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Get on the Bus and Rally For Human Rights

ARETI SAKELLARIS '08

Connecticut College's International Amnesty chapter joined more than 1,000 Amnesty International activists, primarily students, from more than ten states in New York City last Friday for the annual "Get on the Bus" (GOTB) series of demonstrations at foreign consulates and United Nations (UN) missions. They protested human rights abuses in Myanmar, called for the extradition of two Sudanese men charged with war crimes in Darfur, demanded justice for murdered journalists in Sri Lanka and victims of the Union Carbide disaster in Bhopal (India), and called for the immediate and unconditional release of Libyan dissident and prisoner of conscience, Fathi el-Jahmi. Amnesty Interna-

prisoners of conscience, which are individuals imprisoned for speaking against the leadership in his respective home country but has not taken physical action against it. Though the letter-writing campaign can be very effective when two million letters per week pour into the offices of consulates and politicians, the organization strives to inform any US or citizen of the world about human rights violations. As an inclusive group,

editor-in-chief

United States, providing

opportunities for human

rights activism. Chair of

the chapter at Connecticut

College, Hannah Sporer

'09, explained that the or-

ganization does more than

Amnesty International's voice is heard all over the world. Whereas on campuses that may be more difficult because of re-

gional fragmentation, it is not as easy for student groups to be given an international audience. GOTB is one of the major events to rally members and educate those not familiar with the organization, the violations, and the protests.

ForAmnesty Internawrite letters to liberate tional, the goal is always two-fold: to educate and to gain supporters. Sporer stressed that the GOTB event is for everyone to learn and engage in big community action and the speakers will introduce the topic of human rights. Sporer cites Loretta Ross, an activist who recently visited campus, to help put human rights into perspective: someone's human rights are violated constantly and you have gone through it so many times, but you

SEE GOTB

continued on page four



Connecticut College juniors Erin Holstein and Emily Lawton at Friday's rally in NYC (Sporer '09)

Simmons Talks on Oil Peak, Warns of Impending Crisis

ALEX KROGH-GRABBE '08

tional is one of the 1,500

Amnesty groups in the

contributing writer

Matthew Simmons is no Chicken Little, even though he predicts the end of the American lifestyle we're used to.

Simmons spoke on Tuesday, April 8th to an assembled crowd of more than 150 Connecticut College students and community members in Ernst Common room about the reality and implications of peak oil. Peak oil is the phenomenon whereby global oil production begins to decline as it becomes more difficult to extract high quality oil. Simmons' 2005 book, Twilight in the Desert: The Coming Saudi Oil duction either has peaked already or will peak very Shock and the World Economy is a preeminent text on the topic.

Simmons, whose daughter graduated from Conn in 2004, is the founder and Chairman of the world's largest energy investment banking company, Simmons & Company International, which caters mainly to oil companies. He has served as President of the Harvard Business School Alumni Association, as an energy policy advisor to the second Bush administration, and on the boards of numerous other organizations

According to Simmons, who has dedicated his career to investigation of this issue, global oil prosoon. In fact, oil production hit an all-time high in May 2005 and has plateaued since then, according to data from the Energy Information Agency.

Simmons made clear the difference between highquality light oil, which has been used up to this point, and heavy oil, which is of lower quality and much more expensive to process. Light oil from Saudi Arabia (the primary supplier of the world's oil) has been produced at 40-60 thousand barrels per day, per well,

SEE OIL TALK

continued on page five



Letter from the Editor

Hey Connecticut College!

Friday we had a workshop to talk about convering potentially controversial topics in the media, and our guest speaker, Dan Pearson, reminded those present that a college paper ought to be used as a forum for all students to express their opinions.

This is an election year, we are looking for at least two people to write political columns, but where are they? I know they exist. This is a big year for the College across the board, we are looking for people to write news, but why does our section strain its handful of writers? There are always a multitude of arts events on-campus, we are looking for someone to cover those events, but still no luck.

I think you catch my drift. I am disappointed with students at this school. Lilah, our opinion editor, wrote a column last week about the complete lack of school spirit here. I agree with my fellow editor in that we do not want to believe that the students here just settle and become apathetic.

Because I know there are amazing students on this campus traveling to the far reaches of the world or right to our backyard in New London to make a difference and enrich the lives of everyone they touch.

I see many students out partying and if you have time to do that, I am certain you have time to write a quick paragraph-length letter to the editor about the grading article of last week. Or an offensive opinion piece. Or a rant on how there are not enough movies featured in our issue.

The staff at *The Voice* works hard to wrap a section each week, and when we cannot fill our sections with quality material, everyone suffers; however, is it appropriate to treat the paper like a waste of trees or try to help make even just one issue richer than the last?

Our workshops are for everyone. Our newspaper is for everyone. We love to have new writers, and if you think we arbitrarily censor individuals, let me assure you that we strive to let writers say what they want so long as it is within the parameters of things like the civility clause in the Student Handbook and standards of decency.

The paper definitely reflects on those who contribute to it AND it reflects on the community. When you guys wake up, let me know.

Join *The Voice* for a workshop and lunch this Friday featuring

Phoebe Hall and The Art of the "Quote"

Space is limited. Please send an e-mail to ccvoice@conncoll.edu to register. Workshop begins at 1:00 p.m. in the Becker House Living Room.

Sources Pressing Issues Around the World Myers, Steven Lee and Thom Shanker.

"Bush signals no further reduction of troops in Iraq." April 11, 2008 New York Times; Associated Press; Fathi, Nazila. "Ahmadinejad to dismiss 2 cabinet ministers in Iran." April 10, 2008 New York Times; Gall Carlotta. "New government in Pakistan moves to lift media restric-

Pakistan moves to lift media restrictions." April 11, 2008 New York Times, Gettleman, Jeffrey and Alexis Okcowo. "Peace deal in Central Africa collapses." April 11, 2008 New York Times.

SPORTS

A Era of New Fans in Boston http://sports.espn.go.com/mlb/news/ story?id=3335928 http://www.baseball-reference.com Counting Crows: Past Their Prime? Weiner, Ben. "Counting Crows: Rearranged, revealing, riveting." Orange County Register. 2006-07-02. These New Puritans Drummer Sews, Dishes on Dior Homme Soar, Kevin. "Twin Talent George Barnett of These New Puritans Stays Tailor-Made." The Fader. 53 April 2008.

Corrections On page twelve of last week's issue the name of contributing writer Stanislav Andreev was misspelled. It read "Stalinslav Andreev," but should have been "Stanislav Andreev." On page thitteen of lest week's income

been "Stanislav Andreev." On page thirteen of last week's issue the name of the cartoonist for the cartoon accompanying the piece "Wrestling Conn Apathy: To What Extent are we Responsible?" was omitted. Artistic credit should have been given to Daniel Walker '11.

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Letter to the Editor

I am writing you in regards to an article one of your writers, Ian Barnes, wrote in your April Fool's Issue two weeks ago. I thought this article was totally offensive. It took a major faith that a lot of people on this campus either actively believe in or were at least raised to believe in and made a mockery of it. This campus is supposed to be an open, liberal institution, and all this article shows is that "the voice" of this college is only to be open to liberal ways of thinking and discriminatory of others. Connecticut College should not stand for living under this cloud of fear and judgment, and this is why I am speaking up to say something to you now. This was a completely inappropriate choice for an April Fool's Day article and I think Ian should have to write a formal apology for his distasteful and hurtful words.

Thank you, Emily Heller '08

The COLLEGE VOICE

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Letters to the Editor

Letters to the Editor are due strictly by 3:00 p.m. on the Friday preceding publication. *The College Voice* reserves the right to edit letters for clarity and length. No unsigned or anonymous letters will be published. However, names may be withheld upon the author's request. *The College Voice* will not publish letters deemed to be a personal attack on an individual. *The College Voice* canot guerate the author is a clarity of the state of

Voice cannot guarantee the publication of any submission. Letters should be single-spaced, no longer than 300 words, and must include a phone number for verification. Please send all letters as a Microsoft Word attachment to: ccvoice@conncoll.edu

Columnists and Staff

Students from any class year interested in writing weekly news, opinion, arts & entertainment, or sports pieces should contact ccvoice@conncoll.edu.

Photographers Students from any class year interested in taking

photographs should contact camelphoto@gmail.com

The opinions and comics represented in The Callege Vaice do not

Pressing Issues Around The World

National:

Bush foresees no reduction of troops in Iraq

President George W. Bush said Thursday that the senior United States commander in Iraq could "have all the time he needs" before reducing American forces there any further, but he promised shorter tours for troops and longer breaks for them at home.

Democrats responded by saying that no end was in sight to the American troop commitment.

Bush defended the costs of the war, in lives and money, declaring that his decision to order more troops to Iraq last year had averted potential defeat there and that withdrawing would be catastrophic to American interests. Speaking at the White House to a small audience that included Vice President Dick Cheney, the secretaries of State and Defense and representatives of veterans' organizations, he signaled that an American force nearly as large as at any other point in the last five years would remain in Iraq through his presidency. He left any significant changes in policy to the next president.

"Fifteen months ago, Americans were worried about the prospect of failure in Iraq," he said, sounding a triumphant note about his decision last year to send 30,000 additional troops. "Today, thanks to the surge, we've renewed and revived the prospect of success."

With only nine months left in his presidency, Bush has begun making the case for a war that will continue, one way or another, under another commander in chief. He flatly restated his views on the war that will most define his legacy, and set the terms of the debate over Iraq for the coming presidential election.

"Iraq is the convergence point for two of the greatest threats to America in this new century: Al Qaeda and Iran," Bush said.

Europe:

In Spain, Zapatero Gets Nod For Second Term Spanish lawmakers approved Jose Luis Rodriguez Zapatero as prime minister for a second term Friday, formally handing him the challenges of a slumping economy, resurgent Basque militants and governing with no set allies in parliament.

Zapatero, whose Socialists won a general election on March 9 but fell short of an absolute majority, failed to garner enough support in parliament in a first vote this week, forcing a second-round ballot, in which the threshold for approval was lower.

Zapatero became the first political leader since Spain returned to democracy after the death of Gen. Francisco Franco in 1975 to need a second vote to take power after winning an election.

The tally in the 350-seat Congress of Deputies, the lower house of parliament, was 169 votes in favor from Zapatero's party, 158 against and 23 abstentions.

All Zapatero needed was a simple majority — more "Yes" votes than "Noes" — unlike in the first vote, when an absolute majority of 176 was required to get the chamber's nod.

Colleagues in Zapatero's party stood and clapped when the speaker announced the result, then swarmed around him to shake his hand.

Zapatero will take the oath office Saturday before King Juan Carlos and announce his Cabinet, which will meet for the first time next week.

Middle East:

Ahmadinejad to dismiss two cabinet ministers President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad will remove his ministers of the economy and interior, newspapers reported - Thursday.

The government spokesman, Gholamhossein Elham, said Wednesday that the president had decided this week to replace the two ministers, according to the reports.

Elham had dismissed rumors of a cabinet shuffle last week and called them an April Fool's joke. Newspapers wrote last week that the foreign minister, Manouchehr Mottaki, would also be replaced.

No reason was given for the dismissals and it was not clear immediately who would replace the two ministers.

But it was widely believed that the removal of the economy minister, Davoud Danesh Jaffari, was part of an effort by Ahmadinejad to fight inflation.

The interior minister, Mostafa Pourmohammadi, is a mid-ranking cleric close to the supreme religious leader, Ayatollah Ali Khamenei. Ahmadinejad's opponents blame his economic policies for the inflation, which has

reached 18 percent according to the central bank. The new cabinet appointments require the approval of Parliament, and Ahmadinejad could face resistance from lawmakers. He came under attack by his opponents Thursday for the dismissals.

Asia:

New Pakistani Government to lift Media Restrictions

The newly elected government on Friday introduced a bill in Parliament to lift curbs imposed on the independent media by President Pervez Musharraf when he declared a state of emergency last year.

"This is a gift of a long struggle jointly launched by the media, democratic forces and the entire nation," Sherry Rehman, the information minister, said during a news briefing after introducing the bill at the Parliament House.

"The Draconian laws that threatened coercive action against the press will be removed via this bill to begin the process of providing a free press in Pakistan," Rehman said. The bill was referred to the standing committee on Information and Broadcasting and Rehman said she hoped it would become a law soon.

The controversial restrictions imposed on Nov. 3 by Musharraf as he tried to control the political fallout of his hugely unpopular moves to oust the independent judiciary and muzzle a vocal, independent media allowed a government regulating authority to seal the offices of independent television networks, confiscate their equipment, revoke licenses arbitrarily and to stop live coverage.

Rehman, who belongs to the Pakistan Peoples' Party of the slain leader Benazir Bhutto, said the new government would take steps for protection of journalists and promised new measures for print and electronic media.

The Pakistan Federal Union of Journalists welcomed the parliamentary bill in a statement and called the measure a "step forward towards press freedom."

Latin America:

Olympic relay begins in Argentina

Runners surrounded by rows of security carried the Olympic flame past thousands of jubilant Argentines on Friday in the most trouble-free torch relay in nearly a week.

People showered the parade route with confetti as banks, government offices and businesses took an impromptu half-day holiday for the only Latin American stop on the flame's five-continent journey from Ancient Olympia to the Aug. 8-24 Beijing Games.

Small groups of fenced-off demonstrators protesting China's human rights record exchanged jeers with hundreds of pro-China demonstrators, but there were no major disruptions. Three water balloons thrown at a torchbearer as he passed the presidential palace were easily batted away by guards.

Heavy security accompanied the torch. About 1,300 federal police, 1,500 naval police and 3,000 traffic police and volunteers guarded the 8 1/2-mile route, and at least four security layers swaddled the torchbearers.

Africa:

Peace deal in Central Africa collapses The much-anticipated peace process between the Ugandan government and the notorious Lord's Resistance Army broke down Friday after the rebel army's chief negotiator quit and government officials left a remote jungle camp to return home to Uganda's capital. Ugandan government officials had seemed tantalizingly close to signing a landmark peace deal with the Lord's Resistance Army meant to end one of Africa's longest, most brutal civil wars. Tens of thousands of people were slaughtered in the conflict, and thousands of children were kidnapped and turned into sex slaves and killers.

The peace process has been limping along, in fits and starts, for nearly 15 years. The talks have been plagued throughout by mistrust, threats and sudden crises.



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THE COLLEGE VOICE

APRIL 16, 2008

GOTB

continued from page one

usually, violations entail a larger group like Darfur and genocide.

Sporer hopes students can see the personal and large scale implications of human rights and what violations can encompass.

Excited about the widerange of issues and being with other students passionate about human rights, this was Sporer's first time attending GOTB, though she joined Amnesty International while she was in high school and served as its leader before she graduated. Protesters met for a panel discussion at St. Bartholomew's Church and continued to demonstrations at the Libyan Mission to the UN, the Sudanese Mission to the UN, Dag Hammarskjold Plaza for the Myanmar protest, the Sri Lankan Mission to the UN, and to the Indian Consulate. Students meet up and walk together from one location to the next, and you are in no way pressured to attend each demonstration if you are not dedicated to the particular cause.

"Focusing on Darfur is really important, but I am a little unsure about why they are not focusing on US issues," Sporer added. Though US issues, such as Guantanamo Bay and the Iraq War, are not featured segments in the day's demonstrations, Sporer recognizes that they are sensitive subjects right now, and thinks there may be a fear that the rally would be "suppressed." She added, "It's a little disconcerting how little information is available."

Although the Amnesty International website itself provides information and guidance for individuals to learn more, major media outlets are slow to pickup on the issues and the work of the organization. Even if a newspaper prints that Amnesty International was the first on the scene, those early actions do not get published. Sporer suspects Amnesty International's activities are censored by the media.

Sporer's goals for Amnesty International at Connecticut College focus on raising awareness to students on- and off- campus about human rights and what violations are. She wants to dismiss the misconception that the organization only writes letters and admits there are many other groups associated with one specific cause like the Feminist Majority or Spectrum, and with Amnesty International encompassing so many topics, students may be overwhelmed. Additionally, there seems to be a lack



Junior Emily Lawton at the Get on the Bus Rally (Sporer '09)

of information and awareness, which is not necessarily apathy.

Last year students put up a display on the main wall in Cro with statistics about different violations across the globe and invited members of the community to add their comments. "It was really effective," and it helped make sure people felt connected, said Sporer. Speakers, largescale events like GOTB, the regional conference, teaming up with other campus activist groups, affiliating with Unity House, and mounting a letterwriting campaign in Harris are among Sporer's goals before graduation.

She plans to continue the group's tradition of outreach to area middle schools to teach students in history classes about human rights issues because. She added, it is important to teach children at a young age and for them to get connected and involved.

After attending the Amnesty International regional conference last year, where the guest speaker was the daughter of a journalist imprisoned as a prisoner of conscience, the organization succeeded in liberating him.

Sporer began to seriously consider a future in activism, and mentioned Amy Goodman of Democracy Now!, who spoke at the College last year, and faced situations where her life was in danger because of her work but continues to speak, inspire and publish her work that individuals across the nation should know. People should have the right to access information, and to be a journalist-knowing that you can be put to death or put in jail-but continuing to work, Sporer said, "I think that is very courageous."

ISSUES PROTESTED AT GOTB:

Darfur – International Justice & Accountability

The human rights crisis occurring in and around Darfur, Sudan continues. On April 27, 2007, after a 20-month investigation, the International Criminal Court (ICC) issued arrest warrants against government minister Ahmad Muhammad Harun (Ahmad Harun) and Janjawid leader and Ali Muhammad Al Abd-Al-Rahman (Ali Kushayb). The two are suspected of crimes against humanity and war crimes committed in Darfur, Sudan, including murder, rape, and torture. The Sudanese authorities have refused so far to allow them to be tried by the ICC.

GOTB activists focused on the need to lobby the government of Sudan to bring individuals responsible for human rights violations in Darfur to justice.

Sri Lanka - Journalists at Risk Since the resumption of fighting in 2006 in Sri Lanka between the security forces and the opposition Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam, journalists and other media workers have been prime targets for attack. At least ten media workers have been the victims of unlawful killings since the beginning of 2006; one has allegedly disappeared in the custody of the security forces, while others have been tortured and arbitrarily detained under emergency regulations. Despite demands by media associations in Sri Lanka for investigations into these crimes, there has been little or no progress. The unlawful killing of Subramaniyam Sugirdharajan, the Trincomalee correspondent for the newspaper /Sudar Oli/. Mr. Sugirdharajan had published photographs and news reports critical of the army. He was shot and killed by unidentified men riding motorcycles on January 24, 2006, as he waited for a bus to go to work. To date, no one has been prosecuted for his murder.

GOTB activists lobbied the Sri Lankan government to investigate and prosecute those responsible for the murder of Subramaniyam Sugirdharajan and the other Sri Lankan media workers.

Myanmar - Democracy Denied Twenty years after the 1988 student uprisings for democracy in Myanmar, in which thousands of students, Buddhist monks, and other activists were imprisoned, tortured, or killed by the Burmese military, the people of Myanmar still risk their lives in pursuit of democracy. Amnesty International estimates that 700 Burmese people remain jailed since the start of last summer's Saffron Revolution," joining the more than 1,100 political prisoners who had already been imprisoned by the military government. While the crisis in Myanmar continues, media attention has faded. The military junta in Myanmar, the

State Peace and Development Council (SPDC), will not back down without a strong collaboration between the Burmese people and international allies.

GOTB activists united with the people of Myanmar to call on the SPDC to stop the crackdown on pro-democracy activists, monks, students, and others, and to demand the release of all prisoners of conscience, including Nobel Laureate and National League for Democracy leader Aung San Suu Kyi, who remains under house arrest, and activists Ma Khin Khin Leh and U Win Tin.

Libya – Fathi el-Jahmi, Amnesty InternationalUSASpecialFocus Case

Political activist Fathi el-Jahmi has been detained without trial since March 2004, when he was arrested after he criticized the Leader of the Revolution, Colonel Mu'ammar

ISSUES

more calm than at Eclectic Wear. The environment

was spacious (many of the patrons were seated in

comfortable chairs and couches) and the light was

dimmed enough for one to be relaxed but not asleep.

The fairly large crowd comprised of a mix between

Conn students and residents of New London, and

the line for ordering drinks seemed to be growing

as the evening progressed. The featured group of

the night, Compass Roads, included a bespectacled

beep-boxer, a violinist, a double bass player, and a

guitarist who sang lead vocals. All of them sang in

addition to their main instrumental duties, and they

at medium tempos. The members seemed to be

provided an interesting mix of melody and harmony

Friday Night Entertainment Moves to Downtown

ADRIAN STOVER '08

and roll. At Bean and Leaf, the atmosphere was much

staff writer

Downtown New London was abuzz on Friday Night with events that usually take place on the Campus of Connecticut College. Three MOBROC bands played at the Eclectic Jam, and the Friday Nights Live concert was held at the Bean and Leaf coffee shop. At the Eclectic Wear store, a concert was held behind the storefront that featured the music of the Connecticut College bands Dinosaur World, Top Shelf Groove, and Swingers and Tramps. A small crowd gathered into this loud, warm, and dark room to hear the bands play a mixture of folk, funk, and hard-hitting no-nonsense rock

OIL TALK

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Shell, which would produce the heavier oil, aims to produce 150 thousand barrels per day for the entire

project, but not for another 5-7 years and after more than 20 billion dollars of investment.

The fact that major oil companies are pushing such lowyield projects reinforces Simmons' assertion that all of the best oil fields, the low-hanging fruit of petroleum extraction, have already been discovered.

The issue of peak oil is muddied by data scarcity in the oil industry. This problem is caused by secrecy, an obstacle Simmons says is imperative to address in order to adequately assess where the world's energy future is headed.

According to Simmons' wealth of data, the question is not whether oil production will peak, but what we will do when its effects begin to hit us.

Peak oil is a problem for the simple reason that so much of our lifestyle depends on getting it cheaply. Worldwide

barrels per day, compared to the 2005 production peak of 74.3 million barrels per day.

Rise in demand is caused by increased mobility and prosperity around the world, especially in China and India, where 10-12 million new vehicles are being purchased every year. The growth is also driven in the US, in large part by the transportation industry. This includes not only cars and buses, but the trucks that move goods around the country. Without the transportation network we have now, which relies on cheap gasoline, the shelves of Target, Whole Foods, and every other chain store would be empty.

The current disparity between production and demand is being met primarily by the also-peaking natural gas, but that cannot last long either.

Additional problems include oil countries lying about the size of their oil reserves, and above-ground risks such as rapidly deteriorating infrastructure (pipelines, equipment) and an aging oil industry workforce.

The above-ground problems can be fixed, in decades,

oil demand is over 88 million at very high costs, but the problem of declining oil field productivity cannot be fixed. Matthew Simmons predicts oil prices of \$200-300 per barrel in the next 5-10 years.

> Current oil prices may seem high relative to what we're used to, but Simmons contests that in reality, what we've been paying for gas in the past, namely \$1-4 dollars per gallon, is "dirt cheap," and we should expect dramatic increases soon. Demand already outstrips supply, and as the difference widens and the ability to fill in the gaps declines, prices will go up sharply.

> Simmons' conservative leanings were apparent to those in attendance. He expressed his strong support for drilling in the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge as well as in the Bering Sea off the coast of Alaska. He also dismissed the possibility that renewable energy could play any major role in solving the problems caused by skyrocketing oil prices. However, Simmons stayed away from politics entirely, deflecting questions with the

lively and engaging with the crowd. The lead vocalist even had the audacity to ask a member of the crowd on a date, but that they would "have to move quickly" because he had to leave in the morning. The lack of subtly evoked a strong wave of laughter.

While the convenience of the MOBROC shows and FNL concerts on campus is greatly appreciated, it was refreshing and exciting to see these kinds of events in a new setting. While Friday's event seemed to be a great success, it is not sure if events like this one will happen more frequently. Surely the cost of running the bus between the campus and downtown New London must be expensive, but perhaps if future events are as successful as this one then activities like these might start to happen more often.



Simmons spoke at the College last week about the oil situation (Scarano)

non-controversial suggestion that government create disincentives for data secrecy in the energy industry. As a valued advisor to the Bush administration, he has raised such issues with the president numerous times.

An interesting omission from the talk was any significant mention of the climate crisis. The two looming issues are frequently connected due to their mutual relation to oil use,

rate. In fact, the decrease in oil dependence caused by peak oil could potentially contribute a forced solution to the problem of greenhouse gas emissions. Beyond merely better data

but they are truly quite sepa-

transparency from energy companies, Simmons believes there is a solution to peak oil:

SEE OIL TALK

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al-Gaddafi, and called for political reform in international media interviews. He is currently held at an undisclosed location understood to be a special facility of the Internal Security Agency on the outskirts of Tripoli, and there are serious concerns about the conditions and his treatment in detention. Since Jun 2005, authorities have reportedly denied the 66-yearold adequate treatment for a range of medical conditions, including diabetes, hypertension, and heart ailments. Fathi el-Jahmi is believed now to be awaiting trial under Articles 166 and 167 of the Penal Code, charged with seeking to overthrow the government, slandering the Leader of the Revolution and contacting foreign authorities. However, Amnesty International considers him a prisoner of conscience, who has been detained solely for the peaceful expression of his political views.

GOTB activists called for the immediate and unconditional release of Fathi el-Jahmi.

Bhopal - Continued Support be

Amnesty International has been calling on Dow Chemical to address the continuing health, social and environmental damage suffered by the people of Bhopal, India as a consequence of the ongoing contamination from the toxic gas leak of December 3, 1984 and ongoing water contamination. Efforts by survivors' organizations to use the US and Indian court systems to see justice done and gain adequate redress have so far been unsuccessful. The transnational corporations involved - Union Carbide Corporation (UCC) and Dow Chemical (which took over UCC in 2001) - have publicly stated that they have no responsibility for the leak and its consequences or for the pollution from the plant.

GOTB activists gathered to show continuing commitment to the survivors of the 1984 chemical disaster in Bhopal at the Indian Consulate and demanded the Government of India compel Dow Chemical to appear before the Indian courts.

Compiled from Getonthebus.org

GOT MUSIC ON YOUR MIND?

FLORALIA



DANIEL WALKER

THE COLLEGE VOICE

The Best New Video Game That's Also The Most Fun: Super Smash Bros. Brawl

RACINE OXTOBY '11

staff writer

One of the most genius decisions in the video gaming world has to be the decision made back in the 1990s that likely went something like this: "Hey, let's take everyone's favorite Nintendo characters, such as Mario, Link, and Samus, and have them fight each other." As simple a concept as that may seem, it's been the idea behind some of the most popular video games sold in the last ten years. The latest version to come out of the *Super Smash Bros.* series is *Super Smash Bros. Brawl*, which came out in America in March, and is already the fastest selling game in Nintendo of America's history.

Brawl follows the same concept of the other games. Characters as iconic to the Super Smash Bros. series as Donkey Kong or Pikachu can fight against newer characters, including Sonic, Kid Icarus's Pit, or Metal Gear's Snake. Each character has its own special attacks, specialties, and flaws. There are now thirty-five characters to choose from, as compared to the twelve total from the original Super Smash Bros. game. New adversaries help complement series regulars, such as Wolf against Fox or Meta Knight against Kirby.

There are also more than thirty new stages to play on, each stage based on Nintendo games. Although not all of them have anything to do with characters in the game (a stage based on *Animal Crossing* when there are no playable characters from *Animal Crossing* in the game, for example). Many stages feature huge upgrades, such as "Summit," the *Ice Climbers* stage, where you not only have to adjust to mountaintops breaking off and sliding down the hill at high speed, but if you tread too close to the water, you might get eaten by a large fish. The game also retains a retro feel by including stages based on the original Mario and Donkey Kong games from the 1980s. A few *Melee* stages are also available for unlocking, which come in handy for those who might hate the *Brawl* version of the *Donkey Kong* stage but who love the *Melee* version. There is even an option that allows players to design their own stages, and even send their stages to other registered friends or submit them to Nintendo.

The most exciting part of *Brawl* is the addition of the Smash Ball which, when broken by a character, allows that character to unleash their "final smash." Each character has a separate final smash which, upon activation, can sometimes kill an opposing character upon contact. My favorite final smash for a character belongs to Yoshi, who turns into a fire-breathing version of himself and is able to fly around the stage, burning opposing characters right off the screen. Other exciting final smashes belong to Snake, who uses a grenade launcher to blow his opponents away; Captain Falcon, who uses his vehicle, the Blue Falcon, to run over whichever character is unlucky enough to be in the way (and which might be the only final smash with its own animation); and Link, who quickly slashes at whatever character he is next to with



his sword, finishing them off with a final blow (Toon Link and Marth have similar final smashes).

Super Smash Bros. Brawl also comes equipped with a new adventure mode, titled "The Subspace Emissary," which includes an interesting storyline, new villains to fight, and the ability to unlock new characters in the game while playing. In the adventure mode, you start off with a small team of characters, fighting off the Subspace Army, led by the Ancient Minister, and you gradually build up your team as you meet new characters in the CG scenes in between stages, which helps to explain the storyline.

Despite its glowing reviews, *Brawl* has been receiving some criticism from some who find it inferior to *Melee*, the previous version of the game. For all diehard *Melee* fans reading: *Brawl* is essentially the same thing as *Melee*. Someone who's played *Melee* all their gaming life can sit down with a fresh new game of *Brawl* and quickly figure out what they're doing. If you're really bothered by the difference, then play only on *Melee* stages, play with only *Melee* characters, and when the smash ball suddenly floats into frame, ignore it and keep fighting. You're more or less playing *Melee* except now it's shinier.

Super Smash Bros. Brawl is probably the most fun anyone, no matter how young or inexperienced, can have while playing video games. Its simple concepts, unpredictability, and unique variations make it a different experience every time it is played. The new assortment of items, interacting terrains, and the smash balls can sometimes make the gameplay so dizzying and frenetic that you may lose track of where your character is on the screen. It's a great game that anyone can get sucked into, and despite the annoying setbacks earlier in the year, in playing it you immediately realize that it was worth the wait

The iPod Shuffle - Ben Eagle, Sports Editor

 Pavement-Loretta's Scars
 The National-All The Wine
 Lupe Fiasco-Hip Hop Saved My Life

4. The Rolling Stones-Let's SpendThe Night Together5. Ghostface Killah-Beat The Clock

6. Jay-Z-Politics As Usual
7. Junior Boys-In The Morning
8. The Beach Boys-Caroline No
9. Bob Dylan-Like A Rolling Stone
10. Destroyer-Farrar, Straus &
Girox



Despite Losses, Women's Lax Optimistic for NESCACs

EMILY WEBB '11

staff writer

With just three games left in regular season play, Connecticut College's women's lacrosse team is fighting to earn one of the final entries in the NESCAC tournament. The NESCAC is the most competitive DIII league in the nation, and virtually every school in the conference is still a tournament contender.

Tri-captain Sarah Miner '08 explains that "the best part about playing in the NESCAC is that no team is ever guaranteed a win; every game is up for grabs." This high level of competition and unpredictability, however, is currently making the Camels quite anxious about their status for the upcoming tournament.

The team started off the season slowly but picked up the pace with three victories in a row over spring break in Colorado and continued that streak with a victory over NESCAC rival Tufts University. Unfortunately for the Camels, that victory was followed by a difficult overtime loss to Amherst at the end of March.

This dramatic defeat seemed to dishearten and emotionally drain the team, and the Camels lost their next two games. Miner concedes that the "loss to Amherst was disappointing," but she also notes that "it was a great game that began to prove who [our team] is and what we can do when we work together."

"In order to rally the team, we plan to work hard in practices, support each other both on and off the field and remind ourselves of our talent. As long as we trust in each other and play our game, we will bring home victories in the future."

This optimism combined with hard work finally paid off when Connecticut traveled to Mount Holyoke on 9 April and won on the road 13-9. As of 9 April, the Camels have one win and five losses in the NESCAC and have an overall record of 5-6.

When viewed in terms of wins and losses, this season may appear to be a disappointing one. But this season has greatly strengthened the women's lacrosse program, and it has also featured many outstanding individual accomplishments.

Sara Christopher '10 was honored as NESCAC player of the week for the week of 17 March for her amazing play in Colorado over spring break. Another highlight occurred when Miner netted her 100th collegiate goal on 21 March in a game against Goucher College.

The future for the team appears to be quite promising. Even though the eight freshmen certainly cannot compensate for the loss of the eight graduating seniors, they represent a group of young and talented players that will continue to develop. Abby Hill '11 tallied two goals in the recent game against Mount Holyoke; and goalie Jenna Ross '10 is ranked third in saves in the NESCAC.

The Camels seek to accomplish many goals in the immediate future. As a personal goal, Miner would like to repeat last year's victory over Williams— one of the highlights of her collegiate lacrosse career.

Miner says that the team's primary goal "is to make it into the NESCAC tournament. While this has always been a goal for [us], this year we have truly realized our talent. The team is coming together and we are seeing contributions from people of all ages in all positions on the field."



Men's Swimming and Diving Achieves Greatness

SOPHIE SMITH '10

staff writer

The men's swimming and diving team has had truly an amazing season. Coaches Marc Benvenuti and Will Wakefield led the swimmers, and Nora Westkott, who is in her sixth season at Connecticut College, guided the divers to greatness. Benvenuti, Wakefield, and Westkott led the boys to one of their best seasons yet.

The men's team joined the women's team for a grueling trip to Florida over winter break where they had long days of training and worked incredibly hard as a team—both in and out of the pool. The men's team had eight new freshmen join them this year. The new swimmers added a new dynamic to the team and proved to be very successful. The men started their season a little slowly with two difficult meets far from home at Middlebury and Williams. They returned from their winter training session with a new sense of dedication and truly made their mark in the NESCAC.

Grant Moryan '10 had a remarkable season. On March 2nd at Middlebury College, he automatically qualified for the NCAA Championship in 50 Yard Freestyle with a very impressive preliminary time of 20.67 seconds. Right after his qualifying time, he placed second in the championship final with a time of 20.70 seconds.

Moryan continued to display his talent by setting a facility record and secured the NESCAC Championship for the 100 yard freestyle with a time of 45.56 seconds. At the NCAA Championships, hosted by Wooster College at Miami University of Ohio, Moryan had an impressive fifth place finish for Conn in the 200 yard freestyle with a time of 1:43.13.

Moryan was not the only Camel who had an outstanding performance at the NCAA Championships. Connecticut College provisionally qualified for the Championships in four relay events. In the 200 yard freestyle relay, Pat Troy '10, Brian Finnerty '10, cocaptain Kyle Bartro '08, and Moryan took an exceptional third place with a finish time of 1:23.50.

Bartro, Troy, Moryan, and Sam Perley '10 combined for another third place performance in the 200 yard medley relay with an impressive finish time of 1:34.78. Bartro, Moryan, Troy, and Ian Barnes '09 finished fourth in the 400 yard medley relay, and Troy, Finnerty, Bartro, and Moryan took fourth in the 400 free relay.

Also at the Championships, co-captain Alex Wood '08 finished fifth in the 1,000 yard free style. The Camels scored 11 points, tying Hamilton and Centre College for 40th place. It was a great day for the Camels at the NCAA Championships!

More good news came for the Camels a couple of weeks later when Moryan and Troy were named NCAA Honorable Mention All-Americas for the second year in a row. The men's team has truly had a memorable season, and the Conn community looks forward to another stellar performance from this talented group next year.

1

Player of the Week Kevin Nally '10

MARISSA DEMAIS '11

staff writer

Conn's men's lacrosse team has been getting a great performance from Kevin Nally '10. The Midfielder from Ridgewood, New Jersey posted a total of three goals and one assist in a 1-1 week for the Camels. The highlight came on Saturday's game versus Bates in overtime. Nally scored with 2:13 left in overtime to clinch the teamís third NESCAC win. I met with him to see how he thought his successful season was going.

Marissa DeMais: Your season has been going great so far, how do you think its going?

Kevin Nally: I think the season is going pretty well so far. We already have more NESCAC wins than we did all of last year. I think we need to continue to play with confidence and play our game and we'll be fine.

MD: What has been the key to your success?

KN: I think the team has been successful this season because of our commitment in the off-season. We had team practices two times a week in the fall and worked on strength and conditioning four times a week.

MD: What do you think your team needs to work on to keep improving?

KN: One of the biggest problems our team faces is closing out games in the fourth quarter. I think we need to stay composed and continue to play like we did in the beginning of the game. MD: What was your greatest athletic achievement? KN: My greatest athletic achievement was winning the New Jersey Group III state championship my sophomore and senior year in high school.

MD: Do you have any pre-game rituals?

KN: I always wear the same undershirt and socks for every game.

MD: Who has influenced your career the most?

KN: I would say my family and high school coach have influenced my career the most. My high school coach taught me almost everything I know about lacrosse. My family has made a great effort to attend my games through out my career and supported me through the wins and losses.

MD: How did you first get involved in lacrosse?

KN: Lacrosse is the most popular sport in my hometown, so I started playing in 4th grade with most of my friends.

MD: What are your goals for the rest of the season?

KN: My goal for the rest of the season is to win our last five regular season games and to make a run for the NESCAC championship.

MD: What are your goals for the rest of your career?

KN: I really want to win a NES-CAC championship and make it to the NCAA tournament.

What To Watch For

NBA Utah Jazz at San Antonio Spurs 4.16 8 PM ESPN

MLB Boston Red Sox at New York Yankees 4.16 7pm ESPN2

NHL Playoffs First Round 4.14-4.22

NFL

NFL Draft 4.26-4.27

WNBA DRAFT RECAP

1 Los Angeles Sparks-Candace Parker-FC Tennessee

2 Chicago Sky-Sylvia Fowles-C LSU

3 Minnesota Lynx-Candice Wiggins-G Stanford

4 Detroit Shock-Alexis Hornbuckle-G Tennessee

5 Houston Comets-Matee Avjavon-G Rutgers

Fearless NBA Predictions

MVP: Kobe Bryant (LAL) ROY: Kevin Durant (SEA) Defensive Player of the Year: Kevin Garnett (BOS) Coach of the Year: Byront Scott (NO) Most Improved Player: Rudy Gay (MEM) Sixth Man of the Year: Manu Ginobili (SAN)



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Blast from the past

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30. Utopia

31. Bread and whiskey

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An Era of New Fans in Boston



JASON STARR '09

sports editor



After 20 days away from on the road, the Red Sox returned to Boston on April 8th for **Opening Day** and began a three-game se-

ries against the winless Detroit Tigers. The 2007 World Series championship banners were unfolded, the players received their rings, and former Red Sox first baseman, Bill Buckner, threw out the first pitch.

Surely, Buckner was booed straight out of Fenway Park, wasn't he? Apparently, the crowd greeted Buckner with a standing ovation. Has everyone forgotten that his costly error in game . six of the 1986 World Series prevented the Red Sox from winning a championship?

In an interview after the 2008 home opener, Buckner stated that it took a long time for him to forgive the media for being portrayed as one of biggest goats in the history of professional sports. But, it appears that Sox fans have finally forgiven him. Or have they?

Perhaps there's a new generation of Sox fans who never blamed Buckner for anything because they were unaware of his blunder altogether. After the 2004 championship season, many people who had never followed baseball before became Sox fans.

While it has certainly become rather trendy to call yourself a Sox fan, people who didn't care about baseball five years ago are now truly avid and dedicated fans. Countless people were captured by the magic of the 2004 season and began appreciate the game in a way that they could not before. There's no question about their dedication, but do these fans really believe that the

team's history began in 2004?

The new generation expects them to win, and this optimism is quite new to me. After the Yankees have failed to win a championship for the past seven consecutive seasons, the Sox have truly emerged as 'the team to beat.' Unlike these more recent fans, it is difficult for me to consider them as the best team in baseball.

Despite winning championships in 2007 and 2004, the Sox' history primarily consists of disappointments and failures. I love the Sox, but I always expect them to lose. My approach towards the Sox has been shaped by watching them falter in the postseason on countless occasions.

The Sox were five outs away from advancing to the World Series in 2003. but they left Pedro Martínez in for too long and ended up losing to the Yankees. After watching the Sox get defeated by New York in 2000 and Cleveland in 1998 and 1995, I perceived them to be a team that simply could not achieve in the playoffs.

Much of the strife involved with being a Sox fan also derives from their World Series losses in 1986, 1975, and 1967. Each series went to seven games, and the fans of Boston were devastated by these defeatsespecially by the '86 series which they appeared to have won.

While I can only think about losing, this new generation seems not to have this complex and can only think about winning. These fans will talk a lot about '04 and '07, but do they ever mention '05 or '06? Not only has this generation blocked out anything pre-2004, they appear not to remember the Sox stunning early exit from the playoffs in '05 or their horrendous second-half collapse in '06.

I'm happy for Bill Buckner, and I applaud this new generation that cheered for him. But I hope these fans can remember our failures and shortcomings because they make the victories so much sweeter.

Just When I Thought I Was Out... They Pull Me Back In

Is Brett

BEN EAGLE '09

sports editor Favre coming back to the NFL? The answer is a resounding maybe.

A little over a month after breaking the hearts of Packer fans everywhere, Brett Favre has cast doubt on his seemingly final retirement declaration. In a conversation with Sun Herald reporter, Al Jones, Favre said he would have to consider returning to the Packers if they were decimated with injuries.

"It would be hard to pass up, I guess. But three months from now, say that presents itself, I may say, you know what, I'm so glad I made that decision. [I] feel very comfortable in what I'm doing and my decision."

If this wavering is frustrating to you, an NFL fan who does not pray at the altar of all things cheese, imagine a Green Bay fan's position. Under Vince Lombardi, the Packers were the class of the NFL from 1959-67. During that span they won five league championships. Lombardi was such a seminal figure that the NFL renamed the Super Bowl Trophy to honor him.

When Lombardi died in 1970, however, Packer football fell into relative obscurity. From 1968-1991, the Packers only had five seasons with a winning record. They went through five different head coaches, and passed on possible franchise savior, Barry Sanders, in the 1989 draft.

Green Bay, the most devoted fan base in the NFL, was dismayed. Would they ever see a winning season again?

1992 saw the answer to that question. It was during this year that the Packers acquired Favre from the Atlanta Falcons for a first-round pick. Favre stepped in for the injured starter, Don Majkowski, and led the Packers to a comeback win over the Cincinnati Bengals. Favre started the following week against the Pittsburgh Steelers, and has not missed a start since.

By 1996, the Packers turnaround was complete. After beating the San Francisco 49ers and the Carolina Panthers with relative ease, the Pack-

ers advanced to their first Super Bowl in 29 years. They went on to beat the New England Patriots, and the rest is history.

Favre would win three straight NFL MVPs (a peerless record), and set the record for most career NFL touchdown passes (442) and most career NFL passing yards (61,655). Most importantly, he made football in Green Bay relevant again.

With all of this in mind, can you blame Favre for wanting to come back? Green Bay loves him, and they need him. Aaron Rodgers, Favre's heir apparent, cannot lead this team to a 13-3 record like Favre did last season.

[I]t is not like Favre retired from the Packers to sign with a rival team like the Chicago Bears (though they really could use him, couldn't they?). But I do believe that these players are toying with their fans emotions.

To me, all of this smells keenly reminiscent of Junior Seau's retirement. For those of you that don't remember, the long-time Chargers linebacker spent three injury filled seasons with the Miami Dolphins. When it was apparent his body could not take the rigors of the NFL anymore, Seau signed a one-day contract with the Chargers, and retired. In a tear-filled press conference, Seau told reporters not worry about him because he wasn't retiring, he was "graduating".

Apparently, for Seau, grad-school was in New England. Only four days after his retirement announcement, he signed with the Patriots.

I am by no means associating Seau's blatant treason with Favre. It is not like Favre retired from the Packers to sign with a rival team like the Chicago Bears (though they really could use him, couldn't they?). But I do believe that these players are toying with their fans emotions.

A retirement is hard for both parties. The fans who have cheered and paid their superstars so handsomely are just as sad as the superstars when they retire. I'd imagine that many Packer fans shed tears with Favre at his press conference. But now what do they do?

In my opinion, retirement is final. If you still think you can play, don't retire. It's as simple as that.

12 OPINION

\$100 Oil? Keep it Comin'!

ANDREW IRWIN '10



We've all gotten those silly invitations to some Facebook group that reads something to the effect of, "Listen to this

economist scientist expert and we can go back to having gasoline for \$1.30 per gallon." Its sounds great, until you notice what is actually happening: Americans are responding to price increases. Truckers are calling on a solution to \$4 and \$5 Diesel; airlines are scrapping excess to save on jet fuel. According to a recent survey by the Fairfax County Economic Development Authority, Americans now consider a solution to energy issues a higher priority than curing cancer. Overall, high energy prices will make expensive, clean resources more viable as well as encourage conservation, even if it has come one generation late (ask older people about the 1970s and OPEC).

As an indirect effect of energy cost increases, food prices will also continue to rise. Along with rising corn prices, this may signal a move towards healthier and more sustainable options based



Cartoon by Daniel Walker '11

on price. Pasture grown beef and poultry requires less energy input and there may be a point where the extra production output from pesticide use will be outweighed by the high cost of these petroleum-based chemicals.

Some may object to this, saying higher gas prices are detrimental to the American economy and way of life. To rebut this statement, I point to Europe. With minimal defense budgets and fewer tax rebates to oil companies, European countries succeed at providing reliable public transportation (except maybe Italy), healthcare and actively promote the development of clean renewable energy.

Of course, doing nothing about \$100 oil *can* drastically damage the American economy. Conservation, energy efficiency and alternative energy sources must all be adopted in order to reduce our vulnerability to higher energy and food prices. The \$100 mark may have been the point at which the country began to feel the personal effects of its addiction to oil. We can only expect further increases if nothing is done to curb this addiction.

staff writer

In fact, if a more realistic (all hidden cost internalized) gasoline price were used, some economists calculate a gallon being upwards of \$10. Hidden costs to the American taxpayer have kept the nation too quiet on energy and food issues. This is not to say that subsidies are bad, they are simply given in the wrong places. Solutions exist now that can be subsidized to promote clean, safe and renewable energy sources. In adopting these solutions, we will support our own economy by achieving energy independence, rather than supporting the economies of Venezuela and Saudi Arabia. Furthermore, creating an infrastructure of clean energy requires many jobs that will, by their nature, remain in America.

The next decade will prove vital for the country as we face the issues of energy independence and the climate crisis. The United States can either use this moment as a gateway into an era of continued insecurity and economic turmoil or enter the era of clean, sustainable prosperity and energy independence.

OIL TALK

continued from page five

than trucks. We have to liberate the workforce from officebased jobs and let them work in their village, through the modern technology of emails and faxes and video conferencing. We have to address the distribution of food: Much of the food in supermarkets today comes from at least a continent or two away. We need to return to local farms. And we have to attack globalization: As energy prices soar, manufacturing things close to home will begin to make sense again."

The transition from our current gasoline-driven economy will be difficult, but there are ways of easing the switch. Simmons believes that, "biofuels need to be intensely examined, but corn-based ethanol is a scam because it requires such intensive oil inputs." He is also interested in the prospects of liquid ammonia as a gasoline substitute and tidal and wave power as sources of electricity.

The talk was sponsored by the President's Office. For more information about Matthew Simmons and peak oil, see interviews at http://www.grist.org/news/maindish/2005/11/03/simmons/ and http://www.financialsense. com/editorials/casey/2008/0109.html.

"We have to find, for instance, far more energy-efficient methods of transporting products by rail and ship rather

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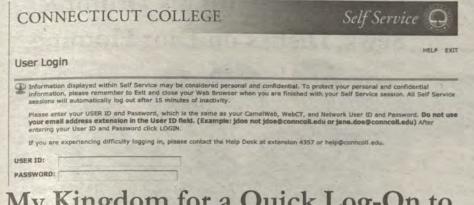
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APRIL 16, 2008



My Kingdom for a Quick Log-On to Self Service A Rant Against Online Registration

REBECCA REEL '11



Frankly, around the *College Voice*, I'm a long-time lurker and a lazy one at that. I've copy-edited opinion articles for the entire year, but have

never gotten around to penning my own contribution. But, dear readers, this week I felt compelled to write. Early in the morning, I was awoken by what I can only describe as something akin to the Wilhelm scream or Darth Vader's epic "NOOO!" at the end of Episode III. It was the sound of ultimate suffering: the sound of frantic, sleep-addled students at 8 am trying to register for classes. My repertoire of profanity was increased tenfold as I listened to the agonized wails of those unlucky souls who couldn't get into any of their classes. I overheard several Faustian bargains struck with computers; a soul for a log-in seems like a reasonable trade to some. My morning alarm became crashes, bangs, and the sounds of my floormates' footsteps bursting from room to room begging for the use of computers, typewriters, hell, even carrier pigeons to get signed up for classes. The glorious cacophony of salty language and desperation permeated the air this morning. What joy.

This is not to say that I dislike ' online registration. I am a huge fan of online registration, as I enjoy railing staff writer

against God, Bill Gates, and whoever else will listen to my woes about waiting to be logged in to Self Service. It worked pretty well for me last semester, although I did wind up bartering my supply of Easy Mac to my roommate for the use of her computer. I simply think that registering in a melee style free-for-all would level the playing field. No one would be reliant on their computer; instead, they would have to rely on brute force, acumen, and alliances to jockey for position. Essentially, registration would become an episode of Survivor mixed with a little bit of Ninja Warrior. This would also stymie complaints that there is nothing to do on campus, and generally increase the overall fitness of the student body. I, for one, would certainly be hitting the AC on a more regular basis if I knew I had to outcompete the rugby and lacrosse teams to register for my English classes.

A second, and perhaps less chaotic, option would be to instate a dueling system for position in line to register. One would merely slap one's opponent across the face with a glove (North Face fleeces or swipe cards would also suffice) and the duel would begin. It certainly sounds better than a Faustian bargain with a computer.

As a rising sophomore, tomorrow morning at 8 am will be my finest hour. Will my trusty (well, somewhat trusty) Dell computer and I be able to successfully register for classes? Perhaps, but it's doubtful. I'm not ruling out going to the gym.

BENJAMIN EAGLE '09



I remember being a high school senior. Acne-speckled and awkward, I was

College Guidebooks

Bystudents and for

students

told to the make single largest decision a young privileged American can make—where to go to college.

The first question was: big school or small school? Each one had its strengths and weaknesses. A big school would give me anonymity. I could be whomever I wanted there. I liked who I was, however, so the decision to go to a small school came easy to me. Which small school was a harder decision.

To help focus my efforts, I went out and bought a couple college guidebooks. Each one claimed to offer more insight than the other. The *Fiske* guide claimed to be the best college guide you could buy. I wondered if this was a jab at my purchasing abilities because when I opened the book all I found were rankings based on reputation. Ivy League schools may have a big name, but what these rankings don't tell you is that your T.A. is three years older than you and his native language probably isn't English.

Other guidebooks were equally unhelpful. One, claimed, "Students on Campus Tell You What You Really Want to Know." Again, I was foolish to judge a book by its cover. This "insider" info seemed trite and unauthentic. I feared for the students they interviewed, for these books were not really a reflection of the

concerned citizen

student body on a whole. Dejected, I made the decision to go to Connecticut College because it was an hour and a half drive from my home.

Now, as a college junior I look back at this decision and laugh. I may have made arguably the biggest decision of my young life on a whim, but how can anyone claim they were informed about this decision? The only way you know a school is by being there.

Now, as the enrolled, we have an ability to impart this knowledge to prospective students. A new website, at www.ByStudents.com/conn, offers current students the ability to tell everyone what a college really is like. It's simple too. You log on to the websiteand fill in the survey. It has a myriad of stock questions, but it also has tons of room to tell people stuff they normally wouldn't hear. Like wouldn't it interest students that we can host kegs in dorms on the weekend? Or that we get a whole cable package in every room for free? I know these surveys are long and we are all busy. This is not only a great way to shape the way prospective students view Connecticut College, but it can also be a great resume builder. Good submissions may be published and nothing looks better in a job interview than cold hard proof that you've completed something. And think again about those awkward, acne-riddled prospective students. They need a guide, and are we really going to leave it to those books?

WRITE FOR OPINIONS

14 ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

THE COLLEGE VOICE

APRIL 16, 2008

Counting Crows: Past Their Prime?

CAROLYN SEBASKY '09



a&e editor

Counting Crows strongly have not released an "Sunday LP since 2002's *Hard* The I *Candy*. As a long time far less Counting Crows fan cessor, a

and an extreme appreciator of Adam Duritz's writing, the wait for the band's newest fulllength, *Saturday Nights & Sunday Mornings*, was an excruciatingly long one. For many, though, the new album was a chance to come back from the criticism that they faced with the release of *Hard Candy*.

For anyone that doesn't see Durtiz as a musical and lyrical god, Hard Candy was a disappointing album. After the unbelievable strength of Recovering the Satellites, This Desert Life, and especially the sheer genius of August and Everything After, Hard Candy was not striking, and its sound was more "made for the radio" than anything else. Coincidentally, the Crows' other three albums faired better commercially than Hard Candy. I personally love the album, but even I will admit that it has a few throwaway tracks (mainly "Good Time," "Why Should I Come When You Call?," and "Goodnight L.A."). With the passing years, it seemed more and more like Counting Crows would not recover from the mediocrity of their last release, and fans and critics alike began to doubt that the band could produce something as raw and captivating as August and Everything After.

March 25, 2008 marked the release of the not-quite-double-disc Saturday Nights & Sunday Mornings, which is divided into the six-track "Saturday Nights" and the eighttrack "Sunday Mornings." Duritz explains this division as, "Saturday night is when you sin and Sunday is when you regret. Sinning is often done very loudly, angrily, bitterly, [and] violently." The album opens with "1492," a high-energy rock tune packed with historical references and heavy vocals. This is the standout track of "Saturday Nights," and is one of the only highlights of the grouping, along with "Cowboys." The tracks of "Saturday Nights" blend together in my head; lyrically they are less than inspiring (which is highly unusual for Duritz) and fall into the shadow of previous upbeat tunes like "Rain King" and "Mrs. Potter's Lullaby." Perhaps this has

something to do with the personal struggle Duritz endured over the years of silence from the Crows, but this pain clearly translates more strongly in the melancholy tracks of "Sunday Mornings."

The longer of the two sections is far less "in your face" than its predecessor, and over the years, it has become clear that this style is Duritz's niche. While some of the tracks are not completely sullen, ("Colorblind") the overwhelming feeling is, well, like a Sunday morning. Piano presence is noticeable, and surely welcomed by fans of the Crows' older work. The "title track," "On Almost Any Sunday Morning" is reminiscent of the quiet introspection of "Perfect Blue Buildings" and "Anna Begins" on August and Everything After, but with a folky twang. Duritz sings, "Wash your eyes clear of anything / Make them empty circles / Dress yourself in black of gray / I'm hungry like a wild waif or only child / This lithium is heroin to me / It makes it all withdraw / All the anger and loss / But it all keeps coming back in the morning," revealing the personal issues that he is accustomed to singing about.

The tracks on "Sunday Mornings" are easier to snuggle up to than the more abrasive "Saturday Nights," but perhaps it will just take time for them to sink into my skin. Of course, "Sunday Mornings" has its low points as well. The slow, drawn out vocals of "The Ballet D'Or" clash with the quickened pace of the piano accompaniment, and the single "You Can't Count On Me" is suggestive of the other less-than-impressive radiofriendly tracks like "Accidentally In Love." But on the whole, who can deny an album with a song about the evils of L.A. (especially if it is cowritten by Sir Ryan Adams himself)? While Saturday Nights & Sunday Mornings cannot hold a candle to the band's older works, you have to remember that that is an incredibly hard shoe to fill. If Adam Duritz can come back from an incredible hard time in his life with this album, there is more than just a little hope for the future of this band that captured the hearts of millions in 1993 and is still around with something to say.

These New Puritans Drummer Sews, Dishes on Dior Homme

ARETI SAKELLARIS '08

editor-in-chief

What are the chances of casually bumping into Hedi Slimane of Dior Homme fame at a bar in London, hitting it off, getting whisked

away to Dior headquarters in Paris, strutting the catwalk, and composing the music for Slimane's final Dior Homme collection? Pretty high for George Barnett, drummer for Southend, UK post-punk outlet These New Puritans, who turns out to be as knowledgeable about tailoring, as he is musicianship.

Previously, working relationships seemed much more focused on designers and artists, like Schiaparelli and Dali, but more and more often, the synergy between fashion and music garners greater attention, possibly because music tends to be more accessible for both designers and fashionistas looking for inspiration.

This information and accompanying photos were in *The Fader*, a hybrid music-fashion-culture magazine and downloadable podcast from iTunes. In the interview, Barnett thinks Slimane's "crossing over art, music, and subcultures" works between fashion and music so well



because of the creative processes behind both. Fighting the stereotype that musicians are unintelligent, Barnett cites Slimane's recreation of a labyrinth of glass and mirrors inside a warehouse as a particular favorite of Slimane's earlier artworks.

Remarkably, Slimane let the band compose the music with minimal input, which surprises me because of the scale behind Dior Homme collections-it's not something whipped up in a basement and shown for three editors from a local newspaper. Aside from the lumping together of creative types, Barnett also talks about the naturalness behind their collaboration, and that the music evolved fittingly within the style they like to perform and with the brand's image. I think this functions like the desire to make things seem new or youthful; we don't want to see things that seem too manufactured or contrived. If anything, it is another dimension to the movement for socially conscious clothing, these organic collaborations somehow are supposed to strike us as having greater legitimacy because they are not forced-therefore "keeping it real."

What's funny is that the band does not have French roots and they record in England, envisioning themselves as a new-age Puritans; however, French history and the decorative arts are known for an ostentatious usage of all the gold and glitter imaginable. Slimane had collaborated with the band Phoenix about a year-and-a-half ago and they were featured together in the Fashion Rocks supplement to Condé Nast publications like Vogue and Teen Vogue to promote the CBS Fashion Rocks VH1 television special last Fall. Phoenix is a band out of Paris. What's going on with the crossover to England? Is that natural?

these is provide all and there is not its.

APRIL 16, 2008

THE COLLEGE VOICE

Style Guide: Spring 2008



Gladiator

Florals and spring, what a surprise. To keep the look from being boring, these florals are acid-bright hues and dangerously loud proportions. Be careful that the size of the print and the cut of the dress or shirt do not overwhelm your body because that is never in style and you will either look like a) you tried too hard or b) like grandma.



Accented Hair

You don't need to wait for the Fourth of July to flaunt your appreciation for stars. Look for stars embroidered, printed or appliquéd to clothing or very plastic accessories. Chanel featured Americanainspired stars, but you can go the other way and check out the whimsical, Surrealist inspired stars at Yves Saint Laurent (above).



Feathers, Braids & Headbands

Call it nostalgia, but the flower children are alive and well this spring. Feathered hair-ties or headbands are the trendiest novelty. Braids across the head, either all hair pulled up or half-up half-down looser style, are immensely popular with tastemakers. If you want to be in on the action, but are not as adventurous, try a braided headband.



Crazy Florals

Ready to tackle the city streets, knee-high or ankle gladiator sandals are huge this spring. Appearing on the runways at Balenciaga, Miu Miu, and Givenchy (above), the sandals can have satin ties, leather buckles, or lacing. Wear them to toughen-up a sweet babydoll dress or just go all-out Spartan on us.



Stars

Instead of committing to a full dye job, coloring just the tips or underlayer is the new way to drastically diversify your look. Hot pink, purple, and light pink are great for spring, as is a very platinum (almost white) blonde. Be a trendsetter and try a dark green on lighter hair...



Surrealist

From the stars at YSL to the architectural headpieces of butterflies at Alexander McQueen to the violins on collars at Viktor and Rolf to the sunglasses and quirky hats at Marc Jacobs, this spring is about bringing the inner artist out and laughing in the face of fashion. Have fun!

THE COLLEGE VOICE

WEEKLY CALENDAR APRIL 16 - APRIL 22

WEDNESDAY

EXHIBIT

Watercolors Through Eastern and Western Eyes: Paintings by Chiang Chien-fei, all day, Chu Room, Shain

The Ubiquitous Chapbook, all day, first floor, Shain

All Student Art Show and Art Minor Exhibition, all day, Cummings

LECTURE

x

Two Misty Poems and an Untrue World: Introducing Contemporary Chinese Literature, 12:00 p.m., Chu Room, Shain

EVENT

Camel Knitters, 12:00 p.m., Oasis, Cro

Come into the Quiet Meditation, 12:30 p.m., Chapel Relaxation and Meditation, 3:30 p.m., Chapel Li-

brary

Exit Counseling for Seniors, 7:00 p.m., Hood, Blaustein

THURSDAY

EXHIBIT

Watercolors Through Eastern and Western Eyes: Paintings by Chiang Chien-fei, all day, Chu Room, Shain

The Ubiquitous Chapbook, all day, first floor, Shain

All Student Art Show and Art Minor Exhibition, all day, Cummings

SPORTS AND FITNESS

Personal Trainer, 12:00 p.m., Fitness Center

Tennis vs. Wesleyan, 3:30 p.m.

EVENTS

£.

Mediterranean Studies in the Age of Globalization: The Case of Italy Norma Bouchard 4:30 p.m., Chu Room, Shain

"Sexy Thrills: Undressing the Erotic Thriller" Faculty Book Talk by Nina K. Martin, 4:30 p.m., Haines Room, Shain

SPORTS AND FITNESS Personal Trainer, 5:00 p.m., Fitness Center and Cro's Nest

Rieko Aizawa in Concert, 8:00 p.m., Evans, Cummings

FRIDAY

EXHIBIT

Watercolors Through Eastern and Western Eyes: Paintings by Chiang Chien-fei, all day, Chu Room, Shain

The Ubiquitous Chapbook, all day, first floor, Shain All Student Art Show and Art Minor Exhibition, all day, Cummings

EVENT

Welcome and Remarks - Race, Space, and Memory . Symposium, 9:30 a.m., Ernst, Blaustein

FRIDAY (continued)

"How should we memorialize 'the war on terror'?" - Race, Space, and Memory Symposium10:00 AM Ernst Common Room, Blaustein

Security Awareness for Faculty and Staff11:00 AM Haines Room, Shain

Student sponsored Health Education Fair, 11:30 a.m., 1941 Room

Common Hour: "Long Island Sound: a Passing Grade or Failing?"11:45 a.m., Room 210, Blaustein

"The Arts of Counter-Memory: From Berlin to New York" - Race, Space, and Memory Symposium, 1:00 p.m., Ernst, Blaustein

Dialogue on Race, Ethnicity and Memorialization, 2:45 p.m., Room 210, Blaustein

"Dragon Maidens, Crones, and Captured Brides: Women in Yi Folk Literature," 4:00 p.m., Chu Room, Shain

Presentation and Reception for "War on Terror" Memorials - Race, Space and Memory Symposium, 4:15 p.m., Blaustein first floor

Shabbat Dinner, 6:00 p.m., Freeman Dining Hall

David Dorfman Dance Performance - Race, Space and Memory Symposium, 8:00 p.m., Meyers Dance Studio, Cro

SATURDAY

EXHIBIT

Watercolors Through Eastern and Western Eyes: Paintings by Chiang Chien-fei, all day, Chu Room, Shain

The Ubiquitous Chapbook, all day, first floor, Shain

All Student Art Show and Art Minor Exhibition, all day, Cummings

Race, Space and Memory Symposium Reception, all day, Ernst, Blaustein

Earth Day/Community Day Celebration - 2008 11:00 AM

Music DepartmentSenior Music Student Recital 2:30 PM

SUNDAY

EXHIBIT

Watercolors Through Eastern and Western Eyes: Paintings by Chiang Chien-fei, all day, Chu Room, Shain

The Ubiquitous Chapbook, all day, first floor, Shain

All Student Art Show and Art Minor Exhibition, all day, Cummings

SPORTS AND FITNESS Rowing vs. Coast Guard, all day SailingThompson Trophy, 9:30 a.m.

SUNDAY (continued)

EVENT Earth Day Community Day 2008, 11:00 a.m., Knowlton Green

SPORTS AND FITNESS Tennis vs. Middlebury, 11:00 a.m.

Women's Lacrosse vs. Colby, 11:00 a.m.

EVENT Unitarian Universalist Campus Ministry, 6:00 p.m., Chapel Senior Music Student Recital, 8:00 p.m., Evans,

MONDAY

Cummings

Watercolors Through Eastern and Western Eyes: Paintings by Chiang Chien-fei, all day, Chu Room, Shain

The Ubiquitous Chapbook, all day, first floor, Shain

All Student Art Show and Art Minor Exhibition, all day, Cummings

EVENT Admitted Student Open House, all day SPORTS AND FITNESS Personal Trainer, 12:00 p.m., Fitness Center

TUESDAY

EXHIBIT

Watercolors Through Eastern and Western Eyes: Paintings by Chiang Chien-fei, all day, Chu Room, Shain

The Ubiquitous Chapbook, all day, first floor, Shain

All Student Art Show and Art Minor Exhibition, all day, Cummings

SPORTS AND FITNESS Personal Trainer, 12:00 p.m., Fitness Center

EVENT Music Student Recitals, 4:00 p.m., Evans, Cummings

SPORTS AND FITNESS Men's Lacrosse vs. Western Connecticut State University, 4:00 p.m.

EVENT Latino/a Heritage Month Planning Meeting 4:00 p.m, Pepsico Room, Unity House

The Beauty Myth Book talk by Naomi Wolf,4:30 p.m., 1941 Room

Chemistry Seminar, 4:30 p.m., Brown, Hale Lab SPORTS AND FITNESS

Personal Trainer, 5:00 p.m., Fitness Center and Cro's Nest

Community Yoga Class, 5:30 p.m., 1941 Room

Take Back the Night, 7:30 p.m., outside Cro