A poll taken earlier this semester revealed that the overwhelming majority of the graduating class could not identify their class president. Of the nearly 300 students surveyed, 82% could not name the 2014 class president, 11% were unaware that Class Council existed in any capacity and only 7% correctly identified their elected leader. However, 100% of the graduating class agreed that whoever the president might be, her or he is doing a terrible job.

"It’s like a puppet regime, but without a puppeteer,” wrote one student. Prashanth Selvam ’14 is widely known across campus as “that handsome Indian kid with perfect bone structure and questionable fashion taste.” He is well-liked by his peers and educators: professors remark on his even temperament and easy smile, and close personal friends describe him as “okay” with an “occasional tendency for uselessness.” Despite his social and academic popularity — and despite having served as class president for two of his four years at Connecticut College — most of Selvam’s classmates were unaware of his prestigious title until they received an invitation for the 100 Days [until Graduation] Party this February, signed by their president.

Like many other seniors, 2014 Social Chair Peter Herron was caught unaware by Selvam’s presumptuous signoff, even after having worked alongside him on Class Council. Said Herron, “I like Prashanth a lot, but I always thought we were, you know, just hanging out, not doing ‘class business’ or whatever. Besides, I haven’t been Social Chair since freshman year... wait, what? I’m still Social Chair? All four years? That can’t be...” Students first began channeling their general dissatisfaction towards Selvam after he slashed the number of free drinks offered at the 100 Days Party from three to two per person. Though Selvam promised that the saved funds would go towards a “much better 50 Days Party” down the line, seniors received an email from Selvam last week stating that free drinks would not be available at the 50 Days Party after all.

"Why am I paying upwards of 60 grand a year if not for a few nights of maximum intoxication on the College’s dime?” questioned Broseph Gordon ’14, captain of the men’s water-lacrosse team. "Thankfully, SGA President Evert Fowle ’14 dipped into emergency presidential funds to provide a single free beverage for each attendee. Though disappointed that this amount would not be sufficient to achieve “maximum intoxication,” Gordon was appeased.

Seemingly overnight, the once unknown president has become the face of corruption and ineffectiveness within Class Council. Tweets and compromising Instagrams branded with the "#ImpeachPrashanth" hashtag have skyrocketed, and more formal measures are being taken by college officials in an attempt to securely dislodge Selvam from his seat of power...
On Opinions

We of the Opinions section have been having stylistic differences with some of the other College Voice staff. We have been politely advised that our section trends toward "ranting" to which, at first, we disagreed vehemently and stubbornly and then threatened to quit the paper. No, in reality, the team chemistry here is second to none and our disagreement was disimpassioned and brief, and really more of a conversation than a conflict. But this editorial is written in contemplation of this very spot-on accusation.

The Opinions section is often the podium from which students air their grievances and critiques; a podium which we think is very necessary and which we're privileged to be the stewards of. We do, however, worry that sometimes we are the abettors of a lot of negativity, and even more worryingly, completely unconstructive verbal annihilation of events, people, and policies at Conn. We're not aiming to publish messes of sugary praise of the college, but we also don't wish to be enthusiastically handing out the sledghammers in a carnival of Conn-hashing.

So this, now, for some overdue positivity from the Opinions Editors: There's something I think is very beautiful about our school that I've never heard anyone talk about—our school motto. Let's put aside the ostentation of it being in Latin and move straight to its translation: "Like a tree planted by rivers of water." I think this is really brilliant—that as a college, our intention is to be grounded, calm, integrated into our environment, seeping up knowledge around us.

At the risk of the sentimentality I'm always trying to avoid (and, which, in my avoidance often steers my articles and those I edit towards the critical)—these words make me proud to be here.

And this motto gets at what I think we at the paper are trying to do too, though we may often be perceived more as "uprooters" than "planters." Negative, positive, or hedging both ways, the articles we publish are reflections of the soaking up of ideas, of paying attention, and usually, of thorough consideration and affection for this place. Our writers care enough about this community to want to engage with it, whether through praise or critique.

Whether a fiery defense of the honor code or musings on an igloo built during a snow day, the words published here, in these last months have planted ideas, if nothing else. And that's powerful enough—it seems that the College Voice Staff can all agree on that, and so atmosphere in the office is peaceful and grounded again, dare I say, like a tree planted by rivers of water. And if you find such tidy endings as the one above suspect, turn to the Opinions section, where I'm sure you'll find everything you're looking for.

-Madeline

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The College Voice meets each week at 9 p.m. on Monday.

Join us.
The Bergeron Inauguration: A fresh perspective on old traditions

MELANIE THIBEAULT
EDITOR IN CHIEF

"I would like the students of Connecticut College to have more opportunities to experience the wonderful features of the city of New London," said President Katharine Bergeron during an interview in her office last week.

With her upcoming inauguration this Saturday, Bergeron, a native of southwestern Connecticut, is shaping her plans for "deepening the relationship of the College to the surrounding community." Connecticut College is celebrating its 111th year in its centennial mark, has its roots planted in the local community. Already desiring a women's college in his city even before Wesleyan ceased to enroll women in 1909, New London schoolmaster Colin Bacl was part of the team of founders of Connecticut College. New London and Conn have been connected since the beginning, but relations between the two could stand to be strengthened as we move into a new presidential era.

"Expanding our relationship with New London is definitely needed," said SGA President Evert Fowle '14. While Fowle says that the College has been working to set up the forum for improving relations, "President Bergeron is taking the next steps to make this possible.

Fowle '14, a member of the inauguration committee along with Fowle, added: "[Bergeron] is open to listening to everyone's ideas. I know a senior who has already visited her five times. She's so supportive and wants to help in any way she can.

Since beginning her term in January, Bergeron has already met with nearly 30 students who have visited and Williams Street Mix, Bergeron's mentor Ruth J. Fowle, added: "[Bergeron] is open to hearing everyone's ideas. I know a senior who has already visited her five times. She's so supportive and wants to help in any way she can.

"I have been edified by the students," she said. "Some want to tell me about their experiences, some want to ask about my experiences, and others want to tell me about specific concerns regarding the campus."

While Bergeron has begun to make an impression on the students, they in turn have begun to make an impression on her.

"I've listened to the students' desires to have a positive impact in New London. I want to support the good work that is already going on and build on what we are already doing in the city," Bergeron said. As part of the team of founders of the Thames Club, Bergeron is a key figure in the college's efforts to forge a relationship between New London and Conn and the surrounding community. "It's important to know more about the cultural organizations and notable figures in the city and the surrounding community.

A former Professor of Music at Brown University, Bergeron's love of the arts has potential to open doors for positive, rewarding relationships between Connecticut College and New London, which — despite receiving flak from some students as having "nothing to do" — actually has quite a few connections and features. Bergeron names the Hygienic as a personal favorite, and was thrilled with the recent installation of a "virtual residence," the Eastern Connecticut Symphony Orchestra, she said, "It's extraordinary to have something of that caliber in a city of this size."

"We want to get people excited about it and make them aware of what's going on," said Pamela Zilly '75, who serves as honorary chair of the inauguration committee. "These events" are an opportunity to talk to the public and others in the spirit of the inauguration. It's not just one ceremony. It's really meant to include the whole community."

Thursday night will bring a student reception with President Bergeron, which, according to Fowle is "essentially a hang out with the new president." The ambiance in Emst will include music from the Death Cab for Cutie Forty Pandora station — Bergeron's pick. "She said she will know every song that plays."

Panel and concerts and Camel cookies will provide opportunities for the Connecticut College and New London communities to interact and perform together. Analysts may follow and document the week's events with "Flickr: Eidolod." "The hashtag was inspired by Bergeron's speech leading up to ReVision Week on how we at Conn should want to represent ourselves. "It's like she was planning Saturday's ceremony and luncheon to culminate the week in a mixture of tradition and transformation. "We don't want it to be the same ceremony over and over again," Zilly said. "We've spent a lot of time talking about the traditional aspect of [the ceremony], but making it more relevant and more contemporary. It's tradition, but it's also a new step, a new installation. It's important to have a good blend of what resonates as a tradition, but not as decay."

"Associate Dean of the Faculty Abigail Van Slyck, who serves as co-chair of the Installation Committee alongside Professor of Sociology Ron Flores, echoed Zilly's sentiments. Planning the ceremony, "We wanted to honor those traditions but at the same time, mark and celebrate a new chapter for the College." The committee looked at how they could freshen up past traditions and reflect on what Connecticut College represents as an institution in the twenty-first century.

"The College is celebrating a centennial mark, has its roots planted in the local community. Already desiring a women's college in his city even before Wesleyan ceased to enroll women in 1909, New London schoolmaster Colin Bacl was part of the team of founders of Connecticut College. New London and Conn have been connected since the beginning, but relations between the two could stand to be strengthened as we move into a new presidential era.

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Fittingly, the musical selections were one way in which the committee feels they have accomplished that goal. Rather than have one student perform "America the Beautiful" at the beginning of the event, this year the song will be sung by a quartet composed of one staff member, one student, one faculty member and one New London resident. "That sort of change is subtle, but important," said Van Slyck.

According to Flores, the end of the ceremony will consist of more celebratory music than past inaugurations: jazz. The recessional really mattered a lot to us because past installation ceremonies just ended... like people leaving after the end of a movie. No sense of joy or hope or excitement."

"Jazz reflects the committee's and school's hope for a bright future," Flores said. "We didn't want people to just leave. We hope to have them dancing in the aisles."

As for the ceremony itself, the President took advantage of spring break to work hard on her speech, the content of which is a secret until Saturday, though she did offer up the title: "Transplanted by a River."

Bergeron's mentor Ruth J. Simmons, President Emerita and Professor of Comparative Literature and Africana Studies from Brown, will be providing the keynote speech. Mayor Fiozzi and Governor Dannel Malloy will be in attendance, as well as 93 delegates from other higher-education institutions. "This is an important time for the institution," Bergeron said. "It's very moving to see the care and concern for the College expressed by those whose lives take them beyond the College."
On May 18, at the 96th Connec- ticut College Commencement ceremony, Noah Feldman will deliver the keynote address to the Class of 2014. Feldman is the Bemis Professor of International Law at Harvard Law School, as well as a Senior Fellow of the Society of Fellows at Harvard. According to his Harvard biogra- phy, he specializes in constitu- tional studies with an empha- sis on the relationship between law and religion, constitutional design and the history of legal theory. Feldman is also a con- tributing writer for The New York Times Magazine and a columnist for Bloomberg View.

In 2003, Feldman was a se- nior constitutional advisor to the Coalition Provisional Authority (CPA) in Iraq. He therefore ad- vised members of the Iraqi Gov- erning Council on the drafting of the nation’s interim constitution. Does this make Noah Feldman super excited to have the opportunity to hear Noah Feldman speak at our commencement? I really enjoyed last year’s speaker, Howard Gordon, but I think that Mr. Feldman brings an ele- ment to the table that has been impossible before. Over the past four years at Conn, I have never been as suboptimi- mal. What is missing from his bio on the Harvard website is that, yes, he did serve under the CPA in Iraq, but that he resigned from the position because of ethical objections of how he viewed the American approach to rebuilding Iraq. Feldman has authored six other books: Cool War: The Future of Global Competition; Constitutional Law, Eighteenth Edi- tion; The Battles and Triumphs of FDR's Great Supreme Court; Justice: The First and Rise of the Islamic State; Divided by God: America's Church-State Problem and What We Should Do About It; and After Jihad: America and the Struggle for Islamic Democracy. Feldman is the brother of Simon Feldman, Associate Professor of Philosophy at Connecticut College. When asked about his relationship with the College, Feldman noted, “I’ve spoken at Conn once before. But my only other relationship is through my brother Simon, who is a member of College and the students and take talks about both all the time.”

Professor Simon Feldman said, “I was surprised and thrilled to find out that my brother, Noah, was asked to be our commencement speaker. I didn’t even know he was on the shortlist! One of the many things I love about my brother is that he can be hard to predict what he will say at any given moment — but what he has to say is always interesting, often provocative and, generally, pretty damn entertaining. I’m really looking forward to having him on our campus.”

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Simon Feldman, Professor of Philosophy

Students in Taiwan have occupied the legislative Yuan (parliament) in Taipei, paralyzing the government in an attempt to stop a controversial trade deal with mainland China.

The occupation began on March 18, after the ruling Kuomintang (Chi- nese Nationalist) Party reneged on a promise to review the trade deal line by line before submitting it for a vote, accusing opposition parties of ob- structing the democratic system and deliberately stalling the debate through misuse of parliamentary procedures. In response to the government’s refusal to put the trade deal to a vote without the line item review, students and other activitists have continued to occupy the Yuan, demanding that the deal be reviewed and altered to address their concerns about the economic and polit- ical implications of the deal.

The deal, called the “Cross-Strait Service Agreement,” was negotiated between the respective governments’ representatives during the summer of 2013 and was designed to liberal- ize trade between the two sides of the Taiwan Strait. It opens 64 economic sectors in Taiwan to mainland Chinese investment and allows people from Taiwan to invest in 80 economic sectors on the Chinese mainland.

It is one of the central policies of President Ma Ying-jeou, a member of the Kuomintang Party, who has been nominated to a second term in office. In the past four years, the Class of 2014 has witnessed a wide ar- ray of keynote commencement speakers. In 2011, Clark Univer- sity Research Professor of Inter- national Development, Masato Niwa, discussed the dilemma of Global Competition; Consti-

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MOLLY BANGS NEWS EDITOR

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When asked about his expec- tations for the commencement ceremony, on May 18, Feldman quipped, “I am hoping for good weather! If I can say something that prospects for the future are dim, moving to an increase in political pro- test and activism amongst young people and the population at large in recent years. These frustrations have played out in mass protests and civil actions before, but this is the first time the govern- ment has been completely paralyzed by the occupation.”

The occupation of the legislative Yuan has entered into its tenth straight day, and shows no signs of stopping. The current protests are amongst, if not the largest, ever in Taiwan’s history. Still larger demonstrations in front of the presidential palace were scheduled for this past Sunday, suggesting that the current events in Taiwan are far from resolution.

As Professor Tek-Wah King, a Chi- nese-American from Taiwan who teaches Chinese at Connecticut Col- lege told me during our interview, the real underlying cause of the tension between the government and the pro- testers is not the service pact per se, but the larger conflict between pro- and anti-China factions within Taiwan.

“Of course,” King notes, “Tensions and frustrations accumulated throughout a bid economy would definitely make the island more turbulent. But the un- derlying issue is between pro-China and anti-China political factions.” Tai- wan’s economy has stagnated in recent years, and more and more students feel that prospects for the future are dim, moving to an increase in political pro- test and activism amongst young people and the population at large in recent years. These frustrations have played out in mass protests and civil actions before, but this is the first time the govern- ment has been completely paralyzed by the occupation.”

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RESIDENTIAL EDUCATION FELLOWS: A Growing Program

ELEANOR HARDY
STAFF WRITER

RESIDENTIAL EDUCATION FELLOWS: A Growing Program

Nearly each house on campus has a REF floor governor who works closely with the REF professors involved in the program. After going through a selection process, tenured professors are elected and assigned and allotted a $1,000 budget to work with throughout the year, creating an endless amount of possibilities. Professor Catherine Stock, the head faculty of the program who serves as a liaison between Residential Education and Living and the professors sees the REF program as an "opportunity for professors to be creative and connect with students." In her eyes, the professors selected who have "success and are happiest with the results of the program" are "comfortable crossing the boundary between a professional relationship with students and one a bit more informal." The program is more than just bringing an intellectual life outside the classroom, it also shows a different side of both professors and students.

Seen as a useful forum for discussing issues of diversity, whether ideological, political or a variety of other things, REF programs provide a safe space that’s not within the four walls of a classroom.

Professor Stock teaches in the History department, this event consisted of six events for freshmen only and took place over six weeks at the beginning of the fall semester. The idea behind the program was that the freshman class would meet new people and find common interests among friends through programs as well as engage with different professors whom they may encounter later during their college career. A stepping stone into greater plans for next year's freshman class, the Six for Six Program was a success.

The REF program is a vast resource on campus that is widely underused. While low attendance events are sometimes most successful, producing engaging and intimate conversations, participating would be surrounded by what they can gain both intellectually and personally from attending REF events. With that, the REF program encourages students to reach out to floor governors and faculty and participate in programs.

The misconception that the programs are purely educational may be what's underutilized. "It's more likely than not necessarily prepared for. A number of factors contribute to the preconceived notions that incoming students have about college life, and it is the job of the current students, staff and faculty to ensure that incoming students have an accurate idea of what Connecticut's culture is in order to attract students that will thrive in our campus's atmosphere. The same student also said, in regards to thoughts about transferring, "What ultimately made me stay were the amazing friends I made and the academics. I have such close bonds with some of the professors here, I would be heartbroken to leave them."" Steve McDear, Floor Governor of Freeman, explained to the Voice in an email, "I have found that Camel Chats have helped me to take initiative when reaching out to freshmen, instead of waiting for them to reach out to me."

Other newly instituted programs include the I'm IN Campaign, Dean Talk Backs and Parent Call-Ins. Starting next year, freshmen will also be housed more closely to one another to create a stronger sense of community. Ideally, these programs and general changes will ensure that the concerns of freshmen are met early and effectively so that their needs can be addressed, and thus, students will be encouraged to return to Conn for their sophomore year.

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Celebrated Investigative Journalist Seymour Hersh to Speak on Campus in Human Rights Lecture Series

SARAH LANGFITT CONTRIBUTOR

Seymour Hersh, who is widely considered to be the best investigative journalist of our time, will be speaking at Connecticut College on the April 3 in Evans Hall. He will be the fourth speaker in the anonymously funded Human Rights Lecture series. The talk, entitled, "This Day in History: Reflections on U.S. Foreign Policy and Human Rights Practices," will begin at 4:30 p.m. Other speakers in the series have included Nicholas Kristof, the founder of Without Borders, Richard Heinzl and an antiwar attorney and ended up revealing a huge breach of human rights as well as nothing about his or her own role in the event. "The biggest difference being that at Abu Ghraib, they were not killing people. He describes a similar process of revealing the atrocities at Abu Ghraib to that of My Lai. He also said that even in the face of intense rage present in the military towards the civilian population that is seen in both the Vietnam and Iraq wars. Investigative journalist Seymour Hersh has played a huge role in working to reveal the truth about injustices and human rights abuses committed across the globe. In the United States government's involvement is crucial in helping to contain the massive force that is the Government and the U.S. military. His experiences lend an important narrative to the fear of government and above-the-law mentality expressed in the American military and the importance of awareness when it comes to human rights."

Seymour Hersh gained renown with his exposé on the My Lai Massacre in 1969 and the military cover-up that followed to protect the troops who participated in the slaughter of as many as 500 civilians.
The Effectiveness of Notes on Napkins
Senior Sarah Huckins Defends Dining Services Tradition

SARAH HUCKINS
STAFF WRITER

Maggie D'Aprile '17 hates cherry vanilla ice cream. "Seeing the light pink tub and feeling pure joy, and then seeing the ‘cherry vanill- la’ written on the little board, is one of the most sour crushing ex- periences," she tells me. Not one to suffer idly, Maggie sought re- course by writing an impassioned Napkin Note, appealing to the Harris staff: "Cherry Vanilla ru- ining my day, please make it stop.
Mike Kmec’s response illustrates the power Napkin Notes can have, as he wrote back: "Due to the overwhelming amount of Napkin Notes on this particular topic, we will reduce the amount of Cherry Vanilla Ice Cream ordered. It is one of my favorites but I will bow down to the pressure. This is just one example of a successful Napkin Note interaction.

Phoebe Papademetriou, not- ticeably the cuisine of Sponge- Breads past, helped craft a note requesting that the beloved and famed bleu cheese dip of 2012 be reinstated to its place of honor by the silverware. This note was penned on a Tuesday, and by the following Thursday, there was the dip, in all its glory. "I remember coming into Freeman sopping wet from an arctic rainstorm and see- ing the long lost dish, I was filled with such joy. Seeing that dip brought back great memories," she recounted. Again a day was made by the answering of a Napkin Note.

However, I have also heard stories of frustration with the Napkin Note system, recently embodied in a recent blog article that centered on the thesis that "our requests merely change anything."

Although I personally disagree with this statement, it would be difficult to prove empirically. But something important to con- sider when assessing efficacy of Napkin Notes is their scope. Al- though I don’t think Napkin Notes would be a specifically effective way to foment a culinary revolu- tion, I do think they provide an im- portant tool.

It is my understanding that Nap- kin Notes are an accessible means for students to communicate to Dining Services their likes, dis- likes and suggestions. And if a request is not fulfilled, I do not be- lieve this means “no one is listening to us,” but rather may signify that the request was not feasible.

Dining Services has limitations of both budget and physical space that it must work within. I’ve known Mike Kmec for almost 3 years and do believe that he solves each problem as best as it is possible with the resources available.

To answer the probably rhetori- cal question, “are we wasting our tuition on these little slips of paper?” I say it depends. If you are asking for lobster and nutella, as one Napkin Note did, I’d say yes, that is a waste of money. But something important to consider is that we should have low expecta- tions of what we are entitled to. And that is a difficult argument. Especially for granola.

"By using tuition cost as reasoning for why something should be provided to us, it implies that we have paid for said thing, that we are entitled to it. And that is a dif- ficult argument. Especially for granola." note. But if you are asking for someth- ing that is within the realm of possibility, then no. Though even if a seemingly reasonable note goes unfulfilled, please rest assured that there is no conspiracy theory and understand that Dining Services works hard to reconcile epicurean tastes and the need to put food on the table for 2,000 hungry students.

Beyond a discussion of the effi- cacy of Napkin Notes, what I would like to unpack most is the invoca- tion of the “steep tuition of about $50,000” argument in regards to the desire for two different types of granola in JA. The comprehensive fee for Connecticut College 2013- 2014 year is $38,780. That is a sig- nificant amount of money and it is hard to believe that it is important to think critically about the cost of our edu- cation and what we are getting out of it. However, I think the tuition argument is a tricky one and one that ought to be used judiciously.

By using tuition cost as reason- ing for why something should be provided to us, it implies that we have paid for said thing, that we are entitled to it. And that is a difficult argument. Especially for granola. One might argue that it is not judicious to expect a granola af- cionado to walk the eight minutes from JA to Harris. But that aside, it raises some complicated ques- tions. Is two different types of gra- nola really something we should expect to be given based upon high cost of tuition, or rather, what does our cost of attendance guarantee us? When is the use of this argu- ment appropriate, at all?

The cost of attendance, or com- prehensive fee, at Connecticut College includes, but is not lim- ited to, the cost of tuition, room and board. These are very broad terms that encompass the classes we attend, the dorms we live in, the food we eat. As different indi- viduals have their own interpreta- tion of the specificities of what this cost ought to grant us, the tuition (or rather cost of attendance) argu- ment is highly subjective and thus potentially problematic as a stance for reform.

It is not my intent to suggest that we should have low expecta- tions as to what opportunities are offered to us. Nor do I have any interest in quelling these interest- ing in affecting positive change on campus. I only mean to posit that the connotations surrounding the financial argument make it a con- plicated one, and one that individ- uals should contemplate before us- ing it. I don’t think there is any one right answer to the questions I’ve raised, but I do think they are im- portant to ask oneself, to determine what they mean to you.

The Big Problem with Tiny Cups

LEAH ROSOFSKY
CONTRIBUTOR

It was April 16, 2012, a day that is not only internationally recognized as my half birthday, but also my "Accepted Students Day" visit to Connecticut College. While there were many great parts about Conn (clearly I enjoyed my visit. I’m here aren’t I?) there was one part that really threw me for a loop. Now, it wasn’t immediate but over time a great fury built inside of me that I didn’t know how to express. (clearly I enjoyed my visit, I’m here aren’t I?)

It was April 16, 2012, a day that is not only internationally recognized as my half birthday, but also my "Accepted Students Day" visit to Connecticut College. While there were many great parts about Conn (clearly I enjoyed my visit. I’m here aren’t I?) there was one part that really threw me for a loop. Now, it wasn’t immediate but over time a great fury built inside of me that I didn’t know how to express. (clearly I enjoyed my visit, I’m here aren’t I?)

Now on to the really, really bad issues revolving around the cups. I don’t want to effectively wash down that whole wheat cracker/cheddar cheese combo, you need to have at least three cups because one just will not do it. I don’t know much about environmental studies past my fifth grade book. But when there is a free cheese and fruit platter, what makes you think that not every broke, starving college student within a one-mile radius will all be hovering over the snack section at the same time? Honey, there is no way you’re going to be able to make it back to the water again.

Now, I do not hate all of Conn’s plastic tableware. The forks and knives at catered events are so durable it’s amazing. The Connecticut College staff is also a great feature that I would never want to see gone.

I’m ready to make a change, to see a difference, one that will not only affect those associated with Connecticut College but one that will change the world — say no to tiny cups.
When Group Work Hurts
Splitting the Grade with the Slacker

MADELINE CONLEY
OPINIONS EDITOR

On Sundays, I meet with my U.S. and Vietnamese class group to work on our project on Lyndon B. Johnson*. I love these meetings, to which we all arrive ten minutes ear-
ly, prepared to enthusiastically present to each other our vigorous research filed away in neatly organized manila folders. Our passion for Lyndon B. Johnson is unatched, our ideas for our final presentation flow like mountain streams and our willingness and ability to work cooperatively with one another is worthy of a children's television show. Or at least that's what it should be, and how I imagine our meetings play out in the mind of our professor, who like many professors here, has an unfailing confidence in the power of group work.

In reality, my group on Lyndon B. John-
son meets infrequently and reluctantly, and when over the course of five hundred emails we do manage to set a time and place to meet that works for everyone, invariably someone sleeps through the meeting, or forgets, or has a surprise lacrosse game. This group in particular is composed of one freshman, one sophomore, one junior and one senior, which in it of itself is remark-
able and tailor-made for some sort of brochure for the College. But for the four of us, as it is for many students, group work can be like slogging through tar, thick, black, Vietnam-war-era tar, with Google Docs and group emails and Powerpoints floating on the surface, sticking to our clothing and flooding our nightmares.

A recent study has shown that 85% of Cornell students' time outside of class is spent in group meetings and another 5% is spent emailing about them. While this statistic is entirely untrue, it reflects many students' feelings about this part of our education with some accuracy. The lamentations can be heard all across campus: "I have a group meeting." And if you don't have a group meeting, your friend does. Something that is rarely heard: "I'm having a great experi-
ence working in a group!"

As with most articles of this nature, a de-
gree of informal polling goes into its writ-
ing. In an effort to find the merit of group work, as I know there is some, I spoke to what I thought was a generous cross-section of students. Few people wanted to be quoted with their name attached, mostly be-
cause few people had positive things to say about working in groups.

Students, in fact, have some pretty nasty things to say. I spoke with a friend who had recently been an unwilling participant in a disastrous group project, and when I asked if in quoting her about her experience, her group members might be offended at being slandered in print, she said she wasn't wor-
ried. She wasn't worried because, as far as she could tell from working with them, they were dilettante and therefore wouldn't be in-
clined to read a college newspaper anyway. She added also that the experience made her "lose all faith in people."

If group work is a medicine that when ef-
fective, produces collaborative, educational bliss and soothes the burden and the isola-
tion of working alone, it should be said that when it goes wrong, it goes really wrong. Side effects include cries of faith and a tingling feeling in the legs and ankles that makes you want to run to the Registrar's Office to pick up a transfer form.

Juan Pablo Pacheco '14 said in more elo-
quent terms something that nearly every student I spoke to expressed: "Our educa-
tion system just isn't designed for group work." Most often, the common complaint is that, "We will have to work in groups in the real world"—that is, rationale is provided at all. However, as Pacheco pointedly noted, group work in the future is an inev-
itability—but in the "real world," in offic-
es or film sets or wherever you may find yourself, "There is almost always a clear hierarchy, and you know exactly where you fall in it." Not having a hierarchy isn't nec-
essarily bad, he said, but guidance is want-
ed. This idea resonated strongly with many, who said that the unclear structure of group projects makes for wasted time, slacking off and bad blood all around.

Other grievances surfaced. Variations on this idea emerged with some force: while some professors hold group work in the highest regard, others make the ability to work well with others seem as irrelevant as learning to herd sheep or administer leeching.

A class I took the spring of my freshman year comes to mind, which I will leave unnamed for obvious reasons. The pro-
fessor announced on the first day of class that only two students would be receiving As; this was not a class where we would be cooled but rather judged against each other. His teaching style was dictatorial, arbi-
trarily calling on students for insane trivia, resulting in one of my classmates suffering through mostly every class in a perpetual state of imminent nervous collapse. Need-
less to say, we were never asked to work in groups. This, I've found, is the excep-
tion, as most professors thankfully prefer to foster a more comfortable learning en-
v
division, or at least that's what it should be, even if it is for many students, group work—something that transforms that which is written above from a series of complaints to a useful proposal in the ever expanding discussion on how to make this college run better, think better, feel better. But here's the twist: I think it might be our fault. I'm not sure if professors are to blame, even those who are confusingly straddling the line between individualistic and collabora-
tive curriculum. I think we need to get better at this stuff, I think we're too ready to finger-point, and we're even ready to give up.

All in all, it seems to me that we have a lot more to think about than the image of group work in a classroom or a film set. When group work hurt, it hurt us all, not just the group working on the project, but the class and the subject of the group project has been changed. You know why.

*The name of the class and the subject of the group project has been changed. You know why.
Tour Guide Deception

ANDY STEIN-ZELLER
STAFF WRITER

There are two different ways that Tour Guides engage in the art of deception. The first is unintentional deception, e.g., they will give a statistic or description of some facet of the College that they think is right but is not. “Students live in Unity House” and “People never run out of printing money” are two examples I heard recently. This is more often something that new Tour Guides (like myself) do when put on the spot by an abrasive question or when they feel some sort of inexperience-based anxiety. Compared to the other two ways we bend the truth, these instances are more so a series of semantic mistakes rather than anything actively deceitful. On my first tour, my athletics-related statistics were dripping with errors. And, because families are bombarded with so many facts, stats, opinions and anecdotes, one little slip-up here and there is more likely than not to have consequences of a negligible order.

The other way that Tour Guides inaccurately represent our college is through straight up lying, in the willingly-stating-something-about-the-College-that-we-know-is-not-true-in-order-to-present-it-in-the-best-possible-light sense of the word. The good news is that these lies are rare, to my knowledge, handed to us by Admissions in the form of numbers and statistics. Our stats and general facts about the College that we memorize and rattle off are rock solid, and in no way aim to bend the truth. An example of how this happens elsewhere is at a college of a similar size with Greek life, where Tour Guides are told to tell their tours that 30% of the student body takes part in Greek life. What they don’t say is that pledgers can’t join until sophomore year, and that 70% of non-freshmen participate in Greek life. This is a willful, not to mention cunning, choice on behalf of the Admissions Office at this particular school, and again, to my knowledge, none of the stats about Conn given to us by Admissions are manipulated. When I talk about the food at Conn, which we can all agree has its ups and downs, I say that it’s “good, and sometimes even excellent.” By not saying that it can also be bad (Harris codfish and old lettuce from the Associated can really throw a wrench in our digestive tracts, no?), I’m lying. Although the food can be good, and sometimes can even be excellent (Soup and Bread, the Festivus Roast, and some of the Harris Sandwich specials have brought us a lot of happiness over the past four years), I’m still lying. I lie because to do otherwise would conflict with the primary goal of our Admissions office (and every Admissions Office in the country), which is to get as many people to apply to the school as possible.

Tour Guide does this in one way or another, and we have enough impressive statistics and factsoids (free music lessons, 9:1 student/faculty ratio, equal distribution of all four classes in non-specialty housing, unlimited meal swipes for everyone living in a dorm, etc.) to complement instances where the information is relayed via personal opinions that are not grounded in evidence.

Again, I cannot stress enough that Admissions really handles any potential dishonesty with the utmost integrity. Rather than go the route of other colleges and give inaccurate statistics, they encourage us to do one thing: we should be learning how to do at Conn in the first place, and that is to communicate ideas with clarity by synthesizing the objective and the subjective. This sort of rhetorical strategy is to be found in almost any real-world situation, where so often success depends on someone fashioning a veil, an illusion of sorts or a stretching of the truth. I’ve asked my superiors how to handle talking about the less-than-perfect aspects of being a Camel, and they are guilty of nothing more than encouraging me to “stay positive.” A good Tour Guide will read between the lines on that one, but at the same time I’ve never felt like I was being pressured to lie by a superior.

Much of the “sugar-coating” comes from what we don’t say, rather than what we do say. For instance, so many people are attracted to Connecticut College because of our flagship interdisciplinary centers, and it gives me great pleasure to talk about how the centers are a unique opportunity to both sharpen our academic focus and broaden what’s possible for an undergraduate student to accomplish. What I don’t say is that the Ammerman Center for Arts and Technology has had a 50% retention rate amongst its senior class and that the CISLA sophomore seminar often breeds circular, static discourse because of the relatively enormous number of students it admits. Although the former, a fact, and the latter, a subjective opinion, would offer a balanced look at the centers, I don’t tell either to tours because it would make the College look bad. We also omit things like Fishbowl [or used to, RIP], detailed descriptions of Floralía and Cro Dudes and things like how much free alcohol the College gives (or doesn’t give) to the senior class, simply because parents tend to be anxious enough about losing their child and don’t need to get any ideas planted in their heads about said child turning into a debaucherous alcoholic who on occasion gets naked in public (private-college-bubble public, but nevertheless).

Why then, as students of an Honor Code school that values truthfulness and integrity above all else, are we comfortable engaging in this type of behavior? First, the good at Conn College unequivocally outweighs the bad, and any lie cannot even begin to obscure what this school has to offer. Limitless are the opportunities for students to get involved with so many different parts of this machine, to make decisions and take actions that author the future of the College, to choose from a hugely diverse range of academic and social environments. We are more or less free to do anything we want, and free to constructively (or unconstructively) criticize what we cannot do. We are an institution that every day rises to new levels of ambitiousness, of prestige and of reputability, and the coming of President Bergeron, our increasing commitment to sustainability, the Academic Resource Center, our all-Steinway status, our fresh-off-the-presses 3-D printer and all other things new and exciting do nothing but augment Conn’s momentum. While we cannot deny our imperfections, our college was founded precisely because a group of women were dissatisfied and worked together to solve the problem of getting an education. The need to constantly improve and to never cease striving for betterment is at the core of our essence and our heritage, and without the imperfect that train ride of progress would come to a screeching halt.

The second reason is that tours are arguably the most efficient way to attract an increasingly strong and increasingly large body of applicants, which in turn will ensure that the quality of our student body accelerates in parallel with that of our resources. The strongest applicants—kids who are intelligent, outgoing, ambitious, virtuous and high-spirited—are going to be critical of all tours they attend, and to give a great tour means to be confident, fluid and sincere, but also positive. Through a few minor exaggerations, omissions and even fewer good old-fashioned lies, we Tour Guides can engage in a process that has limitless potential to ensure the sustainability and growth of student bodies for generations to come.

"And now we've come to Lazrus, one of Conn's most desirable residence halls..."
Why Connecticut College Will No longer Perform The Vagina Monologues

ALIA ROTH CONTRIBUTOR

When I first saw The Vagina Monologues my freshman year at Connecticut College, the show changed my life. I felt empowered, liberated and motivated to get involved in issues regarding gender-based violence. I had never realized that there was such an outrageously supportive, loving and powerful community of women.

As a co-producer this year, I was aware of the problematic elements of the Vagina Monologues, but co-producer Ari Holden '14 and I continued in our role as the executive board because the project was already being produced tirelessly on producing this show. It was not until the spring, when the outcry of change began to build, that I began to feel frustrated with the lack of autonomy I had in producing. I could not alter the script, and I could not add or take away monologues even when they were more offensive than powerful. Among some of these offensive monologues were:

-Coochle Smoker—essentially the glorification of rape between two women, one being a fourteen-year-old girl.
-The Woman Who Loved To Make Vagina Happy—a favorite for many. We tend to forget that the lines "the Black woman moan," "the Jewish moan" and "the uninhibited bisexual moan" are written in this monologue. These lines are then followed by "sterotypically sexist astounding images of pornography" which cliches and rape assault is absolutely unacceptable. Anyone who has been sexually assaulted has experienced pain and violation, and deserves to address her experience and fight back.

It is important to remember that this is the greater picture when it comes to Eve Ensler's movement. However flawed it may be, it is sincere in its goals. To print the fingers at the dominant group against those who are most affected by that is a wasted effort. The only thing that will happen is that the people in the movement should be outraged against the oppression that minority groups have faced for years, and nothing productive comes from that. As a person of color, this uncritical attack on a generally positive movement is not something I can support or agree with. Women stop blaming another one for her obstacles and tarring each other down is not productive. As long as we can be had about bringing together the experiences and values of women of color with white women in a way that has not been done by Eve Ensler. Then, we may engage in a true fight against worldwide sexual violence.

In conclusion, the storytelling is not fully representative nor empowering for the women themselves, what is the purpose of performing this show? Why were we performing this show? Did we accomplish our goals? Did we make a difference? And that is why I asked myself these questions, and not even some of us are comfortable with the words we are speaking, why continue speaking them?

When this offensive performance is neither fully representative nor empowering for the women themselves, what is the purpose of performing this show? Why were we performing this show? Did we accomplish our goals? Did we make a difference? And that is why I asked myself these questions, and not even some of us are comfortable with the words we are speaking, why continue speaking them?
MLB Expectations: After Opening Day

PETER BURGES
CONTRIBUTOR

Baseball’s Opening Day has finally come; that one American tradition that has for so long given fans a beacon to of hope through- out the cold, wind-whipping winter nights of winter has made it into our lives.

But after Opening Day, why should you watch Major League Baseball this year?

Because 2014 is looking to be one of the exciting seasons in recent memory, so expect headlines. Here are the four most compelling stories that will jump into the sports landscape, and give every one a reason to watch.

1. Boston’s run to repeat as World Series Champions. Every year, we follow the World Series winner in the official ‘team to beat’, but never, since the Yankees three year run from 1998-2000, do teams win consecutive championships. The 2014 Red Sox are different. With a great deal of overlap from last year’s roster, Fenway Park will be rocking with the consistent excitement and chemistry that carried the team to 42 one-run games and 11 walk-off wins.

2. The Yankees’ and Dodgers’ attempts to buy a championship. This off-season, the Yankees reverted to their old selves by fishing into the free agent pool with farrowed determination for the best possible talent on the market. (Photo via 2ProSports.net)

3. New phenomenal players. Baseball’s pipeline of young talent is especially thick this year. Jose Abreu will be a new addition to the American public eye, as he spent his former career in Cuba before defecting and signing with the White Sox. In his last Cuban season, Abreu hit .338 with 15 home runs and drove in 93 runs, a season that would be impressive for a power hitting minor league, but something Abreu did in only 66 games.

4. Instant replay and the pace of games.

Warren Buffett’s Conditional Billion Dollar Pledge

NICO PREMUTICO
CONTRIBUTOR

Every passing March brings a few weeks of imminent satisfac- tion for two groups of people. First, we have the urologists, whose clientele multiply every year as the appeal of men across the country strategically sche- dule their vasectomies, knowing well in advance that they will have a few days to sit around the house and stare at their television screen. This brings us to our next group of March enthusiasts: college basketball fans. March Madness is a sporting event like none other. It pulls the 68 Division-One teams that are lucky enough to qualifi- cy for the tournament, by either winning their respective conferences or by way once championship or by way of an at-large bid, the focus of an entire country falls on them. March Madness brackets money changes hands at an exponential rate. Everyone loves to fill out a bracket, and there are zero perfect brackets.

Alas, after only the first two rounds, there are zero perfect brackets. But Buffett’s analytical prediction told him the odds of predicting the perfect bracket this year were one in 128 billion. Just to put the mathematical randomness of March Madness into perspective, the last remain- ing perfect bracket in the entire country for this year’s tournament was held by Brad Binder. The 23-year-old from Illinois claimed he just “entered for fun to see what happened,” and made his picks in a mere three and a half minutes.

Ironically, he did not even bother to bet a single Dollar on his Bracket. And, of course, his bracket is no longer perfect after the plethora of first and second round upsets. But the comparison of this year’s March Madness brackets perhaps reinforces a rea- lity for Buffett’s 15 million par- ticipants: that a shot in the dark, for one billion dollars is just that, a shot in the dark.

Buffett’s conditional billion dollar pledge is one of the most expensive prop bets in sports history. The odds of not predicting the perfect bracket is 128 billion, however, the Buffett’s offer is slightly better at 922 billion. The odds of predicting the perfect bracket is 1 in 128 billion. It is not a savvy bet, but it is a bet that many fans will jump at, especially given the low cost of entry. The only conditions are that there are zero perfect brackets, and that Buffett’s analytical prediction was more accurate than the devoted college basketball fans. Buffett’s offer is a testament to his confidence in his analytical skills, and as a result, is a potential windfall for him if no one predicts the perfect bracket.

So let us begin the season, if not with pomp and fanfare, then perhaps simply with high expecta- tions for what is to come. Opening Day is here. That is something we can all celebrate.

Warren Buffett's Conditional Billion Dollar Pledge

The developer, college basketball buff, the odds decline to a modest one in 128 billion. Just to put the mathematical randomness of March Madness into perspective, the last remain- ing perfect bracket in the entire country for this year’s tournament was held by Brad Binder. The 23-year-old from Illinois claimed he just “entered for fun to see what happened,” and made his picks in a mere three and a half minutes.

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ELEANOR HARDY
SPORTS EDITOR

Over spring break senior Sam Gill joined the small, elite group of national champions at Connecticut College. The fifth Camel of home to take a national title in swimming, Gill joined the small, elite group of national champions at Connecticut College.

Gill and a senior from Emory became NCAA co-champions of the 100 M breaststroke with a time of 47.62 seconds, just .06 seconds off from the current NCAA record. Gill shared that his performance was "something I will never forget." Although his hard work and dedication to the sport and Conn's program can only continue to improve.

As a senior, this was Gill's last competitive swimming event as a Camel: "at the end of the last session of the meet, it was pretty hard to walk away from the pool and head to the locker room, knowing that I'd never be back. But I'm glad to say I left it all in the pool with nothing left to prove." Gill was happy to be a part of such an incredible team, proud to be a part of: "being a Camel can only continue to improve."

Humble about joining this small clan of elite Conn athletes, Gill always comes back to recognizing the team he has been a part of such an incredible team, proud to be a part of: "being a Camel can only continue to improve."

Although his hard work and dedication to the sport and Conn's program can be seen as

"I'm glad to say I left it all in the pool with nothing left to prove."

The poll was devised as follows: Sports Editor Luca Powell ranked all NESCAC schools in each sport. Those rankings were based on NESCAC standings as well as quality wins and influential losses to NESCAC opponents. These scores were plugged into an impressively complex algorithm to composite an overall ranking for each school.

NESCAC POWER RANKINGS

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The driving force behind his recent title, Gill feels that "these achievements, including my own, would not have been realized without Coach Beneventi." Being named NESCAC Men's Coach of the Meet for the second year in a row, an award greatly deserved, Gill is hopeful that "with him at the helm, the Camels can only continue to improve."
Cleaning Between the Lines: LeWitt's Irregular Towers

PAIGE MILLER
COLUMNIST

LeWitt (1928-2017) was an American Conceptualist and Minimalist painter and sculptor from nearby Hartford, Connecticut. In the early 1960s, LeWitt attended the School of Visual Arts and pursued side work as a graphic designer for the architect I.M. Pei and Seventeen magazine. In 1960, he took a job at the Museum of Modern Art in New York City as a receptionist and clerk, surrounding himself with works by Mark Rothko, Le Corbusier and Edward Steichen. These influences allowed LeWitt to develop his artistic style, which is geometric, saturated with color and systematically formulated.

In addition to drawing and painting, LeWitt began exploring three-dimensional work. His first sculptures, or as he liked to call them, "structures," were primarily wooden, closed forms. In the mid 1960s, LeWitt decided to take a drastically new approach to his three-dimensional work by revealing the structure of forms, and the square became an iconic shape for his "building block" fascination.

In 1997, LeWitt created Irregu- lar Tower (Horizontal Bricks #2), which was installed at Connecti- cut College just south of Freeman House during the same year. According to the Sculpture and Decorative Arts Conservation Services LLC report in 2009, the piece is listed with moderately high conservation priority. Its current condition, however, is list- ed as "poor." On the surface, the sculpture has several orange and black stains due to moisture accumu- lation, salt deposits andichen growth. Chunks from lower part of the piece are missing, most likely a result of weed-whacking or mowing dam- age. The Sculpture and Decorative Arts Conservation Services LLC report recommends a "wash once per year with a non- detergent." When mowing, keep at least one foot away from the sculpture. In fact, the re- port divulged, "The artist's intent should be clarified in order to de- termine whether or not weathering, staining, and biogrowth were desired and appropriate. After getting in touch with LeWitt's as- sistant, Susanna Singer, she ex- pressed that "Mr. LeWitt would not have wanted the object to be- come stained or covered with bio- flora. He preferred clean lines and was not interested in having the piece revert to nature."
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Kimye Climb the Social Ladder

CALI ZIMMERMAN
STAFF WRITER

If you have not heard, Kim Kardashian and Kanye West were on the cover of Vogue. For all those who disapprove of Anna Wintour’s decision, take a step back to realize you are a mouse falling right into a 14-karat gold, gourmet cheese trap that Wintour meticulously designed. There was no question that this cover would be met with major backlash. Kim is a constant target in the media for her existence alone, and Kanye continues to question his existence on Earth. Our existence is built around consuming all that Kim and Kanye are. We yearn for facts about them even though we hate them. Society is not like to dance in front of such winds. I grew curious as to what it must be like to move to a single note. Kim and Kanye pull is set to cause a stir in the tabloids. For better or worse, we are talking about them.

But McConaughey's, their use of sexuality and excess glamour makes them a marketable dream. Every outlandish act Kim and Kanye pull is set to cause a stir in the tabloids. For better or worse, we are talking about them. In an attempt to be current in the news, Anna Wintour has capitalized on Kimye. By using the hashtag #TheWorldsMostTalkedAboutCouple, Vogue is asking for subscribers to become a clique. Both McConaughey and Vogue are known for being typecast: McConaughey for his buffness and Vogue for its high art content. By subverting their images, both are now constantly in the media.

The controversy with having Kim and Kanye on the cover of Vogue will follow the magazine for issues to come, because people will be wondering what Vogue’s next move will be. Will the magazine continue on the trail of pop culture? Will Annie Liebowitz use filters on Instagram to edit her photos? Regardless, McConaughey, Vogue, and Kimye are all cultural icons now that we will continue to exasperate over until there is something else to hate watch.

Swaying in Smocks

Contemplations on the Trisha Brown Dance Company

EMILIE STOLL
CONTRIBUTOR

Trisha Brown Dance Company comes with a complimentary combination of performance versatility. Trisha’s show in Palmer this weekend didn’t only leave me inspired after it ended, but it drew me in during. What stood out to me was the dancers’ constant play with internal and external focus as well as the attention to points of initiation in their bodies. Within the movement, there were moments where the dancers focus as well as body language was more introverted and grounded into the floor during repetitive, slower movement in unisons. The energy between each dancer was still radiant in the almost breath-like seamlessness between each transition and ability to travel across the stage. In other moments, the dancers, without force, had genuine moments of eye contact. As a viewer, this gave me a comforting feeling of strong partnership and community. It was nice to see the performers not just look at each other but really see each other and even occasionally smile; it was evident that they were at ease in their motions.

Trisha’s style enables her dancers to play with using initiation as the central point of movement. Each dancer had such clear points of initiation in their bodies in the way they would bend in their joints or balance with a specific part of their body. Men would lift the women through hip connection or foot to torso connection; ways of lifting that I had never thought of but were executed seamlessly. I appreciated the articulation in the shapes the dancers made and the clarity of their moments of connection or foot to torso connection; ways of lifting that I had never thought of but were executed seamlessly. I appreciated the articulation in the shapes the dancers made and the clarity of their moments of movement. Each dancer had such

Will the magazine continue on the trail of pop culture? Will Annie Liebowitz use filters on Instagram to edit her photos?

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ARMS / ENTERTAINMENT • 15

#NotSurprised
We arrived at Washington Street Coffee House in downtown New London around 6:30 p.m. on a rainy Saturday evening. My roommates and I frequent Washington Street for Sunday breakfasts but had never been for dinner. It's BYOB and meals are inexpensive, usually between $5 and $10. We'd seen the signs for $2 Taco Night on Fridays and Saturdays, so we decided to give it a try.

Although we weren't there on a night with a performance, the cafe often features live music on weekends. The place has a relaxed feel, with paper lanterns hanging from the ceiling and work by local artists covering the walls. There's a "free" box by the door to take or leave miscellaneous items (this time it was filled with ties). The place has a young vibe, but customers of all ages enjoy Washington Street, from families with little kids to a group of older regulars who gather to read the newspaper together.

Washington Street's cuisine manages to combine Mexican with Asian-fusion with classic American, which makes for an eclectic menu that incorporates quality ingredients like prosciutto, as well as homemade sauces.

We brought a bottle of red wine, which we drank from paper cups. I ordered the chicken tacos with goat cheese, cabbage, red onion, and house-made jalapeno hot sauce. My roommates ordered the same tacos, the Thai green curry with bok choy and the sesame ginger chicken wrap.

I love tacos, and these did not disappoint. The jalapeno hot sauce was fresh and zesty with just a little kick—a surprising complement to the tanginess of the goat cheese. We ran into Spencer Francis '14, who also had the chicken tacos, and commented that said goat cheese was "a revelation."

Liz Spackman '14, said that her Thai curry didn't taste especially like curry, but it was more like rice and steamed vegetables in a broth. Although she might not order that dish again, Spackman remains a huge fan of Washington Street. She loves the banh mi (pork belly) sandwich, which she says "melts in your mouth." She also recommends the meatloaf sandwich, which is "probably overlooked because a lot of people have bad associations with meatloaf or think it's boring. But they do it really well and it's perfect if you're looking for some down-home goodness. They make their own ketchup, too."

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Any time of day, Washington Street Coffee House is a great spot for students and locals alike. The natural light from its huge windows and its attractive but minimal decor make it a great place to study. It's also a unique place to bring visiting friends if you want to impress them with great food and a cool scene. We can't say enough good things about Washington Street!