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### College Voice Vol. 25 No. 14

Connecticut College

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Connecticut College, "College Voice Vol. 25 No. 14" (2002). *2001-2002*. 8.  
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# THE COLLEGE VOICE

PUBLISHED WEEKLY BY THE STUDENTS OF CONNECTICUT COLLEGE

VOLUME XXV • NUMBER 14

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 15, 2002

CONNECTICUT COLLEGE, NEW LONDON, CT

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## INSIDE:



## NEWS

New London Hall set to be renovated to make way for new science center



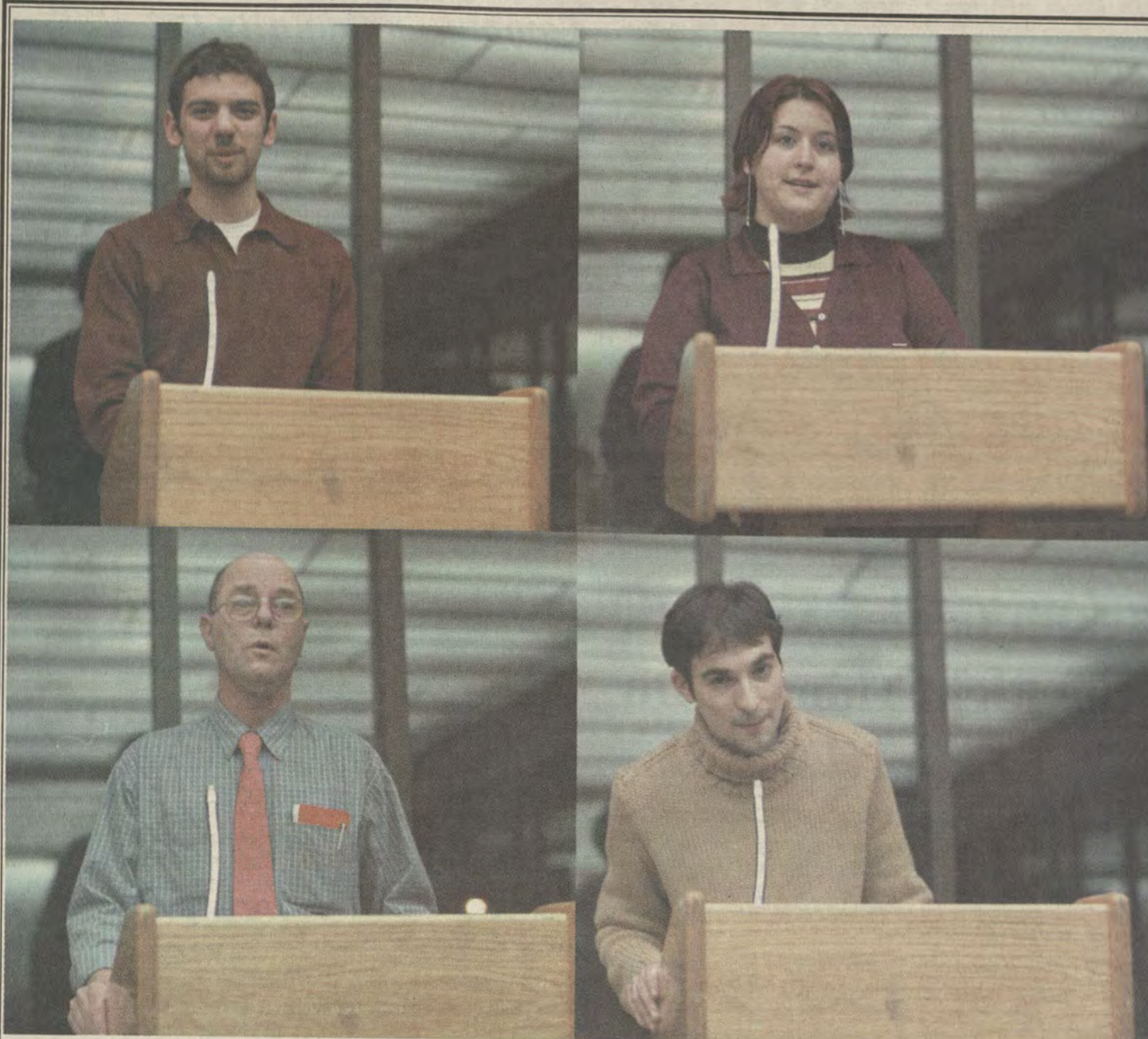
## A&E

"Found Objects" make for great art at AlvaGallery.



## SPORTS

Seniors attempt to recapture the glory of their freshman season.



On Thursday, February 7, poets from New England colleges treated Conn students and faculty to a poetry reading in the Charles Chu Asian Art Reading Room. After a brief introduction by English Professor Charles Hartman, the students presented original, award-winning work on a range of themes. Despite the common educational backgrounds of the writers, each of the students' poetry was strikingly unique. They related experiences about everything from spirituality, to being fat in middle school, to sex and sexuality.

## Professor Emeritus of Chemistry Passes Away

By EMILY CHAMBERLIN  
STAFF WRITER

On January 3rd, Trudy Smith passed away, and the Connecticut College Chemistry Department lost a valued Professor Emeritus. Professor Smith taught Physical Chemistry at Conn for over thirty years. During more than three decades on campus, she saw the college through enormous changes.

During her later years, she often shared her past experiences with other professors, describing the quieter days when she first began teaching at Conn in 1964. Associate Professor David Cullen describes her as a "dedicated teacher" and a caring person. She preferred teaching to research, and served as department chair.

Father Larry LaPointe served with Professor Smith on the Dean's Grievance committee during the late eighties, and describes her as "very committed to the students," a hardworking woman who kept to herself and led by example.

"She combined the reasoning of a scientific mind," said LaPointe, "with a heart of compassion."

Professor Smith retired from teaching in 1994. One of Professor Smith's six children attended Conn as a Japanese major, and currently lives and works in Japan.

There will be a simple memorial service on February 27th at noon, in Harkness Chapel. Rabbi Aaron Rosenberg will preside over the service, and Father Larry LaPointe and Associate Professor Cullen will share their memories and thoughts. A light lunch will follow the service.

Professor Smith will be remembered for her dedication to students and for her caring attention to teaching.

## Development of Crocker House Progresses

By BEN MORSE  
NEWS EDITOR

Three years ago, the New London Development Corporation (NLDC) formed Cabrini Inc., a single-purpose entity that intended to buy five local properties. The NLDC, which had worked in conjunction with Connecticut College, thought it necessary to purchase the Crocker House, the Cronin and Bacon buildings, and one smaller property in downtown New London. This was done to keep them on the tax roll while at the same time blocking speculators who would buy the buildings at a low price and sell them later at a profit.

Connecticut College loaned \$1.7 million to Cabrini, in addition to

sponsoring them along with People's Bank. The money was loaned under the conditions that it would eventually be paid back along with the interest that would accrue and compound until a developer was found.

The situation became complicated this past September when Cabrini declared it did not have enough money to pay the taxes it owed the city. As of early this month, Cabrini owed the city \$41,980, which is continuing to charge 1.5 % interest (or \$630) per month.

The city has rejected Cabrini's first two proposals for renovation. The first two plans involved making the buildings into market rate, income-restricted apartments with an undisclosed loan from the city.

The third plan called for a \$10 million loan from the city to turn the buildings into eighty market rate apartments and retail space.

This past November, David Nyberg, who represents the Collège Street Properties development firm, approached Cabrini expressing interest in Crocker House, the largest of the properties. Nyberg recently completed a successful renovation in New Haven and was made aware of the Cabrini properties by his real estate agent.

If the Crocker transaction goes through, Cabrini will have enough money to pay People's Bank the \$1 million to remove the college's liability and to carry the three other

*continued on page 6*

## Author Oates to Speak at Commencement

Press Release:

Writer Joyce Carol Oates, three-time nominee for the Nobel Prize in Literature, will be the speaker at Connecticut College's 84th Commencement ceremony Saturday, May 25.

Oates is the Roger S. Berlind distinguished Professor of the Humanities at Princeton University.

Considered one of America's most versatile, serious writers, Oates is the author of a number of distinguished books in several genres, all published within the past 25 years. In addition to numerous novels and short story collections, she has published several volumes of poetry, several books of plays, five books of literary criticism, and the book-length essay, "On Boxing."

Oates is "a prolific and accomplished writer who has spent her life in the pursuit of intellectual excellence," said Connecticut College President Norman Fainstein, who has heard Oates speak publicly on several occasions. "I have been impressed by her acute insights into American society as well as the human psyche."

Her writing has earned her much praise and many awards, including the PEN/Malamud Award for Excellence in short fiction, the Rosenthal Award from the American Academy-Institute of Arts and Letters, a Guggenheim Fellowship, the O'Henry Prize for Continued Achievement in the Short Story, the National Book Award for her novel Them, and in 1978, membership in the American Academy-Institute. What I Lived For was nominated for the 1995 PEN/Faulkner Award.



In 1999 she was nominated for the Nobel Prize for the third time.

Oates' recent works include Middle Age: A Romance (2001); Beasts (2002); Faithless: Tales of Transgression (2001), a short story collection; Blonde (2000); Broke Heart Blues (1999); Gemini: An American Epic (1999);

*continued on page 6*



President Fainstein seeks council from Willis before heading off to another day at Connecticut College

## Conn's Top Dog Advises President

By SARAH GREEN  
NEWS EDITOR

Wilson is great at Frisbee and his favorite food is biscotti. He enjoys spending weekends in New York City where he loves to socialize with people and look for food on the sidewalks. Wilson is President Fainstein's black Labrador.

A seven-and-a-half year old with a thick, glossy coat and a noble profile, Wilson is beginning to get a few distinguished gray hairs around his muzzle. But beneath his dignified exterior is a healthy inner puppy.

A friendly dog that loves to jump, Wilson loves to play fetch-the-stick and catch-the-Frisbee. His day starts around 6:30 in the morning, and by 7 he and President Fainstein

are playing Frisbee, the president

wearing an old pair of gloves reserved specifically for handling the slobbery disc.

"You can see this is one of his great strengths.....Olympic level," said Fainstein, flinging the well-gnawed Frisbee across the lawn.

Around 8 o'clock, Wilson heads to the arboretum for a little game of fetch-the-stick. At approximately 6 in the evening, President Fainstein comes home and he and Wilson make plans for dinner.

"I discuss all decisions with him," said the president, citing Wilson's "tremendous food expertise."

Wilson also helped the president pick out some new furniture for the house. Although the lab would rather spend his time on the soft couch by the window, during dinner

parties Wilson is sent to "jail," a barricaded area under the kitchen counter.

"He loves bread," explained Fainstein, "This is his great weakness."

Fainstein and Wilson met in 1995. Wilson had graduated, at 12 months of age, from an "undergraduate" seeing-eye dog program. However, he failed the entrance exam for the "graduate" puppy school, because of excessive jumping.

Guide dog school "rejects" such as Wilson are much sought-after pets. The Fainsteins were on a waiting list for just such a dog.

"He was the one and only choice they gave us," said the president,

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# EDITORIAL & OPINION

## VALENTINES DAY AT CONNECTICUT COLLEGE

A DAY TO TELL THAT SPECIAL SOMEONE  
YOU CARE



## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

### Student Calls Upon Campus Community to Become Involved

To the editors:

Of every 100 kindergartners:

- 93 white students will graduate from high school and 29 will earn at least a bachelor's degree
  - 86 African American students will graduate from high school and 15 will earn at least a bachelor's degree
  - 61 Latino/Hispanic students will graduate from high school and 10 will learn at least a bachelor's degree
- In other words, African American students are currently half as likely as white students to earn a bachelor's degree, and Latino/Hispanic students are only one-third as likely. (Education Watch, 1998).

Our country faces a large educational inequity issue that will not resolve itself. In an effort to address this crisis, on January 31, 2002 President Bush visited the Booker T. Washington High School in Atlanta. He called for the expansion of national service programs such as Teach For America to alleviate the growing racial disparity in America's classrooms. Teach For America is a national corps of outstanding recent college graduates of all academic majors who commit to two years of teaching in urban and rural public schools. I challenge all Connecticut College seniors to hear this call to action and commit two years of their lives to improve children's education.

Teach for America makes an impact in two ways: first, by providing children in under-resourced schools with excellent teachers who go above and beyond to ensure that their students have the opportunities they deserve, and second, by building a force of insightful and committed leaders who will effect the broad, systemic changes required to ultimately ensure equal opportunity for all children.

Since its first 500 corps members entered classrooms in 1990, Teach For America has recruited more than 8,000 well-qualified college graduates. Corps members teach in seventeen locations across the country: Atlanta, Baltimore, Chicago, Detroit, Houston, Los Angeles, New Jersey, New Orleans, New York, Phoenix, Washington, D.C., eastern North Carolina, southern Louisiana, the Mississippi Delta, the Rio Grande Valley in Texas, the San Francisco Bay Area and in the Navajo Nation in northwest New Mexico.

During those two years, you could have a major impact in the lives of children growing up today. You could gain the insight and credibility to effect long-term change. And, through networking, you could set yourself up for success regardless of the professional field you ultimately choose. For all of those on this campus committed to making a difference, here is an opportunity to ensure that, "One day all children in this nation will have the opportunity to attain an excellent education" (Teach For America founder, Wendy Kopp).

Upcoming application deadline: FEBRUARY 21, 2002. For more information on Teach For America, please visit [www.teachforamerica.org](http://www.teachforamerica.org), call 1-800-832-1230, or call Ericka on campus, x4609

-Ericka Temple '02

### 'Sluts' Have No Place in The College Voice

To the editors:

I found Sarah Green's rambling diatribe on the connotation of the word "slut" in her column last week completely inappropriate and almost appalling. While the viewpoint column is undeniably an outlet for the author to discuss current topics, Green decided instead to espouse her feminist thoughts for the world to see. Surely there are more important topics that merit discussion over the sociological impact of high school teenage gossip. I do agree that the word "slut" is an unfair description of a sexually active woman, but I hardly feel that a college newspaper is the forum in which to discuss this. Equating "slut" to worldwide female oppression pushes Green's argument into an entirely different realm, which makes me ask the question, what exactly is the point of the article? Let me know when the college newspaper decides to stop printing aimless feminist rants and begins reporting real news.

-Philip Jaffe '04

### Student Protests World Economic Forum and Police Treatment

To the editors:

I have the right to remain silent. I have the right to watch idly as the world's wealthiest mastermind an economic plan that protects their riches at the expense of the world's environment, women, colored, and poor under the guise of the World Economic Forum.

But that's not the right that I want. I want the right to speak. I want the right to stand on the sidewalk and bang my tin-can drum until it collapses from the force of my broken-chain drumsticks as I let New York City know of the tyrannical practices of this socially sanctioned meeting. I want the right for my conduct to be disorderly in this disordered world.

However, according to the NYPD, these actions constitute criminal behavior; I found myself behind bars for two days following my February 3rd arrest for this "crime" of free expression. The treatment that I received from the NYPD officers in jail mirrors the system of autocratic control that the WEF leaders aim to exercise over the rest of the world.

After being escorted to a police van at the command of a certain policeman who couldn't stand to look at my face, I was forced to silently endure twenty minutes of slanderous chatter from my ten police companions as to the selfishness of my actions. Locked in a small cell with seventeen other bodies, I was denied water or food for the first eight hours of my arrest. Men wandered about the all-female quarters without warning, in full view of the entirely exposed toilets. My sisters were denied access to their prescription medicines for the duration of our first night. We were barraged with lies as to the proximity of our release.

I got through the ordeal, triumphantly in fact, with the support of my optimistic cell sisters. However, I cannot simply walk away from the experience; it didn't end when I was released after 36 long hours. If the WEF continues to meet, and include representatives obscenely weighted towards the rich, white, and male, I can expect that my life and the lives of the world's people will increasingly reflect my experiences in prison. The world's people will become incarcerated in the prison of capitalism. In order to combat this impending incarceration, we must reclaim our dignity, our humanity, and our voices.

-Sara Walker '05

## Reopening the Health Center All Night on Weekends Is the Right Thing to Do

The school's decision to close the Health Center at night was an unpopular one. As the weekends roll on, it is also proving to be a poor one.

Proof that the above statement is true continues to manifest itself in students who drink too much. It should be stressed that in this case, "students who drink too much" means students who require observation, not students who need their stomachs pumped or other similar interventions. Formerly, the health center had beds set up where students could spend a few hours, or as long as was necessary. In order to fill this void, the College now dispatches ambulances to bring such students to Lawrence Memorial Hospital. This past Saturday alone, the school called for five ambulances.

Clearly this is not an effective approach. In the first place, it is overkill. The beauty of the previous system was that both the option for observation and the option to send students who were in more danger to Lawrence Memorial co-existed, and decisions could be made in a case-by-case manner. This is not true of the present system. All cases are lumped together and sent to the hospital. For those in need of observation, it turns an uncomfortable experience into a far more frightening one. Not only is the student sent to the hospital, but he or she does not receive the level of personal care that would have been afforded to them in the health center. Hospitals simply lack the resources to expend that sort of energy on a simple case of drinking too much.

Finally, sending someone off in an ambulance is scary. Walking a drunk friend to the health center when he or she has become more than you can handle is not a daunting prospect. However, choosing to send your friend off in an ambulance is, for many, a very different story. It is likely that a student who was comfortable with the health center would be far less so with inflicting this embarrassment and fear upon their friends. Perhaps a drunk friend is in no danger if someone just tucks him or her into bed. Or perhaps he or she is worse than it seems and is in need of a higher level of care. In the old system, the infirmary could have determined that. In this system, the ambulance may never get called.

The solution is a simple one: not a full return to the 24-hour, seven day a week health center, but rather keeping the health center open from normal opening hours Thursday until 5 a.m. Sunday morning. A decision to adopt new hours such as these would not only be popular, but more importantly, it would be right.

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## OPINION

# REVISITING A CLASSIC VALENTINE'S DAY COLUMN

TIM STEVENS • COMPLAINT OF THE WEEK



Last year, we ran this column and it still stands as one of my most popular. Me, I love being complimented and I was pretty proud of this one myself. Some things have changed (I won't bother you with my personal life...it is all pretty boring), but I still think the column holds up. Enjoy.

Good news everyone. Valentine's Day is here! Of course I know I am one of about 6 people on Conn's campus with a love of this holiday, but a man has to stand up for what he believes.

Before you give the knee jerk reaction that most have, that I only love Valentine's Day because I am involved in a relationship, I'm not, so the argument doesn't apply (no, that is not a subtle hint. Although...). Secondly, allow me to point out that I know several people who are involved and they still hate Valentine's Day and all the pomp and circumstance it brings with it.

Now that we have dispensed with any bias that I may have on the issue, we move on to how any single person could actually love this holiday. Admittedly, there is a lot stacked against this holiday. First off, it is most certainly a Hallmark holiday. Greeting card companies, candy corporations, and jewelry stores everywhere thank the god of dispensing holidays for having the foresight to place a holiday in the near endless stretch between the holiday season and Easter (which is just barely a gift giving holiday anyway.) Besides the consumerism of it, there is the sense that those alone on Valentine's Day are somehow defective. The holiday seems to make many feel that it is acceptable to be single on every other day of the year except for February 14. Finally, it is just a damn cheesy day. I mean, come on. The candy hearts, the ridiculous amount of pink and red, the sight of a baby with a bow and arrow (actually that part always struck me as kind of subversive), it is all just so damn silly. The holiday is bursting with so much forced syrupy sweetness that it is hard not to choke on it.

To me though, none of that matters. It is all just excess that we, as a society, have surrounded it in. The heart of Valentine's Day is what it always has been. A holiday in honor of love. We focus on the romantic love portion, but it is truly about the triumph of all love. We all know the legend of St. Valentine so I won't waste space speaking of it, but the summary in a few words is this: even laws cannot stop love. Isn't that a message worth celebrating? Perhaps we do spend too much money on gifts meant to show something that is better represented by a slight touch, a whisper, or a true look of concern. Honestly though, people have always gone great distances in the wrong way to show their love. The most sought after emotion is often times, and not coincidentally, the hardest to convey. Valentine's Day celebrates the irrepressible smile that bubbles forth when you see the person you are in love with, the promise of a first date, the feelings of caring and respect that family and friends share for one another. It is all these things and more. Can anyone honestly dislike something that pure?

In the spirit of Valentine's Day (and not because I am going soft), I make this suggestion. There must be someone out there who you care about, romantically or not. Let them know. Brighten the holiday for others and it will become brighter for you as well. Cheesy, but true. And when you see the smile force its way onto the face of someone who was trying damn hard to be miserable on February 14, maybe then you will see why I love this stupid, silly, Hallmark holiday so much.

## TO SEE WHAT ONCE WAS

BENJAMIN CARMICHAEL • PRELUDE



The opening line of the prologue to Harold Bloom's book *The Visionary Companion* states that, "Blake died on the evening of Sunday, August 12, 1827, and the firm belief in the autonomy of a poet's imagination died with him."

Since the Age of Enlightenment, reason has become the only absolute. Rousseau and Voltaire created a system of science based on equality and tolerance of all of humanity. And though such an appraisal of human nature professes to be rooted in

tolerance, the history of western relativism records a great hypocrisy — those who claim tolerance on the basis of relativism are tolerant only of other relativists. Truth has given way to tolerance and to the right of the individual. The quest for tolerance has become, in many respects, more important than the search for truth.

As Seyyed Hossein Nasr proclaims in his article entitled "Metaphysical Roots of Tolerance and Intolerance: And Islamic Interpretation": "we live in a world in which in the West the relativization of nearly everything, including what has remained since the Renaissance of the Christian ethics, is being carried out with great rapidity in the name of individual rights and freedom and any opposition to this trend is immediately branded as intolerant, fanatical, and extremist." In Western history, the rights of man have been pitted against the rights of God. With this in mind, Nasr continues, "we realize that Western societies after centuries of internal wars and social revolution have come to the conclusion that human rights are more important than divine rights."

What has ensued after this revolution, amongst other things, is a change in the nature of perception. The modern, relativistic perspective is dominated by the assertion that there is no absolute Truth — that the only truth that can be found is in the Heraclitean tension between opposing beliefs, and in the principles of equality in which such a tension finds its roots. The absolute truth of the modern age is that there is no absolute truth. What this means is that the modern reader is, for the most part, operating within a metaphysical framework that is void of personified nature. He/she sees the world not as a field of contesting forces of good and evil, but rather as a material world held together at the atomic level by gravity and nuclear forces.

In his sonnet, whose title begins this quotation, Wordsworth said, "The world is too much with us late and soon./Getting and spending, we lay waste our powers:/Little we see in Nature that is ours." Indeed, in the modern, materialistic world there exists a great chasm between man and nature. We have been taught by the great scientific and industrial revolutions that humans should not see gods imminent within nature — that to see thus is a product of the imagination, a reflection of the unconscious, and is false. We no longer believe that we can see within Nature the boundless compassion of a divine spirit without the aid of the imagination.

In order to perceive the world around us, the modern reader must imagine gods where the Greeks and Romans once saw Triton rise out of the water and where they felt Eolus ruffle their hair. Once upon a time, mankind did not have to imagine a human world, he sensed and saw it. Now, we are at odds with Nature. Now, we can only imagine what once was.

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# WILSON PULLING STRINGS BEHIND THE SCENES

COLEY WARD • VIEWPOINT



When Bill Clinton was in office, before the whole Monica Lewinsky debacle, he used to catch a lot of crap about the role that his wife played in his administration. People joked that Hillary was the brains behind the operation. She was running the country and Bill was just a figurehead. Everyone knew it wasn't really true, but it was funny to think that even the President could get bossed around by his overbearing wife (of course, now that Hillary is a senator and looks like she really might end up President someday, people don't joke about it anymore).

Here at Connecticut College, we have our own "Bill and Hillary" scenario. President Norman Fainstein has been on the job for barely four months and already it is clear that

this is not a one-man show. Strangely, it's not his wife that is butting in on the President's spotlight, it's his black Labrador, Wilson.

From the very beginning, Fainstein has taken every available opportunity to boast about his buddy Wilson. On occasion, this promotion has bordered on shameless.

Fainstein was in Europe when Connecticut College made the announcement that he would be their next president. On the day of the announcement, Fainstein talked at length with a reporter at The Day about his feelings on receiving the presidency and, most prominently, Wilson. Over the summer, when he was introduced to the campus for the first time, Fainstein again mentioned Wilson. Two weeks ago, at the State of the College Address, he talked about the dog.

Perhaps President Fainstein has his own agenda for advertising his relationship with his dog so publicly. Bill Clinton must have recognized Hillary as his meal ticket back to the

White House and promoted her at every occasion, all the while clearly envisioning his future position as first-husband.

It would not be outrageous for somebody to suggest that Wilson was riding his owner's coattails into a position of respect and authority. Just check out the cover of The College Voice this week. It's working so far.

I, however, would like to suggest the opposite. Maybe, just maybe, Wilson really is running the show. Maybe there's more going on here than meets the eye. Think about it — when Norman Fainstein came to interview for the college presidency over the summer, he was coming to a school that needed to raise some big bucks, and fast.

After Fainstein was named President, everyone was thrilled about the potential revenue that would soon start pouring in. At the time, I couldn't understand it. "Why all the excitement?" I asked myself. I mean, Fainstein's a great guy and all, but how is he gonna raise all the

money people are expecting him to? He's a good speaker, but not great. He's a handsome guy, but not Brad Pitt handsome.

I just didn't get it. Now, though, now it's all starting to make sense. A president — even a studly, well spoken president, can only raise so much money. But, a president with a dog... the sky's the limit! And let me tell you what — if you think that the Presidential Search Committee didn't take that into account, then you're a damn fool.

Indeed, Wilson, the seven-year old black Labrador with a talent for catching a Frisbee in his mouth, is in a great position to restore the College's financial strength. Undoubtedly, Fainstein will continue to get a lot of the credit, since he is the only one of the two that can talk. But take my word for it, when push comes to shove, the dog is calling the shots.

# I PESTERED PETER GAMMONS JUST FOR YOU

SARAH GREEN • VIEWPOINT



I know it doesn't feel like spring yet, at least not in Connecticut, but there's no denying it: equinox or no equinox, regardless of the caprice of any groundhog, today baseball fans everywhere arose rejuvenated by the only true harbinger of spring, the hope-filled words "pitchers and catchers report!"

Pitchers and catchers report. Can crocuses and daffodils be far behind? The snow melts, the sap rises, and arms loosen in Florida. Robins return and spring training begins.

To get the ball rolling for the 2002 season...get it? "Get the ball rolling?" Haha? Okay well anyways, the point is, I asked a few questions of Peter Gammons (a sportswriter, baseball analyst for ESPN's Baseball Tonight, and provider of SportsCenter's Diamond Notes). Below are his answers.

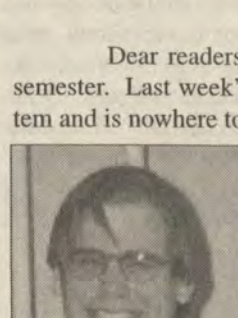
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Baseball fans love lists, statistics, and comparisons. What is your favorite player of all time? Top five?

I tend to separate players into the categories of childhood favorites (i.e. those who played before I was in the business) and those playing since I began covering baseball regularly in 1972. Of those in the childhood category, there were Willie Mays, Ted Williams, Juan Marichal, Jackie Jensen (a little New England bias, but a great Red Sox player in the fifties) and, of course, Jackie Robinson, although I was too young to really see much of him. As for those since I've been covering, this is based on their passion and my feeling for them: George Brett, Luis Tiant, Don Mattingly, Pedro Martinez, Kirby Puckett, and Jack Morris. I know, that's six. But...the people who play on the major league level are better, more complicated, and by far harder-working people than the average talk show caller or host understands.

If you could add one major rule to baseball, what would it be?  
I would enforce the rule that forces batters to remain in the box between pitches with emergency exceptions. The pace of the game is still a problem. I would also outlaw that stupid fake to third, throw to first pickoff, because it is an attempt to deceive and that is a balk, and I hate the stupid thing. I saw

## 'WHAT'S GOING ON'

ERIC SEVERSON • ...AND JUSTICE FOR ALL



Dear readers, I apologize for being a week late in my debut this semester. Last week's column was somehow lost in our archaic email system and is nowhere to be found. In any case, I am immensely pleased to be back on campus and to have yet another opportunity to discuss some issues of substance with you.

I have been considering the changes in the politics of this campus over the last five months. In the wake of the attacks in September, there were encouraging signs; for the first time, I saw the vast majority of my colleagues staying involved, informed, and eager to discuss current affairs. It is my hope that this spirit will live on for the months and years to come. We must not allow ourselves to slip into complacency now that the conflict in Afghanistan is winding down to a successful close. The issues that confront us at this very moment are of greater consequence than any that our generation has previously faced, and it is imperative that we play a greater part in shaping our own futures.

To begin with, there is the Administration's decision in late December to abrogate the Anti-Ballistic Missile Treaty, which has been the cornerstone of nuclear arms control since President Nixon negotiated for it in 1972. One of my Senators back home, Wayne Allard, has publicly stated that he favors nuclear arms negotiation without any formal treaties or agreements. I will concede that the ABM Treaty was created at a time when the global situation regarding nuclear armaments was quite different, but I find it difficult to believe that we can rule out the possibility of a new arms race in South and East Asia if we operate without international agreement on this issue.

Next, we have the much-talked-about Enron collapse. The activist com-

munity and independent press are utilizing the scandal to tarnish the reputation of any politician with connections to the now-infamous energy company, as I suppose they should. However, there is a larger issue to consider here. We are now right in the thick of the greatest lapse in business ethics since the insider trading scandals of 1986 (at least in terms of unethical practices that were actually found out). It seems that most people were willing to look the other way regarding such unscrupulous activity during brighter economic times, but now we can no longer afford this luxury. There must be a broad-based movement to put principle ahead of personal profit from our generation if we wish to prevent more of the same.

Finally, there are some highly important constitutional issues facing the nation. So far the PATRIOT Act has had only a minimal impact on civil liberties, but this is by no means reason to become complacent. Any law which allows the expansion of wiretapping and the monitoring of Internet searches must be looked upon warily, no matter how necessary it may seem. In addition, President Bush is echoing his predecessor by calling for Fast Track legislation that will expand the President's authority to negotiate trade agreements at the expense of Congress' ability to maintain oversight. Besides the strain it would put on America's ability to require tough environmental and labor standards while giving away such authority, Fast Track violates the principle of checks and balances. When the Framers of the Constitution state in Article I, Section 8 that "Congress shall have power...to negotiate commerce with foreign nations," I don't think they were just kidding.

So, there we have it. These are issues of monumental consequence to our lives and liberties. I hope you will remain informed and involved in determining their course, and I hope that you will join me this semester as I delve into them more deeply.

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# ARTS&ENTERTAINMENT

## Chamber Players Take the Stage Saturday

By MARISSA ZANETTI

STAFF WRITER

While most students on campus were preparing for the Winter Formal, The Connecticut College Chamber Players took the stage of Evans Hall to perform pieces by Mozart, Poulenc, and Schubert. Many members of the New London community arrived in anticipation of the energetic and elegant concert. The Chamber Players is composed of extremely accomplished and talented musicians. Many of the performers are music professors here on campus or at other colleges and universities in the area. Each musician is well known in the music community and has a vast amount of experience both teaching and playing within their areas of expertise.

The first piece on the program was Mozart's Clarinet Quintet K 581, performed by two violins, a viola, a cello, and a clarinet. The piece featured the clarinet, as Mozart's original intent was to explore the range of the instrument. During the time Mozart composed, it was a relatively new

sound to use in an orchestra. The Clarinet Quintet was split into four parts, Allegro, Larghetto, Menuetto, and Allegretto con Variazioni. Each movement was unique, and added a new flavor to the overall emotion of the Quintet. This piece highlighted perfectly the musical capabilities of the clarinet. The string instruments complimented the tones of the clarinet, making this piece an enjoyable experience.

The second piece, Sextet for Piano and Woodwind Quintet, by Francis Poulenc, was quite different from the first piece. Poulenc's early works are known for their energy and are sometimes laced with wit and sarcasm. These works were not taken seriously by the critics of the time, and Poulenc was often dismissed as silly or trivial. However, in the Sextet, the individual sounds of the piano, flute, oboe, clarinet, French horn, and bassoon, each encompassed Poulenc's breezy style and at the same time, conveyed a serious tone.

The brass instruments present in this piece

provided a sharp contrast to the previous piece, which was softer and gentler. The piano part flowed harmoniously with the rhythm of the brass and the woodwinds.

The third and final piece of the night was Franz Schubert's Quintet for Piano and Strings, Op. 114 in A Major. This piece featured a piano, violin, viola, cello, and a bass. This work was considered unusual in its time because of its addition of the piano to the quartet, and because it had a fifth movement. This fifth movement was placed before the finale and incorporated features from another of Schubert's more famous pieces. The high notes of the piano contrasted effectively with the darker, lower sound of the string instruments.

Overall, the Chamber Orchestra's performance was very sophisticated. Each piece successfully illustrated the musical capabilities of the instruments. Connecticut College is lucky to be able to showcase performances such as this.

## Gosford Park: The English Do Not Have Sex, or Do They?

### Gosford Park



Rated: R

Length: 2 hours 17 minutes

Starring: Michael Gambon, Kristin Scott Thomas, Maggie Smith

Directed by: Robert Altman

Summary: Altman successfully redefines the Christie Whodunit

By MICHAEL LEIBA

STAFF WRITER

Rumor has it that when Robert Altman was first thinking about doing *Gosford Park*, he wasn't so thrilled by the idea of directing a murder/mystery film like those based on the Agatha Christie novels. To do this film, he would have to inject something new into this tried and true genre, and through his discussions with producer Bob Balaban, the two found a way to make the familiar unfamiliar again. This was achieved mainly through a sort of self-referential approach. They knew that what they were presenting had already been seen, and so they made it completely new by poking fun at the typical conventions of the murder/mystery and at the English class structure of the early 20th century.

Along with these new takes comes the typical expectations you have when you view a Robert Altman film: a cast made up of familiar faces that draws on the best of both the new and old from the acting community, a complex plot that you attempt to unravel, until it is finally placed neatly before you, and dialogue you're never quite sure if you heard right, because the actors are usually talking at the same time.

Known for assembling some of the best casts in film, Altman upholds his reputation in *Gosford Park*, bringing together many of



England's finest theatrical and cinematic talents, including Maggie Smith, Alan Bates, Emily Watson, Stephen Fry, Helen Mirren, and Kristin Scott Thomas. Joining these English greats are Americans Ryan Phillippe and Bob Balaban, as well as the captivating Scot, Kelly MacDonald.

The film's plot revolves around a hunting party thrown by Sir William and Lady Sylvia McCordle and the host of aristocrats and servants that enter into this English countryside estate. Soon after the entrance of these characters we begin to see how their lives intertwine, every husband unable to keep his hands off someone else's wife or servant, and vice-versa. Mixed with these pleasures are the business affairs of the men, all whom seem tied in some way to their host. After one of the guests is found murdered, the motives of those present begin to come to light in a flood of tears and an eruption of past sins, leaving the true murderer hidden deep below the surface.

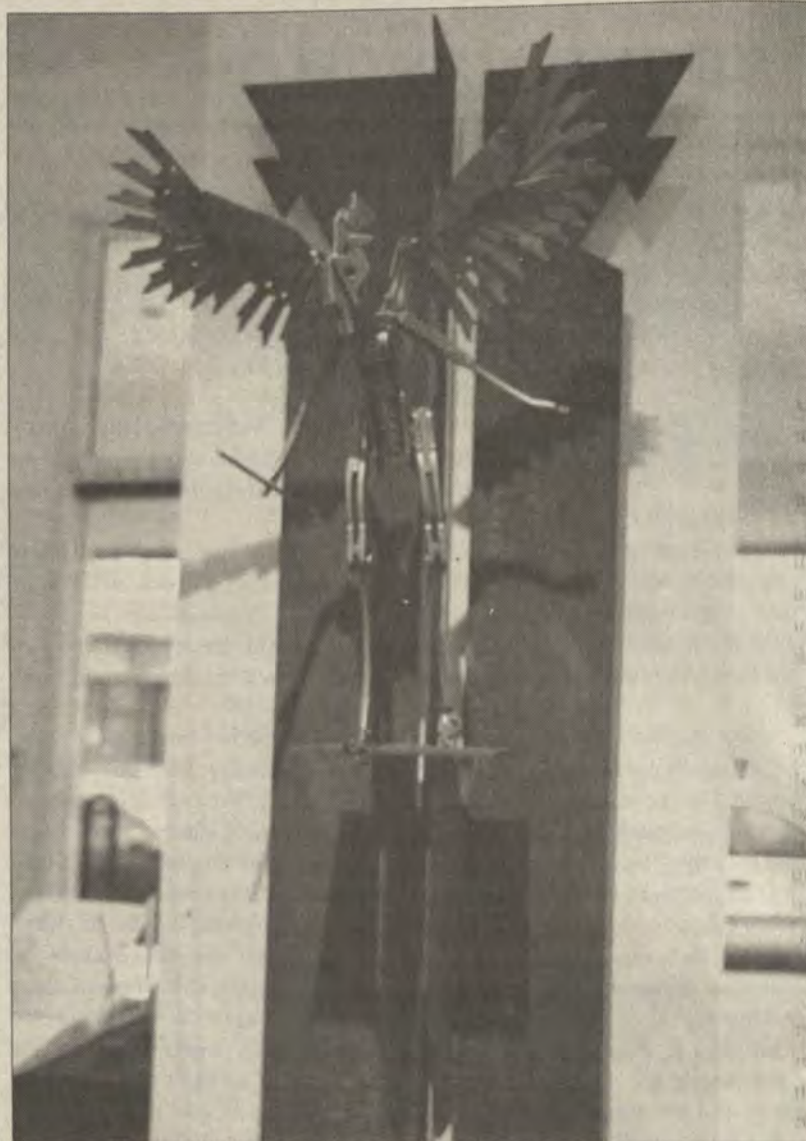
For the most part, it is the depth given to each character and the complexity of their emotions and motivations that makes it difficult for the

viewers to unravel the plot themselves. But in a few cases, the characters aren't quite as fleshed out as they could be. For example, Lady McCordle (Thomas) comes off as a sex-crazed ice-queen from her relations with the irresistible Henry Denton (Phillippe), without any real validity to her motivations. It seems like we are being given just enough to make every character a suspect, given only slight glimpses into his or her inner workings through implications. But where it is most important, we are given some depth, allowing the plot to come off as not wholly unbelievable.

The film shines most brightly in its juxtaposition of the upstairs aristocrats with their downstairs servants. The film jumps back and forth between these two groups, showing their similarities and differences, and most importantly their awareness of a certain amount of decorum in their relations to each other. The walls that come between these economically divided groups are constantly broken down by sexual encounters, allowing both sides to transgress the economic divide and break free of class dictates in the

bedroom. But it never goes farther than that, and in the end most of the servants who did break free momentarily are reminded of their place and are in some way punished.

*Gosford Park* runs a sluggish 137 minutes but is not entirely boring due to Altman's constant camera motion and to the often ironic and hilarious action of the film's plot. This acting ensemble does a fantastic job of making their characters believable, hinting subtly at the underlying emotions flowing in this current of English placidity and decorum. The plot is also given a lift by the bumbling Inspector Thompson (Fry) and his sidekick Constable Dexter, a pair oddly reminiscent of Inspector Gadget and Penny. When you leave the theater, you will feel like you know far too little about some characters, and more than you would ever want to about others. Yet the effect is clear: Altman has successfully reformed a genre of film for a new generation of filmgoers, though maybe you would be better off seeing the originals.



The Art of Mark McKee, Gar Waterman and Jay Seeley is on exhibit at the Alva Gallery.

## Three Local Artists 'Re-form' Found Objects

By NANCY DINSMORE

ASSOCIATE A&E EDITOR

The Alva Gallery is in downtown New London, and is located right next to the Garde Arts Center. I had driven by it many times, but I had never taken the time to stop in and look at the exhibits until recently. There is lots of open space in the gallery, conducive to wandering about and looking at all of the artwork in depth.

The current exhibit is entitled "Re-Formed: New Works from Found Objects" and it features the artwork of three artists, Mark McKee, Gar Waterman, and Jay Seeley. Each of the artists has a very distinct style and they all work in different mediums. The works were interspersed among each other which created a nice contrast between the pieces.

Mark McKee is a Stonington resident who graduated from the Lyme Academy of Fine Arts in 1998. He works in the classical medium of oil paint but adds unorthodox materials, such as nails and fabric. One of McKee's striking pieces, called "Only Ghost," is a wooden door with words lightly written in cursive. The words, like the door, look antique and they form a poem that the viewer can just barely read. White antique lace is draped over a corner of the door. The image created is a haunting look back at old-fashioned times, and the poem reinforces the idea of looking for the past in a busy world with no time for memories. I liked the way that the words complemented the visual image that the artist created.

Another piece by McKee is "Font," an oil on wood painting that utilizes fabric and nails to accompany the image. The nails hold back a piece of blue fabric that frames the center image of the back of a kneeling, naked woman. Her long hair falls down her back and in the center of her hair is a three dimensional religious image. She has a puzzling expression on her face that lies somewhere between angry and distressed. The canvas has an interesting texture that makes the image fuzzy, but gives the painting an added element of feeling. "Daughter of Beeri" is another intriguing work by McKee. It utilizes not only oil on wood, but also lace curtain and potatoes. This is an unusual painting because there is a small shelf that extends from the canvas. Three potatoes and a knife sit on the shelf. I am not sure what exactly the potatoes have to do with the actual image because there does not seem to be much of a connection. Using oil paint on wood creates the impression that the painting is old; it fades away towards the bottom and the scratches in the wood are visible.

Gar Waterman, of New Haven, is the second artist whose work is displayed. Waterman is a sculptor who spent much of his career working with images in marble, but he abandoned this in favor of blowtorch artwork. His new "Tin Men" series examines the uneasy relationship between men and modern machines. Many of his sculptures feature a "Flying Man" in various poses. One is the "Flying Man (disc thrower)," constructed of stainless steel and shows a futuristic winged creature. He is perched on a ledge and looks as though he is about to leap off. The jagged edges and shiny steel give both a futuristic and primitive quality. This piece evokes the impression of a cold and mechanical future world that is awaiting humankind.

Another sculpture also featured the Flying Man, but this time he is shown as standing with one foot on stone and the other on steel. This serves to contrast natural stone and man-made steel. It was as if the creature was somehow torn between two worlds.

The artwork of Jay Seeley, a professor of art at Wesleyan University, is also on display with this exhibit. It contrasts sharply with the artwork of McKee and Waterman. Seeley makes digital prints that arrange real-life objects in narrative and illustrational compositions. Ink-jet printing, the technique employed by Seeley, is a very new printing process that is beginning to be used worldwide. His prints are of many different subjects, some of which are disturbing, while others are pleasing.

One disturbing print is "Visit of the Skellyman," which features an image of a red-eyed skeleton. There is an eye at the top of the print that is surrounded by white feathers. Another print, entitled "Gloria's Ledger," looks like the pages of a book. It has old-fashioned writing on one side, with clovers superimposed over the writing that are made to look as if they were in a transparent sheet. On the opposite page there are butterflies that look like they are taped onto the book. The overall impression of this painting is not disturbing, as the other one was, but is rather old-fashioned and naturalistic. Seeley's work did not seem to fit under the category of "re-formed" quite as well as the others, but it was interesting and well-done nonetheless.

The Alva Gallery is located at 311 State Street. "Reformed" will be on display from now until March 9. The Gallery is open Tuesday through Saturday, from 11am to 5pm. There will be a discussion with the artists about their creative process on March 2 at 5pm. Please call 860-437-8664 for more information.

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## ARTS &amp; ENTERTAINMENT

# Photo Exhibit Portrays Strength of Cubans at Lyman Allyn

By CHRISTINE DiCOMO

STAFF WRITER

The Lyman Allyn Art Museum is currently hosting a photography exhibit entitled "Cuba: In Black and White," featuring the work of Deborah Harse. A freelance photographer based in New York City, Harse has spent over ten years traveling by bicycle throughout Asia, Europe, Latin America, and North Africa taking photographs. The photos in this exhibit were taken on four separate bicycle trips through Cuba, in 1991, 1994, 1997, and 1998.

Harse explains that these photos are part of "a body of work on the theme of common denominators." She feels that the media often portrays Cuba and Cubans stereotypically, in ways that are designed to evoke pity. And while she acknowledges the daily hardships that Cubans face, she prefers to focus on their strength in overcoming these obstacles. She explains that "the perseverance and dignity that people exhibit in the face of adversity are among the highest of common denominators in human nature."



Deborah Harse's photographic series "Cuba: In Black and White" will be on exhibit at the Lyman Allyn Art Museum until April fourth (Harse)

These photographs show Cubans engaged in all aspects of daily life, and Harse hopes that they will leave the viewer "identifying with the strength [of the Cuban people] rather than pitying the struggle."

To this end, she has captured

images of Cubans at work and at play, in their homes, at street carnivals, and in nightclubs. Her decision to use black and white film lends an old-fashioned air to her photos while emphasizing the poverty of the surroundings. But even so, Harse is

very successful at portraying the dignity and resilience of her subjects. Photos of construction workers, fishermen, and taxi drivers at work are placed alongside pictures of street basketball games and families swimming in the ocean.

One series of photos from the Tropicana nightclub shows dancers in glitzy costumes, while several other photos show acrobats backstage at the circus. Many of these pictures look like they could have been taken in Las Vegas or Atlantic City, and placing them next to photos of impoverished neighborhoods and Cuban street carnivals creates a striking effect.

One of my favorite photos in this exhibit is entitled "Georgina's Cats II." In this photo, taken in a Cuban home, Harse uses the light coming in through a doorway to create an incredibly beautiful image, thus reminding us that there is beauty in the most unlikely places.

By documenting everyday occurrences, Harse makes it easy for the viewer to identify with her subjects. In one photo, a girl gets her hair and makeup done for her fifteenth birthday, and in another a group of children plays a circle game in the street. There are photographs of children at ballet class, men working out in a gym, and a church congregation gathered together. All these photos give a real

sense of what everyday life is like in modern Cuba.

With this exhibit, Deborah Harse has succeeded in inspiring admiration for, and respect of her subjects, rather than pity. Perhaps the best example of this is the photo entitled "Sharing." In this photograph, a young boy and girl are captured rollerblading in the street. However, they evidently have only one pair of rollerblades between them, so each child wears one rollerblade and one sneaker, and holds hands with the other for support.

The smiling children in this photograph are a wonderful representation of the ideas that Harse wants to share with her audience.

"Cuba: In Black and White" will be in the Miles and Hazlewood Galleries of the Lyman Allyn Art Museum through April 14th. The Museum is open Tuesday through Saturday from 10 AM to 5 PM, and Sunday from 1 to 5 PM. Admission costs \$4 for the general public, but is free to Connecticut College students.

## Oscars: And the Winner Is...We Do Not Know! But We Can Hope

By BEN MORSE

NEWS EDITOR

2001 was probably one of the best years for movies in terms of quality in recent memory, so it goes without saying that this year's Oscars will be both filled with deserving nominees and at the same time that some worthy films and people will be snubbed.

The nominees for the 74th annual Academy awards were announced Tuesday morning; the following is this writer, a rabid Oscar enthusiast's thoughts, predictions, and criticisms in regard to all the big categories.

The nominees for Best Supporting Actress are: Jennifer Connelly for *A Beautiful Mind*, Helen Mirren and Maggie Smith, both of *Gosford Park*, Marisa Tomei for *In The Bedroom*, and Kate Winslet for *Iris*. Of the five nominees, Connelly's movie was the only one I saw, but I don't think that will really hurt me here as I feel Connelly is practically a shue-in. The film she was in was one of two that tore through the categories (the other being *Lord of the Rings*) and she was one of the story's brightest spots in her breakthrough performance. The only threat I can possibly perceive is Tomei, who from all accounts I heard was fantastic in a great sleeper movie, but I think Connelly has this one wrapped up; no significant snubs here either from where I stand.

The nominees for Best Supporting Actor are: Jim Broadbent for *Iris*, Ethan Hawke for *Training Day*, Ben Kingsley for *Sexy Beast*, Ian McKellan for *Lord*

*of the Rings*, and Jon Voight for *Ali*. Perhaps a bit of a slight not to include *A Beautiful Mind*'s Ed Harris here, but I doubt the film's producers will complain. This is probably the most heated category is

ability to create movies that tug at the heartstrings, which he did again this year, while the second created perhaps the most realistic war film of all time. I tend to think Scott deserves it here, but my gut says

edgy for him to be considered. The only possible dark horse to take Crowe's throne here is the always-good Washington; I haven't seen his performance, but I've heard good things.



McKellan is the favorite, but Kingsley will be hard to overlook. I didn't see McKellan's performance, but I did see Kingsley's, and the intense character he creates is nothing short of phenomenal. Voight was one of few bright spots in his movie, but given his small part he's fortunate to even be nominated.

The nominees for Best Director are: Ron Howard for *A Beautiful Mind*, Ridley Scott for *Black Hawk Down*, Robert Altman for *Gosford Park*, Peter Jackson for *Lord of the Rings*, and David Lynch for *Mulholland Drive*. Two tremendous powerhouse choices here in Howard and Scott; the first is known for his

Howard will take it.

The nominees for Best Actor are: Russell Crowe for *A Beautiful Mind*, Sean Penn for *I Am Sam*, Will Smith for *Ali*, Denzel Washington for *Training Day*, and Tom Wilkinson for *In The Bedroom*. Another stacked category, but I don't foresee Crowe having much trouble repeating. I wish it would go another way, as I didn't think Crowe contributed nearly as much to *A Beautiful Mind* as the story and direction did, but his competition while good just isn't quite good enough. Smith did an extremely impression for about three hours, but an impression was all it is; Penn's role is probably too



The nominees for Best Actress are: Halle Berry for *Monster's Ball*, Dame Judi Dench for *Iris*, Nicole Kidman for *Moulin Rouge*, Sissy Spacek for *In The Bedroom*, and Renee Zellweger for *Bridget Jones's Diary*. I'd just like to say that I am the only person I know anywhere who like *Moulin Rouge*; in fact, I loved it! So the fact that it is nominated for Best Picture is a huge "I told you so" for me and for this reason I'm also pulling for Kidman here. I refuse to believe Berry could be Oscar-worthy in anything (especially after *X-Men*), with all due respect to the Dame, she has enough honors (she's a friggin' Dame), and

Zellweger...well, if she wins, I will weep like a boyfriend who has just been forced to sit through *Bridget Jones's Diary*. This all being said, Spacek will probably walk away with the win.

The nominees for Best Picture are: *A Beautiful Mind*, *Gosford Park*, *In The Bedroom*, *Lord of the Rings*, and *Moulin Rouge*. Sadly, I have only seen two of the five nominees this year, a sad step down from my five for five last year. This is a tough pick as I perceive this as a two-picture race between *A Beautiful Mind* and *Lord of the Rings* and I have only seen the former. Still, I'm fairly confident that *A Beautiful Mind* is going to win out here. For *Lord of the Rings* to win would be like if a Star Wars movie had won; no matter how good it was, sci-fi/fantasy adaptations with longtime cult followings and great visual effects simply don't have a great track record with an Academy of stuffy old men. Should *A Beautiful Mind* take the Oscar though, it will not be underservingly. It was a haunting, powerful movie that told a true story in a way that was surreal and entertaining as well as believable; Ron Howard did a great job and put together a fine film.

Now then...the snubs; I count three big ones. Brad Pitt's underplayed, but fantastic performance in *Ocean's Eleven* being overlooked for Best Supporting Actor is somewhat disappointing; along with George Clooney, Pitt brought a sense of cool back to the movies that has been missing for some time and every scene he was in was a winner. The exclusion of *Ocean's Eleven*, a brilliantly crafted movie with a fan-

tastic cast, altogether is to me a prime of example along with the next film I'll discuss for why the Academy should create a Best Ensemble Cast category.

The fact that Gene Hackman was not nominated for either Best Actor or Best Supporting Actor for his hilarious and quirky performance in *The Royal Tenenbaums* is truly bizarre. Hopefully that great film will see redemption in the Best Original Screenplay category (though it faces stiff competition in *Memento*).

But the biggest travesty of all: no Best Picture nomination for *Shrek*. This was the one movie that absolutely nobody disliked; all in all it was probably the best-reviewed movie of the year. It was clever, had great visuals and talented voice actors, and appealed to every age group with something for everybody. For it to be stuck in the joke category of Best Animated Feature Film with the likes of *Jimmy Neutron: Boy Genius* and *Monsters Inc.* is laughable. Were it rightfully nominated for the big one, it would be my choice, and I bet it would be America's as well.

It was indeed a great year for movies and it'll be fun to watch who wins at the big show. Hopefully Hollywood can put out a show entertaining enough to live up to the year that was in this year's Academy Awards.

## MOVIE TIMES

### Hoyts Waterford 9

Return to Never Land (G) Fri-Thu (12:10 2:25 4:40) 7:00 9:10  
Hart's War (R) Fri-Thu (12:30 3:35) 6:50 9:35  
Crossroads (PG-13) Fri-Thu (11:50 2:10 4:30) 7:10 9:30  
Rollerball (PG-13) Fri-Thu (11:55 2:20 4:50) 7:15 9:45  
Big Fat Liar (PG) Fri-Thu (11:45 2:00 4:15) 6:45 9:15  
I Am Sam (PG-13) Fri-Thu (12:00 3:10) 6:30 9:25  
The Count of Monte Cristo (PG-13) Fri-Thu 7:05 9:50  
A Walk to Remember (PG) Fri-Thu (12:05 2:30 4:55) 7:25 9:55  
Black Hawk Down (R) Fri-Thu (12:05 3:25) 6:40 9:40  
Snow Dogs (PG) Fri-Thu (11:40 2:05 4:35)

### Hoyts Groton 6

John Q (PG-13) Fri, Wed-Thu (3:00) 7:00 9:40, Sat-Tue

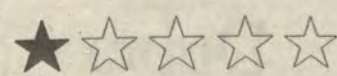
(12:15 3:00) 7:00 9:40  
Super Trooper (R) Fri, Wed-Thu (4:00) 7:10 9:35, Sat-Tue (1:00 4:00) 7:10 9:35  
Collateral Damage (R) Fri, Wed-Thu (3:15) 7:20 9:50, Sat-Tue (12:45 3:15) 7:20 9:50  
The Mothman Prophecies (PG-13) Fri, Wed-Thu (3:30) 6:50 9:20, Sat-Tue (12:30 3:30) 6:50 9:20  
Snow Dogs (PG) Fri, Wed-Thu (4:45) 7:05 9:30, Sat-Tue (12:10 2:30 4:45) 7:05 9:30  
The Lord of the Rings: The Fellowship of the Ring Fri, Wed-Thu (3:45) 7:45, Sat-Tues (12:20 3:45) 7:45

### Hoyts Mystic 3

A Beautiful Mind (PG-13) Fri, Tue-Thu (3:30) 6:35 9:30, Sat-Mon (12:30 3:30) 6:35 9:30  
Gosford Park (R) Fri, Tue-Thu (3:15) 6:25 9:20, Sat-Mon (12:15 3:15) 6:25 9:20  
In the Bedroom (R) Fri, Tue-Thu (3:45) 6:50 9:35, Sat-Mon (12:45 3:45) 6:50 9:35

## Kidman's Birthday Is Not Worth Celebrating

### Birthday Girl



Rated: R

Length: 1 hours 33 minutes

Starring: Nicole Kidman, Ben Chaplin

Directed by: Jez Butterworth

Summary: Kidman's risky decisions run afoul of a poor script

By TIM STEVENS

EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

The best that one can say about *Birthday Girl* is that unlike other terrible movies, *Pearl Harbor* for example, this one will result in you losing only about an hour and 15 minutes of your life that you will never get back. There just is not much to compliment beyond that.

In the movie, lonely bank clerk John Buckingham (Chaplin) gives up on dating and instead decides to place his future intimacy prospects in the hands of an online Russian bride service. His choice, Nadia (Kidman), arrives speaking only

Russian despite that all of the letters John received from her were written in excellent English. John calls the service to return her with no success and eventually gives up. Shortly after throwing in the towel, Nadia's cousin Alexei and his associate Yuri (French actors Vincent Cassel and Mathieu Kassovitz) arrive on John's doorstep to help Nadia celebrate her birthday and to take over John's guest room.

For most people, by now, all sorts of warning bells should be going off. John, however, seems only minimally concerned and vaguely jealous of Yuri. I suppose having all your kinky sex fantasies fulfilled by Kidman will cause that sort of reaction in a guy (okay, so maybe that is not so unbelievable.)

The plot continues on from there in a manner that will surprise no one, nor will its faux-redeeming ending.

Kidman, Cassel, and Kaasovitz do a fine job speaking Russian, but the moment they attempt to speak English with a Russian accent it all falls apart. Their accents are not bad, just inconsistent. Chaplin embodies sad sack John well enough, but the character is too unlikeable to make you care, no



matter how well played he is.

That is, in fact, the biggest problem with the movie. None of the character elicit any sort of emotion from the audience. The aforementioned John is little more than pathetic, and occasionally, perverse. Nadia is amoral and even a later revelation of her condition (hint: she vomits a lot, especially in the morning), does little to flesh her out. Alexei and Yuri are little more than caricatures.

What prevents me from giving this movie no stars at all? In all fairness there are a few laughs, provided by John in his clueless stage and

the later slap fight between himself and Nadia after all has been revealed. Additionally, the fact that Kidman continues to prove that she has the guts to make unconventional movies is certainly a laudable one. That said, she can choose far better movies (and has) to show her willingness to experiment. The short running time stretches on forever, and none of the plot twists fail to be telegraphed at least fifteen minutes before they happen.

Avoid this one at all costs. It is not even worth seeing to mock.



# J-Board's Honor Code Survey Produces Favorable Results

By DANIEL JARCHO

STAFF WRITER

The Identifying Honor Committee, a student-run committee created by Connecticut College's Student Government Association, recently compiled the results of the honor code survey conducted last semester.

The results show that there is a strong sense among students of what is considered honorable and dishonorable according to the standards of the honor code, which is central to the College's academic and social philosophy.

The survey showed the degree to which the honor code is upheld on campus. While 40 percent of all the students who responded claim never to have broken the Honor Code, nearly half, 49.4 percent, admit to having broken the code 1-5 times. The remaining 10% admitted to having broken the code more than 5 times.

In reaction to these statistics, Judiciary Board Chairman John Franks '04 said, "The impression that I get from these results is that students take academic honor very seriously on campus, but when it comes to the social aspects of the honor code, the attitude seems to be, 'just don't get caught.'"

Ideally, the survey would have been completed by every member of the student body, but fewer than 1000 responses were received. Although the Honor Code outlines a set of rules

and violations in both academic and social settings, students generally responded that they would choose loyalty to friends over adhering strictly to each and every rule in the Honor Code.

"Our initial goal for conducting the survey was to get a communal sense of honor throughout the campus," said Lyman Smith '03, a member of the Identifying Honor Committee. "The next step in the process, depending on our success, will be to translate the results of the survey into some sort of honor code education."

The first question on the survey asks students how they define honor. More than two-thirds of the students agreed that honor is "living in a way that encourages [people] to take responsibility for themselves and is respectful of others in their community." In opposition, only four percent of respondents agreed with the statement that honor is "following all the rules of a community."

When asked whether they would turn in friends and acquaintances for honor code violations, students' responses were very consistent with the above results. The survey questioned students' opinions of nine different violations according to the Honor Code including underage drinking, illegal drug use, possession of candles/incense, discussion of self-scheduled exams with classmates, vandalism, theft, assault, and bringing notes to unproctored exams. Out of all nine violations, in only three cases did 50% or more students respond that they would turn in an

acquaintance.

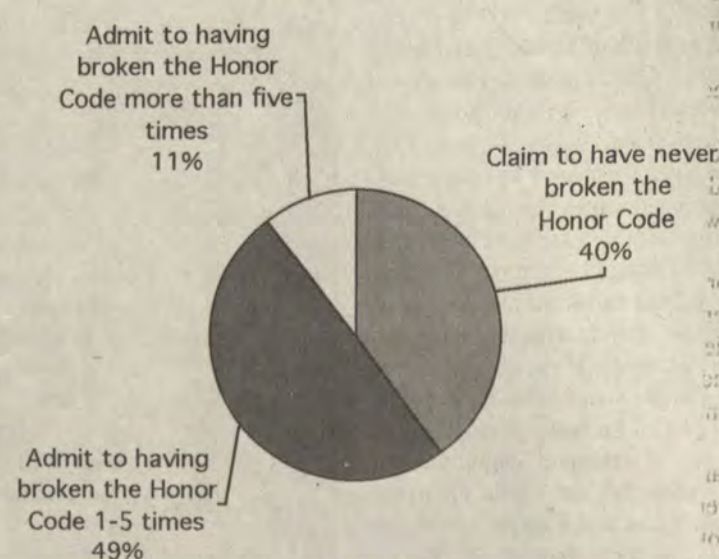
The only categories in which a significant percentage of students responded that they would turn in a friend for an honor code violation were theft and assault, with affirmative responses from 60.2% and 74.6% of students, respectively.

"I was kind of surprised by these results," said Smith in response to these numbers, "but I guess it is understandable that students would be loyal to their friends in most cases."

Another set of questions included in the survey asked which code violations students would actually consider dishonorable. In seven out of the nine categories, 50% or more respondents considered the violation dishonorable. Even more impressive was the fact that 85% or more students responded favorably in five out of the nine categories.

"It is good to see that the student body as a whole has a pretty good sense of what is considered honorable according to our Code," said Smith. "The next step for the [Identifying Honor] committee is to use the results and possibly integrate honor code discussion into the academic curriculum. We might try to create a course in ethics and honor which could be team taught, or taught by deans of the college, or maybe even make this sort of education part of the General Education curriculum. We are really open right now and just beginning to formulate ideas."

## How well is the Honor Code upheld?



Other results showed that in seven out of nine categories, less than 50% of students surveyed would turn in a friend who broke the honor code. 60.2% would turn in a friend for theft and 74.6% for assault.

## First Step Taken Towards New Life Science Building Keeps College on Master Plan

By ELIZABETH KNORR

STAFF WRITER

A proposal for a planning grant for a new life science building was submitted late last month. The submission of this grant proposal marks the first step towards the construction of a new life science building in accordance with the college's two-year-old master plan.

In late January, the Development Office shared a draft of a grant proposal with a possible funder.

"For the building itself we haven't started anything yet. Right now we're only at the planning stages," explained Naima Gherbi, Director of Corporate, Foundations & Government Relations.

According to Gherbi, a reply to this initial grant proposal must be received before other possible funders will be approached with grant proposals.

As with any campus improvement projects, the major obstacle is financing. The

cost of programming for the new building is estimated at around fifty to sixty thousand dollars, and the building itself will have a price tag in the broad range around \$15 million.

"The money we asked for in grant will aid us to hire a science building programmer," said Stephen George, Manager of Planning, Design and Construction for the college.

The programmer is responsible for creating documents that will outline such factors as the site, the picture, and the cost of a new building. It is only once these documents are created that the Development Office can begin to seek funds for the actual construction of the building.

The construction of a new life science building is part of the first of three groups of initiatives outlined in the 15-year master plan. The plan was created for the college by Philadelphia architectural planning firm Kiernan, Timberlake, and Harris two years ago. Other major initiatives in this first

group included library renovations and the purchase of the Williams School.

Since the creation of the plan, it has been decided that the purchase of Williams School is not financially viable, but the Library renovations have begun.

"What drives the priorities is who has got the money," said George.

The building of a new life sciences facility plays a large role in the campus's master plan for improvement. George emphasizes that "there is a tremendous amount of activity going on" right now to improve the campus, albeit on a smaller scale.

How soon the life science building will be constructed depends upon when foundations, private donors, and corporate donors will come forward with money. At present, college trustees mandate that the completion of work on the Plex is the top priority for funds. However, said George, "if someone decides that they want to give money specifically to a life sciences building, it'll happen."

"That building is the enabling project" for other buildings, explained George. Once a new life science building is constructed, there will be enough room for relocation, so that some of the older buildings on campus, such as New London Hall and Bill Hall, can be vacated for renovation. The space provided by a new facility is essential.

Most life sciences are currently taught in New London Hall, which is one of the oldest buildings on campus.

"Modern Science is somewhat difficult to do in an old building," said Page Owen, Professor of Botany, and the current head of the new building initiative. "To be able to expand into more lab-based technology is difficult in the current building."

Along with the move into a new building, the life science departments plan to make changes to their curriculum. With the aim of creating a multidisciplinary facility, the department intends the new building to house the Zoology, Botany, Mathematics, and Computer Sciences departments.

No definite decisions as to the location or architecture of the building have been made yet. The initial master plan indicates a plot along Route 32 between Olin and Hale for the building site, however this is liable to change. The new building will be designed as a "green building" with features that will not harm the environment.

The building committee of faculty, staff, and students is not yet finalized. However, Owen indicated that preparations for the planning of the building are being made. There will be scheduled visitations of science buildings at other colleges, as well as interviews with programming firms to help with the initial planning.

In November, four faculty members attended a workshop in Pennsylvania to learn about the National Science Association's approach to science buildings.

## Students Observe History with *A Question of Color*

By BRIAN SERINO

STAFF WRITER

On Monday, February 11th Umoja sponsored a screening of the film *A Question of Color*, followed by a discussion. As part of a series of events planned to celebrate black history month, the film explored African-American identity and self-image. The event took place in the 1941 room in Crozier-Williams before an audience of students, faculty, and administration, as well as members of the New London community.

Written and directed by Kathe Sandler, *A Question of Color* has won critical acclaim, and Sandler received the Guggenheim Award for Independent Filmmaker of the Year. She produced the film in 1992 to "see how self-image is influenced by power, racism, and white supremacy."

The film tells the personal stories of the residents of Tuskegee Alabama and Brooklyn New York, and examines both how they view themselves and each other. The film focuses on racial differences in skin pigmentation, hair texture, and nose shape, among others, and covers

the spectrum of class, age, sex, and lifestyle differences.

In provocative and eye-opening scenes, Sandler exposes the audience to some of the conflicts facing the African-American community today. Actual footage of the 1960s is edited in throughout the film to underscore social change in the past four decades. The film also examines conflicts specific to women.

"One of the goals of this film was to show how these issues disproportionately affect women," said Sandler.

Sandler attempts to shed light not only on racial discrimination, but on gender discrimination as well.

Following the screening, Sandler led a discussion of the questions raised by the film. As participants in the discussion came from a range of cultures and backgrounds, several viewpoints were represented. Parts of the discussion focused on how social pressures personally affected members in attendance.

Reflecting on personal experiences while citing pop culture, the crowd reaffirmed Sandler's belief that mainstream society has a profound influence on the self images of minority groups.

## Cabrini Develops Crocker House

continued from page 1

buildings until a developer is found for them. Connecticut College Vice President for Finance Paul Maroni is confident that if the deal with College Street is approved by the city of New London it will lead to the other three buildings being developed.

"This is a vote of confidence from a developer who is sophisticated and has a good reputation," said Maroni, "David Nyberg's experience will go a long way in attracting other developers."

College Street proposes to make the first floor of Crocker House into commercial property and the remaining floors apartments. The college is fully supportive of Cabrini's talks with College Street and hopes they progress smoothly.

"The college serves only as a consultant to Cabrini, we do not own the buildings or any part of them," said Maroni, "We have faith in Cabrini and we think they are approaching this situation in a positive way."

## Nobel Nominee To Speak at Conn

continued from page 1

My Heart Laid Bare; The Collector of Hearts, Gothic short stories; and New Plays, all in 1998; Man Crazy (1997) Double Delight (1997); We Were the Mulvaney (1996); Tenderness (1996); Will You Always Love Me? And Other Short Stories by Joyce Carol Oates (1996); and Zombie, a bold and thrilling exploration into the life and mind of a serial killer (1995).

A novella, First Love, was also published in 1996. Come Meet Muffin!, a children's book, was published in 1998. Black Water was nominated for a National Book Critics Circle Award and the Pulitzer Prize.

In January 2001, We Were the Mulvaney was selected as an Oprah Book of the Month.

Oates is also a playwright whose

plays have been performed widely in the United States and abroad. She has been involved with creative writing and theater students and with student productions and readings of her plays at Northwestern University, the University of Pennsylvania, Williams College, Brown University and the Los Angeles Theatre Academy. Her plays have been collected in Twelve Plays, The Perfectionist and Other Plays and New Plays (1998). She also wrote the libretto for an opera made of her novel Black Water.

Recent works of poetry include "The Time Traveller" and "The Invisible Woman."

Born in upstate New York in 1938, Oates received her Bachelor of Arts degree from Syracuse University in 1960 and her Master's Degree in arts from the University of Wisconsin in 1961.

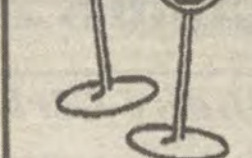
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# Students Propose News Magazine

By CATTY GREELEY  
STAFF WRITER

Two Connecticut College students have proposed the creation of a new student magazine for the campus community.

Lauren Harris, '05 and Lauren Mitchell, '03 have fond memories of a student magazine that they worked on together at their high school in San Diego, CA. Feeling the college lacks a forum for students' opinions and a place for newsworthy, though not necessarily news-breaking items, they conceived of their idea.

They hope to model the publication after The New York Times Magazine, and intend that it will complement other publications on campus. It will contain news briefs, but generally the entire magazine will be more student-focused, creative, and representative of the student body.

Feature stories will be a main focus of the magazine. Harris and Mitchell hope to cover different types of events on campus, especially the ones that go overlooked.

The two girls feel that many of the students' and faculty's achievements and accomplishments of the campus go unnoticed, and they hope to change that.

Their idea calls for a publication "by the students, for the students," with ample opportunity for students to contribute. A literary arts component will be most instrumental in promoting the exchange of thoughts and ideas. In addition, issues of importance within the college and locally, nationally, and internationally will be addressed. An open-to-the-community opinions section is another feature the girls hope to incorporate.

The main purpose of the news magazine is to accurately reflect the school and the Connecticut College environment. These two students hope that the college community will improve as information becomes more readily available, and as ideas are expressed more freely.

The magazine, unnamed as of yet, is still in its preliminary stages. If it is funded by the SGA, Harris and Mitchell hope to get the first issue off the ground sometime in March. They are looking to meet anyone interested in becoming involved. Call either x 4962 or x4877 for more information.

# Lady Camels Prepare for One Season's End While Looking Onward to the Next

*continued from page 8*

girls for their dedication and perseverance....these underclassmen are the key to this program's future."

With a disappointing past behind them, the women from this year's squad are looking only to the future.

As Emily Carroll '03 stated, "We're hoping to close out this season strong, and hopefully it will carry on to next year."

In their game last Tuesday, the women showed their ability to focus on the future; their play in the second half against the Coast Guard Academy was drastically stronger than in the first half.

As tri-captain Margaret Guernsey '03 commented, "We played a much better second half. We came out flat [in the first half], but then came out after half time with greater intensity."

The Camels actually outscored the Bears in the second half, though Coast Guard ultimately won the game 78-58.

The women are looking forward to walking out onto the court to open up 2002-2003 with greater intensity than they did this season. While they know they must remain focused on their last two games this weekend, both at home against NESCAC teams (Bates on Friday and Tufts on



Barbara Silk '05 is a key member of the young Lady Camels, who lose only one member at the conclusion of this season.

Saturday), the women's goals are, for the most part, long-term.

"We are staying optimistic about our future," Guernsey explained. "It will be a different season next year.

Next year we aren't losing as many juniors abroad, and the younger players will be returning. We will

all start together."

The team is only losing one senior, Kennedy, who will be honored at their final home game against Tufts on Saturday. Kennedy was a member of the team for 4 seasons and was captain for her last two.

Kennedy reflected, "I am struggling with my supposed career coming to a close ... yet I have not even played one game this season. This has been one of the hardest situations for me to deal with, but the players and coaches have been so supportive throughout everything and they have allowed me to still feel like I hold an important role on this team. I am going to miss these girls immensely, and although I was unable to compete alongside them this season, I can say that I could not have asked for a better group of girls to end my career with."

But, unfortunately for Kennedy, all good things must come to an end. For Kennedy, that will be this weekend, as the Lady Camels try to close out their season on a high note this Friday night against Bates and Saturday afternoon against Tufts.

# After Solid Start, Men's Hockey Must Now Win

*continued from page 8*

and the fact that the team was now heading into the more difficult part of their schedule were all factors that added to the Camels mid-season demise.

However, the Camels are now getting back to where they need to be, after going unbeaten in four of their last six games. Says Coleman: "We struggled for a bit. But, we've got it back together, and about three weeks ago we started clicking as a team again. We just had to get back into shape."

But, quite frankly, none of that matters now. It no longer matters how well the Camels played in the first half of the season as compared to the second half. Or which players are injured and which players are filling in, because if Conn cannot come out of this Friday's game against the fourth ranked Trinity Bantams with a W, then it is all over. Needing a seventh place ranking in the NESCAC or better to make the playoffs, the Camels (currently ranked eight with a 5-8-4 record in the NESCAC, 9-9-4 overall) need to make up a two-point

deficit to the seventh place Jeffs. Having already beaten the Bantams once this season (4-1 in the Spurrier Tourney), a win and a playoff berth is a very likely possibility. "We have to go into Trinity believing we're not going to take anything less than a win," says Rogowin. "Whatever we face, we are going to overcome."

However, it does not end with the Bantams. The Camels would then have to face the same task again on Saturday night at the CamelDome where they would match up with the ninth-ranked Wesleyan Cardinals. Again they will be at home. Again they will be facing a team that they beat in the Spurrier (7-2). And again the Camels will need nothing short of a victory to keep the skates sharp and the golf clubs in the closet. However, the captain has no fear that his team will be ready to play this weekend, regardless of their troubles of late. Says Coleman, "We know the situation we're in, and we're hungry for a playoff spot. We'll show up ready for this weekend."

sharp.

Wilson's name is the result of a family naming contest. A former family pet, a beagle, was named Willis, after Willis Reed, a center for the Knicks in the 70's. Wilson's name is a contraction of "Willis' son," a tribute to the beloved beagle.

But don't think that Wilson is a New York sympathizer. Fainstein and Wilson watched the Superbowl together, and Wilson rooted heartily

for the Patriots.

"He decided to root for the Patriots," explained Fainstein, "because they were the underdogs."

Wilson's honesty and thoughtfulness provide a good example for the student body. Like the students, Wilson lives up to an honor code. He also works out several times a day and is a vegan.

"We share a lot of intellectual concerns," said Fainstein, "We have

# Men's B-Ball Consider Final Games Tune Up for Tourney

By DAVID BYRD  
STAFF WRITER

"I guarantee that we come home this weekend with two victories," says a confident Mizan Ayers '02.

This weekend, the Camels will travel to Bates and Tufts to play their final two regular season NESCAC games. Although they do not need to sweep this weekend's games to clinch a first-round home playoff game, it would be nice to have the Camels peaking as they head into the postseason.

We haven't had our best game yet," declares senior forward Dave Brown, "but when we do, we'll be unbeatable." Lucky for those teams that have already faced Connecticut when they were not at their best.

Last Friday, the Camels traveled to Trinity to take on their cross-state rivals. Supported by a rowdy crowd of Conn students, the team managed to take it down to the wire before falling just short in the last few seconds. Admittedly, the Camels did not play well, but even so, according to Head Coach Lynn Ramage, the Camels can feel confident that

"Trinity does not want to see us again."

The large Conn crowd was noticeable. "We really appreciate the support of the fans," says Ramage. Indeed, several times during the game the Conn crowd managed to drown out the Trinity cheerleaders with their own Connecticut College chants. Senior guard Vaidas Nutautus adds, "It is very comforting to have so many people care about the team. It means a lot and gets us to play harder."

On Saturday, the Camels returned home to face Amherst in a very important NESCAC game. It was the emotional "senior day" for the men, and they did not disappoint. Coming into the game, they were tied with Amherst for fourth place in the league. The Camels ended the day in sole possession of fourth place after a 73-66 victory. Ayers led the way with fifteen points, senior guard Leland McKenna poured in thirteen, and senior forward Rich Futia and junior forward Travis Reid each added eleven.

A strong defense in the second half held Amherst to 9 of 22 shoot-

ing from the field. "It was the biggest win of our season," says Futia. "It was the first must-win game and we came out on top. It shows a lot about the character of our team."

Overall, the Camels seem to be stepping it up and improving at the right time of the year. "Last weekend was a great weekend," according to junior guard Joe Tremblay. "We didn't play our best game against Trinity, but the effort was there. Against Amherst, the effort was there again and things came together."

As for this weekend, Conn will face the two teams that bookend the Camels in the standings. The Camels will take on Bates College, currently in third place, on Friday night, and then Tufts, who is ranked fifth, on Saturday. Conn does not need to win either to get into the post-season; they are already assured a spot in the NESCAC Tourney. However, any points that the Camels can get out of the Bobcats and Jumbos will improve their chances of a home playoff game.

# Will '02 Season Mirror '98?

*continued from page 8*

Vaidas Nutautus:

Nutautus, starting shooting guard for the Camels, came to the United States from his native Lithuania at the age of sixteen. He spent five months at the New York Redemption Christian Academy where he played basketball with current Los Angeles Clippers star Lamar Odom. He then transferred to New Canaan High School here in Connecticut before continuing in a post-graduate program at Loomis Chaffee.

One of the most memorable events for Nutautus was making it to the Final Four his freshman year. He also cites his first dunk as another favorite basketball memory. "It was before I was even six feet tall," he says, "and I worked and worked at it. When I did dunk, it was like a dream come true."

Vaidas is planning to stay in the United States for awhile. He is an Economics major and wants to use the skills he has learned to work for an investment company or something related in New York City.

Rich Futia:

Since the sixth grade, Futia has been making life miserable for his basketball opponents. Ramage calls him the "all-around most versatile player in the league." His ability to make jump shots allows him to choose whether to post up his opponent or shoot the ball over his head.

He starts at forward and is one of Conn's three captains on the team this season. Like many of the other seniors, his favorite memory is of

making the Final Four as a freshman. His biggest challenge was setting goals for himself and the team and attempting to improve every year, which he has.

Futia is an Economics major from Greenwich, Connecticut, and he plans to work in either sports finance or sports marketing. This will combine his liberal arts background with his love of sports. Besides dominating the basketball court, Futia enjoys making fun of his teammate McKenna.

Leland McKenna:

McKenna is the fourth remaining member of the team that went to the Final Four. Although he had to fight for playing time in his first few seasons on the team, he is now and established starter for the Camels.

He has been playing basketball since the age of five and would like to continue playing recreationally in the future. Looking back on his career, he points to the Connecticut College crowds as his favorite part of playing. Says McKenna: "Everybody tells us that we have the best fans in the NESCAC."

McKenna is also an Economics major, but is not sure what he wants to do after graduation yet. He is not worried about that yet, he just wants to keep playing good basketball. Interestingly enough, one of McKenna's favorite pastimes is to make fun of Futia.

Pete Nash:

Pete Nash is a native of Silver Spring, Maryland, and is double majoring in Environmental Studies and Anthropology. Although he has had to compete with other guards,

including Ayers, for playing time, he has been making an impact off the bench. "I don't hesitate to put him in," says Ramage. "I see him working hard everyday and he proved he could play."

Nash was cut from the team in his freshman and sophomore years, but after studying away in Kenya last fall, he decided to give basketball one more shot. "It has always been my dream to play ball. I just want to be part of the guys in one way or another, whether I get a lot of playing time or not." And as Ramage points out, "he earned his spot on the team. I didn't keep him, he earned it."

Dave Brown:

Dave Brown does not have a favorite basketball memory at Conn just yet. He is looking forward, he says, "to winning at Trinity," and "cutting the nets down at Trinity this year in the playoffs."

Since he started making basketball a priority in tenth grade, Brown has become the big man on the court. "There is no answer for Dave Brown," declares Ramage. And as this season has progressed, it is obvious that there are very few people who can stop him.

Brown came to Conn in the middle of last year and met up with former high school buddy Ayers, who first introduced him to the school, for which Brown is grateful.

"I just want to send my love to my parents, to Coach, and to Mizan," he says. They are the reason why he is here waiting to cut down the nets at Trinity in a few weeks.

# Swimming Shifts Focus To NESCAC

*continued from page 8*

that meet."

The women ended with a performance consistent with their record and were quite satisfied that they performed to the best of their ability, the final score putting Connecticut College up 150 to 93. So, as they say, all's well that ends well, and these kids ended well.

"I think we can all look back on this year's season and feel good. I mean, even for the guys- them making it to 500- that's a big deal. And for us, we were virtually undefeated. That is so good- no one can remember the last time it happened," noted sophomore superstar Krissy Helb.

What's next for these all-stars? NESCAC is just

around the corner. The women will swim at Williams College on February 22nd through the 24th, and the men will return to Wesleyan once again March 1st through the 3rd. No matter what the final outcome of these competitions is, all can agree, the season's been a success and the future is bright for these impressive athletes.

"One of the most important things that came out of our meet against Wesleyan wasn't just a win. We did it as a team, just as we have all season," said sophomore Lisa Bartels. "How could our season come to a better close than that? The boys didn't win, but they did all right. They swam well, and that's all that's really important in the end anyway."

# Woody Spices Up Your Workouts

*continued from page 8*

that those around him feel as though they are going to fall through to the Gordon pool's locker rooms.

Which leads me to another big (no pun intended) issue: the tight, skimpy clothing. No, the little blue briefs you may have endured are not silk panties made by Victoria's Secret; they are called groove briefs,

and are manufactured by a company named Inzer. And yes, they do serve a purpose (other than style of course). The groove briefs, as well as all of the other tight polyester

clothes Phil has donned in our gym serve a purpose; the tight polyester, canvas, or double-layered denim apparel serves to restrict movement in such a way that they actually provide a spring-like effect to help move the weights.

I'll stick with my extra-large Conn College sweatpants, thank you.

We closed our meeting with a shaking of hands. He had done much of the talking and answered every question I could have possibly considered, except for one, "So Phil,

when you were looking into Conn, did you take the time to check out our weight room to see what you were getting yourself into?"

Though I expected he might tell me he could make the best of just about any weight room, and proceed to talk about what he would do if he were given \$10,000 to renovate the small one we have here on campus, "no" was his answer.

I might have figured.

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## SPORTS

# Spicing Up After Tale of Two Seasons, Men's Hockey Must Win Workouts

By MATT PRESTON

SPORTS EDITOR

When I last left you two weeks ago, we were spending some quality time together in the fitness center-of-the-universe. Well, whether your muscles still ache from last time or not, we are going back for more.

As the world spun rapidly around me and both reps and sweat poured out slowly, I completely overlooked one of the most interesting groups on campus. It is the group of four or five athletes, mostly throwers on our track team, whose weight-lifting practices use more toys than the Spice Channel (not that I would know.) Their use of giant rubber bands and heavy chains is creative, to

say the least, and left me looking for more information.

So, I went straight to the top of the Bench Bunch and sought out Phil Najemy, the gang's fearless leader, in hopes of clarifying the average treadmill's queries.

Meeting me in the student center on a weeknight, two days before Valentine's Day, Phil looked unassuming in his fleece vest and heart-patterned, red-flannel pajama pants. He is long-winded and energetic; you would be too if you were 5'9", 220lbs, and could bench press 330 pounds, squat 525, and deadlift 575. He is a 21 year-old Junior transfer from Springfield College, who came to Conn seeking a better English department.

Along with him, he brought weight-lifting techniques you have to see to believe. At Springfield he played football, rugby, and track. Here, having turned down an offer from our undefeated football program, he opts only to throw heavy weights very far, and to concentrate on his one true love: Power-Lifting.

Ah, power-lifting... One sport that needs me as little as I need it. A sport where the idea is to bench press, squat, and deadlift as much total weight as possible in one afternoon is not for me, unless it is on PlayStation. You can count me out.

But Phil loves it, and he has been power-lifting since he was 16 years old and entered his first competition, held at a New Hampshire state prison. He was disqualified from that competition because he could not bench press enough weight.

That day is long since passed, however, and to ensure that he never feels the shame of being DQ'd again, he has continued his training, always pushing himself harder, working out up to 14 times per week. Looking to improve, he purchased a subscription to Power Lifting Magazine, the Power-Lifter's monthly Bible, and reads it religiously. Mostly because of the magazine's tutorials and phone calls with the staff at the West Side Barbell Club in Columbus, Ohio (run by Louie Simmons, a regular contributor to the magazine), Phil ditched the American, heavier-slower-stronger method in favor of the old Soviet "explosion" technique.

The Soviet technique is, in weakling's terms, designed to trick your muscles into moving as fast as they can through elaborate exercises that involve the resistance of kinky rubber bands and chains. The bands and chains are both designed to increase resistance as the bar moves further away from the ground. Fun, eh?

To the Squat Squad it is. That is why Phil is currently training, not only for the indoor track season, but also for an upcoming national power-lifting tournament sponsored by USA Power-Lifting, an International Power-Lifting Federation affiliate. Phil does not anticipate winning this national tournament, but he is hoping to make his presence felt, much like he does here in our campus's cozy weight room. Only to make his presence felt there, he is going to need to do more than just wear tight, skimpy clothing and drop weights so heavy

Regardless of how little press they've gotten since the beginning of the season, Connecticut College does have a men's hockey team, and for those of you that don't bleed Camel blue or religiously follow your team, they ain't half bad. After a strong 7-3-2 start in 2001, however, the men's pucksters are now sitting at the .500 mark, facing a must-win weekend in a two-game home stand this Friday and Saturday night. In order to have any shot at the playoffs, the Camels will have to beat both Trinity and Wesleyan, and hope for losses by the Lord Jeffs from Amherst in their remaining two games.

The Camels' regular season exceeded expectations from the start. After dropping the season opener to Norwich in mid-November, men's hockey won their next three games to become kings of the 2001 Spurrier Tournament. The tournament win, and their tenacious play helped Conn to dominate throughout the first half of their schedule. "We refused to lose attitude in the first half," says forward Adam Rogowin '03. "We were more of a banging and grinding team, playing tough blue collar hockey.



After a quick start, men's hockey finds itself in a must-win situation as the season winds down.

Everyone was on the same page."

This attitude and fierce play were two of the Camels' biggest keys to success in the first half. However, another factor has been the strong play of the team's freshman class. Along with team leading scorer and

fourth leading scorer in the NESCAC, Pete Hanlon (16 goals, 17 assists) leading the 2005 squad, the freshman have made important contributions on both sides of the puck. Not only do two of the team's top four scorers belong to the fresh-

man class, Hanlon and Dave Moccia, but so do the team's two top goaltenders, Steven Oven and Joe Anderson.

"Our freshman class is really incredible," says Co-Captain Matt Coleman '02 on the younger play-

ers. "We didn't really expect much coming into the season. We knew we had some good goalies, but as far as forwards and defensemen go, they've helped us out a great deal ... This freshman class is going to be the foundation of this program for years to come."

Then it happened. Even though the Camels had played superbly in the first half, they fell apart in the second half of the season. After going 2-1-1 in their first four games back after being idle for a month during Winter Break, Conn went into a tailspin after squandering a three goal, first period lead to the Massachusetts College of Liberal Arts. The Camels would lose this, as well as the next three games, and six of the next ten. It was a different team that took the ice in the second half of the season. "We didn't play with the confidence that we had played with in the fall semester," says Rogowin. "We hadn't mentally prepared ourselves for the new semester."

They had gained a high level of confidence in themselves from the beginning of the season. This overconfidence, combined with the month long drought that the Camels were not mentally prepared to face,

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## Lady Camels Prepare for Final Weekend

By BONNIE PROKESCH

STAFF WRITER

With only two games left on their schedule, the Connecticut College Women's Basketball Team is getting ready to close their 2001-2002 season.

While the season has not been one of many wins (in fact, to date the team's record is 1-18), it has been one of many gains. "The team has improved by leaps and bounds throughout the season," head coach Laura Hungerford remarks, "even though it doesn't show up in the win-loss column."

The women have gained the ability to work together, play hard, and stay optimistic after continuous

losses in 2001-2002.

"We have established a great foundation to build from. The Camels saw an influx of new talent who made immediate contributions, and the juniors returned from being abroad to add the needed experience for the NESCAC games. As the season wore on I could see the confidence levels getting higher, and we have come a long way since the beginning of the season," Hungerford added.

Many of the players on the team have also improved individually this past season. As Hungerford explained, "Erin Shields is the only Camel to average in double figures at 11.6 points per game, Mollie Gage leads the team in rebounding

averaging 7 per game, and Mary Bushnell leads the team in assists and 3 point percentage (57%)."

Tri-captain Kacie Kennedy '02, who was injured in the first game of the season and has been unable to play all season, described the positive attitude and hard work her teammates have exhibited throughout the season.

"The girls have never stopped working hard," Kennedy said, "despite their frustration with how the season has gone. It is definitely hard to stay motivated when the wins aren't coming, but now as someone from the outside looking in, I have a lot of respect for these

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Mizan Ayers is one of six seniors who are trying to relive their freshman season.

## Men's Basketball Seniors Try to Relive Dream of 1998

By DAVID BYRD

STAFF WRITER

For six guys on the Connecticut College men's basketball team, there is more of a sense of urgency than usual. "We can see the finish line," says senior forward Dave Brown, "and we don't want to get there yet. We have a vision of a storybook ending and we can't wait to get it. It is time for it to happen again." The "it" that Brown is referring to is the storied season that the Camels had four years ago when they reached the Final Four of the NCAA Division III Tournament and lost only one game the entire season.

Mizan Ayers, Rich Futia, Vaidas Nutautus, and Leland McKenna were all members of that team. Brown and guard Pete Nash are newer additions to the Camels and are working as hard as possible, like all of the seniors, to help create another fairy-tale ending.

"Mizan, even when he is not healthy is the best point guard in the league," says Camels Head Coach Lynn Ramage. Not only is Ayers one of the best players in the league, but he is also one of the best players in school history. Some of his achievements on the court include: Rookie of the Year in 1998, all-time assist leader, 12th on the all-time scoring list (and counting), and first-team All-NESCAC honors.

Born and raised in the Bronx, Ayers started his athletic career competing in track and field. From the age of nine until he started playing basketball at thirteen, Ayers ran the 100 and 200-meter dash. From age thirteen on, basketball has been Ayers' focus. In high school, his team, to which Brown and former teammate Aubrey Hodges also belonged, won the State Title his junior year. Ayers graduated from the Dwight School having scored just under 1,000 career points.

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## Swimmers, Divers Forget Final Meet, Focus on NESCAC

By NORA MIRICK

STAFF WRITER

In sports like swimming and diving, there is more to a season than personal records and individual races. A player's season is filled with both wins and losses, and finding a balance between the two is the key to overall success. It is called consistency: the ability to perform at a stable and predictable level. And that is what the Camel swimmers provided Monday night in their meet against Wesleyan. Considering it was the last meet of the regular season for both the men's and women's squads, everyone hoped for a good showing before entering into championship competition.

"We weren't particularly concerned about this meet," said Abbi Miles '02 of the contest against Wesleyan. "We felt relatively confident that we would do well, so our main goal was just to continue doing what we've been doing all season."

And continue they did. The women jumped into the lead after the first event of the meet, and never

fell behind after that.

"Everyone swam well, but that was to be expected I suppose. People have been swimming so well all season that I would have been surprised if we hadn't kept it up," said Senior Jenna Beam.

Once again, stellar freshman swimmer Kate Koveck remained unbeatable, winning all of her individual events. She was aided by excellent performances from all of the members of the team, including seniors Beam, Karrie Martin, Corrie Peltzar, and Miles.

"It was great to end my last season as a collegiate athlete in this way. Everyone swam well, we won, and basically we just had a really good time," says Peltzar, who is also team captain.

The men faced a much murkier future on Monday. Having defeated Wheaton, 152 to 115 here at home, the Camels hoped to continue their winning streak against Wesleyan. In the past, this meet would already have been written off as a loss, but this season has been unbelievable for the Camels, and they came into

this meet with an even .500 record.

There were many excellent individual performances. Joe Sayer '04 continued his dominance in college competition, and Pike Severence '03 and Landon Merrill '02 finished at the top. Unfortunately, however, the day was not to be theirs, as they fell to Wesleyan 72 to 131.

Said Senior Captain Andrew Longmire, "I think we did alright. We swam about as well as we have all season, so you can't really complain about that. I would say that it wasn't the best end of our season, but it was okay."

Although this wasn't the ending the men's team had hoped for, the men didn't leave disappointed either.

"I think we have to feel a little satisfied in knowing that we swam well. So what if we didn't win? We are a solid team and we put up some good times," said Severence. "Of course it would have been nice to beat Wesleyan, but, whatever, we care more about other things than

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## Camel Scoreboard

**Men's Basketball:**  
2/9, vs. Amherst, 73-66  
2/12, vs. Mass College, 101-95  
2/15, at Bates, 7:00 p.m.  
2/16, at Tufts, 3:00 p.m.

**Women's Basketball:**  
2/9, at Amherst, 54-74  
2/12, vs. Coast Guard, 58-78  
2/15, vs. Bates, 7:00 p.m.  
2/16, vs. Tufts, 3:00 p.m.

**Men's Hockey:**  
2/8, at Amherst, 4-7  
2/9, at Hamilton, 0-4  
2/15, vs. Trinity, 7:30 p.m.  
2/16, vs. Wesleyan, 7:30 p.m.

**Women's Hockey:**  
2/9, vs. Hamilton, 1-2  
2/12 vs. Salve Regina, 6-2  
2/15, at Wesleyan, 7:00 p.m.  
2/16, vs. Wesleyan, 3:00 p.m.

**Men's Squash:**  
2/4, vs. the University of Dublin, 8-1  
2/10, vs. Tufts, 3-6  
2/22-2/24, NISRA Team Championship at Harvard

**Women's Squash:**  
2/9, vs. Smith, 7-2  
2/10, vs. Tufts, 5-4  
2/15/2/17, Howe Cup at Yale

**Men's Swimming:**  
2/9, vs. Wheaton, 152-115  
2/11, at Wesleyan, 72-131  
3/1-3/3, NESCAC Championships at Williams.

**Women's Swimming:**  
2/2, at Bates, 91-172  
2/11, at Wesleyan, 150-93  
2/22-2/24, NESCAC Championship at Wesleyan

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