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THE COLLEGE VOICE

NEW LONDON, CONNECTICUT

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 7, 2011

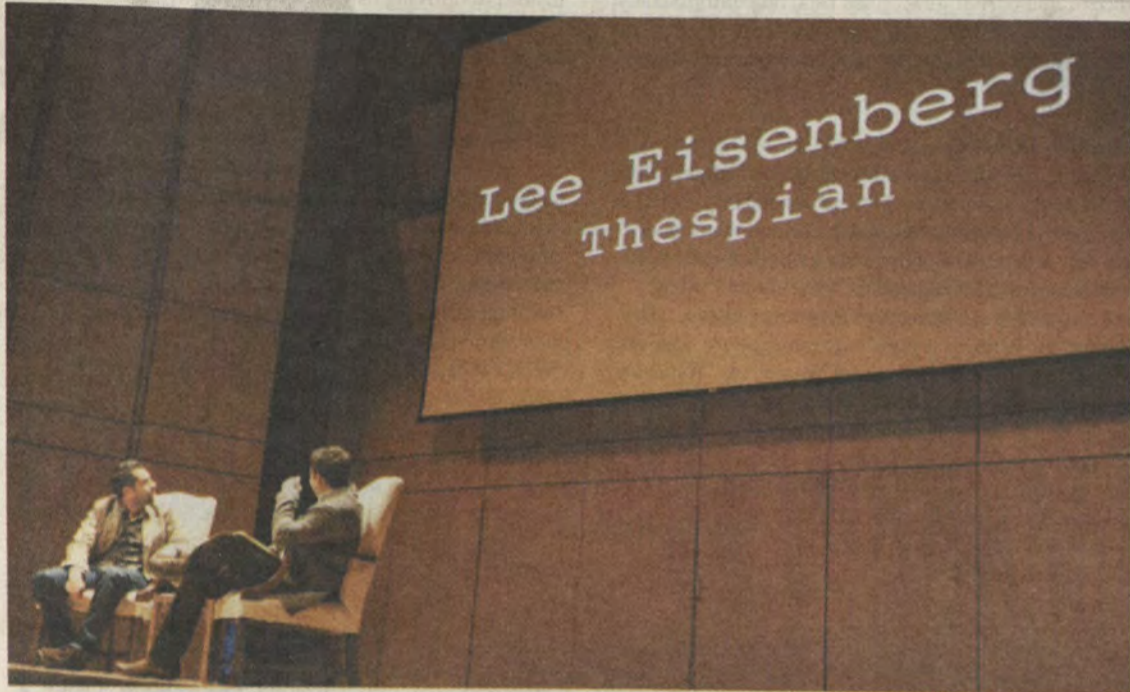
VOLUME XCV • ISSUE 11

Monday, March 3, 1919: "ZZ., Runt, Jess and I spent all our time out on the balcony playing cards. It was a peach of a day." - Diary of Mildred Howard



PHOTO COURTESY OF CONNECTICUT COLLEGE ARCHIVES

Meet Connecticut College's first graduating class of 1919. For more stories and photos from our first decade, see page 2.



CECILIA BROWN / STAFF

Lee Eisenberg: Thespian, Writer, Alum

JAZMINE HUGHES AND RACINE OXTOBY
NEWS EDITOR,
ARTS EDITOR

Lee Eisenberg '99 was never "a big deal." He lived in Freeman, KB, Hamilton, and JA. He studied abroad in Paris. He vaguely remembers writer Sloane Crosley, another notable alum, who graduated a year after him. There was no film department here when he was a student. He wrote maybe one article for the student newspaper, despite being an English major and growing into a TV and film writer, and had a radio show about sports. There were also no cell phones and he remembers marveling at sending out an email to multiple people at once.

Yes, he's a notably successful Conn alum and was, at one time, the head writer for the hit television show *The Office*, but why should we care about what he has to say? He has Justin Timberlake's phone number.

Less than a week into the 2011 spring semester, Conn kicked off the beginning of SGA's Centennial Speaker Series with a visit

from the alum. For scores of English and Film Studies students, Eisenberg's visit brought more than just college pride and festive excitement - it brought hope that they, too, could make it in Hollywood.

"You can do anything with an English degree," said English professor said while introducing the event, referring to Eisenberg's major. "You could be the producer and writer on *The Office*, maybe write a few movies. That would be one outcome."

Eisenberg took multiple classes with Boyd and describes her as "very outspoken, really smart, really funny," commenting that he used to write down quotes of hers in his notebook - in other words, Blanche hasn't changed. "I took [her] narrative nonfiction class and I remember becoming super aware of dialogue in that class because I was interviewing real people. As a writer, you develop an ear for dialogue. As you start going through it, you ask, what's the 'nugget' from it? What's the phrase? And you hear how people talk and you write it down and

you think, 'Oh, this is really interesting, I could use this.'"

From his freshman year, Eisenberg knew his future was waiting for him in Los Angeles. He was a production assistant for many years - including working on the aforementioned Brendan Fraser film *Bedazzled* - before hitting his first writing gig on the hit drama *JAG*. Eisenberg could feel from the beginning that he was probably going to be fired. "I didn't know anything about law or military or military law."

After leaving *JAG*, he reconnected with his writing partner Gene Stupnitsky.

Several students chosen through a lottery system were able to dine with Eisenberg, where he told the oddly romantic story of his partnership with Stupnitsky. He described a night in which they were "down at the docks," discussing potential writing ideas, when Eisenberg grew cold and Stupnitsky gave him his sweatshirt. Ever since, the two have been in a strong—and mildly codependent, as Eisenberg described—writing companionship.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 4

The Road to the Oscars

JERELL MAYS
STAFF WRITER

I still love the Oscars. Despite the last few decades of plummeting ratings and uncomfortable hosts (we still love you, Jon Stewart), I still anticipate watching the annual award ceremony every year. Because regardless of any faults you or anyone else might have with things like the judging system, made up of 5,500 faceless members of the Academy of Motion Pictures Arts and Sciences, or the fact that it always runs at least twenty minutes longer than intended due to obligatorily longwinded speeches, or all the Best Picture drama and Best Actor and Actress unfairness, it's still the only Hollywood award that really holds any weight. Sure, there's the Golden

Globes, but the Globes are like one of those honorary degrees that colleges give to people they once rejected but are now famous and successful. They just aren't the same.

With the Oscars coming up in just a few weeks, I feel compelled to familiarize myself with the Best Picture nominees which this year include *Inception*, *The Social Network*, *Toy Story 3*, *Winter's Bone*, *The Kids Are Alright*, *The Fighter*, *Black Swan*, *127 Hours*, *The King's Speech* and *True Grit*.

If this seems like a lot of nominees, that's because the number of films eligible for Best Picture doubled from five to ten last year. I guess it was because of the overwhelming number of monumental films that came out in 2010 (or something).

CONTINUED ON PAGE 10

True Grit Women's Basketball fights through off-court issues to claim first NESCAC win in three years

MIKE FLINT
SPORTS EDITOR

On Saturday, women's basketball defeated Wesleyan 49-42 at home, securing the Camels' first NESCAC victory since the 2007-2008 season. Such an accomplishment is something to celebrate no matter the circumstances, but considering the kind of season—let alone the kind of month—women's basketball has been having, the win over Wesleyan was a well-deserved storybook ending.

It's been a crazy winter for all of us here in New England. Snowstorm after snowstorm has definitely made this winter one to remember. But women's basketball no doubt has had the craziest winter of all. In a little less than a month, the Lady Camels have been on top (a four game win-streak at the beginning of January), at the bottom (a seven game losing-streak from January 14-29), at rock bottom (six-game suspensions for four players, ending each athlete's season) and back up again (two straight wins, including the team's first NESCAC victory since the '07-'08 season). The only thing missing was a Charlie Sheen cameo.

After starting off the month of January so well with consecutive victories against New York City College of Technology, NYU, Eastern Nazarene College and Johnson & Wales, by the 22nd the Camels had officially slipped on the NESCAC ice. Conn had lost four games in a row—all to conference opponents—and although the team was playing well, the lack of success in league was growing more and more frustrating by the day.

The Lady Camels had not won a conference game since beating Middlebury 68-58 on February 18, 2008. They had gone 0-9 in the NESCAC the last two seasons and started this one 0-4. Something had to give, they had to catch a break, or it was all going to crumble into a wintry mess of disappointment.

And that's when four players, including the team's top two scorers, were suspended for the rest of the season for possession of marijuana. The athletes were banned even from attending practices or watching games from the bench with their teammates. With six games remaining, five of which were against conference

CONTINUED ON PAGE 11



CECILIA BROWN / STAFF

The snags in campus internet accessibility has been giving headaches to more than just students. The Information Services staff has been working overtime for weeks to get it fixed. Bruce Carpenter, Director of Technical Support, told the Voice last week that initially, one of the multiple systems in our authentication process Cisco was broken, likely Cisco Clean Access, which ensures that a computer has the sufficient operating system and antivirus protection to log into the network. This explained why many students could not receive wireless on their personal computers, and why some library computers did not allow users to log on.

"The difficult part of this is that there wasn't a logical scheme of who could and who couldn't connect," said Carpenter. "For example, there are four switches in the library, and one was not working. There really is no explanation why one of four should go bad."

A campus email from Vice President for Information Services Lee Hisle read, "We have been advised that our network router must be replaced immediately or we could risk a major failure that requires a much longer repair time." This was a single hardware failure that affected computers' connections to college-based websites like Moodle, Self Service and the homepage. The network has reached an incredibly high level of complexity, making it difficult for engineers to identify and articulate the connection problems Connecticut College has faced. As of now, all systems are working properly. - STAFF

NEWS



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FEBRUARY 7, 2011

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THE COLLEGE VOICE

ESTABLISHED IN 1916

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FREE SPEECH

(Your opinion here.)

As always, we welcome letters to the editor. If you're interested in writing a letter, please read below.

Letters to the Editor:

Any and all members of the Connecticut College community (including students, faculty and staff) are encouraged to submit articles, letters to the editor, opinion pieces, photographs, cartoons, etc.

All submissions will be given equal consideration.

In particular, letters to the editor are accepted from any member of the college community on a first-come, first-serve basis until noon on the Saturday prior to publication. They should run approximately 300 words in length, but may be no longer than 400 words.

All submitted letters must be attributed to an author and include contact information.

No unsigned letters will be published.

The editor-in-chief must contact all authors prior to publication to

verify that he/she was indeed the author of the letter.

The College Voice reserves the right to edit letters for clarity, length, grammar or libel. No letters deemed to be libelous towards an individual or group will be published.

The College Voice cannot guarantee the publication of any submission. These policies must be made public so that every reader may maintain equal opportunity to have his or her opinions published.

Please submit your letters by either filling out the form on our site at

www.thecollegevoice.org/contact-us/submitletter

or by emailing it to

eic@thecollegevoice.org

Editorials

The *Voice* has been an establishment under many other names: from the *College News* in the early 1900s to *Conn Census* through the 1950s, to *Sadyagraha*, or "truth force," for a short stint in the 1970s, settling into our familiar *College Voice* in 1977. We feel an alliance with all previous writers and editors of the newspaper at Connecticut College, and to declare solidarity with our previous entities have proclaimed ourselves *Established in 1916*, when the first class of women began writing their articles - longhand - and typesetting each issue.

For our last ten issues, we will spotlight the past ten decades at Connecticut College, through clippings from our newspapers and photos from our Archives. We hope you enjoy this look into our first decade: 1911-1919. L.R.

CLIPPINGS FROM THE COLLEGE NEWS

March 4, 1916: "A plea for more dignified and less conspicuous conduct of students on street cars"

"Attention has been called not alone by the presence of numbers of girls on the cars, but, unfortunately, too often, by the shrill and rather boisterous manner in which students call out to one another from separated parts of the cars..."

March 17, 1916

Letter: "I would advocate a change or partial change of the name 'Connecticut College for Women.'...[It] is obviously a long, cumbersome name and to my mind not very artistic. The college has more than once been confused with the Connecticut Agricultural College, and also with the Connecticut Business College...The ending 'for Women' is especially unnecessary. One does not speak of 'Vassar College for Women' or 'Wellesley College for Women.'...I fully understand that this term serves to impress on people the fact that this is the first college for women in this state...as for the Connecticut part, one can see how it would lead to the belief that this is a state and not a privately endowed institution." Esther Wimovsky

December 1917

"Students and Faculty of Connecticut College are urged to help to prepare Surgical Dressings in the Plant Basement."

April 12, 1918: "When Petticoats vote"

"Our fourth term has come - and on Friday elections begin - student government president followed by other major officers...it is the privilege and duty of EVERY student to vote - carefully and conscientiously...Our mothers have fought for our political equality. Some of us have already reaped the fruits of their labors: most of us still await them. But one and all, we should be ready to use them when they come. Let us summon all our powers of discussion, discretion and judgment, in the coming elections, and give the world a sample of what we shall do in our State, when petticoats vote."

May 8, 1918

"To the Editor: No one is blind to the fact that there has been a tremendous lack of college pep and spirit

among the girls this year. The Freshmen can not even appreciate what C. C. Spirit means from the demonstrations they have thus far been able to see...the war, instead of unifying us with a bond of closer and more intimate friendship, as it should according to all theories, has produced the very opposite effect here... We no longer can amuse ourselves without aid from the outside... If a stranger were to walk around campus or look into the various dormitory living rooms on week-end nights, he would be at a loss to know whether or not this was a co-ed institution. Everywhere one looks there are men, men, men. There is almost a spirit of competition among the dormitories as to which can entertain the most men...For instance, the telephone rings. A wild scuffling of feet, doors thrown madly open and quiet hours fade into oblivion as the common cry goes forth 'Who's it for?... Aren't you tired of being asked 'Are you going to the dance? With whom?' After we have left college there will always be the chance of being with men, while here is our chance of playing and making merry with girls... Why do we lack college pep and interest in student activities? Because we are no longer strictly a girls' college since the army and navy have invaded our campus." Leah Nora Pick '20

November 21, 1919

"Don'ts for men: DON'T come expecting a quiet peaceful time. One never gets it at C. C. DON'T tell a girl with lovely eyes that the view is lovely. She knows it."

December 4, 1919

"Connecticut College spirit, it seems to be, is the thing that makes the College go 'round...it is up to us to uphold our government. It is not enough to praise our Student Government and our honor system. Words are empty unless we have conviction and faith behind them. Why have an honor system if we do not observe it? The honor system is the most important element in the spirit of Connecticut College, and, therefore, should be guarded and adhered to carefully. Let us not hark back to high school days of the teachers' rule. Let us show ourselves that we have outgrown that stage and are ready to judge ourselves..." B.F. '22.



From top: New London Hall, fall of 1915 (Photo by Mildred White '19); looking southeast, 1916; the construction of Plant House, March 16, 1915 (photo by M.L. Greene, Vassar); Plant living room and Plant rear view, both circa 1915 (Photos by Mildred White '19); view East of Vinal Cottage, now CELS house, and Groton (date unknown). All photos from Connecticut College Archives.



THIS WEEK

monday

Surviving Globalization: Immigrant Women Workers in Late Capitalist America
4:15 PM - 6:00 PM
Blaustein 203

Evelyn Hu-DeHart Professor of History and Ethnic Studies Director, Center for the Study of Race and Ethnicity in America (CSREA) at Brown University.

tuesday

Pizza and Profundity: "Social Construction and Social Critique: Debunking Myths."
4:15 PM - 6:15 PM
Blaustein Faculty Lounge

Professor Sally Haslanger, a professor in the Department of Linguistics and Philosophy at MIT, and Director of the MIT Women's and Gender Studies Program, is widely respected for her work on the metaphysics of gender and race.

friday

"Slow Food Meets Big Business," a lecture by trustee David Barber '88
4:00 PM - 6:00 PM
Blaustein 210

David Barber '88 is co-owner of Blue Hill Farm in Great Barrington, Mass. and Blue Hill Restaurant in Greenwich Village.

Vinyasa Yoga Class

12:15 PM - 1:00 PM
Crozier West Dance Studio, 3rd Floor Cro

wednesday

Massage

11:00 AM - 3:00 PM
Alice Johnson Room, Cro

Lauren Kellogg, LMT offers chair massage therapy to Faculty, Staff & Students every Wednesday. \$1.00/min. (15 Min. minimum)

thursday

"When Racial Paranoia Might Be Reasonable: What Dave Chappelle Can Teach Michael Richards about Comedy"

7:00 PM - 8:30 PM
Charles Chu Room

Lecture by Prof. John L. Jackson, University of Pennsylvania Professor of Communication and Anthropology and Associate Dean of Undergraduate Studies, Annenberg School for Communication.

all week

CC is enrolled in the intercollegiate recycling and waste minimization competition, RecycleMania, for our 5th consecutive year. The 2011 Tournament extends for eight weeks between February 6 and April 2, 2011. Recycle your bottles, cans, paper and cardboard.

Several storms over the past few weeks have left their mark on campus, lending it its current snowy sheen. Here are a few of our photo editors' choices. We hope you enjoy looking at these shots more than you enjoy walking through them.



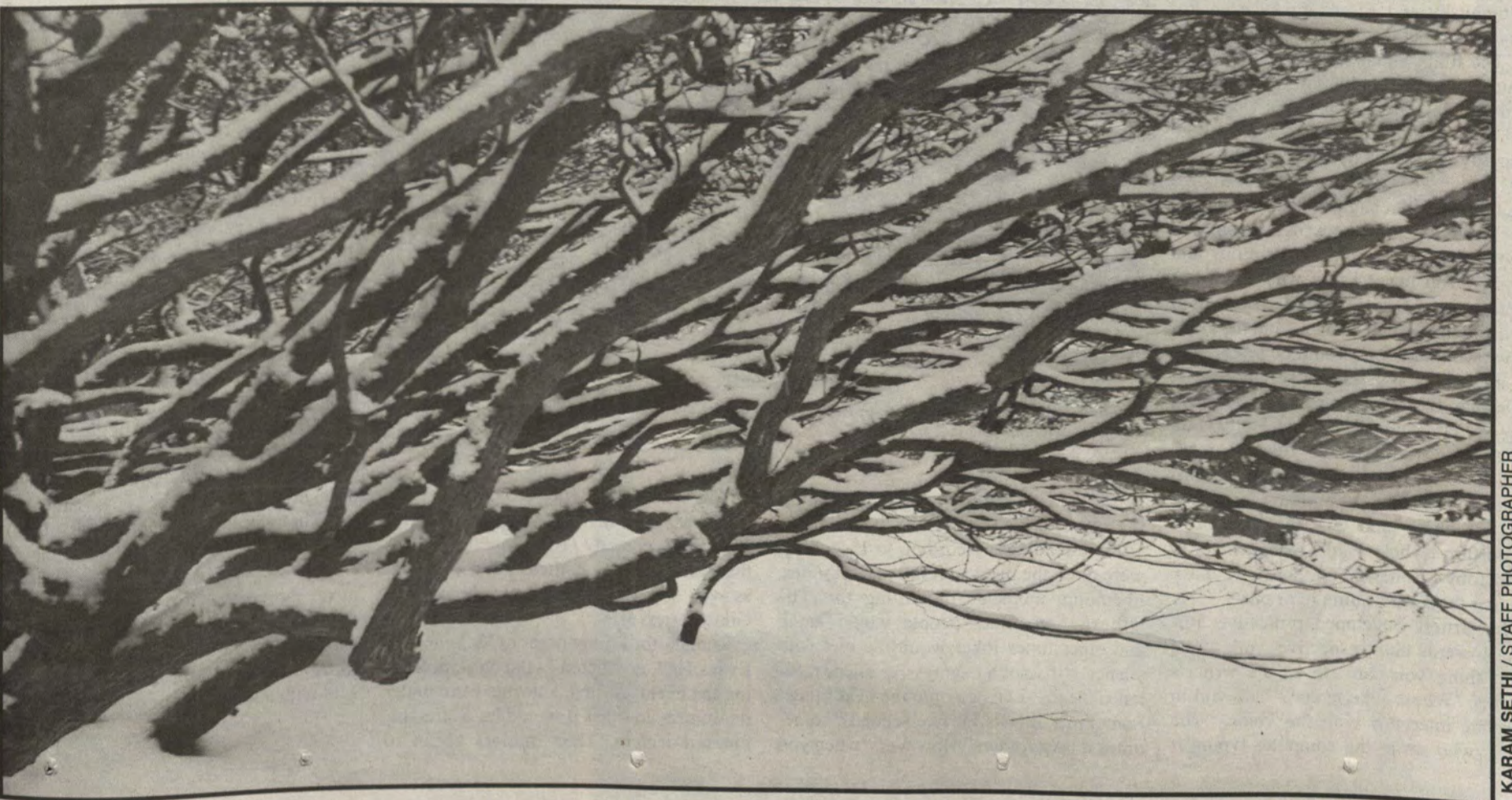
DUNCAN SPAULDING / STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER



AMY DE GENARO / CONTRIBUTOR



AMY DE GENARO / CONTRIBUTOR



KARAM SETHI / STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Dance Department Artist-In-Residence Resigns Following Misappropriation of Choreography

DAVID SHANFIELD
STAFF WRITER

On January 13, during the College's winter break, students and faculty received an e-mail from Dean of Faculty Roger Brooks with an announcement from the Dance Department. "I want to share with you the news that I have accepted the resignation of Robyne Watkin, guest artist in the dance department since 2001, effective immediately," it read.

An attached e-mail, originally sent to the faculty, held more information: Watkin resigned after "it was confirmed she had misrepresented a dance choreographed by another as her own original work."

Melissa Fopiano '13 explained that Watkin had been preparing her work for Faculty Fall Dance Department Show, in which students perform numbers choreographed by the dance department faculty.

"Robyne's piece was in two parts," said Fopiano, "the first

was her own choreography, the second part was what ended up being controversial."

According to a number of students, some of whom asked not to be identified, two students who were a part of Watkin's performance had been searching videos of dance numbers on the Internet. One of the videos they came across was a ballet piece titled "The Rite of Spring" that was very similar in both the choreography and costumes.

"The Rite of Spring" was originally choreographed by Vaslav Nijinsky, with music composed by Igor Stravinsky, and premiered at the Théâtre des Champs-Élysées in Paris on May 29, 1913. The ballet, which incorporated "outrageous costumes, unusual choreography and bizarre story of pagan sacrifice," was considered so shocking and scandalous that the audience started to riot.

According to students, Watkin never claimed credit for the choreography, but it was never

made clear to whom the piece belonged. The students brought the issue to the faculty who, on the opening night of the show, told them that they would not be able to perform the piece. According to Brooks' e-mail, however, the dancers were able to perform the piece in a private setting for their families.

"Students found evidence of the misappropriation, and felt compelled to tell the truth," said David Dorfman, Dance Department Chair. "I admire that, and I feel as if it was gone about in the proper way."

In 2008, Lan-Lan Wang, former chair of the dance department at Conn, resigned after it was discovered that she had faked her credentials. Wang claimed to have received both a bachelor's and master's degree from University of Iowa.

Many members of the Dance Department, including the students that reported the plagiarism, felt uncomfortable speaking on

the record about Watkins' resignation due to the sensitivity of the issue.

A senior dance major who asked not to be named recognized the difficulty that the department faced in Watkin's resignation. "There are clearly two sides to this. On one hand, there's Robyne's dedication, guidance and involvement with the department and students... but on the other, it was a misappropriation of work, and the faculty has little tolerance for that. We, as students, realize that we have to accept the College's decision, and move forward."

Students, however, were happy to discuss her guidance during her time in the Dance Department.

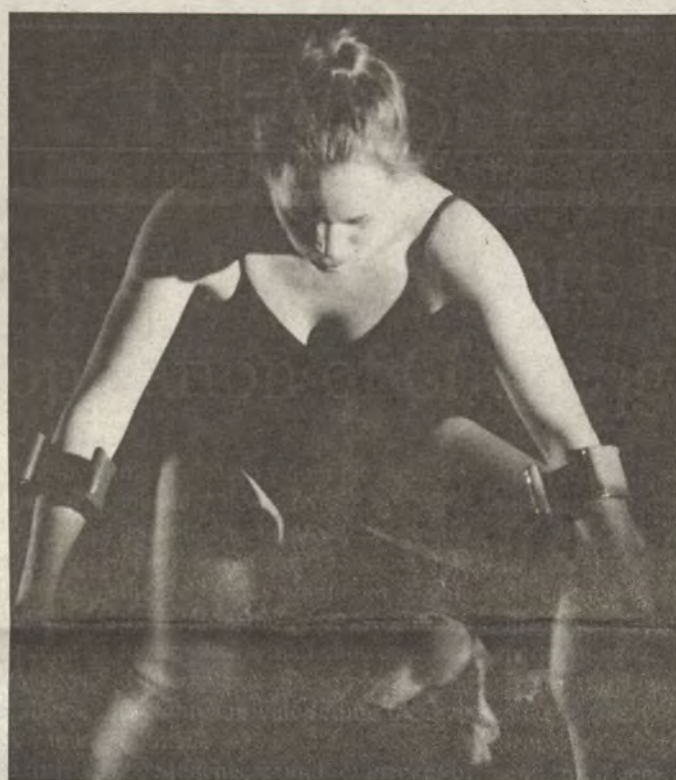
"Robyne was one of the best ballet teachers I've ever had," said Fopiano. "She's always very serious about her work and teaching, and prides herself on being a good instructor."

"Robyne will always be a friend and mentor. Because of the

importance of the Honor Code at this school, I understand the Dean of Faculty's decision to ask for her resignation," said Amy Smith '12. "However, Robyne will be dearly missed within the department for her excellent teaching abilities and her support of all the students. She truly cared about the future of each and every one of us."

"As much as I hate to see her go," said Fopiano, "what she did goes against the whole philosophy of Conn, and faculty have to be held to the same standards as the students."

"I, too, miss her. I'm looking to the positive aspect for the great things she did... she was part of the glue that holds the dance department together, and she was a wonderful professor..." said Dorfman. "Her resignation was certainly a painful experience, but we all learned from it, and we're moving forward." •



Students performed the a section of the piece at the Faculty Fall Dance Department Show.

CECILIA BROWN / STAFF

Lee Eisenberg: Thespian, Writer, Alum

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

JAZMINE HUGHES
AND RACINE OXTOBY
NEWS EDITOR / ARTS EDITOR

As it turns out, the two initially collaborated on an original pilot about two codependent roommates. Although it was based on their own experience as roommates, "writing is not a visual medium," so the characters' careers were swapped for something more thematically interesting: the roommates were magicians. Although the pilot was not picked up, it was on the strength of this project that the two men were hired to join */The Office/* for its second season. You can thank him for Conn's namedrop in the fourth season episode "Night Out," when Dwight wishes a women's basketball team that he meets in a bar "good luck against Conn College!"

Stupnitsky and Eisenberg have an upcoming summer feature, called */Bad Teacher/*. The film, which stars Cameron Diaz, Justin Timberlake and Phyllis Smith (Phyllis from */The Office/*), features women in lead roles in a raunchy comedy, a venture generally untouched by Hollywood.

Although the documentary style of */The Office/* might suggest that the show is easy to put together, the writers' room was almost always a tangle of emotions and nerves. "You never knew what time you were leaving," Eisenberg said. "You would get in at ten—which is nice—and the earliest we would get out would be seven. The latest would be like four in the morning."

Despite the erratic hours, the writers are fed very well. "People in Hollywood are obsessed with food," Eisenberg explained. Long hours often mean that employees don't leave the building for meals, and Eisenberg and his fellow writers would turn to boss Paul Lieberstein, who plays Toby Flenderson on the show, to ask whether they were eating in or out.

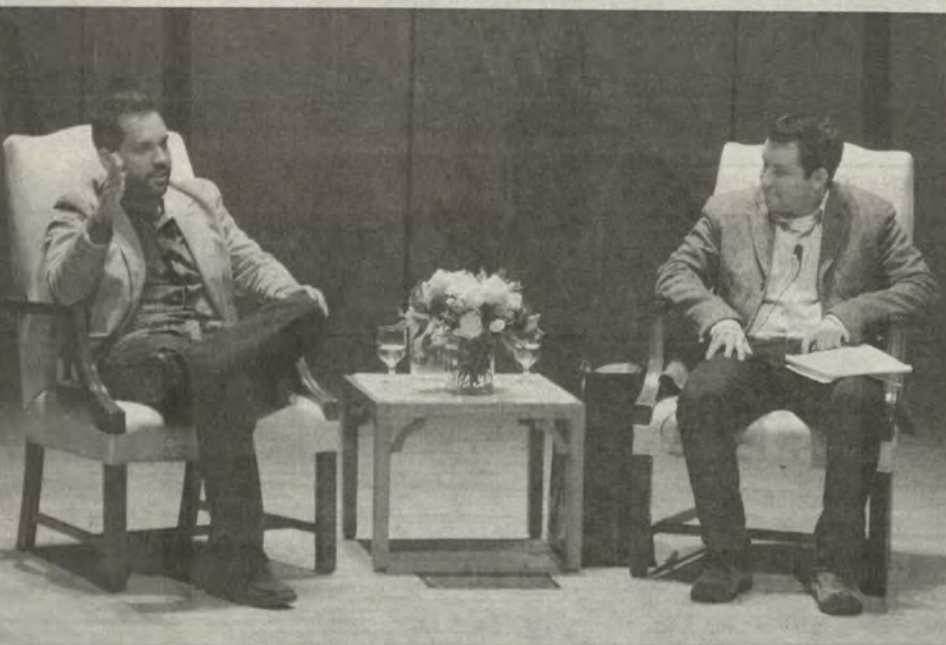
The writers developed protective attitudes towards their respective work. "The worst thing you can ask in the writer's room is, 'Whose joke is that?'" he said in a private interview with the Voice. "The person who sat at the computer typing it

always thinks it's their joke because they typed it in. The person who pitched the beginning part of the joke believes it's theirs, the person who added to the pitch to make it more of a joke... it always get tense and awkward when you ask for credit on stuff."

However, Eisenberg is fairly confident about his responsibility over one story arc in particular: the love triangle between Dwight, Angela and Andy. "I believe it was mine alone." Eisenberg is also responsible for moving Darryl from the warehouse and into the office, as well as, only one week

can get Steve Carrell to laugh, it's fucking awesome. The best feeling in the world is getting Steve, on set, to break. Sometimes he would just lose it and you would be like, 'Yes, yes, I got him!'"

When first asked why he no longer works for */The Office/*, Eisenberg deadpanned, "I got fired so hard." Then, more seriously, he explained the grueling life of a television writer. "[Gene and I] were tired because we were writing movies on the weekends. We were basically writing seven days a week for five years straight."



KARAM SETHI / PHOTO EDITOR

Eisenberg and SGA President Nate Cornell '11 talk things over in the year's first lecture in the college's centennial speaker series.

before leaving the show, making Dwight the owner of the Dunder Mifflin building.

Table readings, according to Eisenberg, were often the most stressful and, at times, liberating, moments of writing for */The Office/*. Sometimes people would laugh and other times jokes would be met with silence. "It's not an aggressive silence. Silence means 'Let's go onto the next thing.' Sometimes it lasts for five seconds, sometimes it lasts for ten." However, "when you

Along with */The Office/*, Stupnitsky and Eisenberg also wrote the Michael Cera-Jack Black comedy */Year One/*. Up next is the Cameron Diaz comedy */Bad Teacher/*, as well as their perpetual attachment to */Ghostbusters III/*.

Rumors for Friday night's Q&A, held in Evans Hall, circulated in the week preceding the event. At first, students were under the impression that it would be a straightforward lecture. Then, rumors began to

swirl that Eisenberg wasn't in the mood for talking and would instead show an episode of */The Office/*. By the time of the event, the Facebook page posted attendees parallel to Floralia. (When asked about his favorite Floralia, Eisenberg responded, "Are you supposed to remember your Floralias?")

The event took place between two luxurious-looking white armchairs, separated by a bouquet of flowers on a small table. "This is an exact replica of my living room," joked Eisenberg about the set.

Eisenberg claimed that his original career plan was to go into acting, and he brought a DVD of his acting jobs to prove his talent—but don't forget, Eisenberg is no big deal. The dramatically edited and scored reel, entitled "Lee Eisenberg: Thespian," featured his biggest roles: the "marijuana" selling Vance Refrigeration worker from */The Office/*, a guard of Sodom in */Year One/* and a blacksmith in */Bad Teacher/*.

When asked if there was an idea that he never got to write for the show, Eisenberg mentioned that he always wanted Michael to swallow a paperclip. One idea that he did successfully pitch was Andy Bernard's Cornell-induced superiority complex, an idea which may have been nixed if their boss had realized that one of the heads of NBC also went to Cornell. "The history of comedy could have been rewritten right there," laughed Eisenberg.

Eisenberg's mentor, Professor Boyd, introduced him at that night's Q&A. "You can do anything with an English degree," said Boyd, referring to Eisenberg's major. "You could be the producer and writer on */The Office/*, maybe write a few movies. That would be one outcome." Despite the fact that, according to Boyd, he only earned one A in her class (he insists he never earned an A from her), Eisenberg has gone to fantastic lengths in his post-Conn career. With the look of someone honored to be introducing the night's event, Boyd said with a smile, "I am so proud of him." •

Cruisin' Around Conn

Spokespeople launches an innovative bike-loan system

MELANIE THIBEAULT
STAFF WRITER

Have you ever felt exhausted trekking across campus and thought that there must be a better method of transportation from Harris to Freeman? If you're not one of the fortunate ones who own a golf cart or a Segway, don't despair. Spokespeople will soon implement a new program that will allow students to borrow bikes stationed outside of the library.

Spokespeople received funding that will allow them to execute their plan for a bike-lending program at Conn. This idea was inspired by a similar program at St. Olaf College in which students can borrow bikes from their library, just as they can books.

Soon, anywhere from six to ten bicycles will be available for daily rental in a designated bike-rack outside of Shain Library, and checking out a bike will be as easy as checking out a book. The bike-loan will go on your account, just as a book or movie would, and you must sign a liability release form. Then, the library staff will hand you the key.

When the bikes are not in use, they will be locked outside the library, and when students return the bikes at the end of the day, they should lock them up and re-

turn the key to the library staff. "This process is not only simple for students, but it's an easy way for Spokespeople to keep

staff who don't want to spend money or maintain their own bicycles all year-round.

Six bikes are already primed

have awesome stenciling," said Spokespeople president Celia Whitehead '11.

Part of the reason for the pro-

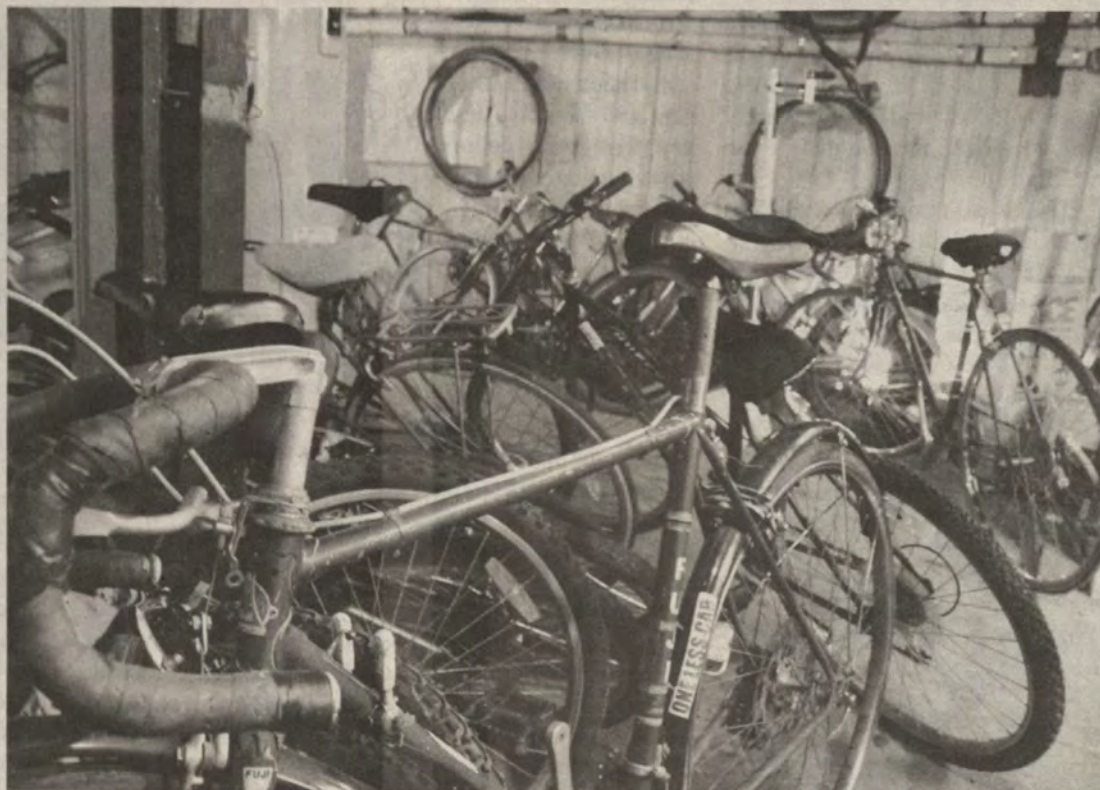
week, a daily rental system allows students to obtain a bike whenever they want. Any time the library is open, students can rent a bike.

"We'll have bikes equipped for riding downtown, mountain biking, or just cruising around campus if you have a really busy day. The idea is to make bikes available to all students and staff who don't want the responsibility of taking care of a bicycle 24/7," said Whitehead.

"For anyone who can't afford to have their own bike or can't bring one to school because of traveling, I think it's a really good idea. It's great for riding into town," said Molly Bienstock '14.

The members of Spokespeople will be working hard to have the bikes ready by the spring so students can enjoy them and explore the surrounding area. The members of Spokespeople said the program aims to promote biking and as Greaves said, "to [get students to] realize how close we are to the beach and to downtown."

Although the CC Cruisers is only a pilot program, Spokespeople members hope that plans run smoothly and allow for an expansion of the program each year. As Whitehead put it, "we want people to be complaining that there are not enough bikes." •



TANAHA SIMON / PHOTO EDITOR

track of the bikes," said Spokespeople member Andrew Greaves '13.

There will be bikes available for every occasion, and they will be available to both students and

and painted for use. Spokespeople want to develop a semi-uniform look for the bikes, so that they can be easily identified as CC Cruisers.

"They're blue and white and

program is to make more bicycles available to students, allowing them to go off campus. Since the Spokespeople members are only at the shop at two

designated times during the



PHOTO FROM WEB

Ambulance Transports Remain Consistent with Academic Year 2009-2010

SARAH KOSOFSKY
STAFF WRITER

Since the beginning of the school year, there appears to have been a decrease in the number of ambulances driving up and down Cro Boulevard.

Hospital transports are an unfortunate part of any college party scene. At Connecticut College, Campus Safety officers are trained to assess situations that might require a hospital transport and determine whether an ambulance is necessary. "If there is any need for concern for the health and well-being of the student, we call for a transport," said Stewart Smith, Director of Campus Safety.

Some students have reported that they feel the number of hospital transports has decreased in recent semesters. CC Curtiss, Director of Student Wellness, says that in the six semesters that she has been at Conn, 2008-2009 was the year with the most transports; the year after saw a 37% decrease in the number of transports, and this year has only seen a slight increase in the number of transports from the previous year. Conn experiences the most ambulance transports during the early fall. This could be for several reasons, including the excitement of a new school year and incoming freshmen testing their boundaries during their first semester away from home.

Curtiss believes that the student wellness education programs, such as the workshops provided during orientation or by Peer Educators, can spread a healthier attitude regarding alcohol. Curtiss says that when students understand the risks they are taking when they drink excessively, they are less likely to engage in this dangerous behavior. After students who are transported to the hospital return to campus, they meet with Curtiss individually to talk about the incident to ensure that it does not occur again.

Since last semester, President

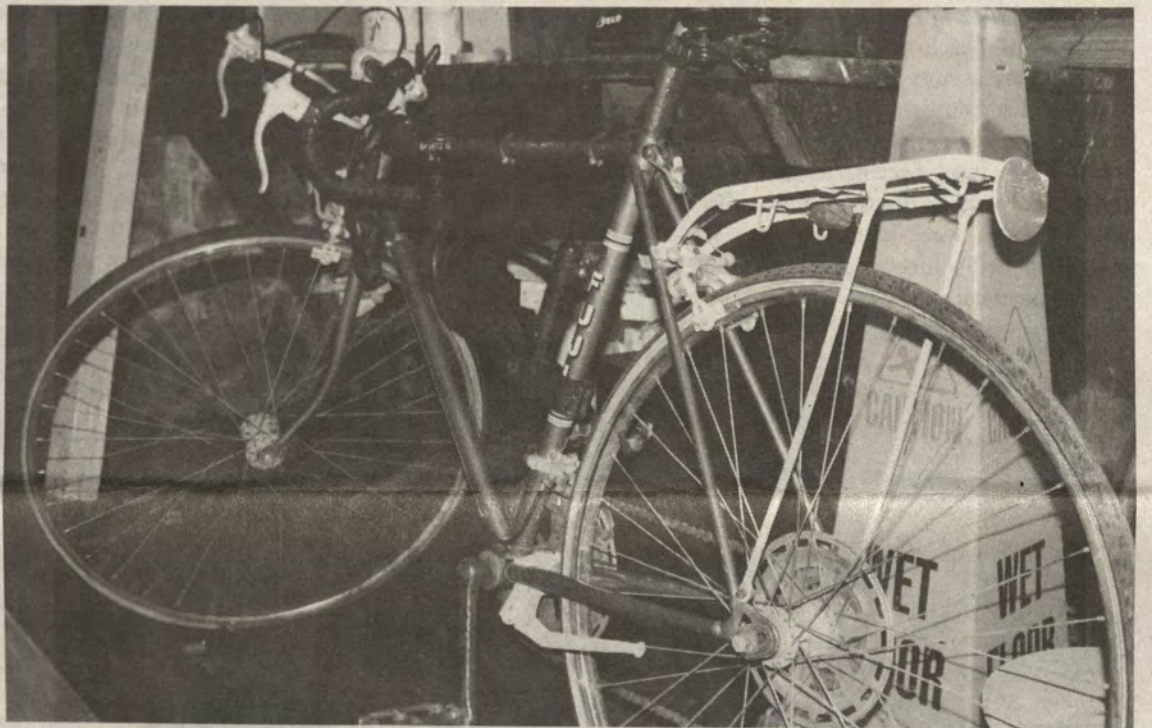
Higdon has adopted a policy to meet with students in his office after they return to campus from a hospital transport. "Students are an important part of our campus community and their actions impact us all. I believe these conversations have helped elevate the seriousness of the situation for the individuals I've met with and for the broader community," said Higdon.

Although administrators would always like to see less hospital transports, all agree that if a student needs medical attention for excessive alcohol consumption, there should be no hesitation in calling for help. The medical amnesty policy is in place so that friends of sick students can worry about their friend's well-being rather than their own disciplinary standing.

"While we still have a lot of progress to make, I believe that more and more students are realizing that their actions negatively impact the Conn community and surrounding New London area," said SGA President Nate Cornell '11. "That being said, we still need to take responsibility for our actions and the implications they have on our campus."

Curtiss is optimistic about the way she believes the attitude towards alcohol is changing on campus. "We have seen an increase in students' knowledge of the topic and the education and resources that are available to them, and that is a positive trend. We have an extensive education, prevention and intervention program in place because we care about our students' safety and we know that our students care for the well-being of their peers and their community."

Officer Smith's perspective on the situation echoes many on campus: "I think it's a shame to see these few students—who are so smart and have so much potential—make such bad choices. I know they are capable of so much better." •



TANAHA SIMON / PHOTO EDITOR



"Slow Food Meets Big Business"

A lecture by trustee David Barber '88

4:00 PM - 6:00 PM

Blaustein 210

David Barber '88 is co-owner of Blue Hill Farm in Great Barrington, Mass. and Blue Hill Restaurant in Greenwich Village.



REAL's Two-Minute Housing Drill

SAM NORCROSS
STAFF WRITER

Not too many weeks ago, most everyone on campus was up at the ungodly hour of 7 AM, going over their schedules class by class, looking for overlaps and conflicts and double-checking CRNs. By the end of the flurry of typing and clicking, when course registration was finished, I had only gotten into two of my desired classes and I felt lucky. Walking to chemistry shortly after, I found that most of my friends had only a blank screen to look at while the classes vital to their prospective majors rapidly filled up. I heard multiple stories of people being blocked out of classes even though there were clearly spots open, and a few of classmates who couldn't get into any classes at all. Class registration is not the smoothest process. Do we really want to depend on this system to pick where we'll be living next academic year?

I'm a freshman, so I have not experienced the housing registration of old, in which students crowded into the 1962 in Cro waiting for lottery numbers to be called. It sounds pretty cumbersome. But to change the system this radically in one bound without testing seems risky. The new housing registration process—which will take place online and give each student exactly two minutes to sign up for both a room and a house before another student is given the chance to snag the spot they want—seems destined for major complications. We just experienced a week-long wireless meltdown with lingering effects, so I'm skeptical of the overall net-

work. Even without a major Internet hang-up, the bandwidth at Conn doesn't seem to be built for such a large mass of people constantly refreshing windows over an extended period of time. Hypothetically, if the page takes thirty seconds to load, it leaves students just ninety seconds to navigate and make these crucial decisions.

There's also something that just logically didn't make sense to me. As I understand it, the registration process is meant to take place over the course of a week. Each class will be assigned a day and a

I believe that those students condemned to the sub-ground floors deserve at least a little bit of an edge when it comes time to register for housing.

But under this new online system, all priority has been removed.

string of two-minute sessions will open up one after another. Connecticut College has an undergraduate population of roughly 1,900. Through the power of math I know that there are about 475 students per grade. Multiply that by two minutes per student and you have fifteen hours and change. That's a large chunk of the day. How can this work when some students are sure to have class during their window? What about people who have sports practice, or a job shift during which internet isn't readily available? What about people who are studying abroad who might not be able to use the internet for days at a time?

The Office of Residential Education and Living (REAL) explained the solution they have in place for such issues. Before registration, each student will fill out a survey that ranks room types and residential houses in order of preference. Based upon this survey, REAL administrators will act as proxies, picking your room and dorm for you during your window if you are not able to do so. Having a stranger make this quick and stressful decision for me sounds terrifying, but it also seems to be the best solution under this new system.

Yet there's something about the new registration process that bothers me even more than the shaky logistics. I live in the basement of JA and it sucks. From having to share one shower with twelve other guys, putting up with the smell emanating from the room where they store all the garbage, having a window from which I can only see peoples' feet, dealing with the janitorial and kitchen staff loudly arriving to their offices at 6:30 AM and having the slowest internet connection anywhere, I believe that those students condemned to the sub-ground floors deserve at least a little bit of an edge when it comes time to registering for housing. But no—under this new online system, all priority has been removed.

I've heard about all the money that's been poured into the base-



The Office of Residential Education and Living has stopped granting priority to residents of S. Ralph Lazrus House

KARAM SETHI / PHOTO EDITOR

ments, but better lighting and a fresh coat of paint do not detract from the fact that basement rooms are still in the basement. We're at much greater risk of flooding than any other floor (many people have heard horror stories from last semester) and I know that at least in JA, the basement is the coldest and darkest place in the entire dorm.

But don't think I've forgotten about members of Lazrus House, the other students negatively affected by this news. According to Marie Lalor, the assistant director of the REAL office, the logic behind taking priority away from the students in Laz is that the dorm "filled up completely voluntarily this year," which I consider misleading. First of all, there are still rooms open according to several students who live in the dorm. Second, based on the conversations I had with a few of the house's residents, Lazrus was far from being number one on their lists and many of the students who live there do so because they have no other choice. It's also the only dorm on campus which offers year-round housing. The drawbacks of living there are pretty apparent: Laz is old, which means no AC and spotty heating. The rooms are small, as is the dorm itself, and there are serious problems like cracks in walls and ceilings.

While I'm at it, why don't students who live in quads get any priority? Apparently they

never have, but I think they deserve it, too. I know a lot of students who live in these crammed rooms and get along perfectly well with their roommates, but that doesn't change the fact that they get two to three times less privacy than most of us. And I've only seen a few rooms that actually look large enough to accommodate three, let alone four people. The fact of the matter is that some students at Conn have been forced to live in worse conditions than the rest, and for putting up with those conditions for six months I believe they deserve at least a tiny bit of favor when it comes time to pick rooms for the next academic year.

When I first heard that registration was adopting an online format, I thought it sounded like a smart way to streamline the process. But after hearing the details and thinking about the logistics of it all, the old method of doing things began to sound better and better. The elimination of priority is a mistake, and the two-minute windows sound too inflexible for such an important decision. While there are some aspects of this new process that are promising, and while there is a chance that everything could all turn out just fine, I can't help but feel that all the students applying for housing this year are being used as guinea pigs for a process that seems very unlikely to succeed.

Don't Do That!

Kiefer Roberts' open letters to the campus community

Dear Connecticut College Camels,

Welcome back! In the interest of full disclosure, I wanted to tell you all that for a few weeks over break I considered not continuing the column. You know, occasional hurt feelings (sorry I'm not sorry), people not heeding some advice (seriously, if it's not Sundae Sunday in Harris...), and even a point where I thought to myself, "What else do I have to say?" And then I realized that the spring semester is the longer of the two, and there are a few things I would love to point out before it's too late. After all, *The Real Housewives of Beverly Hills* is over, which means I have lots of free time.

As a senior admissions fellow, I'm often asked what the student relationship is like with the town and people of New London, and while I do my best to accurately portray it, there's no easy way to say, "Yeah...they're not fond of the space we take up at L&M hospital come spring time." Well, actually, I guess that would be a good way to phrase the subject (note: not *issue*) of alcohol consumption, but I digress. My point is, if you've ever been out on the town and received a dirty look from a guy who looks like he frequents Exchange, Hot Rod's or Road House more than your typical Thursday or Saturday excursion, it's not (just) because he doesn't respect your not-so-well-concealed Four Loko. It's probably because he knows a guy who knows a guy who was in the waiting room, bleeding from the face while some Conn student had puke caked in their hair and was getting an IV. Or perhaps he drives a cab, one he had to hose out after somebody decided it was a good idea to lose all that Harris pesto pasta in the back seat. My point? Drinking can lead to fun when done properly; drinking properly, however, doesn't necessitate a private escort to the hospital.

This stands as a warning for any underclassmen (freshmen) who've yet to experience this. My advice to you, good young people of the college, is DO NOT DO IT. See? Simple. Anyone who's a sophomore or older, you've really got no excuse. You've had time to acclimate to the absence of kegs, and to the administration apparently hating fun. But those are not free passes to act like Charlie Sheen. So stop doing pulls of Evan, Jim, Jack, Johnnie or José in your room, and eat some more bread or something. Damn, get your act together.

Avoiding the unnecessary and expensive hospital trip can be done in quite a few easy-to-remember ways. For instance, if the frothy broth you encounter in a recycling bin in a third floor laundry room (reason enough, for most) doesn't maintain a color that you can find in nature, it's best to stay away. On that note, if it has the same color as something you might



ILLUSTRATION BY ALICIA TOLDI

find left in a toilet at 2:17 on a Friday morning (quick note to the boys here: The entire "if it's yellow, let it mellow" rule might be environmentally friendly, but it was established for bathrooms you don't have to share), it's probably best not to swallow, yeah? Good. Also, if you make a drink, take a sip and immediately make a face like you smell nail polish remover, the concoction in the cup is probably closer to acetone than that kamikaze recipe you just Googled.

As you know or as you might have heard, this semester has a tendency to get wild, especially once it gets warm. The desire to kick back an extra shot or two can be a tricky thing to avoid, but is probably best to, especially if you've had more shots than you have digits. The only thing more horrific than having to take an ambulance to the hospital, is having to take a cab back in the morning with nothing on but last night's outfit and this week's shame to look forward to. And yes, it might be early, but someone is watching you. And laughing. A lot.

Be festive, not dead,
Kiefer

We know you
have opinions.

And we want them.

e-mail
opinions@thecollegevoice.org

Come to our
meetings on
Monday nights
at ten o'clock in
Cro 215.

A Gringo's First Impressions of Ecuador

STEPHEN DWORKIN
CONTRIBUTOR

I woke up this morning with a headache, which happens commonly in the US. Despite the fact that everyone *here* talks about altitude sickness, and how my capillaries should be slowly reforming themselves to acclimate to the lack of oxygen, my lethargic winter break ensured the impossibility of deciding whether my dizziness and shortness of breath after hiking across Quito were a product of being nine thousand feet above sea level or my being absurdly out of shape. The altitude also meant I couldn't put toilet paper into the toilet or figure out how to take a shower without getting burns or frostbite. Even my shit was a different color in Ecuador—dyed, I suppose—by the juices *fabulosos*: mango, pineapple, *naranjilla*. So I spent most of the first days of orientation confused about my own health and state of mind, trying to balance being outgoing and clever for my new *amigos* and blasting into my brain the realization that *I am here and not home*.

Yesterday the program director summoned all nineteen of us into the combined dining room/garden of the Posada del Maple hostel. She made sure we knew not to drink unbottled or unboiled water, passed out some ribbed condoms and a flimsy mask to protect against volcanic ash, laughed off requests for a map and sent us out in pairs to shove into packed buses, store our wallets close to our thighs, widen our eyes at the leers of aggressive old nuns and eventually stumble back to the hostel half alive. I dropped a loaf of bread in a *panaderia*, gave incorrect change at a *SuperMaxi*, dodged taxis like one dodges mosquitos and drank suspicious *jugo de naranja* at a café. I forgot Spanish words constantly and consistently, like one might forget one's car keys on the roof of one's car, and gave an answer to a query about the location of said *SuperMaxi* that may or may not have been sexual. I'm still waiting for diarrhea from the orange juice.

Today, however, the group

traveled to *Yanacocha*—"Black Lake" in Kichwa—as one happy, if somewhat baffled, family. *Yanacocha* wasn't actually a lake, we were told, but a forest in the depths of the clouds filled with *picaflores*—hummingbirds—and would be a fitting setting for a production of *A Midsummer Night's Dream*. Burdened by the pain in my skull, I joined my fellow scientists in the back of a *metalbus* (we were glad to know it wasn't made of plastic) at 8 AM among the toxic fumes of the Ecuadorian morning commute. All the roads in the city were one-way, which led to awk-

People stared at us from trucks piled with rubble and wood. I was conscious of who I was, which doesn't happen often in the U.S.

ward skirmishes with trucks back and forth between *parques* and *muros*: walls. The city was sliced through with all kinds of walls, some with barbed wire perched on top like crows and others lined with shards of glass carefully inserted into the crumbling cement. Everyone leaned out of vehicles to stare at *los gringos*, and we leaned out of the bus to take pictures of the city and mountains beyond. We passed slums and shantytowns and stray dogs, and I forced down a dim and distant sadness.

Yanacocha was only accessible through a drive through the valley of the shadow of death. Sharp turns on cliffside routes and near collisions with livestock were accompanied by unpaved roads and cavernous potholes. The bus driver plunged through a *hacienda* like sperm through an egg and smiled back at the nausea he had inspired. I grabbed the foot of my *amigo* as he plunged out the window. He took pictures of the *precipicios* of mud and grass and rock and garbage, as well as the approaching wall of mist.

The bus crashed through a thatched archway welcoming visitors to *la reserva final* of the black-breasted puffleg. We took our vehicle's sudden silence as a cue and got off at a dank set of bathrooms. We walked off into

the mist in assigned groups, attempting to memorize the names and descriptions of plant species—some as old as *los dinosaurios*—without using English at all. I tore through the Spanish and Kichwa words like copper miners tear through a native village. The more I pretended to learn the more stupid I felt, until we stopped for lunch at a small group of benches sheltered with a ceiling made of *paja*. It began to rain. There were sudden thrums behind me, like loose arcs of electricity, and I turned to face a green and golden blur. A species, I was told, which was native to this particular slope of this particular mountain.

We emerged from the thick sponge of fog believing in some epiphany or another, brought about by swordlike beaks dipping into sugar water and, soaked, shuffled back onto the bus. The program director was sick and we couldn't help but grimace at her face in the overhead mirror. The bus stopped near a slope so she could get out and vomit.

The cloud began to extract itself from the land and I stared out the rear window, transfixed by the towering castle of water vapor that loomed behind us like a white *montaña*. Little shacks crowded close to the bus as if seeking warmth. Their foundations were cracked and their walls were boarded together like a collage of the desperate masses yearning for a new *revolución*. Children sat in the muck while dogs fought over food and attention. I sat on a throne high above and thought about when I would next have Internet access or time for a nap. I went through the usual guilt trip, the one established specifically for *touristas* and *Europeos* and, with some luck, *Estadounidenses*. It cleared my head a little.

People stared at us from trucks piled with rubble and wood and from fenced slats of land brimming with hens, precariously balanced near the remnants of not-so-old mudslides. I was conscious of who I was, which doesn't happen often in the U.S.



LILAH RAPTOPOULOS / EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

A stranger in a strange land. Lawrence of Arabia. An ugly duckling. The Great Satan.

"I think I know what it's like to be a minority now," I said, as a sheltered *gringo* would.

"No, you don't," said the girl next to me.

We passed Quito's military academy. Above a carved condor over the entrance were imbued the words: "*Solo Por Vencerte Vencerás*." Only through conquering yourself can you conquer.

I tried to break free like life was a lucid dream. I wondered if *peyote* would help, or the hallucinogenic *shanshi* plant. And, just for a fraction of a half of a second, I convinced myself that I rejected all semblances of separation, all carefully crafted illusions and manufactured indications of difference. I made all kinds of naïve assumptions and convinced myself that I was the same as all these people except

for a few cases of odd luck—diarrhea of the Fates. I was the man leaning against the doorframe of a storefront, mouth pursed and wrinkled, sharing all of his thoughts and passions and resounding vigor. I was the woman standing at the corner of *Seis de Diciembre* and *Avenue Patria*, hoping in earnest that her face was pretty enough to convince a bus driver to stop. I was the child pushing a cart of alcohol up a steep embankment for what could have been a thousand reasons, pressures and fears, none of which I understood. I was the hunched man at the restaurant in *La Mariscal* who played the harp for us, who passed around a basket for a tip, who waited ten minutes at another table while two diners willfully ignored him before carrying his heavy instrument, alone, into the lit and festive night. And he was I.

I am here and not home. •

Aw Hail No: A Reflection on a Relentless Winter



KARAM SETHI / PHOTO EDITOR

ography of Conn by keeping my gaze fixed on the ground to make sure I don't take a comical Charlie Brown Christmas special plop. So I ask the campus community and administrators, *what do we do with all of this snow?*

President Higdon recently joked during a KB common room centennial event that he was going to start storing the snow in our dorms if it kept adding up—something I took very, very seriously. It seems far-fetched, but if *snowmageddon* keeps rearing its ugly head on the east coast, where else will it go? Could Conn use all of this new building material and introduce an arctic studies igloo smack dab in the middle of the green? Should our campus employ a *snowmadilla* alert rating system instead of this hoopla about digital signage? Should we all loosen up and have a snowball fight for ten minutes until it's not fun anymore? And how does the school manage to get officially closed down yet professors are

Every single day is a new icy hell, a day of uncertainty and terror about which direction the wind will blow while I walk south.

able to hold classes at their own discretion? Would it make more sense to just cancel classes for the semester?

I asked a friendly Physical Planter outside my dorm about the snow policy on this campus. I caught him in the middle of shoveling mounds of salt on the entranceway steps to combat the

ice. He informed me that Physical Plant tends to place the snow where it is most convenient, which is perfectly valid. They put the snow in places with ample drainage and avoid piling it in places that would inhibit drivers' vision. We can only applaud and be grateful for their efforts in trying to keep up with this madness.

The snow is tearing this college apart at the seams. Every single day is a new icy hell, a day of uncertainty and terror about which direction the wind will blow while I walk south, or how many cardigan sweaters I should bundle to effectively beat the cold but at the same time remain dapper as hell. The worst part is the lack of progress. Though we have officially entered February and thus ushered in spring (sort of), there is still snow everywhere! I would venture to say that the bottom of all of these snow piles has not changed since we have returned. Bikes are buried on campus like it's Pompeii; gravel lot looks like a feedlot. Cro changed its name to Sno. I don't even want to see the stratification of cigarette butts after this frost dissipates. We are all in danger of breaking our backs or having just enough snow seep into our boots to make the rest day worth crying over. Is it realistic to ask that we just employ some Bics and cans of Raid and evaporate it? It would only do so much good; *snowlocaust* will merely sweep over us again in a wintry, *dysnowpian* frenzy.

The snow will keep piling and piling and piling. The bottom line is there is nothing we can do and we are all going to die. •

ETHAN HARFENIST
CONTRIBUTOR

It's happening again: we wake up and realize that our campus has been freshly whitewashed yet another time with a coat of snow (or in today's case, freezing-slushpuppy rain). I don't remember the last time weather has frustrated me so much; piles of black-tinged snow compressed on the sides of roads reveal the slick surface of invisible ice on the asphalt. The dorm floors are splattered with salt formations and our boots drag disgusting salty/sandy/wet shoe fluid wherever we walk (yet the doormat leading into my room has been taken away *twice* by the custodial staff). On top of all of this, I am injured. As a result, I have to navigate the *Iditarod*-like ge-

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Egyptian Protesters: Our Brothers and Sisters or Our Forgotten Relatives?

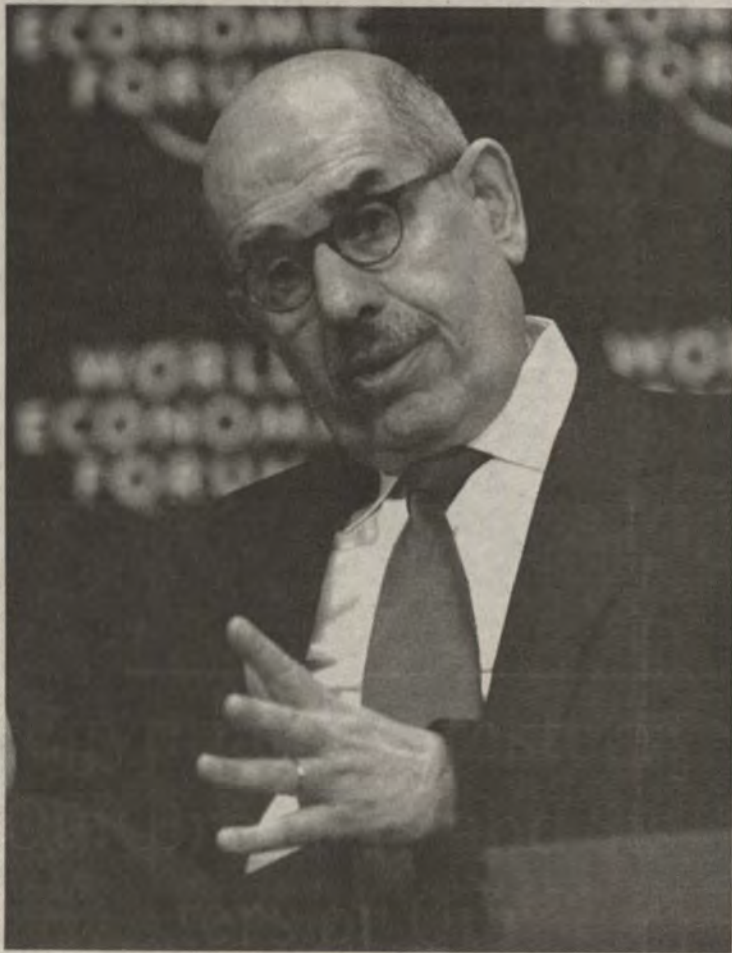


PHOTO FROM WIKIMEDIA COMMONS

Nobel Peace laureate Mohamed ElBaradei may emerge as a frontrunner to replace Hosni Mubarak as President of Egypt

SETH NIGROSH
BLOGGER

Editor's Note: This article was first published electronically on our political blog on January 30. Access the archives from thecollegevoice.org.

After the Tunisian protests took down a government and rocked a region, Egyptians have realized that they have had enough of the autocratic rule of President Hosni Mubarak. The question becomes, what does America do? In the Middle East, nothing is ever simple, and it's often the case that what seems morally right is actually detrimental to our interests. In this case, though, we would be making a grave mistake by not throwing our full support behind the protestors in their quest to rid themselves and their country of tyranny.

The United States has, at best, a checkered past when it comes to encouraging democracy. This may sound like some sort of socialist heresy, but those pesky little things called facts don't lie. In the 1980s, the U.S. government, through the CIA and in cooperation with the Argentinean dictatorship, gave money and support to the Nicaraguan Contras. The Contras were fighting against the Sandinistas, who had ousted a military dictatorship, and proceeded to win a 1984 national election that outside observers said was free and fair. Surprisingly or not, depending on your point of view, our government of the people, by the people and for the people did not support the popularly elected Sandinistas. They continued to give money to the Contra's war. Civilians were killed by both sides in the conflict, but it cannot be denied that the U.S. knowingly gave money to a violent insurrection to defeat a popularly-elected government simply because the U.S. disagreed with the Sandinistas ideologically. This strange version of democracy was made even stranger when the U.S. began funding the Contras through the illegal sale of weapons to Iran which, as we all know, is now nothing less than a shining beacon of democracy in the world.

This support of non-democratic regimes was not a one-time thing, unfortunately. Many of us probably remember pictures of George W. Bush holding hands with a Saudi prince. I'm fairly certain that Saudi Arabia can be considered non-democratic; women can't drive cars, the judicial system serves only to keep the regime in power and the next leader will not be popularly elected but will be the eldest son of the current king. *The Economist* ranked Saudi Arabia as the seventh most authoritarian regime in the world

in 2010. Still, the U.S. is selling \$60.5 billion worth of weapons to them. And who needs to be reminded of Dick Cheney palling around with Saddam Hussein? Didn't we end up hanging him or something? How democratic of us.

To be fair, it's easy to understand why the U.S. supports non-democratic regimes like that of Hosni Mubarak in Egypt. The hawks in government have never really cared about spreading democracy, or even keeping democracy vibrant and alive at home. Sure, we have fair elections, or at least as fair as you can get with millions of corporate and union dollars to finance campaigns, but what about the PATRIOT Act? What about the sacrosanct intelligence and defense programs? What about a lack of transparency for the American taxpayer? The hawks have cared most about security, and true democracy is a distant second. In order for us to maintain internal security, it is in our interest to control the outside factors that might damage that safety.

Rulers like Mubarak have kept a convenient handle on more radical elements like the Muslim Brotherhood. If that means that Egyptians do not have freedom of speech or can be subject to imprisonment without a fair trial, then that is a trade many in the government have seemed willing to make. It's beginning to feel like democracy is only acceptable if your country agrees entirely with ours. Democracy is about trusting the people to make difficult decisions. Some of those decisions will cause other people harm. The gamble, though, is that most of those decisions will turn out for the best. If America is only willing to put that trust in its own citizens, then I guess the American "exceptionalism" that has been talked about is true; we are exceptionally arrogant, misguided and blinded by our own power.

America needs to leave the Cold War mindset. It is not about good versus evil anymore, if it ever was. Now, it's all about shades of gray. The most prominent Egyptian opposition leader is not some crazed Islamist. Instead it is Mohamed ElBaradei, the former head of the International Atomic Energy Agency and a Nobel Peace laureate. It seems to me like a man who has devoted a large part of his life to keeping nuclear weapons away from terrorists and rogue states is not all that bad a choice to lead Egypt. We need to stop listening to the doomsday hawks, and start listening to the democratic voices that this country was founded upon. •

An Interdisciplinary Inspection of Memory

EMMA WITTENBERG
STAFF WRITER

How does our memory define us? It's hardly easy to explain and understand the meaning of memories in a few hour-long sessions, but speakers at the Memory Across Disciplines symposium tackled the question by presenting insights ranging from specific psychological explanations to much more abstract connections to memory through dance and movement.

The event began on the evening of Thursday, February 3, with a screening of *Unknown White Male*, a documentary about Doug Bruce, a 35-year-old man who wakes up on a subway in New York City to find all of the memories from his life have vanished. The movie was an interesting way to begin thinking about the impact that memories have on our personality and identity in general. Between psychedelic clips of flashing colors and images of city streets reflecting Bruce's lost memories, I watched as he adjusted to his new life, meeting his father for the "first time" and getting a tour of his hometown of London. The movie approached the issue in a similar way to the symposium, interviewing both psychologists and philosophers who gave their own opinions on Bruce's condition. The movie ended on the more philosophical side of things with Bruce standing on the balcony of his apartment asking the camera, "If we are only made up of memories, then who are we, really?"

The next morning, Mark Freeman a the psychology professor at the College of the Holy Cross, began the symposium by summarizing the idea of memory on a large scale. Jefferson Singer, a psychology professor here at Conn, presented a paper that explained that one of the most important aspects of memory in psychology is "self-defining memories." He gave examples of his own patients to illustrate the importance of looking back on seemingly insignificant memories to understand current personality traits. Additional papers were presented by seniors Emily Lake,

Aili Weeks, and Mary Gover.

Although all of the presentations were informative and it was clear that the presenters had spent a huge amount of time pondering the idea of memory, the transition between a presentation on psychological concepts such as performative self and external narrative and a paper on human rights in mental hospitals was a rather difficult one to make.

In the afternoon, Conn faculty from several disciplines participated in a panel discussion, connecting their fields of research to the idea of memory. Slavic studies professor Andrea Lanoux discussed one of her projects that consisted of speaking with Russian youths about the fall of the Soviet Union, a monumental event that happened when they were very young. She found

"If we are only made up of memories, then who are we, really?"

that their own memories were overridden by those of the older generation and that the event means surprisingly little to them in the present. Professor Courtney Baker of the Department of Literatures in English talked about her research into images of black suffering and death and their role in constructing American cultural memory. Her colleague Lina Wilder, whose book *Shakespeare's Memory Theater* was just published by Cambridge University Press, talked about the role of memory in *Hamlet*.

As I listened to each presentation, I found myself wondering how this would come together in the end and whether these topics could really be related. David Kim and David Dorfman's joint presentation on movement was definitely a highlight of the symposium. The audience was asked multiple times

to stand and create some sort of movement that would later have to be remembered and repeated. "Movement can unlock so many individual experiences and connect people," Dorfman said, as the audience (myself included) awkwardly swayed and jumped, trying to recall our own muscle memories. The idea of muscle memory and its connection to our personal psychological memories was an unexpected addition to the conversation.

The last presentation was given by Negar Mottahdeh, who spoke about the 2009 protests in Iran against President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad. She explained that much of the spirit of these protests were directly influenced by the Iranian Revolution of 1979. The chants and songs were adaptations of those that came thirty years earlier.

When the question and answer session began, someone immediately asked what we had all been thinking, "So how can we connect all of this?" Many of the speakers offered their own answers; Dorfman said, "What we all want from memory is truth. There is a human desire to remember." The fact is that it's impossible to find one theme of the symposium, but it did give the rare opportunity to see professors and students from a huge range of disciplines offer their thoughts on the importance of memory on personal identity and let us attendees ponder the topic on our own. •



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FEBRUARY 7, 2011

One Hundred Years in Two Minutes

The college kicks off its Centennial Celebration with an alum-directed video

NICK RODRICKS
CONTRIBUTOR

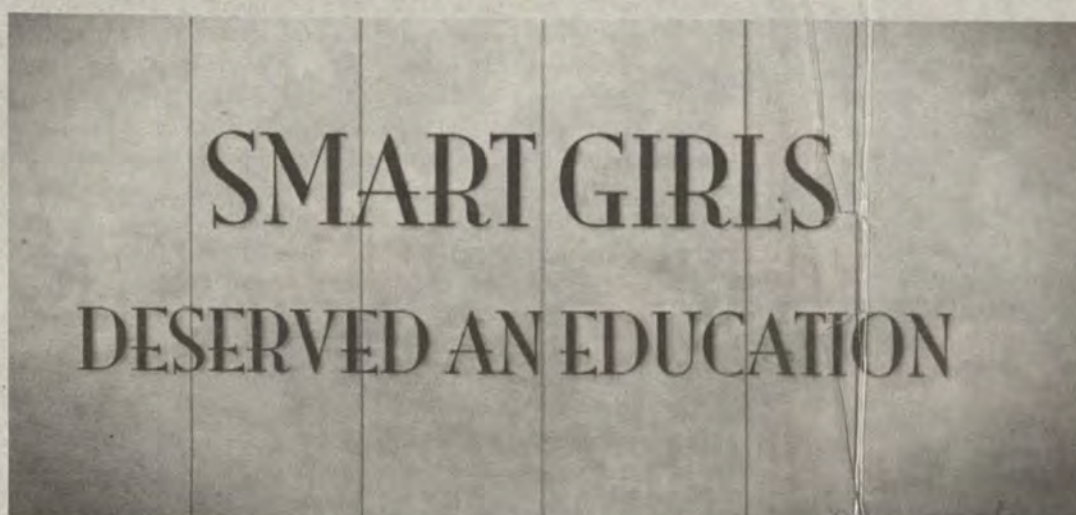
Editor's note: This article is written as satire, and is not to be taken entirely seriously.

"In the beginning," narrates Matthew Rolin '13, "there was just an idea." This is the opening line to Connecticut College's new Centennial Video, a short film reminding the campus community that our college's "birthday" is coming up and that we're barely older than Hugh Hefner.

The Centennial website hosts a long calendar of events in celebration of the Centennial. The video, however, has been far and away the most successful action taken by the college to capture interest. "Is that the video that starts with stars?" asked Mark Warburg '13 referring to the random opening image of deep space. "Yeah, I think space and stars were a good choice." Sara Kerney '12 says she would love to see the video but is "waiting for the campus Internet to start working again."

Rolin narrated the film under direction of Theater Department Chair Leah Lowe. "I'm pretty pleased with how the video came out," said the golden voiced Rolin. "Some people have said it's a little bit campy. I think the ultimate goal was to make a fun, upbeat video to get people excited." As a result, campus excitement is at a record high, although many attribute it to the recent addition of pot-stickers to the Harris Menu. Campy, however, is something no one seems to agree with.

"Oh no, I don't think it was campy, just very...Disney



SCREENSHOT FROM WEB

personated Sean Connery, perhaps to be one day included in a deleted scenes package. Connery could not be reached for comment.

The video was produced and edited by David Kahn '06. "I approached College Relations a few months ago and said that I was interested in producing a video about the Centennial theme," said Kahn, who was selected after no one else expressed interest. Kahn now runs eCastVideo, a video production company out of Boston. "I offered to donate the video production," said Kahn. "I think of it as an alumni contribution."

Student reactions to the Centennial video have varied. "How could anyone

not want to visit Connecticut College after seeing this video?" asked Amy Falk '11. Falk, who can be spotted twice in the video, said she is honored to be a part of the college's history. "The video really shows how close we are as a community and how far we've come since 1911." On the other hand, Andrew Savage '14 said he watched the video twice but claims the only Centennial celebration he has seen was "tea in the KB common room."

The Centennial celebration will continue throughout the year in an attempt to meet the Centennial Goals, all of which are listed on the Centennial Website. These goals primarily focus on "strategic initiatives" or "raising awareness," code words for alumni donations. So although the student body may debate the motives of the film, there has been one universal consensus: we sure are glad it was free. •

like. I think they show the same one on the tram at Disney world," said Caroline Abbot '12. "Yeah, the fireworks were a little much," agreed Hannah Campbell '12, referring to the fireworks display used to close out the video.

The campus now sits in anxious anticipation of Centennial fireworks.

Likewise, the depiction of young women in an archery class has caused campus uproar over the removal of archery as a requirement for the philosophy major.

Rolin was also sure to mention just how seriously the school took the making of the video. "At the end of the first recording, it was mentioned that the [animations] were going to be in a Monty Python style." Rumors have since circulated that Monty Python animator Terry Gilliam was hired to work on the video, but his contract fell through when he was only offered Lazarus housing. Rolin also revealed the existence of a version in which he in-

Tag, You're It!

Thursday night games attract crowds, long lines

ANDREW STEEL
CONTRIBUTOR

A heavy silence had fallen amongst our ranks. We crouched behind the bunker, awaiting the signal. The sweat on my palms forced me to clutch my pistol more tightly – my sole comfort in what would soon become our hell. The bunker shielded us for the time being; the lights from our weapons glinted off of its glossy surface.

Suddenly, without any warning, a loud blast echoed through the room: the signal. We vaulted past our bunker and sprinted onto the battlefield towards our impending doom. Our footfalls were drowned out by the concerto of war as 80s techno music flooded the arena. The cries of confusion and discord mingled with tinny laser noises as my comrades depressed their triggers, aiming at our until-then-unseen foes.

I reached my destination, sliding into an inflatable barrier laid out on the dusty wooden floor. My shoulder slammed into it, causing it to rock violently on its sandbag fasteners. I peeked my head over the barrier to take a quick account of the situation; the barrel of a pistol about twenty feet away met my gaze. I quickly ducked back behind my cover to dodge the enemy fire, but it was too late; my gun was shaking in my hand as the cold red light of my head indicator covered my arms and the nearby ground. One life down, nine to go.

On Thursday, January 27, between the hours of 9:00 PM and 12:30 AM, approximately 150 warriors like myself poured into Cro to engage in heated 4v4 laser tag skirmishes.

"I was worried all day that it was going to get cancelled," said Kim Marker '13, who, along with Jeannette Williams, the Assistant Director of Student Engagement & Leadership here at Conn, organized the entire event. Marker is the president and treasurer for the organization SAPA (Student Activities Programming Assistant Staff), which, as its name indicates, helps organize many of the entertainment events for students.

She had been putting everything together with Party Vision, the company that supplied the laser tag equipment. Due to inclement weather, Party Vision, based in Nashua, New Hampshire, nearly didn't make it to Conn in time for the event. Luckily, disaster was averted, and they pulled into campus with time to spare. Due to a lot of advertising and planning beforehand, as well as the event's wide-reaching appeal, Marker claims that this was SAPA's "most successful event... this year."

While the event was generally well-received, it was not without its hitches. Due to the small number of players allowed in each game, coupled with the length of each game (about ten minutes each), many were left waiting in line for nearly half an hour, if not longer. Furthermore, toward the end of the event, the equipment seemed to malfunction frequently, forcing players to pause mid-game to reset their weapons.

These problems aside, Marker believes the event still went very well and, when questioned as to whether or not there would be another laser tag night, she responded, "I really hope so; I would love to make it a yearly thing."

She is fully aware of the problems that occurred this time around and is looking to make next year's event more accommodating. Rest assured, though: even with the probable fixes, the event will remain free of charge. •

Pimps, Prostitutes, and Hangings

An inside look at this year's musical, *The Threepenny Opera*

RAYMOND HAWKINS
CONTRIBUTOR

I'm guessing you've probably heard of Oliva Hall. Now if I asked you to tell me where it is, you might be a little less certain, depending on how many N20 shows you've attended. I bet you don't know that in this random little hall in Cummings rehearsals for Conn's upcoming production of *The Threepenny Opera* are in full swing.

When I heard the rehearsals were being held in Oliva, I was relieved that I wouldn't have to trek down Gallows Lane to the old DNA EpiCenter, the traditional location for Conn's theater rehearsals. Instead, I made my way from Harris to Cummings on a treacherously icy Wednesday evening to find out more about the upcoming show.

When I arrived, the cast was just getting ready to go. They gathered around a circle of chairs, laughing and swapping jokes with director Peter Deffet. I wondered how fewer than twenty people could be as loud as Harris at dinnertime – I guess the answer is pure enthusiasm. But when it came time to start, the room became immediately silent. They got started on discussing the rehearsal schedule, comprised of eighteen intense hours each week. These people meant business.

Logistics worked out, the cast began their first read-through. "You are about to see an opera for beggars," the play begins. "Because this opera is so magnificent only a beggar could have thought it up, and because it still had to be so cheap even beggars could afford it, we call it *The Threepenny Opera*."

Set in the slums of Victorian London, the musical centers around the notorious criminal, Macheath, who marries a young woman named Polly. But when her father, Mr. Peachum, hears the news, he tries to use his influence to have Macheath hanged.

You might have heard of "Mack the Knife," a song first popularized in the U.S. by Louis Armstrong. It was later sung by Bobby Darin, recorded by Frank Sinatra and ranked 251 on *Rolling Stone's* "500 Greatest Songs of All Time." Did you know that "Mack the Knife" is from *The Threepenny Opera*? Well, now you do.

Clearly there are some good



Kadie Greenfield '11 rehearses a song for *The Threepenny Opera*.

tunes in the show; yet, cast member Ben Stepansky '12 explains, "It's a musical that doesn't focus on the music. It's really more about the story."

So what kind of a story is *Threepenny*? As Stepansky points out, "There's pimps, there's prostitutes and there's hangings." There's also more beneath the grizzly surface.

According to Deffet, "This isn't your everyday jazz-hands kind of musical." German playwright Bertolt Brecht's goal was "making people realize that what they were watching was not real." His technique discourages excessive emotional investment by the audience, and "if they do get caught up in the romance, it's only so we can pull the rug right out from underneath them."

Some of you might remember *The Rocky Horror Show* from last year, also directed by Deffet,

along with Bill Thomas as Music Director. When I asked what led to the decision for this year's musical, Deffet explained that he had directed *Threepenny* in college, and had been discussing doing it at Conn for a while. He thinks it's the play's strong political message that makes it popular on campuses. "It speaks to the wish for everyone to be treated equally." After all, "college students are political."

Assistant stage manager Molly Clifford '13 says that *The Threepenny Opera* "is all about economics and getting ahead, and that relates so well to the world we live in. It's a very interesting, timely piece to do."

Based on my evening in Oliva, I'd say that when *The Threepenny Opera* goes on March 3-6, it will be well worth three pennies to go see. Hell, I bet it'll be worth eight bucks. •

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The Road to the Oscars

In part one of our Oscar series, one writer discusses one fifth of the Best Picture nominations



ILLUSTRATION BY JEREMY NAKAMURA

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

In any case, I quickly realized while perusing this list a few days ago that I hadn't actually seen any of these movies, which is really unusual for me. Even more interesting is the fact that I was recently asked by *The College Voice* to provide live commentary during Oscar night via a Twitter account. While this sounds amazing and I can't wait to do it, it seems only reasonable that I should see most, if not all, of the Best Picture nominees before the awards.

Fortunately, I knocked out two of them this week, *Toy Story 3* and *127 Hours*, and can share some of my own predictions on their award eligibility.

For those of you who don't know, *Toy Story 3* was a success last year, and became a very rare Hollywood "Hat Trick", which here means "three awesome movies that get more awesome over time." Considering that Pixar was essentially risking the ruination of an indisputable classic from most of our childhoods, I was very pleased with the end result. If this movie doesn't cause an emotional response in you, then you have no soul.

Aside from Best Picture, *Toy Story 3* has been nominated for four other Oscars: Best Adapted Screenplay, Best Animated Feature, Best Sound Editing and Best Original Song. Let's be blunt: it's not getting Best Picture, but *Toy Story 3* has got Best Animated Feature written all over it. There are only two other nominees in that category after all, and I don't think either of them caused middle-aged men to bawl their eyes out. Nothing's getting in *Toy Story 3*'s way, not even *How to Train Your Dragon*, which I heard was great but neglected to see.

I have no idea what the real qualifications for Best Sound Editing are (sorry), and since Best Adapted Screenplay pretty much belongs to *The Social Network*, that leaves Best Original Song, which *Toy Story 3* actually has a decent shot at since Randy Newman decided to come out of whatever cave he's in. This is assuming, of course, that *Country Strong* doesn't get in the way, stumbling into the Oscars smelling like whiskey and clichés. *Toy Story 3* will no doubt get at least one Oscar this year, maybe two.

Now, it's hard to talk about *127*

Hours without giving away spoilers, at least according to several people who asked me to tell them about the film and then scolded me when I described a key moment. That being said, I'll try to be unspecific. Relevant side note: mountaineer Aron Ralston is a real person who, after being trapped beneath a boulder in a canyon for five days, amputated his arm in order to free himself.

Now, *127 Hours* is about mountaineer Aron Ralston, played by James Franco. While hiking, he gets trapped beneath a boulder for five days, and he frees himself by—oh! I won't spoil it for you. Needless to say, it's brutal, and apparently the scene caused some people in Toronto to faint, but that's not a reason to skip the movie. In fact, one could argue that it's a big reason to watch.

127 Hours has been nominated for six Oscars. Best Film Editing is a big possibility for this one; Danny Boyle of *Slumdog Millionaire* fame does some pretty cool things with the camera, putting it in places you certainly wouldn't expect and giving us lots of oblique angles that increase the intensity rather than parody it.

Franco is absurdly good here; he brings surprising depth to a character that doesn't have the opportunity to say much. In fact the script for this film can't be very thick, which is why its Best Adapted Screenplay nomination confuses me. I doubt it will win it, but Best Actor is a possibility unless Javier Bardem surprises us again and spooks the Academy into giving him one to keep his Best Supporting Actor Oscar some company. So, *127 Hours* is good, but is it getting Best Picture? I'm going to say no, but it definitely deserves the nod.

Two movies down, eight to

go! The Oscars will be on February 27. Also, Anne Hathaway and James Franco are hosting, and I am eagerly anticipating the inevitably super-awkward comedy skits that I know they both worked really, really hard on. What would really be weird is if Franco does somehow pull out the win for Best Actor. Does he have to keep hosting? Has that even happened before? We can only watch and find out. •

Check out *The College Voice's* Twitter feed on Oscar night, February 27, for Jerell's live tweets.

Prophets of Funk A David Dorfman Dance production



Photographs are from "Prophets of Funk: Dance to the Music," a David Dorfman Dance production that celebrated the inspirational music of Sly and the Family Stone. The dance featured a performance by Raja Kelly '09, and Professor David Kim helped develop the piece for the company. The show was a part of Conn's onStage series.

CECILIA BROWN / STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER



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Men's Basketball Relies on Youth for Success



Two Conn players secure a rebound against Wesleyan.

DUNCAN SPAULDING/STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

BEN STEPANSKY
STAFF WRITER

Without a senior on the team, men's basketball has had to fight hard this season to compete with the physical play in the NESCAC. Coming off a difficult 71-66 loss to 14th ranked Western Connecticut State University, the Camels have gone 4-6 over their last ten games (dating back to January 10), but have shown a lot of progress over the course of the season.

"Our team has improved a lot," said assistant coach Matt Fava. "Our young guys are really maturing quickly, and our older guys are helping them figure out what college basketball is all about."

With ten wins, the Camels have equaled last season's win total with two games still remaining in the season. This record is even more impressive because the Camels' first four league games came against three opponents ranked in the top ten.

Equally impressive is Conn's 9-6 record out of conference, including big wins against Hunter College (83-64), the Coast Guard Academy (79-73 OT) and Mitchell College (73-60). Both wins against fellow New London colleges came on the road.

"We have been successful because of our quality of play," said Fava, "and the wins have been a by-product of that."

The Camels have been scorching the net from three-point range, hitting nearly four threes for every ten they take (37%). That puts them fourth in the NESCAC in 3-PT field goal percentage despite taking the third most three-pointers in the league. Free throws have not been a problem either for the Camels. They are shooting 78% from the free throw line as a team this season.

However, the Camels are averaging eighteen turnovers per game, and, as the season draws to a close, improving this statistic is becoming increasingly important.

The juniors on the team have stepped up into their leadership positions without any seniors on the roster. Captain Brian Mahoney '12,

along with forward Bobby Bellotti '12, has taken the team by the reins and motivated players throughout the season.

Moreover, breakout guard Matt Vadas '14 has emerged as a young general on the court, leading the Camels in scoring (16.6 points per game). He dropped twenty-three points on Bates on January 29. Vadas has also drained 39% of his three-pointers this season. Forward Mason Lopez '14 has also looked impressive, hitting 47% of his three-point field goals this season, followed by guard/forward Rob Harrigan '13, who is shooting 40% from behind the arc.

Also essential to the team this year has been center Pete Banos '13, who at 6'10" has brought an entire new dimension to the Camel

game plan.

Conn is looking to finish strong in their final two games of the season, each against NESCAC opponents. This past weekend they defeated Wesleyan 81-73, and will finish off the year against Bowdoin and Colby at home this weekend. Bowdoin and Colby are predicted to be beatable opponents as each sits in the bottom half of the standings.

The Camels play Bowdoin on Friday, February 11 at 6:00 PM and Colby on Saturday, February 12 at 2:00 PM. Both games are home in the Luce Field House. Go out and support the team as it attempts to finish the season on a high note. Just two wins out of the next three conference games are needed to squeak into the NESCAC playoffs and set out for a strong run. •



Forward Mason Lopez '14 goes for more points in the paint against Wesleyan while Taylor Hanson '14 looks on.

KIRA TURNBULL/STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

True Grit: Women's Basketball fight through off-court issues to claim first NESCAC win in three years

MIKE FLINT
SPORTS EDITOR

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

opponents, it seemed as though all hope was lost. The team was devastated. Without two of their best players, another winless conference record was looming in the future. The junior class, which had come into Conn two years ago hopeful and excited for Camel basketball, had never seen a NESCAC win. They couldn't bear another last place finish or another season with a zero in the win column. Three years of hard work was coming to nothing.

But the team picked itself up and banded together. Athletes who had once been role players began stepping up again. Against Bates on January 29, Tori Verrengia '11 scored a career high 21 points and Kim Horne '12 added 16 points and 8 rebounds. On the season, Verrengia is averaging 4.5 points per game and Horne is averaging 5.4 points and 4 rebounds per game.

But stepping up did not always mean racking up numbers on the stat sheet.

"Everyone has been stepping up in different ways,"

Horne said. "Everyone steps up' doesn't mean you're suddenly scoring ten points more than you usually score... People are talking more and stepping outside of their comfort [zones]."

And so going into their game against Wesleyan, Conn—despite having only nine players on the roster—was very confident. Verrengia, the only senior on the team, even guaranteed a win.

"We're getting a 'W,'" Verrengia said before the game. "It's going to be our first NESCAC win in three years... We will win Saturday by ten points."

Conn won by seven, 49-42, but who's counting?

The victory over Wesleyan is the most satisfying win the Camels have experienced in a long, long time. More than just ending their NESCAC losing streak, the win was a statement not only to the NESCAC community, but also to the ladies themselves. It proves that the Camels can compete in this league, even shorthanded, and that their hard work is finally beginning to pay off.

"[The win against Wesleyan] was a feeling that was much overdue," said Horne. "It's nice to change people's opinions. I'm sick of no one expecting us to win any

The "Deets" on The Onion SportsDome



JERELL MAYS
STAFF WRITER

For those of you who don't know, *The Onion* is a satirical news source so thoroughly drenched in deadpan humor that at first glance it seems authentic. I thought *The Onion*, which produces daily phony articles on everything from politics to entertainment to sports, created more than enough content to appease its readers. Apparently, they didn't think so.

Recently, they premiered a show on Comedy Central called *The Onion SportsDome*. This is an amazing idea on paper; the ridiculousness of SportsCenter and ESPN coverage shows, which often consist of five guys attempting to out-talk each other all at once, is a hitherto un-plundered comedy goldmine. While *The Onion SportsDome* doesn't always hit the mark, it was consistently funny enough to keep me watching.

If *The Onion* is good for one thing, it's joke quantity. While oftentimes the titles of *The Onion's* articles are funnier than the articles themselves, the sheer amount of content churned out often ensures that something will satisfy somebody. The same tactic is employed in *The Onion SportsDome*, which has a joke rate so high that when something really gets you to crack up, you find you've missed several more jokes in that time span, and to me that is almost always a good thing. Don't like one joke? Here's three more. The show is well paced for its content; it never stops moving.

The hosts, Mark Shepard and Alex Reiser (played by Matt Oberg and Matt Walton) are a good duo. Alex Reiser is recently off of probation and as cocksure as James Bond, while Mark Shepard is a spectacled sports savant whose gratuitous use of the abbreviation "deets" can sum up much of his personality. He's also in a band called Deadly Chemistry, which his co-workers avoid seeing at every opportunity.

While the show's hosts are funny enough, what I liked the most about them is that they never get in the way of the coverage. Their characterization is achieved purely through snippets of fast paced banter, which is very often bloodthirsty and pitiless in nature. I occasionally got the feeling the writers consider all sports completely worthless, particularly soccer, which is completely ignored when it isn't being harshly lampooned. Also commendable are the lengthy, over-the-top graphics sequences, or the use of the term "human garbage" in describing Kwame Brown, or the coverage of people on crystal meth, as well as a teenager attempting to break the world masturbation record (he succeeds). One memorable portion featured a parody of the "Make-A-Wish" program, in which a little girl with cancer, who is also a devout Phillies fan, has her dream of heckling Mets third baseman David Wright in person brought to fruition.

The show isn't perfect, however. Some of the bits fall short; others run a bit longer than necessary. One portion that comes to mind was a top ten countdown of the NBA's best tall players. It was little more than the hosts' incessant use of the word tall. Although I found myself chuckling at the sheer persistence of the joke, I was surprised it even made it onto the air. Lesser jokes such as this don't get too much in the way of the show's appeal, though.

In fact, the show's best moment thus far took place in the first episode, which described a handicapped mixed martial arts fighter who was banned from the league because of his prosthetic metal hands, which can exert up to 5,000 pounds of pressure. It's the show's funniest bit so far, and with four episodes under its belt, *The Onion SportsDome* is shaping up to be a reason to watch Comedy Central before *The Daily Show* airs on Tuesday nights. •

Women's Hockey in Playoff Contention

EMILY WEBB
STAFF WRITER

While the majority of campus was at home enjoying the pleasurable relaxation of a month-long winter break, the women's hockey team was skating, shooting and scoring its way to four victories. Two of these wins came against NESCAC opponents (Bowdoin and Colby) and played key roles in pushing the Camels to fifth place in the league.

Although the season is over half way done, there is still plenty of time for movement within the rankings. In NESCAC hockey, the women's teams face each other twice each season. While the Camels are preparing for their first match against Hamilton, they are gearing up for their second face-offs with Williams, Middlebury, Wesleyan and Trinity.

In their first go-around against these teams, the Camels went 2-2, beating Williams and Wesleyan while falling to Trinity and Middlebury. Conn is looking to turn the tables this time around, and after an intense month of practice and a string of successful games, the Camels have the confidence and skill to come out victorious.

Two of their most notable victories took place against Colby and Bowdoin, over the weekend

of January 15. In each of these games, first year forward Courtney Dumont played a "pivotal role." Against the Mules, Dumont provided the assist for the tying goal and the game winner for a final score of 3-2, while against the Polar Bears, she scored a decisive goal in the second period that provided the Camels with the momentum to come out winners.

Following that weekend, Dumont was ranked third in league for season in individual points and goals. For her outstanding performances, she was named NESCAC Women's Ice Hockey Player of the Week. Earlier in the season, Coach Kristen Steele noted that Dumont is an integral component to the teams "formidable offense," a characteristic that has remained true.

Other standout players include Brigid O'Gorman '11, who is not only known for her competitive spirit on the ice, but also for her humanitarian efforts. Last year, O'Gorman was one of the seven finalists nominated for the Hockey Humanitarian Award. This award, presented by BNY Mellon Wealth Management, recognizes college hockey players who provide humanitarian aid in any of a myriad of ways.

This season she has been nominated again for her continued humanitarian efforts. Still,



The Lady Camel skaters celebrate a goal against Southern Maine.

PHOTO BY DUNCAN SPAULDING

O'Gorman's efforts on the ice are not overshadowed by her charitable work. Last week, she scored a goal in the Camel victory over the University of Southern Maine.

Teammate Olivia Farrell '14 has also made a mark this season, tied for fourth in overall assists in league and tied for seventh in individual point scoring.

"Clearly the freshmen tandem Olivia Farrell and Courtney Dumont have produced at a high level,

and the stats show it," Steele said.

"This team is unique from other years because of its talent," she added. And this talent exists not only in the individual strengths of each player, but also in their innate ability to come together as a team on the ice. In the last several weeks of the season, their perseverance and skill will be tested by a demanding schedule, however the prospect for postseason play

remains strong.

"Our goal all along has been to put ourselves in a position to host the first round of playoffs. It is still a possibility. With six NESCAC games left... a tight race to the finish will be required," said Steele.

The Camels will need to win a majority of their final four games to accomplish this very realistic goal of hosting the first round of playoffs. •

Off the Water

CC Rowing team utilizes off-season for Winter Training

SHELBY SISCO
CONTRIBUTOR

While a seemingly endless parade of record-breaking storms marches across the country and Conn Coll's erstwhile snow plows bury our cars in North Lot and behind Cro, Camel men and women's crew teams are busy preparing for the spring racing season.

For crew teams, the time between the end of the fall season on Halloween and the February 21 start of the spring season is an iffy period. NCAA Division III rules prohibit coached workouts and practicing on the water during the winter off season. Coaches are not even allowed to sit in on workout sessions. The rowers, however, need to keep in tip-top shape, and they need to sharpen and improve their technique. So crew practice during the winter is unofficial and attendance is not technically mandatory—though frequent absences are frowned upon. The women's team has an interesting trick for motivating teammates to come to practice: whoever has the highest attendance rate gets a t-shirt.

Workouts during this period are organized by team captains and run by the captains and the coxswains. The sessions range from fun and lighthearted—an hour of yoga—to grueling and intense—countless pieces on the ergs.

For those of you not up on your rowing terminology, here is a brief glossary: The *coxswain* is the small, loud, bossy person who sits in the front of the boat. Some say the cox is the brains of the boat. The cox calls the workout, telling the rowers what speed to go and for how long, when to take moves (ten strokes for power in the legs, ten strokes for quick arms, etc.), and helps correct technique.

Thought by some to be a torture device, an *erg* is an indoor cardio machine that simulates rowing—one of the closest things to being on the water when you can't actually be on the water. It has a computer monitor to record stroke rate (how many strokes per minute the rower is taking), split time (the projected amount of time it would take to row 500 meters at any given rate), time elapsed and distance covered.

A common erg workout for winter training would be three by ten minute pieces—three ten minute long stretches of rowing. To get an idea of how a rower feels doing a piece, think of the steepest hill you have ever seen, then imagine running as fast as you possibly can up that hill non-stop three times for ten minutes at a time. The tank looks like a massive bathtub with an eight seat rowing shell anchored in it. Where the erg lets an individual rower work on speed, timing, strength and endurance, the tank lets the full team work together on the techniques and synchronization that are essential to success on the water. The teams supplement these workouts with weight lifting circuits, including exercises like pushups, wall-sits, stairs, squats, body weight exercises and some weighted lifts as well.

Said Katy Varga '11, captain of the varsity women's team, "The best part about it is being around your teammates who push each other every day. The bonding experience we have as a group is also really positive, and a fun chance to get to know each other better than we did in the fall." Both the men's and women's teams consider themselves truly tight-knit groups, and winter training is an opportunity for

varsity boats and novice boats to come together as one.

The warm breezes, bright sunshine and green grass of spring may seem a distant dream from beneath the mountain of snow on campus these days, but Camel rowers know that the demanding 1000 and 1500 meter races of the spring season will be upon them all too soon. They are confident their winter time dedication to training off the water will pay off with Camel pride when their shells take to the water a mere six weeks from now. The teams will be hosting an "erg-a-thon" fundraiser on February 18-19, where they will be erging for twenty-four hours straight and selling neon "CAMELS" t-shirts. •



QIMENG ZHAO / STAFF

IN CASE YOU MISSED IT SCORES SO YOU DON'T MISS IT GAMES

Men's Basketball (11-11):
2/3 Conn 66 - 71 Western Conn St.
2/5 Conn 81 - 73 Wesleyan

Women's Basketball (9-13):
1/31 Conn 49 - 47 Coast Guard
2/5 Conn 49 - 42 Wesleyan

Men's Swimming (8-4):
2/5 Conn 183 - 96 Bates

Women's Swimming (11-1):
2/5 Conn 170 - 118 Bates
2/5 Conn 207 - 81 Wellesley

Men's Ice Hockey (6-10-3):
2/4 Conn 2 - 6 Trinity

Women's Ice Hockey (9-9-2):
2/4 Conn 3 - 3 Williams
2/5 Conn 0 - 3 Middlebury

Men's Squash (6-15):
2/4 Conn 1 - 8 Bowdoin
2/5 Conn 7 - 2 Tufts
2/5 Conn 2 - 7 Hamilton

Women's Squash (8-13):
2/4 Conn 0 - 9 Hamilton
2/5 Conn 3 - 6 Tufts
2/5 Conn 2 - 7 Colby

Men's Basketball:
vs. Bowdoin: Friday, Feb. 11 @ 6 PM in Luce
vs. Colby: Saturday, Feb. 12 @ 2 PM in Luce

Women's Basketball:
vs. Bowdoin: Friday, Feb. 11 @ 8 PM in Luce
vs. Colby: Saturday, Feb. 12 @ 4 PM in Luce

Track and Field:
at Boston University Invitational: Friday-Saturday, Feb. 11-12

at Tufts University Invitational: Saturday, Feb. 12

Men's Ice Hockey:
at Wesleyan: Tuesday, Feb. 8 (time TBA)
vs. U of Southern Maine: Friday, Feb. 11 @ 7 PM in Dayton
vs. UNE: Saturday, Feb. 12 @ 3 PM in Dayton

Women's Ice Hockey:
at Hamilton: Friday, Feb. 11 @ 7 PM
at Hamilton: Saturday, Feb. 12 @ 3 PM

Squash:
Camel Round Robin: Saturday, Feb. 12 in Luce