierarchy of political goals. It ought to be pursued only after liberty, freedom, and national security have been firmly established. This is why Franklin Roosevelt left behind his New Deal agenda to focus completely on leading the country to victory after the "Day that will live in infamy," December 7, 1941.

It seems to me that our leaders ought to keep this in mind in light of what is currently taking place at home and abroad. It is absolutely imperative that our government focus its collective energy on security in the nation's travel system, finding and prosecuting conspirators in the attacks of September 11 and the Anthrax attacks, and establishing some means of ensuring stability in Afghanistan when all this is over. These priorities are essential to our freedom and safety. When I look at the actions of Congress and the Administration in the last few weeks, I am not seeing the aggressive pursuit of this agenda. Instead, I am seeing the pursuit of a partisan legislative agenda that should only be pursued when the truly important issues are taken care of.

Let me name a few examples. First, President Bush has continued his call for drilling in the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge, claiming that this will bolster national security by reducing our dependence on Middle Eastern oil. The call for drilling, which will not produce usable oil for almost a decade, is a clear example of our President justifying his own political priorities with the rhetoric of national security. Measures for the drilling of oil should be taken care of in good time, but only after the threats to our nation are dealt with. And if the Bush Administration wants to drill for oil in Alaska, it ought simply to come out and say it, and stop presenting it as the solution to our nation's crises.

Next, we have the \$70 billion tax cut passed recently by the House. I'll admit that I only got through Math 106, but it seems to me that reducing revenue in the middle of a military campaign is a rather unsound policy, especially since most of these cuts will not reach those that truly need them. Finally, Attorney General Ashcroft has been involved in an attempt to derail Oregon's policy of allowing assisted suicide. This is a highly controversial issue of morality and federalism which should not be decided until after other matters have been resolved. After all, as Attorney General Ashcroft's top priority right now should be bringing co-conspirators in the attacks on America to justice.

Whatever your stance on the above issues happens to be, I respect it. I simply feel that these issues represent complex and highly partisan matters that should be decided when there is a chance for greater participation and dialogue from the American citizenry. Let's follow the advice of our thirty-sixth President and stay focused on what truly matters.

## I WAS PRETTIER WHEN I WAS A TREE

COURTNEY GEETER • EARTH HOUSE

Ever since we were in elementary school, bright plastic bins have been placed in classrooms, and people all over the country have taken their recyclable goods to the curb each week. Nonetheless, trying to find paper that contains any semblance of recycled content, whether in office stores, bookstores, or supermarkets proves difficult, if not impossible. There just isn't a viable market for such products...yet.

For this reason, a national Paper Campaign was launched in 1999. Everyday our forests are being cut down for the production of paper products at a dizzying pace. And most of these products—office paper, post-it pads, paper towels, napkins, etc.—are used once and then thrown away.

The pulp and paper industry is the largest single industrial wood consumer in the U.S. and in the world. Pulp mills in the U.S. consume more than 12,000 square miles of forest each year, and almost half of all the trees cut down are turned into paper. This percentage is increasing.

Currently, 90% of the world's paper is manufactured from wood pulp, but in the U.S. less than 1% of the total pulp produced is manufactured from recycled paper or tree-free alternatives, such as kenaf. Kenaf is a fast-growing plant that produces higher yield per acre and higher quality paper than standard wood pulp.

More than half of the paper in the U.S. comes from forests in the South, which contains the greatest biodiversity in the continental U.S. Office paper also contains pulp made from old-growth trees, such as the majestic 1000 year old Douglas firs in the Pacific Northwest. Nearly 1/3 of the trees cut in our National Forests are turned into pulp. Paper comprises 40 to 50 percent of the trash in typical land-fills.

Staples is the largest and fastest growing office supply store in the world, with 1,400 locations in 48 states, as well as in Washington D.C., the U.K., Canada, Germany, Portugal, and the Netherlands. Staples' sale of paper is driving the worldwide destruction of our endangered forests including U.S.

national forests, the forests of the Southeast, and old-growth forests in the Pacific Northwest. 97% of Staples office paper comes from endangered forests.

As the number of Staples stores increases, so does the number of forests being destroyed. This is why environmentalists, nationwide, have targeted Staples as the number one forest destroyer and have subsequently formed campaigns targeted at changing their destructive ways. This past Tuesday, November 12, was a National Day of Action against Staples. Schools around the country pressured Staples to phase out products containing 100% virgin wood fiber. Instead, Staples should aim for 50% post-consumer content for all paper products and use 100% post-consumer paper and paper made from agricultural fiber. This alternate tactic has worked with Home Depot and Lowe's in past years, and we are confident it will work for Staples.

This year, over 200 Staples stores were targeted, including New London's local store. Last Tuesday, fifteen Connecticut College students participated in a demonstration outside of the Staples in New London. The students held signs, handed out literature, and chanted. Two student dressed up as trees; even the Lorax made an appearance to "speak for the trees, for the trees have no tongue." This demonstration was only the first step in the newly formed "Tree-Free Campaign", officially launched by S.A.V.E. The campaign will promote the implementation of paper-reduction policies, double-sided copying conservation, and the purchase of recycled paper. The campaign also hopes to educate the community about the de-forestation that persists in our country, and about viable options for a greener future. Keep your eyes open for the development of this campaign, and if you want to get involved, call ext. 2533, or come to S.A.V.E. meetings at 10 p.m. on Mondays in the faculty lounge of Blaustein. "Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful, committed people can change the world. Indeed, it is the only thing that ever has." — Margaret Mead





## ARTS&amp;ENTERTAINMENT

## Author Su Tong Raises Interest

BY DAWN HOPKINS

STAFF WRITER

On November 7, the Department of East Asian Studies, the Department of Dance, and TOUR brought acclaimed author Su Tong to Oliva Hall for a showing of "Raise the Red Lantern." A discussion about the author's culture and the works on which the film is based ensued.

"Raise the Red Lantern" is a beautiful and haunting depiction of the relations between men and women in early twentieth-century Chinese society. The film, a fictional account, is based on Su Tong's novel *Wives and Concubines*. Su Tong said that he was not happy with the women of past literature, and wanted to create a group of "real women" and to set them against the background of historical China.

In the beginning of the film, a nineteen-year old girl agrees to be married in order to placate her mother. The mother's advice to her daughter sums up the movie's plot, and reflects the fate of women in her situation: "Marry a rich man and you'll be his concubine."

In each scene of the film, power is represented by the color red. Red lanterns are lit and are hung around the dwelling of the woman that the man of the house desires to sleep with. The chosen one is notified during a ceremony attended by the other wives, which generates jealousy and



Su Tong speaks about "Raise the Red Lantern," based on his work (*Kblattack*).

anger between the women.

The wives refer to each other as "sisters," a familial bond that, ultimately, will not prevail over their stereotypical female pride and jealousy. First Sister is in the second half of her life, reserved and wise from experience. Second Sister is a mother with a smiling face over a stinging heart, and Third Sister is a kind heart housed in a serpent's body. The young girl is called Fourth Mistress, and is left to find her place among the stark rooms and customs of her new lifestyle.

Because his novel and the film portray historic China, Su Tong is

often misunderstood to be a very old, or dead, author. He is also thought to have drawn from personal experiences in his writing. He defended his heritage and his family, swearing that no one has had the polygamous relationships of the man in his novel.

Born in 1963, Su Tong attended a university in Beijing and had his first book of short stories published by 1983. Since then, he has had more than twenty works published, including stories, essays, and novels. *Wives and Concubines* was published in 1989. There is also a film based on his novel *Blush*.

Many changes occur when a novel is adapted to film format. Su Tong said that one of the greatest differences between *Wives and Concubines* and "Raise the Red Lantern" is the change of location. Southern China, the setting of his novel, is "a mess," he said. Moss covers the rocks. On the other hand, Northern China is dry and "in order." The director of the movie adaptation preferred the North, and set the story there instead. While Su Tong had a woman drowned in a well, the film has her hang in a tower. Su Tong revealed his secret to contentment with reviews of the film: if it is liked, it is because he wrote a good novel. If it is not liked, it is because the director changed it.

After the film was shown, discussion was opened to the audience. Questions, comments, and Su Tong's words were filtered through a translator, at times simultaneously creating three conversations. Su Tong's motivation comes from his view of writing as a chance to communicate with his audience: "What motivates me is that I want to sit here, and now I'm sitting here because I wrote." If a writer's talent is measured by his publications, Su Tong wants his stack of books to be as tall as he is, and thirty-five copies of the same book doesn't count. His determination and his understanding of human interaction will undoubtedly bring that desire to fruition.



Students enjoy a warm Thanksgiving meal among friends on Thursday night (*Sultan*).

## Pass the Potatoes and Tofu at SEAL Vegetarian Thanksgiving

BY BRAD KRETT

EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

Students Educating for Animal Liberation held its annual vegetarian Thanksgiving alternative last Thursday in the Hood Dining Room.

The dinner began in 1993 as a small gathering of friends in Earth House, and has since become SEAL's largest annual event. This year, approximately 120 students and campus community members attended.

Catered by It's Only Natural of Middletown, the menu for the meal included butternut squash almond bisque, roast seitan with wild mushroom gravy, whole grain stuffing with smoked tempeh and apples, sweet potatoes and garlic mashed potatoes, and was entirely vegan.

Overall, the food was good, but nothing special. Everything was just a little dry. Nothing was especially bad, per se, but everything just lacked moisture.

Compounding the problem of the slightly dry food, there wasn't much in the drink department. There were bottles of cider on every table, but not enough to get through the time before the meal, soup, dinner, and dessert.

Dessert was the highlight of the meal. It's Only Natural provided pumpkin and apple crumb pie. The

apple pie was excellent—sweet, but not too sweet, with a delicious crust.

SEAL has turned the event into an educational, as well as a culinary event. Two members of SEAL spoke, and a third led a Native American prayer.

This was a very bad decision.

There's nothing quite as unpleasant as being lectured at about killing animals or being bad carnivores or whatever in the middle of a meal. Like many of the people who attended, I am a vegetarian, and I felt alienated and annoyed by what amounted to preaching to the choir.

And there's simply no way to have a positive dinner conversation about killing 40 million turkeys for Thanksgiving. There comes a point where it's important to just let people be.

The prayer was delivered in a similarly dogmatic fashion. Although the prayer was essentially about giving thanks, it was delivered in an angry tone, which both betrayed the message of the prayer itself and the concept of a dinner for giving thanks.

The food itself, while not the greatest this side of the Mississippi, was definitely worth the price of dinner. Hopefully next year, SEAL will cultivate a more relaxed and thankful mood to go along with an otherwise pleasant, cheap, and overall pretty good meal.

## Backstreet's Back...Again...Alright

BY BEN MORSE

ASSOCIATE NEWS EDITOR

Well, it was inevitable, though perhaps it happened a bit sooner than some people expected—the Backstreet Boys have released a "greatest hits" album.

I can already hear groans from the audience. On behalf of the Backstreet Boys, allow me to offer justification.

Most of the people groaning thought that the "pop" phenomenon would be dead by now, but it's not. "Pop" is still going strong and shows no sign of dying any time soon. The critics are there just like they have always been, and at the end of every year they predict, "This will be the year that pop will die." They do the same thing the next year.

The Backstreet Boys have always been at the forefront of the "pop" phenomenon. Though it may seem they've only been around for a short time, they have released three popular albums, each with numerous hits. The kinds of people who listen to the Backstreet Boys are, for the most part, the kinds of people who make mixes of their favorite songs rather than wade through entire

albums. I, myself, like to listen to BSB albums all the way through when doing a paper or writing an article, but even I like being able to listen to the very best of the group without having to sit through some of the filler stuff.

"The Hits-Chapter One" hit stores recently and is an excellent mix of everything the BSB have to offer. Their new album includes fast-paced dance songs like "Everybody" and "Larger Than Life," ballads such as "As Long As You Love Me," "Show Me The Meaning of Being Lonely," and "Shape Of My Heart," the high concept "The Call," and then the BSB's signature song "I Want It That Way." Also on the album are "Quit Playing Games," "All I Have To Give," "I'll Never Break Your Heart," "More Than That," and my personal favorite, "The One."

Rounding out the album is "Drowning," a previously unreleased original song. "Drowning" is nothing innovative or unexpected. On the contrary, it's exactly what I've expected from the Backstreet Boys, a fun, catchy song that is enjoyable to listen to.

The only real gripe I have with



"The Hits" is that it would have been a nice opportunity for the group to showcase some of their lesser known but very well-done songs like "Spanish Eyes," "The Perfect Fan," and "Answer To Our Lives." But given the nature and intention of a greatest hits album, it is understandable that these cuts were left out.

The Backstreet Boys have certainly shown growth over the years, both vocally and conceptually. While "Black & Blue" did not come close to equaling the sales of "Millennium," it featured some beautiful work and dealt with issues one wouldn't expect a pop group to

explore (the first time I heard "The Call" I couldn't believe, given the lyrics, that it came from a boy band). The Backstreet Boys are growing up, but they're doing it slowly, and that's fine with me. The Backstreet Boys are not a band struggling to find an identity, but rather one that knows who they are, and who expects to be around for years to come. "The Hits" is an excellent compilation of catchy songs from a vocally talented group, and for me, that's more than enough.

## "Twelfth Night" Brings Beach Chaos to Tansill This Weekend

BY DEBORAH BLOCK

ASSOCIATE LAYOUT EDITOR

The sound of the Beach Boys playing from a small boom box set next to a lawn chair and in front of a palm tree on stage sets the tone for "Twelfth Night."

A cast of 18 will perform the Shakespearean play in the Tansill Black Box Theater this weekend on Thursday, Friday, and Saturday at 8 p.m. each night, with an additional midnight performance tonight. The play runs slightly over two hours, though the action moves so quickly that it feels shorter.

It is set at the beach resort town of Illyria, where Duke Orsino (Jordan Geary '04) and Lady Olivia (Maggie Whitts '04) are vacationing. We are introduced to twins Sebastian (Ben Morse '04) and Viola (Athena FitzPatrick '01) on a boat, from which they are cast into the sea when a storm hits.

The weather is played by four girls dressed in purple and blue, who dance to slow music that sounds like the wind. As the tempo of the music increases, they break into a routine and then rush around the stage twisting and turning like a gale, tearing the twins from the boat in separate

directions, as a strobe light adds to the chaos.

After being saved, each believes the other is dead and begins a new, island life. This premise starts the overlapping love triangles around which the rest of the plot is based. Viola assumes the persona of Cesario, and becomes a messenger for Orsino. She is sent to tell Olivia that Orsino loves her, but in the process Olivia falls in love with Cesario, who falls in love with Orsino. Most of the other male characters are in love with Olivia as well, which complicates matters further. Playful fighting provides comic

relief. A practical joke that the hedonists play on Malvolio (Luke Rosen '01), Olivia's steward who is in love with her, results in an interesting costume change that had the crowd roaring with laughter.

One of the characters involved in the prank—Feste, the fool and drug dealer (Hannah McGrath '04)—adds extra entertainment by singing Bob Marley songs with her powerful voice. The other schemers, played by Adam James '05, Daniel Leary '04, Molly Kidder '01 also turn out strong performances that make *Twelfth Night* a comedy in every sense.

Jordan Geary

## Dorm Life



## -- MOVIE TIMES --

## Hoyts Waterford 9

Rock Star (R) Fri - Thu (12:50 3:45) 6:45 9:30  
The Glass House (PG-13) Fri - Thu (1:20 4:00) 6:55 9:25  
O (R) Fri - Thu (1:50 4:30) 7:30 9:45  
Summer Catch (PG-13) Fri - Thu (3:50) 9:20  
Jay and Silent Bob Strike Back (R) Fri - Thu (1:10) 6:50  
Rat Race (PG-13) Fri - Thu (12:40 3:40) 6:40 9:15  
American Pie 2 (R) Fri - Thu (1:40 4:20) 7:05 9:40  
Rush Hour 2 (PG-13) Fri - Thu (1:00 3:20) 6:30 9:00  
Hardball (PG-13) Fri - Thu (1:30 4:10) 7:10 9:35  
The Musketeer (PG-13) Fri - Thu (12:30 3:30) 7:20 9:50

## Hoyts Groton 6

Rock Star (R) Fri, Mon - Thu (3:30) 7:00 9:30, Sat - Sun (1:00 3:30) 7:00 9:30  
The Musketeer (PG-13) Fri, Mon - Thu (4:10) 7:10 9:40, Sat - Sun (1:20 4:10) 7:10 9:40  
Two Can Play That Game (R) Fri, Mon - Thu (3:50) 7:30 9:45, Sat - Sun (1:30 3:50) 7:30 9:45  
Jeepers Creepers (R) Fri, Mon - Thu (4:20) 7:20 9:35, Sat - Sun (1:50 4:20) 7:20 9:35  
The Others (PG-13) Fri, Mon - Thu (3:40) 6:40 9:10, Sat - Sun (1:10 3:40) 6:40 9:10  
Hardball (PG-13) Fri, Mon - Thu (4:00) 6:50 9:20, Sat - Sun (1:40 4:00) 6:50 9:20

## Hoyts Mystic 3

The Deep End (R) Fri (3:30) 7:30 9:40, Sat - Sun (1:15 3:30) 7:30 9:40, Mon - Thu (4:15) 6:45 8:55  
The Curse of the Jade Scorpion (PG-13) Fri - Sun (4:00) 9:20, Mon - Thu (4:00) 9:05  
Captain Corelli's Mandolin (R) Fri, Mon - Thu 6:30, Sat - Sun (1:00) 6:30  
Rush Hour 2 (PG-13) Fri (3:45) 7:20 9:30, Sat - Sun (1:30 3:45) 7:20 9:30, Mon - Thu (4:30) 7:00 9:15



## ARTS &amp; ENTERTAINMENT

# Movement Branches Out "From The Ground Up"

BY ANDY JARVIS

STAFF WRITER

Watching the Dance Club's fall performance was like looking into a mirror that reflected every strain of emotion that I have ever experienced.

"From The Ground, Up", choreographed by Cammie Kelly, took the audience on an emotional thrill ride from insanity to the joys of being a woman (as depicted by Heather House) and through the complexities of the male form (as shown by Francis Stansky). The concert closed with a piece by Daniel Leary that hip-hopped the audience into pure joy and delight. The concert was truly an emotional roller coaster. I could not help but admire the extreme talent that the choreographers and dancers exuded in this concert.

The show featured twelve works by twelve different choreographers as well as a plethora of intensely gifted dancers that have an uncanny gift for showing emotion. The performance epitomized the essence of dance in its truest state, and celebrated artistic expression, movement, and emotion in its purest form.

I was proud of the dancers in the show on Saturday night, but I felt they deserved more space than the Myers Studio offered. A perform-



Students perform in the Dance Club's eclectic fall show. The performance took place last week in Myers Studio. (Courtesy, Mills)

ance of such caliber needs a space bigger than the small Myers studio, larger than Palmer, in fact, larger than the biggest theater on Broadway in New York. We have an extraordinary amount of talent on this campus and I encourage everyone to attend dance club performances in the future.

This show displayed a variety of dance styles, including a mobile painting of a refrigerator in "Inside the Mind of My Refrigerator" by Amelia Sholik. The musical selections were as diverse as the pieces themselves. Every musical genre imaginable was represented, includ-

ing Latin, classical, hip-hop, and even spoken word to name just a few.

Even the costuming broke all imaginative boundaries. Nile H. Russel chose to clothe his dancers in trash bags to depict them as doves in his work, "White Paper Doves In Blue Plastic Bags."

The diversity of music, costuming, and movement made for a show that could not have been given a better title. The dance club truly succeeded in building a movement dialogue that constructed the frames of dance, of motion, of humans "From The Ground, Up."

The Dance Club of Connecticut College is open to anyone who has a passion for creative expression.

The club puts on two performances a year and holds auditions within the first few weeks of each semester. The club encourages people of all backgrounds to join, in order to so they can build a diverse network of pieces each semester. I can't wait till the performance next semester, and I recommend that all dance lovers work with the Connecticut College Dance Club.

## Be Kind, Rewind: Best of the Best

Last week, I provided you all with two movies to steer clear of in the penultimate edition of this humble column. This week, in the giant-sized (under 900 word), super, extravaganza, action-packed season finale to "Be Kind, Rewind," I present (in my opinion) the very best movies you will ever encounter! Take a seat, make some microwave popcorn, and pop either of these beauties in the VCR for guaranteed entertainment. Get ready... (yeah, it's the mystery video from the photo that always accompanies this column)...

THE CROW (Brandon Lee, Ernie Hudson)

If you're looking for my opinion (and if you've read this far, obviously you're at least curious), this is the best movie of all time, hands down. The most cinematically impressive? No. The best acted? No. The most artistically stunning? No. But in my eyes there is no other movie that can entertain, tug at your emotions and excite you like this film. It's an action, it's a drama, it's a comedy, and it's one of the greatest romances of all-time rolled into one. Oddly enough in just about every other column my "winner of the week" has been a fairly popular movie: *The Crow*, my pick for Best of the Best, has at most, a cult following. But those people who love *The Crow*, who have seen it more than once and may even know the story behind it (it was originally a comic book written by James O'Barr, whose fiancée was killed by a drunk driver, about everlasting love being life's only constant and vengeance being an unsuitable substitute) know it for the masterpiece it is. For those who have never seen the movie, it is the story of Eric Draven (Lee), a rock & roll guitarist living with his beloved girlfriend Shelly in the slums of a crime-ridden city. The couple, engaged to be married on Halloween, is killed by a street gang the night before the wedding. A year later, Draven returns, guided by a crow, from the land of the dead to "make the wrong things right," revenging himself of his murderers and saving those he cares about, in the hopes of ultimately being reunited with his love.

The tragedy of what happened on the set of *The Crow* ultimately overshadows the film itself. On one of the final days of shooting, Lee was killed by a gun that was supposed to be firing blanks but had a piece of a shell used earlier in the day still lodged in it. The event struck eerie parallel with both the



BY BEN MORSE

mysterious death of Lee's legendary father Bruce, as well as the plot of the movie itself. The true misfortune of Lee's death of course lies in the loss of life, but it was also a horrible blow to a promising career. Lee is phenomenal in *The Crow*, with his dead-on interpretation of a frightening, but calm, cool, and witty spirit of vengeance. His ability to go from nostalgic to comedic to manic so quickly and repeatedly is a thing to behold. His character is physically invincible, but yet so human, as characterized by the love that consumes him.

Visually, the picture is stunning. The gothic backdrop echoes of Tim Burton's original *Batman*. And even though it's not a shallow action film, the explosions look damn cool. Classifying *The Crow* as an action film (the category it's typically found under), this is a gross misrepresentation. At its heart, *The Crow* is a drama, a love story; and the humor and the violence, when they occur feel justified.

As you watch *The Crow*, you get excited, you root for Lee's Draven; it's that rare film in which you don't need an underdog to cheer for, because the plight of the nigh-invincible hero is so stirring. You come out of the movie aware of things you might not have known before, lessons about appreciating what you have, and not squandering time, and how vengeance will never satiate a thirst for love. As is written in the foreword to the graphic novel, "The only constant in life is the emotional inertia of love, even beyond life... James wanted to write a love song, and that is what *The Crow* is: the most beautiful and appropriate love song he could have written."

If you have not seen *The Crow*, give it a chance, and I hope you won't be disappointed. But again the fact that this is the best movie ever is only opinion; that's all this column has really been. But remember, though your opinion may differ from mine, you're still entitled to it, wrong though it may be. Until next time.

## Ted's Victorian - An Oldie But Pretty Goodie

BY COLEY WARD

EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

Ted's Victorian - An oldie but pretty goodie

Charm is hard to come by in Waterford. The town is notorious for its strip malls and auto dealerships. That's why, when driving down Route 1 past the Dunkin' Donuts and KFC, Ted's Victorian Pub and Restaurant is so appealing. Its quaint exterior, a picturesque Victorian house with gingerbread trim, is a welcoming oasis in a desert of uniformity.

Inside, the restaurant offers rustic décor featuring stained glass windows, antique lamps and dark pine tables and chairs. For the over-21 crowd, there is a bar attached to the restaurant that features multiple televisions and table hockey.

The food at Ted's Victorian is a traditional sampling of American cuisine. Portions are hearty and ample vegetarian options make for a universally pleasing dining experience. On our trip to the Victorian, we sampled the "My Dad's Grilled Cheese Sandwich" and French fries.

Although the entrée was a little greasy, it was quite tasty. And really, you have to expect grease when you order grilled cheese and fries. The French fries were thin and crunchy, which was interesting, but not really a good thing.

We also tried the penne pasta with smoked salmon, which was delicious, if slightly heavy. The pasta was served with a creamy, tomato-basil sauce. It was good, and ample. Truth be told, the meal was over-sauced, but can you really have too much of a good thing?

The highlight of the evening was the spinach and artichoke dip, served with tortilla chips. The warm, creamy appetizer was gone in about five minutes.

The service at Ted's Victorian was friendly, though inattentive. After being seated, it was ten minutes before we were able to order our drinks. Later, we asked for another drink, and then we didn't see our waitress for nearly thirty minutes.

For dessert, we had the ice cream in a crepe with chocolate sauce. The crepe wasn't quite as soft as it could



The quaint exterior of Ted's Victorian on Route 1 in Waterford. (Ward)

have been, but the ice cream was decadent. Chocoholics might, or rather did, desire more chocolate sauce. We had intended to order the fondue for desert, but they ran out. Perhaps if the waitress had inquired fifteen or twenty minutes earlier what dessert we preferred, this would not have been the case.

Ted's Victorian has a kid's menu that offers the standard chicken fingers and hamburgers. The restaurant

caters mostly to an older crowd, but children will be happy coloring in the kid's menu and jumping around in the roomy booths.

Ted's Victorian Pub and Restaurant is located at 49 Boston Post Rd. in Waterford. All major credit cards are accepted and reservations are not needed. Daily dining runs from 11 a.m. to 10 p.m. A late night pub menu is offered from 10 p.m. to 12 p.m.

## Aberdeen Surprises at Secret Theatre

BY BEN INSLER

STAFF WRITER

This past Thursday, I attended the Aberdeen concert at the Secret Theatre in New London. With influences including Godspeed You Black Emperor, Pearl Jam, and Radiohead, and roots in classical training, the Boston band brings a powerful and emotional sound to the stage. Their music, however, is not simply a repetition of things that have come before it, but rather an exploration beyond the limits of today's modern sound.

Ryan Heller (guitar), Rob McCaffrey (drums) and Brad Parker (guitar, vocals, violin, mandolin) formed the band in 1998. Ryan Kelleher (bass) joined soon after. With the addition of Christopher McLaughlin in early 2001, the band's sound evolved from driving rock and roll with added effects into a powerful sonic blend with emotional electronic overtones. The band's desire to explore new possibilities resulted in the addition of MacLaughlin, who proved an asset to an already strong band.

Aberdeen is changing the way music is heard and experienced, and is refreshing amidst a boy band-saturated pop world. Electronic incorporation provides "a whole new set of tools... a new palette to paint with," said Parker. It is an element that the band now uses skillfully in conjunction with tense, deep, and un-formulaic musical twists.

They opened Thursday's show with "The Protagonist", which



The Boston based rock outfit, Aberdeen, ready to turn heads with their impressive sound.

began with an intriguing electronic ring-in, and morphed into a wild cut with lots of energy. The band then played "Bright" with just as much energy and emotion, but on acoustic guitar instead of electric. Continually shifting from acoustic to electric, Aberdeen held the audience's interest, maintaining their unique style and composition throughout the show.

From the minute the first song began, McLaughlin and Heller started jumping around, exuding an excessive amount of energy. TV images that flickered with the music, Parker's looping around and singing over his own voice, and McLaughlin playing his guitar with a bow on "Several Smaller Details" were unique touches. It made

Aberdeen as exciting to watch as they were to listen to.

The Secret Theater was not packed, but nonetheless, Aberdeen was received very well. By the middle of their set, everyone had become engulfed in the music in one way or another. The band said their favorite performance so far was at the Middle East Restaurant and Night Club in Boston, where they received great response from a hometown crowd, many of whom had not heard of the band before. I have no doubt that Aberdeen will continue to receive such enthusiastic responses from their future audiences.

## Writer Daniels "Reads Personal and Historical Poetry"

BY NANCY DINSMORE

STAFF WRITER

On Thursday, November 8, poet Kate Daniels read selections from some of her books in the Ernst Common Room. Daniels published her first collection of poems in 1984. It was described as having an intensity that sneaks up on the reader; Daniels' use of calm language presents a series of hard truths. In 1988, she published *Niobe*, an amazing work that presents the myth of Niobe with a personal twist. She followed that collection of poetry with her next work, *Four Testimonies*, published in 1998. The audience was treated to a preview of her fourth book, *My Poverty*. Daniels teaches at Vanderbilt University and resides in Nashville, TN.

She began by reading from the *Niobe* poems. Daniels prefaced her reading by telling the audience that she hadn't read from the book in awhile, but she has been thinking about it a lot since the events of September 11. The *Niobe* myth is the story of the death of innocents, and many of the poems can be related to the tragedy. In the classical myth, Niobe is a mortal and the proud mother of 14 children, 7 sons, and 7 daughters. She insults the mother of the god Apollo and goddess Artemis by saying that her children are better, so Apollo murders her 7 sons, which drives Niobe's husband to kill himself. An extremely defiant woman, Niobe is still proud that she has 7 daughters, so Artemis then kills her remaining children. Niobe is changed into a

boulder with a stream flowing from it, which symbolizes her eternal tears. The poems interweave a personal and historical narrative, as Daniels wrote her poems in response to the death of her young nephew.

The book is divided into four sections, and she read a few poems from each section. Daniels was interested in the gods who became murderers, and attempts to get inside the mind of Apollo in the poem "Afterwards Apollo." She explores his ability to be both bloodthirsty and magnanimous. In her poem, "The Death of the Niobides," she explores her own feelings of anger, aroused by people who chastised her family for their grief in the wake of her nephew's death by saying that they should be happy that he is with the Lord now.

In the second section of the book, Daniels looks back at life before the murders and imagines the character of Niobe's husband as an overburdened father. She wrote the poems after the birth of her first child, when she was feeling overburdened. Most of the poems that Daniels read from this book were narrative; she wanted to resist descriptive language and use minimalist language. But the poem that she read from the third section, which dealt with the events after the accident, was one of few descriptive poems. "Final Visit" was inspired by a sound she heard her sister make when she viewed her son's body; the language of this poem made use of many vowel sounds to correspond with the subject.

The book's ending, which

Daniels actually had to revise, deals with Niobe moving on after her incredible loss. This section departs from the real myth, where she is transformed to a boulder, and finds the character of Niobe in modern day figures such as Rosa Parks. Daniels again tied this to the recent terrorist attacks by discussing the strength and character of the person that is able to move on with her life after experiencing such a loss.

Next, Daniels read from *Four Testimonies*, which is a more personal collection of poems, themed "portrait of the artist as mother." The poems dealt with events in her life including discussions about having a family with her husband, the not-so-pleasant parts of mothering, and a description of her daughter as a baby. Then she gave the audience a preview of poems from her latest collection, *My Poverty*. She read the poem "Figure Eight," which deals with differences between her life as a professor and those of her brothers who work in a factory. She also read the poem "Scar," which is a poem that she is bringing to New York City as her memorial to the tragedy, even though the poem was written before the events occurred.

In her quiet but powerful reading, Kate Daniels shared a meaningful and complex blend of personal and historical poetry. Hearing Daniels' comments before she read each poem was enlightening, because it added an extra dimension to her words. Her poems have many levels beyond their surfaces, and are especially relevant in the wake of September 11.



# Common Ground Common Hour Illustrates Roots of Faith and Conflict

By JAIME ROGERS

STAFF WRITER

The last two months have shown that conflict between differing beliefs and faiths is among the most difficult issues that human beings face. In an attempt to better understand why faith seems inexorably connected to conflict, students, faculty, and community members gathered in the Ernst Common Room last Friday to learn more about the philosophical and theological roots of "Faith and Conflict." The discussion, the second of a three part forum, was part of the Holleran Center for Community Action and Public Policy's Common Ground, Common Hour colloquium series entitled "Terrorism: Then and Now." The series is meant to "explore the historic and current roles and relationships between the US and other countries and to better help us understand and analyze the current world state of affairs."

Unlike the usual lecture-style

Common Ground discussions, the atmosphere at "Faith and Conflict" was informal- everyone sat in a circle. In addition to professors from the Religious Studies, Government, Human Development, and German departments, members of every class were present, along with one perspective student, and members of the New London community, including Mrs. Nada Awwa, who has volunteered to teach Arabic at the College.

Though they expressed different viewpoints, everyone came with the same goal: to listen and to learn. "We must find new answers within ourselves as we try to piece together this puzzling experience," said Sunil Bhatia, Assistant Professor of Human Development. Growing up in India, Bhatia experienced faith-related violence from an early age. When you grow up in a place where violence is so prevalent, he said, "it's part of who you are."

Inevitably, the discussion raised several questions concerning the

events of September 11th, but professors did their best to focus on the broader issues of faith and conflict. "I want to explore faith and peacefulness," said Patrice Brodeur, Assistant Professor of Religious Studies, "I want to examine the other side of the coin."

Marion Doro, Professor Emeritus of Government, who spent many years living in East Africa, was concerned with how faith has generated violence against women. "How can a faith treat women so badly?" she asked.

Professor Doro observed that all three Abrahamic faiths (Judaism, Christianity and Islam) justify violence to a degree. In their recent attacks, extremists exploited such loopholes to rationalize their actions. "Some argue that the terrorists have hijacked Islam," she said.

Usman Khosa ('04), Vice-President of the Muslim Student Association and founder of the Coalition for Peaceful Justice, asked

about the reasons for conflict between civilizations. He believes the underlying cause lies in differing worldviews among cultures. Professor Bhatia suggested conflict arises between faiths because "culture and faith mutually feed into each other." Even though the United States attempts to separate religion from culture and religion from state, faith is an inseparable part of people's beliefs. "Faith is what an individual believes is right."

Professor Bhatia argued that this is further complicated by the reality that among different faiths "the entire sense of self is different," as are different faiths' definitions of "the other." "Who has the power to define the other," asked Bhatia, "and to what extent do you see your own self in relation to the other?"

The discussion raised questions regarding how such definitions came to be, with specific reference to Afghanistan, which, during their campaign against the Soviet Union was considered a heroic nation and

is now a place that harbors terrorism. The topic of cultural relativity posed challenging questions for both students and faculty.

"To what extent is it ok to label another religion as wrong?" asked Christine Salmon ('03), especially when you live in a country that prides itself on its freedoms and its religious tolerance. But as with any world view or even language, Professor Bodeur argues, "there is an built-in inequality," which leads to "internal inconsistencies." Thus a culture is left with two possibilities: "they can deny it, or they can rectify the problem. Our culture favors the latter." This problem becomes increasingly apparent as interaction between different groups increases and 1st world economies continue to expand globally.

There was some debate among the participants over the how heroes are perceived in a culture. Margaret Sheridan, Chair of the Human Development department and Director of the Holleran Center,

equated the mentality of a firefighter or soldier to "those who throw their lives at a cause." Rachel Bloomberg ('02), argued that martyrdom does give meaning to those who having nothing else.

Ending the discussion Professor Bhatia related the problem of conflict to a problem of human nature. "Conflict is the basic thing that drives us as human beings... If we take that then we can reach some understanding."

Eventually the discussion was concluded due to lack of time, but is continuing this Friday with the concluding topic in the series: Inner Conflict.

Students who came to the event left with more questions but were happy to that the forum existed at all. "I'm just thankful to be at a place where we can discuss these issues," said Ms. Bloomberg.

## Mentor Program Receives Grant

By SARAH GREEN

ASSOCIATE NEWS EDITOR

A girl's mentor program just received a generous gift.

The Women's and Girls' Fund gave a \$3,000 grant to Students Implementing Service Through Education and Recreation mentor program, part of Office of Volunteers for Community Service on November 1.

The SISTER program, created five years ago by a Conn student, matches 15 middle school girls from the Benjamin Dover Jackson Middle School in New London with a mentor from the College. The girls start the program upon entering middle school in sixth grade and remain enrolled until they leave in eighth grade.

"What we do is we try to see where the trouble spots lie in terms of their education," explained Ifara Seabrook, the Community Service Coordinator. "Our overall goal is to provide youth development assistance."

The goal of SISTER, to help girls reach their full potential, works well with the mission of the Women and Girls Fund. The Fund, founded two years ago, is a non-profit organization that gives grants to local groups working to improve the lives of girls and women.

In a letter soliciting grant applications, the Fund expressed interest in helping programs that encouraged "leadership, self-sufficiency, and personal growth," in girls and women.

"Some of the members of [the Community Foundation of Southeastern Connecticut] decided to get together and see if under the auspices of that [foundation] they could get together to benefit the women and girls of southeastern Connecticut," said Bridget Baird, professor of mathematics and com-



Participants in the SISTER mentoring program assemble for some quality time (courtesy)

puter science, and member of both the steering committee and the distribution committee for the Women and Girls Fund. "Women and girls need attention, and they need attention in special ways."

Groups and organizations can apply for up to \$5000 in grants from the Fund. SISTER has received grants from the Fund during each of the past two years.

"We received the largest grant [last year] that was given to any of the programs," said Tracee Reiser, Director of OVCS.

In the past, SISTER has used the grant money to develop yearlong projects for the girls. Last year's project, called "Who We Are," involved library research on human development issues as well as learning to use multimedia equipment to produce a CD-ROM. The CD ROM consists of documentary-style video clips of the girls talking about issues that matter to them, such as friends, parents, pressures, and self-esteem.

This year the SISTER project will focus on the girls' career aspirations.

"Girls will identify specific careers and...identify women in those careers and interview them," said Reiser.

The first woman the girls have chosen to interview is Ruth Simmons, the new president of Brown University, who spoke at the Women and Girls Fund November 1 fundraising event. Simmons, whose parents were a sharecropper and a maid in the segregated south, has a PhD from Harvard and is the first African-American woman to lead an Ivy League university.

The project, another CD ROM presentation, will culminate in the spring in a weeklong exploration of career options at Benjamin Dover Jackson.

"We felt that the program itself is really important," said Baird, explaining that reaching girls in middle school is vital. "The feeling often is [that] by high school it's too late. Those seem to be such crucial years for girls and their self-esteem."

## Two Students Injured when Balcony Collapses

continued from page 1

contacted a structural engineer to review all the balconies around the campus. Norton added, "Based on the engineer's recommendations, we will do some sort of refortification to the apartment balconies."

There is also the obvious question of how something like this could have actually happened. According to Young, on the night of the accident, a few students went outside of the apartment onto the balcony. Two of the students were Lima and Isa. "Filipe and Sam started play-fighting and at one point they were both leaning against the south wall," Young recalls. "At that point, the concrete wall severed and fell off the balcony, and Filipe and Sam went with it. They fell about 12 or 15 feet."

When asked what could have caused this accident, Norton

responded, "Before this incident, there was no evidence of deterioration in the structure. The balcony walls are designed to withstand 200-300 pounds of force, so the wall must have been hit with a pretty significant amount of force. Regardless, we do plan to stiffen up the design after the inspection is done."

This incident has had several negative affects on the students involved. Young said, "First of all, this obviously makes us all be very careful when going out on the balcony. But more importantly, we have been taking extra precaution in all our actions now. The school claims that as a result of this incident and other happenings earlier on in the year, we might not be able to live here any more based on guilt by association. What I mean is that there have been conflicts earlier in the year involving some of the stu-

dents we associate with, and it seems like the school is trying to make us into a scapegoat, so they can justify removing us from the apartment."

In response to Young's claim, Campbell said, "So far, blame has not been assigned to anyone. With the help of physical plant, we will continue to investigate the situation and determine what happens after that." Campbell was unable to respond to questions regarding the aforementioned issues involving the occupants of the apartment.

Young added, "There is not much action we can take right now from a legal standpoint, since none of the people who were injured actually live in the apartment. However, we would like to do anything we can to defend ourselves. Right now we are just trying to find out what that is."

## Local Nuclear Power Plant Increases Security

By KATE WOODSTONE

STAFF WRITER

Security at the Millstone Nuclear Power Plant in Waterford is at an all time high following the September 11 terrorist attacks. Within hours of the event, vehicle access to the site was restricted and visitors faced tightened security.

Governor Rowland also deployed National Guard troops for an indefinite amount of time to augment the already existing security forces and Waterford police department. Also, the Coast Guard is patrolling the nearby waters.

While Millstone spokesman Pete Hyde will not speculate on the exact nature of the threat posed to the plant, he did make the following statement:

"We are in such a heightened state of awareness here and throughout New England, that people are watching as closely as they can."

Hyde cites an incident where F-16 fighter jets forced a single-engine airplane to land away from the plant as a denomination of the quickness

of security teams. The Cessna was safely brought to the ground after flying into the 10-nautical-mile restricted airspace surrounding the Millstone station.

Although the inclusion zone surrounding Millstone has been lifted, the FAA currently is working with other government assets to monitor the skies over all nuclear power plants. "We're very mindful of the skies above but we're confident that the appropriate people are watching," Hyde assured.

The Nuclear Regulatory Commission requires that all power stations be able to successfully defend against a well-armed terrorist attack to the station. Millstone officials are working closely with the NRC to effectively achieve this goal.

Millstone has two active reactors and one that is shut down.

Spent-fuel pools holding the fuel rods removed from the nuclear core would prove to be more vulnerable in a terrorist attack than the actual nuclear reactors. Since the rods are still radioactive and emit heat, a

blast to the pool could cause exposed rods to overheat and emit radiation over a wide area.

While the spent fuel pools are not readily identifiable from the air, they are not totally invulnerable either. Concerned Millstone consultant's worry that an attack on the spent fuel pools would generate a nuclear cloud capable of covering the surrounding area.

Hyde says there is no way to know what would happen if a pool was attacked. He feels any theories would be mere speculation.

"We work here and have families that live in the community," Hyde said. "There's nobody as concerned about the security as much as we are."

No specific security guidelines have been set. NRC is independently analyzing all possible crisis scenarios to be able to respond in the most thorough and timely fashion. There currently is no way to calculate the plant's vulnerability in the interim planning stages.

## America's Diversity Reflected in View of Flag

continued from page 1

common culture, history, or language. In fact, it has been a multi-ethnic and socioeconomically divided community since its inception.

According to Alexander, war demands a particular kind of patriotism that doesn't require reflection. "It requires that we dawn these symbols to bind solidarity to a nation to which [some don't] belong," she said.

Alexander observes that since a unified nation is based partially upon universal liberties, America's community is more imagined than real.

In practice, membership to such a community is not defined by American citizenship. Sophomore Usman Khosa, a citizen of Pakistan, displays an American flag pin to declare that he supports the American people and suffers with them. "The flag becomes a symbol of that pain," he said. "But it's excluding people that are suffering too."

Khosa points out that citizens from over 65 different nations died in the Trade Center bombing. "Globalization has pushed us together. But the common thread of humanity has collapsed at this moment," he noted.

Senior Emily McDonald sees the collective belief that Americans hold a core set of values as the foundation of America's imagined community.

"Displaying the flag is symbolic of people's need to want to fit into a

larger community and connect on core values," she said. "But it represents a personal negotiation of where their lives fit into this at this point."

McDonald never has found the flag to be a comfort in crisis. It did not occur to her to begin displaying the symbol after the attacks.

The concepts of community and patriotism can give a sense of identification in a world increasingly faceless. Anthropology professor John W. Burton asserts that, "Every mass society must imagine itself as a community, because a true sense of community is impossible in a mass society." This myth is not necessarily negative, says Burton. In fact, it may help to provide stability to an otherwise vulnerable nation.

Burton says that the American flag can symbolize many difference notions of community. Similarly, he stated "The reasons for patriotism are as diverse as people are."

The freedoms cherished by devout patriots ironically are what allow anti-American protesters to burn the flag, Burton notes. This dichotomy embodies the state of the American nation, as well as the Connecticut College community.

Sympathizing with a group of Black Bloc anarchists, an organization known to test the limits of the law, freshman Sara Walker burned the American flag at a protest in Washington DC last September.

"We were making a statement that we are not in support of military retaliation and that we essentially

don't support the American government in its perpetuation of the system of control it's been enacting on the entire world since its founding," she said.

Walker acknowledges that people's display of flags in support of the US is a freedom of speech. She, however, asks flag-wavers to examine what exactly they're consenting to.

"The government is capitalizing on our pain right now and trying to instill in us a blind patriotism," she said. "And I think that's where the danger is."

Former Navy officer Dave Baratko, the college's Media Services Technician, hung a flag in the basement window of Shain Library's audio visual department on September 13. He admits that hanging the stars and stripes was a purely emotional reaction to the events. Still, he rejects the notion that his knee-jerk patriotism is superficial or blind. "My faith in the country itself is what keeps me from being hoodwinked," he said.

To Baratko, the flag symbolizes the Constitution and the Bill of Rights. Although he does not believe flag-burning is proper when Americans are dying to protect the nation, he considers protesters to be crucial in the development of America's democratic society.

"I wouldn't want to live in this country without them," Baratko said.

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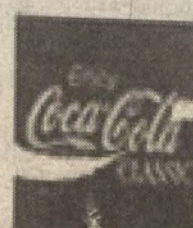
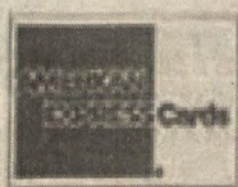
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# Merill Named New Dean of Admission

*continued from page 1*

with friends every night anymore, but I still feel very much a part of the Connecticut College community and I can't think of any place I'd rather belong."

Merrill returned from maternity leave in 1990 to a job in a new department, the Alumni office.

"It was certainly the opposite end of the spectrum from admissions, and I was eager to try a new thing," said Merrill.

After working in the Alumni office for six years, Merrill became the unofficial Director of Alumni Services, chiefly responsible for planning events for alumni.

"I enjoyed meeting older alumni as well as reacquainting myself with some of the people who had been there while I was there," recalled Merrill. "It was very satisfying, but ultimately I missed being tied directly to the current and incoming student body."

Seeking new challenges, Merrill returned to the Office of Admissions in 1996 as Associate Director of Admissions. Shortly thereafter, she was appointed Director of International Admissions.

"It's a pleasure traveling all over the world, meeting students, and even forming relationships over the internet with students I don't meet until they arrive," said Merrill. "I make a concentrated effort stay in contact with International students as they go through with their education; the challenges they face as well as what they bring to the school is amazing."

During last year, when Merrill's predecessor Lee Coffin took on more responsibilities in the campus community outside of Admissions, Merrill became responsible for more of the day-to-day decisions.

"Lee was and is a wonderful mentor, colleague, and friend," said Merrill. "I learned an incredible amount from him and he brought so much to this job during his tenure."

When Coffin announced his resignation in the spring of 2001, Merrill was appointed acting Dean of Admission & Financial Aid by acting President David Lewis. Incoming President Fainstein made



Martha Merrill reviews some papers. She was promoted to Dean of Admission recently.

the position permanent only a couple of weeks ago.

Just a month into her new position, Merrill has been busy. She spearheaded "Explore" weekend, which brings multicultural perspectives to the campus, expanding the event by bringing in forty-six students. She has also hired Aaron Taylor '01 as a "Graduate Fellow" to assist in multicultural recruitment and programming and oversee Angela Price, the Assistant Director of Admissions, in efforts to establish closer partnerships with high schools and other programs that work with students who otherwise would not have the chance to consider Connecticut College as an option. Making sure that the multicultural and underprivileged communities have such opportunities is one of Merrill's biggest goals as Dean.

"I think it's important to expand our diversity at all levels," said Merrill. "This is not limited strictly to students, but carries over to faculty and staff as well."

Merrill also realizes the tremendous legacy Coffin has left and the high standard of excellence she has to live up to, and she's up for the challenge.

"Few colleges hire a more innovative and talented faculty than we do, and we promote a very unique liberal arts experience that other institutions can't boast as a result,"

said Merrill. "It makes this office's job easier, but we still have a tough road to walk in creating a student body that lives up to the excellence of past years, and I believe we do an excellent job."

The Office of Admissions' success is evident. Since '99, selectivity has dropped from the acceptance of 50% of applicants to 34%, peaking last year with the class of '04, to which only 32% of applicants were admitted.

"It's a standard of excellence myself and my colleagues are dedicated to maintaining," promised Merrill.

As Dean of Financial Aid as well as Admissions, Merrill holds herself ultimately responsible for drawing both a unique and talented student body and also for seeing that no potential applicant is denied the opportunity to be considered by the college.

"My goal is to continue to build student bodies the caliber of which we've had in recent years, and also to meet the full demonstrated need of all students seeking financial aid, even in the face of the tightening budget," said Merrill. "I want to be able to provide access to students who would otherwise be denied. Only by making sure every potential student has a fair chance can we make Connecticut College the best place it can be."

## Dayton Arena's Changing Face

*continued from page 10*

build a program around. It is hard for them to be taken seriously when they don't have a proper place to get their game faces on.

So you ask, "With only one locker room now open to non-varsity teams, where do all of the other competitors go to find their non-varsity game faces?"

That is a different issue.

In a perfect world, the House-that-Dayton-Built would have eight locker rooms: men's varsity, women's varsity, club hockey, Coast Guard, and four others for the general public. Unfortunately this is not a perfect world, and there are a lot of

clubbers, Coasties, kiddies, and old-fogies until the funds can be raised, mostly through alumni donors, to complete the much larger task of creating the ideal Cameldome.

So until the day that we discover a tree that grows money in our Arboretum, the Varsity teams will continue to enjoy their well-deserved residencies and to put on good shows on the ice, while the rest of the general population, including the physical specimens that are the Conn Club Ice Hockey team, will get dressed in the bleachers, putting a good on show for their faithful fans off the ice.

Feel free to stop by and enjoy the show.

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## Two Students on a Quest to Bring The New York Times to Campus Community

*continued from page 1*

Band and Keene are hoping to get 450 copies of the New York Times delivered to campus on a daily basis. Wesleyan, whose Readership Program inspired the two girls, has 800 copies delivered to a student body of 2,700 everyday.

To have 450 copies of The New York Times delivered to the campus on a daily basis would cost roughly \$12,000.

Dean of the College Frances Hoffmann said that she is in favor of a college readership program, though she is unsure where the funding will come from.

"We need an assessment of the level of interest in the staff, faculty and students," Hoffmann said.

She suggested that certain faculty departments might be interested in helping to finance the project.

"Alex and I are very willing to do internal fundraising," said Keene.

"The problem with that is that next year and every year after somebody will have to continue fundraising."

Another option is adding the cost of the program to the comprehensive tuition fee. This year, students agreed to pay an extra \$25 in tuition to fund an alternative energy project.

"We will work with whatever SGA will give us," said Band. "We just want to try it for one semester. After that, I guarantee that there will be a marked difference in classroom discussions and there will be a demand to keep the papers in supply."



Kate Keene (left) and Alex Band (center) discuss their proposal with Dean Hoffmann (right).

"We envision something like The College Voice," said Band, "which is in buildings and accessible. People read The College Voice."

Student support for the readership program is tempered by financing concerns. On Thursday, the SGA debated the merits of the project, before deciding to postpone the decision on financing until a formal proposal has been submitted.

"The institution is founded upon a belief in higher education," said Tim Host '02. "I think we spend way too much money on TNEs and similar activities and not enough on things to improve the intellectual environment."

"If the College really thinks that international experiences like CISLA and SATA trips should be a core part of the curriculum, then providing The New York Times to students is consistent with that

belief," said Mike Brennan '02.

Other schools that subscribe to The New York Times Readership Program include large universities such as Pennsylvania State University, George Washington University, and the University of Pittsburgh, and smaller colleges like Morris Brown College and Elon College.

Pennsylvania State University pioneered the first general Newspaper Readership program in 1997.

Periodic research was conducted to evaluate the program's impact on student life. The research revealed that 65% of students had instructors who referred to news articles as part of class discussions and 20% had instructors who required them to read a newspaper everyday.

## Indoor Track Hopes for Improvement

*continued from page 10*

indoor team last year was also third at the Coast Guard Invitational. The team's ending result at the New England Division III Championship at Tufts was 22nd, while Williams, not surprisingly, ended with the championship. The men did not do much different from the women at their All New England Championship at Boston University, they too did not score. The same was

true when they finished their season at Wheaton for the ECAC Championship.

It will be very difficult to upset some of the NESCAC powerhouses of Williams and Middlebury, who seem to do well in almost every sport, but Connecticut College is looking to score well in all of their meets this season. It would be nice to finish higher than the Coast Guard this year, who on more than one occasion, finished one spot

ahead of Conn. The Camel indoor track practices begin after Thanksgiving break, and many members of the team will already be in great shape after finishing a strenuous season on the cross country team. The season kicks off for both teams shortly after Thanksgiving when they compete in their first meet in the Wesleyan Invitational on Saturday, December 1st.

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## SPORTS

## Dayton Arena's Changing Face

It is 8:22 p.m. Monday night, and as I watch a local youth hockey team practice from the lobby in Dayton Arena I feel slimy. I feel slimy, not because I am watching little children play hockey, but because of what I am not watching. As I lean against the glass behind the visitor's goal, notebook in hand, waiting to talk with Rink Operations Director Phil Siena, I am surrounded by members of the women's varsity ice hockey team, who are getting dressed all around me.

While many college guys would have loved to watch the parade of spandex and sports bras that surrounds me, I feel too much shame. Similar to the way an eighth-grade boy, seated beside his mother, stares into his popcorn bucket during the racy scene of his first rated "R" movie, I stare at the ice surface. My mother would not want me to be seeing what I was seeing.

And just like Mom doesn't want me watching the women's team prepare for practice, I certainly don't want her watching my club-hockey team get dressed and undressed, either. Unfortunately she, along with numerous other club hockey fans, has had to bear witness to this, and other sweaty displays of public nudity. She is forever scarred after watching one nameless club hockey player skate a lap around the rink in nothing but a Jock Strap and Microns.

So you ask, "Why have all these traumatic situations arisen? Why are out of shape athletes forced into public display?"

These traumatic situations have arisen because there simply are not enough locker rooms in Dayton Arena. Besides the varsity men's room, there are two other much smaller locker rooms used by the general public for men's league games, youth hockey games, Coast Guard games, and most importantly, Conn Club Hockey games. One of these two smaller rooms, however, is now being renovated to house the 2001-02 women's varsity hockey team, finally giving them a place to reside inside the Cameldome.

New head coach Kristin Steele said that their new room "will make the team feel like this is their rink... It will feel like home, and it will give the team something to be proud of."

The women's team room is not yet finished, but will be completed shortly; it is currently being painted with Camel pride and new bathroom fixtures and lockers are being installed. So until then, the team will dress outside with me and anyone else who may pass by.

It is now 8:27 p.m. and Coach Steele is attempting to go over today's practice routine. She gathers the team around a bench in the lobby. While attempting to rally and motivate her troops for their upcoming battles, she is interrupted by a game of tag. As a legitimate, fully-funded college varsity team leader intently at its newly appointed stardom, two young rink-rats, tired of waiting for their older brothers to get off of the ice, tear through the team's huddle with vicious smiles. As coach Steele sternly discusses opponents' rosters, the two boys yell and giggle about who is "it," and where they may be able to hide from him, as well as find black rubber treasures, better known to the common folk as "pucks."

Tag games and unwanted eavesdroppers like myself are primary reasons that the team needs a locker room and that the coach needs an office within Dayton Arena's friendly confines. Both projects should be completed by the end of the season; the locker room should be done by the team's home-opener, and Steele's office is scheduled to be finished over winter break.

Women's varsity will soon have a place to call home, and a place to

continued on page 9

## Underdog Camels Prepare for Difficult Opening Weekend

By MATTHEW W. PRESTON

SPORTS EDITOR

The Connecticut College Men's Ice Hockey Team knows that it is not going to be easy to successfully open the 2001-2002 season. They are preparing for an opening weekend against the Norwich University Cadets, who are ranked sixth in the nation, and the Saint Michael's College Purple Knights this Friday and Saturday at Dayton Arena.

The Cadets, who had one of the most explosive offenses in the Eastern College Athletic Conference in 2000-2001, are out to defend their status as National Collegiate Athletic Association Division III National Champions. They are also a team that has beaten the Camels up in recent years, using speed and an impenetrable defense to beat Conn by a combined score of 18-3 in the past two years (10-2 last season, and 8-1 in 1999).

"We are looking for an upset win," said Co-captain Matt Coleman '02 of Friday night's game. "They gave us a thumping at the end of last year. But everyone is ready, and I think we are going to surprise them."

"We are going to have to use our speed, but the most important thing is our defensive play all over the ice," said junior forward Adam Rogowin. "If we lose the puck we are going to have to think defense."

Said goaltender Rob Houston '03, the starter in last February's game against Norwich, "Team defense is the most important thing, trying to keep a team like that off the boards."

Conn will rely heavily on its goaltending against Norwich, and



Forward Mike Hasenauer '03 faces off against an opponent. He will be featured in the Camels' upcoming game against Norwich (Brown).

will need a strong performance from the quartet of Houston, Joe Anderson '05, Ben Daniels '05, and Steve Owen '05. A starter has yet to be named for Friday's contest.

"We're going to need a big effort from our goaltending, without a doubt," said Coleman.

While it may seem that the Camels have little chance in their match against the Cadets, they see this game as a challenge. Conn has all the weapons that they need to take down the Division III powerhouse. Provided every player sticks

to the game plan, it is very possible that the underdog Camels could open the 2001-2002 campaign with a huge upset victory.

"We like the position we are in," said Rogowin. "We are the underdogs, but that's not so bad, because we can catch these guys sleeping."

"[Norwich] is going to play us tough, but if we can put three solid periods of hockey together don't be surprised if we come away with a win."

The Saint Michael's match on Saturday should provide less of a

challenge for the Camels.

After beating the Purple Knights 4-1 last December, Conn is expecting the same from the team, which matches up evenly with the Camels.

While defense is the key against Norwich, the Camels hope to score early and to come out flying against Saint Michael's. Says Houston of the Camels' upcoming game against the Purple Knights, "If we can get on top early against [Saint Michael's], we should be all set."

While Saint Michael's is a team that the Camels feel prepared to

face, Conn shouldn't expect to come away with a guaranteed two points. The Knights could take a win from the Camels the same way that Conn can steal a victory from Norwich. Like the Camels, Saint Michael's is a team that is often underestimated before the puck drops.

"It's tough with a team like St. Mike's," said Rogowin, "because you hear about the Norwiches and the Middleburries. Without any scouting reports, St. Mike's is tough because you don't know what they have... It's a crapshoot."

"It's not going to be a walk in the park. We are going to have to keep on our toes and make sure we come away with the two points."

While the beginning of the 2001-2002 season will provide stiff competition for the Connecticut College Men's Hockey Team, the Camels are poised to start the season strong. A successful beginning is important for the Camels because it would set the tone for the rest of the season. They hope to return to the playoffs after a two-year layoff. It would also let the rest of the hockey world know that this Camel team is better than last season's team, which tied for last place in the New England Small College Athletic Conference.

Said Rogowin: "If we play Norwich tough, it's going to send a message to the league... From September until now, nobody knows what anyone is doing. So, this first weekend sets the table, and if we play Norwich solid, and come away with a four-point weekend that's going to get the ball rolling. Four points would be huge, and it would be a good start for this Connecticut College program."

## Indoor Track Hopes for Improvement Over Last Year

By MATT DIAPELLA

STAFF WRITER

This year, the Connecticut College men's and women's winter indoor track teams hope for marked improvement.

Returning for another year of coaching is William Wuyke. Wuyke has coached the men's team here at Connecticut College for more than ten years, and has coached the women's team for the past few seasons. Wuyke, a world-class runner himself, coached at the National Sports Institute in Caracas, and as a graduate assistant at the University of Alabama, before coming to Conn. Aside from coaching, Wuyke is also a physical education instructor and the director of the Connecticut College Fitness and Wellness Center.

Joining Wuyke in the coaching ranks will be assistants Ned Bishop, the head coach of the women's cross country team, and Jim Butler, the men's cross country coach. Kevin

Grant and Cliff Larrabee will also be assistants to the coach.

For the most part, both the men's indoor team and the women's indoor team finished well in the smaller meets that were held by schools like Brandeis and Wesleyan. Generally, the two teams did not score as frequently in the bigger championship contests.

In last year's meets, the women's indoor team's best finishes were 3rd place at the Coast Guard Invitational and at the MIT Invitational. Conn finished 17th overall at the New England Division III Championship at Brandeis in mid-February. Wheaton was number one at that event. The team unfortunately did not score at the All New England Championship at Tufts. The women ended their season by tying Albright for 27th at the ECAC championship in the beginning of March, while Williams took home that championship.

The best finish for the men's

continued on page 9



After a long, extensive preseason, the Swim Team is looking forward to the start of the '01-'02 season (Brown).

## Swimming Team Reaches Great Depths, Begin Winter Season with Meet Against Dartmouth

By BONNIE PROKESCH

STAFF WRITER

With most winter season sports teams just finishing preseason practices, and preparing for their first games beginning after Thanksgiving break, the swimmers and divers on the Connecticut College team are diving right into the season this weekend with their first meet on Saturday at UMass-Dartmouth.

Team members feel confident about the upcoming meet, as well as the season in general.

Commenting on the strength of the team and preseason training, Krissy Helb '04 stated, "Unlike past seasons, we have been training all fall with a dry-land program that has strength-building exercises, so I think the team is a lot stronger as a whole."

The team hopes to be more competitive this season. As Helb proclaimed, "I think the women's team should be able to go into our winter training trip [during winter break] undefeated, and the men's team has grown a lot in its numbers. Both teams as a whole have acquired a lot more depth in the stroke departments and have been training really hard. I predict many school records will be broken throughout the season."

Karoline Martin '02 agreed with Helb, stating, "The women's team in particular has a lot more depth than it ever has before. I am really looking forward for the competitive season to begin; we have a lot of new freshmen girls who I can't wait to see perform. We should have an impressive season."

Men and women swimmers alike are hoping their preseason dedication will pay off. Training consisted of dry-land workouts and including work with medicine balls, jumping four mornings a week, and two-hour pool workouts five days a week.

Along with these additions to the practice routine, the swimming and diving team gained strength in their top ranks when improvements were made in the coaching staff during the off-season. Head Coach Ken Ralph, entering into his fourth season with the Camels, has improved the program drastically since his arrival at Conn. As Martin remarked, "He has improved the team in so many different areas: in training, attitudes, and performance."

A new diving coach has also been hired to propel the Connecticut College divers into a successful year. The diving team, comprised of fewer than five divers last year, has

grown in number this year. The women's team is extremely strong.

As diver Brendan Boyle '03 explained, "Freshman Ai McDonald and junior Heidi Freeman will be an unstoppable duo in the regular season. Both ladies promise to do very well in the New England Small College Athletic Conference Championships and possibly the National College Athletic Association Division III Nationals." While the men's team consists of a mere two divers, Boyle and his teammate, Erik Kling '03, have put in quality time in order to improve their technique and skill.

Boyle welcomes new divers, stating: "If you know any guys who might be willing to hurl themselves off of a plank into a bucket of water, while contorting themselves into numerous positions, and wearing a slightly restrictive bathing suit, then send them down to the pool. We are always looking for more teammates!"

While the swimming and diving team may be lacking in numbers, it is not lacking in dedication and determination. The team is prepared for and excited about their meet this weekend and hopes to start the 2001-2002 campaign off in a competitive and successful manner.

## UPCOMING EVENTS

## Men's Ice Hockey:

- Friday, Nov. 16 vs. Norwich, 7:30 p.m.
- Saturday, Nov. 17 vs. Saint Michael's, 4:00 p.m.

## Men's Basketball:

- Friday, Nov. 16 @ UMass Dartmouth Tournament, 6:00 p.m.
- Saturday, Nov. 17 @ UMass Dartmouth Tournament, 1 or 3:00 p.m.
- Tuesday, Nov. 20 vs. the University of Scranton, 7:00 p.m.

## Women's Ice Hockey:

- Saturday, Nov. 17 @ Elmira, 7:00 p.m.

## Men's Squash:

- Friday, Nov. 16 @ Harvard Invitational.
- Saturday, Nov. 17 @ Harvard Invitational.

## Swimming and Diving:

- Saturday, Nov. 17 @ UMass Dartmouth, 1:00 p.m.