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THE COLLEGE VOICE

NEW LONDON, CONNECTICUT

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 16, 2010

VOLUME 34 • ISSUE 12

Less Talk, More MOBROC

ANDREW CRIMER
STAFF WRITER

Walk behind Cro at any time of day and you're likely to hear a curious muddy roar emanating from a drab building on the edge of the hill.

It's the sound of rock, cranked out by your neighbors and friends in a cavernous spray-painted den hidden between the playground and the Plex.

From noon to midnight (and occasionally beyond), students fill the room with noise, hoping for art and settling for tinnitus.

Have you ever tried to find a place to play music with friends? If you have, I'm sure you'll agree that it's not fun – generally practice location choices are either your parents' garage or a filthy room in a derelict warehouse, and you're going to have to pay rent on the second option.

At Conn, we have a solution. In 1993, a small group of musicians convinced the administration to cede control of a decommissioned squash court behind Cro, and MOBROC (Musicians Organized for Band Rights on Campus) was born.

Steadily growing in number since, the club has functioned as a loose collective. To use the Barn, as the squash court is affectionately known, each member pays nominal dues for each semester, and in return the club allows use of its now substantial collection of communal gear. MOBROC owns a sizeable PA, a complete drum kit and a more than adequate bass amp and Marshall half-stack.

"I love the barn, obviously. I think that the fact that we have MOBROC promotes talk among the student body just to play music with each other," said sophomore Kyle Joseph, who plays guitar. "I think I heard about it in the tour, and it was a big plus. It shows that there's a non-academically based musical community, which is important."

The club is great for musicians, but what does it mean for the campus? For one thing, the ability to practice and store gear on campus facilitates an average of three to five show-ready bands each semester, who are constantly eager for performance opportunities.

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KELSEY COHEN / PHOTO EDITOR

Men's Club Hockey team battled the Coast Guard Saturday night. The 10-1 victory was left up in the air when referees claimed too many cans had been flung rinkside for the Camels to be declared winners.

PERSPECTIVE

ExtraOrdinary

How College Marketing Shapes Students' Collective Identity

LILAH RAPTOPOULOS
MANAGING EDITOR

"Discover Connecticut College, one of the nation's leading residential liberal arts colleges, located midway between New York and Boston."

This is the opening sentence to our college's Admission homepage, crafted by the offices of College Relations and Admission. These departments are primarily responsible for controlling the image of Connecticut College. Their roles seem straightforward – to portray the College accurately and positively, embracing and exposing its opportunities. Their audience: an anonymously large group of high school juniors and seniors, their parents and alumni.

The paragraph continues (links bolded): "You'll find a challenging academic program, distinguished faculty and a friendly campus community that's globally focused, actively involved with athletics and more than 60 student-run clubs and organizations."

Its comprehensive message is secondary to the underlined blue words this page spotlights, the rest reading "financial aid program", "aerial tour", "visit our beautiful campus", "this year's freshmen", "their stats" and "ten things students love".

Visitors are linked to pages like Academics ("A Connecticut College education will help you develop skills for success in any arena"), Residential Education ("Ninety-eight percent of students live on campus") and internationalization ("More than half of our students study abroad"). They will find a YouTube Aerial Tour, a compilation of helicopter views of our vast, sprawling pristine campus with phrases that include, "We'll expand your mind and your horizons".

They are also brought to a list of active and inactive clubs, as well

as a virtual slideshow of Admissions' view cards, 32 glossy 4x6 cards labeled with the slogan "Extraordinary" that promote what they deem to be Conn's best qualities: bios of computer science teaching assistant and resident DJ James Jackson, art history majoring CISLA Scholar Sasha Goldman, and Environmental Studies REC extraordinaire Tyler Dunham sit among striking pictures of our arboretum, our hockey team and our students working on bikes and sculptures and relationships with the New London youth. It also tell us Ten Things to Love about Connecticut College – including the view, language tables, camel cookies, the Plex at night, MOBROC and Camelympics.

This information scatters important attributes of our college with a lack of emphasis; doing so dilutes defining factors of our campus community, factors that, if underscored, could help promote a common goal.

In the library on a Sunday afternoon, a haphazard sampling of 10 students listed the things they liked about Connecticut College as an "honor code we care about," non-segregated housing, Floralia, the view and, most commonly, the school's "sense of community." This last term, "sense of community," was consistently defined with the adjectives "friendly," "welcoming," "helpful," "supportive" and "well rounded."

But when pushed a step further, the emphasis changed. Contrast the previous with the following responses to the question, "What is a specific moments from the past few weeks in which you've felt truly connected to this school?"

Freshman Shelby Greely raved about International Politics professor Alex Hybel. "He's created an atmosphere where I feel like I can speak up and he'll actually listen to what I have to say," she said. "I've found that a lot of professors wait

until their upper level classes to start taking their students' viewpoints seriously, but Hybel makes a big class seem like a really small, encouraging environment. And that's important. I get to argue with kids a lot."

Greely, who was a cheerleader in high school, went on to describe her most positive athletic experience at Conn. After months of ill-attended soccer games, she was reassured come hockey season.

"I walked in, and everyone's in their white out, and everyone's screaming for our team. It was then that I thought, //okay. This is going to work."

"It tells you relieving things about the student body to know that we have the capacity to come together and advocate for our school," she said. "I wish I saw much more of it."

Senior Ivan Tatis offered that Conn's lack of athletic pride has led to a lack of general school spirit.

"As a season continues, attendance dwindles, and I see students wearing Tufts and Williams shirts around campus. Come on, we're Camels," he said. "Half of our class is accepted through early decision, but I consistently hear students saying, 'Conn wasn't my first choice.' It's problematic."

Jennifer Tejada, Housefellow of Wright, talked about events that brought people together in large numbers, like the Matthew Shepard Vigil and Relay for Life. As she listed groups, her voice sped up: sports teams, clubs, individual students, faculty and staff all gathered together for issues that hit close to home.

"At those events, everyone united all day for a good cause," she said. "But generally, as a housefellow, it's difficult to get that out of students. You put so much effort into planning events, and people don't show up. I always think, this is a wonderful opportunity. Why

How We Meet Our Roommates

STEVE BLOOM
STAFF WRITER

At the conclusion of this collegiate year, the following question is bound to arise: "What are you doing this summer?" Some work at summer camps. Some move furniture. Amy Gauthier, the Director of Residential Education and Living (REAL), spends her summers with 500 freshmen housing forms.

In a world where computers dominate, this roommate matchmaker is in her profession's minority. Most colleges run survey responses through computer programs and some even have their incoming students build Facebook-like profiles and find matches themselves. While each approach has found success, there is something charming about hand-selections, human-influence, and an office floor of papers spread about, as though two children are preparing to embark on a game of memory.

Each "first year," as Gauthier calls them, fills out a student housing form soon after choosing to enroll at the college. The form asks for answers to college-application favorites like "This is how I describe myself:" and "My friends describe me as:"

The most helpful question, however, was a new addition to the form that was mailed to the class of 2013. Verbatim, it reads, "What else do we need to know about you when making your housing assignment?" According to Gauthier, this is how she and her team learn the much-needed specifics. "I have to live with someone who likes Twilight," one answer might read, or "I've had bunk-beds my whole life and am ready for a change." Leaving parts of the form blank tells the Office of Residential Education and Living, "I don't care, just give me a bed."

Gauthier's first move in the roommate selection process is to reserve rooms for incoming freshmen, preventing double-loving upperclassman from snagging rooms in the Windham basement come the annual housing lottery. Next, she waits for word of who has enrolled in Residential Seminars; this is the reason incoming freshman don't receive room assignments until late summer. Finally, the pairing begins. For Conn freshmen, it is still boys with boys, girls with girls. Those who checked the box that they are "early to bed, early to rise" are matched with other similarly diurnal newcomers to Conn.

Other variables do not breed such roommate synergy; tennis players dorm with actors, and Floridians share cozy 11' by 12' domestic cubes with New Yorkers. The matchmakers do their best to pair freshmen with differing home states. REAL Office associates avoid clustering athletes together.

Gauthier notes that campus exploration is important. "Our campus is small enough that you can make friends outside your house." Diversity is key to placing roommates. It is a way to expand one's horizons.

But what about that freshman quad of four Sarahs or the double with two Mikes? "We don't pay attention to names," says Gauthier. "Not really."

In her first years as Director, Amy Gauthier stayed up nights worrying about potential pairing outcomes: feuds, and sexiling! But with experience comes knowledge, and it was learned that freshman roommate situations are generally, at worst, the makings of good upperclassmen stories. Gauthier adds, "We do the best we can."

"We aren't trying to pair future best friends," says Gauthier. "We just want people to be able to live together in peace."

Sports

TAKING A STAB AT FENCING
Newly reinstated club garners interest. p.8

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CAMELS' LOCAL RESEARCH

Students spend endless hours working on interesting, Conn-specific projects for independent studies, personal research and senior theses — look here for weekly descriptions from your peers and friends.

If you want to be featured, email news@thecollegevoice.org.

From Soviet Sci-Fi and Samurai to Silent Slapstick

JACK LICHTEN
CONTRIBUTOR
with
DAVIS MCGRAW
STAFF WRITER

To those who may not be aware, I love movies. From the old and traditionalist to the current and offbeat; whether a long-forgotten silent-era classic, a neo-neo-realist Romanian 'dramedy', or even the latest action flick, chances are I want to see it.

But what is the cinematic experience without some enthusiastic compatriots to share it with?

The existence of a Connecticut College Film Society stretches back to the early 1970s. Back then, before the advent of VHS and DVD, not to mention Netflix, the Society served as the primary means for students to view films, particularly older ones that were long past their theatrical run.

Resurfacing in the mid 1990s, screenings sponsored by the second incarnation of the Film Society were typically popular films of the day. Much like today's occasional SAC screenings, big screen films were brought to the general student population in order to save us a car ride and an eight-dollar ticket.



Ideally, our continuing screening series provides a weekly opportunity for viewers to broaden and stretch their minds. While several of the films, like the recently screened *Akira* and *City Lights*, are personal favorites of mine, other club members

and contributors have added their own flavors to the mix. Notable examples include the dream-like Soviet film *Stalker* or Tobe Hooper's classic *Texas Chainsaw Massacre*, both of which were well attended and received by regulars and guests alike.

Introductions and optional audience discussions have become an important element of the current Film Society, and we have been lucky thus far to host films handpicked but faculty aficionados like Professor James McFarland, Dr. Nina Martin and Professor Sayumi Harb.

I know that these screenings will stay with me for years to come, whether I completely enjoyed them or not. Even the most difficult films can inspire if you're willing to give to take the risk. For me, that's what the Film Society is all about.

Film Society has screenings every Thursday night around 7 or 8 PM, depending on the night, in OLIN 014. For a schedule of screenings for Spring 2010, contact jlichte1@conncoll.edu.

Conn is ExtraOrdinary

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

aren't students here?" Senior Emma Nathanson and sophomore Sara Yeransian also expressed mixed feelings about active attendance.

"I went to Professor Tien's lecture yesterday and it was packed," said Nathanson. "It wasn't because people had to be there, it was because people sometimes really show interest in going to that kind of thing."

Added Yeransian, "But then sometimes you walk into an FNL, and they're just so poorly attended. I always feel so bad for the bands."

Sara also brought up the limitations of having so few committees dedicated to social coordinating. "The excitement is lost after the 12th dance in a row at Cro," she said, "but that's the most common complaint we have here. It would be nice if there were more variety. I think that would create more excitement."

These responses threw aside well roundedness, self-scheduled exams and the honor code. Instead, every student brought up moments of enthusiasm and active investment — academically, athletically and socially — and all expressed a wish to see it actualized on a more frequent basis.

The fact that these students initially identified such well-marketed terms as Conn's most positive facets speaks volumes about the impact our college's promotional choices have on us. In fact, its influence on current students is far more powerful than on the prospective students and alumni it targets. Prospective students experience these slogans from their living room couch, surrounded by a stack of comparable college propaganda. Conn students experience them multiple times a day — when passing through the website to reach Moodle or Self Service, when Conn College YouTube videos infiltrate Facebook feeds, and when tours answer questions loudly outside of Shain. It's powerful. Many can't help but regurgitate it.

But when messages are too vague, students are internalizing and taking pride in phrases like "sense of community" without being completely clear about how "community" is actualized on campus. This creates an expectation that is undefined. When the school doesn't reach these expectations — when SAC doesn't throw enough parties, when academic courses are too overwhelming, when no one goes to sporting events — the disappointment, equally indefinable, materializes as blame. So who do students blame? Each other, and that hazy entity they call The Administration.

College Relations works with its visual staff, occasionally hiring outside consultants, to create all of Conn's promotional materials, from its Twitter feed to its catalogues, its campus maps, its logo and its acceptance envelopes. The material related to prospective students is then sent to Admissions, and the two departments have weekly dialogues between their cross-campus offices about what works and what doesn't. Although Admissions has direct contact with the prospective students, College Relations is the one that ultimately creates its image on the page and screen.

Conn marketers work hard to strike a balance between portraying what they think Connecticut College is and the qualities it aspires to be. In individual interviews, director of College Relations Patricia Carey and Assistant Director of Admission Shalini Uppu offered each side.

Carey, Vice President of College Relations and one of the members of the Administration, focuses her Becker House team — Public Relations, Media Relations, Alumni Relations and CCMagazine — on representing the best of Conn right now to their audience: those outside the College gates.

The Office of College Relations recently made changes to our view box after conducting focus groups with prospective students, in-house interviews with Conn freshmen, and an open forum with SGA. They focused on which cards worked and which didn't, and the

response was generally positive; the participants appreciated the cards' interactivity, colorfulness, and unique format. Therefore the adjustments were small and the greater idea unchanged.

"It's a constant push and pull," said Carey, flipping through the cards to find the four that fit together to create a seasonal photo collage of South Campus. "We're always learning based on trial and error."

In the end, College Relations subtracted five cards out of the initial 37 and changed the content of a few sides based on accumulated suggestions. Some of the feedback suggested promoting individuality, thus a new card was born: an ethnically indeterminate male student with spiked hair, a goatee and a chainlink necklace stares at the viewer from behind the words "LIFE [Of The Mind]".

"In the end, it's our job to represent Connecticut College the way it is," said Carey. "We don't want to give students the wrong perception of this school."

The student doubtless has a style that challenges Conn's "preppy" stereotype, but the card said nothing about what makes students individuals. LIFE [Of The Mind] gives no coherent message about who we are.

As head of the Tour Guide program in the Admissions Office, Shalini Uppu has a different perspective. Her job, in essence, is to find representatives of the College, students with the ability to improvise, speak eloquently and project the school's values. Her job asks for a different method than Carey. Uppu chooses tour guides that represent the college by embodying its potentiality. Her choices don't represent any ideal Conn student, but Conn students who stand in for characteristics the College wants more of — in her words, "athletics, sciences, students of color, geographic diversity — things that contribute to our national reputation feature more prominently in the selection process."

"My job isn't to hire tour guides who necessarily represent the college the way it is now, but to hire tour guides that reflect the college the way we want it to be in the future," she said. "That's the goal that I see. It has everything to do with where we are right now, what we're looking for and what role we see them filling."

In effect, both parties are working to increase ranks from the wrong angle, selling an image that is divorced from reality; it focuses on how they think our college is and should be instead of how our students want to see themselves. The questions they ask are too pointed to spur effective feedback. Moreover, almost every board and committee on campus has space for student representatives, except those pertaining to promotions and advertising.

A few of our peer institutions have noticeably effective advertising techniques, because they define their schools based on their students. The Colby Admission homepage boasts, "The Colby experience is challenging and uplifting, enlightening and provocative, dynamic and focused. It is relationships between professors and students that transform both. It fosters intellectual and personal growth, with graduates emerging as conscientious, committed leaders ready to make a profound impact on their world. A Colby education is distinctly inspired."

Unlike Conn's website, the links are organized in tabs along the side as a supplement to this takeaway message, a message that is active and focused, with mature writing that expects an intellectual audience.

Wesleyan offers a slideshow entitled "Are you Wesleyan?" which markets itself as a school of thinkers, advocating depth with questions like "Do neuroscience, dance and history seem like a logical combination? Do you find patterns in complexity? Do you expect to spend your whole life learning?"

The subsequent bio promotes that "It's the Wesleyan style to operate on many fronts at the same time... virtually all extracurricular organizations and service projects are student-run: students are the

SEE CONN PAGE 4

Let's Talk About Sex... and Sexual Violence Prevention

Justice Department Grant Allows Conn to Bring In New Coordinator to Address Issues

ANDREW CRIMER
STAFF WRITER

Do you want to talk about sexual violence? Darcie Folsom does.

The US Department of Justice just gave our College a grant to "reduce domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, and stalking on campus," and hired Folsom to the newly created position of Coordinator of Sexual Violence Education and Advocacy.

We already have a solid number of people engaged in the discussion of sexual violence, thanks to the hard work of groups like Take Back the Night, 1 in 4, Spectrum and Feminist Majority.

But solid doesn't describe the number Folsom is shooting for.

Think more in the neighborhood of 1900 students and 171 full-time professors.

"We'll be doing programs with dorms, with housefellowes, with athletics, and big time with 1 in 4," said Folsom. "I want a campus with active bystanders who will stand up to sexual violence and not just watch."

The grant lays out some specific requirements for the program, including a creating a community response team which Folsom is currently organizing and overseeing. It also stipulates that the college provides education to every single incoming freshman, as well as Campus Safety and J-Board.

"I want to create a campus atmosphere that's comfortable," said Folsom. "I want people to want to talk about it — because it's taboo."

Even though the grant specifically points Folsom and her

colleagues away from focusing on survivors in their policies, since education about "victim behavior" might "reinforce the myth that victims somehow provoke or cause the violence they experience," Folsom thinks it's one of the four-notch logs in her Lincoln Log cabin: structurally integral.

"We need to advocate for what the survivor wants," she said, "even if that means moving away from legal consequences. Testifying can be very traumatic."

Folsom previously worked for the Women's Center of Southeastern Connecticut, and worked for the same Department of Justice grant at the University of Rhode Island. If you've seen the *Vagina Monologues* on campus, you may have even met her already — she comes every year.

For Spectrum, our on-campus LGBTQ support and advocacy group, Folsom's position isn't very big news.

"Rarely do people recognize the importance of LGBT health and protection of LGBT individuals' safety," said Spectrum co-chair Brenner Green. "This new position will greatly benefit Spectrum and the college community by allowing Spectrum to collaborate in creating workshops, lectures, or events to promote health and safety of LGBT individuals, especially relating to sexual harassment and violence issues."

On the other hand, the Women's Center would love to work with Folsom — but the grant specifically points Folsom away from working with a campus's established

structures and systems for sexual violence education.

"Although we'd like to work very closely we can't really do that," said senior Danielle Murphy, the Women's Center's Student Coordinator. "We have to keep them separate according to the grant."

"That said, we're all really happy to have kind of a central person to streamline all the resources," she added.

Murphy, along with other students who included sophomore Eliza Bryant, has already had the chance to see Folsom's education programs firsthand through a workshop this past Thursday.

"It was done really well," said Murphy. "Darcie got a good conversation going and opened up a dialogue with students. I appreciated that it was very accessible for people."

Bryant, on the other hand, was less enthused about the workshop.

"Some people really need a 'superior figure' telling them what's healthy and what's not, given their own experience and other students experience," said Bryant, "but there are lots of students that either know or think they know, so they're not going to be receptive to that kind of talk."

A sophomore and a survivor of sexual assault who did not want to be named expressed similar doubts about the effectiveness of a workshop strategy.

"Everybody knows that you shouldn't rape — no means no, et cetera — but she needs to communicate that there are instances where you will be making people uncomfortable and may not even realize it," said the sophomore. "Things definitely happen where people misunderstand what's going on, or don't understand that what they're doing isn't okay. I think it's great that we have her, but I question how effective that sort of thing ever is."

Either way, Folsom is eager to begin her work.

"The more we talk about sexual violence, the better," she said.

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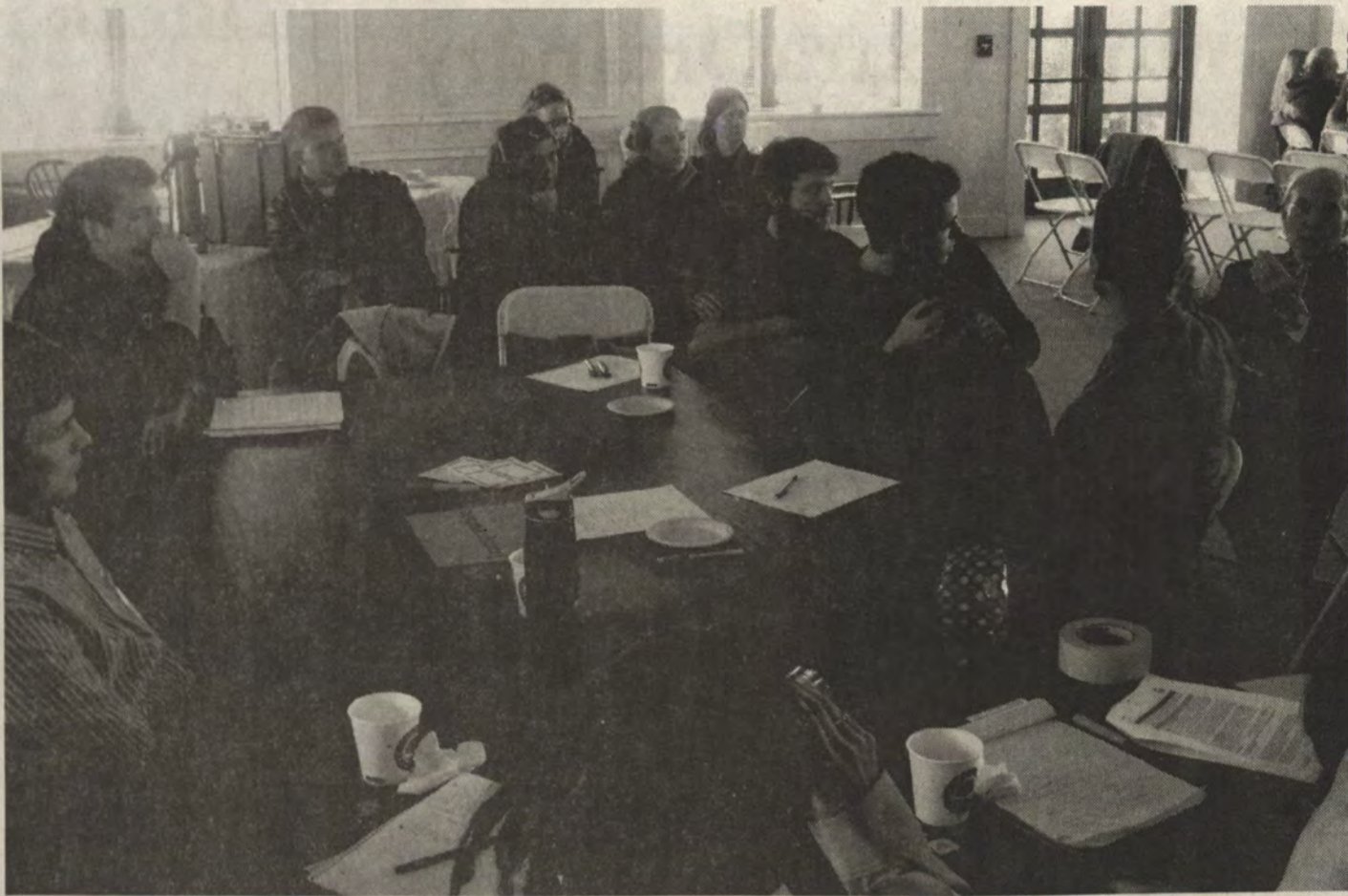
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Putting Sustainability on the Table

President Higdon addressed a crowded Ernst Common Room this past Wednesday to discuss the topic of increasing environmental responsibility on campus. Following the morning's opening, those in attendance broke out into working groups to problem solve specific issues on the campus, such as Transportation, Clean Energy Sources, Local Food and Reduction of Food Waste.

That evening, Harris Refectory was filled with winter vegetables, light fare for carnivores and savory sides in honor of the Sustainability Lecture and Teach-In.



KARAM SETHI/PHOTO EDITOR

Revealing the Most In a Surreptitious Post

Conn Students Revive Confessional Tell-Alls with New Site

NORA SWENSON
STAFF WRITER

PostSecret is an online blog gallery, started by Frank Warren in 2005, which features secrets from around the world written on postcards. The cards are mailed anonymously to Warren (commonly referred to as Frank), and reveal some of people's most innermost thoughts and secrets. The confessions are then uploaded to the popular website: postsecret.blogspot.com.

Since its debut in 2005, the site has taken off to the point that its visitor count is now well over 305 million, with Frank uploading a new set of cards in a post every Sunday.

And now, Connecticut College has jumped on board with a site of its own, entitled ConnSecrets.com.

Craig Durham, University of Colorado-Boulder graduate and friend of Julie Bergstein '12, was inspired by PostSecret and decided to create some websites of his own targeted at college students'

secrets.

"Before we started [ConnSecrets](http://ConnSecrets.com), my friend Zach Cohen and I started a site at [our school] called BuffSecret.com about a year ago," said Durham.

After all the success of [BuffSecret](http://BuffSecret.com), Cohn and Durham decided to work on more. At present, there are now three more sites modeled after [BuffSecret](http://BuffSecret.com).

He started with his alma mater, and then soon after decided to expand to other colleges. Presently, he has sites operating for schools in the Burlington area, Amherst area and now Connecticut College.

The site ConnSecrets.com features typically "Microsoft Paint" style submissions, where students craft a secret, save, and then upload their piece to the site. Some other secrets feature pictures with text written over them, similar to the [PostSecret](http://PostSecret.com) theme.

One special perk of [ConnSecrets](http://ConnSecrets.com) is that anyone who views the website has the opportunity to comment on the posts, leaving

their own thoughts or reflections. [PostSecret](http://PostSecret.com) unfortunately only offers the chance of "Email Messaging" a response to a post, and it is not always certain one's comments will be posted.

Upperclassmen may recall a former website that in recent years received frequent use - ConnCollConfessional.com which featured campus gossip along with secrets posted anonymously.

But [ConnSecrets](http://ConnSecrets.com) is not exactly the same.

"Craig and I really want to make it known that [[ConnSecrets](http://ConnSecrets.com)] is in no way like what [ConnCollConfessional](http://ConnCollConfessional.com) was," Bergstein stressed.

[ConnSecrets](http://ConnSecrets.com) also differs from [PostSecret](http://PostSecret.com), Durham explained because "you submit the secrets online instead of mailing them; and you can comment directly on each secret."

"Zach and I screen all the comments, and don't allow anything mean spirited, and never allow names," Durham added. "This separates our sites from the more

gossip oriented sites like [CollegeACB](http://CollegeACB.com) and [ConnCollConfessional](http://ConnCollConfessional.com). We want the site to be a place where students go to share ideas in a safe, non-judgmental way."

Part of the reason [PostSecret](http://PostSecret.com) has been so successful is due to its commitment to sustaining a community support system free of judgement. Likewise, Bergstein and Durham are aiming to accomplish just that.

"One of the site's main attributes is to help mental health awareness and create a support group. Since the site is just starting here, and since Conn definitely has somewhat of a tendency to gossip, it's really good to make it known to the community that this is not what [ConnSecrets](http://ConnSecrets.com) is for."

Though if gossip is what you're looking for, consider [CollegeACB](http://CollegeACB.com) (Anonymous Confession Board) is a "Juicy Campus Replacement," which closed due to lack of revenue, and offers students an open forum to post anything they choose.

What [CollegeACB](http://CollegeACB.com) currently lacks that [ConnCollConfessional](http://ConnCollConfessional.com) did provide is private access to solely Connecticut College students, in which either being connected to Conn's network or signing in with a ConnColl.edu login was required.

At present, some of the cool bonuses [CollegeACB](http://CollegeACB.com) offers, such as "Rating" posts with a positive or negative vote and even crafting a "Crush List" comprised of up to five students, (in which students who list similar matches on their Crush List would be revealed to each other) seem to be unavailable to Conn students.

This appears to be because the site, when one registers, insists on providing a "ConnecticutCollege.edu" email address, which is in reality "ConnColl.edu."

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Conn is ExtraOrdinary

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for evolution and change.” These schools, instead of offering a grab bag of information, are giving direct, concrete, flattering descriptions of an inspired student body while implying that if you want to be a part of their community, you need to want these things, too. Intellectual spirit. Initiative. Creativity. Enthusiasm. These schools have taken control over how they want to be seen and pushed past the shallow developmental stage of the looking glass self; by promoting a strong sense of identity, they leave no room for outsiders to characterize them with unwanted words. Conn is constantly trying to outrun words like “homogeneous” and “passive” – instead, they should actively shut those doors completely by deciding upon an identity its students agree with.

“Apathy,” a buzzword our students and faculty use just as frequently as “sense of community”, is a term that focuses on blame instead of responsibility. The college’s mode of advertising puts the locus in control in the College’s hands, offering CELS, CISLA, CCBES, free music lessons and a beautiful sunset, and in doing so, takes it out of ours. Until students feel like the locus of control is within themselves, they will not feel responsible for creating the community they’ve shown they want.

The College’s most important

views, director of College Relations Patricia Carey and Assistant Director of Admission Shalini Uppu offered each side.

Carey, Vice President of College Relations and one of the members of the Administration, focuses her Becker House team - Public Relations, Media Relations, Alumni Relations and CCMagazine - on representing the best of Conn right now to their audience: those outside the College gates.

The Office of College Relations recently made changes to our view box after conducting focus groups with prospective students, in-house interviews with Conn freshmen, and an open forum with SGA. They focused on which cards worked and which didn’t, and the response was generally positive; the participants appreciated the cards’ interactivity, colorfulness, and unique format. Therefore the adjustments were small and the greater idea unchanged.

“It’s a constant push and pull,” said Carey, flipping through the cards to find the four that fit together to create a seasonal photo collage of South Campus. “We’re always learning based on trial and error.”

In the end, College Relations subtracted five cards out of the initial 37 and changed the content of a few sides based on accumulated suggestions. Some of the feedback suggested promoting individuality, thus a new card was born: an ethnically indeterminate male

for student representatives, except those pertaining to promotions and advertising.

A few of our peer institutions have noticeably effective advertising techniques, because they define their schools based on their students. The Colby Admission homepage boasts, “The Colby experience is challenging and uplifting, enlightening and provocative, dynamic and focused. It is relationships between professors and students that transform both. It fosters intellectual and personal growth, with graduates emerging as conscientious, committed leaders ready to make a profound impact on their world. A Colby education is distinctly inspired.”

Unlike Conn’s website, the links are organized in tabs along the side as a supplement to this takeaway message, a message that is active and focused, with mature writing that expects an intellectual audience.

Wesleyan offers a slideshow entitled “Are you Wesleyan?” which markets itself as a school of thinkers, advocating depth with questions like “Do neuroscience, dance and history seem like a logical combination? Do you find patterns in complexity? Do you expect to spend your whole life learning?”

The subsequent bio promotes that “It’s the Wesleyan style to operate on many fronts at the same time... virtually all extracurricular organizations and service projects are student-run: students are the source of the energy, spirit and momentum, as well as the impetus for evolution and change.”

These schools, instead of offering a grab bag of information, are giving direct, concrete, flattering descriptions of an inspired student body while implying that if you want to be a part of their community, you need to want these things, too. Intellectual spirit. Initiative. Creativity. Enthusiasm. These schools have taken control over how they want to be seen

and pushed past the shallow developmental stage of the looking glass self; by promoting a strong sense of identity, they leave no room for outsiders to characterize them with unwanted words.

Conn is constantly trying to outrun words like “homogeneous” and “passive” – instead, they should actively shut those doors completely by deciding upon an identity its students agree with.

“Apathy,” a buzzword our students and faculty use just as frequently as “sense of community”, is a term that focuses on blame instead of responsibility. The college’s mode of advertising puts the locus in control in the College’s hands, offering CELS, CISLA, CCBES, free music lessons and a beautiful sunset, and in doing so, takes it out of ours. Until students feel like the locus of control is within themselves, they will not feel responsible for creating the community they’ve shown they want.

The College’s most important clients should be the students who experience this campus every day. If the material can promote the qualities that they do individually value – academic, creative, social, athletic /enthusiasm/ and / investment/ – it will unconsciously encourage them as a Student Body to live up to that potential, and to internalize, embrace and regurgitate something new and more impressive. In the long run, this will forward our college’s reputation in a much more permanent, substantial way: it will create more lasting attachments between the students and their school, improving alumni donations and involvement; it will attract prospective students that find these traits important, improving the quality and quantity of our applications. College Relations and Admissions, through the power of representation, can help students take ownership over their shared goals by focusing clearly on the qualities of Connecticut College worth celebrating.

Bleak Future for Conn’s Zipsters?

In Light of Toyota’s Massive Recall, Zipcars Have Left the Building

MEREDITH BOYLE
STAFF WRITER

Due to Toyota’s recall of the newer models of the Venza, Corolla, Matrix and Prius vehicles, Conn’s Zipcars have disappeared.

Zipcar, the world’s most recognized car-sharing company, arrived on campus in the fall of 2008 as an alternative method of transportation. The company relies on 30 different car makes and models to run its business, including the Toyota Matrix and Prius. But during the week of February 8, Conn Zipcar users found that reservations were not only difficult to come by, as can happen, but that they were virtually unavailable.

It was, according to the reservation website for the campus, impossible for weeks on end.

Toyota has cited accelerator issues as the cause of the recall.

U.S. Department of Transportation Secretary Ray LaHood said in a statement that the car company was slow to deal with safety problems. According to Minnesota Public Radio, LaHood stated that it took government pressure to force Toyota to recall millions of its most popular vehicles.

Complaints of the potential for pedals to get stuck in the floor mats spurred a mass recall of 8 million Toyota vehicles worldwide in January. Some claimed that too-rapid growth had led to a decline in Toyota vehicles’ quality, the Washington Post reported.

On January 29, Zipcar announced they would not allow reservations for recalled cars until Toyota had resolved the problem, emphasizing “the safety of our Zipsters is our top priority.”

According to The Economist, Toyota made the unprecedented move, upon announcing a second

round of vehicle recalls, of shutting production at six plants in North America and withdrawing from sale several models while it figured out what had gone wrong with its accelerator pedal.

The Toyota recall impacted only 6 percent of the total Zipcar fleet, but resulted in the loss of both Conn’s Matrix and Prius model Zipcars.

On Friday, the Matrix was returned to campus. The Prius, however, remains at an undisclosed dealership waiting for repair but is expected to return to campus in a timely manner.

Japan’s transport minister, Seiji Maehara, has reprimanded Akio Toyoda, chief executive of the company, for failing to act swiftly enough in recalling faulty vehicles. Toyoda made his apologies for Toyota’s mistakes, but kept students of Japan’s ritualized acts of obeisance noted that while Toyoda apologized and accepted responsibility for the firm’s failings, he did not bow deeply in shame, as is custom.

Students on campus should not expect to feel the recall’s effects too deeply. Zipcar representative Nancy Scott emphasized, “Toyota is working to make sure these vehicles are fixed appropriately and we are working closely with them.”

As if February 10, this was Zipcar’s response to Connecticut College student concern:

“Unfortunately at this time there are currently no cars available here because both of the cars that were available before have been pulled off the market due to the Toyota Recall until further notice. I apologize about any inconvenience this may bring.”

Why Good Enough Is Not Enough.

When people ask you what you want to do with your life, do you get a knot in your stomach? Or do you get excited? What does the future look like from where you’re sitting now? You’re ambitious, talented, full of potential. You’ve got big plans, even if they aren’t all that clear yet—what will it take to fill in the blanks and realize your dreams? How do you get from here to there, if there is where you’re going?

Slacker. That’s not you. You’re in it for real, for the possibilities of doing something amazing. You could cruise through and do okay, sure, but you want more from your education. You’ll give it your best. You’ll work for it. You’ll push yourself out of that tidy little box of good enough. Because you already know good enough is not enough for you.

We live, as they say, in interesting times. Your generation has to wrestle with some serious issues—energy, stem cells, climate change, the Middle East, the responsibilities of the Federal Reserve and who will be the next great American novelist.

Extraordinary
is our mission.

A section of the Connecticut College Viewbox insert for prospective students

clients should be the students who experience this campus every day. If the material can promote the qualities that they do individually value – academic, creative, social, athletic /enthusiasm/ and / investment/ – it will unconsciously encourage them as a Student Body to live up to that potential, and to internalize, embrace and regurgitate something new and more impressive. In the long run, this will forward our college’s reputation in a much more permanent, substantial way: it will create more lasting attachments between the students and their school, improving alumni donations and involvement; it will attract prospective students that find these traits important, improving the quality and quantity of our applications. College Relations and Admissions, through the power of representation, can help students take ownership over their shared goals by focusing clearly on the qualities of Connecticut College worth celebrating. when no one goes to sporting events - the disappointment, equally indefinable, materializes as blame. So who do students blame? Each other, and that hazy entity they call The Administration.

College Relations works with its visual staff, occasionally hiring outside consultants, to create all of Conn’s promotional materials, from its Twitter feed to its catalogues, its campus maps, its logo and its acceptance envelopes. The material related to prospective students is then sent to Admissions, and the two departments have weekly dialogues between their cross-campus offices about what works and what doesn’t. Although Admissions has direct contact with the prospective students, College Relations is the one that ultimately creates its image on the page and screen.

Conn marketers work hard to strike a balance between portraying what they think Connecticut College is and the qualities it aspires to be. In individual inter-

student with spiked hair, a goatee and a chainlink necklace stares at the viewer from behind the words “LIFE [Of The Mind]”.

“In the end, it’s our job to represent Connecticut College the way it is,” said Carey. “We don’t want to give students the wrong perception of this school.”

The student doubtless has a style that challenges Conn’s “preppy” stereotype, but the card said nothing about what makes students individuals. LIFE [Of The Mind] gives no coherent message about who we are.

As head of the Tour Guide program in the Admissions Office, Shalini Uppu has a different perspective. Her job, in essence, is to find representatives of the College, students with the ability to improvise, speak eloquently and project the school’s values. Her job asks for a different method than Carey. Uppu chooses tour guides that represent the college by embodying its potentiality. Her choices don’t represent any ideal Conn student, but Conn students who stand in for characteristics the College wants more of – in her words, “athletics, sciences, students of color, geographic diversity – things that contribute to our national reputation feature more prominently in the selection process.

“My job isn’t to hire tour guides who necessarily represent the college the way it is now, but to hire tour guides that reflect the college the way we want it to be in the future,” she said. “That’s the goal that I see. It has everything to do with where we are right now, what we’re looking for and what role we see them filling.”

In effect, both parties are working to increase ranks from the wrong angle, selling an image that is divorced from reality; it focuses on how they think our college is and should be instead of how our students want to see themselves. The questions they ask are too pointed to spur effective feedback. Moreover, almost every board and committee on campus has space

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Northeastern University

Camel Weekly Roundup

NICK WOOLF
SPORTS EDITOR

In the twilight of their winter season, many Conn athletes saw less action than usual this past week.

The men's basketball team lost to Wesleyan 79-70 on Saturday, February 6, but they looked to close out the season on a positive note this past weekend in Maine. They notched a 60-65 victory over Colby on Friday, and they faced Bowdoin on Saturday.

After taking a tough, double-overtime loss to Wesleyan last Saturday (79-71), the women's team also hit the road and played both Colby and Bowdoin. Friday's result was an unfortunate blowout, as the Camels fell to the Mules 83-57.

While it has been a disappointing season for both of these teams, Demetrius Porter '12 and Jennifer Shinall '12 established themselves as exceptionally talented players this year.

They both led their respective teams in both total scoring and total rebounds, and it is clear that they will continue to play huge roles during the remainder of their athletic careers at Conn.

The men's hockey team picked up an encouraging 3-2 victory over rival Wesleyan last Saturday. With their NESCAC schedule now complete, the Camels will finish the season against Southern Maine, University of New England, Norwich and St. Michael's. The match against Southern Maine resulted in a thrilling 3-2 overtime victory for Conn.

The women's team also won in a convincing 5-2 rout of Williams College last Saturday. The Camels played a doubleheader

against Hamilton this past weekend, and they took the first game 5-4 on Friday. They are looking forward to their remaining NESCAC matchups against Trinity and Wesleyan.

Leaders in overall points on the men's team included forwards Julien Boutet '12, Ryan Riffe '11, Joe Capuano '11 and defender Ryan Joyce '10. With seventeen total points (six goals and eleven assists), Boutet played exceptionally well on offense this season.

On the women's team, forwards Ashleigh Kowtoniuk '12, Ariel DiPasquale '13 and Rachel Lindmark '10 have already notched double-digit point totals. Both Kowtoniuk and DiPasquale are leading the team with thirteen points, which is a testament to the team's young talent.

The Conn squash teams both suffered early exits in the NESCAC playoffs last weekend. The women's team was ousted by Hamilton 9-0, and the men were defeated by Tufts 8-1.

Top-seeded Trinity proceeded to claim both the men's and women's titles that weekend in dominant fashion and their teams won championships with blowout victories over Williams.

The Camel swimmers had successful outings last Saturday at Wellesley College. The men's team bested Bates with a final of 190-103 and the women's team won competitions against both Wellesley and Bates. These swimmers and divers will soon be participating in the NESCAC championships. The women will compete at Middlebury from February 19-21, while the men will travel to Williams and compete from February 26-28.

Super Bowl Champs: New Orleans Saints

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 8

tory should be interpreted as something that has been able to unite the city after Katrina tore it apart.

The Saints are New Orleans' team and they are the best football team in the world right now. Nobody can take that away from them and the Saints players acknowledged that their victory was for the people of New Orleans who had supported them throughout the years, even when times were tough.

This win was a great reward to a collection of people who are trying to bring a team back from the dead, and I for one believe it was incredibly well-deserved. Even if it is only for a short amount of time, the people of New Orleans can stand tall and be proud that despite everything, their Saints are champions. The people of New Orleans are champions.

The outlook for the Saints looks quite promising. Although half the players on the Saints

have expiring contracts at the end of this season, the majority of the team's core players do not. The consensus around the NFL is that the Saints are willing to keep as much of the team intact as possible.

Quarterback Drew Brees and head coach, Sean Payton, have essentially guaranteed themselves long-term security in New Orleans.

Many of the players, particularly Brees, continue to help the city by not only winning on the field, but in other community outreach programs. Brees has established the Brees Dream Foundation, which works alongside the international charity organization Operation Kids, an initiative aimed at rebuilding and restoring athletic and academic facilities in New Orleans.

It is safe to say there is probably no other player currently in the NFL that means as much to one particular city as Drew Brees does to New Orleans. Not only is he a phenomenal quar-

terback who led New Orleans to something they never dreamed was possible, but he is also actively trying to help his community in any way he can.

As for outlook of the city, there are rumors that the Saints may be anointed as the 2012 or 2013 Super Bowl host, an honor they have not been graced with since before Katrina. New Orleans is also set to host the 2012 NCAA Division I Men's Basketball Final Four and the 2012 BCS Championship Game for college football.

For now, the citizens of New Orleans are basking in a wonderful moment in their city's history. However, many people continue to struggle in the current economy, and are still reeling from the aftermath of Katrina. Maybe the Super Bowl victory does not fix everything right now, but if anything, the story of the Saints is a sign of hope and a step in the right direction for the city.



The Connecticut College Camels and Coast Guard Academy Bears faced off last Saturday in Men's Club Hockey.

Students Take a Stab at Fencing

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 8

Each person squares off against a member of the opposing side until one person reaches five points. The team that wins the most bouts wins the competition.

Connecticut College's fencing team, Conn Garde, currently has many people interested including both newcomers and students who have participated in fencing on either high school teams or fencing clubs. Connecticut College used to have a fencing team but it had since been discontinued.

Conn Garde Public Relations Chair Alexandra Leith '11 had a big hand in bringing back the team and describes the whole process as "really awesome and exciting."

When Leith arrived on campus her freshman year, she expressed interest in restarting the team because of her background in the sport but was never able to garner enough interest from students.

This past summer while scouring the "Connecticut College Class of 2013" Facebook group, she noticed many incoming freshmen expressing interest in fencing and many background experience.

With so many beginners on the

team, it will likely be a semester or so before any formal intercollegiate competitions take place. The team is still in the developmental stages but the enthusiasm is strong.

Currently the team has no official coaches but Leith confirms that the more experienced fencers will help the beginners at practice.

Practices are still being organized but will likely be twice a week, although where and when the practices are is still yet to be determined. In addition, the team is looking into buying equipment off the internet or from wholesalers, hopefully at a discount because fencing equipment (particularly the electrical equipment that detects whether or not an attack has been made on an opponent) can be quite expensive.

Although Conn Garde is still in the early stages of growth, there seems to be tremendous enthusiasm and excitement about the establishment of a fencing team at Connecticut College. Leith is "very glad this has gotten going" and probably like many other fencers on the team, is excited about the promising future of Conn Garde.



Write for Sports!

sports@thecollegevoice.org

The Return of the Trippy Green Skull

Dan Deacon fulfills his promise to perform after last semester's cancellation

RACINE OXTOBY
ARTS EDITOR

Last semester it was announced that Dan Deacon was performing at Conn.

I didn't know much about Deacon. I'd never heard any of his music before and had no idea what his performance style would be like.

What I did have was the fervent support of Deacon from my friends, most of whom were foaming at the mouth to see him perform.

And then, all of a sudden and at the last minute, Deacon hurt his back. He couldn't make it. The show was canceled. Luckily, Deacon expressed a desire to return second semester and perform once he was injury-free.

We didn't realize it at the time, but this was really good news. This allowed those who were uneducated in the Deacon catalog to do some research on the electronic musician and YouTube mainstay (ever heard of "Drinking Out of Cups"? That's him).

I soon fell in love with Deacon's most recent album *Bromst*. By the time the announcement was made that Deacon was returning early second semester – injury-free and unafraid of the snowfall – I was



Photos from Web.

aply prepared. I strapped on my roller skates (yep, that was me), bought myself a ticket and earned myself a big black X on the back of my hand.

Deacon's no rock star, as is made evident by his grizzly beard, balding head and slight gut.

Better yet, he's an anti-rock star. He's not pandering to the masses; he's one of us, expressing his geekdom while stationing himself and his DJ gear on the dance floor, mere feet away from the sweaty

heads of audience members.

He started off his gig with pep-rally antics, ordering his followers to count-down from ten, except that three was replaced with "New London," two was "your favorite Ninja Turtle," and I was "not your favorite Ninja Turtle but the Ninja Turtle you respect the most."

Screams of "Donatello!" and "Raphael!" filled the space.

What's fantastic about Deacon is that he genuinely wants his audience to have a great time. Deacon's



follow-the-leader exercise during

"Of The Mountains" and never-ending game of London Bridge – stretching out of the '62 room through one door, snaking through the Connection and then back into the dance hall through the other door – made the night feel spontaneous and wild. The crowd was required to make a circle around the entire room for a series of events, one of which was a "sassy" dance-off against various willing (or unwilling) participants.

All of this occurred while Deacon's neon "trippy green skull" lamp strobed vibrantly over the masses.

Deacon's music is not for everyone. "Wet Wings," for example, is made up almost entirely of female voices wailing the lines "The day is past and gone / The hour of death is near" and then remixed over and over into a three-minute mish-mash of delicate sadness.

Regardless of whether Deacon's music fits your needs, the excitement and energy he puts into his work is infectious. "Woof Woof" and "Red F" are two especially energetic pieces.

After the concert was over, my legs and arms were sore from jumping and flailing, respectively, and I'd never felt more tired in my life. It was also one of the more interactive and satisfying concerts I've ever been a part of.

For that, I whole-heartedly thank Dan Deacon for fulfilling his promise to return to our fair campus and allow us to rave in harmony – and also for giving us the time to do our homework.

Seahorses.
Forever.

WRITE FOR ARTS

arts@thecollegevoice.org

A Spacey Oddity

New Yeasayer Album Offers Fresh and Futuristic Sound

LOGAN ZEMETRES
MULTIMEDIA EDITOR

Brooklyn "buzz band" Yeasayer is back with their long-awaited sophomore album *Odd Blood*. The album is a freakish whirlwind of celestial synths and percussive samples that somehow meld into an incredibly bizarre "pop" album.

Since their striking debut – 2007's *All Hour Cymbals* – the band has cut their hair and reshaped their sound into something altogether more epic and complex. *Odd Blood* is filled with rhythmic and natural samples that bubble, crackle, and tweet over lush orchestration.

Odd Blood's astronomical size is created by the sheer number of instruments and the incredibly deep reverb that graces nearly every track. This complexity shifts Yeasayer away from the neo-tribal sound that permeated their first album, and gives way to a much more spacey and futuristic sound. Luckily, the chaos is kept in check and the album never sounds too muddy or distracting.

One of the band's most notable shifts is Chris Keating's vocals, which now soar confidently above the track in both blissful and wistful melodies. Sometimes this vocal dominance can stand a little too far



Photo from Web.

in front of a track, but Keating's performance really is impressive. Also by restricting the vocals to only Keating has allowed him to become a true front-man and experiment with the power of his voice.

Though Ira Wolf Tuton hardly sings, his bass lines have not suffered at all. It should be noted that his riffs are more sparse this time around, but they are infectious catchy and original.

Odd Blood still sounds like Yeasayer, but a more joyous Yeasayer that could be played at a rave on Mars. This album isn't a redefinition, but it is a significant evolution into a bold sound that is equally aberrant and fantastic.

8/10

Hey Mr. DJ

Conn's DJ Culture Boasts Fervent Followers and Clever Mash-Ups

EMILY ROGERS
CONTRIBUTOR

If you were given the recipe for a night of fun, what would it include? Probably good friends, good food and good drinks. Definitely a good attitude. But what about good music? Well there are a group of people who make it their job to provide that element at any birthday, club, dance, wedding, dorm event, tunnel party...well, maybe not tunnel party: DJs.

These DJs serve an important purpose in the entertainment world as well as on Conn's very own campus. Not only do they provide music for our beloved Cro dances, but they mix beats even before the drunken hoards of hormonal students show up ready for some rhythm and (if you can name it as such) dancing.

But in all seriousness, these students are not simply entertainers. They are also artists and professionals. The creativity of DJing exists not only in the ability to "remix, mash, split, cut, sample, blend and edit songs" as DJ E@zy (junior James Jackson) explains, but in the DJ's talent for feeling a crowd and feeding off of the vibe from their audience.

In any art form, a creator communicates something to his or her audience and provides a medium through which a truth or opinion can be expressed. Believe it or not, a DJ can do this same thing through the symbiotic relationship he develops with his or her crowd.

According to senior Michael Meade, DJ-ing is "creativity through electronics."

He said, "It's not just about pleasing people...I think the highest good that a DJ can do is to bring people together and encourage a playful celebration of life and dance and music."

The community that a DJ can inspire and the energy that he or she can carry with a crowd is what makes these people elemental entertainers as well as artists.

So what about the men (yes, it seems to be a pretty male dominated scene, at least at Conn) behind the music? What do they get out of DJing for their peers?

"When I am DJing, I am partying because it's a frequent and constant energy I receive from the audience," Jackson explained. "It



directly affects my energy to play my music. The way the crowd feels is exactly how I feel. If the energy is up I try to keep it there. This is a party to me."

It is certainly exciting, if not reassuring, to know that it is our friends and fellow students who have the ability to manipulate the social scene of a given night. They are our local celebrities, as well as friends we trust.

And don't kid yourself, they are definitely celebrities in their own right.

In a school the size of Conn, little goes unnoticed. Nonetheless, when you're known for bringing people together and showing them an enthusiastic night, getting noticed is a testament to your skills.

Sophomore Jourdan Perez, DJ Empez, values DJing at Conn for just this reason.

According to him, student DJs are "more connected to [us] students because we know them – it

adds a whole professional standpoint, but a more community feel."

And there certainly is a professional aspect of DJing. These students take their craft seriously. Their equipment requires a lot of technical competence and the events they are booked for are paying gigs. Oh, now, don't get all exasperated because your buddy won't entertain for free. Their talents deserve compensation.

Sure, one can teach an aspiring DJ how to use music software or a MIDI controller, but "you can't teach good music, the ways that songs blend together, how to feel a crowd," said Meade. "That's something that you feel and takes experience."

A new opportunity for gaining such experience is soon to arrive on Conn's campus. SGA just granted approval for a music production club, "3-Peat" to be instituted for students who are looking to get involved with musical composition, DJing, performance production, recording, and other aspects of musical collaboration. The club will not only sustain talent within Conn's student body, but will enable inspiration from, and for, the greater New London area, increasing the base of talent from which its members can draw.

Such a club may interest and help develop the skills of those DJs who are somewhat less enthralled with the idea of playing to function room full of students. Junior Owen Stowe offered a different perspective

Playing for a crowd is not the only form of DJing, as Stowe exhibits in his work as a radio DJ. As a radio DJ for Conn's station, Stowe explains the musical variety and freedom that comes with a radio audience rather than a club crowd.

"I have a comparatively unusual taste in music," he explained.

"When I'm on the radio I get to play whatever I want. If I played songs I play on the radio when I DJ here, nobody would be on the dance floor."

"To a certain extent, it's made me feel a bit disenchanted with the whole DJ scene," Stowe added. "I don't push to do a lot of shows. Inevitably when I go up there, I'm going to want to play music

SEE DJ PAGE 7

Less Talk, More MOBROC

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

MOBROC showcases the groups in dedicated club shows each semester.

"I think it's great that they're so supported in the College community," said sophomore Natalie Doak. "Whether or not it's your taste, a lot of the shows end up being a great place to hang out. It's cool to see people playing shows on campus."

MOBROC bands also play in a number of other venues both on and off campus.

Most weekends feature a MOBROC band playing in a space within college walls, such as Coffee Grounds or Abbey House, or at a local venue in New London.

A December show featuring bands Shake the Baron and Mercurio brought record numbers of patrons to the Oasis Pub on Bank Street.

Club President Rich Abate, a senior, is a performer himself who has been in and out of a handful of bands since freshman year. Currently he covers Blink-182, playing guitar with his outlet Free Beer All Ages.

"It's pretty rare that a school will have a space for students to express themselves as bands, and

I think it's important," said Abate. "We have use for any and all musicians. Whether you play guitar or xylophone or whatever, we can use you. The more people we have, the more creative resources we can draw from."

MOBROC also fills a time slot on the main stage at every Florialia, showcasing its best and most active bands in the coveted performance time before the entire school. If you were here last year, you probably heard The Endpiece and the now-defunct nine-piece Great Skaught from the comfort of your armchair. You may have even danced.

Although the club hasn't set a date for the first club show of the semester, the more than thirty musicians in the collective are already hard at work devising new songs and new sounds behind the dull hunter green façade of the barn.

For the spring semester, MOBROC members are organizing bands ranging from hardcore punk and folk rock to prog, acoustic singer-songwriter fare and straight-up pop, so keep your ear to the ground and your eyes open.

Whether you've never seen a MOBROC band or you know all the words, the shows are welcoming, fun and free.

Hey Mr. DJ

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 6

I enjoy and want the audience to enjoy too."

Of course, people are going to want to dance or party to a certain type of music, or to particular songs which let them cut loose and get their adrenaline going. But that isn't to say that there is no place for a DJ to share new music or alternative sounds.

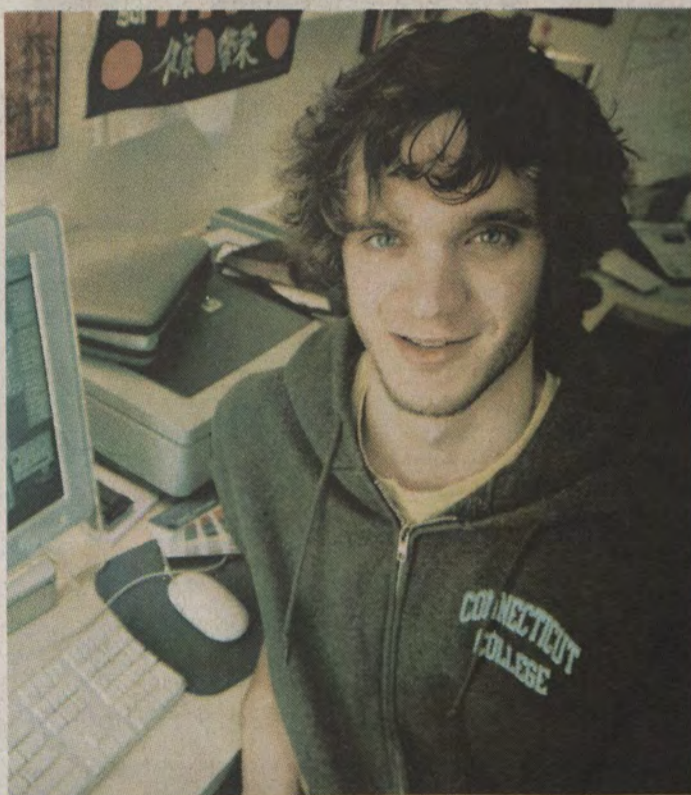
Whether it's at a club or over the radio, the sharing of music enables people to come together and bond

over an emotive experience found in what they are listening to.

In the end, the more the DJs know about their fans, the more they can connect to the campus body and feed off the energy and styles of the students – because let's be honest, no one wants their night to be a flop, least of all your trusted DJ. They know the pressure is on them to work their crowd.



Junior James Jackson. Photo by Emily Rogers.



Junior Owen Stowe.

Conn DJs O-Stowe and DJ E@ZY

RECENT EVENTS IN ARTS



Shake the Baron at last week's FNL, photo by Nick Edwards.



Dan Deacon, photo by Kelsey Cohen, staff photographer.

EXCHANGE BAR & GRILL

...BEER.....WINE.....PIZZA.....BEER.....
.....200.81.....66.92.....20.99.....161.....

BAR & GRILL MENU

RED PIZZA

Mozzarella	10.99
4 Cheese	11.99
Sausage	11.99
Pepperoni	11.99
Mushroom Trio	11.99
Mediterranean	11.99

WHITE PIZZA

Barbeque Chicken	12.99
Buffalo Chicken	12.99
Vegetable	11.99
Shrimp & Broccoli	14.99
Grilled Chicken	12.99
Basil Pesto Chicken	13.99
Sundried Pesto Chicken	13.99

GRINDERS

Small Grinder	5.99
Large Grinder	7.99

Choice of Cabbage or Lettuce, Tomato, Sharp Provolone, Genoa, Ham, Tuna, Turkey or Veggie.

WRAPS

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Honey Buffalo Chicken	7.99
Fried Chicken Tender	7.99
Grilled Chicken Ranch	7.99
BLT	6.99
Veggie	6.99

FROM THE FRYER

Wings	7.99
Chicken Tenders	7.99
Mozzarella Sticks	6.99
Jalapeno Poppers	6.99
Combo Appetizer Plate	9.99

Combo Appetizer Plate includes 2 Wings, 2 Chicken Tenders, 2 Mozzarella Sticks and 2 Jalapeno Poppers.

BASKET OF FRIES

Basket of Fries	4.99
Onion Rings	4.99

8 OZ BURGERS

Burger	7.99
Cheese Burger	8.50
Bacon Cheese Burger	8.99
Sliders (Five 2 oz)	9.99

SALADS

House	4.99
Spinach	5.99
Grilled Chicken	7.99
Gorgonzola	5.99

Salad dressings include Balsamic Vinegar, Bleu Cheese & Ranch.

OTHER BYTES

Hot Dog	3.99
Hot Dog w/Chili	4.99
Add Cheese	+ .50
Chili Bowl	4.99
Add Cheese	+ .50
Nachos	7.99
Stuffed Mushrooms	5.99
Crab Cakes	9.99

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Demetrius Porter '12: NESCAC Men's Basketball Co-Player of the Week

SARAH HAUGHEY
SPORTS EDITOR

On February 8, after scoring double-doubles in two consecutive games, sophomore Demetrius Porter was named the New England Small College Athletic Conference (NESCAC) Men's Basketball Co-Player of the Week. While on the road in New York City on February 1, Porter garnered a career-high 33 points and 11 rebounds against Hunter College. With his impressive performance in this game, Porter successfully put himself in the record books for the Connecticut College men's basketball program. After shooting 9-for-11 from the free throw line and 12-for-17 from the field, Porter scored more points in a single game than any Camel since 2006.

Porter continued to tally points for the Camels against Wesleyan on February 6, as he collected 31 points and 11 rebounds achieving his seventh double-double of the season.

For those of you not familiar with basketball terminology, a double-double is the accumulation of a double-digit number total in two of the five categories (points, rebounds, assists, steals, and blocked shots) in a game. The most common double-double combination is points-rebounds, which is Porter's proven strong suit.

Men's basketball head coach, Tom Satran, has expressed his pride with Porter's recent intensity and presence on the court. In a statement on the Connecticut College Athletics website, Satran said, "Demetrius has been really consistent over the past three games. He is finishing at the basket, driving the ball out of the high post and knocking down his free throws. When he has those three parts of his game going at



once, he is really tough to stop."

I had the chance to speak with the 6'6", soft-spoken sophomore to find out what's behind his success.

VOICE: How long have you been playing basketball?

PORTER: I have been playing since I was six years old.

VOICE: How did you first get started in the sport? Was there anyone in particular that influenced you to play basketball?

PORTER: Football and basketball were popular sports when I was growing up. I grew up watching Michael Jordan and my dad play. My parents always had me in a seasonal sport.

VOICE: Where did you first start playing? What types of teams did you primarily play on as a kid?

PORTER: I grew up in Virginia Beach as a kid. Since my father lived in Brooklyn, NY, I would always spend summers there. I grew up playing in a lot of recreational and park leagues. I think, since I was always back and forth from New York and Virginia, I had the opportunity to be exposed to both playing styles.

VOICE: Did you play any other sports in addition to basketball?

PORTER: Yes I have played other sports. I used to play foot-

ball and also had the opportunity to be part of the first ever Brooklyn fencing club for a year.

VOICE: You said that your dad used to play basketball. Has he kept you motivated throughout your basketball career?

PORTER: My family has always been my biggest source of inspiration and motivation.

VOICE: How has basketball influenced your life?

PORTER: It has truly shaped my life. Basketball has been a tool for me to receive a better education and to stay focused on my goals in life.

VOICE: Do you have any pre-game rituals?

PORTER: I usually just take a nap, wake up and then listen to loud music to get ready for the game.

VOICE: Did you prepare for this season any differently than your last season?

PORTER: No not really, I just completed the normal summer workouts.

Porter has successfully established himself as a strong competitor in the New England Division III basketball world. After his freshman season, he was named the 2009 NESCAC Rookie of the Year.

This season, Porter is currently ranked sixth in the NESCAC for scoring with 16.7 points per game, fifth in rebounding with eight boards per game, and fourth in blocked shots with 1.77 per game.

Porter leads the Camels in both total scoring and total rebounds as the 2010 season comes to a close.

Conn Students Take a Stab at Fencing

SAM PERLEY
STAFF WRITER

A Summer Olympic sport and one of only three sports that have been in every Olympiad of the modern era, fencing is garnering attention on campus from both beginners and those with a background in it.

Fencing has been traditionally dominated by European countries with the Italians, French and Hungarians winning a majority of the medals since 1896.

It is a combat sport that uses swords and other similar weapons to strike opponents in an attempt to win.

Fencing is divided into three weapons categories known as the foil, epee and sabre. The differences between the three are based on target area and attack.

Foil participants can only score by striking the opponent in the torso while epee partakers can hit their opponents anywhere on their body, therefore making the target much bigger.

Sabre contestants target everything from the waist up and can be awarded points by using either a stabbing or cutting motion.

Both foil and epee require swords to use only a stabbing motion.

One point is awarded for each hit and participants also wear protective clothing to avoid injury from the weapons.

When teams compete in meets, they use three fencers per weapon making a total of nine entrees.

SEE CONN GARDE, PAGE 5

New Orleans: Ville de Champions



SAM PERLEY
STAFF WRITER

For the first time in NFL history, the New Orleans Saints are Super Bowl champions after upsetting the Indianapolis Colts by a score of 31-17 last Sunday in Miami.

Quarterback Drew Brees led the team with MVP honors as he completed 32 out of 39 passes for 288 yards and two touchdowns.

Receivers Marques Colston, Devery Henderson and running-back Pierre Thomas combined for twenty receptions and 201 yards. Kicker Garrett Hartley nailed all three attempted long field goals while cornerback Tracy Porter sealed

the Saints' victory with just over three minutes to go as he picked off Colts' quarterback Peyton Manning and returned the interception 74 yards for a touchdown.

Founded in 1967, the Saints spent a large part of its early history with the pseudonym "Aints" because of their dismal performances on the field and consistent losses. It took the team over two decades to achieve their first winning season and 33 years to notch their first playoff win. Coming into this season's playoffs, the Saints only had two total playoff wins in program history. However, in this year alone, they achieved three by knocking off the

Arizona Cardinals, Minnesota Vikings and Indianapolis Colts en route to the Super Bowl.

New Orleans has had a turbulent last few years as it has continued to recover from the devastation caused by Hurricane Katrina in August 2005. The Saints were even displaced from New Orleans for the entire 2005 season because of damage to the Louisiana Superdome, which left it inoperable for home games. They played the rest of the season in both San Antonio's Alamodome and Tiger Stadium at LSU in Baton Rouge, LA.

I myself was rooting for the Saints in the Super Bowl. I think many people wanted to see the

Saints win for the city of New Orleans after all the hardships they have been through the past few years. During this season, the dominance of the Saints week-in and week-out gave many fans from New Orleans an outlet for the harsh realities of day-to-day life.

While I think the victory is well deserved by both the Saints and the city of New Orleans as a whole, I do not think we should get the impression that this Super Bowl victory is going to magically cure the troubles in New Orleans. There is still noticeable destruction from Hurricane Katrina almost four and half years after the disaster, and many people

who left the city have still not returned. The rebuilding process in New Orleans has been greatly hindered by the current economic recession.

The Super Bowl victory for New Orleans likely did wonders for the residents' morale, but once the dust settles at the end of the day, many people will go back to living conditions that are still dramatically affected by the aftermath of Katrina.

By no means am I trying to overshadow the Saints' victory with more Katrina disaster negativity. The Saints vic

SEE SAINTS, PAGE 5

WRITE FOR SPORTS!

Be My Valentine, Me!



JAKE SCHNAIDT
COLUMNIST

Well, Valentine's Day was a hoot and a holler this year! That sentence was written before Valentine's Day, so pretend like I didn't write it.

This year I'm going to do something different on Valentine's Day. I know what you're thinking – he's going to be depressed or bitter or he's going to take some friend out on a date. Yeah, right. No more of that cynicism we love to lean on. And while we're at it, no more "anti-Valentine's Day" parties, please. Forget about flowers and candlelit dinners, forget debating with yourself about whether or not romance and chivalry are dead in our generation. You should especially forget about taking it upon yourself to revive them. Give it all up. Instead of wallowing in self-pity, loathing, and every other V-Day tradition, I'm going to spend the day treating myself to a special, and memorable, Saint Valentine's Day.

When I wake up around 3 PM to eat the unfinished Cro pizza I passed out eating in bed the previous night, I'm going to go out to Munson's bakery and buy a big red heart box full of candies. I listed that in my interests on Facebook

like three months ago, but no one commented on it so I took it down.

This year, instead of smothering my grief with a trayful of grease-fries at Harris, I'll cradle my Munson's Love Package, find a nicely-exposed table in the middle of the cafeteria, and commemorate the one year anniversary of Lobstergate. I plan on inadvertently offending anyone who thought the dining staff had personally cooked my chocolates, gone to Munson's to buy a beautiful box, put a pretty bow on it, and crafted a beautiful calligraphic note (that, of course, I will have made myself). I know that I once mentioned how much I

That s the important learning portion of my day, which is totally sexy.

just loved calligraphy and thought it was, like, a really cute way to write.

One of the chocolates will have a rancid, unbuttered lobster center which will remind me of the bitterness felt on this campus but one year ago. Don't laugh at any of

that, that's the important learning portion of my day, which is totally sexy.

Then I'll follow that bitter chocolate-of-the-sea flavor with all the rest of the chocolates, preferably two-by-two so as to avoid any more surprises, which I hate. All day there will be steady pounding of chocolate.

When I have fattened myself up, I'll go back to my room, light some candles, put on D'Angelo, and watch a few episodes of *Gossip Girl*, which I'm almost certain I like because I remember that I once ended a conversation with myself, "XOXO, Gossip Jake." When it comes time to go to bed, I will slowly and sensually remove my clothes, make sure my mouth is fresh and cleaned, and casually slip into bed. This is when it becomes either awkward or beautiful. I've never done this sort of thing before.

After some solo-spooning, I will eventually shiver myself to sleep with the horrifying thought that I had just spent an entire day pretending that I was my own lover. This is when I decide to revert back to the tradition of making Valentine's Day cards for all of the girls in class I like and then burning them.

Va-Jay Day:

Vagina Monologues will make you uncomfortable -- in a good way

KIEFER ROBERTS
CONTRIBUTOR

Ladies and gentlemen, it's that time of year again. It happens almost without us noticing, but the subtle changes on campus are always a true sign of a change in the space-time continuum that is Conn Coll's bubble of existence. Suddenly, we begin to notice the bad qualities about living on a hill, like the wind slapping you in the face at 25 miles per hour when all you want is an Odwalla from Oasis and your next Netflix DVD.

Or perhaps it's the sudden emergence of snowmen with raging hard-ons and top hats (Frosty! Cover your shame!) on the green that grabs your attention. And if the sudden explosion of couples slow-grinding at all of your Thursday night events (including, but not limited to, dances in Cro, floor parties, that weird couple in the bathroom when you're brushing your teeth) doesn't tip you off, then you're just not paying attention. Or is that just me?

Nonetheless, I digress. Guess what folks! It's freaking February at Conn!

Now, before you get all despondent and decide to go into hibernation until the spring tent dance (not a terrible idea), I suggest you look around and see what this short but special month offers. Black history events galore; another go-round of Men's Club Hockey destroying Coast Guard; the occasional snow day and subsequent prance about the arboretum; and as far as this junior can remember, there's a time honored February tradition at CC: the celebration of the vagina.

Oh yes, my friends. This month the annual performance of *The Vagina Monologues*, immortalized by Eve Ensler and angry vaginas everywhere, takes place. I've been to a performance of this show before, put on by a group of CC's most brazen (trust me) women, and I had a blast.

I don't necessarily think it's the content that makes it such an enjoyable experience as much as it is the performing aspect of it – the guilty joy of seeing girls scream about the vulva, or even more personal, their vulva and then shamelessly looking for the rosy-cheeked, perspiration-induced reaction of the males in the audience, and even some females. Regardless of how comfortable you might be, a lot of the ideas expressed in *The Vagina Monologues* will inevitably make you uncomfortable and I think that's what they're supposed to do – they're supposed to make the audience think about why the performance seems uncomfortable.

Or perhaps the monologues will make you question why it's normal to see Taylor Swift (who has a vagina, by the way) in a commercial for another sappy Valentine's Day movie and not bat an eyelash. Picture Ms. Swift talking to us about her 'coochie-snorcher' and I promise you "You Belong with Me" will never be okay to listen to again.

That's the beauty of *The Vagina Monologues* – they're real accounts of real people who want to make you think about something that, at first, seems slightly off-putting. The content is designed to make you stop thinking about what kind of Valentine's candy you want to buy the girl or boy you've been stalking over the new low shelves in the library and start thinking about things that you're not thinking about.

February is a fantastic month that can quickly evolve into letting yourself become way too self-involved and self-important. So do yourself a favor: get weirdly uncomfortable, weirdly comfortable, or strangely apathetic (not going to happen). Try to think about something new – and if the performance does fail to make you uncomfortable, look to your left and your right and think about why these people next to you might be, because they are. I'll be in the back doing the exact same think.

Write for Opinions!

[opinions@thecollegevoice.org]

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Relay For Life:

Take a bite out of cancer by taking a few laps around the green

SARAH WEANER
CONTRIBUTOR

It was one night of living in the moment: bands played, people sang and everyone ate. Tents were decorated with colorful signs and undergarments were worn as adornments. It was one night entirely consumed by the people around you – everyone waiting for their turn to take laps around the Green. Relay for Life participants sure know how to live in the moment. Because cancer never sleeps.

Those affected by cancer are in a constant battle. At Relay for Life, brought to our campus by the American Cancer Society, we remember those who have lost this fight and stand in solidarity with those who are still fighting. Survivors who come to participate know the idea of living in the moment very well.

"Staying up all night makes you appreciate what a cancer patient goes through and inspires you to live in the moment and to seize every hour that comes," sophomore Ruby Fairchild, who was involved with last year's Relay, affirms.

During Relay, we celebrate the advancements we've made against cancer through "the Survi-

vors' Lap," in which cancer survivors walk a lap around the Green. Those assembled for the event light candles to put inside bags, each with the name of a person who has been affected by cancer. As sophomore Lauren Manning, a Relay for Life coordinator and team head here at Conn, says of the event: "the Relay helps to show the cancer survivors in our college community, as well as all those who have been touched by cancer, that the community supports them and is willing to take a step of action in the fight against cancer."

As a Relay for Life member, one strives to raise at least \$100. Last year's Relay raised over \$50,000 through the contributions of participants and their own friends' and families' donations. The American Cancer Society distributes money to people fighting cancer, funds research to find a cure for cancer, and supports benefits like summer camps for children with cancer.

Join the event during which time stops for a night in Conn College life. You'll witness how time never stops for cancer. Go to RelayforLife.org and search for Connecticut College.

Campus Politics: A Look at SGA's Current Projects

Editor's Note: Daniel Hartsoe will be writing a regular column concerning the goings-on at Student Government Association Assembly meetings

DANIEL HARTSOE
COLUMNIST

This past Thursday the Student Government Association (SGA) discussed several different issues in their weekly meeting. Highlights of the meeting were the election of students to student representative positions on numerous campus committees, amongst them the Health and Wellness Committee, the Physical Plant Committee, the Dining Services Committee and the Campus Parking Appeals Committee. The vote for the positions on five of the ten committees was uncontested, which suggested either a lack of interest in the campus issues addressed in those committees or a general lack of interest in student leadership on campus.

An election for a temporary committee was also held. This committee, the Centennial Committee, has been formed to plan the college-wide celebration of the College's 100th birthday, which will officially be April 5, 2011. According to Vice President for College Relations, Patricia Carey, the festivities will begin with a celebration of the college's 99th birthday this spring and will formally commence next January, running for eighteen months until the end of the 2012 academic year.

The most contentious business of the evening, however, involved the official approval of new clubs. The first of these organizations to come up for debate, Connecticut College Students Against Drunk Driving (CC SADD), seeks to prevent drunk driving and alcohol abuse on campus, to study drinking patterns in the student body and to promote non-drinking forms

of entertainment.

A few representatives began the discussion period by arguing that the new club is unnecessary, as the established Peer Educators already serve a similar purpose. These representatives argued that the efforts of SGA should be directed at overseeing and coordinating the several alcohol abuse-related groups on campus instead of approving yet another group to grapple with the very same problems existing organizations currently attempt to address.

After a few comments along this line of reasoning, several representatives began to passionately counter that one more group would not hurt the attempt to curb alcohol abuse on campus, especially because alcohol is such a huge problem.

While I haven't had much exposure to alcohol culture on campus, recognizing a student organization with the mission of addressing alcohol abuse and preventing drunk driving would not at all impair the campaigns of other groups on campus that seek to do similar things.

Moreover, SGA's own constitution states that the assembly can only deny a club official recognition if it fits any of four descriptions: if it duplicates the purpose of another club, 'threatens the safety and wellness of students', is not deemed to 'enhance the quality of life at the college' or violates the college's anti-discrimination clause. Since Peer Educators is run through the Office of Student Wellness and Alcohol/Drug Education and is not a student club, the club met all four criteria. Therefore, it could not be rejected by SGA. The assembly approved CC SADD's constitution for official recognition as a club.

Another club applying for SGA ratification, One in Four, did not have as clear a case. One in Four is an all-male organization whose purpose is to

raise awareness among men of the prevalence and consequences of sexual violence. However, as the club's constitution prohibits women from joining the organization, it violates the college's anti-discrimination clause, and thus runs afoul of the fourth criterion for approval. However, the SGA constitution clearly states, "the Assembly may reject a constitution only if one or more of the following is true."

This clause suggests that the SGA Assembly could choose to grant official recognition to a club that does violate the non-discrimination clause, as the wording merely prohibits the Assembly from rejecting student clubs, and does not prohibit the Assembly from approving a club for any reason. This issue became the subject of a debate that lasted half an hour, with some members arguing that One in Four should be exempted from the clause because its "discrimination" against women is not malicious, while others argued that no exceptions should be made in the non-discrimination policy.

The best solution was put forward by student body President Peter Friedrichs '10, who proposed a resolution to signal the Assembly's support for One in Four to soften the blow of the potential rejection of the club's constitution.

SGA recognition isn't necessary for a club to operate on campus - as one executive of the assembly said, the only real advantage a recognized club has over an unrecognized club is the ability to request SGA funding. Beyond the immediate issue of One in Four, SGA should look at the language in its constitution regarding the club recognition process in order to clear up the confusion about whether or not the assembly has the obligation to reject a club if its constitution violates the college's non-discrimination clause.



Restaurante Delicioso:
Steve Bloom on Local Restaurants
from "The Academic Costume" Blog
for more, visit www.thecollegevoice.org/costume

Sophomore Boy Totally Almost Hooked up with This Cute Freshman Girl

DONALD BUDGE
COLUMNIST/BLOGGER

At a floor party in Windham, local sophomore Jonny College was so close to hooking up with freshman Anne Northface. 19-year-old Jonny from "just outside of Boston" said the night seemed ordinary, just crushing brews with his boys over a few games of Beirut. But once he saw Anne down the hall on the third floor of Windham, he knew tonight was going to be different.

According to reports given by his friends, Kevin and Steve, Jonny was definitely "macking" on this girl and they seemed to be "really hitting it off." Kevin had no doubt Jonny was going to bring this girl home, making sure to state that he was "the man" several times in between stumbling. Steve then mentioned the fact that Jonny had "mad game," and listed a few different parties where he made out with this girl he just met, or at least got her number.

Despite Jonny making the girl laugh and lightly touch-

ing her arm occasionally, he couldn't seal the deal. "It was definitely going to happen, and she was hot too," Jonny told reporters, proceeding to list the numerous cock-blocking factors present in the situation. "One of her friends was really drunk, like falling all over the place and throwing up, and she wanted to go help her, which I understand, but like what the hell man." Other difficulties included this guy who kept bumping into them and spilling some Keystone Light, and the fact that she told her friend Katie they'd all go home together.

Many party-goers had no idea this event was happening, more concerned with not spilling their jungle juice while inching down the packed hall, or just trying to leave the party since it was pretty mediocre.

"So I was in the middle of this really funny joke, and this other girl comes out of nowhere and starts talking to her about this time their friend Ashley slipped on the ice or something. I wasn't really paying attention," he added.

One fairly sober student commented on the incident: "I saw this guy talking pretty closely with Anne. I think they

were making out too. It was kind of gross, or maybe that was at the floor party in Johnson. I heard she's kind of a slut."

Anne's friends gave a slightly different account of the story, claiming this creepy guy was hitting on her friend and wouldn't leave her alone. According to Anne's friends they were having a girls' night out and just wanted to dance and have a good time, but were interrupted by Jonny and a few other drunken boys. "Anne was giving me that 'get him away from me look' the whole time, but was too nice to tell him to go away," Katie told The College Voice.

When asked how he felt about this upcoming Saturday night's hookup prospects, Jonny commented: "This Saturday is going to be different. I can tell."



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WCN-I Bet You've Never Heard It

Students might tune in to on-campus radio station if it had more exposure

JOHN DODIG
OPINIONS EDITOR

On a seemingly annual basis, *The Voice* prints an article talking about our school's radio station, WCNI New London. This year, Lauren Shenfield stated, "Not only is the eclectic and creative FM station streamed online and available to anyone desiring to listen on the College's campus, but it is also a station that can be reached by anyone in the New London area. The station...has a rich history with Connecticut College and involves an impressive staff of community members and student DJs committed to producing quality shows for the love of music."

That all sounds wonderful, but it doesn't change the fact that nobody on campus

is listening to the station whose radio waves actually permeate the air they breathe. We all walk past the glowing red WCNI sign and see the enormous transmitter antenna on a near-daily basis. Tour guides boast about the station to high school students and their parents, but students simply don't listen to the radio in their spare time.

There are several things that can be done to raise awareness about WCNI on campus.

If you've ever set foot inside the school's post office, you've heard the generic adult contemporary station playing at a barely audible level. Why not switch out one near-imperceptible station for another? After all, the on-air DJ studio shares a wall with the post office. Obviously, I have no right to dictate the music choices of the post office employees, but it would certainly

liven up the room.

There are still more options.

An ever-present fixture of Oasis snack shop is the television playing CNN on mute. Since they're already missing out on the dulcet tones of Anderson "Silver Fox" Cooper's voice, I think students would love listening to their fellow students and community DJs on the air. As an active member of Connecticut College Community, Inc., I'm obviously biased, but the jockeys at the station work hard to produce eclectic, energetic shows. Provided the volume is kept to a low, non-distracting level, playing WCNI

in Cro will allow those who would never otherwise tune into 90.9 FM listen to snippets of their peers' shows. I'm convinced students are not avoiding WCNI

by choice - if they are presented with an easy way to access the signal, they will tune in more often in their spare time.

The most effective and least intrusive way of raising awareness would be to place a link to "listen live" to WCNI on the Connecticut College website. As of now, the station operates from wcniradio.org, where programming information, concert schedules, news, and the signal stream are located. Placing a link somewhere on conncoll.edu or CamelWeb would not only allow current students and faculty to access the web stream, but would let prospective students check out a potential extracurricular activity.

While Pandora and iTunes have obviously supplanted terrestrial radio, WCNI DJs - many of whom you probably know - continue to produce entertaining, specialized programming.

Open Your Doors Say Hi

Students' social lives depend upon their own initiative, not their residence halls



BEN GITKIND
CONTRIBUTOR

I've grown increasingly tired of hearing people say that our college's social scene is irrefutably synonymous with heavy drinking in rooms and heavy petting at dances. In my frustration with drinking-based theories of socialization, I've spent some time trying to suss out what really lies at the bottom of these self-imposed strictures we tend to adhere to, such as our beloved Thursday/Saturday night schedule. This led me, like any Psychology Major, to re-examine Zimbardo's Stanford Prison Experiment in which a bunch of college students are placed into the roles of prisoners and guards and end up so psychologically and dangerously invested in their roles that the experiment had to be shut down. The basic premise is that we college students are inherently amorphous blobs that want nothing more than to fit the shape of our container.

We see the effects of this everyday: where we sit in Harris, how we avoid signing up for any class that meets on Friday, and even the way in which we avert our eyes when we see someone whose name we know but for some reason will not say hi to. As the Housefellow of Branford I noticed freshman in my dorm beginning to engage with these standards. I watched them running around, establishing their groups of friends, learning how to avoid Campus Safety, and finding out the best ways to navigate through their social and academic obligations. The popular campus concept of intimacy within Branford has profoundly affected the way I look at the dorm and seemed formative in the way these freshmen adapted to it.

It seems as though dorms always attain a sort of reputation, and it is rather stunning how much we adhere to these projected images. I started to look into the layouts of dorms, spurred by

my understanding of Branford as a centrally-located and centrally-designed dorm. Is it possible that dorms without centrally-located common rooms and housefellow suites are set up in a way that undermines a basic feeling of community? Professor Ann Devlin specializes in environmental psychology and is a self-declared "architectural probabilist."

Regarding the ways in which students interact in the dorms, Devlin put community in terms of objective probabilities. "If people

I think we sometimes forget that we are the ones who determine which dorms have community and which dorms do not.

are more likely to meet because social spaces bring them in contact, like common bathrooms, then social engagement is more probable," she said.

Devlin co-authored a paper entitled "Residence Hall Architecture and Sense of Community," that was published in the scientific journal, *Environment and Behavior*. The piece featured the results of surveyed satisfaction ratings from dorms on the Connecticut College campus. Essentially, the paper explains that while Plex dorms are "related to higher student ratings of basic dorm functions, such as thermal comfort, adequate bathroom facilities, and room storage," these dorms are also "related to a lower sense of community."

The Plex is not the only area on campus where it seems as though a sense of community is lacking. Sophomore Liza Gordon lived in JA her freshman year.

"I felt a little removed from campus - you can basically stay there the entire week," she said. "It felt exclusive and isolated."

Gordon also commented on the

ways in which the dining halls divide our campus into those who dine North and those who dine South.

"I went to JA for dinner the other day and saw a bunch of people I hadn't seen all year," she said. Her story represents a sentiment I've heard echoed throughout our school.

I suppose it's inevitable and perhaps necessary that the dorms attain certain reputations, but when we let these social constructions govern the way we socialize on campus we limit ourselves to certain pre-determined scripts and interactions. I think we sometimes forget (I know I do) that we are the ones who determine which dorms have community and which dorms do not. We live on a very small, closed campus. We grow so accustomed to this that by senior year the walk from South to North campus seems impossible. But I think we sometimes forget that we are the ones who determine which dorms have community and which dorms do not. Social etiquette on our campus seems to dictate that Thursday and Saturday nights are the only nights that treks across campus to meet random people are appropriate, and furthermore, it's often assumed that both parties will not really remember the meeting in the morning. This is probably the most basic way in which the norms we have established on campus are detrimental to forming a better sense of community as a college.

I am definitely not innocent in any of this, but the ghost of winter solstice future showed me that I will die alone if I don't do something to change before I graduate. No matter what dorm you live in and how alienated you feel from your peers, keep your door open, explore different parts of the college whenever you get the chance, and don't let the campus tell you that you're only allowed to get social on Thursdays and Saturdays.



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EDITORIALS/LETTERS

FEBRUARY 16, 2010

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THE COLLEGE VOICE

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All members of the Connecticut College community are encouraged to submit letters to the editor, articles, photographs, cartoons, etc. All submissions will be given equal consideration.

Letters to the editor are accepted from any member of the college community on a first-come, first-served basis until noon on the Saturday preceding publication. They should run approximately 300 words in length, but may be no longer than 500 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 every member of the college community maintains equal opportunity to have their opinions published.

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All articles must be received by the appropriate section editor by no later than 4 PM on Fridays, or by the deadline set forward by the section editor(s).

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Editorials

Proving Our Worth

If you were to judge Conn's school spirit from the Conn Club Hockey versus Coast Guard Academy game this past Saturday, it'd be impossible to say we don't have school spirit.

But this spirit reveals itself in an unusual way: not once did I hear screams "Let's go Conn Coll!" or "Awww... CCI!" Rather, all chants and screams were insults or jeers against the Coast Guard Academy's team.

I've been to my share of professional and collegiate sporting events in my life, so I know jeers are not unusual, but never have I heard a team's fans solely use jeers to show their enthusiasm and support.

The game brought the campus together to jeer and boo against our "common enemy" with chants like "Navy rejects" "we have girls/you're don't count," "get your own rink" and "we're not sober," among many others, all varying in creativity and offensiveness.

Why do we not have this same turnout and fervor for home games against our NESCAC peers?

We have the spirit (although it may be slightly strangely directed).

But why does it have to be coaxed out of us only by the Coast Guard Academy once or twice a year?

I think a lot of it stems from

many students' underlying feeling that Conn is a mediocre college.

With most new initiatives from the college administration or Student Government Association, we often are compared with NESCAC schools, and subconsciously it often feels we're not quite on par.

What is Colby doing for this? Should we imitate their methods? How should we be keeping up with Middlebury on environmental efforts?

These are all questions that have arisen in various committees and presentations during my four years at Conn, and which always make me feel that we're constantly struggling to catch up.

Why aren't the questions more like: what works best for Conn? What do we as a collective think is best for us?

Granted, I know these questions are eventually asked in later conversation, and that we do lead the way in many ways, but they're often asked too late in the process.

They should be the first questions we grapple with and first opinions we seek.

We are a unique college and are told we are "extraordinary," but the constant comparison with other "similar" schools negatively affects our school spirit and exacerbates the preexisting feeling that we're at a "second choice" school.

For example, in the ever-entertaining "light bulb" jokes about colleges, the one about Conn was:

"How many Connecticut College students does it take to change a light bulb?"

Two - one to change the bulb and one to complain about how if they were at a better school the bulb wouldn't have burned out."

It's sad that it even appears as our main stereotype, unlike Middlebury or other NESCAC peers' version of the joke that poke fun of the snowy weather or liberal nature of their campuses.

This appears in so many areas of our daily campus life, even including the proposed new camel logo, which when lined up next to the athletic logos from peer schools, appeared almost overly ferocious and competitive. We have to show we're good, unlike Williams (an angry looking cow with his behind in the foreground) who just proves they are a good school by action and attitude.

They are Williams, and they are a good school.

We are Connecticut College and we are a good school.

Come on Conn, let's show it more than once or twice a year as we jeer our neighboring Coasties. Let's root for the Camels.

-Claire

Letters to the Editor

In Response to "A Decade in Film":

I understand Mr. Gentile's nominations for best films of the past decade but I feel that he lacked any gumption as he cherry-picked from the Academy's own shortlist. My picks for the most overlooked films of the last decade that deserve to be on Mr. Gentile's list follow:

1. *Master and Commander* (2004): Such suspense! and a visit to the Galapagos headline this marathon of sea-battles and below-deck camaraderie.

2. *Passion of the Christ* (2004): So graphic and so redemptive.

3. *Starship Troopers 2* (2004): Any continuation of the best movie ever is welcome, except of course *Starship Troopers 3* (2008) which just sucked.

4. *The Hurt Locker* (2009): Here Mr. Gentile and I are in agreement: It's hard to have a semblance of a story or character development

when your budget is \$18 million, but *The Hurt Locker* succeeds with just enough money left over to maybe have a message.

5. *Paranormal Activity* (2009): Another low-budget favorite, this film was big on the screaming and suspense.

6. *Iron Man* (2008): In contrast to the previous two films on my list *Iron Man* had a big budget and big talent. Robert Downey Jr. stomps ass and scores lots of babes. Does anyone know why this film wasn't a winner?

7. *Spanglish* (2004): When I first saw this movie I was reminded of Eugene O'Neill's classic *Long Day's Journey Into Night*: a mother addicted to drugs, immigrant workers, and a loving father. I also knew after seeing this movie that Adam Sandler was going to be recognized as belonging to the highest echelon of American actors.

8. *Cloverfield* (2008): It's hard to make a movie succeed when half of your audience is puking due to motion sickness. Then again, it's hard to do that without 3-D these days. A synergy of several successful thrillers, *Cloverfield* is revolutionary and gives us insight into what we can expect from films and marketing strategies in the future. Despite all the trouble, a movie we are not likely to forget soon.

9. *Youth in Revolt* (2009): Name another time when an actor has played two characters more skillfully than Michael Cera.

10. *The Lake House* (2006): Lovers stuck in two different times! A mail-box which doubles as a time machine! Keenu Reeves!

Sincerely,
Matt Baum

In Response to "Less Facebook, More Face Time":

All my life, I have struggled worrying about what others think of me. Regrettably, I have even made some decisions based on how I wanted to be perceived.

However, college has changed me and joining SGA this year is partly responsible for that. When I decided to join SGA this year, I had a feeling that there would be some frustrating moments, but I never knew it would come to this.

Everyone is entitled to an opinion, don't get me wrong.

However, when that opinion is

based on inaccurate facts (such as quoting Katie "Moldune," who graduated in 2009 and couldn't possibly still be on SGA), I get offended. If any member of Conn's student body questions what SGA does, please come sit in on one of our meetings on Thursday nights.

We have never once said that students are not welcome. In fact, we make conscious efforts to invite you all there. Also, House Council is open to all. You can't complain that we, as "sheer stockinged, button-down student 'leaders'"

aren't doing anything when you don't come to our meetings and hear our thoughtful debates and discussions. You say that we aren't telling you enough, but maybe you just aren't listening.

Individuality is a wonderful asset - it helps communities grow and develop. However, if you're going to voice your opinion, be accurate and well-informed.

Sincerely,
Jillian Nataupsky '10
Hamilton Senator

Editors Note: A correction of "Katie Moldune": the "Katie M." as quoted from the November 5, 2009 SGA Assembly minutes, was in fact Katie Mullaley, former senator of Park.

Newspaper Response:

When I came here, thirty years ago, the student newspaper was an embarrassment. It was one of the worst things about the college.

Now, it is one of the best things about the college. My congratulations to Claire Gould and to everyone else on the mast-head.

Best,
John Gordon
Professor of English

General Letter:

Last semester I heard through the grapevine that you're getting faster Internet, but it's been almost a month into second semester and I've seen no results.

Last night it took me TWO HOURS to stream one porn video off Redtube.com. At home I can usually load at least three porn videos simultaneously, specifically on nights when I couldn't decide on focusing my erotic fantasies between Sasha Grey, Jada Fire, or Bree Olson. And don't even get me started with how slow Facebook

has been running now that everyone's back on it all the time. How do you expect me to scan through photo albums for pictures of girls I like in bathing suits when it takes me three minutes to load a single album page, only to finally make it through that album and not find a single tantalizing bikini photo of that girl from my Econ class?? TWO HOURS, Conn!

I have never been more frustrated; I cannot stop my knee from jittering in class! Last night I managed to make it through to

the end of a video, the money shot was about to take place, I was at that final moment of ecstasy where you just want to shout out "I AM A F***ING CONQUISTADOR!" when suddenly the video froze right on a picture of Lexington Steel's looming member, laughing at my misfortune.

Consider me conquered.

Yours truly,
Dave Alfonso