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## Amnesty Calls for end to Death Penalty

By LARA MIZRACK

STAFF WRITER

In an effort to convince SGA to pass a resolution of support for a moratorium on or abolition of the death penalty, Jennifer Platt '01, Amnesty International's Death Penalty Abolition Coordinator for the State of Connecticut made a presentation on the subject during the February 8 SGA meeting.

The ball got rolling when Platt sent a letter to each member of SGA that explained Platt's purpose in pursuing such a meeting with the SGA and the positions of both Amnesty International and the Connecticut Network to Abolish the Death Penalty (CNADP), to which Platt also belongs, on the death penalty. The letter also outlined the options the SGA could choose in hearing such a proposal.

Platt began the presentation by asking all of the SGA members to keep an open mind on the issue,

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## President Lewis lives the Zamboni dream

Acting President David K. Lewis takes the helm of the Dayton Arena zamboni Friday, February 9th. Driving the zamboni is reportedly one of the president's lifelong dreams. Hopefully our interim president will be adept at smoothing over the recent challenges that have confronted Conn as he was at preparing a smooth skating surface for the hockey game that evening. Women's hockey lost to Colby 3 - 0.

## Retiring Professor Discusses Conn's Evolution

By KATIE HANDWERGER

BUSINESS MANAGER

In 2002, after 32 years of dutiful service to Connecticut College, Lucretia L. Allyn Professor of Sociology, J. Alan Winter will retire. Winter, who joined the Connecticut College staff in 1970, received his B.A. from New York University in 1958, and his M.A. and Ph.D. at the University of Michigan, Ann Arbor in the early 1960's. His specialties include sociology of religion, sociological analysis of American Jewry, and social psychology.

Most of Winter's research has dealt with the sociological and cultural forces affecting the behavior and organization of Jewry. He has written and co-written over 30 articles, essays, and book chapters during his time at Conn, most recently the book, "Jewish Choices: American Jewish Denominationalism" which was co-authored with colleagues in the U.S. and Israel.

During his time at Conn, Winter has taught such classes as introduction to sociology, sociology of religion, sociological analysis of Jewry, organizational dynamics, a course called "human nature and the social order" which is a seminar in sociological social psychology, and foundations and development of sociological theory.

Although Winter has set the date of his retirement as 2002, he has not yet planned for life after Conn, adopting the stance of "I've never planned anything in my life, why should I now?" One thing he does acknowledge as a possibility would be a move closer to his family. His departure is not a product of long term premeditation, Winter explains, but rather a decision based on the fact that he is satisfied with where he is in his life at this point. His opinion was that it would be preferable to leave on a good note rather than been one of those professionals who only leave after a long period of being bored or unhappy with their jobs.

Over the past 31 years, Winter has seen more happen at Connecticut College than most. He arrived at the college when the college had just made the transition to a co-educational institution. The process that incorporated men into Connecticut College he described as "smooth", at least from the perspective of the faculty. The college was, in Winter's mind, a place "where the students and faculty alike did good work," when he began his time at Conn.

Jumping forward ten to fifteen years, Winter noticed an evolution of the college taking place. It was the mid-eighties and changes were turning Connecticut College into what Winter refers to as the "University of Connecticut College International School of Social Work."

Winter broke down the new title: The term "university" dealt with the issue that the college started leaning towards a stronger focus on scholarly activities, publications, etc. A lack of concern for the undergraduates slowly developed. Winter explained that while "the college aspect was still there, but it was losing pre-eminence."

The word "International" referred to the numerous study abroad programs being developed that were seemingly becoming a central focus of the college. This change left Winter essentially nonplussed as the transition was "fine, just different."

The "social work" part of the college's new identity took on a more negative connotation. Although the lean towards volunteer work was seen as positive, Winter felt that this was a good thing pushed too far, becoming a weakness of the school, rather than a strength. The college became too economically involved downtown, most specifically with the NLDC. Although it was called "civic improvement," by many, Winter believes that the college became too caught up in corporate America, pushing people out of homes instead of helping them.

"Incorporated" stood for the bureaucratic style of governance which Winter said gave "more lip service than service" to shared governance. There was a progression away from shared governance that Winter considers to be at least one of the possible explanations for the mistakes that have been made at the college in the recent past.

Winter points to 1990 as the height of the college's happiness. "This was a nice place where people were doing good work." The people had limited resources, but "got more out of less." As the 90's progressed the people at Conn remained "reasonably happy, content to the point of complacency," but this status quo ended within five years. The cause, Winter feels, is most likely a dissatisfaction with a worsening financial situation that could no longer be rejected out of hand.

Winter's current non-financially related gripes about the school deal with the faculty's enthusiasm. As the school stands now, faculty are

continued on page 6

## Our New Playpen: Good, Clean, Wholesome Fun!

By BANKS MACDOUGAL

STAFF WRITER

The Lambdin game room ended its journey from "near-victim of lack of funds" to completion on Thursday February 8 with a ribbon cutting ceremony. The room features a pool table, a ping pong table, two foosball tables, several couches, and multiple televisions. Manager of Capital Projects Steven George, for whom the game room was named, was on hand for the celebration, and found it "fabulous."

The game room was one of three items that were left incomplete following the Plex renovations. During parents' weekend two trustees decided to donate funds to complete the game room as well as provide furniture for one of the multi-purpose rooms above Harris.

The one item from the original list that remains incomplete is the addition of couches, chairs, and tables to the Harris Refractory. When Lyn Silfen '67 decided to donate the 38,000 dollars necessary to complete the task, she did so with the stipulation that the room would be named for George because he demonstrated "such passion and such love for the college." According to George, the request came, "quite to my surprise," adding that he hoped, "that she felt good about giving it." George modestly warned that the dedication does not mean he was responsible for raising the money. "Other than my working relationship with...I didn't go



Dean Hoffman looks on as Hamilton sophomores enjoy the foosball table at Conn's new game room. The game room includes a pool table, ping pong table, numerous television sets and two foosball tables. (Bovet)

out to raise the money."

Oslec Villegas '03 found the game room to be something of a learning experience. "Well, I found out that I was really bad at foosball." Despite this disappointing revelation, Villegas admitted that he was "glad it was

there."

The game room is open Monday through Thursday from 6 p.m.-12 p.m.; Friday from 6 p.m.-2 a.m.; Saturday from 1 p.m.-2 a.m.; and Sunday from 1 p.m.-10 p.m. and is free for all Conn students.

## Connecticut College Raises \$3200 to Support The Indian Earthquake Relief Fund

*Effort proclaimed a success as Conn students contribute ten times the original donation goal*

By DAN JARCHO

STAFF WRITER

After a massive earthquake and hundreds of aftershocks left the state of Gujarat India in a state of ruin, Connecticut College students and professors collectively raised over \$3200 to support the Indian Earthquake relief fund, organized by Professor Sunil Bhatia and a group of ten CC students.

On January 26, a devastating earthquake, measuring 7.9 on the Richter scale, struck the Indian state of Gujarat. The quake sent tremors as far as China and Nepal. Since then, Gujarat has suffered over 280 aftershocks, 15 of which have measured 5.0 or higher. The earthquake left over 12,000 dead, more than 25,000 injured, and thousands homeless.

In response to this catastrophe, Professor Bhatia and a group of around ten students began an effort to raise money for the relief of those effected by the earthquake. Mirdula Swamy '03, one of the student organizers, says, "We started out with a goal of only two or three hundred dollars,

but the response from students and faculty was incredible."

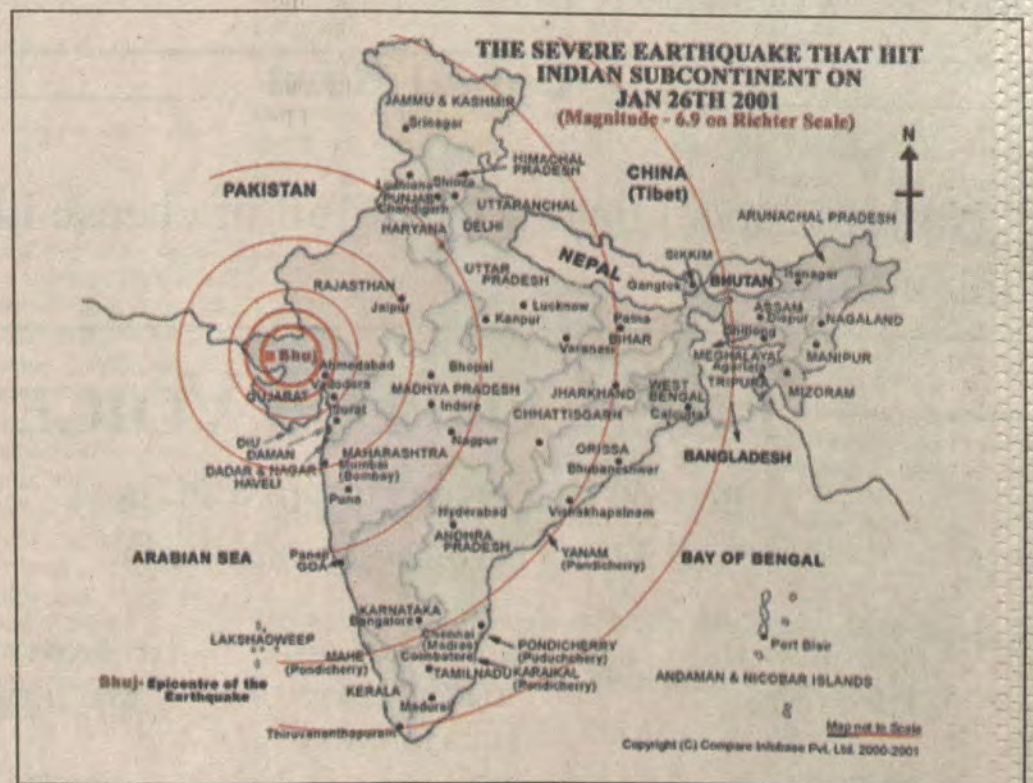
The fundraising efforts began as a door-to-door process. Soon after, announcements of the relief effort were made at house meetings two weeks ago, where approximately \$300 was collected immediately. At the faculty meeting the same week, approximately \$200 was collected. In addition, several professors had previously donated online to the relief funds in India.

Further publicity was raised for the fund with help from SAC, who arranged for the daily announcements in the CONNtact, and the posters around campus. The majority of the total money raised came from collection boxes at the convenience store in the Crozier-Williams College Center, and in Fanning Hall. Significant additions to the fund also came from the N20 comedy night, and the MOBROC benefit concert. Varun Swamy '01 says, "We would like to express your heartfelt thanks to the entire college community for contributing so spontaneously and generously to the cause."

The organizers of the Relief Fund recently sent the money raised to the Association for India's Development (AID). AID is a volunteer organization with branches in both the United States and India. The organization supports projects fighting poverty, illiteracy, unemployment, dependency, disease, social inequalities, corruption, and the dwindling of India's natural resources. So far, AID has raised \$185,000 for this project, with help from donations from corporations, colleges and universities, and many other sources in countries around the world.

A representative from AID wrote, "Our fundraising campaign has convinced us that people do care for others and that caring is not confined to the narrow boundaries of nationality, religion, ethnicity or race. We wanted to share our hope with all our well-wishers and friends and to thank all those who contributed their time, effort, and of course, money."

Additional information concerning the relief effort or ways to help can be found at the AID homepage [aidindia.org](http://aidindia.org), or [timesofindia.com](http://timesofindia.com).



### In This Issue:



### A&E

LOCAL ARTIST PAINTS TOWN RED



### A&E

TRIBUTE TO EMILY DICKENSON ENLIVEN'S 'POETS' LEGACY



### SPORTS

WOMEN'S HOCKEY GETS ICED





## Amnesty International's Campaign Misplaced and Poorly Planned

The campus's Amnesty International chapter has recently taken up a campaign to convince the SGA to come out against the United States' continued use of the death penalty as a sentencing option. While Amnesty clearly has undertaken this mission the best intentions, the fact remains that it is an ill advised campaign.

The SGA's purpose in our college system is to represent the opinions of the students on campus issues, not political issues. Taking an official stance on any political issue, much less one as divisive as the death penalty, has the potential to alienate students, faculty, staff, and alumni.

This potential to alienate the college community threatens Conn on multiple fronts.

Alumni who donate to Connecticut College hold a variety of personal and political beliefs. Alumni with strong moral objections to the SGA's stance, whatever that may be, might be discouraged from donating to Connecticut College. After all, no one wants to donate money to political causes that he doesn't support.

In addition to alumni, an official stance on the death penalty has the potential to alienate prospective Conn applicants. Some students may simply disagree with the stance, while others may object to the unifor-

mity of one political perspective, and choose to attend a campus where all political beliefs are respected.

Beyond the potential to alienate the community, the survey to gauge student opinion is poorly designed. The three question survey omitted the one important question that they needed to ask: Do you support a formal declaration from the SGA condemning the use of the death penalty? People who disagree with the death penalty do not necessarily believe the SGA should condemn it. The numbers gained by the survey have a high probability of being misleading.

Above all else though, Amnesty International is wasting the time of the SGA by asking them to take a stand on an issue beyond their jurisdiction. Just because the SGA can pass a shared governance covenant does not mean that they can influence national political policy, or negotiate peace in the Middle East. The SGA should not waste its time on something that it cannot possibly be able to influence.

*The Voice* calls upon the SGA to do the responsible thing, recognize that they are a student government and not a political organization, and vote against any formal statement on the death penalty issue.

## Pulling the Plug on Napster will give commerce a chance to catch up with technology

Napster is illegal. Or, to be more precise, it is a technology that enables theft. Theft is wrong and regardless of how nice it is to download music for "free", the process cheats others out of profits they've earned. Downloading music without paying for it, be it with Napster or Gnutella, or any other service, is tantamount to going to the music store at the Crystal Mall, grabbing a stack of CD's and walking off without paying for them. The argument that those CD's, or the songs on those CD's are "free" would not hold water, even with the cops.

Recording artists and companies spend a tremendous amount of time and money to produce and market their products, and deserve to reap the benefits of their labor, just like people in any other industry. Simply because the technology exists does not make its unregulated use a right, nor does it make music free for the taking.

This is not to say that the concept of downloadable music is a bad one, nor should it be abandoned. A distinction must be made between the Napster technology itself and the theft of intellectual property that it enables. As MP3 applications have developed, copyright law and modes for compensation have been left

behind.

Hopefully Bertelsman A.G., the German conglomerate that controls BMI Music and bought out Napster last year, will be able to develop ways for consumers to use Napster to download music without stealing it. While most pay-to-play sites have not been successful due to the competition posed by Napster and like applications, the technology is now backed by some heavy industry players like BMI who are committed to finding a way to make downloadable music a viable commercial venture.

This new system will most probably represent a compromise between the free-for-all of Napster and the old-fashioned method of buying music. Consumers will be able to download the music they want, and just the music they want, and not have to pay for packaging or music that they don't need.

While closing Napster marks the end of an era, it also heralds a more equitable, market-based approach to downloadable music. Artists will be duly compensated for their work, and everyone will still be able to get all of the music they want with a clear conscience as well.



## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

### Student Representatives Encourage Campus Input

To the students of Connecticut College:

The state of the college address is over and so is the signing of the covenant, a student-authored document that ensures that shared governance is a reality on campus. While these events were momentous and "firsts" here at CONN, we still need to select a president who will not only continue to uphold the val-

ues of shared governance that we have so laboriously worked on, but also guide all of us through this tender period.

We, the student members of the presidential search committee were chosen to actually, not virtually, represent you. In that spirit then, we are reaching out for your opinions regarding the criteria for the next president. We are extremely accessible, but if you prefer not to

approach us in person, please feel free to email or call us whenever it is convenient for you.

Remember...

"What affects everyone can best be solved by everyone." -anonymous

-- Anna Hitchner '02

-- Stan Tartaglia '03

### GREEN ENERGY

KATE GUTHRIE • EARTH HOUSE

When I first arrived in January, it seemed to me the good people at Earth House has night vision, and I was left in the dark. I tiptoed around the stairway like a kid at 5a.m. Christmas morning, and bumped into the attic ceiling so much I grew padding. Within days, surprised and a bit bruised, I found out that walking in the dark is as easy as pie. There are nightlights hanging around crucial places, like the bathroom, and there are sixteen stairs down to the second floor.

Arriving in darkness is one way Earth House educates its energy use. We also enter empty rooms in silence that lack the whir of left-on stereos, televisions (there's one in storage for movie nights and Simpsons Sundays), computers and the extraneous but common beer fridge. Everyone bundles up a bit more - tank tops don't make it - and the temp is a few degrees lower. Seems like a small change, but the most immediate way to preserve those sunny days under an elm tree and deep breaths of fresh air lies in the everyday. What you do during 24 hours matters, especially when warm rooms and unheard music accounts for 6,700 tons of pollution per year at Conn.

Stepping back and altering for the big pictures also

important, and the best way to do that is to support the campaign for renewable energy that is looking to reduce such emissions at Conn by 99.99%. You may have bought some organic goodies at the bake sale a few weeks ago - the Renewable Energy Club made \$318! To join the Connecticut Energy Cooperative costs another thousand dollars, but Sara Zisa and Kassie Rohrbach, founders of the R.E.C. are positive about the outlook. Alumni, parents, local companies and celebrities are being informed, and more fundraisers are in the works. On February 28, there will be a panel discussion that Sarah says will "serve to educate the students of the economic, environmental, and social effects of renewable energy." A petition campaign is scheduled to begin shortly thereafter, to ascertain student support and enthusiasm about converting the college.

Earth House is excited because once Conn's in the co-op, we have the ability to convert the house source entirely to renewable energy, so long as we raise the extra money. That means every time a light was on, or Jerry sang sweet songs, it would be done with recovered methane, wind, and low-impact hydroelectric energy. That's the every day taken to another level by students.

### Camel Herd

"Nothing says I have a trunk full of cheese like driving a Pugeot."

## THE COLLEGE VOICE

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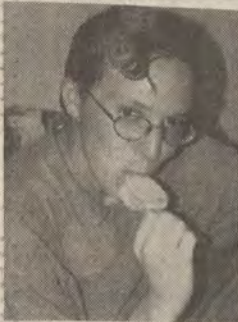
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GW is an equal opportunity institution.



# LIKE A MONGREL, I MARK MY TERRITORY

BRAD KREIT • LEFT OF MARX



I've never liked being called white. Growing up, I liked to call myself Jewish (drawing on my Dad's heritage) rather than white because "white" always seemed very negative to me, very absent of any culture. I've never done anything to celebrate my mother's heritage, Danish. But for that matter, I've never really done anything to celebrate my father's Jewishness, other than to claim it as my own.

White is a term I've often heard described as "European mutt," by my friends — some English, Finnish, Scottish, French, etc. come together to make one sort of mongrel combination called "American." Not that American culture is solely a mixture of white culture, we just haven't accepted that white and American are different things.

Historically, of course, whiteness and Jewishness weren't always the same thing. Jews, like many European ethnic groups, intermarried with British and other European-Americans, and past European regional associations became inconvenient. It was much easier for a Jew to change his last name to Smith and be accepted into the American ethnic fold.

Practicing Jews don't really exist in America any more. If the trend continues, there

will be a collection of people who can claim that some of their relatives were Jewish, and a collection of empty synagogues.

The first time I visited Connecticut College, I left struck with this observation more than any other: it's really white here. Two years later, I don't think that has really changed — Conn is still very white for me. I'm from a place where you're more likely to find a token white person than a token minority.

Coming here from Oakland, California has been a strange experience. In elementary school, I was comparatively rich because I was conventionally middle class; here, I'm on the poor side of things because my mom is a teacher. In Oakland, I could be spotted in class because I'm white; here, I can hide very easily for the exact same reason.

Losing my Jewish culture, or my Danish culture, for that matter, has had two effects: a loss of culture, and a socioeconomic gain. My grandparents, some of the immigrants, all belonged to the working class. My parents, Americans, each are somewhere in the middle class. My older brother was recently accepted to Penn law school. Yes, the Kreits are moving up — and all it cost was centuries of religious, cultural, and linguistic tradition — and its made us something called "white."

Yet there's something very unsatisfying about our changing socioeconomic position.

Statistically speaking, about a third of my friends from Oakland will be dead, in jail, or on parole by the time my brother finishes law school. Just slightly different legal tracks.

I think that the issues we face with race relations today revolve around balancing this issue: how do we eliminate white privilege without eliminating yet another American culture? Some people have argued that, to be successful, these movements must exclude whites. At best, this is historically ignorant. After all, where are the wobbles now? Worse though, is that exclusionary thinking can only breed exclusionist culture. Separating whites from civil rights movements won't push more politically powerful whites toward reforming anything except upper income tax codes.

How then, do various minority groups struggle for equal acceptance, without losing their cultural identities? How do whites keep themselves from trying to bring minorities to adapt to them?

I'm not going to pretend to be able to answer any of these questions. I do know that there has to be some type of human solidarity in civil rights movements, so that movements are never about one group overpowering another, but each person being able to find a more equitable place in American culture. And if they're done correctly, no one will even have to change his name to Smith.

accountability is rarely discussed. What happened? Are we so busy blaming everyone else that we no longer notice when we screw up?

Nowadays, when someone makes a mistake they are more likely to blame their childhood, an uncomfortable mattress, or too many Britney Spears songs on the radio rather than actually standing up and saying, "Oops, that was dumb. Sorry." We've lowered the bar for our own performance. We're cheating ourselves and everyone around us by not even trying to meet any sort of personal standards. Instead, we inflict standards on everyone around us and insist that they be held accountable. Then we shake our heads in disappointment when they don't meet the standards that we won't hold ourselves to. It's really quite hypocritical and more than a little stupid.

I think it's time that we all hold ourselves accountable. We need to stop spending our time finding someone to blame for our problems and start fixing them. No more bitching and moaning. No more finger wagging. No more lofty proclamations about anything. Just sit down, shut up, and do something about it.

# GO AND DISCONNECT ME, I'LL BE LAUGHING WHILE YOUR MUSIC SUCKS

IAN C. ABRAMS • DELUSIONS OF CANDOR



By the time you read this, Napster might be history, and with it the opportunity to freeload on songs that don't deserve your

dollar. That's right, uptight consumers: certain artists - I'll leave this up to you - are what the industry calls "one-hit wonders." Or maybe you like the whole Dexy's Midnight Runners album, not just "Come On, Eileen."

Or find it worthwhile to spend seventeen dollars on a whole album of Vitamin C's late- 90s blisspop. Well, go ahead. Meanwhile, my T1 line is on fire trying to salvage what I can from pop's disposable archives before the whole thing collapses and I'm left humming songs that in all likelihood I can't even stand.

Let's establish a couple of things. I am a musician, and I would like to make music my living, or at least a secondary source of income. Moreover, every cent that has, by the goodwill and love of my parents, fallen into my hands to pay for my education is the direct fruit of the music business. My father, Lee Abrams, has made a name for himself in the music industry as a producer, managing consultant, and radio programmer. If it weren't for artists being compensated for what they do, I wouldn't be able to afford college. So far be it from me to suggest that music is a completely free commodity to be pilfered recklessly. I know I'd be angry if I poured six months of blood and sweat into an album and didn't see a cent.

Of course, that's not what's happening. Take Eminem, and his

song "The Real Slim Shady." Through no fault of my own, I was exposed to it, and can't get it out of my head. I don't give a rat's ass about his current hype party in the media; I just find the chorus annoying in a "Hey Mickey You're So Fine" kind of way. Wayne's World plagiarism duly noted. So let's say I download it. I think Haley will still be able to afford new clothes, and I'm sure Em will buy them for her when he gets back custody. And if he can't, he can just write a song about me calling me "faggot" and the photo shoots alone will pay for her new wardrobe. I'll download that one too, if I can.

It's pretty simple, really. As a musician, I feel it is the obligation of myself, and any other musician who wishes to contribute to recorded music, to put out an album where the majority of songs are good. That's all, fair and square. I'm not asking for much. People get famous and set for life on one song these days, and that's nothing new: back in the 1950s, you could write a hit single and be set for life, provided you didn't get screwed out of royalties by the Colonel.

I'm not advocating complete anarchy in the realm of consumerism any more than I am supporting a system that would surely sink all of my career aspirations. I'm simply saying that a covenant already exists between artist and consumer that needs to be honored: one of quality production of goods. If an artist is successful in impressing me with an album of quality material, rather than simply annoying me with an overexploited single, then they deserve my money, and I'll buy the poster and the duffel bag to boot. Until then, it's back to Napster to make sure that "Spinning Wheel" was the only good thing Blood, Sweat & Tears ever did.

# FEMINIST MAJORITY BELITTLES WOMEN'S RIGHTS

TED CONNOLLY • VIEWPOINT

Recently I was walking through a dormitory when a flyer caught my attention and spurred me to write this article. The flyer was posted by the Connecticut College Feminist Majority group. Their message was clear concerning the newly elected president and his appointees, mainly John Ashcroft, and I quote, "It is possible that George W. Bush is preparing for an all out war on women's rights." Where is the evidence to support this outrageous accusation?

To think that George Bush and John Ashcroft are going to wage a "war" against women's rights is a complete falsehood. When I think of women's rights I think of the right to vote, equal pay and opportunities, and other rights of all Americans protected under our Constitution. The Feminist Majority has decided to take the words "women's rights" and equate them with the right of a woman to abort a baby. That is clearly misleading. There is no doubt that both Bush and Ashcroft take the unpopular side of the abortion issue but that is no reason to smear a man like John Ashcroft as numerous congressmen and the predominantly liberal media have chosen to do. Here is a man who, because of his religion, believes that it is immoral to allow a mother to choose to end her baby's life.

Bush has appointed Ashcroft to the post of Attorney General. The office of the Attorney General does not make the laws in this country: It enforces them. The laws are made by our elected Congress and our laws and the Constitution are interpreted by the Supreme Court. Therefore if Roe v. Wade were to be overturned it would be done by an amendment to the

Constitution or by a decision of the Supreme Court. The Supreme Court has, on numerous occasions, reaffirmed its previous decision. Likewise, John Ashcroft has made his position clear when he said, "I should enforce the law as it is written. I think one of the elements of conservatism is to take the law as it is and to work to enforce it, not to supersede the law with your own judgment or your own idea of what should be."

Abortion is by no small stretch a controversial issue now more so than ever. I believe, however, that Bush, Ashcroft, and many other people who oppose abortion do so not to suppress women's rights but rather they treasure human life and believe it to be sacred. Though Bush and Ashcroft are morally opposed to abortion it is outrageous to believe either would infringe on a woman's right to vote, equal pay and opportunities, and the right to equal protection under the Constitution. In fact, Bush is helping to advance women by appointing six women to high positions in the administration such as Condoleezza Rice as National Security Advisor and Gale Norton as Secretary of the Interior.

Senator Phil Gramm from Texas was insightful when he said, "I sometimes wonder if there's an effort to make the love of traditional values a hate crime in America." Like the Senator, I myself notice an escalating attack on conservative views in this country. In conversation I notice that conservatives are attacked personally rather than on an issue based approach. But I encourage you to seek the truth on issues and not to let the media or the Feminist Majority make up your mind.

# THE BLAME GAME

SARA KELLY-MUDIE • DEJA-VUING



There's been a lot of talk about accountability lately. It's everywhere. Teachers need to be held accountable for students' learning. The President (Clinton or Bush) needs to be held accountable for his actions. The administration needs to be held accountable for our financial situation. Some groundhog in Pennsylvania needs to be held accountable for our weather. The list goes on ad nauseum.

Since when did we all become watchdogs? Why do we feel the need to make sure that everyone else is doing a job they probably understand better than we do? The most irritating aspect of this trend, however, is the persistent use of the word accountability when we really mean blame.

We are looking for some way to assign responsibility and place blame so we can mete out the appropriate punishments and be done with the whole thing.

Unfortunately, it's rarely that simple. Sometimes it is—we can hold President Bush accountable for signing an executive order that cut funding for international family planning agencies. He did it, he's the one to blame, end of story. But to blame Hallmark for feelings of loneliness or the latest celebrity marriage for the decline of the traditional family (which, incidentally, I don't think is a bad thing) is a bit simple-minded. Most things are caused by an amalgam of factors; it's not that easy to determine the cause of anything, let alone decide who is responsible. If we determined accountability like that we'd have to go back to the beginning and blame whomever or whatever created the universe, and something tells me that a conglomeration of dust particles isn't going to care too much about the decline of modern society as reflected in Survivor 2.

But as long as we're trying to get to the bottom of things, I think it's time I brought up a nastier, more pernicious facet of this accountability craze. Even while we spend so much time yakking about holding random people and astrological phenomena accountable, personal

# A TRIBUTE TO THE WEASEL

TIM STEVENS • COMPLAINT OF THE WEEK



Let me tell you a story of man who has come to define our time and yet, I fear will never get the respect he deserves for it.

On the February 1, 1968 one of the most important actors of our time was born in Hollywood, California. In the thirty-three years since his birth he has redefined the genres of television and film for our generation and, undoubtedly, generations to come. This actor, as it must be obvious to any true film connoisseur by this point, is Paul Montgomery Shore, better known as Pauly Shore.

The impressive body of work Shore has put together includes guest appearances on several popular television shows, his own show on MTV, and starring roles in such films as *Bio Dome* and *Encino Man*, as well as several comedy albums. During the early '90s, he was one of Hollywood most watched talents. This is the time

period most of us remember Shore from. However, did you know however, that his career has covered the '80s, '90s, and today? It is true!

Many would describe actors like Kevin Spacey, Robert Deniro, and Jack Nicholson as some of best of the past twenty years, but I beg to differ. The cinema of Shore, much like many of Hitchcock's works, will be seen differently by the years to come. What the snobs of the film community now call sophomoric will be exalted as genius in mere years.

For example, take the 1995 film *Jury Duty*. "America's favorite critic" Leonard Maltin referred to it in the following terms, " 'BOMB' may be too high a rating for this inane, insulting 'comedy' featuring Shore as a jerk who would much rather face duty on a sequestered jury (and get a free hotel room) than find himself a job." In his rush to pass judgment, Maltin has clearly missed the underlying message of the movie. In a time when many were doubting our justice system because of the results of the O.J. Simpson trial, *Jury Duty* spoke to the disenfranchised. It is an unsympathetic look at our justice system in which

Pauly Shore plays the everyman. Through comedy the film analyzes the complex problem of whether or not all of us are still treating equal by America's court system, regardless of our riches or place in society. In essence, if the system fails Shore, the system fails us as well.

Future generations will lift the pall off of Shore's work, of this I am convinced. Until then, all of us must do our part. Spread the word, give Shore movies and albums as gifts, petition production companies to offer him roles once more. We, as members of the human race, cannot allow this grave injustice to stand.

In today's world, a little ridiculousness is a welcome change of pace. I hope everyone (that is right, all six of my fans, including that guy who was stunned that I could write with a sense of humor since I "seem so stiff all the time") enjoyed reading this little break from reality as much as I enjoyed writing it. Start those letters rolling to me at tgste@conncoll.edu if you can find it in your heart to make a cynic smile.

# MY NEW LEAF

NATE AVORN • CLOSE COVER BEFORE STRIKING



My friend Mike recently rescued his Super Nintendo from the attic and brought it to school. So I've been playing a lot of the game "Top Gear," where you drive a race car. But I'm not very good at it. I always end up in the pits.

Let me explain about the pits. After you complete each lap, you can either bear right, and take another lap, or bear left, and go into the pits for a refueling pit stop. Refueling is sometimes necessary once per race, but while you're refueling, everyone passes you.

I have this problem: I accidentally end up in the pits on every single lap. I can't seem to help it. For the first three quarters of the lap, I'm telling myself: "don't get sucked into the pit, don't get sucked into the pit..." but then I get distracted, and lo and behold, I fly across the finish

line, directly into the pits. And all the other cars whiz by me as I top off my brimming full gas tank.

I hate that. I hate that feeling. It's like, "Oh well, despite my best efforts, here I am again in the same stupid, useless, unproductive situation." That sinking feeling of recognition, that's the pits.

This all is especially excruciating, given the time of the year. No, I don't mean Valentine's Day. This time of the year is three weeks into the new semester. And every semester, at about this time, my New Leaf starts expiring.

I wonder if you, my readers, are familiar with the concept of the New Leaf. Do you, like me, end every semester saying "I'm sure gonna do things next semester. I'm going to stay ahead of my schoolwork, do all the readings, and eat a more balanced breakfast. I'm turning over a New Leaf." I know that when I got back from Winter Break, I swore to myself all these things, and more. I swore that things were going to be different. I turned over a New Leaf.

Just like I do every semester.

And just like I do about three weeks into every semester, the New Leaf begins to expire. Maybe I'll just gloss over a reading, instead of going at it with a highlighter. Perhaps I can do that reserve reading after the class, instead of before. Soon, I'm weeks behind, totally stressed out, and just wishing the semester would end so I could have a fresh start at a new leaf. And it's only a little more than three weeks into the semester.

Clearly, I need to turn over a New Leaf every three weeks. Like an oak in the autumn, I'm going to start turning over New Leaves regularly. I'm going to mark my calendar, every three weeks, so I remember to turn over a new New Leaf. That way, I'll stay ahead of myself.

So here's my new New Leaf: I'm going to turn over a New Leaf every three weeks, and swear that I'm going to attack my school work like it's my job.

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# Bangkok City Thai: Great Curry, Buddha Bellies

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BY DEVON MCHUGH

HEAD COPY EDITOR

When entering Bangkok City Thai Restaurant, one cannot help but be struck by the enormous amount of Thai and south-east Asian inspired kitsch. Leaving the pretty marvelous food aside, it is almost worth coming here just to see what I believe is the largest collection of wooden Buddha statues that New London county has to offer.

When my companion and I arrived at the restaurant it was shortly before 6, and there were no more than half-a-dozen people seated at the small tables, which are spread throughout the two room restaurant. As the evening progressed the service became more harried and therefore

less attentive, but we were seated and given menus promptly, and our order for drinks and food taken within fifteen minutes.

Our joy with the decor of the restaurant was not limited to the Buddha seated just above my friend's left shoulder, but extended to the pointed arches over the doorways, the prints of Thailand, the many potted plants, and especially the little picket fence that divided the area where we sat from the entrance area. My partner in dining excellence remarked, "I'm sitting in a backyard BBQ over here". Over the top? Perhaps. Still fun and comfortable? Definitely.

The food at Bangkok City (which would be the real reason to go there, despite the attraction of the carved pine elephants) can only be described as exceptional. I have eaten there on a number of occasions and consider it to be one of the best restaurants in the area. Soups and appetizers run from between \$3 to \$8, vegetarian options are all under \$7, and other entrees begin at \$8.95.

We ordered Pad-pak (A choice of chicken, beef or pork with mixed oriental vegetables in a light brown sauce) and Pa-nang (Chicken, beef or pork in a light curry sauce) for our entrees, and were intrigued to find what we think is Clear Coke on the menu. The trip back to seventh grade was tempting, but I resisted and ordered hot tea instead, which proved a better complement to my meal than the clear cola option would have been.

Both meals were presented beautifully and fairly quickly despite the growing crowds of families and couples in the restaurant. Like all

entrees at Bangkok City, the Pad-pak and Pa-nang came with servings of white rice that was neither clumpy nor heavy, but perfectly complemented the excellent sauces on our meals. I believe the true value of Bangkok City lies in their chef's ability to make really tasty sauces that bring out the flavours of the vegetables and meats they top without diminishing the flavors of the foods themselves.

There were only two aspects of our meal that I would rate below average: the service, which was unusually slow due to the Valentine's Day crowd; and our dessert, which was Thai Pumpkin Custard. Granted, I vehemently dislike custard, and my companion finds anything more pumpkin oriented than a jack-o-lantern fairly repugnant, so this may have been a poor choice (it is, in fact, the only choice, so I wouldn't recommend hitting up Bangkok City when you get a hankering for some exotic sweets). The custard didn't taste bad (not much like like pumpkin, but fairly like vanilla), but the texture may have been enough even to make the greatest lover of tapioca pudding come over to the winning team. The only way I can describe it is as being like insanely dense flan, topped by what I assume were shavings of pumpkin. My friend described it as "triggering [her] gag-reaction".

So, on the evenings when the ever delicious 'asian-food' section of Harris just isn't going to cut it, give Bangkok City Thai Restaurant a try. The vegetables are guaranteed to be better cooked than the Sunshine Carrots you would eat here are...

## Death by Lobster

BY ANDY JARVIS

STAFF WRITER

Sitting in a theater that's smaller than a housefellow suite can be quite claustrophobic, but it can also be very amusing. Imagine that you have suddenly been shrink wrapped and eaten whole by a playhouse. All it took for me to be eaten was two girls, a guy, a gun, and a broken bottle of Corona spilling all over the playhouse.

*To Die For Want Of Lobster* has all of the above and it even comes with a hint of twisted humor. The story is about a random summer in the lives of Jack (Mark R. McGuire) and Barbara (Jill Gates) at their home. What unfolds next is a tale of sexual impulse, incest and lusty goodness.

During this sexual-charged summer, Jack and Barbara (who happen to be bother and sister) become exposed to the evil temptress Lena (Kate Downie). Lena waltzes into their lives and has sexual flings with both of them causing Jack and Barbara to become devoured in a pit of envy

for each other. But who will get Lena in the end? Well, that's for you to decide.

The acting in the play is quite good. The actors are very convincing in their roles as a moron (Jack), a worrisome sister (Barbara), and the lusty she-devil (Lena). The writer and director, Kato McNickle, has done a great job directing the actors to act in a realistic world that we can all relate to. Just picture a gun, a guitar and an urn full of ashes and then feel what it's like *To Die For Want Of Lobster*.

Although this play has already left New London, I highly recommend seeing it in the future or pursuing other Kato McNickle plays. The theater itself provides an excellent performance space for this little play. The space is very personal and covered with little chairs that encircle the stage causing the actors to be swallowed on all sides by the audience. The space provides for a very personal level with the actors--like you are in the show acting along with them.

## Emily Dickinson Brought to Life at CC Downtown

BY DAWN HOPKINS

STAFF WRITER

Who knew that a supposed recluse could be so amusing? In two performances for Play With Your Food, Ruth Crocker realistically portrayed Emily Dickinson in "A Visit with Miss Emily," showing the clever thoughts of the renowned poet. Connecticut College Downtown sponsored both performances on February 7 and 14 to full audiences. The humorous adaptation by Crocker is based on William Luce's *The Belle of Amherst*, which is about the life of Emily Dickinson.

The thirty-minute play, which was originally two hours, covers a variety of topics in a clever manner, from death, to education, to love. Luce captures the spirited nature of Dickinson, who was once described by a correspondent as being an exhausting woman. Much more engaging than exhausting, Crocker's enthusiasm and obvious personal interest in Dickinson made the performance thoroughly enjoyable. Crocker even took time after the performance to answer questions about Dickinson from the audience.

With the audience playing one of Dickinson's infrequent guests, they were treated to a lively monologue. The highly amusing monologue included one-sided conversations, various stories, and snippets of her poetry. But it is hard

not to find a woman, who reportedly dressed in all white and communicated intermittently with society via cryptic messages, interesting. As she states, "it is hard to believe that I had a normal childhood."

In the condensed play, Dickinson gives overviews of her relationships with her family and the people of Amherst. She also gives intriguing tidbits about different experiences throughout her life, including her fleeting time at Mount Holyoke Female Seminary and her suitors, whom, apparently were really after her sister. Clearly, as a poet, words are her life, and she kindly points out that people do not appreciate the pronunciation of certain words enough. These exciting utterances include circumference, phosphorescence, and, of course, Massachusetts - "a word fit to lift your hat to!"

Both adapted and performed by Ruth Crocker and co-produced by Linda MacCluggage, "A Visit with Miss Emily" was directed by Alfred Guffey with Frederic Walperswyler as the creative director and Ann Ahmed as costume designer. The performance was sponsored by the Washington Trust Company in association with the Garde Arts Center and will be performed again on Wednesday, February 21 at the Westerly Public



Ruth Crocker vividly portrays the famous poet (Thompson)

Library in Rhode Island. It is a wonderful play for any fan of poetry, especially those who are fond of Emily Dickinson.

## MOVIE TIMES

### Waterford 9

Sweet November (PG13) Fri-Thu 1:45, 4:30, 7:20, 9:50  
 Recess: School's Out (G) Fri-Thu 11:45, 2:00, 4:20, 7:10, 9:25  
 Down to Earth (PG13) Fri-Thu 12:05, 2:20, 4:45, 7:05, 9:35  
 Hannibal (R) Fri-Thu 12:30, 1:00, 3:30, 4:00, 6:30, 7:00, 9:30, 9:55  
 Saving Silverman Fri-Thu (PG13) 12:15, 2:25, 4:35, 7:25, 9:35  
 The Wedding Planner (PG13) Fri-Thu 11:50, 2:15, 4:50, 7:20, 9:50  
 Save the Last Dance (PG13) Fri-Thu 1:50, 4:40, 7:15, 9:55  
 Cast Away (PG 13) Fri-Thu 12:00, 3:00, 6:45, 9:45

### Groton 6

Down to Earth (PG13) Fri, Wed-Thu 7:30, 9:50; Sat-Tue 12:15, 2:30, 5:10, 7:30, 9:50  
 Recess: School's Out (G) Fri, Wed-Thu

7:10, 9:10; Sat-Tue 12:10, 2:20, 4:30, 7:10, 9:10  
 Traffic (R) Fri, Wed-Thu 6:40, 9:40; Sat-Tue 12:30, 3:30, 6:40, 9:40  
 Hannibal (R) Fri, Wed-Thu 7:00, 9:55; Sat-Tue 1:00, 4:00, 7:00, 9:55  
 The Wedding Planner (PG13) Fri, Wed-Thu 7:20, 9:45; Sat-Tue 12:20, 2:35, 4:50, 7:20, 9:30  
 Cast Away (PG13) Fri, Wed-Thu 6:30, 9:30; Sat-Tue 12:00, 3:00, 6:30, 9:30

### Mystic 3

O Brother, Where Art Thou? (PG13) Fri 4:15, 7:00, 9:40; Sat-Thu 1:45, 4:15, 7:00, 9:40  
 Chocolat (PG13) Fri 4:00, 6:45, 9:30; Sat-Thu 1:00, 4:00, 6:45, 9:30  
 Crouching Tiger, Hidden Dragon (PG13) Fri 3:45, 6:30, 9:15; Sat-Thu 1:00, 3:45, 6:30, 9:15

## A&E Calendar of Events

Friday, February 16th

Opening Reception for an Exhibition of Photographs of the Faculty Dance Concert 2000, 5:30p.m. 3rd floor Crozier Williams.

Wednesday, February 21st

Art Smart. Lunchtime lecture with Priscilla Sample, Hygienic Artist. 12 noon. Lyman Allyn Museum.

Garth Fagan dancers, 7:30p.m. Garde Arts Center.

Music Master Class in Flute with Dr. Mary Karen Clardy, 4p.m. Evans Hall.

Friday, Friday 23rd

Post-Traumatic Hygienic Art Show, opening reception. 7-10p.m. Hygienic Galleries.

Camelot, performed by Coast Guard cadets. 8p.m., Leamy Hall, Coast Guard Academy.

Ongoing Events

Jan 30 - Mar 25

*From Caligula to Constatine: Tyranny & Transformation in Roman Portraiture*, Yale University Art Gallery. Tues - Sat 10a.m. - 5 p.m., Sun. 1-6 p.m. (203) 432-0606

Call Rebekah Page, A&E Editor, with submissions to the Events Calendar at least 2 weeks prior to the event at (860) 439-2812

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# Winter Discusses Conn's Evolution

continued from page 1

encouraged to apply themselves in the fields of teaching, scholarly activity, and service. In actuality, Winter believes that many faculty members pick and choose which of those fields they want to put effort into. In his opinion, it is crazy that there are faculty at Conn that do not even want to teach.

Although Winter seems to lay a great deal of blame on the previous administration, he admits that the problems cannot be completely laid on their backs. He believes that the faculty and trustees played a large role as well in the downfall. In his mind, they were "unwisely passive, and allowed things to happen." Some trustees argued that they had been conned, and faculty members said they were unable to do anything about the situation due to having been "infantilized." Winter does not buy this excuse as "adults are not able become infantilized." In his mind, the faculty was an "enabler" for not asking enough questions, for not being cynical. "The price of freedom is eternal vigilance," he quotes as something that the faculty should have remembered. He admits that no one likes to be aggressive, yet "the opposite of aggressiveness is not passiveness, its assertiveness." The faculty were not as assertive as they ought to have been.

Winter saw the Mariner's Square issue as "a spark, the straw that broke the camel's back. In a way, it was good that it happened. It signaled a need for change." Without this incident it was unknown how long the destruction could have continued. Winter thinks that such hypothetical damage would have been extensive, "Not doing anything was like leaving cancer unattended to. It just gets harder to fix as time goes on."

As to where the college is now in financial and

morale terms, Winter has a fairly positive outlook. He does not believe that the college is any serious crisis. There is no "chronic defect," as he puts it. There are some acute problems, due mostly to budgetary concerns, but it looks as if the faculty is taking great strides forward. Despite some of the damage of the previous administration possibly proving corrosive, he does not see any short-term damage and believes that a concentrated effort can undo the damage caused. Still he does point to time as a hindrance on making the necessary progress to avoid greater future problems. According to Winter, a great help in steering the school clear of any future danger lies with the Presidential Search Committee. If they make "the right efforts to find a solution to the problem" within the next six months it would be incredibly beneficial to Conn. If they fail to make a choice in six months, Winter fears that the trustees will become too involved and their corporate style could make things worse, rather than better, for the college.

On a more hopeful note, Winter has found himself impressed by Interim President David Lewis thus far. He described Lewis's speech at the State of the College Address as a "fine speech...excellent even" and "the best piece of rhetoric." He does acknowledge that the speech lacked a thorough analysis of the current situation, but felt that it succeeded in showing that "it is possible on a human level to move out of this hole."

Despite a list of several significant complaints, Winter deems that his time at the college is best summed up in simple, positive terms: "I've had a nice ride."

# SGA Responds to Amnesty Proposal

BY LARA MIZRACK

STAFF WRITER

Amnesty International's anti-death penalty proposal, presented to SGA on Thursday, February 8, quickly found supporters and detractors within the student government.

Adam Benzing '03, Knowlton's senator, is clearly in the anti-death penalty corner of the debate. Beyond his personal opinion, however, Benzing's main motivation is to educate the college community on the issue. "I'm interested in the issue which is why I'm helping it with SGA. I'd like to see it discussed on campus. I'd like to see people made aware of the issue." Because he favors the education of the campus over the forwarding of his own agenda he plans to bow to the will of his dorm, "I'd vote for my dorm, whatever the prevalent opinion was." He does admit that despite his commitment to his dorm he will attempt to influence SGA due to his "very strong opinion for voting in favor of it [the resolution]."

Although President of SGA Scott Montemerlo '01 was a key figure in keeping the death penalty resolution on the table, he claims neutrality on the issue, saying, "I don't

have an opinion on it. I plan to do research and listen to the debate." Vice President Brendan Meehan '02 echoed Benzing's dedication to placing the opinion of students' above his own, but in his case, he advocates the death penalty. "I support the death penalty but I'll base my decision on the debate of the assembly and the subsequent presentation of Amnesty International...as a student representative, I feel I have to represent the students and not my personal views."

"I don't like this [voting on an anti-death penalty resolution]. I think this was the wrong thing for Amnesty to do," Freeman Senator Paul Goncalves '03 said, discussing why he is against the resolution, "My first reason is SGA is there to deal with issues directly affecting student life at the College and the direction of the College. The death penalty, while an important issue, is out of the scope of SGA. My second reason is that in light of the budget concerns, SGA has a lot more pressing concerns that directly affect the campus. Third, if we pass a resolution supporting a moratorium or abolition, we look like an organization that does not support

Connecticut State laws. If we don't pass a resolution then it makes us look like an organization that doesn't support Amnesty International. Either way this is a bad situation. Fourth, whether or not we support a resolution, it opens us up to every campus organization that wants to be heard."

Goncalves also cited the divisiveness of the issue as why SGA should steer clear. Any statement on the matter will ostracize a significant portion of the campus, a move that would be unacceptable because "all student opinions matter and it is not fair to make blanket opinions about students."

Meehan disagreed, "SGA has heard political issues in the past and has offered formal opinion on issues before on things such as the Matthew Shepherd murder, hate crimes, etc. and because SGA has done so in the past I voted that we should hear this proposal. Based on this precedent and the need to hear the voice of our fellow students."

Benzing concurred, "I think SGA is the voice of the students on this campus. Whatever the issue, whatever the voice, SGA is supposed to hear them out."

# Amnesty International Calls Upon SGA to Support an Anti-Death Penalty Proposal

continued from page 1

"For the next twenty eight minutes just try to put aside whatever you think your own opinions may be and just here our arguments out. You may not agree but we just ask for your ears."

Platt also made an effort to address an issue that has been raised since the proposal was placed on the SGA: why bring this issue to the SGA? "Most of you are probably wondering why did we bring this to SGA. You guys have a lot of other things on your plate...the reason we are asking SGA to discuss this issue is because we think it is very important for students to engage in discussions about societal issues. Because we like to think we're living in this little bubble up on the hill. The fact is Connecticut College is as much a part of society as any other institution is. And what SGA has to say actually matters. Not because Connecticut College can actually change the laws and the death penalty but because when organizations come together and issue resolutions on the death penalty...we get the opportunity to educate and get our message out to local communities because this will receive local media attention. And it gets the message out to the State legislatures because, as of now, there are ten resolutions in Connecticut opposing the death penalty."

In addition to having company in Connecticut, if Conn decided to come out against the death penalty they would find national allies such as the New York Times, the cities of Philadelphia, Baltimore, Detroit, San Francisco, Additionally, many religious, legal, health, and human rights organizations have condemned the death penalty on countless occasions.

Although Platt stressed that Conn would not be unique in the national stage for taking this stand, she also wanted to make it clear that such a stand would be a trailblazing move for a college. "This movement is coming from a cross section of society and we believe that as students we have a very important role to play...None of them [resolutions] have come from the schools we compete with."

From there, Platt moved on quickly to address the reasons why someone would support the death penalty including it is a sanction befitting of the crime committed, every defendant receives a fair trial, the

executions can be humane, it is cheaper than life imprisonment, it prevents repeat offenders, and it acts as a deterrent.

After acknowledging these points and their respectability, she addressed each of them. Platt asked the members to "think about what human rights are." She defined them as "the rights every human has simply because he or she is a human being." She stressed that rights are not to be confused with privileges. "They cannot be taken away," she told SGA. The most basic human right Platt explained "is the right to life."

Platt reminded the members that the concept of an eye for an eye is inconsistent with the rest of the justice system. "We don't steal from a thief. We don't rape a rapist" she told them, "can you imagine what would happen if a judge climbed down from the bench and raped a rapist?"

"When an execution occurs, that is essentially the State killing someone in our name because the government is of the people," Platt informed SGA. Another problem with this system, she claimed is it is a form of revenge. While the justice system is supposed to be devoid of such emotions, "has it ever actually solved the problem?" Platt asked. Revenge allows the problem to continue instead of finding solutions, she explained. "Instead of solving the problem of violent crimes, it just continues the cycle of violence."

Platt explained that executions can be performed humanly. "There are five methods of execution which are legal in different parts of the United States," she explained. "The most common are lethal injection and electrocution. But executions by gassing, hanging, and firing squads have been carried out since the death penalty has been reinstated." Platt posed "is there ever a human way to kill someone or is there something inherently violent in the act of killing, regardless of how you carry it out?"

"Prisoners under paralytic of their organs and burning of their flesh during electrocutions," Platt explained, "or respiratory paralysis during lethal injections." She emphasized that these mechanisms often malfunction. "The chair in Florida caused flames to leap six inches above one individuals head...One prisoner in Illinois gasped and gagged for eleven minutes while all the muscles in his abdomen,

jaw and neck reacted spasmodically." Platt informed SGA that this execution constitutes "cruel, inhuman, or degrading punishment" under international law.

Platt asked the members to "ask yourselves for whom is their justice in this country?" She believes that America still sees things in black and white. "African Americans receive the death penalty at a 38% higher rate" according to Platt, "98% of people on death row cannot afford their own attorneys." States lawyers are as a rule incompetent. "There have been lawyers who haven't called any witnesses, who haven't presented all the evidence, have shown up to the trial after having ingested drugs or alcohol. And my favorite case is the case of the lawyer who slept through the trial." She told SGA, "It gets better because in the appeal the court ruled that it had been a fair trial. So not only are we having inaccurate counsel at the initial stages but the appeals process which is supposed to catch the problem is basically saying that's okay. And his client is still sitting on death row."

93 people have been released from death row and 700 have been executed, according to Platt. "Considering this is a system that is dealing with people's lives, that's just an enormous amount of error going on. Some people say that this just shows that the system is working that these people weren't executed," she stated "But it the system was working then they wouldn't have been found guilty in the first place." People spend ten years of their lives in prison for crimes for which they are not guilty. "If the system was 100% accurate it would catch its own mistakes," Platt told them. Yet she reminded the members that often outsiders, such as college students can help in the process.

Platt discussed the argument in a violent society such as ours, isn't the death penalty necessary to deter criminals? She claimed "the fact is that the death penalty has no deterrent." According to the New York Times, states with the death penalty have a higher rate of homicide.

Another argument "isn't it necessary to keep this criminal from killing again?" Platt answered "maybe this argument would work in biblical times and we didn't have the technology to separate wrong doers from society." She reminded the

group "if you don't receive the death penalty, you are going to receive life in prison with out the possibility of parole. It's not that you're going to be free to walk the streets."

"Amnesty International is made up of individuals just like you guys. And just like all of you, we are concerned about the safety of our families and our communities. We don't want violent people walking on the streets, but we also think that people should be treated humanly," Platt explained.

Platt stated "a lot of Americans thing the death penalty is kind of the norm." Yet 73 countries have abolished the death penalty for all crimes, 13 for all but crime such war time crimes, and 22 are abolitionist in practice (the death penalty is retained in their laws, yet they have not executed anyone in more than ten years). "So while executions have been speeding up in the U.S., the world wide trend is actually towards abolition," Platt explained. 3 countries every year for the past ten years have abolished the death penalty.

"Many religious groups from every faith you can imagine have issued statements calling for abolition," Platt informed SGA. The Pope has called for abolition.

Many Americans complain that they do not want to pay to keep killers alive. The death penalty is three times as expensive as life in prison. "The reason is," Platt explained, "that capital cases require far more steps than regular criminal cases. So there are separate phases for convicting and sanctioning. These are usually proceeded by special motions, there's extra jury selection, there's more investigative costs, and the cases go on for much longer. Usually it's at least five years but closer to ten. During all this time you're paying not only for the prosecution but also for the defense because as I mentioned most of the people on death row, 95%, cannot afford their own attorneys. So the total sub cost of legal fees out ways the cost of keeping someone in prison," concluded Platt.

Platt continued by comparing the death penalty to slavery. "The last point I want to address is the notion that we've always had the death penalty so it's kind of the way things are. Why does it even matter? I imagine that similar arguments were made to those working to abolish slavery

150 years ago. Slavery was legal, it had always existed, it was the way things were. I would imagine that similar arguments were made to those who were working for women's suffrage, 100 year ago. That was illegal, it had always been illegal, it was the way things were. I would imagine similar arguments were made to those working to end racial segregation just 40 years ago. Segregation was legal, it had always existed, it was just the way things were," she continued, "are we really arrogant enough to think that our lives are infallible? Luckily the founding fathers were not that arrogant...what is unique about the constitution is that it can always be changed. So just because something always has been doesn't mean it should be."

Platt concluded her presentation to SGA, "The Connecticut College members of Amnesty International appeal to the Student Government Association to be leaders on this issue and take a stand against the death penalty."

In an interview Platt explained, "Amnesty works against the death penalty all the time, so we are always writing letters to our representatives and sponsoring events. This is just one project in the larger scheme of things that we work on. There have been about 1,200 organizations across the nation that have made official statements in opposition to the death penalty. Most have them have called for a moratorium, not abolition but very few have been colleges and universities. There is debate within the abolitionist community about what is the best approach to take to reach the ultimate goal, which is to have the laws changed and these resolutions, some people believe are a way to make people more aware of the issue. It is not that SGA making a statement is going shake the foundations of the world, but it keeps the issue in the public discourse. It makes people think about it and talk about it. That's what we really try to do. If you really want to build change you have to build it from the bottom up. This then lays the foundation for policy to be changed at the state and federal levels."

SGA will debate this issue at its next meeting, Thursday February 22, in which it will either pass one of the resolutions or vote to do nothing.

## THE FOLLOWING ARE THE WINNERS OF THE MIDTERM ELECTION AS ANNOUNCED ON FRIDAY FEBRUARY 9, 2001.

Class of 2001  
Maggie Goldwasser- Judicial Board

Class of 2002  
Mark Willis- President  
Matt Turcotte- Vice President  
Trinity Broderick- Judicial Board

Class of 2003  
David Garsh- Judicial Board  
Lauren Pond- Judicial Board

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## Successful Women's Swimming Looks Toward Post-Season

By BONNIE PROKESCH

STAFF WRITER

While the men of the Conn swim team continue to prepare for their NESCAC (New England Small College Athletic Conference) meet next week, the women are excited and ready for their championship this weekend at Wesleyan. Nineteen women, eighteen swimmers and one diver will be traveling to the meet to represent Connecticut College in the NESCAC championship meet. This large number of qualifiers reveals the amazing talent this year's women's team possesses.

Top seeds for the meet include Ann Kratzinger '01, 2nd in the 50 and 100 breaststroke and 5th in the 200 breaststroke; Nora Mirick '04, 19th in 50 breaststroke and 17th in 100 breaststroke; and Jade Dalton '01, 17th in

50 free. In addition, Lisa Bartels '04 is expected to score points in the middle-distance freestyle events, while Heidi Freeman '03 should score points for the team in both the one and three meter diving events.

Moreover, Conn has eight women entered in the 500 free and eleven entered in the 200 free, proving the stamina of the Camels. With this many women entered in these two distance events, points are virtually guaranteed.

The championship meet marks the final collegiate competition for seniors Jade Dalton, Jordana Gustafson, Sarah Hartman, Carrie Henry, Ann Kratzinger, Sarah Reisman, and Ann Sweeney. The leadership and talent of these eight seniors will be greatly missed next year.

However, Coach Ken Ralph is confident

that the team will not suffer an irreversible loss next season. He eagerly professed, "Recruiting is going well for the women for next year including seven women accepted ED." These seven early decision athletes will prove instrumental in the improvement of the swimming program in general at Conn, and Ralph looks forward to a successful season next year.

Finishing the season with a winning record (5-4) puts the camels in a good place for next year. While their season was relatively good this year, there is still much room for improvement. With talented recruits and current team members, next season is bound to be one of the best in Conn women's swimming history.

## Crushed Spirits for Men's Hockey

continued from page 8

the Camels, netting one more goal in the third period, to make the final score 8-1.

The Camels' hopes were fading fast as the door to the playoffs began to close, with them standing on the outside. Three straight victories would be necessary, beginning with a game versus Saint Anselm College on Saturday, February 10. The Hawks of Saint Anselm, 7-13-2 and soaring with a two-game winning streak, staved off an onslaught of shots to steal the win from the desperate Camels. Despite being out shot 38-20, the Hawks beat Conn goaltender Brett Roth '03 four times, led by a Jeff Jarvis

hat trick and assist, to seal the playoff door shut, winning 4-0.

New England and Saint Anselm both made short work of the men's hockey team this weekend, killing their momentum and shattering the team's playoff hopes. The team faces a tough task this weekend as it prepares to battle #3 in the nation Middlebury and #10 Norwich at home, Friday and Saturday. With broken spirits, the team must prepare to enter the toughest weekend on their schedule wishing to regain their pride and dignity, while also trying to lay the foundation for a stronger effort next season.

## IM Floor Hockey Report

The intramural floor hockey season kicked off with four teams vying for the coveted gray championship tee-shirt. The early preseason favorite would have to be two time defending champions, Who is Playing for Second Place (WPSP). It has been over two years since having suffered a defeat, and with the off season acquisitions of hockey standouts Cristina, Helfer and Sides, WPSP is poised for another run at the cup. Not to be overlooked is the defensive minded Sloppy Sticks. Looking like the Buffalo Sabres of '99, they are built around aggressive play, speed and tenacious defense. The Sloppy Sticks posted a shutout in the first game of the season against the Mad Cows, blanking them 9 - 0. The Mad Cows return for their second season with arguably the best goalie in the league. Their combination of heart and courage will take them far into the playoffs, but their chances of winning the cup are only as strong as the play of Conn. College's version of Dominik Hasek.

The Canadians Suck had a rough first outing of the season as they faced the high-powered offense of WPSP. Captain Tim Murphy struggled in net, letting up a league high 22 goals, and his team gave him little support in a 22 - 3 defeat. Three players from WPSP posted points worthy enough for the player of the week award (Cristina 8g - 8a = 16 pts, Sides 8-5, 13pts and Pitney 4-9, 13 pts), but the outstanding net minding of Mike Routhier earned him the nod for the first week. Rivalries are sure to heat up as these teams face off on a weekly basis. After the opening week of play WPSP found themselves atop the league with 2 wins, Canadians Suck and Sloppy Sticks both posted a 1 - 1 record while the Mad Cows are still looking for their first win.

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SPORTS

Poetic Sports

Thinking about the recent events making headlines in the world of sports, specifically the acquittal of former Green Bay Packers tight end Mark Chmura on sexual assault charges, and the

**Matthew Kessler** *ongoing feud between L.A. Lakers stars Shaquille O'Neal and Kobe Bryant, I thought I would take the opportunity to share my thoughts on these two topics, and what better way to illustrate my points than through several poems. A poem about how much I hate Duke is also included, because I can't help but to share my disdain for the Dukies as often as possible. So here it goes. Enjoy.*

If Stupidity Were a Crime

A thirty-year-old man  
With a wife and two young children  
Drunk at a post-prom party  
Jumps into a hot tub  
Wearing nothing more than under-  
pants and a smile  
Little did he know  
He would end up on trial  
A seventeen-year-old girl cries rape  
She followed me into the bathroom  
he claims  
I'm no pedophile  
I did nothing illegal  
I used to play for the Packers  
I'm a good person  
If being stupid was a crime  
I should be in jail  
An explanation is in order some day  
I guess hell will have to suffice  
But that will have to wait  
A new million-dollar contract offer  
is just too damn nice

Duke RIP

Down in Durham, N.C.  
Is Duke University, RIP  
Home of the Blue Devils  
"We are so great" they chant  
You can all kiss my a#@ I rant  
They claim the gifted, the talented  
Reside on Tobacco Road  
I claim the rich, the spoiled  
Invade that bumbling abode  
Their beloved Men's basketball  
team  
Previously ranked number one  
Were tripped up by Stanford,  
Carolina and Virginia  
Now they are all but done  
The Cameron crazies roar every  
night  
Too bad their team has lost the fight  
To their neighbors at UNC  
Who far surpass those Duke SOB's  
Coach K and his staff, once so opti-  
mistic  
Now are forced to be realistic  
If not for all of the ACC patsies  
Their record would look awfully  
tasty  
Williams, Battier, James and  
Dunleavy  
Believed this was the year  
To bring the title back to Duke  
Never once did they consider  
Their winning streak to begin the  
season was merely a fluke  
Come NCAA tournament time  
An early exit seems likely  
Perhaps those whiny Dukies  
Will get the point after all:  
Once adversity strikes  
You have to be strong  
Not cry to the refs  
To prove you belong  
Down in Durham, N.C.  
Is Duke University, RIP

Two Teammates?

If someone could explain  
The meaning of team  
Maybe Kobe and Shaq  
Could let off some steam  
And stop all the foolishness now  
Before games are lost  
By overpaid players  
Not worth their cost  
If ever the reason  
To save the season  
Was simply for pride  
Neither Kobe nor Shaq would hide  
Too much is at stake  
A few Benzes, a house by the lake  
So can't they just be friends  
And buck the trend  
That players have nowadays and  
instead preach  
There is no "I" in team, unless of  
course you're Kobe and Shaq  
Who both shall one day realize its  
humility they lack

Matthew B. Kessler is the Sports Editor for The College Voice. His column appears weekly.

Women's Basketball Bounces Back

Defeats rival Coast Guard after struggling in NESCAC play

By Erika Senne Seth  
Staff Writer

After disappointing NESCAC (New England Small College Athletic Conference) losses to Middlebury, Williams, Amherst, and Trinity, the women's basketball team picked up the pace and beat the neighboring Coasties at the Academy 68-60 last Tuesday night. Celene Menschel '04 felt that the match against Coast Guard was "a great game." "We played hard, and it was 40 minutes of good basketball. We stayed in the game, and kept fighting to maintain our lead throughout the game." Erin Shields '04 agrees, "We played pretty well against the Coast Guard. We really wanted to win that game because they are the across-the-street rivals. We pulled out a close game, which is always good, and made our free throws down the stretch." The Camels had a lead of 38-36 at the half, and maintained that lead for the win.

Recent NESCAC games haven't been as successful. Menschel states, "We had some tight games against NESCAC opponents. We were hoping for at least one win, but it didn't work out for us. The positive side to those games was that they were close." Amherst is seated number one in the NESCAC, but Shields felt that Trinity should have been within their reach.

"The NESCAC games were a big disappointment. We played well against Amherst but they were just too strong for us. We were hoping to beat Trinity, but it just didn't happen for us."

With a record of 6-15, and without a NESCAC win, it is sometimes hard to stay positive. Still, many good things are still happening out on the court. Senior forward Jessica Nowlin averaged 20 points and 5 rebounds in losses to Trinity and Amherst. She has a .722 free throw percentage, making 52 out of 72 attempted shots and earning her a spot as the fourth leading free throw shooter in the NESCAC. Sara Frazier '03 has made 33 out of 101 three pointers in her last 18 games, making her the fourth leading three-point shooter in the NESCAC. Margaret Guernsey '02 had a career high of 20 points, shooting 51.8% from the field against Middlebury. She's also had an average of 13.6 points and 8.3 rebounds in recent games.

The Camels have their two last games of the season this Friday and Saturday, away, versus NESCAC opponents Bates and Tufts. "We know we're not going to get past this weekend",



Sophomore forward Margaret Guernsey goes up for a layup during the Camels 68-60 win over the Coast Guard. (Brown)

Shields says, "but we would love to get a NESCAC win and end the season on a positive note. We've been trying to get a NESCAC victory all season. It is a little frustrating that the NESCAC conference is so tough, and to work really hard and get no wins, but we are always hopeful for next season."

Back to Back Losses Over Weekend Crushes Spirit of Men's Ice Hockey

By Ryan Woodward  
Staff Writer

Coming off three of their best performances in the second half of this season, the men's ice hockey team headed north to New Hampshire for games against Saint Anselm College and New England College. Needing to win at least three of their final four games to have a chance at fulfilling their playoff dreams, the Camels first squared-off with the New England College Pilgrims Friday, February 9.

It appeared as though the paying crowd of 450 who turned out to see the game in Henniker, N.H. were in for a treat as both teams were coming into the game on hot streaks; N.E.C. had won four of its last five, including two impressive victories over NESCAC (New England Small College Athletic Conference) squads Williams and Bowdoin College, while Conn had won back to back games of their own. Unfortunately, much to the dismay of the Camels, the Pilgrim faithful got the treat they were waiting for.

According to Conn netminder Rob Houston '03, "[the two teams] played pretty even for the first fifteen or so minutes, but they were able to get on the board first when we had a few defensive lapses." Fifteen minutes into the game, the Pilgrims began their feast. New England rattled off six goals in a row, three in the first period and three in the second, before the Camels netted their only goal of the weekend.

Conn's goal came when Craig Sliva '02 slid a pass through the legs of a defender, sending Matt Heath '02 in alone with the goalie. Heath offered this of his performance: "Sliva slid a nice pass through some guy's legs when I was coming across the blue line, and I just went in and deked the goalie, beating him low far-side." Heath's seventh goal of the season came thirteen and a half minutes into the second period and was matched quickly when N.E.C.'s Matt Stack scored his only goal for the game a minute and a half later. The Pilgrims continued to devour

continued on page 7

Women's Ice Hockey Playing for Pride After Elimination from ECAC Post-Season Contention Following Three Shutout Losses

By Adam Rogowin  
Staff Writer

The old saying "you can't win games if you can't score goals" has been ringing loudly in the Dayton Arena.

Things seemed to be fine for the women's hockey team, who took to the road two weekends ago, winning at both Amherst and Trinity. The road suddenly got rocky.

In the last three games, all at home, the Camels have been outscored 13-0. The losses, all league games, officially knocked the team out of playoff contention. For the third time in the team's three-year existence, there will be no hockey played in late February.

Making the playoffs was going to be a tough task. The Camels needed to win their last five games, and the top eight teams also needed to basically lose all of theirs. With three games left, improvement will be a key factor.

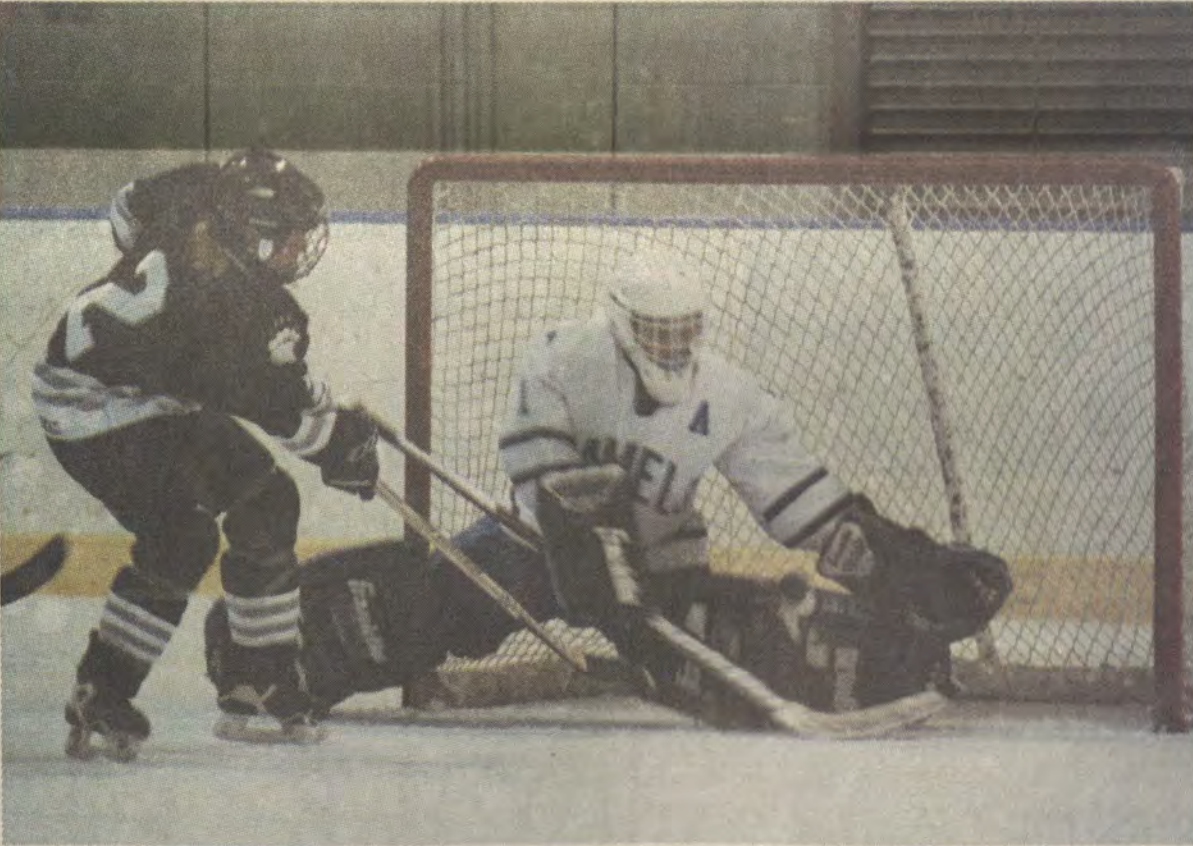
"Right now we just need to start focusing on scoring goals," forward Caley Boyd '03 said. "Too many times this year we have come up short offensively. Sometimes it seemed when we most needed goals, we were not getting them."

That could easily be said for the game against Colby. The Camels outshot their opponents 26-14, but were unable to find the back of the net. Colby seemed to capitalize on every opportunity given to them. The Camel power play units suffered, not scoring once in the six man-up situations they were given. Colby, who scored three minutes into the game, shut out the Camels 3-0.

The team looked to rebound against Bowdoin the following afternoon. Unfortunately, they took on a team that was a bit more skilled than them.

Bowdoin scored early and often, including a thirteen shot, four-goal outburst in the opening frame. The Camels never seemed to rebound, losing the game 9-0.

"They seemed to have outplayed us right from the start," forward Liz Hall '01 said. "They were a very good hockey team but I feel that we could've challenged them much more. It's hard to come back once you are down by so much, but we played hard until the final whistle. Sometimes that is almost more impor-



Junior goaltender Anna Trafton makes a save during a recent game. Despite her stellar play, the lack of any offensive support doomed the Camels. Trafton will be looked upon to anchor the team's defense going into next season. (Brown)

tant than the score, how hard you work." After the dismal weekend, the team was poised and ready for the Tuesday night showdown with in-state rival Wesleyan.

The game remained scoreless after the first two periods. Defensively, the Camels would endure only one lapse. It came at the wrong time. Fourteen seconds into the closing period a Wesleyan forward broke loose and beat Camel net minder Anna Trafton '02 with a hard wrist shot. Besides that breakdown, Trafton was a brick wall, holding her team in the contest; making nineteen saves overall in

the tilt. The Camel offensive woes continued in the 1-0 loss. Collectively, the team did not convert on their breakaway opportunities, and was once again held scoreless on the power play.

The loss dropped their season record to 8-12.

"It has been a frustrating couple of games both offensively and defensively, but the most frustrating loss was to Wesleyan," Boyd said. "That should have been our game. We should be able to beat them nine out of ten times. The hard work was there; we just didn't capitalize on our scoring chances."

The Camels have now shifted gears for their focus, with home games against Williams and Holy Cross rounding out the season.

"We have two games left and both of them are going to be tough," Forward Lindsey Sundberg '03 said. "Our goal is no longer post season play, right now we can only play for our pride. Everyone knows that and hopefully we can end the season on a winning streak."

One of the most important aspects of this season has been the constant improvement of the Camel play. A lot of this success can be attributed to a very skilled coaching staff.

Many of the players also see it this way.

"We have proven throughout the season to be overachievers, and that is due to the coaches," Boyd stated. "The fact that we are able to stay competitive against teams that have much more talent and experience than we have and handily beat teams that are evenly matched up is just confirmation that we have a better coaching staff."

Head Coach Bernie Cassell's impact has been very noticeable this season. His up-tempo, intense practices have allowed the Camels to be better prepared for their upcoming games.

"The coaching staff has stressed a "defense first" mentality throughout the season," Cassell noted. "Our game plan is to take care of our end and win the battles all over the ice. Our team works best from the goalie out."

Cassell has been a major reason for the program's status of being only a few steps away from a top ECAC D. III competitor.

"He is a great teacher," Boyd added. "We not only want to win games for ourselves, but frankly we really want to win for Bernie and Bill (assistant coach Bill Yuhas). To be honest, they both deserve a better record than we gave them."

Camel Scoreboard

<b>Men's Basketball (15-6)</b>	
2/9 Conn 83, Trinity 64	
2/10 Amherst 86, Conn 68	
Next Game 2/16 vs. Bates, 7pm	
<b>Women's Basketball (6-15)</b>	
2/9 Trinity 74, Conn 57	
2/10 Amherst 71, Conn 56	
2/13 Conn 68, Coast Guard 60	
Next Game 2/16 vs. Bates, 7:30pm	
<b>Men's Ice Hockey (7-11-1)</b>	
2/9 New England College 8, Conn 1	

2/10 Saint Anselm 4, Conn 0	
Next Game 2/16 vs. Middlebury, 7:30pm	
<b>Women's Ice Hockey (8-12)</b>	
2/9 Colby 3, Conn 0	
2/10 Bowdoin 9, Conn 0	
2/13 Wesleyan 1, Conn 0	
Next Game 2/17 vs. Williams, 7pm	
<b>Men's Squash (7-6)</b>	
2/11 Conn 7, Fordham 2	
Conn 7, Columbia 2	
Next Match 2/23-25 NIRSA Team Champs at Yale	

<b>Women's Squash (11-8)</b>	
2/8 Wellesley 5, Conn 4	
2/10 Conn 8, Smith 1	
Next Match 2/16-18 Howe Cup at Yale	
<b>Men's Swimming (2-7)</b>	
2/10 Conn 156, Wheaton 111	
Next Meet 2/23-25 New England D. III Champs at Wesleyan	
<b>Women's Swimming (5-4)</b>	
Next Meet 2/16-18 New England D. III Champs at Wesleyan	