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NEWS

Professor Eugene Gallagher receives state recognition for his excellence in teaching. Find out more inside.



SPORTS

The cross country squads were both in action this week at the New England Division III Championships in Maine. See page 10 to find out how they fared.



A&E

Get the full scoop on *The Comedy of Errors*, a review of the show and the full story behind the challenges the cast had to overcome along the way.



THE COLLEGE VOICE

PUBLISHED WEEKLY BY THE STUDENTS OF CONNECTICUT COLLEGE

VOLUME XXVII • NUMBER 11

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President of the CCLeft Club Daniel Maltzer protested at renowned author Dan Flynn's speech on Monday. Over four hundred students were in the audience watching the event. (Pace)

Dan Flynn Sparks Controversy on Conn's Campus

By SARAH ARMSTRONG

STAFF WRITER

College Republicans shook up the campus this past Monday night when they brought fiery speaker Dan Flynn to the Cro's Nest; his name is not one Connecticut College will soon forget. Flynn spoke about his book *Why the Left Hates America*, and provoked acute excitement on campus. The event, which one student described as "World War V" is a landmark in recent Connecticut College history. With 400 students packed into Cro's Nest at one point in the evening, almost 20% of campus attended the event.

Flynn arrived on campus at approximately 6:00 PM on Monday and met with several members of the College Republicans, who treated him to dinner at Chili's. Dinner conversation revealed that Flynn attended UMass Amherst, served in the Marine Reserves, recently ended his tenure as the executive director for Accuracy in Academia, and current-

ly lives in Boston. Conversation also turned toward the atmosphere Flynn should expect upon returning to campus. News that several groups had plans to show up, one threatening a protest, found Flynn unphased. For this 210lb, 6' speaker, any disgruntled audience at CC would be another to add to an impressive list; as he later shared with the audience, Flynn has been bitten, mooned, heckled, and his books have been the main element in a "Nazi-styled book-burning at Berkeley.. Berkeley is like Rome for the Left."

By the time Flynn arrived to speak, activity around Cro was already in full gear. Inside the Nest, College Republicans, many sporting skirts or ties and jackets, provided cookies and drinks. To get inside, however, students had first to literally cross a line of members of CCLeft, a new student club that is not officially registered with SGA, who were wearing t-shirts reading "Ask me why the Left loves

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Cell Phone Tower Still in Limbo Student Support Spurs Exam Vote

By JULIA LEFKOWITZ

NEWS EDITOR

In the past year, several corporate vendors have approached the College with proposals to construct a new cell phone antenna on the school premises. The projected structure would improve cell phone reception and cater to future advancements in cell phone technology.

A prominent technology company first suggested the concept of an updated antenna to the College about a year ago. Soon afterwards, a slew of competitive vendors submitted similar proposals. The plans have been discussed in monthly meetings held by the College's Facilities and Land Management Committee with additional input from Bruce Carpenter, Director of Technical Support, Jim Norton and several senior administrators. The

idea has not yet been approved by the Facilities and Land Management Committee, under whose jurisdiction such a change falls. "The concept has been in the works for a while; we want to find a solution that is most conducive to students, faculty and administrators," Norton explained.

The antenna would replace a radio tower that is currently located above Conn's radio station headquarters, in Cro. "We were originally approached by a company with the idea of adding an antenna to the tower currently located on route thirty-two [on campus, behind the printing shop]," stated Carpenter. "However, we discovered that this site was not conducive to the specific technology at hand." With its proposed location at Cro, the antenna would possess combined potentials as a radio and cell tower. The current radio tower is one hundred feet high,

whereas the new tower would stand at one hundred and fifteen feet.

"A major factor in the decision of whether or not to build the tower is aesthetics," Carpenter explained. "Various tests and surveys have been created in order to get an idea of how the tower would look on campus, and how students, faculty and administration would react to it. About a month ago, we conducted a balloon test, in which a balloon was placed at what would be the top of the tower. We then documented the reaction of a group of people. Photosimulations are still in the process of being created."

The proposed tower would yield several benefits to the College. With over 50% of students owning cell phones and the additional cell phone usage of faculty and administrators, a large portion of the community would profit from improvements in

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By THOMAS McEVoy

STAFF WRITER

After the impressive turnout at the Student Open Forum on self-scheduled exams, which took place Wednesday, November 5, the Self-Scheduled Examinations Task Force (SSTF) has taken students' feedback to the SGA for an official vote. At the forum students were asked to petition for one of three options presented by the SSTF: Option 1, to keep self-scheduled exams as they are; Option 2, to allow faculty to decide whether they want to administer self-scheduled exams in their own courses; and Option 3, to remove self-scheduled exams altogether. More than 400 students petitioned to keep self-scheduled exams as they are, while only three students opted for Option 2.

On Thursday, November 13th, the SGA acknowledged this data in their official vote on the SSTF's three options for the fate of self-scheduled exams. All but two Assembly members voted for Option 1; the two other members voted for Option 2.

Owen Kloter, Chair of Academic Affairs, said that he was not surprised by the strong support for Option 1 from the SGA Assembly. He noted that because students at the open forum presented such strong feelings in favor of self-scheduled exams, it only made sense that the SGA reiterate those views. With regards to this agreement between students and SGA, Kloter stated, "I found the correlation encouraging, because it means we are representing student views well on SGA."

Director of Public Relations, Alex Schoenfeld, commented on the SGA's consideration of each option. "I honestly was pleasantly surprised the SGA took the time to consider options other than keeping self-scheduled exams as they are now. While not preferable, I think a lot of time and thought went into Option 2, which was impressive to me." Schoenfeld noted that the SGA did not discuss Option 3 as much as the other two.

With this vote recorded, the SSTF met with several

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New Virus Threatens Conn Computers

By JULIA LEFKOWITZ

NEWS EDITOR

This past week, a new virus infiltrated the computers of Conn. students. The mechanism is particularly concerning because it possesses the potential to search and retrieve credit card and social security numbers that are accessible from a computer's hard-drive. The presence of this virus is a continuation in the steady stream of malfunctions that have infected computers connected to the Conn intranet system since the beginning of this academic year.

Approximately two hundred computers were attacked by the Welch virus in late August and early September. Within three weeks, the Welch virus was expelled from Conn's system. Since the Welch virus, however, several other viruses less wide-spread have antagonized Conn computers. "The number of viruses that have infiltrated computers has escalated to the extent that I could use three or four other people to help me watch for them," stated Bruce Carpenter, Director of Information Services.

The latest worm is a variation of one of the viruses that was present on campus a few weeks ago. The worm is also an example of a new computer con known as "phishing." According to Carpenter, "Phishing is an Internet con game that attempts to steal credit card numbers. The phishing e-mail is a forgery that looks very official, and appears to come from a reputable business.

It warns users of some irregularity in their accounts and directs the users to a web site where they're asked to enter their credit card numbers. But the web-site is a phony, belonging to criminals who steal the credit card numbers. These phishing messages are steadily getting better. The first ones, not that long ago, were semi-literate ramblings that only a fool would fall for. But the latest versions are good forgeries, borrowing language and art from the target company's web site and correspondence."

"This is the second time this year my computer has been infected with a series of viruses where I believe the origin is the school's server," stated Allison Cook, class of 2006. "Not only has the disturbance affected the slowness of my connection to the internet, but malfunctions with programs like Microsoft word and Windows Media Player also occur on an almost daily basis." Caitlin Connolly, class of 2006, explained "I'm going to have to bring my computer home over Thanksgiving break to see if someone can fix it. I just don't know what else to do, I feel like my computer is being taken over by viruses."

Information Services plans to run a scan in order to estimate the number of computers that are infected with the new worm. Students, faculty and administrators are urged not to open any 'spam' links and to bring their computers to the help desk if they suspect any infiltrations.

In a closed event this past Friday, Tom Ridge, Secretary of the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) and former governor of Pennsylvania, spoke to cadets at the Coast Guard Academy. DHS was created one month after the terrorist attacks of September 11, 2001 by President Bush, in one of the largest re-organizations of the federal bureaucracy in decades. When this happened, the Coast Guard Academy, which had been under the Department of the Treasury, was placed under DHS. Since then, Ridge has come to be wildly popular with the CGA.

The Secretary's motorcade of nearly a dozen cars arrived by police escort at a few minutes after 7 PM. While cadets awaited his arrival in the auditorium, the CGA's top-notch jazz band entertained with some classic jazz ballads.

Entering the auditorium behind Secret Service officers, in perfect silence while cadets and officers stood at attention, Ridge took his seat on the stage. After introductions by a cadet and a Rear Admiral at the Academy, Ridge approached the



Tom Ridge, who has frequented news headlines, addressed Coast Guard. (Spellman)

podium as cadets cheered and clapped with great enthusiasm.

The Secretary's first action speaking before the cadets was to crack a joke and pretend to return to his seat, quickly belying his surprisingly good sense of humor. Among the memorable quotes of the evening were "the only thing the warm com-

fort of the lecture hall ever did for me was put me to sleep!" Ridge said the audience. He also quipped "Give me liberty or give me the barracks!"

While Sec. Ridge was very comfortable digressing from his prepared speech, he also had serious messages to relay to the Academy.

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EDITORIAL & OPINION

Flynn protesters miss the mark

The verbal and physical tactics used by Conn students to disrupt the lecture of outspoken conservative commentator Dan Flynn this past Monday night in Cro's Nest offer mixed lessons for future students who wish to protest on campus. While it is commendable that students possess passionate political views that they expound and defend with utmost conviction, it is simply counterproductive, hypocritical, and disrespectful for students to repeatedly attempt to not only counter, but silence the voice of the opposition.

One member of the audience stood in front of Flynn for the duration of his speech, physically blocking the speaker from the view of the audience. Such an obstruction interfered with the ability of the speaker to convey his views to those present, people that had decided to take time out of their night to see him speak. It is one thing to disagree with the views expressed by a speaker; in fact, dissent is a crucial component of any well-informed political society. However, for dissent to be effective it cannot be force-fed to individuals who may want to form opinions on their own. It simply smacks of censorship for an individual or a group to attempt to prevent someone's opinion from being expressed, solely because they do not agree with it.

The acts of protest engaged in last Monday by some individuals reflect poorly on the entire College community to which Flynn was a guest. As an outsider, Flynn experienced a college that was hostile and disrespectful. The fact that some members of the student body, perhaps even a significant amount, disagree with Flynn's stance is irrelevant. If Conn truly wants its community to be a pluralistic environment, all individuals with a range of viewpoints must at least be given a chance to explain and defend their beliefs without being harassed.

In a democracy it is vital that all viewpoints, no matter how distasteful some members of the community may perceive them to be, must be allowed to be communicated so that individuals can evaluate and make legitimate judgments on them on their own terms. Monday's display of ignorance and disrespect in response to Flynn's appearance provokes the question of just how seriously some members of our community favor pluralism when it is not their own agenda being promoted.

Do you care about anything?

"Voice" your opinions write a letter to the editor.

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

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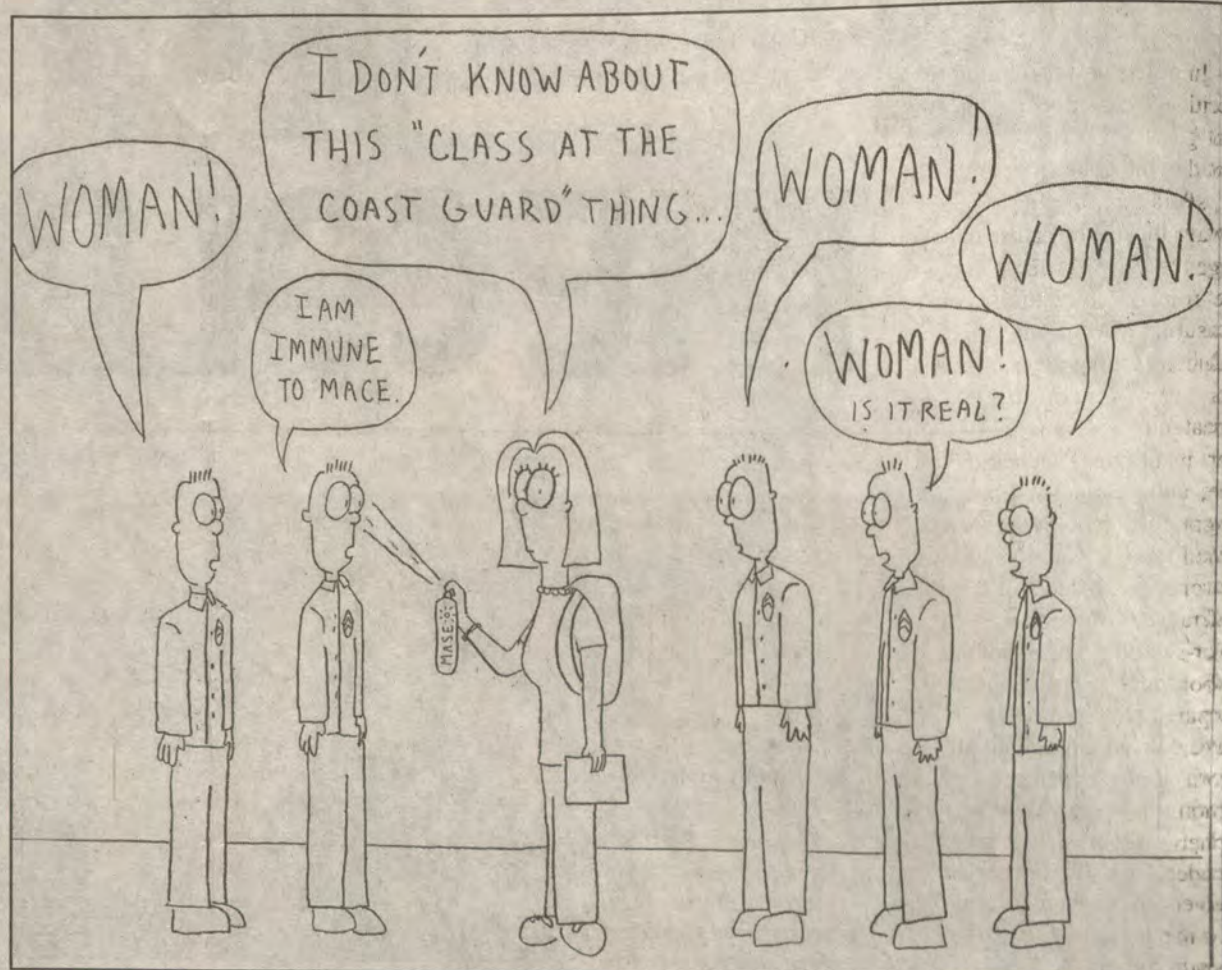
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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

CCLeft's Actions at Flynn Speech Disgusting

Dear Editor,

I'm writing to express my disgust with the content and tenor of the "discussion" at Mr. Flynn's lecture last Monday. First, let me say that I left halfway through because I found myself cringing at nearly everything that was said by either Mr. Flynn or his vocal opponents. Because I'm pretty sure Mr. Flynn doesn't read the Voice, I'm not going to rebut his speech here. I would, however, like to take a moment and respond to those bastions of free speech and tolerance who felt compelled to try and disrupt his lecture by blocking the podium and periodically shouting unsolicited foolishness.

To CC Left (please don't stand up and yell anything dumb until you're actually finished reading this): Granted, your pie was certainly excellent. Beyond that, your challenge to the College Republicans and the likes of Dan Flynn was unfortunately one of the sorriest displays of political pseudo-activism I have seen in three years at Conn. First, you played right into the current Republican attacks on academia (that colleges are a place where free speech is stifled by PC reactionaries) by proving a case in point for Flynn's typecasting of the left every time you caused a disruption. Given that Mr. Flynn travels to several college campuses per week to deliver this speech, I am sure this leftist student reaction was neither unexpected nor unwelcome. By encouraging it, he only strengthens his argument that the left is intolerant and hypocritical. By the same token, those who provide such a reaction do more to make his case than he ever could. Imagine how much weaker his argument would have been had everyone sat quietly through the lecture and then picked him apart with intelligent questioning.

Secondly, and arguably more importantly, there is an obvious hypocrisy in claiming to be for tolerance and pluralism and then attempting to disrupt and shout down anyone who disagrees with you. This is ideologically polarizing and just plain rude. I was honestly embarrassed to be a Conn student because so many of my peers seemingly couldn't think of a better way to deal with a weak argument than by responding with even dumber tactics of their own. If the Klan ever decides to hold a rally at Conn, I'll protest with you. Until then, there is no excuse for that kind of discourtesy to a guest lecturer in an institution whose aim is to foster critical thought and intellectual dialogue. At best, it's rude; at worst, it's nothing more than censorship.

Let's be clear about this: Mr. Flynn had remarkably little to say. What he did say was largely a disjointed rant and many of his points were logically dubious. However, the proper response to this type of foolishness is not to

try and shout him down or to engage in a disjointed rant of your own. Rather, it is either to ignore him or, better yet, to refute his points via a well-phrased question. In closing, while I disagree with the College Republicans about nearly everything, they at least have the common courtesy and political savvy to let a man speak at his own damn lecture. If CC Left can't muster the maturity to do the same, this campus would be better off without them.

Cam Hewitt '05
X3654

Students Don't Want To Lose Lyman Allyn

Editor,

Over the past few weeks, *The Day* has printed letters to the editor and articles sharing the many perspectives on the financial dispute between Connecticut College and the Lyman Allyn Art Museum. The voice of the students and faculty has been noticeably absent. President Fainstein, however, represented the College in his article that appeared in *The Day* on November 2, entitled "A Broken Trust: College: We Helped The Museum Improve And Are Willing To Write Off \$1.9 Million." In response, we composed a letter to the editor of *The Day*, which was published on November 14.

Students Don't Want To Lose Lyman Allyn

Published on 11/14/2003

Letter To The Editor:

As students at Connecticut College, we would like to express our disappointment in the recent decisions made by the administration with regard to the Lyman Allyn Art Museum. We have been following the dialogue in *The Day* and understand the different perspectives being expressed, as well as the complexities this debate has highlighted and created. However, this issue is simple. The Lyman Allyn Art Museum is an asset to both Connecticut College and the New London community. We emphasize that the museum is valued and appreciated by the students and faculty of Connecticut College.

As seniors in the Museum Studies Certificate Program, we have benefited from the experience of having the Lyman Allyn as a neighbor. The Museum has played a significant role in the Museum Studies Program at Connecticut College. By forcing the payment of \$1.3 million, the College is doing more than just separating

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STATE OF THE VOICE ADDRESS

BEN MORSE • LONELY AT THE TOP

I hope you are reading and enjoying the *College Voice*. Well, if you are reading this, obviously you are, but I hope you do so on a weekly basis. That's not a "you better read and appreciate us or we'll stop publishing" statement, obviously that isn't the case, we're always going to be here. That being the case, if we're going to do the work we do each week, we want to be putting out a product that people look forward to. To give you an idea of the work we do...

[WARNING: Fairly self-indulgent paragraph about how hard my job and the jobs of my colleagues are coming up. Nobody will think any less of you if you skip past this one.]...I generally log in about twenty consecutive hours in every Thursday afternoon/night/early Friday morning working on the newspaper; my co-Editor-In-Chief does the same. The crux of our jobs begins somewhere around 1:00 in the afternoon on Thursday and ends the next morning at 9 when I drive into New London to drop off the paper to be printed. Section editors and other people in the editorial box on pg. 2 spend only a few less hours in the office on Thursdays but also spend large chunks of the rest of the week tracking down writers, pursuing stories, and trying to get quotes from everybody from President

Fainstein to members of Physical Plant or Dining Services. When I refer to the time spent "in the office," I'm talking about being in our cozy little home in Cro, usually typing or laying out or searching for pictures on a computer screen or editing by hand if we're out of computers (we have six [barely] working computers,

two of which were donated by staff members, and about fourteen staff members who need to use them at some point or another, so you can do the math). As soon as we're done with the paper, we try to get some sleep (in my case, Friday morning) and then wake up and try to deliver the papers to you folks as quickly and efficiently as we can. [NOTE: Us-centric paragraph now concluded]

Though it is a thrill to see our names in the paper (but that wears off after a couple issues) and to see the finished product of something we put so much work into (that tends to stay), our principle aim by putting together this weekly newspaper is to do a service to the campus community; if we're not doing that, we're not succeeding at our job.

When we had our first meeting this year, I laid down a mission statement or two. I wanted to change things up

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ANNIHILATE CCS FROM AMONG YOU

COLLEEN WHITE & MAIAH JOHNSON • VIEWPOINT

In order for a revolution to occur a critical mass of people must realize that gestation period has ended and that they must become the midwives of social change. Yet, there are always those who refuse to acknowledge the signs. Instead, they assume the role of oblivious spectators or censors, becoming miscarriage-inducers. In their eyes, the abolitionists were mere trouble-makers threatening the sanctity of the peculiar institution's generated way of life; anti-colonialist liberators were ungrateful, rebellious atavists who failed to appreciate the patronage of Europe; and leaders of the women's suffrage movement were forwardly over-stepping their bounds as the subordinated subjects of their counterparts. Such passive bystanders have existed throughout all societies from time immemorial. They are among us today. They permeate all spheres of our society, not excluding academia, exhibiting what is perceived to be some form CCS or Complicity-Complacency-Syndrome.

• CCS is a wholly non-discriminatory "disease." And, as you may have already noticed, those who fall prey to it are not confined to any particular race, ethnicity, religion, or ideology. Some of its observable symptoms include, but are not limited to: consistent satisfaction with mediocrity, a strong desire to impede progress by perpetuating the status quo, a pathological tendency to ascribe blameworthiness to those whom are objects of oppression and not the oppressors; and, a failure to grasp seemingly commonsensical notions that equality and justice are to be pursued at all costs, because any state of affairs that comes short

of this is utterly unacceptable. Some manifestations of CCS are: attempting to do nothing about the abject poverty and the egregious apartheid in one's own backyard; or, quickly changing the television channel after viewing a "Feed the Children" broadcast, knowing well that one can sponsor a malnourished child in Asia or Europe without hurting one's pocket book. Certainly the most severe and intolerable case of CCS ever reported is failure to contribute to the eradication of social injustice, poverty, and all other forms of oppression throughout one's lifetime. In such an extreme case, it is safe to say that one's life served no purpose at all and that maybe one should not have been born.

As rational moral citizens, it is our obligation to ensure that CCS is eradicated from society. For, society's (society here means the Global community) greatest problem is not poverty, inequality, or natural diseases. The fundamental reason why these inhumane situations persist at such an exponential rate is that there are among us those who perpetually indulge in the gross commercialism of our day, doing nothing about these systems of oppression. These inactive supporters and enablers are essentially accomplices of oppression and are therefore to be held morally accountable by the midwives of justice.

We cannot continue to collapse into a contemptuous condition of comfort. As history dictates to us, those who passively stand when the war of freedom is fought will find it detrimental to their well being. For, there can be only two sides. Annihilate CCS from among you!

THE FREE TRADE TRILOGY Pt. 3

ADAM WEINBERG • JESUS FREAKS

This week representatives from 34 countries in the Americas have been meeting in Miami, Florida to negotiate the Free Trade Area of the Americas (FTAA). In the past two weeks, this column has addressed the impacts that "Free Trade", in the form of the North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA) has had on Canada, the US and Mexico.

Global markets of cash crops are so unstable that, in order to stabilize developing economies, economic development policies must be geared towards localized production and consumption of crops and goods. As agrarian economies transition from cash-crop to products for local consumption, policies such as Fair Trade Certification which ensure that a farmer is paid a living wage for their products can be a stepping-stone towards economic stability. Paying farmers prices above that of the market effectively removes them from the free-market. Governments have different methods of removing their industries from the free-market, and this should not necessarily be discourages. For example, if the United States wants to protect U.S. farmers and steel manufacturers with massive subsidies, then that's great! By the same token, other countries must be allowed to afford their farmers and fledgling industries the opportunity to succeed as well, even if this means using protectionist measures to do so.

Foreign investment and loan policies must be changed. The International Monetary Fund (IMF) and the World Bank (WB) must totally change their approach to foreign investment. Instead of dumping hundreds of millions of dollars into multinational corporations setting up shop in the developing world, these institutions should be spending more resources examining exactly how their dollars can go further to help local and regional economies develop effectively. Loans should be conditional not on the degree of openness of an econo-

my, but on the degree to which corruption is stamped out in the countries government. As long as corruption in so many governments is rampant, no amount of policy and loans will help the poor. Institutions such as the IMF and WB also are in position to help governments increase health, labor, and environmental standards, and to help enforce these standards. If these international monetary groups are unwilling or unable to adequately change their policies and make their decision making processes totally transparent, then these institutions should be abolished.

The focus of global economic development has been grossly misplaced. The "Free Trade" institutions have dumped money into multinational corporations, resource exploitation, and huge construction mega-projects. One after another, recipient countries have been unable to pay back the loans, and have struggled even to pay the interest on the loans. Money should be targeted towards producing tangible benefits, such as building schools and hospitals. Grants should be provided to help groups and organizations within the recipient country develop local and regional businesses that can sustain fluctuations in global markets. Ultimately, the goal should be to bring these economies to the point where all children can attend school, and then advance to university level educations. If an emphasis is placed on making sure that girls attend school and universities, the developing country is likely to see the additional benefits of reduced birthrates, and increased human rights for women.

When regional economies are stabilized, and the populations of developing nations have education levels that are competitive with that of developed nations, then the world might be ready to lower trade barriers again. Today, the world's citizens and the global economy do not need "Free Trade". They need smart trade, and rational development.

OPINION

THE "DEMOCRATIC" PARTY

YONI FREEMAN • VIEWPOINT



Before I begin, I would like to commend the College Republicans for bringing a great speaker to this campus, Dan Flynn. He spoke eloquently, even though at times, he was not able to say anything. He made a lot of sense. Many people, it seemed to me, came with a prejudgment as to who he was or what he was going to say. I'll bet many of the protesters never read his book. In response to the many protesters there (not necessarily CCLEFT people) I hope you heard what he said in the beginning, when he told the audience what he meant by the label "left" and that term did not include Democrats or liberals, but communists, anarchists and the ilk. If you are a Democrat, HE WAS NOT TALKING ABOUT YOU. It's sad if you didn't bother to listen to his opening remarks.

The topic of this week's column relates to the recent fumbling rhetoric coming from the Democratic Party. This is a party which claims to represent the mainstream opinion of Americans. This is a party which claims to represent the majority, and provide the truth as to how the US must solve its problems. This is a party which continuously tells "it" to the American public and one that acts with the belief it is backed by the bulk of Americans, at times saying that they are defending the ordinary American.

Take for example last week's Senate's talkathon where for 39 hours, the Republicans tried to get the Democrats to allow a vote on President Bush's judicial nominations, where these nominations could be passed by a simple majority. The Democrats refused to comply and spent their allotted time babbling about how these nominees were "right-wing extremists" and not suitable for the public. This reminded me of Brave New World. In their e-mail newsletter it was said they did not allow a vote on the judicial nominations because the people in question held "extremist, ultraconservative views far outside the mainstream." What on earth are these Democrats talking about? The judges are "outside" the mainstream? Let us for a moment take a look at who is proposing these, which are the Republicans right? And who has the majority in the Senate, the Republicans right? What does that mean? Simply put, the MAJORITY of states BELIEVE in the views of those people they elected to the Senate. So what gives the Democrats the right to say they don't represent the majority of wishes? Sure, they could say that they probably represent the majority of PEOPLE, however, the Senate is about representing states not people. States are equal. The fact they are the minority in the Senate should tell them something. It is morally wrong for them to be crying about how they know the wishes of the majority even though they are in the minority.

The fact they are in the minority means that a majority of states do not

THE SEVEN DEADLY SINS OF CONNECTICUT COLLEGE

JORDAN GEARY • I LIKE TO WRITE THINGS



I won't pretend that I was smart enough to come up with the idea for this week's column all by myself. I was pacing back and forth in my room, trying to decide between writing about ketchup and how much I hate those commercials with John Stamos, when a friend of mine named Katie walked in. I told her about my writer's block, and she suggested I write about Connecticut College embodying the seven deadly sins, because my favorite movie is Se7en. Thus, if you don't like this article, yep, you guessed it...Katie's fault.

All right, for all of the toddlers and old ladies with pacemakers reading this, I'll just get LUST out of the way. The funny thing about lust on our campus is that the pervert engineers that designed the dorms way back in 1911 meticulously calculated a way to make the walls of the dorm rooms as paper thin as possible, without letting the dorms completely collapse on themselves. The halls are also designed to amplify any sound to around five hundred decibels. If one were to fart quietly in his/her room, it would transform into an explosion of sound that would likely blow the windows out and kill several tour groups on campus. Thus, you can just imagine what loud sex sounds are like. I'll never forget that during my sophomore year, crowds used to grow in the hall around one girl's room, because she was so loud that astronauts orbiting the moon could hear her and her man friend.

The next deadly sin is GREED. Sure, you may look at our campus and see the young, smiling faces as being rather selfless. This is true, for the most part, but all of that flies out of the window when it comes to the booths at Harris cafeteria. In a large cafeteria filled with uncomfortable wooden chairs and cramped tables, the 16 booths are the veritable eating-places of kings and queens. These eating areas are in high demand, as you may guess, because there are so few of them. It is fascinating to watch the hawk-like quickness that students have when jumping into a vacant booth one millisecond after someone has left it. I have gotten up from a booth to get a drink several times, only to see someone sitting in my seat when I got back because they thought I had left. Much like a caveman clubbing intruders out of his cave, I quickly dispensed of these hooligans...for it was I who was king of the booth that day.

THE ROOFTOP OF AFRICA

B.J. ODUOR-OWINO & CHAKA ZARANYIKA • A VIEW FROM GAZEBO

The beauty of the moment was great. No one even thought what the future held for the ground they stood upon.

Not the tourists in their gortex coats. Not the African porters who braved the cold to fend for their families. Not the photographers who could not wait to take photos that they would process for cash.

Situated on the border of Kenya and Tanzania in East Africa, Kilimanjaro, meaning shining mountain in Swahili, attracted over 1000 tourists on the dawn of the new millennium. It was certainly a great time to watch the sun rise from the rooftop of Africa. After all, you'd be on the highest point of the continent and you'd be having your feet on ice, ice just south of the Equator.

As the highest peak in Africa, standing at 19,335.6 ft, it has attracted a continuous stream of visitors to its ice-capped peak and along with the neighbouring Olduvai Gorge, has a big role in anthropology as the region around it, is thought of as the cradle of humanity.

The image and love for Africa's fabled peak is about to come to an end, or so we hope not. Deemed as one of the world's fifteen highest peaks, the

believe in their platform and INSTEAD support the platform of the Republicans WHO ARE PROPOSING AND SUPPORTING THESE JUDGES. The Democrats in the Senate do not have the MANDATE to be preaching their platform (against the judges) is right.

The people elected those senators and there are more senators supporting the judges than those who are against the judges. The Democratic Party must live with that reality, even if it is hard to do. They should have supported a vote to see how it turned out. They care about the voters right?

This is similar to their debacle several months ago in the Texas legislature. The GOP brought to the floor a redistricting plan which would give their party more seats in the legislature. This legislation was sure to pass as, again, public opinion voted for enough people who supported it. Instead of letting public opinion choose its rightful course in support of this legislation, what did the Democrats do? They, more than 50 of them, left the legislature, went on vacation in a neighboring state, and froze the legislature, which no longer had a quorum to vote. And because legislation on the floor has a time constraint on how long it could be there, the Democrats simply returned after it expired. Do you call that DEMOCRACY?

This reminds me of the tactics used by the Nazi Party during its rise to power. When it became the majority party in the German parliament before World War II (without having over 50% of seats), it used its power to freeze and obstruct the parliament's business. When the parliament was not going to vote its way or legislation that did not look eye to eye with the Nazis came on to the floor, the Nazis just stood up and left, causing a quorum to be absent. The parliament could not function unless it did what the Nazis believed in, because not following Nazi beliefs, simply as stated before, paralyzed the parliament. Does the Democratic Party really want to be compared to such a party? I don't think so.

If the Democrats want to achieve their platform goals, that is fine with me as long as it is done using democratic means (i.e. the ballot box) and not by using smear tactics which seek to create a false sense that they do represent the majority. I am tired of their bickering that goes something like, "Even though we lost the election, we still represent the mainstream opinion on the matter," or that they represent some sort of "silent majority." I sure hope the word "Democratic" in their name is unlike the fake presence of it in the name "Democratic People's Republic of Korea." It is time the Democratic Party, for starters, act like a party which believes in the process its name contains.

Until next time,
YF

GLUTTONY at a college campus truly can't refer to anything but beer. Nearly all of us are gluttons for beer, or else there would be no need for a "keg" or a "30 pack". No explanation is necessary here.

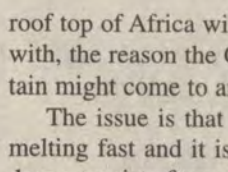
As far as PRIDE, no one has more pride than guys who are drunk. As a bartender, I am privy to such gems as, "Can I get a beer for the little lady here?" and, "Hoo boy, I could drink every beer back there!" When alcohol enters the bloodstream, every man believes in their head that they cast off their alter egos, and their inner Superman comes out. I am no exception to this. Of course, all of these people cannot be Superman, because everyone knows that the REAL Superman worked for a newspaper, wink wink (I also have buns made of pure titanium).

WRATH is what every Connecticut College student feels when they walk into the Groton Applebee's. I, for one, love the food at Applebee's, but I am not exempt from this feeling that our students feel inside. The reason for this is that Applebee's has three walls dedicated to surrounding schools. The schools represented are the Coast Guard, UConn, and Mitchell College. That's right, no Connecticut College student is welcome there, apparently. When you sink your teeth into the succulent ribs or burgers, just think that if Applebee's had its way, it would shoot you with a Tommy gun and throw you off of a bridge.

ENVY is pretty much what every person at Connecticut College has when I tell them where I am from. I am from a paradise land, where the wine flows like water and angels sing from every treetop. I am from New Jersey. I'll bet you practically choked on your envy reading that.

SLOTH is a simply delightful character from the hit 80's movie "Goonies", but it is also a sin that refers to laziness. I think we can all agree that the laziest beings on our entire campus have to be the squirrels. It is amazing how little the squirrels on campus are scared of the humans around them, because they are way too lazy to be. They'd rather scare US! I once had a squirrel launch out of a garbage can straight at me, and I nearly went into cardiac arrest. I started yelling at the squirrel, and it just stared up at me, almost as if to say, "Dude, can I just eat my acorn in peace? Yell all you want, but I ain't movin'!"

Well, there you have it. Our sinful campus explained. I consider myself a fairly religious guy, but I gotta say, I would have our campus no other way.



roof top of Africa will still be there. But its pull, the legend that it was held with, the reason the Germans sent ill-clothed locals to the top of the mountain might come to an end, a sad end.

The issue is that Kibo's, Mount Kilimanjaro's highest peak, ice cap is melting fast and it is approximated that in about 15 years, the beauty that draws tourists from all over the world will be gone. In a period of ninety years, since the ice on Kilimanjaro was measured, 80% of the massive ice field on it has disappeared. The melted glaciers carry with it a lot of information that is of geographic importance. Some sort of irreplaceable records of history, drained and wiped out.

But what is in this trend for the areas that surround Kilimanjaro? For scientists, there is the worry that the East African highlands are in the process of turning into a dust bowl. These are the rich Abyssinian highlands down to the highlands of

Kenya's Rift Valley.

Claims put it that it is too early to jump into conclusions. But with the

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ARTS&ENTERTAINMENT

Road to Comedy Steers Clear of Errors, Ends in Success

Department, Cast & Crew Work Together to Persevere Through Directing Changes & Challenges

By BEN MORSE

EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

In the month leading up to this weekend's opening of *Comedy of Errors*, the show cycled through multiple directors (the last of whom had little over a week and a half to work with the cast), including a Conn senior who only expected to serve as the production's Assistant Stage Manager. Despite these abrupt changes and the challenge of not knowing what to expect next, early indications are that the show will go down as one of the most professional and entertaining efforts put forth by the Theater Department in several years.

The show was initially expected to have been helmed by Stephen Wisker, a professional director from England, with Nick Roesler '04 serving as Stage Manager. However, problems began when Wisker learned in early October that he would have to return to England due to complications involving getting his working visa renewed. The rehearsal process began a week earlier than planned on October 16th, but Wisker was still only able to work with the cast a couple times before departing. Wisker initially expected to be gone for no longer than a week and a half and assigned Liz Wexler '04, one of the Assistant Stage Managers, to run rehearsals during his absence, with instructions he left, while Roesler continued to perform his responsibilities as Stage Manager.

Wisker was able to get his visa renewed, but unfortunately, a postal strike affecting all of England prevented his receiving it. On October 31st, when he was scheduled to return, Wisker contacted both the Theater Department to inform them that he did not know exactly when he would be back, prompting them to make the reluctant decision to hire a new director.

"The situation was unfortunate, as we were really looking forward to working with Stephen, and it was really nobody's fault," said Herta Payson, a Visiting Assistant Professor of Theater involved with the decision. "But ultimately, for the good of the show and the people involved, we decided that we couldn't take any chances since Stephen really couldn't say decisively when he would be back."

While the department sought a new director, Wexler was asked to continue on as interim director in the mean time.

"Liz had already been selected to direct a mainstage play in the Spring semester through a lengthy process, so we knew she was already thinking as a director and had full confidence she could keep the creative process moving along until a new director was selected," said Payson.

"I was excited about filling in, but also nervous, both because I'm a little afraid of Shakespeare and because I was in another show, *Too Much Light Makes the Baby Go Blind*, in the first few weeks of rehearsal, which didn't leave me much time to consult with members of the department," said Wexler. "But Nick was so helpful and supportive, and [Assistant Stage Manager] Jefferson [Post '04] seriously came to rehearsal every day begging for more work to do. And the cast was fantastic, they were so cooperative and easy to work with, not to mention incredibly talented."

Wexler ran rehearsals for about two weeks, working off Wisker's plans with active input from the cast. Richard Digby Day, who directed last fall's *School For Wives* came in to assist for two rehearsals, but for the most part it was Wexler and Roesler's show.

"Liz and Nick were our rocks," said Megan Sherlock '06, "Without them we wouldn't have a show right now. They pushed us to work and acted like everything was fine. They were so supportive and wonderful. We all worked harder because we knew how hard they were working."

At the start of November, a Conn alumnus, Michael Learner, was select-



Andrew McCullough and Sarah Lobel '07 clown around in the foreground as Jeremy Make '05 looks on. *Comedy of Errors* runs through this weekend, Thursday, Friday & Saturday. (Pace)

ed as the new director. Learner graduated Phi Beta Kappa from Conn in 1989 with a double major in theater and English. He has worked as a director for the Flock Theater and elsewhere in the past fourteen years. Perhaps most importantly, Learner has directed *Comedy of Errors* before, including a performance in Conn's own arboretum.

"Michael lives in New Haven and has worked with us before, so we were pleased he was able to step in on such short notice," said Payson.

With less than two weeks of rehearsal available to him before the show was scheduled to open, Learner had to work quickly and efficiently. Six and eight hour rehearsals, normally not a fixture of the process until the week before the show, were scheduled early on to help Learner establish positioning and other technical aspects of the performance Wexler had stayed away from so that the new director would not be overwhelmed by having to adjust to decisions made before he arrived.

"The cast was totally understanding about the long rehearsals and never complained, they were complete professionals and open to the ideas Michael brought in," said Wexler.

Marc Belisle '04 agreed. "I felt like the only way the show could continue after Stephen left was if we got a new director with not only as much creative energy as him, but somebody with enough faith to trust a group of people he didn't cast himself," he said. "Michael brought all that and a renewed sense of direction and purpose. I've never seen a cast click so well with a new director and with each other."

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Comedy of Errors Succeeds in Making Shakespeare Accessible for All, Humorous Performances Cover Any Glaring Weaknesses

By KAITLIN WALSH

STAFF WRITER

A lot of people are a little apprehensive about seeing a Shakespeare play – myself included. I'm often nervous that I won't fully understand the story because I get caught up in Shakespeare's language. I think I can safely say, however, that I left Connecticut College's version of William Shakespeare's *The Comedy of Errors*, directed by Michael Learner and Assistant Director Liz Wexler, with not only a significant understanding, but an appreciation for Shakespeare's brilliance that I hadn't fully reached before. I guess you could say I just didn't know how much could be done with Shakespearean dramas.

Although the play had a weak start with a somewhat confusing scene and choppy line performance, it got considerably better with the entrance of Daniel Leary and continued to improve as the performance progressed. The play, set in the cheery coastal city of Ephesus, is about a two sets of identical twins, separated at birth, with the twins in each set sharing the same name. Daniel Leary and Andrew McCullough played Antipholous of Syracuse and Antipholous of Ephesus, respectively, and Megan Sherlock and Sarah Lobel played their faithful servants Dromio of Syracuse and Dromio of Ephesus, respectively. *The Comedy of Errors* centers on these two sets of twins who know nothing of each other. Obviously, if these twins look the same and share the same name, confusion is bound to occur, and the errors that ensue are what keep the play going.

Nearly the entire cast did a pretty solid job. Daniel Leary and Jeremy Make, however, were brilliant and hilarious. Leary kept the audience entranced with his wide-eyed and powerfully honest acting, which was demonstrated both by his monologues and the chemistry he and Megan Sherlock were able to create as master and servant. Make, as Angelo, constantly had the audience laughing due to his light-hearted interpretation of his character, portrayed by clowning around. Though Leary, Sherlock, McCullough, Lobel and especially Make got more than their fair share of it, almost the entire cast partook in a little bit of slapstick humor, which created a fun, exciting, and fresh atmosphere for the play. The lively feel of the play was supported by the boldly and brightly colored set, which I hadn't expected. The humor had a modern feel, with Matrix-esque fight scenes and clearly sexual body language to supplement the innuendos Shakespeare gave his play. My one great reservation about the way the humor was presented, however, was that some of the members of the cast found themselves a little too funny, and couldn't help laughing at themselves when the audience did. In addition to this, some actors seemed to take the notion that they could be funny a little too far, exaggerating their characters beyond anything realistic. While I don't think the director should have toned down the humor in this play, I do think the play could have been better either with different casting choices for these parts or more work with these actors.

Other actors that impressed me included Rosalind Streeter as Nell, a greasy kitchen servant with a huge ass and an overstated waddle, and Owen Cooney, an exorcist named Dr. Pinch who brought on intense shrieking and shaking from McCullough, creating one of the funniest scenes in the play. The play ended appropriately, with bows unlike any I had ever seen – each set of actors came out and posed for cheesy pictures rather than taking the traditional bows.

Something Corporate Infuses Their Cali-Pop With Serious Issues in *North*

By PAUL DRYDEN

STAFF WRITER

With all the bland and cookie-cutter pop/punk music out there today, Something Corporate somehow stands out. There's something about their love for strong melodies; impressive craftsmanship and catchy lyrics that makes you want to listen more and more. Lead singer Andrew McMahon's voice, piano playing and introspective but melancholy songs certainly emerges as the strengths of the talented, cohesive group. Think Ben Folds Five, without the humor but with a Jimmy Eat World-like emo angst. Their first full-length disc, *Leaving Through the Window*, is definitely one of last year's classic albums. Something Corporate's latest release, *North*, follows the band as they mature past their teenage issues into deeper and more serious topics, while sticking with the piano driven music and earnest songwriting that earned them their large fan base.

The Orange County band, known for their sincere and energetic live performances, quickly developed a rabid following in Southern California after only two years of existence. Signing with the esteemed California indie punk label Drive-Thru helped expand Something Corporate's audience on the West Coast. MCA soon caught on, releasing their first EP, *Audioboxer*, and then *Leaving*. With *Leaving*, came a long list of radio hits and a high-profile tour last summer with 311 and O.A.R.

While *Leaving Through the Window* covered the common issues of young love and other pains caused by teenage issues, *North* is centered around that moment where we all head out on our own, leaving everything behind, our home, family and friends. It begins with the beautiful ballad, "As You Sleep," a relatively soft start to a more rocking album, abound with soothing piano fills.

"As You Sleep" flows into "Space," the harder hit single. While quite an addictive song, it focuses on a broken relationship, opening with the lyrics, "I don't

know, but I can tell this isn't you, your cover's blown/But oh no, don't you dare hang up this phone." The sing along chorus then follows with, "Give me space so I can breathe/Give me space so I can sleep/Give me space so you can drown in this with me."

The next track, "Down," starts with a low-key piano intro then continues with that mellow feeling for most of the song. It's a great contrast from the previous track, which focused on the harder electric guitar. A particularly memorable line from the song is "Taste the saline rolling down your cheekbone."

"Only Ashes" continues the trend of following softer song with harder tracks. This song showcases lead guitarist William Tell's guitar skills. McMahon uses the rhyming metaphor of matches

and ashes to describe his relationship, "I can tell it's your turn/I smell the sulfur so clear and fire's a beautiful sound/and the wings that you burn turn to ashes my dear/and ashes just fall to the ground/yeah we're only ashes." "Me and the Moon" focuses on a McMahon falsetto, finishing a solid set of the five first songs.

The album stays solid throughout, with the sixth track, "The Runaway," reminding me a lot of Something Corporate's *Leaving Through the Window* days. Other than

"Break Myself," which has an intricate piano base, "21 and Invincible" is a definite highlight from the lower-half of *North*. McMahon jokes about his new legal status and the future responsibilities involved. He talks about suburban living particulars with, "I can have a big house, complain about taxes/Pay off my exes, ain't that livin'."

If you're already a fan of Something Corporate, definitely give *North* a listen, it provides an interesting development from the songwriting to the music (particularly piano arrangements). If you've never heard them, but you like Ben Folds Five or just catchy pop, try them out because they're sure to keep soaring north.



Love Actually: Curtis' Debut Film Brings Holiday Cheer To Theatres

By SHONA SEQUEIRA

A&E EDITOR

Rated: R (for sexuality, nudity and language)

Length: 128 minutes

Starring: Hugh Grant, Colin Firth, Emma Thompson, Alan Rickman, Laura Linney, Martine McCutcheon, Bill Nighy, Liam Neeson, Keira Knightly
Directed by: Richard Curtis

Summary: Sparkling holiday romance laced with cheerfully comic threads and gift-wrapped by a talented, engaging cast.

Rating: ****

It's so tempting to give Richard Curtis' *Love Actually* a glowing review for its pleasing aesthetics alone—the sparkling romantic comedy boasts both the boyishly sexy Hugh Grant and the roguishly handsome Colin Firth in addition to an incredibly attractive supporting cast. But I'm not that shallow (okay, I am!) and this isn't the first time that Grant and Firth have appeared in the same movie together (they fought over Renée Zellweger in *Bridget Jones's Diary*, lucky girl!). It is, however, the directorial debut for Curtis

(screenwriter of romantic cult favorites *Four Weddings and a Funeral* and *Notting Hill*), who looks set to carve himself a smash hit with a charming movie that, released well in time for the holidays, combines a talented and engaging cast with several sweet, if occasionally over-sentimental, storylines.

Set in London, *Love Actually* follows the lives of eight different couples in their quest for true love in various loosely interrelated tales set during the frantic weeks before Christmas. There's the new British Prime Minister (Grant), who falls for his pretty secretary (a Monica Lewinsky-ish Martine McCutcheon). Recently jilted Jamie (Firth) is a writer attempting new love with his Portuguese housekeeper, who can't speak a word of English. Hardworking American Sarah (Laura Linney) wants to bang her deliciously young co-worker, while Karen (Emma Thompson) receives a rude shock when

she learns of her husband's (Alan Rickman) fascination for his seductive secretary. Is your head swimming already? Luckily, Curtis' cramming of a host of different stories is never overwhelming, though there is never enough time to become attached to any one particular story thread.

Bill Nighy supplies most of the comic element in this movie as has-been rock star Billy Mack, whose new Christmas single, a remake of Wet Wet Wet's "Love is All Around," is self-admittedly "crap." Martin Freeman and Joanna Page are amusing as two porn movie stand-ins who can't even muck up the courage to kiss each other after spending weeks shooting in compromising positions, while newly-widowed Daniel (Liam Neeson) lends his young stepson Sam (adorable Thomas Sangster) clever advice to win the girl of his dreams. Not all the relationships in *Love Actually* are warming or convincing, though. Gawkily Colin's (Kris Marshall) hitting the sexual jackpot in America (he scores four gorgeous women on his first night on the basis of his accent alone) seems rather unbelievable, while the love triangle between newlyweds Peter and Juliet and their best man, Mark, is simply clichéd and does not seem to go anywhere.

Love Actually boasts a nifty soundtrack, and while Curtis' screenplay is full of last minute airport meetings and soppy Christmas school pageants that you've probably seen a million times before, his balance between comic and dramatic and his ability to juggle a gaggle of characters is remarkable. Look out for the usually uptight Grant doing a Tom Cruise in *Risky Business* impersonation as well as brief yet hilarious appearances from Rowan Atkinson. *Love Actually* will make you horny. It will make you want to pour your heart out to that clueless crush "just because it's Christmas." It will make you laugh and it will make you cry. It will make you fall in love with love. None of these things are necessarily bad, so make sure to treat yourself and a special person to this visual gem this holiday season... see you at the movies!



ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

Student Band Tidaline Takes Conn by Storm

By RACHEL GAINES

STAFF WRITER

To many students here at Conn, the world of MOBROC may not be the most appealing option on the music scene. The acronym is often associated with hard rock, metal, or punk music, which only satisfy the music hunger for one portion of campus. However, MOBROC truly supplies campus with an exceedingly wide range of music, and assuredly something for everyone. For those students in search of the alternative rock scene, they need look no further than Cro's Nest this Saturday at 9:00 where the featured band will be Tidaline.

The group is composed of Micah Weisberg '04 (guitar and back-up vocals), Blake Zahn '04 (drums), junior Erik Rappich '05 (guitar and lead vocals), and sophomore Ken Brown '06 (bass). None of the four guys are drugged out rock stars or egomaniacs. They are normal Conn students who love music. In fact lead singer Erik Rappich even knits in his spare time.

"[We] came together pretty fast," said band spokesman Micah Weisberg. "Blake and I have been playing together in three bands on campus so far. We got the new group of guys together the beginning of the semester. We gelled really well together. Our creative vision is very similar and the work ethic is there."

Despite the extraordinary musical chemistry in the band, musical tastes and interests differ so starkly from band member to band member that Weisberg could not even pick one influence that had touched all four guys.

He did say, however, that the eclectic tastes are a good thing for the band, allowing them to use different styles and genres in their song-writing to keep fans interested and on their toes.

In addition to the upcoming show, Tidaline was recently played on WCNI and also put out their first demo. "[The recording process] was really fast. We've had so much work outside of the band, so it's hard to find time to set aside to record. So we had to do it under a really tight schedule and budget in the barn." The first fifty people at Saturday's show will receive free copies of the self titled demo.

No band, even one as talented as Tidaline, can succeed without some help and support from the community. Bands at Conn are fortunate enough to have MOBROC to supply that help. "Being in MOBROC is a really cool thing," says Weisberg. "It really comes down to having that practice space [in the barn]. It lets us play as loud as we want."

"[MOBROC] is a very good club to have on campus," he adds. "Being in a band...I would recommend it. It's kind of like being on a sports team." Being a member of a band is a great experience in and of itself, and inclusion in the MOBROC scene only adds to the feeling of community for musicians on campus.

"I think it could be even bigger and better in the future too. A lot of people don't know enough about

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Micah Weisberg '04, Ken Brown '06, Erik Rappich '05 and Blake Zahn '04 comprise Tidaline, an up and coming rock band on campus. They will be performing in Cro's Nest at 9pm on Saturday, November 22. (Stintson)

Salt Dancers Weaves Poetic Story Go Fish: More Than a Card Game

By JULIA WISBACH

STAFF WRITER

"When I turned four, my father taught me the salt dance: he sprinkled a line of salt on the living room floor...and told me to leave everything I feared or no longer wanted behind that line."

So begins Ursula Hegi's *Salt Dancers*, the moving tale of one woman's journey through memories tinged with hatred, sadness, and love in search of long hidden truth.

Without ever knowing the reason, Julia awakens one morning to find that her mother has gone. She is not even ten years old when her mother departs, leaving in her wake a trail of anger and betrayal that will eventually destroy the family she had abandoned. In the years that follow, Julia witnesses her father's drinking worsen until he is no longer a loving father, but an abusive man whom she grows to fear and despise. Julia never finds out what went so horribly wrong, and no amount of questioning brings her closer to an answer. She grows up taunted by the memories of happiness her family had once known.

When Julia leaves for college she vows never to return, believing that the pain of her childhood will fade with distance and time. She later learns that no matter how far she runs or how many years pass, she remains haunted by her childhood. Even as she excels in her professional life, her personal life is shadowed by the trauma of her past. Slowly, the semblance of comfort she has worked so hard to find begins to disintegrate as her fear of becoming a parent causes her to lose a husband, and her combined inability to trust or be alone results in a string of failed romances.

Then at the age of forty-one, Julia finds herself unmarried, pregnant, and surprisingly determined to keep her child. She knows that in order to become the mother her child deserves, she must first face her past and find answers to the questions that plague her. Why had her mother left? Why had her father changed so drastically? And what had she done to deserve his anger? Finally, after a twenty-three year absence, Julia returns to her hometown to confront her father and discover the secrets that had torn her family apart so many years before.

When I first picked up *Salt Dancers* and read the jacket review, I thought that the theme was somewhat melodramatic in a "mid life crisis" sort of way. It was Ursula Hegi's reputation alone that convinced me to read the first page, and that first page convinced me to finish the novel that same night. Despite having a storyline that could easily become a daytime soap, I believed *Salt Dancers*. Hegi is a master at blending joy and sorrow into a complex mixture that accurately resembles life. Her characters are so well crafted that they breathe life into her words, rendering the story real.

Julia's narrative voice in particular is key in portraying what Hegi wants the reader to see. She quickly becomes a three dimensional person whom the reader will learn to love, hate, and above all, understand. Hegi does not have to tell the reader how to feel. Through Julia's voice, the very anguish and grief, hope and love that entrap Hegi's characters also capture her readers.

Salt Dancers is the perfect "rainy day" or "read before bed" book. It is an easy read with believable characters and a plot made interesting by Ursula Hegi's undisputable ability to tell a story. *Salt Dancers* is a poetically written novel that will capture its readers with its poignant depiction of the mixture of failure and triumph that make up life.

After last week's somewhat disappointing sushi experience at Zhang's, my Californian friend was on a mission to satisfy his craving for some quality raw fish. As a connoisseur of this unique style of food, he thought that Go Fish restaurant of Old Mistick Village would be our best bet. We arrived at around 7:30 on a Saturday night and, because we neglected to call ahead and take advantage of priority seating, waited for about an hour before a table became available. Upon entering the restaurant I was immediately impressed with the modern artsy décor, including prints, mobiles, blown glass, paintings, and sculptures, and the spacious interior.

The restaurant had a funky shape, with four distinct areas, including the kitchen, bar, sushi bar, and main dining area, all separated by large glass windows so one can actually watch the food preparations. It is important to note that the restaurant actually has two different menus, one specifically for the sushi bar and then the regular seafood menu as well. We chose to eat in the specific sushi section, which meant that we could choose from over fifty different raw fish options while we waited, guaranteeing a fresh and quality product.



ELIZABETH GREENMAN
Lunch With Liz

Despite the freezing cold weather outside, the restaurant had the AC pumping, so I was inclined to order a steaming cup of New London Clam Chowder to warm me up. It was one of the better chowders I've had since I've been out here, especially with the oyster crackers mixed in. Two other people at the table were feeling the same need for warmth so they both ordered Miso Soup, which on the menu was described as soybean paste soup with tofu, scallion and wakame seaweed. Once again, I was suspicious but they both really enjoyed it - one even drained his in one gulp.

We skipped all the other appetizer options and went straight to the best part: SUSHI. Among the five of us, we ordered fourteen maki-zushi rolls, which came sliced instead of in hand roll form (basically an ice-cream cone shape). Everything that we ordered came beautifully arranged on ornate platters in many shapes and sizes. The variety of ingredients and the resulting medley of distinct colors combined to give the sushi an impressive appearance. The food was almost too good looking to eat, but just almost. We couldn't resist the enticing aromas or ignore our churning stomachs, so everyone dug right in.

My buddy from Cali went all out, ordering 6 different kinds of sushi. He started with Bluefin Sashimi, which was just nicely sliced, and incredibly good tasting, raw tuna. He also got Spicy Hamachi (yellowtail fish), the simple mini Tekka Tuna Rolls consisting of just tuna and rice, Spicy Tuna Rolls, Honolulu Rolls consisting of tuna, avocado, cucumber and sprouts, Yaki Maki Rolls, and concluded with a grand finale of California Rainbow Rolls. All the sushi he ordered looked good and tasted even better, but the California Rainbow put them all to shame. It was by far the most expensive dish we ordered, but it was well worth it. First of all, the rolls were gorgeous because they were so colorful, draped with smoked salmon, avocado, and tuna. Secondly, the taste, with such a unique combination of flavors, was amazing. California Rainbow Rolls are an essential part the sushi experience at Go Fish, even if you only order the sushi to look at it (but you'd be crazy).

I had also ordered Spicy Tuna Rolls, and then shared my friend's orders of Yaki Maki and Sansei Rolls, both of which I would recommend. The Yaki Maki is actually just a California roll with the typical cucumber, avocado and sesame filling, but with smoked salmon instead of crab for the meat. Additionally, the rolls were slightly warmed with sauce on the side, which all added up to unanimous "ooohs" and "aaahhs" around the table. The Sansei Rolls were composed of spicy crab, cilantro, veggies with furikake and sweet Thai-chili sauce: also excellent.

My other friend ordered the generic California Rolls, which contained crab, cucumber, avocado and sesame in them, a tried and true original. He also got the more exotic Bagel Roll, which had smoked salmon, cream cheese, pico de gallo and cucumber wrapped up in the middle of the rice and seaweed. I liked this particular sushi for its uniqueness, but questioned how authentic it really was with the addition of cream cheese. The fact that we downed all the aforementioned nine varieties of sushi rolls, well over a hundred dollars worth, in less than ten minutes, is a testimony to the incredible taste and the novelty of a distinct cuisine. The grand total might sound expensive, but honestly, after eating there I'm sure you would agree it is worth every cent.

I think sushi is sometimes mistakenly perceived as an acquired taste or a food type too overwhelmingly complicated for the inexperienced, but at Go Fish, anyone can partake in this delicacy quite easily. The menu has helpful descriptions of what all the sushi contains and the wait staff is also quite knowledgeable. Go Fish is a perfect treat for people with adventurous tastes and no budget restrictions. They are located at 27 Coogan Boulevard in Old Mistick Village, just down I-95. Do yourself a favor and call ahead for priority seating at (860) 536-2662, especially on weekend evenings. Whatever you do, don't forget to order the California Rainbow, Yaki Maki, and Sansei Rolls because otherwise you would simply be missing out on the best that Go Fish has to offer.

• Have a favorite restaurant that you think Liz should
• Lunch at? Give us a call at x2812, we'll make sure
• she eats well.

Jump Off The Bandwagon! Jeff, This One's For You

At least twice a week I get into an argument with my good friend Jeff about what makes music good. He argues for the complexity of the writing and the virtuosity of the musician-



EMILY MORSE
Jump Off the Bandwagon!

ship. I argue that energy and emotion play a huge part in the quality of a song or a record, and that simplicity isn't necessarily the downfall of music. This is why I like things like punk and bluegrass, and Jeff likes opera metal and j-pop, while both of us like rock, but not for the same reasons. I believe that a combination of both simple and complex ideas can make a song really stand-out. The following bands seem to have this concept in mind.

Spitalfield Remember Right Now Victory 2003
www.spitalfield.net

A common complaint that I hear about punk rock is that it's too pattern-based and simplistic. Spitalfield, a Chicago-based pop-emo band with a hardcore background, are breaking that mold. At times they're thrashing guitars and at other times they are slowed down and melodic. The musicians are skilled, exhibiting their many years in the Windy City's music scene, and the band attacks more complex and diverse ideas than most punk records embrace, even showing variety from song to song. Spitalfield's lyrics are simple, yet touching and clever, and never cliché. Spitalfield has also mastered the use of many hackneyed

musical ideas. Where some bands insert random background shouts into every song for the sake of contrast, Spitalfield know exactly where they belong, along with vocal distortion and repetition. *Remember Right Now* is a quasi-punk record with pop sensibilities and no sign of pop conformities, closely related to Jimmy Eat World, but nowhere near New Found Glory. The band uses their drummer well. Not only does he break away from tempting simplicity, he does great drum fills and uses strategically placed xylophone on several tracks. The record also features a well-placed cello. Spitalfield doesn't have a formula. Each song is executed with determination to do something creative and exciting, placing *Remember Right Now* among the best punk records to have come out this year.

Hard-Ons Very Exciting! Bomp! Records 2003
www.bomp.com/hardons.html

I have to admit - I was very skeptical about the Hard-Ons. Their name in combination with the grotesquely vomit-inducing cover art gave me the impression that I was about to hear the worst record ever to make it to press. However,

being the type of person that always gives the little guy a chance, I gave it a listen, and the Hard-Ons managed to surprise me. Their brand of music is a mid-nineties alt-rock meets typical punk blend with male vocals ranging from a growling, gravelly scream to an average sing-along croon to even a background falsetto. The band is guitar-driven, and while the basic melodies are fairly simple, the solos add a little flavor. The band's one severe downfall is their identity crisis. On one track they manage to go from Slip-knotesque to Beatles-with an edge. While this does show the ability to take one idea in several directions,



it lacks coherency and can deter a listener not accustomed to these polar extremes. The Hard-Ons have the creativity necessary to make an interesting record, and while they do utilize this creativity to some extent on *Very Exciting!* there is plenty of room for growth. In short, when the Hard-Ons are good, they're very, very good...and when they are bad, they're awful. If you're up for a challenge, or just something completely off the wall, give this record a try.

Volovan Volovan Lakeshore Records 2002
www.volovan.com

Before I heard Volovan, I'd gone through about eight records that sucked. I was at my breaking point. In fact, I had concluded that if one more record that sucked hit my ears, I was going to throw it out my window.

Fortunately for all parties involved, Volovan does not suck. Volovan are a rock quartet whose music falls somewhere between Ben Folds without a piano and the Beatles. I have no idea where their lyrics fall, as they sing entirely in Spanish. What I can tell you is that whatever they're saying, it sure as hell sounds pretty and upbeat. Volovan's instrumentation exhibits a little adventure, as they use instruments not usually conventional to this genre of rock (for example: tuba, string arrangements, trumpet, xylophone, and electric piano). Volovan's music paints a picture, even for the non-Spanish speaker (like myself) with talented players, beautiful melodies, and interesting percussion. Looking at the liner notes, one learns that the musicians change instruments from song to song - this certainly must lend itself to Volovan's creative, evolving sound. This record is the type that crosses cultures and genres - and is ready to lift your mood.



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Professor Eugene Gallagher Commended by State of Connecticut

By MAKENA CAHILL

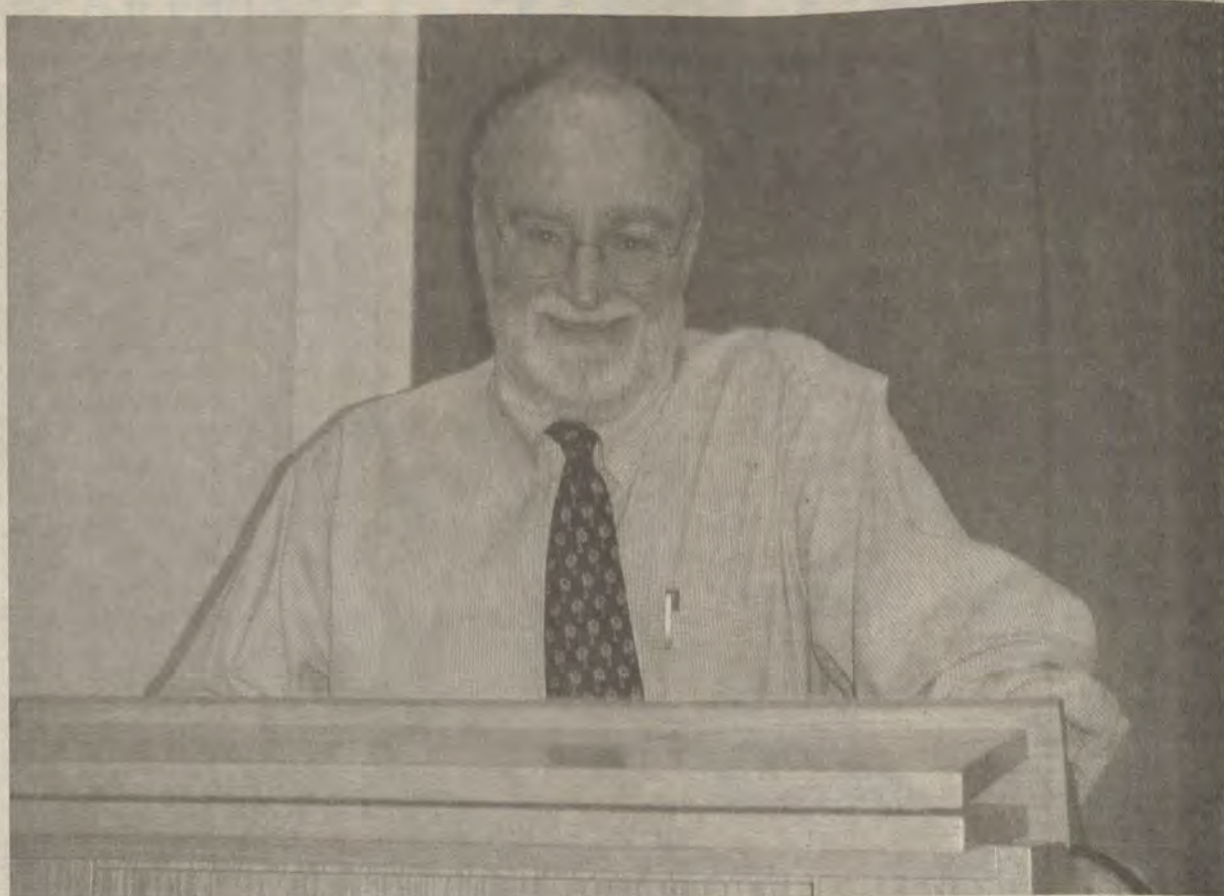
STAFF WRITER

When asked why he thought Professor Eugene Gallagher was a good teacher, Jesse Fink replied, "He's not a good teacher, he's the BEST teacher there is." This was pretty much the general consensus among students who have taken his classes. Shayna Crowell, who took Religion 101 as a freshman, said that, "Professor Gallagher brings something to the subject of religion. He is interesting and enthusiastic, and you can really tell that he loves what he does." Professor Gallagher isn't one to talk about himself. In his opinion he doesn't do anything special, but just tries his hardest to be attentive and connect with students, helping them gain a deeper understanding and appreciation for religious studies. He describes religion as something, "that is contemporary and always changing... vital, vibrant and alive." A deep knowledge of it is imperative for students who want to become "interpreters of what is going on in the world in which they live."

These are all reasons why Professor Gallagher was chosen as the Connecticut Professor of the Year by the Council for Advancement and Support of Education and the Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching. He was nominated by Amy Moulton, a Connecticut College graduate of the class of 1998, who credits him with helping students who wouldn't ordinarily be interested in religious studies, "to find themselves excited about a class on things that they never would have dreamed of studying." The Professor of the Year, which was established in 1981, is awarded to teachers who put outstanding effort and dedication into teaching, make a deep commitment to their students and utilize innovative teaching methods.

Professor Gallagher is a specialist in the history of religions, new religious movements, and religious terrorism. He has written and co-authored many books, such as *Why Waco? Cults and the Battle for Religious Freedom*, *Divine Man or Magician? Celsus and Origin on Jesus*, and *Expectation and Experience: Explaining Religious Conversion*. After September 11th, he was instrumental in helping students understand the religious motives behind the attack, and even taught a class called "Religion and Terrorism," which nearly 200 students attended.

Professor Gallagher accredits a large portion of his success as a teacher to the students that he gets to work with at Conn. "The students at CC are wonderfully talented. I enjoy working with students who have a real capacity for working hard, for engaging in serious study, and who relish what they are doing in the classroom. I count myself lucky to be able to work with them," he says. With almost 200 students taking his Religion 101 course every year, he gets plenty of opportunities to make an impact, and some would say that he's almost developed a "cult following" of his own.



Eugene Gallagher, Professor of Religion and specialist in the history of religions, new religious movements, and religious terrorism, was recently recognized as the Connecticut Professor of the Year. (Wilson)

Women's Center in Freeman Renovated



Members of the Feminist Majority Leadership Alliance Buzzy Napoli, Lauren Lovett, Rachel Chase, and Nicole Adams participated in the restoration of the women's center, currently located in Freeman 100. (Pace)

By ABBI KUCH

NEWS EDITOR

The Connecticut College chapter of the Feminist Majority Leadership Alliance, also referred to as FemMaj, recently renovated their branch of The Women's Center in Freeman 100. Four members of the club painted, organized the room's furnishings, and accenting the space with carpet. The renovations took place this past Friday from roughly nine in the morning until 4:30 in the afternoon.

The group desires the support and attention from the College campus as a whole, including input as to ideas for various usage of the room and decorating contributions.

Rachel Chase, President of the FMLA at Conn and head facilitator of the Every Women's Gender Resource Center, commented, "Needless to say, we were really proud! Some people poked their heads into the room and helped and we are all really grateful."

The organization's goal is to establish a grassroots center "designed to be a celebratory and informational space" according to Chase.

The group members hope to become more knowledgeable in areas of sexual assault and violence and they intend to utilize their knowledge by assisting the campus community. The group plans on displaying the message that they are open to helping their peers in addition to offering information, giving advice and distributing contraceptives. The space is intended for the use of other organizations and groups of students who wish to gather in a supportive environment.

Chase added, "We want to act as an ally for students in the judicial issues of sexual assault."

Four students partook in the renovations of Freeman 100. Nicole Adams, Treasurer and Co-Chair of the Women's Center, Buzzy Napoli, Intercollegiate Coordinator, Lauren Lovett, Vice President and Secretary, and Rachel Chase dedicated their Friday to a cause each feels very strongly about.

In order to adequately supply the women's center with necessary staff and resources, the group needs more members. The college supplied the FMLA with two thousand dollars to initiate the women's center, yet the students are battling a lack of members and a time crunch. The group intends to reach out to more than just women across campus and Chase is adamant about exhibiting the group's desire to utilize its power and embrace its potential. "This space can be whatever the students want it to be and the only thing limiting us is our energy. We really need people to jump in and help. Our club is really small, but we want to address the diverse needs of the campus, in order to do this we need

more members."

Lovett stressed that the center is seeking help in designing t-shirts, painting a mural, and contributing to the space with other artwork. She added that they are "committed to reestablishing the Connecticut College Women's Center into a vibrant, active space to serve as a base for a variety of initiatives."

The Feminist Majority Foundation was founded in 1987 and the focus of the organization is to empower women "economically, socially, and politically," according to the Connecticut College Website. This group is intended for those who are fervent about supporting such a cause, and both women and men are encouraged to participate.

FMLA has sponsored such activities as "Love Your Body Week," a panel discussion on athletic body images, and movie night with Professor Mab Segrest, in addition to their contributions to re-opening and painting the Women's Center as well as numerous other contributions to the community and state.

Levitt added, "Overall, we look to foster a celebratory and informational space open to the entire student body. We are committed to a vision of the Women's Center as both a safe space for students to talk about and explore issues of gender and sexuality and as a base of political activities to work on the deconstruction of sexism through the empowerment of people of all genders, within our society and especially within our school. We are deeply committed to transforming the Women's Center into a useful space, and we know that we will be even more successful if we can build a wider foundation of support."

Napoli, acting inter-collegiate liaison added, "There is a lot of information out there and many opportunities, but unless we have a larger and more active group, it will be difficult to reach our full potential."

The FMLA is devoted to more than just issues regarding sex, and the members have put forth time and thought into relevant issues and goals. The women's center is currently in the works, but the members of FMLA hope that the space will be regarded as a safe haven and a useful environment for all students, those involved in the Feminist Majority Leadership Alliance, and others who are merely interested in reaping the benefits of the women's center.

Added Chase, "A lot of people are afraid of the 'F' word and associate feminism with radical endeavors. Attitudes change when we share the definition of feminism according to the FMLA. According to the FMLA, Feminism is, 'the policy, practice, and advocacy of political, economic, and social equality for women.' It is as simple as that."

Remember:

You've still got until **Monday** to turn your "In" List ballots (located on the following page if you lost yours) in either to our office or to ccvoice@conncoll.edu

Have a question or need a new ballot?
Call us at x2812

Dan Flynn Sparks Controversy on Conn's Campus

continued from page 1

America." The group was passing out pie on plates with Leftist quips written out on them. To the question "Want some pie?" even College Republicans said yes.

"I took some pie," said sophomore Trish said with a grin. "It was good pie, I enjoyed it."

The table CCLeft swarmed about also had fliers that they inserted into the hands of passerbys very eagerly. Behind CCLeft, it was easy to see that the Nest was very full, even at 7:15.

Owen Kloter, Vice-Chair of College Republicans, introduced Flynn to the audience, adding that the CR "would so graciously like to thank CCLeft for the refreshments!"

Flynn opened his remarks with an unusual tactic, asking students to call out names of "well-known liberals." Ironically, it took some coaxing to have the audience call out names at first, but eventually Howard Dean, Hillary Clinton, Al Gore, and even Jerry Garcia, to chuckles of laughter, were named. But Flynn had reason to use this tactic. "Aside from some minor differences, most of the people mentioned are virtually identical to, say, President Bush," cautioned Flynn. "My book is called *Why the Left Hates America*—I'm NOT saying liberals. It is more Gore Vidal than Al Gore."

An energetic speaker, Flynn used no notes, and spoke easily to the college audience, respecting that the students in the room were more against him than with him, and knowing that he had to be provocative to appeal to them. He spoke at length about Leftist activity in academia, towards the nation, and in Hollywood, and took heat from the audience in doing so.

Once Flynn's speech was underway, he thrice invited people clogged in the back of the room and the doorway to move forward, and sit along the sides of the stage, or against the walls around the stage.

To enhance his point, Flynn brought along visual and audio media. Three items were of particular note. Flynn held up the cover of a University of Wisconsin magazine, in which a student of color had been cut and paste in with a group of Caucasian students, highlighting academia's desperate longing to appear multi-cultural. For Flynn, this incident illustrates the "fraud diversity" rampant on college campuses "Real diversity is diversity of ideas and diversity of viewpoints." While speaking of academia, Flynn expressed that "the kind of diversity you get at a place like CC, or any liberal arts college in the country, seeks to have a faculty that looks like the UN, but with a mindset of a San Francisco coffee house," and also called attention to the fact that politically conservative faculty are outnumbered by liberal faculty more than 10 to one on most college campuses.

The second particularly interesting media, Flynn played several audio clips of protesters demonstrating against the Iraq War, 47 of which he had recorded at protests. "A lot of people said the same crazy things," said Flynn. "These [people] are not the second coming of Einstein." Flynn also mentioned banners reading "We support our troops when they shoot their officers." Said Flynn, "That's pretty sick."

Showing a scene from Monty Python's "Life of Brian" was arguably the most effective of Flynn's examples. This scene showed how the People's Front of Judea, in plotting to rebel against the Romans, disregarded all that Rome had done for them, and in doing so drew parallels to the Left's relationship with America. As Flynn sees it, "America has its own 'People's front of Judea.'"

The scene so enraged some members of CCLeft that, when lights were restored, the audience and the speaker found one individual from CCLeft front and center, standing with his back toward Flynn. The individual loudly refused repeated invitations to sit down and respect those he was blocking, those who paid Flynn to speak, and Flynn himself. The individual had been disruptive earlier in Flynn's speech as well, but shortly after a Campus Safety Officer attempted to intervene, Flynn offered "Officer, if he wants to stand up there and make a fool of himself, that's fine. I don't want to make a scene for anyone," and Flynn moved to a section of the stage where he could be seen.

CCLeft, whose noisome and juvenile obstructions of Flynn's speech provoked even CCLefters to call for reason and to "get over yourself," also invited Flynn to pronounce "Folks, if you want to see the Left in action,

there it is." Flynn's comment was met with cheers and applause from some audience members.

Several more members of CCLeft stood and turned their backs shortly thereafter, as Flynn was being actively heckled by the audience and forced to deal with questions that were not on the topic of his discussion.

Afterwards, Flynn mentioned that he could not have asked for a better prop to help make the point of his address, referring to the "spastic outbursts" and attempted "hijack" of the event.

Flynn began his speaking engagement at 7:30, spoke for nearly an hour and a half - longer than usual due to frequent verbal interjections from an inflamed audience. When making an argument for what America has done for the world, Flynn pointed out that the adolescents in Tiananmen Square "were not quoting from Mao's Little Red Book. They were quoting the Declaration of Independence." For emphasis, he added "What was unique about America at that time [of the founding], ... [was that the] founders planted the germ of freedom and democracy, and it spread to around the country."

At the close of his speech, Flynn quoted Jeanne Kirkpatrick, saying "Americans need to face the truth about their nation . . . no matter how pleasant that truth may be, and I do hope some of you guys take that to heart."

He then spent the next hour answering questions from the audience. At 10:00, after speaking for 2 hours, Flynn invited those who still had questions to approach him as he signed books.

The Q&A, for all of the tough questions for Flynn, also stimulated students to reflect on the actions of CCLeft. Senior Noah Silverman, eloquent per usual, expressed "I consider myself quite a leftist, and I am ashamed of the way CCLeft conducted itself." Silverman went on to ask Flynn a provocative question on US immigration policy. Someone else told Flynn, the "best thing you said tonight was that the Republicans wouldn't do that if CCLeft had a speaker."

"Buzzy" Napoli asserted "While I disagree with you, I do think it's interesting that you have this perspective and that you came tonight. I was really surprised that he didn't support the Iraq War, that was something I didn't expect." However, like many students that night, Buzzy cautioned Flynn away from using childish names to describe those on the Left, or members of CCLeft who Flynn had called moronic. "You would just be more effective if you used more educated language," Napoli, a freshman, told Flynn.

That evening, Flynn quickly sold out of all the books he had brought with him. As he signed them, Flynn answered questions and did not leave Cro's Nest until the last person had been given the chance to ask her question. Mr. Flynn did not leave the campus until 11:00 PM, three hours after he began his speech.

In a message to College Republicans later that evening, Kloter mused, "The turnout was just fantastic, and it really looks like everyone got almost as excited as they did about self-scheduled exams by the numbers that turned out to see Mr. Flynn. So thanks to everyone again for coming...and making this a really memorable event."

Flynn's remarks were forefront in the minds of CC students even on Thursday afternoon, as they chattered about the event before professors began class, three days after the event. As Napoli mentioned, many students were enraged over language Flynn employed to describe Leftist elite Noam Chomsky, others on the Left, and disruptive students. "Part of me is here to give a show," Flynn responded to questions on this subject. "I'm not a punching bag—I'm gonna give back. My nature is not to be a shrinking violet."

One other element about Flynn that students could not get over was the title of his book, which many felt was un-intellectual and a gross generalization. "It's a hard hitting title. But it's also only five words." While speaking afterwards with a student, Flynn said the "nature of a title is that it generalizes, and it's a catch."

For what is often considered a painfully apathetic school, especially in terms of politics, members of the student body have been surprisingly opinionated about this engagement. Jamie, a freshman had "about as much fun as a skin-eating plague..." While Ryan Kelley, also a freshman, said, "It was entertaining...I liked the collision." Sophomore Colin Foote hopes "after tonight ...

continued on page 8

FALL CONCERT: A STORY IN TWO PICTURES



(please specify your favorite in each category,
choose only one)

MOVIES

- Favorite movie (all-time)?
- Favorite movie (in the last year)?
- Favorite character?
- Favorite villain?
- Favorite actor?
- Favorite actress?
- Favorite director?
- Favorite drama?
- Favorite comedy?
- Favorite action movie?
- Favorite romance?
- Favorite sports movie?
- Favorite genre?

TELEVISION

- Favorite show (all-time)?
- Favorite show (current)?
- Favorite character?
- Favorite actor?
- Favorite actress?
- Favorite sitcom?
- Favorite soap opera?
- Favorite channel?
- Favorite news program?
- Favorite series finale?
- Favorite made-for-TV movie?

STAGE

- Favorite play (current)?
- Favorite play (all-time)?
- Favorite character?
- Favorite actor?
- Favorite actress?
- Favorite director?
- Favorite writer?

-Favorite venue?

-Favorite musical?

MUSIC

- Favorite genre?
- Favorite singer (all-time)?
- Favorite singer (current)?
- Favorite song (all-time)?
- Favorite song (current)?
- Favorite group (all-time)?
- Favorite group (current)?
- Favorite album?

SPORTS

- Favorite sport?
- Favorite male athlete (all-time)?
- Favorite male athlete (current)?
- Favorite female athlete (all-time)?
- Favorite female athlete (current)?
- Favorite team (all-time)?
- Favorite team (current)?
- Favorite moment?

BOOKS

- Favorite book (all-time)?
- Favorite book (recent)?
- Favorite author?
- Favorite newspaper, magazine, etc.?
- Favorite male character?
- Favorite female character?

FOOD

- Favorite food?
- Favorite restaurant (local)?
- Favorite restaurant (anywhere)?
- Favorite snack (that you keep in your dorm room)?
- Favorite beverage (alcoholic)?
- Favorite beverage (non-alcoholic)?

FASHION

- Favorite clothing brand?
- Favorite clothing outfit?
- Favorite clothing color?

SHOPPING

- Favorite store (local)?
- Favorite store (anywhere)?

MISCELLANEOUS

- Favorite car?
- Favorite color?
- Favorite city?
- Favorite state?

CONN

- Favorite dorm?
- Favorite outdoor location on campus?
- Favorite department (doesn't have to be your own)?
- Favorite professor?
- Favorite class (one you've taught or taken)?
- Favorite place to eat?
- Favorite meal?
- Favorite sports team?
- Favorite intramural?
- Favorite Camelympics activity?
- Favorite theatrical performance?
- Favorite acapella group?
- Favorite non-acapella performing group?
- Favorite dance performance?
- Favorite literary publication (*Voice*, *Ethos*, *Expose*, etc.)?

ARE WE FORGETTING SOMETHING...?

Please feel free to write in your own categories and choices

Please fill this out, get your friends to fill this out, get your parents to fill this out, get the alumni who lives down the street to fill this out and get them back to us by the end of Thanksgiving break! Thanks!

SGA MINUTES

11/13/03

Attendance
Knowlton was absent.

Student Open Forum
Rick Gropper clarified that the Student Open Forum is a time when students should be able to voice their opinions and the SGA should listen objectively. A statement as to the direction of their concern may be noted at the end of their discussion, and the Assembly may discuss their own concerns after the students at large have voiced theirs.

Approval of Minutes
Minutes from 11/6 were approved.

Officers' Reports
Bonnie Prokesch brought up that the Fall Concert is Saturday night and tickets may be purchased at the Info. Desk.
Alexa Lynch and Caitlin Greeley presented Res. Life's ideas about the smoking policy.
The Res. Life Committee has suggested various locations around campus through extensive evaluation where smoking receptacles may be located. These suggested locations thus far include: between Wright and Park, Hamilton and Lambdin, Morrison, Larrabee and KB, Marshall and Park, Windham, Laz and Warnshuis, Smith and Burdick, the Blackstone, Plant and Branford area, between Knowlton and Harkness, Freeman and JA. The proposed cost is around \$500 per receptacle and the idea of placing benches near some of the receptacles has been brought up. The specific receptacle that is being considered fits into the college's "sight vocabulary" ...meaning it aesthetically meshes with the school.

Sarah Schlessinger asked if the "20 ft. from dorms" law included academic buildings as well.
Rick Gropper responded that the law pertains to residential and work places, but the SGA's main concern is with residential areas.

Philip Gedeon asked about the exclusion of River Ridge and Abbey House.
Alexa Lynch will look into specialty housing.

Pete Lelek questioned the placement of the receptacle near Branford, Burdick and Smith, as it seems that smokers congregate in different areas there. In addition, Blackstone residents typically don't smoke.

Dean Miltone mentioned that Blackstone may not be substance free indefinitely.

Alex Schoenfeld noted that geographically this receptacle plan seems to work well, but it may not necessarily be where people smoke. They seem to smoke right outside the door.

Alexa Lynch responded that the plan aims to keep students away from the dorms because of the health concerns.

Alex Sandman asked more about punishments for smoking.
This committee does not have the authority to suggest or state punishments.

Sarah Schlessinger asked if weather, namely rain, was taken into account when determining these locations.

Kiera McFadden-Roan brought up that there is a place behind KB where many people smoke, and they will not stop smoking there simply because the receptacle is placed somewhere else. Would it be possible to place smaller receptacles, even the simple coffee cans, in discreet locations where smokers tend to congregate?

Caitlin Greeley noted that the position of the receptacles isn't necessarily where people must smoke, but where we would like them to throw out their butts.

Nick Iyengar commented that coffee cans don't cost any money and do the job fine.

Alexa Lynch commented that the coffee cans were a temporary installment, as this is a state law, and the receptacles will be permanent.

Pete Lelek asked about the model of the receptacle, and if Physical Plant had been able to evaluate them and how easy it would be to empty them.

Alexa Lynch responded that yes, Physical Plant has been involved in this process.

These suggestions will be clarified and brought back to the Assembly.
Constitution of the Conn. College Hip-Hop Club

Dushane Ramsay explained that the club would hold Freestyle Workshops, analyze movies about Hip-Hop culture, and possibly put together some sort of festival of bands, among others things.

Alexa Lynch asked if there would be any competitions.
Yes, there may be some competitions.

Erin Riley asked how many people were interested do far.
There are two full sheets of names.

Andy Ober asked if it was customary to win a "majority" of the votes instead of a "plurality," in a constitution

Usman Sheikh noted that it should actually read "simple majority".

Tomas Carey noted that under Amendments it should read simple majority as well. Friendly amendments to change terms.

Constitution is passed.

Pete Lelek mentioned that the Finance Committee will be bringing several amendments to the C-Book next week.

Committee Report
Jason Allababidi brought up that MDC met and there is a subcommittee dealing with educational diversity. This subcommittee would like to know about students' needs. There will be an open dinner on 12/2 to discuss this. Jason also mentioned that there will be a large MDC meeting on 11/19 that is open to everyone to discuss Strategic Planning. More females and minority students are encouraged to attend. In addition, only two members of the Pluralism Issues Project showed up to the meeting last week.

Holly Simpson mentioned that Health Services will be handing out a survey about student satisfaction. More males are needed to be on this committee.

SSTF Official Vote
The SSTF will be meeting with some faculty members and the individual in charge of the original survey before writing up their report. The report will then come back to SGA.

Tom Carey asked if the Open Forum suggestions were written down and would be taken into account.

Yes, all of them.

A majority of the Assembly voted for Option One.

Alex Schoenfeld asked for any input for the Dining Services Committee.

Tom Carey has seen people walking out with real mugs recently because the paper cups were taken away. In addition, the plastic Daily CONNtact cases are missing from Freeman and JA.

Philip Gedeon asked why the Cro menu was so limited after a certain time. He couldn't get a sandwich past 10:30 PM.

Bonnie Prokesch noted that the Committee formerly known as HPRR is currently reviewing the social host policy. Shelly Metivier and Anne Hopkins-Gross are open to changing the policy.

Pete Lelek suggested changing the title of social host to something else.

Old Action Items
Philip Gedeon would like a follow up on the idea of a change machine.
Rick Gropper will email Scott McEver again.
Tom Carey asked about an update on call boxes.
Rick Gropper mentioned that the call box for Unity is currently being installed, while the orders fro Morrison and Smith are in progress.
Thomas McEvoy requested an update on telemarketers calling student numbers.

Tom Carey noted that he had asked about that, and a letter was sent by the Communications Issue Project.

Rick Gropper noted that the Cro Snack Shop will hopefully be back to regular hours after Thanksgiving.

New Action Items
Alexa Lynch brought up that the third floor ceiling in Freeman leaks and the Blackstone third floor bathroom leaks onto the second floor hallway. In addition, some students have expressed concern that when work is being done in their dorms they don't know about it, for example, the new Larrabee bathrooms.

Colin Foote will bring this issue to the Physical Plant Committee.
Sarah Schlessinger asked about a water cooler for the Laz kitchen.
Rick Gropper responded that this should go to the Dining Services Committee, but there is a possibility that Laz needs to buy one.

Andy Ober asked about why email has been so slow.

Rick Gropper mentioned that IS had just sent out an e-mail about this issue. Students are leaving too many of their messages on the server instead of downloading them onto their computer through Outlook Express.

Alex Schoenfeld brought up the idea of putting a cap on the amount of emails one may have in their account.

Usman Sheikh brought up that some students don't own laptops or computers and they should be able to access their email through the website. Maybe an update is needed.

Philip Gedeon would like better TV channels, and sometimes they are out.

Nick Iyengar noted that the editors of the College Voice need a new computer.

Pete Lelek responded that they need to go through the Finance Committee, and they need an audit.

Old Business
Alex Sandman asked about Coffee Grounds becoming a Club.
Tom Carey noted that they are meeting next weekend but for personal reasons they have not been able to work on their constitution recently.

New Business
Amendment to C-Book regarding HDC (House Diversity Coordinator) position

P. 38 in C-Book under F, number 3. Jason Allababidi and Alexa Lynch do not feel that their positions are well enough equipped to oversee the position of HDC. They have spoken to Sarah Patch, Area Coordinator for North Campus, and she would like to chair the HDC Committee. Jason and Alexa would like to remain involved with the HDC position.

Holly Simpson suggested either Jason or Alexa alternate attending meetings because it is important that the SGA remain linked to this position.

Eddie Slade and Sarah Schlessinger agreed.

Alex Schoenfeld, Pete Lelek and Jill Peters noted the importance of the SGA remaining connected to this position. Maybe a Senator could sit in on the HDC meetings. The SGA needs retain access to important decisions.

Jason Allababidi noted that right now regardless of whether we are there or not, everything the HDC's do is through Sarah Patch

Eddie Slade noted that the HDC position was created in response to an issue, and we need to continue to treat this issue with respect and attention.

Alexa Lynch noted that after this year, HDC's will be selected through some sort of application process.

Eddie Slade asked what the HDC's have done so far in meetings.

Jason Allababidi responded that they have been asked to put up things in dorms that they think will promote diversity. Theoretically things that HDC's are doing will come back to the SGA anyway, as the HDC sits on House Council which is directly linked to SGA through the dorm's Senator.

Pete Lelek brought up that last year part of the reason that the position was created this way was so that the SGA would be able to bring issues to the HDC.

Amendment was tabled.
Oxfam

Rick Gropper noted that Oxfam, an organization raising millions of dollars to help the homeless and hungry, will be sponsored by the SGA. Sign-ups to donate a dinner on Thursday, 11/20 will be on 11/17-11/19. Half of the money raised will go to a New London soup kitchen. Last year we donated 766 meals and this year we would like to donate 1,000 meals.

Erin Riley asked if students could donate more than one meal.

Rick Gropper noted that we are working on being able to do that, as well as increase the amount of money donated per meal, but this will not happen this year.

Announcements
Holly Simpson invited everyone to the La Unidad conference this weekend.
Sarah Schlessinger brought up that Abbey House is having a HELL dinner Saturday night.
Jim Folger for suggestions for the Strategic Plan.
Andy Ober brought up that Dan Flynn, author of "Why the Left Hates America" will be speaking.
Thomas McEvoy invited everyone to the Harkness TNE.
Tom Carey invited all to a HUGE hip-hop, turn table party in about 2 weeks.

Cell Phone Tower Still in Limbo

continued from page 1

phone reception and general service. The tower would also gear the campus for anticipated advancements in cell phone technology. One company submitted a proposal for a tower that would enable any one on campus to watch television through a mobile device. Furthermore, the tower would serve as an additional source of income for the College. In fact, many College and University campuses around the country have cell phone towers on site. Profit is obtained through a monthly lease that collaborating company has to pay to the school. "The idea that companies wanted to establish such a scenario with the College in order to avoid paying property taxes is not true; in addition to paying a monthly lease, the company at hand will be taxed as well," Carpenter clarified.

"I think it's a good idea because it will help the school's endowment," stated Holly Bawden, class of 2006. "I don't think that it will be a noticeable obstruction." John Cary, class of 2005, noted to the contrary, "I think it's unnecessary; there are other changes that Conn should be focused on making."

A decision as to whether the cell phone tower will be built, and if so, which corporate contractor will obtain service rights, should be made in upcoming months.

Student Support Spurs Exam Vote

continued from page 1

faculty members to hear their input on the self-scheduled exam issue.

Some faculty members conveyed wariness towards self-scheduled exams, which they mainly attribute to the academic dishonesty that has occurred on campus (this belief can be validated by statistical evidence from the College's judicial system).

In response to this crucial factor, SGA President, Rick Gropper, noted, "As outlined in [the SSTF's] presentation, Option 1 (leave exams as they are) includes a three pronged educational component that will hopefully help to alleviate the cheating issue."

The SSTF's next plan is to present the feedback from students and faculty to the Academic Administrative and Procedures

Committee (AAPC), one of two academic-based committees of the College that is composed of both students and faculty. The AAPC will then review the SSTF's report, hold a faculty open forum on self-scheduled exams, and ultimately bring a recommendation to the FSCC.

The final step in the process is for the FSCC to review the AAPC's presentation and bring it to the faculty for a final vote. Rick Gropper notes, "The FSCC is not in favor of completely eliminating self-scheduled exams, but feels that something must be done to ensure the effectiveness of the system."

The campus community should be informed of the final decision on self-scheduled exams by February of the 2004 academic year.

Homeland Security Chief Visits CGA

continued from page 1

"This generation will lift a dark cloud of violence from our world," Ridge spoke directly to the hearts of the cadets. "And the Coast Guard has set the tone."

Secretary Ridge spoke of terrorism, "civilization's collective shame," of the growth of information technology in relation to DHS, communication with business and the private sector, and also allowed himself to give a thoughtful response to a cadet's question on the Patriot Act. The Secretary compared it to a Grand Jury, which he pointed out is always very secretive. "There's been a lot of controversy, but the US Patriot Act, I think, has been very, very effective. But we will never forsake our liberty for our security."

"We keep hearing in the media that there are all these problems with the US Patriot Act against our civil liberties," said Ridge. "As I like to ask people, which part bothers you the most? I'm very comfortable with the Patriot Act. I'm very comfortable with the job John Ashcroft has done. If it didn't work, I'd say 'Send it back to the toolbox.'"

At that point, Ridge saw the opportunity to launch another small joke: He said, "Now I'm starting to sound like Ross Perot!" And in his best Ross Perot impression as he shook his finger, "Send it back to the toolbox!"

Only several other students from Connecticut College were able to attend the event, and they all offered very positive feedback in response to the engagement. The entire event lasted only an hour and a quarter.

It was not the first time a member of the President's cabinet has visited the Academy recently. Just a few months ago, in May, the President himself was the key-note speaker at Commencement. Although other senior-level cabinet members have spoken, Secretary Ridge is clearly a favorite. Cadets said they cannot wait to have him return.

Dan Flynn Sparks Controversy on Conn's Campus

continued from page 6

people are going to go home and are going to start a real Democrats club that represents educated liberal ideas," because he was so maddened by the behavior of some present. On the whole, Maxwell Housman sums up well what many people thought, regardless of whether they agreed with Flynn. "I thought it was great

that our campus finally has some real diversity where another side of the political spectrum that isn't usual seen on campuses was seen and heard."

The College Republicans feel as though they have lived up to their motto "Make a difference" once again. Next semester, the club hopes to bring to speakers to campus.

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TAYLOR CUNNINGHAM • REBEL YELL

All the earnestly written letters to the editor about the removal of forks from the dining halls for a day in remembrance of Black Solidarity Day have encouraged me to speak about a gloomy moment in my life that I have internalized and kept secret for far too long. Sometime—probably around mid-October 2001—the educational Mecca of the Western world, Connecticut College, fell. Did the professors go on strike? No. Did Claire come back and in an act of defiance bring the gym ceiling down on the women's volleyball team? Guess again. Did the Goth hordes conquer New London? I wish. It was in fact, on that date that the last of the 'black bowls' was stolen from the Harris Dining Refractory. Yet, the campus community is in full denial of such a tragedy. No flags are lowered in remembrance. No midnight vigils are held. Everyone continues on their days using small ceramic bowls as if the black ones never existed. How could an entire close-knit community forget the planned and systematic extermination of an entire form of tableware? Before my time is up at Conn and I have to get serious and get a job, I must have the truth be told.

For those unlucky souls who never got to set their eyes upon these miraculous gifts from God, no words can fully describe the bowls' importance to the college, but I will try as any humble mortal, such as myself, can. To simply say they were big is an insult. It was the perfect circumference combined with the magical magnetic ability to keep all salad fixins from spilling over the



plastic is still OK to microwave, Comrade Hartnett's entire bodily system has been poisoned. His skin has become acutely sensitive to direct sunlight, which has left him locked in his self-created cage of darkness. Having the toxic plastic flowing through his veins has tragically rendered him allergic to chocolate and water. So so so sad.

I am just one man, who has far too little time left to make a change. I put the responsibility on posterity to continue the memory of the black bowls and I hope that one day that the criminals who took them will realize how much they've hurt us and will return them back to us to share in celebration.

STATE OF THE VOICE ADDRESS

BEN MORSE • LONELY AT THE TOP

from the way the *Voice* has been the past few years. When Claire was in her final few years as President, it was easy to be primarily a news-based paper because there was always plenty of financial and political controversy and intrigue to report on. When President Fainstein took over, there was still a good year or so of stories on the transitions we could milk. As the new administration became comfortable, campus news, while still a presence (it always will be), lost some of the urgency and excitement of previous years. Our predecessors tried to fill the void while keeping us a news-centric paper with things like the addition of a National News section last year, bringing in stories from the Associated Press on national and international issues.

At the beginning of this year, we were faced with a choice: try to find a way to remain a news-centric paper or try something new; we chose the latter.

Our new aim has been to serve as a newspaper that still brings you the news of what is happening on your campus, but also to do more fun stuff like the dorm guide, the upcoming "In" list, and a broader mix of op/ed columns with humor mixed in with political and social commentary.

In making this transition from a publication centered mostly around news to one that puts a lot more emphasis on features, we have done our best to maintain a sense of professionalism while having a good time and trying to provide you with the best possible product. Your feedback is key to us performing both these tasks.

Last week, we printed a negative review of a play; we've since received plenty of feedback on it, most of it not so happy. This gives me a good opportunity to expand further upon what we are trying to accomplish as a newspaper.

When we print a review of an event taking place on campus, be it a play, a concert, or whatever, our primary responsibility is to the community at large that will be the potential audience for that event. We offer the opinion of one person who saw the show in order to give people some loose guidance in deciding whether or not to spend their money or time. It's important to note that I said one person's opinion; the byline does not say "By The *College Voice* as a Whole" and we can't send committees of five to give a majority vote on whether or not something was good, we're just giving you what one person thinks, not canon by any means.

The other people we think of when we do reviews are the people in the shows, in particular the ones who plan on pursuing professional careers in the field. For those

people, negative reviews are going to become as much of (if not more of) a fixture in their lives as positive reviews; we hope that by offering constructive criticism, we can help them to avoid more of the former and attract more the latter in their future.

Unfortunately, a group we really can't afford to cater to is people who perform for their own enjoyment, as much as we wish we could (and I personally sympathize, being one of those people). I've heard more than once over the course of the past week that we have no business printing negative reviews because performances here aren't "the real world" and saying bad things about them only discourages people from continuing on with acting, or singing, or dancing, etc. Well, here's the thing: for many of us on the *College Voice*, this is the real world. There is no journalism program at this school, and when I graduate (hopefully) in a few months, I will not have a journalism degree to put on my resume; my work on the *College Voice* will be the best indicator I can give to potential employers of what I can do. For that reason, I try to run the most professional and real world newspaper I can, and when a real world newspaper reviews something, it concerns itself with informing the public number one and helping the performers improve number two; it does not concern itself with making sure everybody in the show stays happy.

For a long time, we only ran positive reviews, and we heard complaints about that as well, though not as emotional as what we've received in the past week. However, if it comes down to a choice between running a professional newspaper and not being the bad guy, I will choose to be the bad guy if that's what it takes.

However, another complaint we heard was not that the review was negative, but that the wording was tactless. Upon reading the review over, I can't help but agree, and that is more the fault of myself and the other editors than the writer. It is our job to make sure that the articles we read are of the most professional manner possible, and in this instance, we failed; we will try harder in the future, thanks to you making us aware of our mistake.

So while I can't promise you every request you make of us will be complied with, we do our best to be /your/ newspaper and give you the best, most professional, and most entertaining publication we can produce. It's something we can only accomplish with your help, so we appreciate every bit.

And if you have a complaint or thought regarding this column, please write a letter to the editor care of ccvoice@conncoll.edu or contact me directly either at

Comedy of Errors: Department, Cast & Crew Work Together to Persevere Through Directing Changes & Challenges

continued from page 4

Learner maximized the time he had at his disposal by having Wexler and the cast themselves running separate rehearsals at the same time as his own and then bringing everybody together and utilizing input and ideas from his entire cast and crew.

"By allowing the cast to almost entirely block the show ourselves, Michael created the same sort of organic, collaborative effort to which 6-week long productions aspire in only a week," said Jeremy Make '05. "There was never an occasion when we felt like we didn't have time to discover and experiment with new ideas. Michael pushed us hard and fast, but never did he hinder our work."

This weekend, after all the changes and hard work, the collaborative efforts of the cast, crew, and multiple directors of *Comedy of Errors* will be on display.

"If I had the option to change anything, I don't think I would," said Sherlock. "We have such a great finished product. Plus, this is a place of learning. This was a good opportunity to learn about collaboration and to just go with the flow."

"This was certainly a situation we as a department have never found ourselves in before, but theater is about situations like this and how you adapt to them, using what you know from past experience to create new ideas and ways of dealing with situations," said Payson. "We're so pleased with everybody who has contributed to this show. Liz was incredible, stepping into an extremely difficult situation and doing a fabulous job. Michael was able to come in at the last second and work so seamlessly with what he was given. Nick, Jefferson, the cast and everybody else involved were just tremendous, we're so proud of them."

At an institution where students are often cited as being unmotivated or whiny and departments are criticized for their inability to act in tough situations, the story of *Comedy of Errors* proves both stereotypes wrong and serves as a model for how we can all deal with the curveballs life throws at us.

Student Band Tideline Takes Conn by Storm

continued from page 5

MOBROC. If people were aware of the creativity and their fellow classmates coming together, bringing their own original stuff, and writing music together..."

Tideline has a promising future. The group hopes to play a few shows over winter break and already has one date scheduled upon return from that vacation at The Pogo Club in Norwich, CT. The show will feature a number of local bands in addition to the Conn quartet.

THE ROOFTOP OF AFRICA

B.J. ODUOR-OWINO & CHAKA ZARANYIKA • A VIEW FROM GAZEBO

continued from page 3

glaciers receding, the dice has already been cast. The evidence of the retreat and the loss of large ice bodies not only on Kilimanjaro but also on Mount Kenya is too convincing that global warming is irreversible in tropical Africa as everywhere else on Earth.

The biggest issue, however, does not just arise from the loss of large ice chunks. Many economies in East Africa are largely dependent on mountain resources. First, loss of those water sources are to affect the livelihoods of both human and wildlife. Most of the rivers from the mountain are harnessed for hydroelectric power. The influx of tourists is just as likely to be stifled. A white-capped tropical peak is simply a phenomenon and with its disappearance, no one might want to look at

it.

Every year, thousands of trees are cleared by unscrupulous environmental vultures. Peasant farmers too have been using toxic fertilizers and chemicals and this affects the environment in a big way. Governments in the region have cashed in on the depletion of mountain forests and this has resulted in the destabilization of the ecology of the area.

The Chagga people of Tanzania saw Kibo as a sign of refuge and strength. The Agikuyu of Kenya regarded Mount Kenya (Kerinyaga) as a sanctuary, a sacred place of worship. With the melting of the ice caps, the writing is on the wall that East African countries are on the threshold of an ecological disaster.

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Mountain Bike Club Up and Riding

By DERYL PACE

STAFF WRITER

Recently approved for funding by the SGA, the Connecticut College Mountain Biking Club is poised to bring its unique sport to campus. Prior to this year Conn lacked a club for individuals interested in this aspect of biking, as there was only a campus cycling club called CCycling that was focused on mostly road racing.

Last year a group of six friends often rode together every week, challenging one another and sharing tips and skills. This year under the leadership of the club's president and founder Joe Ramos '06, this group of friends formed the club and applied to the SGA for funding. Over the course of this semester the club has grown in numbers from its original six to a core group of eighteen individuals. "Hopefully the club will grow even more," Ramos said about the success of the club. "We still have more people interested in joining this spring. A number of them are athletes on other teams and are still busy with their other commitments."

The club is overseen by a board consisting of Joe Ramos as President, Max Comer as Vice President, Adam Romanow as Treasurer, and John Hansen as Public Relations Director. Club dues are set at ten dollars a semester to cover tools, spare parts and publici-



Members of the Mountain Bike Club from left to right are: John Hanson, Neil McGowan, Joe Ramos, Randy Jones, Richard Zbeda, Max Comer, Kevin Spiers, Adam Romanow, Bryn Lloyd-Bollard and Seth Gallagher (front). Members not pictured are Max Bush, Jesse Fink, Danny Bloom, Jim Newton, Bryanne Robson, Jamie Rogers. (Pace)

ty money.

Every Sunday the club meets at noon to depart on a group ride to various local areas. The group's favorite location is Bluff Point State Park, though Miller's Pond is a popular destination as well. Every member of the club also has a phone list members are encouraged to get in touch with each other and go riding throughout the week in smaller groups as well. "I try to go out for a ride about four or five times a week, I usually end up taking other people in the club with me. Everyone knows they can always call me to go for a ride," Ramos said.

The club is open to all riders with all levels of experience, from the newest beginner to the advanced and experienced racer. The club mainly consists of students at this point, but faculty and staff are encouraged to join as well.

In the future the club hopes to expand even more and hopefully start racing in area events. "To do that we would need to gain a sponsorship from a local bike shop first," Ramos stated, "and sometimes those can be hard to find." Nevertheless, the club remains satisfied with its growth so far and is optimistic about the future.

Has Billy Beane Lost the Magic Touch?

continued from page 12

Jermaine Dye, Eric Byrnes and Kotsay to go along with Kieley. Guillen may well depart through free agency, but either way, there is likely to be a platoon going on somewhere in Oakland's outfield in 2004.

I've never been a fan of platoons, whether they take the form of a closer by committee, as Boston disastrously experimented with in 2003, or an outfield by committee. Platoons detract from the day in, day out consistency of a lineup, making it hard for the players involved to perform to their maximum potential on a daily basis.

In addition to the platoon issue, Beane also dealt a quality left-handed pitcher away, something that shouldn't be done lightly. This move leaves the Big Three in place, to go along with the shaky but talented young

gun, Rich Harden, with A's prospect Justin Duchsherer a possible choice to fill the #5 spot in the rotation.

As I see it, the overall effect of these trades has been for the A's to save a modest amount of money, while losing an all-star catcher and a quality lefty, in return for two questionable young outfielders. Maybe Beane will use the money he's saved to go out and buy a quality free agent, possibly to upgrade one of the infield positions. If it were me making the decisions, I wouldn't have pulled the trigger on either one of this week's deals. As far as I'm concerned, with Miguel Tejada all but sure to be departing, the last thing the A's should be doing is giving up offensive production. But hey: Billy Beane's been right in the past, and plus... he probably knows something we don't.

Presto's Perspective: Stream of Consciousness

continued from page 12

campus security policies, I can be written up if I am caught on campus without my ID.

- The Matrix Revolutions is the worst thing I have seen in a while. It didn't bring any closure to the series, and that just makes me angry. I enjoyed Reloaded, but after watching Revolutions, the Wachowski Brothers should have kept the series to one film.

- The Bucs deactivated Keyshawn Johnson this week, and within an hour of my hearing the development both Michael Holley and Michael Smith of the Boston Globe said that the Patriots should trade their two first round picks to get Keyshawn, who would once again thrive under offensive coordinator Charlie Weiss. All I can say to this is, "for the love of God, NO!" Keyshawn is a menace, a clubhouse cancer, and can talk better than he can catch. We have Troy to go over the middle, and should use the two picks to trade up and get Larry Fitzgerald as a deep threat.

- Speaking of the Pats, what were they wearing Sunday night versus the Cowboys? Silver uni's? From where I was, it just looked like they forgot to wash the road uni's after the game in Denver. If Bob Kraft wants a third jersey, he should stick to old school red.

- Texas Tech men's basketball coach Bob Knight called the media profession just "a few steps above prostitution" during a press conference earlier in the week. That hurts coming from one of the top five people in sports that I would like to interview.

- The remaining four: Tiger Woods, George Steinbrenner, Ray Bourque, and Dick Schaap.

- I have decided something, if I am a GM and I want

to build a winning football team, the key to success is a good backup quarterback, the latest trend in the NFL. It started with Trent Dilfer, then Kurt Warner, Tom Brady, Tommy Maddox, Chad Pennington, and Mark Bulger. Now it's Tim Rattay and Brian Griese. What this means is Gus Frerotte should start warming up.

- Nick kind of hit on this topic two weeks ago, but let it be known that there is nothing wrong with either playing or writing about fantasy sports. In other words, I lead the league with a 9-2 record after beating Jasper 154-136 last week.

- We talked about this in Contemporary Issues in Sport last Monday: the notion of college athletes getting paid for participating in their sport. As far as I am concerned this is completely ridiculous, and I would like to hear three good reasons that any intercollegiate athlete should get paid.

- Along the same lines, does anyone else think, LeBron aside, high school kids in the NBA are killing pro basketball?

- Both the Bruins and the Patriots are in first place, and it scares me to death to mention, as well as get excited about, such a thing. And what is more, despite all of their success, I have held to my pact and not written a column about them yet (did anyone out there honestly believe that I would make it this long?).

Now that I have gotten that out of my system, I'm done. After 16 bullets and 1,157 words, I feel as though you have had a good look into the psyche of one Matthew W. Preston. Thanks you for putting up with my stream of consciousness babbling. I hope you liked it. We'll see you in a few weeks.

Women's Cross Country Wraps Up Season

continued from page 12

meet in which they took part. They made Connecticut College proud and will be a pleasure to watch next season. The runners have been told to take a two week rest

without exercise before embarking on a grueling track season which starts in less than two weeks. Coach Bishop will be re-united with most of his young squad as he is the assistant coach for the track team.

Our Editors-In-Chief: Good Wholesome All-American Kids



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INTRAMURAL VOLLEYBALL REPORT

The CCIVL (Connecticut College Intramural Volleyball League) is off and running. For those of you who have not gotten a chance to get down to Luce Field House because of your busy collegiate academic schedule, let me give you a taste of what you have missed and the action to come.

The Janitors managed to pull enough people together to field a team and scrounge up a forfeit victory in their opening game against Windham Basement. The Naked Trojans Forever were able to pull out a close 15-13 win in the first game of their season opening match against Team Larrabee. NTF was able to win the match with a second set victory, which was largely to a flurry of points that were won on by one server. The Shifty Eyed Barbarians opened up their season against The Gangstas. The SEB were able to pull out 2 back to back victories giving them their first victory of the 2003 season.

The SEB were able to harness the momentum from their previous game and string together two wins over NTF, giving them their second victory of the season. The Gangstas were able to battle back from the season opening loss and managed to hand Windham Basement their second loss of the year (they were present for this

one). If you happened to miss the Larrabee/We'll Think Of One Soon match, you missed the hottest match up thus far. Larrabee opened up the match up with a win, which was then countered by a 15-14 victory for WTOOS. Larrabee was able to regroup and pull out a 15-8 victory, securing them the match.

The Janitors started out with a strong first game victory against WTOOS, but it was almost spoiled close game in which WTOOS was beaten 15-12. The Second match of the night shared similar circumstances. Team Larrabee took control early in the first game of their match against Windham Basement, but did not have as easy second game, only defeating them 15-12. The Gangstas were able to pick up their second win of the season as they defeated NTF in two straight sets.

2003 CCIVL Standing:

1	Janitors	2-0 (1.00)
	Shifty-Eyed Barbarians	2-0 (1.00)
3	Gangstas	2-1 (.666)
	Larrabee	2-1 (.666)
5	Naked Trojans Forever	1-2 (.333)
6	We'll Think of One Soon	0-2 (0.00)
7	Windham Basement	0-3 (0.00)

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SPORTS

Stream of
Consciousness

Well, kids, here's the skinny. It's been a long week in which I have found very little motivation to do anything whatsoever. I'm not saying this to beg for sympathy, but I am putting it out there to let you all know that my article had pretty much been the last thing on my mind since I finished last week's Perspective.

In other words, I can honestly say that I have little to say this week. Never fear, however, as, being the trooper that I am, I will go ahead as planned, knowing how the world would suffer not being able to see my



MATT PRESTON
Presto's Perspective

picture on the back page. So, what I have decided to do, rather than throw together 800 words on one bad topic, is write 800 bad words on many different topics.

I know that this is a gimmick column (something I am prone to do from time to time), and that I am also ripping off Providence Journal columnist Bill Reynolds in doing this, but it is something that I have always wanted to try.

What is assembled below is a collection of random thought that I had throughout the time that I was writing this week's column. I am aware that many of them are random, worthless, and probably not all to well thought out. Yet, stick with me through the nonsense of issue 10 of Presto's Perspective, and I promise to do better that next time you see my smiling face on the back page of the College Voice.

- A-Rod for the 2003 AL MVP is the worst idea since he won the award in 2002. No player on a last place team should even get considered for the MVP award. A-Rod may in fact be the best player in the American League, I am not naive enough to debate that fact, but if he were all that valuable, the Rangers would not have been that bad.

- On to the NL MVP... I am tired of hearing that hand-eye coordination is the reason that Barry Bonds has become the most prolific hitter in baseball. THG made him what he is today, and until he proves to me that he is clean, all his records are tarnished.

- People say that LeBron James is living up to all the hype that was advertised, and I tend to agree, as skeptical I was before the draft. The funny thing, as good as James is, it only made me care about the NBA for about 15 minutes.

- Dartmouth College introduced a new mascot this week: Keggy the Keg. That's right, Dartmouth College, regarded as one of the most well renowned schools in the Northeast for its high academic standing, introduced a six foot tall keg as its mascot. I still am not to sure what I think of this, especially coming out of a place like Dartmouth, but I know that Keggy ranks up there with mascot's like the Rhode Island School of Design Nad (which, for those of you who don't know, is a six foot tall penis with a cape).

- I know it has been over for about three weeks now, but I never got to write anything on it at the time thanks to Camelympics. Regardless, the only thing interesting in the 2003 World Series was Dontrelle Willis' wind-up.

- I find it silly that, under new

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Conn Finishes Strong 9th at N.E. DIII Championships

By PETER STERLING
STAFF WRITER

The Connecticut College men's cross country team entered the 2003 season a young team, with only one junior, two seniors and one graduate student. Despite the fact that seven sophomores and three freshmen made up the bulk of the team, the roster would prove to be little indication of the Camels' performance towards the end of the season.

Despite losing six runners to graduation from last year's team that finished fourth in New England and also ran to a 20th place finish at the NCAA National Championships, the Connecticut College men's cross country team had high expectations to progress in their running as the season went along. The Camels opened the season with a seventh place finish at the Connecticut College Invitational, with post-graduate Adam Fitzgerald setting a school record on the course en route to a seventh place individual finish. Connecticut also raced in several late season events, such as the New England Division III Championships, and the ECAC championships held earlier in November.

"We are a young team, having graduated many seniors last year," stated Ryan Harnedy '07. "Although our performance wasn't as strong as last year's, there were certainly many standout performances, and



Despite a roster replete with underclassmen, the men's cross country squad put together a successful year with many bright spots. (Holt)

we look forward to next season." The NESCAC Championships saw the Camels run to a 6th place finish at Middlebury, with yet another impressive finish by Fitzgerald (4th). At the ECAC Championship on November 8th, the Camels ran a course hosted by Tufts University in Grafton, Mass. They ended the day with an impressive 15th place out of a 33 team field, with a total of 421

points. The home team, Tufts, emerged victorious with 38 points. The first Camel to finish the grueling race was Eric Stepick Ayers '06, with a time of 28:16:08, good enough for 33rd place. Ryan Bartro placed 43rd overall, and Jason Fitzgerald was the third finisher for Connecticut, 45th overall. The next weekend would see the Camels in action again, this time for the New

England Division III Championship in Cumberland, Maine.

Connecticut ran well all around in the race, finishing 9th out of a field of 38 schools, which was good enough to place them in the top 25 percent of college teams racing. In fact, NESCAC schools showed their depth by placing 10 of their teams in the top 12 finishing schools. A strong Tufts side again emerged vic-

torious, with an impressive 74 points. The nearest NESCAC School was Williams, with 107 points. The main story of the day, however, was Adam Fitzgerald, a graduate student who previously attended Boston University. Fitzgerald ran an outstanding race, finishing with a time of 26:04, a remarkable 5:15 mile pace on the five-mile course. His time placed him in sixth out of a field of 267, and gave him an individual berth into the NCAA Division III Championship in Hanover, Indiana. John Ridyard of Storrs, CT, was the second Camel to complete the race in 46th place, running a time of 27:23. Brian Adams '06 was 64th with a time of 27:52. Jesse Efron '04 of Guilford, CT was 74th, with a time of 28 minutes even.

"Adam ran an outstanding race," added Harnedy. "He knew what he had to do coming in, and ran the course well". Fitzgerald's finishing time would turn out to be the highest individual placing of any men's Camel runner in the 17 years that head coach Jim Butler has had the position. Conn will graduate several experienced runners this year, such as co-captain Adam Fitzgerald, Luke Wanami, and senior co-captain Efron. The Camels will return in the 2004 season with a more experienced team, as the core of freshman and sophomores will be back to compete.



Conn's women's cross country runners placed 17th out of 44 schools at the New England DIII Championships to end their season. (Pace)

Women's Cross Country Wraps Up Season

By GERALD WOLS
STAFF WRITER

It was a fitting end to what was quite an extraordinary season for the Connecticut College Women's Cross Country team. The 17th New England Division III Championships where hosted by the University of Southern Maine at the Twinbrook Recreational Complex in Cumberland, Maine. An impressive 9 teams from the New England Small College Athletic Conference finished in the top 10, showing what tough teams the Camels face throughout the season. The eventual winner of the Championship with 51 points was Middlebury College.

"We had a lot of people run very good races to wrap up the season, and we felt pretty good about our performance. Alissa Wantman ran a particularly great race to finish 3rd for the team and improve her 6k best time by over 40 seconds despite the conditions on the course," stated Coach Bishop.

The Camels fared well at these Championships, finishing 17th out of 44 teams. The girls ran hard and with a fierce determination, knowing that it was their last meet of the season. Although it was a very cold day and conditions where not the greatest the girls left all their energy out on the course. The Camels were led by senior tri-captain Elinor Pisano '04 who finished in 66th place, followed by the Kirsti Fitzgerald '04 in 85th place. Freshman runner Alissa Wantman was 89th and ran an extremely good race, while Brenna Muller '07

finished in 102nd place, Allison Zelman '07 finished in 130th place, Laura Bernadi '07 finished the race in 151st place and finally Carly Holbrook '06 finished in 177th place, making it a successful meet for the Camels.

The race was run in awful conditions. The weather was cold and it had rained the previous days, making the conditions even more challenging and hard. The course is hilly, and the rain had made it muddy, soft and very slow. The temperature at the time of the race was around 35 degrees, with a typical gusty Maine wind. The race was run over a distance of 6 kilometers, which is around 9000 yards.

Coach Bishop also noted, "We had some bad luck this fall with injuries and illnesses, but the team bounced back well to run strong races at the ECAC Championship the week before and at this final meet of the season." The freshmen and sophomores of the team should go into next season with a great deal of confidence. The girls received some great championship race experience. The team should go into next season in a great position to be one of the most improved teams in the region."

Caitlin Connors '07 noted about the season, "All the girls are so supportive and team orientated. There was a real focus in this year's team, which was a key ingredient to our success." (Connors was injured for the majority of the season.) All in all, the team had a successful season, running with pride and determination at every

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Has Billy Beane Lost
the Magic Touch?

Oakland A's general manager Billy Beane has come, in recent years, to be regarded as a wizard, a magician, always one step ahead of his competitors. With the ninth pick of the 1999 draft, Beane drafted Barry Zito, a lanky lefty who couldn't (and still can't) hit 90 on a radar gun. Eight teams passed him up, but now, after three and a half seasons in the majors, he's 61-29 (good for a .677 winning percentage, third best of any active pitcher, behind only Pedro Martinez and Tim Lincecum) with a 3.12 ERA. From finding talent where others can't, to fielding a winning Oakland team that has made the postseason four years in a row despite enormous financial constraints, Billy Beane has always seemed to know something the rest of us don't.

More recently, though, I've started to question Beane's mastery. Before the 2003 season managed to arrange a four-way trade which brought first baseman-slash-designated hitter Erubiel Durazo to Oakland from Arizona. Beane confessed that he had coveted Durazo for two years before finally being able to acquire him. The idea was that Durazo would finally provide the offense to replace Jason Giambi, who predictably deserted the A's for the lucrative contract offered by George Steinbrenner.

However, for all the hype surrounding Durazo that came in the run-up to the 2003 season, Durazo ended up hitting just .259 with 21 homers and 77 RBI. He wasn't a disaster for the A's, as he provided 100 walks and kept his on-base percentage up. Durazo had a respectable year, but given the expectations surrounding any player that Beane hails as special, he turned out to be a dis-

appointment.

This year, with another first-round exit under Oakland's collective belt, Beane is up to his tricks again, wheeling and dealing, trying to replace expensive free agents with cheap alternatives, while keeping the A's competitive. To do this, the illustrious GM has made a couple of trades this past week which are difficult to understand.

First, Beane sent all-star catcher Ramon Hernandez and disgruntled outfielder Terrence Long to the San Diego Padres, in return for centerfielder Mark Kotsay, who went .266 with seven home runs and 38 RBI last year. Obviously, the offensive production in this deal does not side with the A's. However, Oakland only stands to save \$1.5 million by doing this deal, and I believe the production the A's are losing is worth much more than that.

Second, Beane acquired outfielder Bobby Kielty from the Toronto Blue Jays for left-handed pitcher Ted Lilly. Kielty split time between Minnesota and Toronto last year, going .244 with 13 homers and 57 RBI overall. Though his numbers in 2003 were less than spectacular, he is the disciplined type of hitter the A's covet, and has been considered an up-and-coming young for the past couple of years. Oakland also received an undisclosed amount of cash along with Kielty.

Even though Beane's second trade makes much more sense than the first, it's difficult to see a real benefit in either one. By acquiring Kielty, Beane has created, whether deliberately or not, a crowded outfield featuring Jose Guillen,

continued on page 11

Camel Scoreboard

Men's Basketball:

-11/21-22, @ Drew University Tournament
-11/25, @ MIT, 7:00 pm
-12/2, vs. Gordon College, 6:00 pm

Women's Basketball:

-11/22, vs. Becker College, 2:00 pm
-11/25, @ Rhode Island College, 6:00 pm
-12/2, vs. Clark University, 8:00 pm

Men's Hockey:

-11/21, vs. St. Michael's College, 7:30 pm
-11/22, vs. Norwich University, 4:00 pm
-11/29-30, @ Spurrer Tournament

Mens's/Women's Cross Country:

-11/15, New England Div. III Championships,
17th place/44 (women), 9th place/38 (men)

Women's Hockey:

-11/21 @ Wesleyan, 7:00 pm
-11/22 @ Trinity, 4:45 pm
-11/25 Sacred Heart, 7:00 pm

Men's Squash:

-11/22, vs. Bowdoin, Tufts @ Harvard, 2:00 pm
-12/7, vs. St. Lawrence @ Trinity, 10:30 am
-1/9, vs. Navy @ Williams, 8:00 pm

Women's Squash:

-11/22, vs. Bowdoin, Tufts @ Harvard, 12:30 pm
-12/6, vs. Smith, Mount Holyoke @ Wesleyan University, 10:30 am
-12/7, vs. St. Lawrence @ Trinity, 9:00 am