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College Voice Vol. 26 No. 15

Connecticut College

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Connecticut College, "College Voice Vol. 26 No. 15" (2003). *2002-2003*. 13.
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INSIDE:



NEWS

I-Pride and the Dean of the College received harassing emails from white supremacy groups.



A&E

A&E takes a look at this year's Oscar's race and hazards a few predictions



SPORTS

Camels upend #3 Albertus Magnus in season closer

College Community Reacts to Hate



Clockwise from above, angry students assembled in Knowlton before storming President Fainstein's House Sunday. Hundreds abandon the open forum Tuesday while their peers remained to speak against apathy and racism. The College's First Annual Summit on Diversity generated constructive proposals for the future (Rogers, Kreit, Faries).



Students March On Fainstein's House Demanding Action

By JAMIE ROGERS
NEWS EDITOR

At 1:30 PM on Sunday, February 16 over 150 students marched from Knowlton to 772 Williams St, home of Norman Fainstein, President of the College to protest the most recent flurry of hate crimes on campus. The rally ended in Blaustein's Hood Dining Hall where Fainstein and senior members of the administration listened to a student List of Demands drawn up the previous night.

The rally and list were instigated by a harassing phone call received the night before. At 9:05 PM Saturday, February 15th Hermina Johnny '04 awoke to a double ring on her

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Throngs Pack Palmer for College-Wide Open Forum

By BRYAN SERINO
ASSOCIATE NEWS EDITOR

This past Sunday over 150 Connecticut College students marched from Knowlton to President Fainstein's house in response to a harassing and racially charged phone call a student received earlier in the weekend. The students presented Fainstein with a list of demands; one was an all campus discussion about the series of racist incidents that have occurred over the past year. The college responded by canceling classes to meet as a community for the first time in the college's 92-year history.

With mandatory house meetings at 1:30,

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First Annual Summit Lays Groundwork for Diversity

By RACHEL CASADO-ALBA
STAFF WRITER

This past Saturday in the 1962 room, over 100 students, faculty members and administrators met for the First Annual Summit on

Diversity here at Conn. The summit arose out of the outcry from students for a forum to discuss diversity issues here on campus, especially after the incidents this year. Organized and sponsored by the Student Government Association, the summit was attended by assorted members of the community, ranging from President Norman Fainstein and Dean of

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Lina Balcom Brings Fresh Outlook to Peer Educator Program

By PAUL CARTER
ASSOCIATED NEWS EDITOR

With the hiring of Lina Balcom as the new of Health Educator Consultant, Health Services is reinforcing its shift in focus towards a more out patient approach. The new position will center on informing students of prevention techniques and treatment for a variety of health issues.

Citing personal reasons for leaving her last job, saying "It was no longer a good fit for me to be in the position I was in," Balcom was hired this past January. She has certainly traveled a long path to get here. She earned a B.S. in Management from Bryant College as well as a Masters in Human Resources from Sacred Heart University. In addition, she has held the position of Residential Director three times at various colleges, most recently at Mitchell College here in New London. Add that to the fact that she was also the director of Campus Life at Mitchell and it's easy to see why Conn hired her to fill the new position of Health Educator Consultant.

While it isn't hard to see why she was hired,

Lina certainly knows that the job won't be so straightforward. She's here because, as she put it, "I noticed a lot of unhealthy behavior going on at Conn, and I wanted to make people aware of their choices and help them make better ones."

When asked what her responsibilities are, she replied "It's a hard question because the position is new. There is no one to model myself after." The focus of the position will be to work with the Peer Educator program to help make it more successful, particularly promoting health issues such as alcohol and drug use, safe sex, disease and other issues.

Balcom believes that the Peer Educators have a finger on the pulse of the community but the group can be even more successful now that they have someone to focus their attention. Caitlin Greeley, a Peer educator, said about Lina's contributions to the program: "She has given the Peer Educator program a new direction. She's helped us focus on where we want to go. She has the resources and time to devote that students don't have."

It's unclear whether or not Lina will be back for the upcoming semester but so far she has cer-



Lina Balcom, the new Health Educator Consultant, comes to the College with bright ideas and high hopes (Faries).

tainly enjoyed her time here at Conn. When asked about the students, she replied "They're great. I find [the students] very motivated, energetic and mature." It is unsure whether or not the position of Health Educator Consultant will continue beyond this semester.

NYC Rally: 'I Refuse to Believe War is Inevitable'

By LAUREN MATISON
STAFF WRITER
— Personal Perspective —

I didn't quite know what to expect having never been to an anti-war rally before other than the one at Conn. So I was anxious, excited and perhaps even a little scared. The email that my father sent that Saturday morning which warned me to be watchful of crazy people and getting arrested made me feel all warm and calm inside...I couldn't wait for my audacious adventure to begin.

On the Metro North Rail, a little girl brushed my elbow as she ran giggling down the aisle. I could hear a mother's voice calling after her and just barely avoided kissing the huge white Styrofoam poster she carried that read, "Killing Innocent People Is The Problem, Not The Solution" in bold red ink. All I could think of besides my tingling funny bone was, "Is this woman really bringing her 5 year old daughter to an anti-war rally? What a radical."

With enthusiastic friends grabbing my arm or bag or any part of me they could get a hold of amidst the aggressive New York City crowds ignorant to the notion of a line, we were pushed through the doors and sucked into the subway at 114th and Broadway. I could almost hear the eager hearts pumping. Cheeks were flushing and drained hands were clutching tightly on to sticks, signs, posters, and pink papers that read The World Says No to War. My friend's walkie talkie phone ejected another friend's voice, "We're having difficulties with the police..." I shut my eyes for a moment; nausea swept over me around the rutted turns in the tunnel. It felt like the protest had already begun underground. Why not start shouting now? Looked like plenty of support was coming my way. Before I could open my mouth, not to yell but to make a suggestion, my fervent friend cleared his throat. Every head

turned towards us. "WHAT DO WE WANT? PEACE! WHEN DO WE WANT IT? NOW!"

Suddenly the whole car chirped in, drowning out the loud rumble of the subway, and it seemed as if when the doors pulled open at Lexington Ave. and 50th Street, no one wanted to get out. Our unity and zealous spirit was hard to let go of. To reiterate, I didn't know what to expect, and I imagine there were others who felt the same way. If we couldn't keep quiet, silently protesting until the gates flew open and we could charge, what was it like above us, in the open streets with tens of thousands of people?

Well, there was cold, cold air. Young adults sprinted up the stairs, passionate protesters following in their parents' footsteps. Throughout the train ride, students were fidgeting, but we all agreed, "No matter what happens, we're protesting until we get results. I refuse to believe war is inevitable. We will make a difference." Internally, it was, "Will I get arrested? Will police suppress the mob? Will pro-war activists get violent?" I know this it what they were thinking, because I was thinking that too.

Again, I was thrust through a crowd of determined demonstrators raring to go and fight for their cause of peace and justice. Several times I lost my friends, although they tried to follow the constant clicking of my camera as I tried to capture the diverse and angry avenue of people, all raging against the machine: our government.

At first, seeing thousands of people marching through 70 blocks of Manhattan with the shared belief that war and murder must be prevented was mind-blowing and wonderful. However, I quickly realized what was really going on when we had been on the same street for close to an hour, barely moving, but with frigid blue hands still somehow

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Dilapidated Freeman Piano Valued at \$10,000

By JAMIE ROGERS
NEWS EDITOR

Every Thursday night students congregate around one of the eight grand and up-right pianos on campus. Unlike former generations, who gathered around the piano to sing and play music, students today assemble for keg stands or games of boat races and beer pong. The pianos are used as tables, chairs or coat racks, but seldom for their intended purpose.

Most of the pianos have fallen into disrepair; none of them have been tuned for over twenty years. But despite their shoddy appearance, some of the pianos are worth as much as \$10,000 in the current market.

This fall Frances Hoffmann, Dean of the College, asked for all of the pianos to be assessed, as a first step towards possible repair and refurbishment. Mark Peele, the piano tuner for the Music Department, examined each of the pianos and assessed their value and

the cost of possible repairs. According to Peele the Freeman piano, a Steinway Model A, is worth \$10,000, but would require up to \$25,000 worth of internal repairs. The piano in Knowlton, a Steinway Model M, is worth \$7,000, but needs \$20,000 for complete refurbishment. "The Steinways have been there for 60 to 70 yrs," said Peele, "they need complete overhauls."

The other pianos

Windham, Harkness, Smith, Burdick, Marshall and Main St. are considerably newer; Peele believes most were donated about 10 years ago, and require less work. "The uprights need 10 hours of labor," claimed Peele, "they need tightening

and realigning, like a car."

Since the pianos' assessment, both the administration and the Music Department have taken a keen interest in their future.

According to Noel Zahler, Co-Chair of the Music Department, the Department had a budget to maintain the pianos, but it was long before he arrived on campus 18 years ago. Now the task falls on the shoulders of the Office of

Student Life. Complete restoration of every piano would cost \$96,000, or \$12,000 per piano, while the most cost effective repairs; using the old parts would cost only \$8100. Six years ago Peele offered to purchase

the Freeman piano in exchange for repairing the other seven; the offer is still on the table.

According to Dean Hoffmann and the Office of Student Life all options are being explored, including moving the pianos and replacing them with electronic pianos. There has also been discussion of possible fund raising by dorms, or through the Advancement office. Hoffmann seemed open to selling the Freeman piano, by far the most valuable, in order to cover the cost of repairs.

Zahler and the Music Department were less inclined to give up the instrument. "It would be very sad not to bring such an instrument back into use for students and faculty who can really appreciate the quality of this instrument. If saved, it could be one of the really remarkable instruments on campus."

At this time the issue remains in the Residential Life and Housing Committee, pending a concrete plan for fund raising. Meanwhile the pianos sit idle, their keys tarnished, broken, and still.



The Freeman Piano, scarred from decades of neglect, could cost up to \$25,000 to tune and repair (Rogers).

EDITORIAL & OPINION

Day of Community Building Good First Step, But Still Not Enough

There is no doubt that Tuesday's day of open forums and discussion on the matter of diversity was a major step in uniting Connecticut College as community devoted to squashing bigotry and hate.

Now comes the inevitable debate over the flaws of the event. Was it too little, too late? Did the administration take too long to create significant response to the outcry of minority students? Or did the college overreact in its decision to cancel a day of classes and making attendance of house discussions mandatory?

We will not be able to gauge the true success of the day of community building for a long while. Only time will tell whether or not the impassioned statements made by students and faculty during the forum will be remembered or forgotten in a month.

Canceling classes, especially the day after the school was closed due to weather, was a gamble on the part of President Fainstein. He ran the risk of alienating a teaching staff that had already lost a day on their schedules, and stagnating the flow of academic study. However, without the cancellation of classes, it is unlikely that the forum would have received the impressive turnout of an upwards of 1500 students.

Many students thought that the forum was ineffective and a waste of time because it would never deter a few racist individuals from defacing a poster. But that was not the point of the forum.

Tuesday was a show of solidarity and a wake-up call for the masses. For every three students who chose to remain in their rooms and sleep upon the cancellation of classes, there was one who may have previously thought about attending an I-Pride or Unity House event, but used the excuse of being too busy with classes. These are the people who attended the forum when they normally might not have and who may provide the support these organizations need in the future to increase their presence on campus. The question is whether or not informing one out of every four students was worth the risk; we would say yes.

Right now there is at least one racist individual on this campus. This individual or individuals may strike again, they might not, it is impossible to say. However, the rally does serve notice to those who would commit such acts, that Conn will not take such further actions lightly. Will such a fact dissuade possible bigots? There is no guarantee, but there is unlimited value in the school banding together to deliver such a measure.

However, the events of the past week, despite its successes, are not cause for President Fainstein and the administration to rest on their laurels. The day's proceedings were far from perfect. Among the most glaring mistakes of the day was the prohibition of students' responses to each other's comments during the house meetings. The goal was to prevent arguments that would stifle discussion, but the result was instead many silent onlookers straight-jacketed from interacting with their peers. A truly open discussion would have been more beneficial, in particular to white students who want to help but don't feel they know how. It was clear by comments that some students made during the forum in Palmer that a significant group of students feel that the campus does not promote an environment in which all opinions are welcome; the house meetings did little to discourage this feeling.

Tuesday was a good first step, but it should not be the last. The administration must examine student demands and implement some of them by the end of the semester. But the brunt of the responsibility to keep the momentum going rests on the shoulders of the students, in posters, rallies or simply a debate over dinner. They are the lifeblood of the school, and at no other time has the school depended on them for so much. As a community let us be proud of coming together, but make sure we view the last week as a starting point, not a plateau.

A New Academic Diversity Requirement a Short-Term Solution to a Problem That Deserves Far Deeper Thought and Investigation

Perhaps one of the more interesting trends to emerge out of the recent acts of bigotry is the call for a new diversity General Education requirement.

Of our peer schools, we currently have one of the highest number of such requirements. While the GE program is certainly a necessary one in a liberal arts college, it is questionable whether it is beneficial to the institution to add another millstone to this already requirement heavy system.

In the same week as the rally, the most recent issue of SGA On The Can makes mention of Dean Hoffman and Chair of Academic Affairs Hasan Mamun acknowledging a "deterioration" of the effectiveness of such past mainstays as freshmen tutorials and summer reading assignments. Additionally, the organization of GE requirements is pointed out as undermining what the school expects them to accomplish. On top of this crumbling pile, why would we add yet another GE requirement?

Amongst the ideas being kicked around is somehow incorporating the diversity requirement less along the lines of the mainstream GE's and more like the Writing Enhanced and Intensive courses.

Beyond the rather precarious state of GE's at our school, is the issue of how such a requirement would be structured. For example, what exactly constitutes diversity? If an individual is Jewish and takes a New Testament class, or a course that focuses on the Koran, is that a fulfillment of the diversity GE? If not, why not? If so, what if a Muslim takes a course in the Koran? Will we reach the point where we have to list all we are: gender, race, religion, orientation, socioeconomic status, and so on? But the problem of evaluating "diversity" is one that presents a very tricky proposition.

There is also an inherent flaw in forcing anyone to take anything in the hope that it will somehow change his or her opinion on the matter. One of the arguments leveled for a GE requirement is that although someone might have a distaste for math, the school still requires him or her to take it. Ignoring the inherent flaw in comparing a purely intellectual pursuit like math to a more subjective subject matter, the fact is that while the school may require you to take classes, more times than not, someone does not leave a class they did not want to take in the first place with a new appreciation of the subject matter. More often than not, they are pleased to be rid of it and sometimes resentful of having to have taken it in the first place.

It is highly doubtful that forcing students to sit through classes on diversity — something that can not be learnt in a class room — will result in a more tolerant or a pro-diversity campus. In fact, this coercion and forcing of multiculturalism down the throats of the student body might very well lead to even more resentment.

Moreover, it should be noted that any redesign of the GE requirements must place emphasis on the student perspective. This needs to be done more formally and in a more systematic manner through the Student Advisory Boards, written student surveys, etc and not through a random dessert and dialogue here and a discussion there where students do not even fully understand the implications of such a requirement. Most importantly, it would make sense if the "elected" SGA general assembly votes and approves these recommendations, before the "appointed" SGA sub-committees affix their stamp of approval on the current proposal.

Instead of trying to find short term answers to the question of diversity in order to satisfy different constituencies on the campus, we feel that there is a need to look deeper and find more practical/ real solutions.



LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Campus Community Responds to Incidents of Bigotry and Community Building Day

To the Connecticut College Community:

The night after the first summit on diversity an obscene and racist phone call was made to a black student in her dorm room. Less than 12 hours after 120 leading members of the college community gathered to discuss such issues as diversity, race, pluralism and what can be done to promote these issues on our campus, another community member (or outsider) took it upon him/herself to once again break the trust and privilege that has been given to each of us as members of the CC community. Connecticut College is supposed to be a safe place where students, faculty, staff and administration of any race, ethnicity, creed, class, gender, sexual orientation, personal background or ability can intellectually as well as personally, learn and grow.

Students and alumni of CC have the luxury to articulate our opinions in an open and respectful manner that will probably never exist anywhere else in our lives. We cannot be fired by saying something that someone else does not agree with. Our "contracts" and "CC membership cards" cannot be terminated because we disagree with our professors, deans, or other members of the community. However, we must stand behind our opinions and express ourselves in a constructive and accountable manner that breeds understanding, not disgraceful and cowardly acts of anonymity that are only destructive and hurtful to the entire community. No one will ever be asked to leave CC because they respectfully disagree with another and engage in a civil conversation to better explain their view point and understand each other.

The summit on diversity was very successful and there were many students, faculty, staff and administrators who attended, however, not nearly as many as I had hoped. I understand it was not possible for every community member to attend every event. However, many of the students who did attend are Gender and Woman Studies majors, on SGA and/or the Cultural Diversity Committee, on the Unity house steering committee or serve as student leaders in some function; in brief, a select few students who have chosen to involve themselves in issues of diversity and pluralism are doing the work of the entire student body. I understand that faculty and staff serve a slightly different role and face more vulnerability, however, I feel the same basic principle applies to them as well.

I have several friends here at CC who are involved in many different aspects of the college, however, they did not feel the need to attend the diversity summit. Unfortunately I think many white students, faculty and staff think these issues do not affect them. Granted most of the community does not condone the acts of racism and bigotry that have occurred within recent months and

they express their discontentment regarding these acts, however, aside from a brief comment here or there, they do little else to address the issue. As professor Boyd has mentioned several times, we have "people" and "people of color" — when did "white" stop being a color? As faculty, staff and especially students, we all have a responsibility to engage in conversations with other community members regarding these issues that affect us all.

I like to think of the Connecticut College community as a web where growth and learning is reciprocal, multidirectional and in delicate balance with all aspects and persons within the web. A squirming mosquito stuck in one side the web disrupts the balance and structure of the entire system. We, as white, black, green, pink, orange, purple, teal, maroon and azure community members, cannot sit idly by and watch the destruction unfold and pretend that we are not affected. To enact institutional change and make our community a safe, respectful and inclusive environment the stimuli must develop from the top down as well as from the bottom up. We all have a responsibility to act on a micro level in everyday conversation and on a macro level to instigate transformation within our personal lives and within the institution; this is our privilege and duty.

According to Beverly Tatum (1996) we have been taught since we were little children not to discuss race. As a result many people do not know much about this issue and, as is our human instinct, fear what we do not know. However, we need to face our fears, no longer be "color blind" and acknowledge the differences between us so that we can learn and grow from these interactions!

A child does not progress from crawling to running in one day and neither can CC. A community's process of understanding difference and becoming culturally sensitive begins with each individual and is a life-long process; the sooner we begin the better. No matter what your opinion please discuss these important issues with your friends, parents, children, professors, deans and with whomever you feel comfortable. The first step to remove the mosquito from our web is to acknowledge its presence and name the problem, then and only then can our web grow stronger, larger and further benefit us all.

-Alex Mroszczyk-McDonald '03

To the Editors:

Students, faculty, administration, and staff gathered in Palmer auditorium to discuss the importance of anti-racist work, diversity, multiculturalism, and community. But, what do those words really mean? I believe that there was a great misunderstanding of what those words mean and the power they hold. They have such power and importance in the recent activities of the campus that we neglected to put them into a context that would allow them to be adequately used and produce effective and progressive work. Anti-racism, diversity, multiculturalism, and community are NOT synonyms for each other. Although they sound like they should have similar and

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OPINION

JUST DOING OUR BEST

BRADLEY KREIT • CONNECTICUT IDOL



Because we owe you gratitude: I'd like to thank students, administration, faculty — anyone behind the open forum Tuesday.

That said, President Fainstein made a mistake in including, then not discussing, affirmative action at the meeting. Taking a position on affirmative action is a tad more complicated than taking one on hate crime, like finding the derivative of a function compared to addition.

I was once opposed to affirmative action a number of years back, when I was attending high school in Oakland, California. Basically, I argued that I was in the same crappy school as all my friends, that I had grown up in the same city they had.

I now believe that I was wrong, that at 14, my reasoning neglected a number of critical details.

Permit a couple stories.

My Sophomore year, I was actually banned from overnight hosting by the admissions office.

It was legacy student weekend, or whatever they call it when the kids of Conn College graduates are wined and dined so that they can enroll here and their parents can donate lots of money. The overnight stay coordinator, who also happened to be a good friend of mine talked me into hosting someone.

I was busy. I had books to read and essays to write, an unoccupied room next to mine, and a floor that I generously describe as "covered with paper and coffee grounds and smelling faintly of the boots I wore daily."

Anyway, an ID card magically got stuck in the door to this empty room and it opened fortuitously. There was no screen on the window, and some leaves on the ground, but a bed and a room to work in, so I offered the kid the room for the evening. There were no bed sheets.

About an hour later, the prospective walks by the living room where we've all gathered for the Simpsons, gives me some excuse and then leaves to have his mother pick him up.

The next morning at 9:00, someone from admissions called me, and the first thing she said, after asking my name was, "So tell me your side of the story." Apparently, if you do a favor for someone and host a legacy student, you should not put them in a small room without bed sheets. Clean up. Purchase, then roll out a red carpet for them to sleep on.

That year, when I was home for Spring Break, I ran into Matt, an old friend of mine from elementary and middle school. He was a smart kid, always among the handful of top students in a class.

He was just getting off work at Walgreens, a job he had taken to help pay for some computer classes he was taking at a community college. He was pleased that he was in school.

I was doing well here at Conn. I had expected to come to a place like this.

Affirmative action asks us to use statistical data to make generalizations about race, class, and gender and how they relate to opportunity. The generalizations are not always right; the probability is that they are right. It asks us to assume that the son of a private college graduate is probably white, and that a kid like Matt, who can barely afford community college, is probably not.

This is statistically accurate, and happens to be true in both of these cases.

I'm not usually comfortable with looking at an individual's opportunities as a statistical equation, and I'm opposed to affirmative action as a permanent policy because it does discriminate.

But we need it now.

As a high school student, my mom had the rule that if I didn't go to college I had to pay rent to live in her house after graduation. Generally speaking, my classmates probably did not.

People generalize. Ideally we wouldn't, but ideally no one would ever get sick.

So until we can do the ideal, we can only do our best. Affirmative Action does discriminate. It categorizes people and treats those categories unequally. It's not ideal.

But it does something positive, and that's all we can really expect.

MONICA LEWINSKY, AL QAEDA OPERATIVE.

SASHA SUDEROW • VIEWPOINT

Why do the Republicans have to use the word international relations in a bad way? George W. Bush has a confused definition of IR. Clinton knew that it was relations of the horizontal type that keep mankind sufficiently satisfied enough to prevent war. Conservatives ruin everything after Bill made the White House fun. While Bush is trying to prove that Iraq has dangerous weapons, Clinton tried to prove that getting head isn't cheating. I'm tired of everything being so serious with George W. He and his cronies need to lighten up. After Bob Dole lost the '96 election, he went out and started popping Viagra. Look at the smile on his face. Who needs to be president when you can still get a raging hard on at 75?

The White House needs a sexual scandal. Americans refuse to accept a kinky first lady and George W. doesn't even have half a brain to cheat. He probably treats his wife's clitoris like North Korea: 'Any complex situation, and this is a job for Dick Cheney.' I can see Bush telling the ambassador from Djibouti that his country needs to change its name during the "war on ter-rah;" because CNN anchors become aroused whenever they say "booty."

The Republicans tried to bring down Clinton by exposing scandals. Someone should do us all a favor and give the Bush White House a taste of its own medicine. Saddam could make himself useful at this point by getting one last non-violent jab before a FLIR bomb lands up his ass. If I was him, I would make a porn film with a Laura Bush look-alike and then sell it to Hustler. Larry Flynt would probably get a kick out of that. He could send special agents over to Yale University posing as the "Girls Gone Wild" cameramen to get footage of Jenna Bush giving Snoop Dogg a hand job.

If a terrorist or lunatic dictator really wanted to have a profound psychological effect on this country, then they could send us another Monica Lewinsky. Obviously Americans get more worked up over the status of our President's zipper than the consequences of total war in a volatile region. Our government gets deadlocked over moral scandals and not obtuse things like Foreign Policy and other cultures. Hussein should learn not to attack us with weapons. Our weakness lies not in our military, but our society. Use America's democracy and over-hyped media to bring down a president and show that our vulnerability lies not in our domestic freedoms, but rather our simplistic view of the world and ourselves. People think George W. is great because he's just like the small-town idiot next door. If Osama really wanted to shock this country he would: shave, buy a blue dress, take some cross dressing lessons, show up at 1600 Pennsylvania Ave. and get down on his knees. Where is Monica when you need her?

WORLD MUST WAKE UP TO ENVIRONMENTAL DEVASTATION UNDER THE BUSH ADMINISTRATION

MARINA IVANOVA • VIEWPOINT

The world has incessantly voiced its outrage with the policy of the Bush administration toward Iraq. From London to Berlin, from Prague to San Francisco millions have united to halt the imminent conflict and prevent the murder of thousands of innocent civilians. In the midst of a potential war, the U.S. government has successfully averted the public's attention from domestic issues as well as from the massive environmental problems occurring around the world. The gravity of the environmental crisis is alarming and frightening, yet no significant efforts are made to redress the endless years of environmental devastation perpetrated not only by the United States government but by the policies of the rest of the industrialized nations. From the highly destructive campaigns of endless corporations and businesses around the world to the detrimental practices of the timber industry, the environment continuously finds itself in a losing position. Environmental groups, like the Rainforest Action Network, are leading radical campaigns around the U.S. to attack the roots of the corporate-led globalization that is devastating the world and our environment. Such networks of environmental cooperation and strategic planning are not only accomplishing great victories (such as the Home Depot campaign), but also helping us understand today's environmental crisis by looking beneath the surface.

In their Campaign for a Sane Economy, the Rainforest Action Network points out that while the obvious culprits are the corporations extracting oil and annihilating acres of forests, understanding the problem lies deeper beneath what we are told by authorities and the media. Corporations are fueled by a global financial system that stubbornly refuses to incorporate the most basic environmental and social standards. Citigroup, the biggest financial institution in North America, is the backbone of the world economy and a critical player in many of the most environmentally-destructive projects around the world. The Campaign for a Sane Economy challenges the socially and ecologically-ravaging practices of these companies and specifically, seeks to bring accountability to all aspects of Citigroup's business policies. To say the least, Citigroup's dossier is abounding in horrid crimes against not only the environment, but also humanity.

In Africa, Citigroup acted as a financial advisor for the Chad/Cameroon pipeline, which will inevitably cut through pristine rainforest and indigenous territories. In China, Citigroup guaranteed financial support for the building of the Three Gorges Dam, which will displace over two million people and destroy a rare river ecosystem. In Indonesia, Citigroup funded a project that would replace crucial orangutan habitat with palm plantations. In the United States, Citigroup aided Maxxam Corporation in financing the controversial clear cutting of California's ancient Redwoods. Of course, this is not nearly half of Citigroup's criminal record. Citigroup heavily subsidizes reprehensi-

ble corporations like Monsanto, whose genetic engineering is a threat to global food safety, especially in Third World countries. To top the list, Citigroup also sells bonds for the World Bank, a prominent perpetrator of destructive development around the world, and one of the largest holders of crippling Third World debt burdens. In the United States, Citigroup has been found guilty of redlining (discriminating against poor inner city communities and colored people), and also of predatory practices that drive poor people deeper into poverty. Citigroup and its subsidiaries, including Citibank and Salomon Smith Barney, are contributing to the destruction of the environment and to communities all around the world.

Private finance provides the capital for Citigroup. It does this in several ways, including direct financing, the underwriting of stocks and bonds, debt-equity swaps, direct shareholding, and interlocking directorships. Most of the money that Citigroup uses for these projects comes from consumers in the form of mutual and pension funds, credit card debts, personal banking accounts, and retirement funds such as IRA's.

Only twenty-two percent of the Earth's original forest cover remains intact. These old growth forests contains over fifty percent of the planet's plant and animal species and three-quarters of the world's indigenous peoples. Hundreds of leading corporations, such as IBM and Hewlett Packard, are taking active steps to curb their destructive practices, yet Citigroup continues to promote new logging, mining, and oil projects, including the recent promotion of a consortium of multinational oil companies attempting to move ahead with a controversial oil pipeline project (OCP, Oleoducto de Crudo Pesado) in Ecuador. The pipeline would transport heavy crude oil from the country's eastern rainforest region to the Pacific Coast, placing fragile ecosystems and dozens of communities along the nearly 500 kilometer route in jeopardy. In order to fill the new pipeline, Ecuador would have to double its current oil production, setting off an unprecedented boom in new oil exploration that could lead to the irreversible loss and destruction of some of the country's last remaining old growth rainforests and territories of isolated indigenous peoples. Hundreds of new oil wells and flow lines would be built from existing oil concessions, along with facilities necessary to process and refine the heavy crude for transport across the country. These activities threaten protected areas such as Yasuni National Park, Cuyabeno Wildlife Reserve, and in the Limoncocha and Panacocha Biological Reserves.

It is time for humanity to attack the root of the problem rather than its symptoms. The new environmental revolutionaries are taking monumental steps toward improvement, but until the whole world realizes the crucial era in which we exist, no redemption will be possible in the near future.

HOLES IN THE COLLEGE

COLEY WARD • VIEWPOINT

Two weeks ago, a Jane Adams custodian was fired for spying on Hamilton's female students while they showered. He allegedly drilled holes in the shower walls so that he could spy on the girls from either the neighboring toilet or from the janitor's closet. And he got away with it for almost a year.

The College Voice editorial board, which most likely consisted of one overtired editor working at four a.m. on publication night, wrote a ridiculous editorial suggesting that the students involved needed to take more responsibility for knowing which custodians worked in their dorm. The Voice retracted their editorial in the following week's issue.

Clearly, the girls whose privacy was violated should in no way be held accountable for being spied on. Nor should the college be blamed for employing the pervert. Sometimes these weirdoes slip through the cracks.

The part of this story that really bothers me, and I'm not sure why this isn't the real issue, is that there are girls on this campus using showers with holes in the walls and they don't think twice about it. And there are custodians who work on this campus that see the holes in the walls and they don't try to fix them.

Things here at Conn have holes in them. It's a way of life for us. Ever since somebody bothered to balance Claire Gaudiani's checkbook two years ago, physical plant improvements have occurred at a slower rate.

The roads on campus, for example, are riddled with potholes. Ever wonder why there are so many SUVs on such an "environmentally conscious" campus? It's because on-roading has become off-roading.

The athletic center roof leaks. Every time it rains the club soccer team goes inside to play and we still get wet. Players slip and fall on puddles on the floor. It's a lawsuit waiting to happen.

And don't forget about the staffing holes. Dean William Frasure, a government professor, is currently the chair of the dance department and the East Asian studies department. He's a good sport for taking on these jobs, and he's doing an admirable job, but he should never have been asked to chair departments that he doesn't know anything about.

Why doesn't Conn try to fill some of these holes? These days, SGA and PPBC and FSCC are all the other acronyms are considering a list of the most important construction priorities on campus. Plex renovations are seen as the top priority, but before they can be completed the college needs to build a new dorm to house displaced students. A new science building is also seen as a necessity.

Bigger projects, it seems, have captured everyone's attention. The problem is that none of these projects will be realized while you, or any of your younger siblings or cousins, are students at Connecticut College. The college can talk about major projects all it wants. It can debate the merits of a new dorm or a new science building, but the truth is we don't have the money for anything that big and it will be a while before we do.

A couple of years ago the college realized that it was mired in debt and decided to postpone major physical improvements (see Plex renovations) until it had balanced the budget. But, to show people that times weren't so tough the administration went ahead and tackled one small project. We got new signs on campus.

I propose that, this semester, we tackle another small project. Or two, or three. Let's pave the roads on campus, hire some teachers, and get a new AC roof. And for god's sake, let's patch the holes in the showers.

AFFIRMATIVE ACTION IS DISCRIMINATION

YONI FREEMAN • VIEWPOINT



"I have a dream that my four little children will one day live in a nation where they will not be judged by the color of their skin, but by the content of their character." Martin Luther King Jr.

How would you like to be scheduled for an operation, knowing that your surgeon would not have been admitted to medical school unless he was black?

Affirmative Action was an idea that was supposed to be a way of incorporating blacks into a population they were so long excluded from due to racism, specifically in the areas of schooling and business. It was the hope that companies and schools would look for groups that were under-represented in their classes and workplaces. Each company or school was to affirmatively develop a plan of action to attract more candidates from the specific groups they found underrepresented.

HOWEVER, this idea which gives preference to a minority candidate CANNOT be defended forty years after the passage of the Civil Rights Act. Legally, the playing field was evened out way back then.

If it's against the law for a business owner to discriminate against a minority because of the color of his or her skin, why then is it okay to PROMOTE that minority for that VERY SAME reason?

Affirmative Action looks to the group a person belongs to, in its evaluation or admission process, instead of looking at the person as an individual. In other words, it is exactly what we call PREJUDICE. Affirmative Action makes every black professional or student suspect that they are possibly not as qualified as they should be. This is terribly unfair to many legitimately talented black people out there, because Affirmative Action makes it difficult to distinguish an Affirmative Action slacker from an Affirmative Action scholar.

Just as backers of the civil rights movement in the 1950s and the 60s brought forward the correct belief that one could not choose what color skin one was born with, school admission, based on Affirmative Action policies, should not commit this same type of deed towards non-minorities either. You might have heard defenders of Affirmative Action state that these programs seek only to correct past abuses. The truth is that they are doing so in the spirit of payback. Payback or revenge in the moral sense of the word may be called for in some specific cases when you can identify those individuals

responsible for the wrongdoings that have been committed against specific people. These people can be punished. But the fact is that when this concept is generalized against non-specific groups, using Affirmative Action, it becomes nothing more than another form of discrimination based on race.

As far as universities and colleges are concerned, it is destructive to all students. Studies have shown that placing a minority student with a 1200 SAT score into a student population with an average 1400 SAT score, practically makes certain that he or she will be at the bottom of the grade curve. As a result, the minority will either not graduate, or feel behind when he or she realizes that everyone else is quicker, more knowledgeable, and more of a fit than they were within the college community. It also may promote white resentment by students who were bypassed or excluded from enrollment.

Schools also have a responsibility of creating an environment that is similar to the environment of the United States, in which students are placed in a learning atmosphere reflecting the makeup of our society. According to the census, African Americans in the United States comprise 12.9% of the total population in our country. The current national average of undergraduate African Americans is 11%. That, in my opinion, is fairly close. What does this mean? It means that those supporters of Affirmative Action can go home as they have already "succeeded" in achieving what they were set out to do in the first place. It also means that Affirmative Action is outdated and full of flaws. It is no longer needed. We have succeeded in establishing a collegial environment similar to the makeup of the United States. It is time to restore truthful practices for college admission that are based solely on academic merit and/or personal qualifications.

Another area Affirmative Action hurts is parenthood. Affirmative Action makes it impossible for black parents to instill in their children a sense of responsibility for one's actions in areas such as pre-collegiate schoolwork, as he or she might believe that "moving up the ladder" is already secure due to Affirmative Action.

AFFIRMATIVE ACTION does a DISSERVICE to those minorities who legitimately study and work hard to achieve their goals and aspirations on their own merit. It makes people think twice before hiring minorities due to the fact they are unsure whether the person was a choice of Affirmative Action or a choice of true qualification. I am not saying that there are no stu-

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Palmer Hosts Largest Assembly in College History



The microphone allowed members of the campus community to come forward and voice opinions or ask questions regarding the recent incidences of bigotry (Faries).

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 students were provided with a means to express their views and opinions in a safe and intimate environment. The meetings, which were run by the housefellows and facilitated by members of the faculty and staff, produced mixed emotions in students, ranging from fear to mistrust in the community to questions over what steps needed to be taken. One student said, "I don't know what to feel. I am angry that it hap-

pened, but wondering why it happened at the same time." Student response soon centered on the apathy and indifference that members of the campus seem to portray. One concerned camel responded by saying, "Apathy and indifference is a major issue here." They continued by saying, "You may think white racism doesn't exist, not in this community, well you haven't gotten the message yet." Other students countered with

disbelief and shock saying, "I don't feel we are racist here. It's surreal; these things happen at other places." After having ninety minutes to express their thoughts and feelings as a dorm, the student body met in Palmer Auditorium for a mandatory open forum. A little after three o'clock President Fainstein addressed the college community. After paying recognition to the historical presence of the circumstances surround-

ing the day he challenged students to have embracing and all-encompassing outlooks saying, "We will never be in a position to stop words, there will always be individuals who have hateful and divisive thoughts. It is our job to drown out those words with a chorus, with our collective voice of support for the kind of community that we are trying to build on this campus."

President Fainstein went on to commend the campus at the tremendous turnout for the day's activities with students, faculty and staff seated in the hallways and standing in the little remaining room left in the auditorium. There were an estimated 1500 people in the auditorium, and only the Men's Hockey Team held practice during the event.

Responding to the issue of why official the College had not taken legal action, the President explained that "none of these acts are criminal in America; they are tremendous violations of everything we believe in and stand for as a community."

President Fainstein went on to share a personal experience of being attacked due to his background. He explained how, with the exception of his family, he went to an all-Christian school and was often harassed and occasionally beaten up. He remembered advice his mother gave him, the old adage, "Sticks and stones may break your bones, but words will never hurt me." He continued, "But names and words are often prelude to stick and stones and broken bones."

The President further shared a vivid memory of his childhood. On one occasion, his best friend at the time, upon seeing flowers from Fainstein's mother, remarked; 'it's

the Kike florist.' As his remarks drew to a close, President Fainstein reinforced the theme of his address, "Words do matter!" he continued, "there are no bystanders in this kind of process, you are all part of the solution."

Fainstein cited many actions taken by the College to promote understand and diversity; including an Honor Code Task Force, a new incident response protocol, possible changes to the Gen Ed requirements, more guest speakers, and perhaps, most controversial, a brief signed by Fainstein and 27 other college presidents supporting Affirmative Action. The brief will be submitted as evidence to the Supreme Court in their case over the constitutionality of Affirmative Action this April. Fainstein called the case an "assault" on Affirmative Action.

More importantly, the President called for students to "make friends with somebody in some other group altogether, sit with a stranger at Harris, meet someone new." Continuing, "That is how we will build a community that will be stronger each day as we go on."

The forum then opened to student questions and comments. Around fifty questions were asked with topics ranging from Affirmative Action, to administrative responses to the racist acts, to technical issues about the phone system, but many of the questions centered on the idea of community.

Another main theme was "whiteness" and the costs or privileges that go along with being white. A remark that garnered one of the larger crowd reactions was, "we need to stop pointing fingers and we need to all take a look at it together." They con-

tinued, "All we can do is move forward, let's look at the positive."

Despite the progressive and constructive sentiments that pervaded the speeches, the forum was not without personal attacks and aggression. Several students made ad homonym attacks against Fainstein, drawing on his personal politics on the War on Iraq.

After two hours of debate many students were weary. At 5:00 Frances Hoffmann, Dean of the College, announced that students could go to Harris. There was an immediate exodus from the balcony and back rows of the theater, which one student called "pathetic."

As six o'clock drew near, an hour over schedule, the forum came to end and smaller intimate settings were established for continued dialogue. The main settings for the dialogue were Unity House, Cro's nest and Harris.

At Unity students and professor's met and 'downloaded from the day' and came up with possible suggestions to improve the situation. One such suggestion was to have a continual bus service running between the college and New London.

The Cro's nest provided students with the ability to talk with members of Student Life and SGA executives in a relaxed and informal environment. According to the group "the overwhelming majority of the suggestions were positive."

At Harris students had the opportunity to meet with senior administrators to discuss the day's events and what steps are next. According to President Fainstein, "Everybody's talking about it; the conversation seems to be continual"



Students held up traffic on Williams St. Sunday as they marched to President Fainstein's house in protest of administrative inaction (Kreit).

Protesters Force Fainstein to Listen

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 phone: indicative of an off-campus call. The caller asked her if he had called Domino's Pizza. She replied no and he responded: "What do you mean I have the wrong number, your black ain't you? You n****rs need to leave Connecticut College alone and go back where you came from you f**king monkey, you f**king n****r, get the f**k out of here you f**king n****r, sh*t."

According to Johnny the caller was a male who attempted to disguise his voice by making it sound deeper. "It was hateful," said Johnny, "you could feel the hate in his voice." She also believes that there were other voices and laughter in the background.

Later that night a small group of concerned students met to discuss the incident and drafted 12 demands to bring to the administration the next day.

The demands included mandatory sensitivity training workshops (which were implemented after the 1986 Fanning Takeover), increased minority employment and "minority student support," more administrative support of "multicultural and diversity activities," creation of another commission by the Board of Trustees "to investigate racial relations" at the College, Caller ID in all student rooms, a revision of the Honor Code by the Fall 2003 and an open forum held by the end of the week. They also demanded, "Outside investigators should be brought in to ensure that there will not be any bias."

By 1:00 PM the next day over 150 students were gathered in the Knowlton entryway, discussing the demands. They discussed possible actions and possible punishments against the perpetrators. "We must show a no nonsense, no tolerance attitude towards these crimes," affirmed Osten Bernardez '03, Housefellow of Harkness.

The students met Fainstein at his home, and ushered him up the hill to Blaustein. When he appeared in Hood Dining Room, a student firmly requested him to sit in the middle of the room, surrounded by the protestors.

Fainstein began by commending the protestors. "I think it's a sign of the strength of this community that so many of you have come together." He denounced the racist act of the past year, calling them "a cowardly kind of assault," committed "by people who don't want to

stand up and state their position."

Fainstein told protestors that his three concerns were safety for the individuals, "taking aggressive police action" against any perpetrators, and "maintaining our momentum on this campus in our commitment to diversity."

After his impromptu speech, students presented their demands and offered additional comments and suggestions. Fainstein applauded the Demands, but reminded students that some might not be feasible. He warned against police action. "Do we really want to create a police environment on this campus? ...Do we really want the police involved in every single kind of incident on the campus?" He was also hesitant to endorse an additional commission of race relations, as well as what he referred to as "mandatory coercive counterproductive measures."

Most students expressed their concern towards the sense of apathy on campus. "I'm here because I've come to realize the sense of crisis," said one student, "and the sense of crisis began to permeate into the campus community and into the sleeping masses."

Many were concerned that the acts of racism were encouraging students to transfer and deterring prospective students. "The freshmen they come in here so bright eyed," said Jose Mane '03, "and look at them now, they're so worn out... look into my eyes and I'm worn out."

Although there was some division over Demands, the students unanimously favored canceling classes to hold an open forum. Fainstein proposed waiting until the following week, which students later criticized as a way of making the event less conspicuous, with the concern that many perspectives students have President's week vacation and would be visiting the school. When Fainstein asked who was in favor of holding a forum this week, he was met with a chorus of cheers. "I hear you," he said.

The rally concluded after nearly 2 hours of discussion. Fainstein met with senior administrators in the faculty lounge to discuss the Demands, while students signed a petition to further the goals of the Demands. Seventy-two students signed the petition.

Summit Leads to Lofty Ideals

continued from page 1
 the College Frances Hoffmann to freshman class president Eddie Slade.

After SGA chair of multicultural affairs Elli Nagai-Rothe opened the summit, President Norman Fainstein spoke about the importance of diversity to Conn's administration. According to President Fainstein and twenty-seven other college Presidents will be filing a brief in upcoming weeks with the Supreme Court supporting the University of Michigan in its case to uphold affirmative action. NESAC joins Retired Gen. Norman Schwarzkopf, former Secretary of Defense William Cohen and more than 40 Fortune 500 companies in supporting the University, President Fainstein went onto state that Conn is a "strong supporter" of affirmative action and diversity on college campuses.

The Summit focused on three main questions about Connecticut College and its aims for diversity. They included "What is your ideal vision of a pluralistic campus community [and] what are the essential components of a pluralistic campus environment?" Breakout groups were also asked to summarize what they thought the college's strengths are when it comes to diversity and what improvements they thought should be implemented. Professor Nancy Mardas of the College of the Holy Cross acted as the official recorder, documenting the sugges-

tions of the attendees.

A "table leader" headed each breakout group; facilitators included Dean of Student Life David Millstone, Pluralism Committee head Prof. Maria Cruz-Saco and SGA Parliamentarian Melissa Wurzer. Millstone, Wurzer and Saco-Cruz along with many SGA senators, and members of the Pluralism Committee were also present. According to Elli Nagai-Rothe, "Although [they] have been doing specific work around the issue of diversity, we ALL have a shared responsibility to collectively address this important issue".

After the roundtable discussions concluded, the attendees reconvened to discuss and summarize their plans for the college. Many definitions of "pluralism" were discussed; Harkness Housefellow Osten Bernardez defined a pluralistic community as one that is "representative of society and the world as a whole." Diversity was spoken of in an educational context and "continuous learning" was named as a feature of pluralism in the campus community. Freshman Natasja Eerens said that while tolerance is a worthy goal, we must start with "tolerance and respect of difference, and then move beyond tolerance to understanding. Tolerance is the minimum we should expect."

During the general body meeting one phrase came up, "Comfort the disturbed, disturb the comforted", which became a motto for the sum-

mit. Changing the power dynamics between different races was noted as a key element of pluralism, changing from a submission/dominance dynamic to equality. This was noted as an underlying component of pluralism, "one that must be changed over a long period of time". Racial diversity was not the only kind discussed. Diversity of religion, disability and sexual orientation were also discussed as essential to Conn.

When asked for practical solutions for the campus community, one of the most frequent responses was "expand Unity House". Unity, formed in 1973, was cited as one of the most important programs at Conn. Suggestions ranged from making participation in Unity recommended for certain majors and programs to holding classes in Unity facilities. Les Williams, director of Unity House and Dean of Multicultural Affairs, was praised as being "very influential" and dynamic by members of the summit. It was also suggested that the college hire a new director of Unity House so Williams could focus on his duties as Dean.

The summit ended on a determined note, Nagai-Rothe noted that the summit was going to become a yearly event, and that there is going to be a follow-up to determine how well the goals set up by this year's attendees were met. SGA president Kurt Brown said 'let to day result in action, not as if we're all just spinning our wheels'.

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I-Pride and Dean Receive Hate Emails

By JAMIE ROGERS
NEWS EDITOR

Several conservative white supremacist groups sent harassing e-mails to the Intercultural Pride Club and Frances Hoffmann, Dean of the College, this week calling the chair of the club "as much of a bigot as every skinhead."

I-Pride received two e-mails on Monday, February 17th. The first e-mail, sent by wsforbes@realmailbox.com, who claimed to have a "doctorate in science," criticized the organization for taking pride in race. "What is it you are so proud of exactly?" asked the writer, "race is, political definitions aside, a genetic pre-disposition." It claimed that being proud of race made a person "as much of a bigot as every skinhead who claims pride in being white?" The writer also criticized the use of taxpayer dollars to spread political messages, citing a petition to impeach President George Bush that circulated around the campus last week.

The second e-mail, sent by leadpencil1@excite.com, attacked the club's recruitment ad for its executive board. "Your diversity scheme is just a banner to hide behind while you force your views on the students at Connecticut College," said leadpencil1. The sender told the club to "get some other issue to get

behind, like ridding the world of communists or liberals." He or she called the chair a "wimpy assed panty waste (sic)... who pleads for hand-outs instead of getting off their sorry asses and getting to work."

Phillip Gedeon '05, Chair of I-Pride, sent the e-mails to senior administration asking for the proper protocol. He received what he called an unclear answer from Hoffmann, and lambasted Norman Fainstein, President of the College, for not responding at all. "This is our President," he exclaimed at Tuesday's Open Forum. The President claimed that he did not receive Gedeon's e-mail. According to Gedeon, the President later apologized stating that he had received the e-mail but didn't reply because other administrators had already done so.

I-Pride was not the only group to receive harassing e-mails this week. Dean Hoffmann also received an e-mail denouncing the administration ad in the Contact acknowledging the Abraham's Feast of Sacrifice, celebrated by Muslim students. According to Hoffmann the e-mail "took strong issue with the Dean of the College's greeting to the Muslim students." The e-mail referred to the Contact ad as "a daily happenings publication of my college." The Contact can only be seen in dining halls and public areas or on the CamelWeb, the College intranet only

accessible to members of the community, leading some to believe that the sender was a student or employee of the College.

The sender concluded the e-mail by telling Hoffmann she had been freed. The term refers to an e-mail campaign from an online conservative group known as Free Republic. According to the website, Free Republic is "working to roll back decades of governmental largesse, to root out political fraud and corruption, and to champion causes which further conservatism in America." They claim to have over 90,000 subscribers. Operation Infinite Free is an e-mail campaign by members of the group to answer "leftist demonstrations." Free Republic claims to have no racial biases.

College administrators also believe that another group, known as NACT, has been attacking the College since the beginning of this semester. NACT is a local branch of a larger white supremacy group.

Currently there is no evidence that any of the e-mails are related, nor any evidence to suggest that the senders are members of the community. Neither wsforbes nor leadpencil1 are registered members of the New England chapter of Free Republic. The College Voice e-mailed all of addresses to solicit responses; all e-mails were returned without a reply.

List of Demands as Issued by Students to President

1. Mandatory sensitivity training workshops for the entire personnel staff by fall (i.e. awareness workshop which came out of the 1986 take over Fanning)
2. Caller ID for all the student rooms, which will help prevent harassing phone calls
3. The school should become more involved in the planning of Multicultural and diversity activities such as Latino Awareness month, Black history month, APA awareness month, Soul awareness week and any other months or weeks that help promote diversity, education and tolerance towards diverse groups of people.
4. The number of "Minorities" on staff (library, bookstore, administrative offices, physical plant, residence and dining hall staff) should be increased—particularly in supervisory positions.
5. The establishment of a commission to investigate racial relations at Connecticut college by the board of trustees (a proposal was given to the board of trustees in 1971 by the student Government association. The idea was to bring the interracial situation into a realistic and factual light; publishing the data that is certainly present but rarely publicized; investigating the social stresses at work in the College community; compiling the findings; and constructing a prospectus for action.)
6. Revision of Honor Code by the fall of 2003
7. Communication between administration and students is clear and open in order to help eliminate the feeling of distrust on the part of the students.
8. More "Minority" student support.
9. Outside investigators should be brought in to ensure that there will not be any bias (i.e. NAACP, United States justice department and Police)

10. An open forum done this week or next week. This forum would be a mandatory one for the entire campus community. Everything on campus would be shut down for this forum. NAACP, United States Justice department, NCJRS and any other organization or personnel would be in attendance to help facilitate discussion and make aware that Racial harassment is not tolerated at the College. This forum should be something similar to that of the Honor code assembly put together for freshman.

11. An Anti-harassment program should be developed to incorporate the kinds of strategies that will prevent harassment, not merely increase the chance of punishment. This should start through the development and enforcement of written policies and procedures in the C-book. The school's instructional program, calendar of events, extracurricular activities, professional development efforts, and parent involvement initiatives are key to establishing an environment in which respect for diversity can flourish.

12. Commitment that no prosecution or punitive action be taken against participants of this peaceful protest.

It is unfortunate that this situation has evolved and that we need to take such drastic measures. However, it is our intent that positive steps will be taken as a result of our actions. We feel that there has been enough dialogue about the issue at hand and it is time to take action to prevent harassment and truly demonstrate to the campus community that racial harassment or harassment in general will not be tolerated.

The goal of this demonstration is to have the senior staff sign this document as a contract of good will. The senior staff must be willing to set concrete goals and timetables for the above demands. We as concerned students look forward to constructive interaction with the Administration and Trustees.

Campus Community Comments

"We will never be in a position to stop words... there will always be individuals who have hateful and devious thoughts. It's our job to drown out those words with a chorus, with our collective voice of support for the kind of community that we're trying to build on this campus."

"Take that experience and broadcast it in a way that no one can ignore."

"There are no bystanders in this kind of a process... you're all part of a solution."

"The solution is to personalize the experience."

"Sticks and stones will break your bones but names will never hurt you, but names and words are often the prelude to sticks and stones and broken bones."

"We want the perpetrator to own his or her opinions, so why don't we own ours?"

"We do not engage in cover-ups on the campus, we do not hide things from ourselves or the larger community."

"I feel like the campus is out for blood."

"We need to stop pointing fingers and all take a look at it together."

"We try to create a community of engagement and interaction."

"We are not free of the baggage that we bring from society"

"In order for us to be an example we have to show that we're trying to fix it."

"I don't know why I'm going to get out of the bath water, but I hope I can figure that out some time in my life because I don't want to live in stinky bath water."

"Life is about differences, and if you can't celebrate the differences and talk about the differences, and give claim to the differences, then they're just going to become conflicts."

"I am not a student of color, I am a human being and I'd like to be considered as such."

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NYC Rally: 'I Refuse to Believe War is Inevitable'

continued from page 1

intact. The policemen and women had arrived, armed and ready to combat anyone with even the slightest attitude towards them.

I saw the uniforms and felt like a hypocrite for wanting to kill them. It was shocking that hate was the first emotion to hit me. Didn't they understand what they were doing? Fuck the orders, I thought. This is our constitutional right. Don't steer us down side streets and try to arrest us! And as I fearlessly marched up to a uniform, I heard my echo reverberate from his lips, "You should have the right to protest." At least it was some sort of response to my question: "Are you pro- or anti-war?" I appreciated his even talking to me, but still, I wanted to punch him. He and countless hundreds of other police people had blocked off every cross street from 49th to 60th Streets with the goal of stopping the protesters from even being able to protest and unite at the U.N. on First Avenue. It was an obstacle we couldn't overcome, no matter how hard we tried. Beginning a permanent record never seemed so close.

For the next four grueling, bone-chilling hours, I, along with a few remaining friends and a mob screaming "Investigate, not annihilate!" that seemed to be following us, moved hastily up and over and back and down every possible street, searching for a crevice to slip through in order to reach 1st Ave. We passed more incidents of police brutality than I'd like to remember. Broken noses, trampled bodies under federally whipped horses, smashed blockades equaling more police and more assault.

I stood back, watching in frozen disbelief, letting the frustration and anger be alleviated by a tepid cup of hot chocolate from Dunkin Donuts that trickled down through my numb body. A huge blue and white board appeared in front of my face. Names popped out at me in black pen: Columbia, Bard, Berkeley, NYU, Dartmouth. Then the black marker was in my hand. Columbia, Bard, Berkeley, NYU, Dartmouth, Connecticut College. I was so stunned by what was going on, I have no idea what I signed. Whatever it was, someone knows we were there supporting, proliferating dissent.

And Conn did represent, there were 18 others who went on the bus, all excited at both the size and diversity of the turnout. Mab Segrest, an inspiring teacher of mine and a noteworthy professor of the Gender Women's Study Department spoke of her experience at the rally. "There were so many different kinds of people, ages, races, political persuasions. Our affinity group of about seven did a wonderful job of keeping track of each other in the throngs and through the police barricades. It was wonderful to be part of such a huge and historical event."

War may be inevitable. But for now, I have the great satisfaction of knowing that my participation in the New York City rally, along with hundreds of other major city protests across the country (and the globe), has helped in some way to successfully push the war back at least a month. The issues surrounding the U.S. involvement with Iraq and the entire Middle East are complex, but certainly, war is not the solution.

Here are some of the many dozens of creative posters I saw:

- If War Is The Answer, We're Asking The Wrong Question
- How Many Lives Per Gallon?
- How Did Our Oil Get Under Their Soil?
- Has Anyone Seen Our Constitution Lately?
- Born To Kill, Born To Drill
- Bush does for Christianity what Bin Laden does for Islam
- War Is A Dick Thing, Peace Is A Heart Thing
- Let's Try Preemptive Peace
- Go Solar, Not Ballistic
- Nonviolence, Not Nonexistence
- A Village In Texas Has Lost Its Idiot
- Has Anyone Seen Our Constitution Lately?
- Our Grief Is Not A Cry For War
- If You Are Not Outraged You Are Not Paying Attention
- Smart Bombs Don't Justify Dumb Leaders
- We Have Guided Missiles And Misguided Men
- Who's The Un-elected Tyrant With The Bomb?
- Peaceful Solution Not Daddy's Retribution
- All Humanity Is Downwind
- "No more Hiroshima"
- My President Is A Psychopath
- Relax, George

The Brief in Brief

A Synopsis of the NESCAC Brief Supporting Affirmative Action

—Concerns the Supreme Court case *Barbara Grutter v. Lee Bollinger and Jennifer Gratz and Patrick Hemacher v. Lee Bollinger*

—Connecticut College is joined in the brief by 27 other small colleges and universities, Amherst, Barnard, Bates, Bowdoin, Bryn Mawr, Carleton, Colby, Davidson, Franklin & Marshall, Hamilton, Hampshire, Haverford, Macalester, Middlebury, Mount Holyoke, Oberlin, Pomona, Sarah Lawrence, Smith, Swathmore, Trinity, Vassar, Wellesley, Williams, Colgate, Wesleyan, and Tufts

—For college admissions, the "overriding task is to assemble the most interesting class of students"

—To that end, several other factors in addition to race are considered including socioeconomic status, athletic ability, and musical or artistic talents

—As set in precedent by *Regents of the University of California v. Bakke*, educators set the relevant policies of the school and an invalidation of Affirmative Action "would violate principles of academic freedom and institutional autonomy"

—The type of diversity necessary must be sought out directly and "seeking out and obtaining (this) diversity" does not violate Title VI

—The desire for diversity is one rooted in history, not some "late twentieth-century social engineering"

—"Competition between highly selective schools provides natural constraining factors" that assure that students would not be selected purely on the basis of race or other specious criteria

—There is a compelling interest in maintaining all diversity, including racial, for colleges and universities as diverse schools are more well-regarded by prospective students and third party raters

—The United States also shares a compelling interest in the education of as diverse a selection of students as possible as it is beneficial for the whole of society

—"The primary and secondary educational system in the U.S. is far from a level playing field"

—This is reflected in research and Berkeley's elimination of race as a factor in admissions shows black enrollment dropping 50 to 70 percent and projects a "potential resegregating effect from roughly 5 to 7 percent of the student body to 2 percent or so"

—An effort to maintain diversity if Affirmative Action is ruled unconstitutional by the alternatives suggested would be "impractical and illusory" for small colleges and universities and would eventually result in a "forced abandonment of selectivity"

—The authorities used by those who oppose Affirmative Action are not educationally based and the prior decisions quoted do not relate to education

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February 24th at 10:00pm.

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ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

Hedonism, Guns Underscore Tragedy that is Hedda



Talented cast brings classic drama to life (*Paries*).

By SHONA SEQUEIRA
ASSOCIATE A&E EDITOR

The Theatre Department's dark, atmospheric rendition of Henrik Ibsen's classic play "Hedda Gabler" provided much to talk about for a piece that depicts the lack of communication and the repressed environment that lie embedded at the

root of society's problems. Written in 1890, "Hedda Gabler" remains as enduring and relevant today as it was in Ibsen's time, perceptively and sensitively tackling ever-controversial issues like sexuality and morality.

At the heart of the play stands Ibsen's self-destructive heroine, Hedda (a perfectly cast Kristin

Knapp), who weaves her fate in a damaging web of jealousy and manipulation. Torn between two enigmatic men, Brack (Nick Roesler) and Lovborg (Daniel Leary), and unmoved by her painfully awkward husband, George (Andrew McCullough), Hedda is also pitted against a harsh and unrelenting society that frowns upon emerging women's voices.

In an informal discussion after Thursday's opening night performance, director Robert Knopf talked about his dilemma when deciding whether or not to place "Hedda Gabler" in a contemporary setting. His final decision to retain Ibsen's classical world and to follow his original stage directions rendered the play as powerful as ever. Though "Hedda Gabler" harbors a nineteenth century feel, it is the subtle innuendoes that lurk beneath the play's antique surface that still pervade today's social structures.

Among the cast, an unassuming Kristin Knapp spoke candidly of her

title character, citing her as a woman who ultimately merits no sympathy, a view that some members of the audience were quick to dispute. One articulate observer commented on being "very moved" by Hedda, though she also described some of the heroine's less ennobling actions as "breathtakingly awful." Hedda is trapped in a "societal cage", ultimately choked by her growing, stifling frustrations.

Impressive performances by the leading cast, a beautifully-designed set, elaborate costumes, and haunting music make "Hedda Gabler" a must-see production. Staged after just three weeks of rehearsal, the Theatre Department's first major venture of the semester is unsettling, emotional, satisfying and loaded with dramatic tension (an upper-class woman with a perverse fascination for pistols). Each member of this phenomenal spectacle dynamically brought Ibsen to life on stage, in a way that gives him the recognition he deserves.

Spy Games: So Many Questions, So Few Answers (Until Sunday...)

By RACHEL CASADO ALBA
ASSOCIATE COPY EDITOR



we all know that's not true. It just makes us want Sunday to come sooner.

This week's upcoming episode holds some surprises and will hopefully answer some questions. Like, what's up with the Francie clone? After kissing her, Will seems to be acting like nothing happened, which is interesting considering his usually tenacious nature. I also understand that Sydney's been a little pre-occupied lately, you know, bringing down SD-6, graduating from grad school, making love to sexy CIA agents, being kidnapped, but doesn't she notice her BEST FRIEND is now a Stepford friend?

Dixon is a free agent now, too (no pun intended). Since Sydney was kidnapped, who from SD-6 has the key to rescuing her? It has to be Dixon, and it's going to be interesting to see what exactly Vaughn (and Jack) will do to rescue Syd. And, when is Irina (Lena Olin) gonna make a break for it?

Because you just know she will...Here she is, no longer any help to the CIA, her daughter's contemplating leaving the agency. What could possibly compel her to stay in custody? Unless there is some secret pact between her and Jack (Victor Garber) that is soon to be revealed, her compliance with the CIA makes no sense. WHERE IS SARK (David Anders)??? Just wondering, you know, because he is a tad important...and sexy.

And my big question is: What the heck happened to the Rambaldi Prophecy? How can you start something so complicated and then ignore it? Part of it reads: "This woman here depicted will possess unseen marks. Signs that she will be the one to bring forth my works. Bind them with fury. A burning anger, unless prevented. At vulgar cost, this woman will render the greatest power unto utter desolation..." Now supposedly this applies to Irina, but I don't get it. If Irina is going to cause a world disaster, it probably won't be from behind bars.

Now hopefully, this upcoming episode "Firebomb" will at least start to answer these questions...and naturally, I hope I didn't confuse you all, once again.



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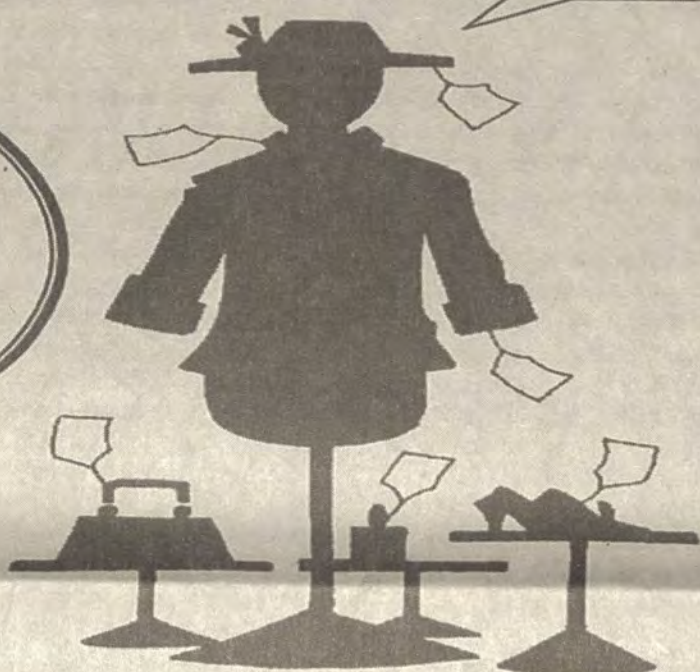
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Jump Off the Bandwagon: Taste This

Bambaji - Just One Chance
Bambaji 2002

Do you miss the feel-good California ska of Save Ferris? It isn't lost forever, my friend. There are plenty of ska bands out there carrying on the Orange County tradition - but sometimes you have to look a little further than Orange County to find them. Bambaji is a ska band with a thriving horn section hailing from Seattle, and their latest effort finds them blending the traditional ska sound with some

old-school funk, jazz and rock styles. Opening with the upbeat "One-Way Ticket" and the extremely fast-paced "Tied Down," one can tell from the beginning that these cats aren't messing around - they know their ska. While the upstroke is very fast, as in third and fourth wave ska, the vocal is very reminiscent of second wave Two-Tone bands. "Beauty Queen" is slightly slower, and very Gwen Stefani with the lyrics "it's a myth it's a crime/the stuff they sell in seventeen/line your lips and paint your eyes/and try to act the beauty queen/actress, model, escort bride/retail, wholesale, hooker, wife." Bambaji is a band that knows their roots, seemingly taking a page out of the Specials' book and rewriting it for their own needs with the

slightly eerie "Just One Chance," and even a little on society-conscious "Maceo Street" (on maceo street this ain't hollywood/on maceo street this is where the dogs bark/on maceo street this is all you'll ever know/maceo street). "Maybe I Should" is the story of most everybody's life: a grand to do list of things that will probably never get done: "Black Garden" picks it up with a little help from indie rock. The band lifts spirits with the humbling, "Piece Of Pie" waxes poetic with "Picasso" and keeps it real with "All I Ever Wanted." Bambaji is a band that has apparently set a goal to not only make good music, but make music that will inspire you to do something, whether it be get up and dance, write a poem, or at the very least sing along. And it is more than obvious that these are musicians that enjoy what they do - and at the end of the day, that is what makes a record worth hearing.

Genre: Orange County Ska from Seattle
Try It If You Dig: Save Ferris, Squirrel Nut Zippers, UB40
Website: www.bambaji.com



SNOW WHITE TRASH - Snow White Trash
2002 - Shut The Hell Up Records

If there ever was an underrated genre, it's country. Let's face it, this is America, and aside from McDonald's, there's nothing more American than down and dirty hillbilly music. That said, there's nothing more down and dirty than a parental advisory sticker on a record - the folks of Snow White Trash, a band that is arguably the bastard child of Kid Rock and Patsy Cline, wear this brand with pride. Their self-titled album starts out with "Honey I'm Home," a song that presents a unique view on cheating: a chick getting caught in the act. Singer Pamela Richards (whose purpose in the band according to the record's jacket includes "lead vocal, debauchery, navel gyration, restraining orders) crows that the song's title bears "the worst three words to hear while making love." This record is simply fun. The second track is about a man who loves his fried chicken and the third is an ode to Frankenstein. The fourth track, "Sweet Revenge," serenades Santa, asking for several elements of brutal revenge such as eggnog spiced with arsenic and the ability to "unwrap his package with a knife." The true high-point of this album, however, is the artistry with which Snow White Trash perform Jimmy Buffett's "Why Don't We Get Drunk." They've taken the original - which was already pretty trashy considering the repeated line "why don't we get drunk and screw?" - and turned up the hillbilly heat, daring the listener not to get up and square dance (or dance in some manner, considering that most who know how to square dance won't admit it). Snow White Trash show how truly nasty they can be with "Henpecked," a song which just might be about sex with animals (but it also might not be - you should decide for yourself...): "she gives good milk and she gives great head." The album closes out with "Yankin' On The Old Man's Crank," a song with great rockabilly guitars and enough energy to get your grandfather up and jivin'. Like every other track on Snow White Trash's self titled effort, this is a song about sex. This female-fronted band of swingin' self-proclaimed rednecks has a lot to say that the Voice simply cannot print, and if that alone doesn't intrigue you, keep this in mind: this is some rockin' country that simply doesn't suck.

Genre: Hillbilly Tunes For A Roll In The Hay
Try It If You Dig: Johnny Cash, Hank Williams III, Trick Pony
Website: www.snow.whitetrashband.com



THE STELLAS - Music For Umbrellas
2002 Sonic Blitz Records

If ever the word "cute" was embodied by electric guitars, the Stellas have accomplished this feat. They are a three-piece, female-band that embraces pop and new wave and creates their own brand of pretty rock 'n roll. Their latest release, Music For Umbrellas will have you bopping your head and humming along to ten tracks of sugary melodies. And, yes, synth fans, these kids have keyboards and are prepared to use them. The album kicks off with "Better Off," immediately infecting the listener with Stella fever. "When He Says He Loves Me" has sure single power, with drummer, John, backing Raechel's lead vocal on the chorus and lyrics that will stick in your brain faster than Crazy Glue between your fingers. One of the most percussively interesting songs on "Music For Umbrellas" is "Girlfriend," with it's clickity-clack rhythms and sing-songy lyrics. Though the Stellas have been compared to the Donnas, there's not a whole lot to compare - the Stellas are slower, more melodic, and more diverse in their songwriting. They're softer, sweeter, and certainly more polite - but not in that "step on me" sort of way. This is a band that has many apparent influences: while "Fluff My Aura" sounds like a bizarre cross between Coldplay and the Go-Go's, "The Bullet Proof Anthem" sounds closer to Hole on Prozac with keyboards and a less husky vocal. The Stellas also know how to cover a tune and make it their own, doing so with the Cars' "Just What I Needed," adding some extra synth sounds and blending it with Trio's "Da Da Da" (yes, from the Volkswagen commercial). Where the original songs sound nothing like a medley-ready pair, the Stellas have proven themselves worthy of bragging rights with this creative fusion. This is a band with a million flavors and no MSG. But unlike chain restaurant Chinese food, the Stellas need no taste-titillators - they do all the titillating on their own.

Genre: Fluffy Chick Punk
Try It If You Dig: The Eyeliners, Elastica, Belinda Carlisle
Website: www.thestellasloveyou.com



2002 Oscar Nominations and Predicted Winners

By RACHEL CASADO ALBA
ASSOCIATE COPY EDITOR

Best Actor
Adrien Brody, "The Pianist"
Nicolas Cage, "Adaptation"
Michael Caine, "The Quiet American"



Daniel Day-Lewis, "Gangs of New York"
Jack Nicholson, "About Schmidt"
Although Cage's performance(s) were able to anchor "Adaptation," he and Caine suffer from unseen movie syndrome. Adrien Brody's performance in "The Pianist" was critically acclaimed and garnered him his first nomination, but veteran Nicholson has the edge in this race. Or does he? Since "Schmidt" only received two nominations and "Gangs" has much more support, a long-absent Daniel Day-Lewis may be able to steal this from Nicholson.

Best Actress

Salma Hayek, "Frida"
Nicole Kidman, "The Hours"
Diane Lane, "Unfaithful"
Julianne Moore, "Far From Heaven"
Renée Zellweger, "Chicago"
Although "Unfaithful" helped bring Diane Lane back into the public eye, having sex with Olivier Martinez doesn't win you an Oscar. Hayek in "Frida" was little seen, and although Kidman and Zellweger gave tremendous performances (that look great on their resumes), this award goes to Julianne Moore, who has had Oscar coming her way since "The End of the Affair".

Best Supporting Actor
Chris Cooper, "Adaptation"
Ed Harris, "The Hours"
Paul Newman, "Road to Perdition"
John C. Reilly, "Chicago" (Winner)
Christopher Walken, "Catch Me if You Can"

"Road to Perdition" came out this spring and although it's Paul Newman we're talking about, the movie is too far out of viewers' memories to make an impact. Harris, intense and good as usual, was just overshadowed by the three leading ladies of "The Hours." Chris Cooper has won the Golden Globe and has a substantial number of awards (see any of his work with John Sayles, especially "Matewan"), and, barring a possible John C. Reilly win (who had a significant number of supporting roles this year), he will probably get the Oscar.

Best Supporting Actress
Kathy Bates, "About Schmidt"
Queen Latifah, "Chicago"
Julianne Moore, "The Hours"
Meryl Streep, "Adaptation"
Catherine Zeta-Jones, "Chicago"
Queen Latifah and this year's Best Supporting Actress Award seems like last year's, with an actress given a supporting nomination because she has no chance of winning in the lead actress category.

Catherine Zeta-Jones seems to be a lock, unless the improbable happens in the Best Actress category. If Nicole Kidman or Renee Zellweger wins Best Actress, Julianne Moore might win this award as a consolation prize.

Best Director
Pedro Almodóvar, "Talk to Her"
Stephen Daldry, "The Hours"
Rob Marshall, "Chicago"
Roman Polanski, "The Pianist"
Martin Scorsese, "Gangs of New York"
Polanski and Almodovar are the long shots, basically on the list for what they didn't do (make another "Ninth Gate" or get a nom for Best Foreign Film). Daldry took three established actresses and got good performances out of each, but I'm not sure if it's enough to win him an Oscar especially against this competition. This year it's between Marshall and Scorsese. Scorsese, who has never won an Oscar (sorry, but how did Robert Redford's direction of "Ordinary People" beat Scorsese's direction of "Raging Bull"?), might not win again this year because of "Gangs" slightly underwhelming critical reception. But there is a swell of support for him as the sentimental



favorite. Marshall on the other hand, was finally able to turn "Chicago" into a movie



after many years, and was able to put together a talented cast (I mean, could you really see Madonna as Velma Kelly? I think not). And with the hype about the "return of the musical," Marshall has a good chance of winning the Oscar.

Best Picture
"Chicago"
"Gangs of New York"
"The Hours"
"The Lord of the Rings: The Two Towers"
"The Pianist"

Sadly, this is not LOTR's year. With no acting nom or directing nom for Peter Jackson, "The Two Towers" is basically a special effects winner this year (and even Andy Serkis' Gollum got no love). Although "The Pianist" got a star turn from Adrien Brody and brought Roman Polanski back to Hollywood, it suffers from being yet another generic Hollywood war movie. "Gangs of

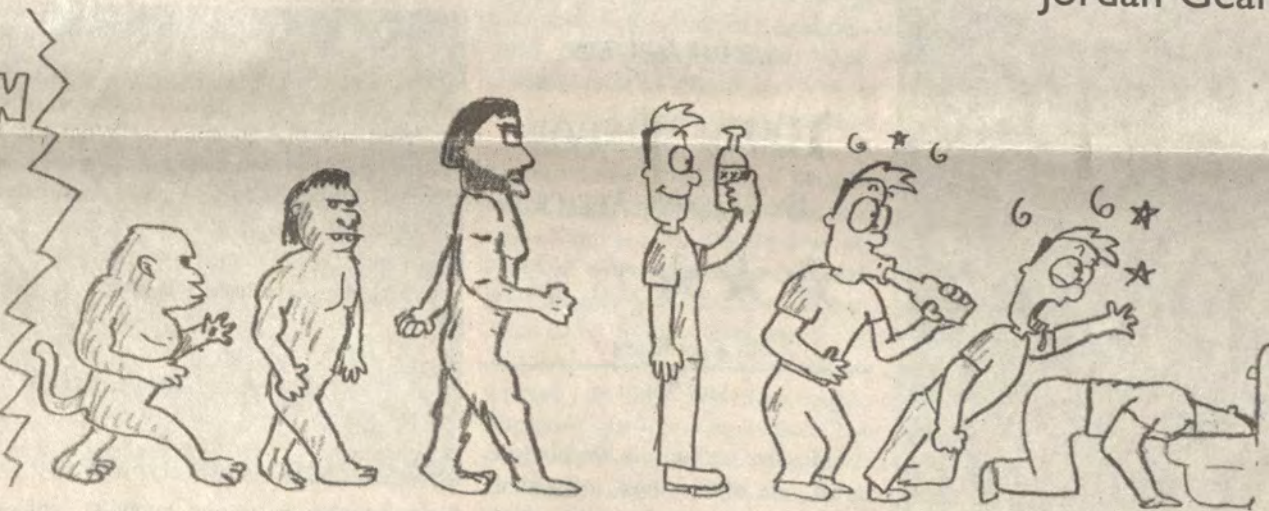
New York" had to live up to thirty years' worth of hype, and didn't succeed. So it comes down to "Chicago" and "The Hours." Being conflicted in this decision, I will not choose between the two.

Animated Feature
"Ice Age"
"Lilo & Stitch"
"Spirit: Stallion of the Cimarron"
"Spirit: Stretched Away"
"Treasure Planet"

Personally, I want "Ice Age" to win (because who wouldn't love the combination of Ray Romano, Denis Leary and John Leguizamo?). Realistically, since Disney's money is behind the anime flick "Spirit: Stretched Away" (from the creator of "Princess Mononoke"), it has the best chance of winning. If the crappy "Treasure Planet" or the unfunny "Lilo and Stitch" wins, the Academy has serious problems.

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A&E: REVIEWS

The Devil You Don't Know

MOVIE REVIEW:

Daredevil

DIRECTED BY:

MARK STEVEN JOHNSON



By TIM STEVENS
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

The important thing to understand about Daredevil is that I grew up with the character. Although I had never read a single issue of the comic, sometime around the first grade I decided that he was my favorite super hero. Who knows why, I just did. Therefore, much like "Spider-Man" this past summer, I have been awaiting this movie for the better portion of my life. This love of the character is a double-edged sword. On the one hand, I watch the movie as a little kid, just excited to see my favorite character there up on the screen, 30 times as large as life. On the other, as a ridiculous fan, I feel have a certain desire to protect the character, to watch the movie to make sure the filmmakers do not change anything too much or lose the spirit of the character. All of this on the table, I loved "Daredevil."

Now, does that mean you, the common man or woman, will? Well, that is where things get tricky.

First off, although born of the same comic book company, an unofficial "Spider-Man" sequel this is not. Yes, the peer film's influence can be felt, from the overlong opening title sequence (which is blessedly shorter than "Spider-Man's", but then again, I am pretty sure reading the Bible cover to cover can be done in less time than it took those credits to unfurl), to the quest for superhero maturity journey that dominates each movie's plot. However,

"Daredevil" is a far darker story, veering closer to the sensibilities of the first "Batman" or "Crow" films and pushes the PG-13 rating for violence farther than any movie has in recent times.

Intriguingly, the movie opens on Daredevil (Ben Affleck) lying, bleeding, on the floor of a Catholic Church as a priest, none too surprised, unmasks him. From here, the majority of the film is told in flashback as to how Matt Murdock, a kid from Hell's Kitchen with a boxer father, ended up blind, a lawyer, and lying near death in this church.

At 142 minutes this film hauls, fitting in not only the above details, but a couple beatings of thugs, a romance, some laughs, a few spectacular fight sequences with supervillains, several instances of Catholic iconography, and several deaths. It is never, suffice it to say, a boring movie.

Are there things that suffer because of this? Absolutely. The romance between Matt and Elektra Natchios (Jennifer Garner) seems to just happen. They meet and fall in love (deeply) in the span of roughly 24 hours. Yes, their violent courtship dance on a school playground is great fun, but that hardly equals enough gravity to give later events the true punch of tragedy they deserve. While I could fill in the gaps from growing up with the characters, most will undoubtedly find the romance subplot to be lacking in justification.

Despite the speed of the movie, it



chooses correctly in maintaining its focus on Matt. Too often, superhero films are seduced into making the movie about the villain, as in all the Batman movies, while the hero seems to exist merely to make sure that justice is ultimately done. Here, while Daredevil must share screentime with two villains (Bullseye, Kingpin) and an anti-heroine/love interest (Elektra) it is always Matt's characterization that dominates the film.

Burying much of what critics have come to refer to as his "frat boy mentality" Affleck, (unexpectedly for many), proves

equal to the weight of this focus. He portrays Matt's spectrum of emotions effectively with little melodrama. Of most interest, however, is how well he plays blind. He does not stop with the time honored tradition of simply staring, employed by so many before him, and the result is one of the most realistic portrayals of blindness since Joan Allen in "Manhunter." The issues that arise in the focus on Matt seem to originate more out of the script (Why is a defense attorney representing a rape victim, isn't that the DA's job?) than Affleck's acting.

Of the villains, Bullseye (Colin Farrell) fares the best. He is pure charismatic insanity and his fairly simple power (he never misses) is displayed as how truly dangerous such a skill can be. Garner, as Elektra, continues to prove that she is ridiculously talented when it comes to physical stunt work while still managing to be an effective actor. As an additional bonus, she has rarely been as beautiful as she was in this role. Michael Clarke Duncan as Kingpin is an effective bit of casting regardless of skin tone (the comic book Kingpin is white), and it is a shame how little he was utilized. Perhaps a sequel will offer him a bigger role.

In the end, there is much to recommend the movie beyond even what is listed above. Jon Favreau as a great source of comic relief as Matt's money-loving law partner Foggy Nelson, the intriguing depiction of Daredevil's radar sense, and the overall arc of the story, the realization of what justice is, are examples that immediately come to mind. Is this movie a perfect masterpiece? No, it could have benefited from some stronger dialogue and probably about 15 minutes more screentime to fit in everything it wanted to. However, as a comic book movie, it proves that such projects are definitely back on the right track as it takes the subject matter seriously and does not talk down to the viewers. It remains hopeful that X-Men 2 and The Hulk can continue in this way.

Schickler's Debut Novel Quirky, Yet Endearing

Business as Usual for Massive Attack on Latest Release



By RACHEL CASADO-ALBA
ASSOCIATE COPY EDITOR

David Schickler's debut novel "Kissing in Manhattan" is composed of eleven intertwined short stories, all taking place in the Preemption apartment building. The characters include a headstrong Princeton-bound private school girl bent on marrying her English teacher, a smart feminist seduced by a muscle-bound chauvinist named Checkers and failed comedian who plays an angry mouse in a stage play and becomes famous. While a "young professionals look for love in NYC" book may seem a bit precocious, Schickler takes "Kissing in Manhattan" in the opposite direction of everything you're expecting.

One of the main characters, investment banker Patrick Rigg, has a habit of seducing and dominating a devoted harem of young women, making them fall in love with their own bodies by tying them to his bed and forcing them to stare at themselves in a mirror. While this Patrick may remind you of another maladjusted Patrick (namely Patrick Bateman from "American Psycho"), his psychosis takes a non-murderous form. The young women he brings to his apartment

become grateful to him for giving them self-confidence, and one, Rally McWilliams, falls in love with his roommate James.

James, an accountant who likes to stop the elevator (named "Otis") between floors in order to talk to it privately, finds Rally tied to Patrick's bed and engages her in conversation. The two slowly fall in love. If you think this coupling is odd, the story of Nicole Bonner is even stranger. The aforementioned private school girl, Nicole invites her AP English teacher, Douglas

BOOK REVIEW: Kissing In Manhattan

By DAVID SCHICKLER



Kerchek, home for dinner one night. When Mr. Kerchek meets her parents, he quickly realizes that this family is very odd. For one thing there's the cat named John Stapleton who is toilet trained, and their ancestor from the Carpathian Mountains. Next thing Kerchek



knows, Samson Bonner is offering his daughter in marriage.

James, Rally, Patrick and all of the characters meet in various different ways, until the night Father Thomas Merchant must intervene to save someone's life. This book may seem odd, but Schickler's style is utterly believable. Each story examines the loneliness that the characters feel. "Kissing in Manhattan" won't change your world view, but if you want to read some observant slice-of-life stories set in New York, Schickler gives you exactly what you need. His stories are gentle, witty and darkly romantic.

ALBUM REVIEW:

100TH WINDOW By MASSIVE ATTACK



By ADAM KAUFMAN
STAFF WRITER

Massive Attack is without a doubt one of the most influential groups in electronic music. Not only were they pioneers of the trip-hop genre, but the three albums they released from 1991-1998, Blue Lines, Protection, and Mezzanine, are all classics of the genre. Only one of the original members remains in the group, but this is no matter as Massive Attack has always featured a rotating and ever-changing array of producers and vocalists. Whoever has been behind the music of Massive Attack has never failed to please. And this is no exception with the newest album, 100th Window.

100th Window continues on the path of Mezzanine, with its use of



dark, complex beats and hypnotic vocalists. Indeed, 100th Window doesn't sound progressively different from what Massive Attack has released before, but this shouldn't take away from the fact that the music is seriously good. On Future Proof, a dense bass-heavy soundscape, there is a mix of hypnotic keyboards and an Aphex Twin-style beat. On A Prayer for England, Sinead O'Conner sings political protest over a pulsating rhythm that sounds like Sigur Rós doing drum and bass. Antistar is another standout track with a Tricky-influenced vocalist signing alongside a dark, subtly funky groove that adds layers

of orchestra and synthesized beats as the song goes on.

With 100th Window, Massive Attack continues to produce dark, captivating music that bridges a fine line between electronic and organic. This is music that seeps into your consciousness when you listen to it, pulsating through your brain and making you wonder what you've just listened to after the last track ends. It is incredibly addictive. With 100th Window, Massive Attack may not be reinventing the face of electronica, but they still have the power to produce some wonderfully off-kilter and sublime listening material.

Connecticut College Dance Ensemble Sweeps Audience off Feet

STAGE REVIEW:

DIRECTED BY: J.M. REBUDAL

Dance Ensemble



By SHONA SEQUEIRA
ASSOCIATE A&E EDITOR

Dancing to a different beat last Friday at the Martha Myers Studio was the Connecticut College Dance Ensemble (CCDE) in a spectacularly slick and energetic performance. Presented by the Dance Department and directed by J.M. Rebudal, a Filipino-American visiting dance professor, the production showcased a mélange of modern, traditional, ballet, and folk dance that found favor with a delighted and enraptured audience.

Established in 2001 with a starting grant from the Holleran Center for Community Action and Public Policy, CCDE tours and performs works from various New York guest artists and faculty members. The dance performance on Friday featured repertoire by such noted choreographers as Seán Curran, Marius Petipa, Dan Ye, Myrna Packer, Art Bridgman, Robyne Watkin and Mr. Rebudal himself. Stylish costumes and a fitting score provided the fin-

ishing touches to a wonderful dance excursion.

CCDE's twelve-member cast features some of the best dancing talents at the College—students who boast strong dancing backgrounds and who have trained under and performed with major American dance companies. The Ensemble's production comprised six pieces, each well-rehearsed and effective in its own right, and the "Meet the Dancers" concept was an original twist—following every piece, dancers from each academic class were introduced to the audience in sleek, self-choreographed moves.

The show commenced with Filipino, a modern piece whose fluidity was reflected in the constant flow and motion of dancers onstage; varying the number of performers ensured that the piece was never monotonous. The Mongolian Chop Stick Dance provided brief traditional relief though the emphasis on modern fell back into the clean and understated Mercurial Relapse. Senior Francis Stansky and junior Nile Russell held the audience

spellbound in the Packer/Bridgman choreographed Lava Falls.

The Ensemble incorporated a classical feel with excerpts from The Sleeping Beauty Ballet in which pirouettes and pliés were executed with flawless precision and ease. Each soloist made the grueling technicalities of ballet look truly effortless. Saved for the last dance was Folk Dance for the Future, which ended the show as stylishly as it had begun. The company came together once again in a humorous piece that fused traditional methods with postmodern techniques.

Connecticut College is proud of its Dance Department, and audiences here have come to expect nothing less than high quality productions—CCDE's magnificent dance spectacle did not disappoint in the least. Led by seniors Brük Gessay, Sarah Wilkinson and Francis Stansky, each member of CCDE relished every moment on stage, and we, a charmed audience, loved seeing them there.



Dance Ensemble shines in sassy spectacle (Nuess).

EDITORIAL & OPINION

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equally important meaning, they do not!

Racism is the belief that people's qualities are influenced by their race and that the members of other races are not as good as the members of your own, which results in the other races being treated unfairly. The primary focus of multiculturalism is centered on the interactions between different cultural groups resident within a political entity; namely a state. Anti-racist means that you are opposed to the unfair treatment of people who belong to other racial groups. The word community is sometimes used to mean the general public. These words individually do not, in my opinion, adequately cover the purpose of what we are struggling to achieve on this campus. A deep understanding of what diversity means, what it encompasses, as well as how it will benefit the student body, faculty, and staff as a cohesive collective is what we need to be preoccupied with achieving. When we can grasp an understanding of what diversity is and how it is not synonymous with anti-racism, multiculturalism, and community is when we will have a campus that can move forward in embracing the perils we are now faced with and find a remedy for the problem.

Diversity consists of distinct characteristics, qualities, or elements on all levels of life and the appreciation of open-mindedness. Diversity encompasses all the distinct characteristics of races, ethnicities, cultures, sexual orientation, differences in socialization, etc. If we can achieve a general appreciation of diversity then we can achieve a community on various levels where the threads of dialogue flow thickly. To achieve a true sense of community we need to have an appreciation of diversity that accepts all views whether they are in the majority or minority and opinions that may be morally and ethically outrageous. However, it's the appreciation of different views, whether we agree with them or not, that allows us to understand and learn from and about each other. If we examine all the crimes from every perspective conceivable we would realize that they are not acts of racism, hatred for multiculturalism and or community. They are hate crimes against diversity.

As a collective of individuals that have the intellectual capacity to collect information, dissect it, and form opinions, it is our responsibility to foster a diverse community that would like to have an exchange of information in an environment where people do not feel threatened regardless of how they feel. There needs to be the fostering of a community that would allow us to ask the more important questions when diversity is under attack. Those questions are: A) Why is this coming out now and in such quantity? B) Why do people feel that they need to express their opinions in such ways? C) What can we do as a community to engage in dialogue that would make us understand why people feel the way that they do? and D) What are the ways in which we can ensure that the next time people feel the need to express their opinions, there is a supportive and open form for this to happen so that individuals do not feel targeted or threatened because of their thoughts? When we can address these questions and stand firm by the answers is when we will achieve attitudes that are pro-diversity and pro-community. But, we can not have one without the other and we can not be biased in our opinions in what these two words mean. In essence, when we understand the language we can then understand what is really happening around us, because it has a context and is then a reality.

-Linda Garcia '04

To the Editors:

As the 7 individuals of Earth House, we stand in solidarity with those who condemn these bias-related incidents. These incidents attack not only the targeted individuals, but also the entire community. We recognize, or are beginning to recognize, the seriousness of the culturally-constructed inequalities on this campus and in the nation, including those based on race, ethnicity, gender, religion, sexual orientation, and class. We choose to commit to taking personal responsibility to challenge these inequalities in our daily lives.

-Sarah Zisa, Kassie Rohrbach, Stefan Apse, Emily Weidner, Melissa Mylchreest, Katharine Varnum, Tegra Nuess
Holes in the College

To the Editor:

While I apologize in advance for any structural shortcomings of this letter, please understand that they come under the stress of deadline, and a sense of impassioned urgency inspired by the campus wide Diversity Forum of Tuesday, February 18.

First, in defense of the opening student speaker Tuesday: As a supporter of the impending Iraq intervention, I posit that you have, in the student's words, "spoken critically against the war;" Mr. President, and you have failed to address the undercurrent of moral equivalence that is the other "elephant in the room," a phenomenon that has lately crept into the present political discourse.

For instance, at Saturday's S.G.A.-sponsored forum, I and another student at the event remember a remark to this effect: "the desire for social justice is hampered by an orientation toward war" (I regret being unable to locate your comments on the web; I have only scrawled notes before me). Also, in your State of the College Address, you referred to the coming intervention as "a war of aggression." True, you have rightly avoided the divisive act of using your speeches as explicitly political vehicles, and perhaps that is what you thought Tuesday's first student speaker was charging. Not so. For while you may have been "a man of few words" about the Iraq issue, you have still been critical. Therefore, since you've taken a stance, why not follow your own advice to us, and admit it? This is not a simple, petty case of "hurt feelings," Mr. President. Rather, I argue a basic idea that has been as you might say- "drowned out" by the din of the past few days: the idea that it is possible to make common cause with you on many of the issues you support, yet disagree on others.

AFFIRMATIVE ACTION IS DISCRIMINATION

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cents chosen on the basis of Affirmative Action who are qualified; I am just saying that there is no way to tell.

One of the clearest religious showings of the wrongs of Affirmative Action is seen in the Jewish Old Testament, under Ezekiel 18, where Ezekiel delivers a strong rebuff to the whole concept of ancestral guilt, which in this case Affirmative Action seeks to maintain: EZEKIEL 18:19-20

19 "Yet you ask, 'Why does the son not share the guilt of his father?' Since the son has done what is just and right and has been careful to keep all my decrees, he will surely live."

20 "The soul who sins is the one who will die. The son will not share the guilt of the father, nor will the father share the guilt of the son. The righteousness of the righteous man will be credited to him, and the wickedness of the wicked will be charged against him."

It is hypocritical for people to say they oppose group guilt, such as the one used in rounding up Japanese Americans in WWII, and then say they support Affirmative Action.

Another reason one should oppose Affirmative Action is because the definition of it has been changed by those who support it nowadays. Instead

What of the many liberal students, pundits, authors, journalists, and political theorists who have argued that the coming intervention is a just one? Do you believe that your loaded statements, taken any which way, would hold water before bright minds who have argued strongly for social justice, such as Paul Berman, Timothy Noah, Christopher Hitchens, and Bill Keller, who, like yourself, back such measures as Affirmative Action and the Americans With Disabilities Act, but who, based on their research, have simply arrived at a different conclusion about foreign policy than you?

I did not awaken this morning, or any morning since the direction of our foreign policy changed so drastically, screaming for the blood of innocent people. Nor did I participate in Tuesday's forum as some sort of slick opportunist attempting to use others, views for my own political advancement. I attended because the events of the past six months, aside from compromising my own sense of safety, trust, free thought and moral clarity, came to a personal head this weekend, with a student's graphic recollection of her harassing phone call. I attended out of a fundamental desire to do right. I attended because I learned tolerance the hard way: through adversity.

Growing up, I listened to my parents - only one of whom completed a college degree-tiptoe around the topic of race. Having completed my public education in a small, subtly segregated town, I still have not fully forgiven my parents for moving out of the city. Who knows how much faster I would have learned just what it is to do right by one's fellow man, that there was more to the world than my hometown, had I grown up in an environment whose citizens were more passionate about the pursuit of knowledge, who wanted their youngsters to do more with their weekends than drink them away?

Summarily, while I was not taught "tolerance" per se, I did learn about bigotry and provincialism. Do you want to know what tolerance is? It's discovering who your real friends are after finding that several of your high-school peers have vandalized a notebook with words like "cripple," "gimpy," "retard," and "faggot"; it's going under the knife, and realizing that your only worry is entrusting your well-being to a doctor who will "fix" the problem at hand, much less keep you breathing. My early childhood was marked by several surgeries, and the best medical personnel at work around me were foreign-born. To this day, I try not to make generalizations about people, but I will never forget that my very first lesson on tolerance came with the realization that those friendly, hard-working faces in that antiseptic operating room were different from my own.

All this said, I deeply resent even the faintest implication by anyone that I am a bigot because of a political disagreement. I-as is doubtless true of the many students who agree with me on the present state of American foreign policy-do not believe that, as a man of such strong scholarly credentials, you are willing to demonize your ideological opponents as hatemongers, Mr. President. Nonetheless, please understand that for some on the "antiwar" side, respectful disagreement is not enough.

I have seen students marginalized for their positions. Consider the freshman Voice columnist Yoni Freeman. Granted, I will be quick to admit that, as the concerned friend of a few young servicemen who are more than a bit frightened about their coming task, I do not believe Mr. Freeman's hawkish language always exhibits a clear respect for those who are actually at war. Furthermore, having read many of his columns and heard his radio shows (by virtue of the fact that his co-host is my advisee), I now realize that his sizeable ego and overwhelming desire to be Connecticut College's contrarian in residence merit trimming. Still, this hardly separates him from any other freshman: wide-eyed, occasionally whip-smart, yet occasionally unaware how to tell his ass from his elbow. I'm sure his arguments will improve with time, a more refined writing style, and the emergence of a regular editorial opponent. Where was the collective concern, though, when in the November 22 edition of The Voice-an upperclassman, while pretending to complement him as "a valued member of this community," thereafter dismissed him as a bloodletter who, Mr. Freeman's critic hoped, "was no indication of a new generation of Middle East decision-makers (or else) history is bound to repeat itself in sharp burst of bloodshed?" What of a now-graduated Conn. Student who, post 9/11, took the same hard-line, albeit from the other side of the spectrum, parroting every word Noam Chomsky has ever written, and implicitly attempting to nullify just war theory writ large? In response, I saw two convoluted letters appear in The Voice, but I cannot gauge whether or not the outrage was nearly as widespread then. Obstinacy and pomposity, it seems, are allowable, as long as the writer expresses a viewpoint that does not challenge convention.

In response to the critics, I submit that those of us at C.C. who support a currently unpopular take on foreign policy are not "terrorists," or "imperialists." To affix the Bush Administration with the same labels-as have the more radical elements of the antiwar left-is to succumb to the sort of grotesque moral equivalence that is itself a form of hatred, and has been used by the radical left, strange bedfellows of the reactionary right (Pat Buchanan, Robert Novak, and other isolationists who, bitter that the country correctly sees them as out of touch, have taken to saying that Washington is the real source of international resentment.) to defame the good names of otherwise reasonable dissenters by association. This is also the Administration of Colin Powell and Condi Rice, bear in mind; I wonder if the criticism from members of our own community would be quite as strident were they at the head of the Republican ticket (as one of them may soon be, given the recurring health problems and robotic comportment of Dick Cheney).

Administrators, professors, students, friends, I write to you as a realist (as was true in my defense of America in this newspaper post 9/11). I know our social (Read: the Bush Administration's appalling lack of courage throughout the Trent Lott disaster) and foreign policies (read: Chile, Vietnam, Iraq/Iran, and Rwanda) are far from perfect; I know that this nation and this college have at times been deeply unfaithful to their founding ideals. But we cannot, will not, must not, give up on our country and our college, both of which have come so far, yet can go further I will soon see a day when we can all feel safe in our surroundings. I will soon see a community physically accessible to all students. I will soon see an intellectual climate free of demonization. I will soon see a people with the moral

of viewing Affirmative Action as a way to ensure equal opportunity, it has been altered to be some false idealistic mechanism seeking to create "equal results."

Finally, Affirmative Action also IMPLIES that the African American race has natural sub-standard intelligence, expectation, and capabilities. Given this implied assumption that African Americans could never compete on such even grounds as others basically means that "considerations" must be granted, as one would for a mentally ill child or crippled individual for them to get ahead. This is exactly what Affirmative Action involves. Affirmative Action is not only insulting by its very nature, but is racism of the highest order. African Americans should not be subjected to this policy, as it insults and demeans their accomplishments.

Affirmative Action "hurts the people it is supposed to help," as Dr. Alan Keyes once said, "casts doubts on their real achievements and lowers expectations for the black youth."

To view my past columns please visit my website: <http://oak.conncoll.edu/~yrfre>

Until next time,
YF

courage to stand by their convictions, and each other.

To all of the administrators, faculty, and students who organized and participated in Tuesday's forum: by allowing every opinion to be heard, you have won my respect and strengthened my resolve.

I now move forward in full knowledge that this country and this campus will change for the better

Jared Tester, '04

Student Recommends We Maintain Respect For Custodial Staff Despite Past Events

To the editors:

Although I do not live in the Old Plex, I too was shocked, offended and disgusted by "Luis", the custodian who spied on the students in the shower. I sincerely hope that Luis was the only person involved and that he will be brought to justice. Yet if others are involved, I hope they will be discovered, terminated, and prosecuted as well.

I am writing to encourage people to remain trustful and respectful of their custodians, 99% of whom do excellent work. An anonymous source was quoted in The Voice as saying, "There is a good chance he [Luis] wasn't the only one drilling the holes [in the shower stalls]." While many students are upset, the mistrust and suspicion caused by a statement like this will only hurt others. While a freshman my life was turned upside down for many months as a result of being falsely accused of voyeurism. For months after this happened, I was afraid to be in a bathroom. Three years later, I still get instinctively nervous if someone is in the shower stall next to me for fear that person might think that I was spying. My heart went out for the custodian who was quoted as saying, "I now ask students if I should come back later to make them more comfortable . . . The incident made us all look bad so now we are all extra cautious." As a campus, we must make sure that no one is falsely accused of voyeurism in our attempts to hold people accountable. It is not fair for the custodial staff, whose job it is to spend several hours a day cleaning bathrooms, to have the same fear of being in bathrooms that I had three years ago. The custodial staff should not have to take such extra caution in their jobs out of fear they are either making students uncomfortable or might be falsely accused.

I urge the administration to continue a responsible investigation to identify and punish everyone involved in drilling holes in the shower stalls and spying on students. In conducting this investigation, both the administration and students need to stand up for the 99% of the custodians who had no part in spying on anyone. Students need to take time to appreciate their custodians. Remind your custodians that you appreciate the work they do and reassure them that they may do their work in the bathrooms without being afraid. The campus will only be able to recover from this incident after trust between students and custodians has been restored.

-Michael D. Smith '03

Does the Squeaky Wheel Get the Grease on the Sports Page?

To the Editors:

So Voice, the squeaky wheel gets the grease, is that how it works here in Camel-land? Of course, the faithful readers of The College Voice (all nine of you) will know exactly what I am talking about. In last week's edition (Volume XXXVI #12 for you technical nerds out there) there was a letter to the editor from a swimming parent who seriously needs to get a life. He or she was complaining about the lack of swimming and diving coverage. So you guys caved in, which was considerate, and in this week's edition there was an article on them. Well to Mr. or Mrs. I-live-my-life-through-my-children, cheer up, you have it better than some of the other teams. As an indoor track member, we didn't have any coverage this week, I'm not sure we ever have. In addition, at least there is a schedule of your meets or matches or whatever you call them on the back page of the paper. We are not even given this small courtesy. Just because we run in counter-clockwise ovals does not make us different than others, we are people too. I'm not tooting my own horn because I am not exactly Michael Johnson, I play soccer and I'm not a track star, however there are some great athletes on the team and they deserve some recognition, or mad props yo, if you will. People like Ryan Williamson, Alex Roe, Thaddeus Hubert, Rachel Lamson, Matt Buchholz and many more are very talented and hard-working individuals. Obviously we're not going to get any groupies to drive hours and hours to watch us, although this is strongly encouraged. Not too many people knew about our two meets at Coast Guard though. We needed your support against the manly men and women at this place across the way. Some races take less than seven seconds, I'm sure that is quick enough for most people, but I bet some would still sit in Cro at their beautiful campus and complain about the most minute detail. This may be too little, too late for the indoor season, but it would be great if a few of you wandered down to the track for a spring meet or two. So stop watching showering girls, and especially chill out with the hate crimes, and cheer on the only NESCAC school with a two-word name. We need much more excitement and hype at all of our sporting events, so yell a lot, drunk or sober, it doesn't matter, we're not picky. In conclusion, see you at our (soccer) kegs in the near future, we have some good ones in the works, don't worry. And show a little love for the track team and give us a small section, thank you.

-Name Withheld Upon Request

NATIONAL NEWS

Moroccan Gets 15 Years in 9-11 Trial

By DAVID RISING
AP WRITER

HAMBURG, Germany (AP) — A Moroccan received the maximum 15-year sentence Wednesday for helping the al-Qaida hijackers who carried out the Sept. 11 attacks - the first conviction anywhere of a suspect in the terror plot against the United States.

Mounir el Motassadeq, 28, showed no emotion but occasionally shook his head or checked his watch as he listened to the verdict finding him guilty of more than 3,000 counts of accessory to murder.

El Motassadeq helped pay tuition and rent for members of the Hamburg-based al-Qaida cell - allowing them to live as students as they plotted the attacks, prosecutors said.

Judge Albrecht Mentz said el Motassadeq lied when he testified he was unaware of the plot despite being close friends with suicide hijackers Mohamed Atta, Marwan al-Shehhi and other cell members.

The defendant was "a cog that kept the machinery going," Mentz said. He "belonged to this group since its inception. ... He knew and approved the key elements of the planned attacks."

Sept. 11 victims' relatives who participated in the trial as co-plaintiffs - some offering emotional testimony that Mentz said prompted him to impose the maximum sentence - praised the verdict.

Joan Molinaro of New York City said she was "thrilled."

"It's the first small victory we've had since 9/11," said Molinaro, whose firefighter son Carl was killed at the World Trade Center. "I kind of feel like, 'OK, Carl, we got one,'" she said. "I think my son is smiling."

Another New Yorker, Kathy Ashton - whose son Tommy was killed at the World Trade Center - called the 15-year sentence

"a drop in the bucket, especially for a young man, but at least it's something."

Interior Minister Otto Schily hailed the verdict as a "success in the fight" against terror. "It is a warning to all those who think they can toy with the idea of aligning themselves with terrorist networks."

While suspects in the plot detained in the United States face possible death sentences if convicted, el Motassadeq's sentence - the maximum allowed under German law - translates into a minimum of 10 years with 15 months off for time served. Even defendants in Germany sentenced to life in prison generally serve at most 15 years.

El Motassadeq, a slight, bearded man who admitted receiving al-Qaida training in Afghanistan, denied the charges during his 3 7-month trial. The defense, which had argued the evidence was circumstantial, said it would appeal.

In addition to 3,066 counts of accessory to murder, el Motassadeq was convicted of five counts of being an accessory to attempted murder and an accessory to bodily injury - charges introduced so five wounded survivors of the attacks, including a Navy officer at the Pentagon, could join the trial as co-plaintiffs.

Mentz said it was hard to give a man with two small children the maximum sentence, but that he had to consider the enormity of the crime and el Motassadeq's lack of contrition even after American co-plaintiffs told the court of their suffering.

Witnesses illustrated el Motassadeq's enthusiasm for the plot, the judge said.

"Al-Shehhi said, 'There will be thousands of dead', and the defendant said, 'We will dance on their graves,'" Mentz said, citing witness testimony.

Schily said the penalty was severe, a judgment shared by a lawyer representing many of the more than 20 American family members and survivors who joined the prosecution in efforts to secure the maximum

sentence.

"They wanted justice and they got justice," said lawyer Ulrich von Jeinsen. "They accept that we have another system and since he got the maximum sentence they will be satisfied."

Stephen Push, whose wife was killed in the plane that crashed into the Pentagon, also praised the Hamburg judges, but added: "I'm just disappointed that the German legal system doesn't allow for penalties that are appropriate for crimes of this nature."

El Motassadeq was raised in a Moroccan middle-class family, came to Germany as a student in 1993 and married a Russian woman. By 1995, he was studying electrical engineering in Hamburg, where he is believed to have first met Atta no later than the following year.

He acknowledged being friends with Atta, al-Shehhi and other alleged members of the Hamburg cell including suicide pilot Ziad Jarrah; and Ramzi Binalshibh, Said Bahaji and Zakariya Essabar, all suspected of helping organize the cell.

Witnesses said el Motassadeq was as radical as the rest of the group, often talking of jihad - holy war - and his hatred of Israel and the United States.

Prosecutors allege he used his power of attorney over al-Shehhi's bank account, to pay rent, tuition and utility bills, allowing the plotters to keep up the appearance of

being normal students in Germany. They also noted that he signed Atta's will.

El Motassadeq explained both as things he simply did for friends.

He denied for nearly a year after his arrest ever having been to Afghanistan. But on the first day of trial, he admitted training in one of Osama bin Laden's camps there in 2000, saying he thought it was a Muslim's duty to learn self-defense.

In deciding to appeal, defense lawyers cited the court's failure to obtain testimony by Binalshibh and Mohammed Haydar Zammar, two friends who they said could exonerate the defendant.

Binalshibh, a Yemeni suspect in U.S.



Artist's rendering shows Moroccan Mounir El Motassadeq, left, and Judge Albrecht Mentz, second from right, prior to proclamation of the sentence in a court in Hamburg, northern Germany. Motassadeq was convicted of aiding the Hamburg based al-Qaida cell that led the September 11 attacks on the United States and sentenced to 15 years in prison. (AP Photo/Artist rendering/Juliane Garstka)

Ridge: Be Prepared but Don't Panic

By JOHN J. LUMPKIN
AP WRITER

CINCINNATI (AP) — Homeland Security Secretary Tom Ridge suggested basic steps Wednesday for a nation still on high alert for terrorism, such as putting together disaster kits with a few days supply of food and water.

A week after government comments sent worried Americans to hardware stores for duct tape and plastic sheeting, Ridge also said the "orange" level high-risk alert was really meant more for law enforcement than for regular citizens. And he suggested it might be lowered soon.

Ridge traveled to Ohio to launch a public-relations campaign offering families several suggestions: Have a communications plan so the family can get in touch during an emergency; put together a disaster kit with a few days of critical supplies, and know where to turn for information during a crisis.

"The threat of terrorism forces us to make a choice," Ridge told a crowd at the Cincinnati Red Cross. "We can be afraid, or we can be ready."

Homeland Security officials said the "Ready Campaign" launch was many months in the making and not tied to the orange terrorism alert.

Ridge told reporters Wednesday that the alert level may be lowered if intelligence gathered over several days suggests the threat has diminished.

He acknowledged that at least one reason for going to high alert had expired: the Muslim hajj holiday period - during which some intelligence had suggested an attack might take place - ended late last week. But officials said some worrisome signs of imminent al-Qaida strikes remain in place.

Ridge characterized the orange alert as primarily a warning to law enforcement and security personnel, rather than to the U.S. public.

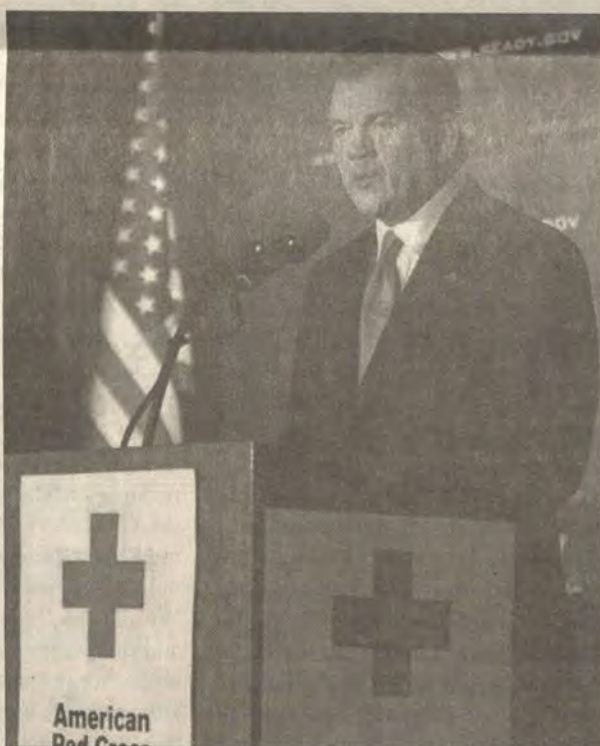
"It's really a signal to the security personnel that we need to do things differently," he told reporters. "We have very good reason to believe it's a deterrent."

Many of the steps Homeland Security is encouraging are worthwhile steps in preparing for natural disasters, as well, officials said.

They said they crafted the campaign to avoid scaring people while providing some commonsense ideas that will help families find and care for each other if normal services aren't available for a few days because of an attack.

This includes keeping a three-day supply of water, food and medicine, Ridge said. Among other things, the government-recommended "kit" also includes duct tape and plastic sheeting.

"Don't use it!" Ridge said during his speech, alluding to the run some uneasy Americans made on those items last week. "Stash it away. And that pre-measured plastic sheeting for future - and I emphasize future - use.



Homeland Security Secretary Tom Ridge speaks to a large crowd at the Cincinnati. Ridge announced the launch of a national public service advertising (PSA) campaign that will educate American citizens to prepare for and respond to potential future terrorist attacks. (AP Photo/David Kohl)

Experts tell us that a safe room inside your house ... can help protect you from airborne contaminants for several hours."

Reminiscent of the duck-and-cover campaigns of the Cold War, the Homeland Security effort will include television announcements and fliers that will be distributed with phone directories.

The television spots will feature Ridge, along with a New York City firefighter and other public safety workers.

The Ad Council - the nonprofit group that came up with Smokey Bear's "Only you can prevent forest fires" and McGruff the crime dog's "Take a bite out of crime" - helped put together the campaign.

The ads don't seem to have a single catch phrase, although most of them include the words, "Be ready."

The campaign is essentially free to taxpayers, officials said. It is starting under a \$5 million donation from the nonprofit Sloan Foundation of New York, and will rely on tens of millions of dollars of donated advertising space and air time to get the message out.

One billboard will be going up in Times Square in New York City later this month.

The trip to Ohio marks Ridge's second public engagement outside of Washington since taking over the new Homeland Security Department. The previous trip was to Florida, another key electoral state.

Flooding Is Feared in Wake of Snowstorm

By GEORGE STRAWLEY
AP WRITER

Rain and rising temperatures in the forecast over the next few days threaten to melt this week's mammoth snowfall in the East and cause disastrous floods.

In Pennsylvania, emergency management officials urged people to prepare for high water by selecting an evacuation route, clearing snow from flat roofs and stocking up on supplies.

"With all of this snow on the ground, the potential is there for serious flooding," said David M. Sanko, director of the Pennsylvania Emergency Management Agency. "We're hoping that the snow melts slowly, but as history has shown us over and over again, warming temperatures can lead to disaster."

The forecast called for 1 to 2 inches of rain Friday night into Saturday, said Walt Nickelsberg of the National Weather Service's office in Mount Holly, N.J., which

covers the lower Delaware River.

"It's really a watch-and-see type of situation," he said. "If we get the 1 inch, I feel confident that we wouldn't get the flooding. If we get the 2 inches, it's possible to start seeing some flooding."

Nationally, the death toll from the storm rose to at least 59 Wednesday after a preliminary autopsy showed a woman whose body was found Sunday in Newark, Pa., about 30 miles east of Columbus, Ohio, died of exposure.

In Virginia, communities in the Shenandoah Valley and the mountainous regions in the north were warned to lock down their belongings and move to higher ground.

"It's not often that you know ahead of time about a flood," said Dawn Eischen, a spokeswoman for the Virginia Department of Emergency Management. "With three or four days ahead of time, we're trying to do something right now."

In Harrisburg, Pa., where 21

inches of snow fell, city officials took precautions against a repeat of a 1996 flood in which the Susquehanna River rose 10 to 15 feet in a day, causing tens of millions of dollars in damage.

City workers readied pumps, boats, sandbags and other materials. And they raced to clear as much snow as possible from the streets so there would be less left to melt.

New York City fired up municipal snow-melting machines capable of melting 60 tons of snow an hour. The portable machines are "like an oil burner in your house, but a lot bigger," said Chris Volpe, working with a snow-melter Wednesday in the borough of Brooklyn.

In Alexandria, Va., officials kept watch on the Potomac River, and readied sandbags for distribution to homes and businesses in the historic Old Town district.

In Baltimore and New Jersey, authorities urged residents to shovel snow from sewer grates to give rain and melting snow a place to go.

Boston Archdiocese Loses Bid to End Suits

By DENISE LAVOIE
AP WRITER

BOSTON (AP) — A judge refused to dismiss more than 400 sexual abuse lawsuits Wednesday against the Boston Archdiocese, rejecting arguments that the Constitution bars the courts from interfering with church operations.

Superior Court Judge Constance Sweeney's ruling clears the way for the lawsuits to move forward. However, settlement talks are under way.

The lawsuits allege church officials were negligent in their supervision of priests accused of molesting children.

Church lawyers had argued that the court does not have jurisdiction over cases that involve the relationship between a church supervisor and a priest because that involves church policy, which is protected by the First Amendment guarantee of freedom of religion.

But the judge disputed that Wednesday, saying: "The cases ... do not lure the court into involving itself in church doctrine, faith, internal organization or discipline."

Sweeney made two exceptions: She dismissed claims that church supervisors were negligent in their ordination of a priest or their failure to remove a priest from the priesthood, saying those were "purely ecclesiastical matters" not subject to judicial scrutiny. She also rejected arguments that because a priest is a priest 24 hours a day, church supervisors can be held liable for anything he does.

A spokesman for the archdiocese said church lawyers would not comment on the decision until they had time to review it. "In all of this, we are still committed to a full, equitable and just resolution for all cases against the archdiocese," the Rev. Christopher Coyne said.

Attorney Roderick MacLeish Jr., whose firm represents 270 alleged victims, said the decision "recognizes that the church - merely by its status as a religious institution - is not above and beyond the law."

Church documents released over the past year show that church supervisors shuffled accused priests from parish to parish. The scandal rocked the nation's fourth-largest diocese and led to lawsuits across the country. More than 300 priests have since been suspended or resigned.

The archdiocese has said it mounted the legal challenge based on the separation of church and state to satisfy its insurance companies that it had done everything possible to defend itself. Church officials hope that at least a portion of any settlement costs, estimated at millions of dollars, will be covered by insurance.

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NATIONAL NEWS

Gephardt Announces Presidential Run

By RON FOURNIER

AP WHITE HOUSE CORRESPONDENT

ST. LOUIS (AP) — Rep. Dick Gephardt, a 26-year veteran of Congress and the former House Democratic leader, announced his second candidacy for president Wednesday, pledging to repeal most of President Bush's tax cuts to finance "quality health coverage for everyone who works in America."

The eighth candidate in a growing Democratic field, Gephardt sought to distinguish himself from lesser-known rivals for the party's nomination. "I think experience matters," said the Missouri lawmaker who sought the presidency in 1988.

"I'm not the political flavor of the month. I'm not the flashiest candidate around," he said. "But the fight for working families is in my bones."

Gephardt's health care plan, one of the most ambitious policy initiatives of the fledgling Democratic campaign, would give billions of dollars in tax credits to businesses and require them to invest the money in employee insurance benefits. To pay for it, Gephardt would repeal virtually all of Bush's \$1.35 trillion tax cut plan, including politically popular benefits to middle-class Americans.

Addressing at least 500 friends, family and supporters at his former elementary school's gymnasium, Gephardt said, "Here in the home of my values, here at the heart of the American dream, I announce my candidacy for the president of the United States."

"I'm running for president because I'm tired of leadership that's left us isolated in the world, and stranded here at home," Gephardt said.

While saying he supports Bush's efforts to disarm Iraq, without the United Nations if necessary, Gephardt said the president's go-it-alone rhetoric has alienated allies. "We must lead the world instead of merely bullying it," he said.

Gephardt, 62, ran for president in 1988 but his candidacy fizzled for lack of money after he won the Democratic caucuses in Iowa. He took over the unenviable job of minority leader after the 1994 elections that gave Republicans control of the House for the first time in 40 years.

It was Gephardt who handed the gavel to Newt

Gingrich, officially transferring power to the conservative Republican on what he later called one of the worst days of his life. He failed to return the Democrats to majority status in four closely fought elections between 1996 and 2002.

The sandy-haired, youthful-looking Gephardt has built a formidable network of party activists and fundraisers, and he is the only Democratic candidate who has sought the presidency before. He offered several new initiatives Wednesday, a reflection of his vast policy experience, and he said at least 20 members of Congress are backing his campaign.

Still, party leaders openly wonder whether Gephardt's time has passed and whether he can unseat a popular Republican president. Democratic donors who lined up at Gephardt's door while he was minority leader are no longer beholden to him. Organized labor leaders, once loyal to his political career, are showing interest in other Democratic candidates.

"He's got to convince them that he's not old news, that he brings something different to this effort and that is the catalyst for him to win - a new message that is applicable to the times," said New Hampshire Democratic State Sen. Lou D'Allesandro.

After his announcement, Gephardt rushed to Iowa, the first test in the presidential election cycle, where he told union activists that Bush's economic plan is "mindless. It doesn't make sense. It's hurting our economy."

Gephardt said his repeal of the Bush tax cuts would spare only portions of the tax break given to married couples, the tax credit for children and the reduction in estate taxes.

The health care plan "could easily cost as much as the Bush tax cut," Gephardt told The Associated Press. "This is a big deal. It's a lot of money."

He predicted the White House will label him a tax-raiser, but said people gladly would give up the tax cut to ensure that all workers get quality health insurance.

The Republican National Committee, in a broadside at the newest Democratic candidate, described Gephardt as an "inside-the-Beltway liberal who has been tried, tested and rejected."

Gephardt, the son of a milk truck driver who belonged to the Teamsters, returned home in an effort to soften his public image and argue that his roots shaped



U.S. Rep. Dick Gephardt, D-Mo., takes part in a roundtable discussion on health care at Grandview College in Des Moines, Iowa. Gephardt, a 26-year veteran of Congress and the former House Democratic leader, announced his second candidacy for president Wednesday, pledging to repeal President Bush's tax cuts to finance "quality health coverage for everyone who works in America." Jane Gephardt, left, and Anna Dianas a mother of two with no insurance listen. (AP Photo/Steve Pope)

his political career. After high-fiving his way to the makeshift stage, Gephardt gave the crowd several thumbs-up before launching into his 40-minute address with his usual low-key delivery.

He called White House tax cuts "unaffordable, unsustainable and patently unfair," accused Bush of pursuing "the economics of debt and regret" and assailed administration policies on education, the environmental, the budget and homeland security.

"Never has so much been done, in so little time, to help so few," he said.

Seven other Democrats already have formed presidential committees or say they intend to do so: former Illinois Sen. Carol Moseley-Braun, former Vermont Gov. Howard Dean, Sen. John Edwards of North Carolina, Sen. John Kerry of Massachusetts, Rep. Dennis Kucinich of Ohio, Sen. Joe Lieberman of Connecticut and New York civil rights activist Al Sharpton.

Moseley-Braun and Kucinich filed papers to establish exploratory committees on Wednesday.

Dean, Edwards, Gephardt, Kerry and Lieberman have gained distance from the rest of the pack thus far, either by simple name recognition, frequent travel, fund raising or strong early efforts to organize in key states.

As Gephardt sought to make his experience a virtue, at least one Democratic rival tried to use it against him. "There are differences between the Democratic candidates," said Jennifer Palmieri, a spokeswoman for Edwards. "If you are looking for a Washington insider to be president, John Edwards isn't your guy."

Gephardt outlined a plan to give employers tax credits that would cover "most of the cost" associated with providing health care coverage to their workers.

The tax credit would replace the existing employer tax deduction, which is now about 35 percent of the cost of coverage. Gephardt hopes to eventually cover up to 65 percent of insurance costs under his plan, aides said.

U.S., Turkey Fail to Agree on Iraq Plan 4 Marines Held in Probe of Girl's Rape

By LOUIS MEIXLER

AP WRITER

ANKARA, Turkey (AP) — With Washington warning that time is running short, the United States and Turkey failed again Wednesday to agree on a plan to let U.S. forces deploy for a northern front against Iraq. The standoff came as U.S. ships loaded with tanks and other armor awaited orders in the Mediterranean.

Secretary of State Colin Powell called Turkish Prime Minister Abdullah Gul after a Turkish Cabinet meeting ended with no decision, and a top Turkish leader said there were no plans for parliament to take up the issue until at least next week.

The dispute does not alter a decision by NATO on Wednesday to deploy AWACS radar aircraft, Patriot missiles and chemical-biological response units to protect Turkey. NATO also ordered experts to report on how the alliance could assist Turkish civilians if there were an Iraqi attack, such as by repairing damaged water and power networks.

But Turkish support for an Iraq operation was in question, held up over demands for a reported \$30 billion in loans and aid before Turkey will let U.S. soldiers deploy against neighboring Iraq.

Recep Tayyip Erdogan, the leader of Turkey's ruling party, said after a Cabinet meeting that there had been "no positive" outcome in negotiations with the United States.

At a Pentagon news conference Wednesday, Defense Secretary Donald H. Rumsfeld said he expects Turkish cooperation in the end.

"I suspect that in one way or another - a variety of ways probably - they'll end up cooperating in the event that force has to be used in Iraq," he said.

The negotiations with Turkey involve the stationing of ground forces. War planes are widely expected to be based in Turkey as they were during the 1991 Gulf War. Some 50 U.S. aircraft have long been in southern Turkey patrolling the "no-fly" zone over northern Iraq.

White House spokesman Ari Fleischer stressed the need for a quick decision by Ankara.

"There's not a lot of time left," Fleischer said. "There comes a moment when plans must be made,



U.S. military vehicles are seen at the port of Iskenderun, southern Turkey, where a large U.S. vessel unloaded military Humvees, heavy work machinery and other military vehicles. Turkish parliament earlier this month agreed to allow the United States to renovate bases and ports, including Iskenderun, for use during a possible military offensive against Iraq. (AP Photo/Durmus Ali Baskan/Anatolia)

decisions must be made, and cannot stretch on indefinitely."

Asked if Turkey had been given a deadline, Powell said: "Time is moving, but I don't have a deadline I'd like to announce right now. ... We are waiting to hear back from the Turks."

Many analysts say the U.S.-Turkish talks are part of a delaying strategy by a Turkish government that feels trapped between the desires of its strongest ally and the wishes of the Turkish public, which is overwhelmingly against war.

Analysts have said that in the end, Turkey is almost certain to agree to at least some U.S. demands to preserve its friendship with the United States, whose support for Turkey in the European Union and the International Monetary Fund have been critical for Ankara.

But Erdogan appeared to bring that into question. Although not a member of parliament, Erdogan is regarded as the power behind the scenes in Turkey's ruling party.

"There are many countries which do not support the United States but which are friends" of the United States, Erdogan said. "Will (Washington) also cut relations with France, China, Russia as well?"

That raised the prospect that Turkey might be trying to push the United States to abandon plans to use Turkish bases, a move many

analysts say could lead to a serious rift between Washington and NATO's only Muslim member.

The Turkish rebuff came as five U.S. ships filled with tanks and other vehicles for the U.S. 4th Infantry Division waited off the coast of the southern Turkish port of Iskenderun in the hopes of unloading their armor, a U.S. defense official said. Another 35 supply ships are on their way to the area.

Washington is demanding to know whether the ships should approach Turkey or turn south and head for the Persian Gulf.

Without access to more bases in Turkey, the U.S. military would have to abandon a central feature of its strategy for war against Iraq: using armored forces to open a northern front.

U.S. leaders say there still would be plenty of U.S. firepower in the region to defeat Iraq's military.

"It's doable," Rumsfeld said. "There are work-arounds." He declined to discuss any specifics.

But abandoning the Turkish option could have huge consequences.

U.S. generals were hoping to send 80,000 troops to Turkey who would storm into Iraq, dividing Saddam Hussein's army between the north and the south. That, U.S. and Turkish generals agree, would likely shorten any war.

4 Marines Held in Probe of Girl's Rape

TWENTYNINE PALMS, Calif. (AP) — Four Marines were being held Wednesday on suspicion of raping an unconscious 17-year-old girl at a Mojave Desert motel, authorities said.

Sheriff's deputies went to a Motel 6 early Monday on a report of a rape. Investigators then went to the Twentynine Palms Marine Corps base, and on Tuesday detectives arrested the Marines, ages 18 and 19.

The girl was staying with friends at the motel and the Marines were staying in another room, said Chip Patterson, a Sheriff's Department spokesman. The Marines had never met the girl before and it was unclear what they were doing at the motel, he said.

"They got together with the victim and supplied her with alcohol and then sometime after that she lost consciousness," he said.

They were jailed on \$100,000 bail each. It could not be immediately determined Wednesday if they were represented by attorneys.

Jury in Spy Case Continues Deliberations

ALEXANDRIA, Va. (AP) —

Jurors in the trial of spy suspect Brian Patrick Regan finished a third full day of deliberations Wednesday without reaching a verdict.

Before leaving for the day, the jury asked U.S. District Judge Gerald Bruce Lee additional questions about how to reach a verdict. The questions were not read in court.

Deliberations resume Thursday.

Jurors earlier were told that they could find Regan guilty of attempted espionage for Libya, Iraq and China even if they did not find that he offered information about military satellites, war plans or major weapons systems - counts that could make the retired Air Force master sergeant eligible for the death pen-

ty.

If Regan is not convicted of a death penalty offense, the judge rather than the jury, will impose a sentence.

Regan, 40, of Bowie, Md., has pleaded innocent to the charges. He worked for the National Reconnaissance Office, a government spy agency, first for the Air Force and then for TRW Inc., a defense contractor.

He is accused of offering to sell classified information for \$13 million. If sentenced to death, Regan could be the first American executed for espionage since the Rosenbergs in 1953, who were found guilty of conspiring to steal U.S. atomic secrets for the former Soviet Union.

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Campus Safety Incident Log

2/11/03	1:56 AM	Medical emergency
2/11/03	4:21 AM	Contraband
2/11/03	12:09 PM	Vandalism - Harkness
2/11/03	6:00 PM	Larceny
2/13/03	5:55 AM	Vandalism - College Center
2/13/03	11:10 PM	Contraband
2/15/03	1:49 AM	Threatening/Failure to comply
2/15/03	1:30 PM	Vandalism - parking lot
2/16/03	9:18 PM	Harassing phone call
2/16/03	12:43 AM	Breach of peace
2/16/03	1:30 AM	Breach of peace
2/16/03	4:18 PM	Vandalism - Addams
2/16/03	7:21 PM	Vandalism - parking lot

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THE WALLS THAT SEPARATE US

MARIE LAFRANCE • VIEWPOINT

In the center of Harkness common room, surrounded by fifty students hunched on the floor, a white chair stood empty for a full ninety minutes. On the far left side of the stage in Palmer auditorium, an unoccupied chair stared defiantly at an audience of over 1500 people, some of whom were squeezed in doorways and seated in aisles. Those chairs were not vacant because there was an abundance of seating space; they remained empty because certain members of our community chose not to sit in them. Certain students, faculty, staff, board members and trustees did not think that it was worth their time to show solidarity with the rest of our campus.

I do not believe we should light our torches and go after the people who didn't come to Tuesday's events. In fact, it is this preoccupation with blame that detracts from our main goals as a diverse community. Just as spending hours talking about caller ID and catching the active bigots doesn't do a thing to fix the deeply solidified inequalities on this campus, blaming those who chose not to attend the meetings is counter-productive. But these empty chairs serve as a striking reminder that there are many of us, in this community and in this world, who choose to turn their backs on racism.

As Peggy McIntosh said in her now legendary article, *White Privilege: Unpacking the Invisible Knapsack*, "I was taught to see racism only in individual acts of meanness, not in invisible systems conferring dominance on my group." While a notable few chose to be absent from Tuesday's meetings, many students' "bubble" has been burst. Some now see that the actions of a few can have an impact on many. Some now realize that, while their skin may not be slate white, their privileges and their history most certainly are. Some now know that they have more support from the student body than they ever could have imagined. And some have been left confused, angry, and vulnerable.

I feel I must respond to those students who expressed discontent with the language and discourse used when we discuss racism. They seem to believe that words that denote skin color only serve to intensify the problem. However, the "problem" of which they speak is that there are walls separating us by our skin color. It would be irresponsible to ignore the very issue that brought us together on Tuesday by skirting around words of color. By using terms like "white" and "black," we are acknowledging that these concepts already exist. If we say we are a colorblind society, we again place blame on

an individual: this time, for her failures or successes. But certain groups in our society are given clear advantages over others. Take, for example, the idea of comfort on this campus. A white student does not have to worry about whether she will be the only person of her race in a class, or in a hallway. She does not have to worry about sticking out or being asked to represent her race when the topics of diversity arise. Add these frustrations to a new environment and a full course load, and it becomes clear that one population in our community is forced to grapple with issues that another is given the privilege of ignoring. We can only solve the problem of inequality when we are no longer afraid to identify it, and turning a blind eye is as productive as blame.

So while it may feel uncomfortable at first, I urge you to examine the walls which separate us. Study the blood and the deliberate work that went into building them. Figure out which side you have been forced to inhabit, and ask questions of both sides. Walk along those walls until you fully understand their weaknesses, and their history; then get in the dirt with the rest of us who are trying to demolish them. A lot of work must be done to level this playing field before we can forget that walls ever existed, and skipping a step in the process of deconstruction is a privilege that no one has.

I must admit that, after Tuesday's events, sitting down to write this article feels a little repetitive. But before we become numb to talking about racism on this campus, I urge you to remember the empty chairs. If you stop questioning racial inequalities and privileges, you will have wasted all the efforts that went into Tuesday's events, including your own. Remember the empty chairs when your friend says he's sick of hearing about diversity. Do not judge those people who did not participate in the forum; but when you feel walls being torn down, remember the empty chairs and know that there is still so much work to be done.

Once again, I would like to extend an open invitation to any student who wishes to respond to something I've said, or something they've heard over the past week, by sending an email addressed to me at ccvoice@conncoll.edu, or dropping a note in box 4970. I can't imagine that we'll be having another all-campus forum any time soon, so instead of complaining to your friends, please contact me and utilize this space.

Next week: Representations

Study film from both sides of the camera.

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- Acting in Film
- Screenwriting
- Business of Film
- Film Noir and the American Cinema of the 1940s
- The Hollywood Novel and the Hollywood Movie
- Four Contemporary European Directors
- Introduction to Animation and Anime
- Race in American Film
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Men's Basketball Looks Ahead as the Season Comes to a Frustrating Close

BY SILVIE SNOW-THOMAS
STAFF WRITER

Someone once said, "Basketball doesn't build character, it reveals it." These words are some of the best to describe our men's basketball team. To the average fan, their season was short, and was sweet only at times. But, if you watched them closely, they showed extreme heart, drive, determination, and character this winter. Their record of 7-16, 1-8 in NESCAC, may not reflect this, but it must be taken into account that this year, the guys adapted to a new coach, a new system of play, and changes to the squad. It takes a lot for a losing team to hit the court day in and day out, never quitting. They did so, and unfortunately have little to show for it. The scoreboard this weekend reveals just that. The Camels finished out their season on Friday at Amherst, and then ending at home on Saturday against Trinity. They couldn't chalk up a victory in either game as they fell to #11 ranked Amherst 79-62, and then to Trinity (15-8, 5-4) 82-71.

Kevin Herrington '03 led the Camels with 16 points, against Amherst. Joe Tremblay '03 added 14 points, knocking down 3-of-5 three-point attempts. Mike Strangfeld '03 scored five points and grabbed nine rebounds for the Camels. On Saturday afternoon, Herrington paced the way, again with 16 points. Tremblay helped out with 12 points, all from threes. Travis Reid '03 and Andrew Walker '06 each tallied 10 points apiece for the Camels.

The 2002-03 season was characterized by the frustrating losses, but will be remembered for three-point shooting. The Camels buried 259 triples this winter, an average of 11 trifectas per game. As a team, they attempted 734 threes to their opponents' 445. Only 162 threes were scored against them. Tremblay and Bryan Gregg '06 led the team with three point shooting percentages over 40 percent. Seven players finished the year with 20 threes or more. Prior to this season, the club record was 181 three-pointers in a season. "We relied on threes so much because we're a very good shooting team," said guard Danny Melzer '05. "We don't have much size so it's difficult to establish a post game against the bigger teams. When some of our shooters get hot, we can be a dangerous team." The danger didn't come quite as often as the team, the fans, and especially the seniors would have liked.

It was a tough way to end the season for the four graduating seniors, but both weekend games were well-fought battles, in large part due to their contributions. "Playing in our last game, honestly, was very sad. I have been part of the program for four years and I will miss just being with the guys," Joe Tremblay said. "Nothing compares to the bond between teammates. I got here four years ago and found 15 new best friends, and while some of them have graduated, new friends have not replaced them, but have come into my life as well. I feel so blessed to have spent so much time with my best friends, my teammates."

Prior to Saturday's game, Coach Tom Satran honored his seniors. Captain Travis Reid, Kevin Herrington, Joe Tremblay, Mike Strangfeld, along with team manager Sean Duke-Crocker, commemorating Senior Day 2003. Each senior received an introduction that included his career highlights on the court as well as in the classroom. They then received a plaque marking their effort for and dedication to the long tradition of Connecticut College Basketball. They each took the floor accompanied by the din of cheering in Luce Fieldhouse. They shook their coach's hand and hugged their families. It was a bittersweet finale for the boys.

Camel Hockey's Playoff Hopes Die

continued from page 14

home game of his 24-year career. The Continentals quickly showed that they were going to be more physical than Amherst had been, putting pressure on the Camels' defense early and often.

"Hamilton's style of play was a lot different than Amherst's," said freshman defenseman Tim Doherty. "Hamilton is a high-flying, hard-hitting team, and they played very aggressively."

In the face of a consistent Hamilton attack, Oven continued his stellar play, making more great stops. With 9:21 remaining in the first period, Camel defenders Doherty and Bryan Jaeger '05 were called for roughing and interference, respectively, giving Hamilton a five on three advantage for two minutes. Conn's penalty kill unit played inspired defense, finding a way to hold off the Continentals for the full two minutes. However, with the penalty killed and two players rushing onto the ice, the defense broke down and Hamilton's Craig Kennedy scored an easy goal, flicking the puck past Oven to give the Continentals a 1-0 lead.

Less than three minutes later, Kennedy struck again, this time in a four on four situation. At the end of 20 minutes, the Camels found themselves down 2-0 after, being out shot 23-2.

The start of the second period saw the momentum shift to the Camels' side. A minute and a half into the period, Augsburg got a shot past Hamilton goalie Rob MacNeil. With the deficit cut in half, things looked to be going Conn's way for the first time all afternoon. However, with six minutes left in the period, the Continentals provided the straw that broke the Camels' back. Needing only 11 seconds to score after an interference penalty on sophomore defender Tad O'Had, Hamilton came back nine seconds later to score another goal. The back-to-back goals by Rob Gordon and Kevin Audit seemed to take all the wind out of the Camels' sails.

The third period saw continued dominance from Hamilton, as Tom Ditzer added a shorthanded goal for insurance with 4:27 left to go.

"Shorthanded goals are inexcusable," said Oven. "For a goalie, a power play is exciting. You're waiting for a goal. You expect to be able to have a two minute breather."

With the score at 5-1, Conn played out the rest of the game without mounting a threat. Suffering a string of frustration penalties, the Camels seemed to want nothing more than to forget this game and move on. Incurring consecutive roughing, boarding, tripping and high sticking penalties, Conn spent most of the end of the game shorthanded.

Unfortunately, despite Oven's season-high 51 saves and great play overall, the Camels lacked an offense, which left the defense scrapping to keep the team in the game. It was a disappointing result for the seniors playing their final game in Dayton Arena. Hamilton dominated from start to finish, ending up out shooting the Camels by the wide margin of 56-15.

Oven summed it up best, saying "They scored on the power play, and we didn't. That's what decides hockey games."

Now out of the playoff picture, the plummeting Camels look to salvage something from their disappointing season with games at Trinity College on Friday night and at Wesleyan University on Saturday afternoon.

"We really want to get these next two games," Vealitzek said. "Trinity and Wesleyan are our biggest rivals. We hate them. We want to play spoiler and ruin their last weekend."

Oven agreed, saying "We want to get some respect back. I think people think we're a joke right now, and that's upsetting. If we can go out and get four points this weekend, it will give us a lift going into next year."

Conn trails Wesleyan by one point for ninth place in the NESCAC, so look for the Camels to fight hard to dump the Cardinals into the basement at the close of the season.



Senior Kevin Harrington lead the way in Conn's final game of the season, as he has done all season, scoring a team high 16 points. Harrington also managed two assists in the 71-82 loss to Trinity. (Holt)

Herrington finished the year playing an average of 27 minutes per game, while scoring 341 total points, and average of 14.8 per game. He averaged 6.3 rebounds per game and had 44 steals. Reid played an average of 29.8 minutes per game shooting 46.3 percent from the field. He scored 256 points on the season, averaging 11.1 per game. Tremblay drained 48 three pointers this year giving him 40 percent shooting from behind the arc. He averaged 27.8 minutes a game and 11.2 points. Strangfeld shot 77.8 percent from the free throw line, had 29 blocked shots and 25 steals. He averaged 6.5 rebounds per game.

As illustrated by their superior stats, the seniors led by example this year. "We just worked hard from day one," Reid stated. "We went to work every day with a positive attitude."

And there really was a positive attitude reflected throughout the season. "The most positive aspect of our season was that we got to watch a lot of the younger players improve and start to feel more comfortable," Tremblay said. "It is always an adjustment moving from high school to college basketball. The specifics for example, are especially important whether it is how to defend a flare or a staggered screen, or any variety of things, but the younger guys made great steps toward becoming good players."

The rest of the squad really should go on to bigger and better things taking with them the lessons and the legacy left by Tremblay and the three others who leave them. Master of basketball quotes Scott Sieling put it best when he said, "Tradition never graduates." For the men's basketball team, all the character is here to stay.

Illness Forces Woodward into Early Retirement

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for my dermatologist, who is an avid reader, as I must unfortunately retire from my position here on the left-wing of the back page of the Connecticut College Voice. It has most certainly been a wonderful ride, and perhaps if I were more articulate I'd be able to better describe my feelings to you. But I can't. And sentences that start with conjunctions are all that I am left with.

"So this is it. The saddest moment I have ever written about: The End. The day that we all knew eventually had to come, but always

refused to acknowledge, is finally upon us. In departure, however, I must again reiterate that if I do successfully battle through Featurilitis, I will be back. Jordan did it. So did Lemieux. Why can't Woodward? Perhaps I will be back again someday to reclaim my title of College Voice Sports Writer of the Year. Perhaps not."

With the ambiguity of my speech reaching its high point my Featurilitis takes over; I lose my words, and my focus, and my finger hurts. I know it's time.

I tip my cap and walk away.

Women's Basketball Finishes Strong

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program. "Last year we won two games, we won five this year," Bushnell, who had 14 points, three assists, and five steals in Tuesday night's game, explained. "It is great to improve on our wins, though it would have been nice to have some NESCAC wins in there. Hopefully next season we'll get some more conference wins."

The women know that the road to success is a long one, and it is one that requires drive, determination, and dedication. The final game of the season, as well as the women's ability to remain strong and positive throughout a season filled with losses and hardships indicate that these women have what it takes to endure the journey down the long road. In fact, they have what it takes to enjoy the ride.

My Daytona Disappointment

For what it's worth, my brilliant idea for this week's edition of Presto's Perspective was to steal a play from the great R.A. Woodward's playbook and recap my exciting week leading up to the Daytona 500. I had events planned for each of the eight days leading up to the main event, starting two Saturdays ago with the running of the Budweiser Shootout and concluding this past Sunday with my annual trip home for the Great American Race.

Ever since the Super Bowl ended four weeks ago, my sporting life had been reduced to Thursday Night Hockey, SportsCenter four times a day, and scouring NHL.com for score updates every 90 seconds of a Bruins' game. Not a bad existence by any means, but still lacking a little something. This is why when February 8 rolled around, I became giddy, as my weekends would have a purpose once again.

I was so pumped for the week. Not only was it going to be a great week to kick-off the 2003 Winston Cup season, but I was also gearing up for what I thought was going to be my best column to date.

Saturday the 8th went off without a hitch. I made it back from a class trip to New York City in plenty of time for the beginning of the Budweiser Shootout- the 19-car, 70-lap exhibition race that began Speed Week. Despite the fact that I was met with heavy criticism from my friends for wanting to stay in on a Saturday night to watch a meaningless contest of cars going left, I was able to grab sometime on the smaller of the two televisions in Windham 312.

Those 70 laps were enough to get my hopes up for what was to come in the next few days. Not only was the Big One now just a week away, but Dale Earnhardt Jr., my driver of choice, looked untouchable, coming all the way from the final starting spot to blow the doors off of the competition in the pre-season exhibition.

Then things went awry.

I woke up Sunday, went to Harris, and came back in just enough time to find that the Qualifying Trials, which I had planned to spend my time before the Club Hockey game watching, had been postponed due to rain. Thus, I had to spend the hours between 1:00 and 4:00 watching the commentators try and fill dead air by interviewing whomever they could find, and translating a little Greek instead.

Monday was a wash, as Qualifying was now being broadcast on a station that Conn does not get. Junior led the way again, and I was forced to get updates on NASCAR.com between classes. Not the way I wanted to do things, but at least we got the rain out of the way so I wouldn't have to put up with it this weekend. Or so I thought.

Tuesday was no better than the two previous days. I had planned to spend the day writing my column previewing the race as well as the upcoming season. I had spent the previous two days compiling other NASCAR fans' thoughts on the event (because we all know how well I do with making my own predictions). Yet, with Men's Hockey fighting for their playoff life and a shortage of staff writers, that column had to wait, but a great thanks to all those who contributed anyway.

Wednesday is the day that I do my layout work for the Voice, so I had nothing planned for the hump day. But Thursday was the second biggest day of the week, as the Twin 125 Qualifying Races were held. Again, coverage was on FX, Fox's other network, so no Camels short of those with Direct TV were watching. For some reason, I decided that classes were more important, than accepting my mother's boyfriend's offer of blowing off my Thursday-Friday classes to go home and watch the qualifying races. More Junior domination, and more searching the Internet for recaps.

I was bummin', and my excitement for Speed Week was all but dead. All the anticipation I had for those four boring weeks was a waste of time. I couldn't wait for Sunday to get here, just to give me something to do.

My grand plan for Friday was to take in the premier of "DareDevil". True, it has nothing to do with either sports or auto racing, but it is what I had planned to do since there was a break in NASCAR action. But, in accordance with this column, even that was disappointing, not even coming close to living up to the hype that I had given it since seeing the previews mid-January, another common theme to the week.

Saturday was going to be my busiest day in terms of the work I had planned for this column. My grand plan was to spend the day previewing the Daytona 500 on the PS2 with my buddy Luke. This was going to be the true test as we were set to race all 640 miles that went along with Speed Week, a feat that neither of us had ever attempted. Needless to say, the day fell well short of what we had hoped for. After leading 25 of the first 29 laps, I was blown away on a restart following a caution finishing our 125 in a distant third place. Luke finished right behind me in fourth. The 500 was even worse, as both of our cars consistently lost speed throughout the race, rendering us unable to keep up with the rest of the pack. Both Luke and I finished a lap down, in 12th and 10th place, respectively.

Finally, Sunday was upon us, and I was headed home for the biggest "white-trash holiday" of the year. My excitement level was rising once again, as Daytona was now just a few hours away.

Yet, just as they had been all week, threatening rain in Daytona flattened my hopes for an exciting race, which was now the only cure to my otherwise dreary week. Only an uneventful 109 of the 200 laps were run, as NASCAR officials decided to call the Great American Race early, as it was being reported that the rain was not to let up until Monday morning. And to make matters worse, after dominating every event of the week, Earnhardt's battery died while leading, and was forced to pit under green to get more power in his car, putting him two laps down (though I still believe he would have won if all 200 laps were run).

Eight days that were hyped for almost a month were a virtual wash thanks to a bad weather system and a dead battery. My great column was now out of the question, and I was bitter. The only good things to come out of Speed Week was the knowledge that I would now have something to do on Sunday afternoons until the NFL returned in September, and all the shrimp I was able to eat at Mom's Daytona Party. Speed Week was not even close to what I hoped for, and the 43rd Daytona 500 wasn't much better. At least NASCAR is back. I know you are excited as I am.

Too Young to Die

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and college athletes alike are just beginning to understand this with every new tragic case in the news. However, I know for a fact that on campuses and in ballparks across America, players continue to experiment with any possible way to get ahead of the competition. It is the nature of the beast; the pressure to perform will always be

there, and continually increase.

We sports fans are finding our heroes sometimes just can't meet the expectations we place upon them on their own. Sadly, once the athletes themselves realize the quick fix isn't always the best fix, it is already to late. Steve Bechler is just the latest, but not last, example of this.

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SPORTS

Illness Forces Woodward to Early Retirement

I tear up my prepared speech and speak from the heart: "Today... I consider myself... the luckiest man... at Connecticut College."

I use long pauses to allow my words to reverberate around the large stadium and, of course, for dramatic effect, as I make my departing speech.

"And it is you, the fans, the somewhat-avid readers, who I must thank first and foremost. You were there to provide me with a feeling that I was reaching someone, and that my work here really mattered. To say that I did it for you and only you, however, would probably be a lie. But I will say it anyway: I did it for you and only you, and for the small high that you provided me as, for a little over a year now, you pretended to read what I wrote.

"Unfortunately, this will be the last of what I write for this team. And it has nothing to do with the team, The College Voice. I should actually thank them for helping me to fulfill my role as Featuralist, giving me free-range to roam and examine the sport's scene on campus with a ridiculous and bizarre point of view.

"I am being forced to step away from the game by a rare case of what the doctors are calling Featuralitis, which is, as was explained to me, an acute combination of writer's block, lack of motivation, and a hangnail on the right index finger. As of yet, there is no prescribed way to lose or cure Featuralitis, so unfortunately, I'll just have to wait it out.

"I do not, however, plan on sitting idle and watching my college career pass me by. Instead, I fully intend on using this hiatus/retirement (whichever comes first) to explore new things while continuing to have fun, in a truly Reading the Break manner. Some may say I'm reliving the glory days, while others may see it as a New Year's resolution gone too far. Either way, I am putting down the laptop and picking back up the Frisbee, the golf clubs, the hockey stick, weights (gasp!), and of course, the coach's clip board.

"I do not plan on leaving this team behind. Despite my ailment I fully intend on remaining a contributor to the Voice. I am moving from the playing field to the front office, as I have recently assumed the role of Ass. Editor. Indeed, I will now be the right-hand man to my right-hand man (don't ask how that works), the ever-plucky sports editor for the College Voice, M. William Preston II, x4173.

"I am also making this move with my stalkers, those crazy enough to be obsessed with me, and Mary S. Crowley in mind. Although you are losing that wonderful picture of me on the back page smiling so pretty, you will still be able to see my name in print weekly in the Editor's Box towards the front. Your Welcome.

"Indeed, this is a sad day for me, my family, my friends, and of course,

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Women's Basketball's Dismal Season Ends Well

By BONNIE PROKESCH
STAFF WRITER

After a rough stretch of New England Small College Athletic Conference (NESCAC) losses, the Connecticut College Women's basketball team finished up their 2002-2003 season with a bang last Tuesday night in the Luce Fieldhouse. Despite a 4-17 record going into the game against Albertus Magnus, who had a 14-5 record up until last Tuesday night and was ranked third in the Great Northeast Athletic Conference (GNAC), the Lady Camels left the fieldhouse with the home court victory, a victory that carries hope for the future of the program and gives the seniors on the team a fond farewell.

While the win was well-deserved, it did not come easily for the Camels, who struggled to stay in the game during the first half of play. At half time, the lady Camels trailed 41-29. Coming out of the locker room after halftime, the women knew that they had to focus and play a strong half in order to get back into the game. If they wanted to win their last game of the season, they were going to have to fight for it.

And they did.

With 15:18 left in the game, Albertus Magnus led 50-35, but the Camels were not willing to back down. Instead, the women went on a 14-to-3 run reducing their opponent's lead to a mere three points (56-53) with less than six minutes remaining. Albertus Magnus stretched their lead to seven, however, with less than two minutes to



They didn't win many games in 2002-2003, but the Women's Basketball saved their best for last, ending the season with a come from behind overtime win (Pace).

play. Yet, the game was far from done.

Margaret Guernsey '03 and Erin Shields '04 both scored three-pointers cutting the lead to four, and Guernsey's second basket

within the final minute of play reduced the lead to two. With eight seconds left in the game, Mary Bushnell '05 scored two free throws, forcing the game into overtime.

The overtime play proved even more exciting than regulation play, for the score remained fairly close throughout the five minutes of play. Ultimately, the Camels proved victorious by two points. The final score of 78-76 reflected determined Camel play. In overtime, Shields proved instrumental for the Camels scoring seven out of the 10 points put on the board during the extra session.

Guernsey, who scored a game high of 23 points and had 10 rebounds, giving her third double double in the last four games, commented, "The first half of the game was a little sloppy, but second half we came out as a united team and dug our way out of the hole. Once we were in overtime we took the lead and ran with it. With the lead we stepped up our defense and offense to ensure that we would win the game. It was great to see how intense we could be for the last game and pull off a win."

Commenting on the significance of the win, Sarah Huntington '04 explained, "It's such a good win because we beat a team that is third in the GNAC. It truly shows how strong NESCAC teams are. Bowdoin, Middlebury, Bates, and Colby should all be going to the NCAA's. This win showed that we are not as weak as people think we are."

The win makes the team's final record 5-17. While the record may not look impressive to the average Camel, it signifies a growth in the Connecticut College Women's Basketball

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Freshman Doug Holewa made his fourth start of the season in Conn's final home game of the year last Saturday against Hamilton. The team's playoff hopes were squashed with the 5-1 loss. (Holt)

Camel Hockey's Playoff Hopes Die

By NICK IYENGAR
STAFF WRITER

The Camels' season-long struggles continued at home this weekend, as their winless streak grew to six games after fighting Amherst College to a 1-1 tie, then dropping a 5-1 contest to Hamilton College. Conn (5-13-4, 3-10-4) had been clinging to hopes of making the playoffs, but unfortunately that dream will not be realized this season. With just two games left to play, the Camels are languishing in the cellar of the NESCAC, six points out of the final playoff spot. After opening the season at an encouraging 4-4, the Camels have fallen on hard times, winning just one of the last 14 games.

This weekend started auspiciously for the Camels, who were fighting to stay in the playoff picture. The Camels came out strong against the Amherst Jeffs, creating opportunities early. Five minutes into the game, freshman Mike Lionetti received the puck on a breakaway, but could not quite get it past goalie Sean Lynch. The Jeffs had a great chance of their own in the first period, as Thierry Pauyo went one on one with Camels netminder Steve Oven '05, who made a great save to thwart a sure goal.

The second period was all Conn, with the Camels consistently pressuring on offense, out shooting the Jeffs 13-5. With 27.7 seconds left in the period, the Camels' reward finally came as sophomore Joe Deck managed to sneak the puck through Lynch's legs. The puck trickled into the back of the net, and the Camels found themselves up 1-0. In addition to the quality play on offense, Oven was playing a game to remember. After stopping 16 shots in the first period and five more in the second, Oven appeared to be well on his way to his first shutout of the season. The dominating display he had put on until this point had the Camels looking confident going into the final period.

Amherst turned up the heat on offense in the third period as they scrambled to net an equalizing goal. With 10:31 left and the Camels cruising, freshman Alexis Augsberger was called for cross-checking. Conn's penalty killing unit had been solid all night, but this time they suffered a lapse, and the Jeffs capitalized. Mike Kreger's blast with 9:02 to play was apparently deflected and got past the outstretched arm of Oven, who couldn't make another dazzling save.

"I think we were a bit taken aback when they tied the game. It was a fluke kind of goal that went against the run of play. Whenever you have a third period goal like that, it really shifts the momentum," said junior forward Nick Vealitzek. The Camels were not able to get a game-winning goal before time expired, so at the end of 60 intense minutes, the packed crowd at Dayton Arena was treated to five minutes of bonus hockey.

The Camels were lucky to escape from overtime with a tie, as Amherst blew another golden opportunity. The Jeffs rushed the puck into the zone and Conn caught on a line change. Once again, Oven stepped up to make another brilliant save and preserve the tie for the Camels.

"It's tough from a goalie's perspective when you only let one goal in and you can't come away with a W," said Oven.

Vealitzek summed up the game, saying "I think we were pleased with our effort but disappointed with the outcome. It was definitely a winnable game."

Saturday, which was Senior Day, saw the Camels lose a difficult game to the visiting Continentals of Hamilton College. Before the game, seniors Dave DePalma, Mike Hasenauer, Andy Holland, Adam Rogovin and Brett Roth were honored, along with head coach Doug Roberts, who was coaching the last

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Too Young to Die

I find it difficult not to question my own mortality after a 23-year old professional athlete collapses and dies due to heatstroke in 81-degree weather. While Baltimore Orioles pitcher Steve Bechler had been taking a weight-loss drug containing ephedra, which has been linked to heatstroke and heart trouble, it still doesn't diminish the fact that a man less than two years my senior is no longer living. We often think of professional athletes as indestructible, able to withstand twice the amount of pain as a normal human being. When one of my heroes, as professional athletes without a rap sheet or a me-first attitude are to me, dies while engaging in a normal workout during the first week of spring training, you can't help but think of how precious life is. Bechler's wife is five months pregnant. His unborn child will now have to grow up never having met his father.

Bechler arrived at Orioles camp in Fort Lauderdale, Florida out of shape, reportedly weighing as much as 249 pounds, ten pounds over his listed playing weight. He undoubtedly felt responsible for not getting in shape during the long off-season, and believed an over-the-counter drug would quickly solve his problem. Having pitched with the major league club following a late September call-up last season, Bechler had a shot at making the major league roster once camp broke in six weeks. Pitchers have long been recognized as the most overweight, out-of-shape athletes anywhere, but that perception has been gradually fading away the last few years.

Being in top condition has become more of a premium as pitchers have evolved. Even the Yankees' David Wells, the former poster boy for fat, beer-swilling, doughnut-eating pitchers, has slimmed down considerably and taken his diet very seriously over the past two years. The question no

longer centers on how a pitcher's performance might be affected by being overweight, but more importantly, how his overall health would be affected.

Had Major League Baseball followed in the footsteps of the NFL, IOC (International Olympic Committee) or NCAA, Xenadrine, Bechler's drug of choice that contains Ephedrine, would have been on the banned substance list. Bechler would not have had the option of taking it if he didn't want to be suspended and risk his shot at the big leagues. MLB's new collective-bargaining agreement, which takes effect this season, now makes testing for steroids mandatory for all players, but remains impotent when dealing with over-the-counter drugs popular among its players but widely known to have harmful side effects. Perhaps Bechler's death will compel the powers that be to examine and expand the list of banned substances. Furthermore, it should definitely raise bright red caution flags to every other player who routinely takes these kinds of drugs.

Steve Bechler joins an ever-growing list of athletes who have recently died due to complications from heatstroke, including former Minnesota Vikings offensive tackle Corey Stringer, and two college football players: Northwestern safety Rashidi Wheeler and Florida State linebacker Devaughn Darling, who was just an 18-year-old freshman at the time. Ephedrine has been linked to each case.

Although these types of deaths are becoming more frequent, it doesn't make accepting them any easier, not for the family and friends of those deceased. While I believe every athlete is personally responsible for what they put into their own body, and must accept the adverse effects that may come with it, the risk undoubtedly outweighs the reward. I believe professional

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Matthew Kessler
Kessler's Korner

Camel Scoreboard

Men's Hockey:

-2/14, vs. Amherst, 1-1
-2/15, vs. Hamilton, 1-5
-2/21, at Trinity, 7:45 p.m.
-2/22, at Wesleyan, 3:00 p.m.

Women's Hockey:

-2/15, at Williams, 0-5
-2/16, at Williams, 2-4
-2/21, vs. Wesleyan, 7:00 p.m.
-2/22, at Wesleyan, 7:00 p.m.

Men's Basketball:

-2/14, at Amherst, 62-79
-2/15, vs. Trinity, 71-82

Women's Basketball:

-2/14, vs. Amherst, 61-76
-2/15, at Trinity, 46-67

-2/18, vs. Albertus Magnus, 79-76

Men's Squash:

-2/21-2/23, Nationals at Princeton

Men's Swim/Dive:

-2/28-3/2, NESCAC Championship at Williams

Women's Swim/Dive:

-2/21-2/23, NESCAC Championship at Bowdoin