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# THE COLLEGE VOICE

## SPECIAL ELECTION ISSUE

Volume XIV, Number 21

Ad Fontes

April 7, 1992

Bringing efficient and confident leadership back to student government forms the backbone of the campaign launched this week by Colleen Shanley, candidate for SGA president.

"Next year SGA has to reassert its own integrity," she said.

Shanley said this year had been "disastrous," and the attitude of the Executive Board was to let the Assembly guide themselves. "The challenge is to give the Assembly direction and put them back on track," stated Shanley.

According to Shanley, Assembly members need to know more about proposals before meetings and interaction between senators and the Executive Board should be facilitated better.

"Last year there was a lot of miscommunication. The Executive Board would dominate the discussion because they were well informed about the issues, [and] they had Executive Board meetings at the beginning of the week . . . It tended to intimidate the Assembly," she said.

One idea Shanley offered to improve participation and cooperation is to reserve a dining room for informal meetings for student government leaders.

"[The weekly meals] would hopefully cut out a lot of the confusion that happens in discussions . . . a lot of the stupid questions that come up, a lot of the repetition of the same points over and over again. A lot of that could be cut out if Assembly members are able to discuss the issues beforehand," she said.

Shanley stressed involvement in SGA, saying, "If elected I would like to be actively involved in creating an Assembly."

Shanley said she would target freshmen and class councils to get more people running

### PRESIDENT



Colleen Shanley

for positions from the beginning. Said Shanley, "I'd like to send a letter to all freshmen saying . . . If you care about these issues get on there." Revitalizing the Assembly and encouraging involvement are processes that have to start from "day one," she said.

Shanley also addressed the issue of the deteriorating relationship between the administration and SGA.

"I do know that this year I perceive the relations between the Executive Board and the administration as very poor," she said.

"Students are supposed to be involved in the decisionmaking process," she said, adding that there has been "blatant disregard" of this in the past year.

Taking this week off from classes at American University to hit the campaign trail, Sean Spicer is shooting for the position of SGA president.

Spicer cites his experience at American University as one of the motivating factors for his campaign. While there, he discovered, "what the college has and has not done for me while I was away." The fact that Connecticut College's financial aid does not travel with students studying away, housing troubles for returning students, and a lack of information about the college while studying away are three issues important in his campaign.

The number one item on the SGA agenda, however, is to get students interested in student governance once again, he said. To do this, he plans to address issues that more directly affect student's lives, such as improving financial aid and class size.

"The next president has to . . . really make an effort to let the students know that the SGA isn't just a wasteful bunch of people getting together on a Thursday night doing nothing. It's a position that has power that can bring issues that are germane to the student body to the forefront and work with the administration and work with the students as one to bring these issues together instead of being an administrative tool," Spicer said.

Spicer believes he can help reinstate the integrity of SGA and plans to both invite the participation of freshmen and make better use of the established committees. He also intends to eliminate the creation of "mindless 'C'-Book changes."

To further development of the Assembly, Spicer supports more training of senators. One form of training would be mandatory leadership workshops with specific emphasis on SGA procedures, an experience that would increase senators' participation.

### PRESIDENT



Sean Spicer

Spicer served as a house senator during his sophomore year and was senator of Harkness this year until his departure for Washington. His experience as senator has given him insight into "realizing what it's all about and what it's not all about," he said. Spicer has served on the Alcohol Policy Recommendations Committee, the Food Committee, and the Shareholders Responsibility Committee.

Spicer intends to take a direct role in decision making. In his platform, he said, "I will change the role of president by becoming an active and voting member of the Assembly. In the past few years the president has taken a backseat in bringing forth proposals and actively participating in debate. It will be my goal to end this tradition."

Saveena Dhall has pledged to use her experience for the betterment of the college's academics and policies. While at the college, she said, she has been "given the opportunity to see the perspectives of administrators, faculty, and students on academic and non-academic issues." Citing her work on various committees, Dhall said she has the knowledge and experience to represent the student body as the chair of academic affairs.

As CCASA political chair/vice president and a member of MSSC, Dhall believes she has been exposed to many curricular issues, "as well as other academic affairs," that are of the utmost importance to Connecticut Col-

lege students. Dhall is also a representative on the International Studies Faculty Committee and a member of the College Diversity Committee.

According to Dhall, the greatest challenges facing the chair of academic affairs are class size, re-evaluation of the General Education requirements and evaluation of the implementation of the 3:2 plan.

Asked how she would tackle problems surrounding the 3:2 plan, Dhall suggested increased communication between faculty and students to see "what solutions can come forth and how we can implement them."

Regarding re-evaluation of the General Education requirements, Dhall acknowledged that "there are a lot of loopholes" in the program and "it is not very planned and structured."

According to Dhall, departments need to be examined.

"General Education is a big part of our liberal arts education," said Dhall, supporting the continuation of guidelines, in some form. "It is not an extra burden, rather we'd get a lot of well-rounded liberal art students by letting them go through a specific plan," she said.

With a background in multicultural issues, Dhall advocates broad-based implementation of diversity opportunities, as opposed to one specific, mandatory area requirement.

Dhall believes it is extremely important to keep the student body well informed about issues such as "class size, course offerings, General Education, distribution of courses, organization of sabbaticals." She also wants to see the Board of Advisory Chairs "more involved with interdepartmental academic issues."

Running unopposed for Judiciary Board chair is Julie DeGennaro, a current member of the J-Board and the Executive Board of the Junior Class Council. She also served on her class council the previous year. In addition to these positions, she said working in dining services has prepared her for serving as chair, in that she has been able "to interact with everyone who passes through there."

DeGennaro said the greatest challenge facing the future J-Board chair will be following through on recent reforms made by the current chair, Molly Embree. She particularly stressed the importance of establishing the two new administrative positions education

officer and investigative officer.

DeGennaro said these positions will alleviate some of the responsibilities of the chair, enabling that person to hold more contact sessions with the student body.

DeGennaro supports a vote of affirmation for the Honor Code, but questions whether the clause should be binding or non-binding. If it were binding, she stated, "we could do away with the system and never get it back."

But DeGennaro said it would be "pointless" for students to vote year after year if nothing would really be changed.

She believes the vote should be non-binding for the first year, giving SGA a chance to correct problems internally. After that she thinks it could be switched to a binding vote.

DeGennaro favors publicized roll call votes of J-Board decisions, because she supports increased accountability.

Under the current system, she believes students view the Board as a kind of "star chamber." With public votes, students could understand that "there are people who dissent, and reasons why people dissent."

According to DeGennaro, the vote represents a majority the board supports, but ultimate decisions cannot ignore that "there have been questions and problems along the way."

DeGennaro is in favor of maintaining confidentiality. "This is a small campus and people do make mistakes," she explained. However, she said the J-Board chair should represent the views of the school and if a majority were opposed to confidentiality, she would support that decision.

DeGennaro views the role of J-Board chair on SGA, "as a liaison between the Board and SGA."

### ACADEMIC AFFAIRS



Saveena Dhall

### JUDICIARY BOARD



Julie DeGennaro



# RECOMMENDATIONS

Appearing on this page are *The College Voice* Editorial Board's recommendations for the SGA Executive Board and Young Alumni Trustee elections. *The College Voice* Board hopes these recommendations, read in conjunction with the additional coverage, will enhance the election process.

These recommendations are not endorsements in that they do not necessarily reflect support of a candidacy; rather they are suggestions to the community as to which of the available candidates are best qualified to hold the positions. Both declared candidates and write-in campaigns present viable options for the voters and were invited to participate in the *Voice* recommendation process.

These decisions were based on an entire day of interviews and deliberations. In addition, Editorial Board members attended Speech/Debate Night and reconvened after the event to finalize the suggestions. All recommendations were reached by consensus with some editors stepping down when biases were an issue.

Each SGA Executive Board candidate was asked two standard questions and a third, which was specific to the position, followed by an open question/answer period.

#### Standard Questions:

What four experiences have you had that best qualify you for the position you seek?  
What do you predict will be the single greatest challenge for the position you seek in the next year and how would you meet it?

#### Specific Questions:

##### President:

How would you define the role of the SGA president on the administrative cabinet and how do you foresee your particular leadership on this body?

##### Vice President:

Vice Presidents have at times supported increased monitoring of club spending in order to minimize risks of debt. Some have argued, however, that strict scrutiny undermines club autonomy. How would you handle these differing perspectives?

##### Chair of Academic Affairs:

Review of general education was slated as a major issue for this year, but seems to have progressed slowly. How do you envision general education and would you support a mandatory diversity requirement?

##### Judiciary Board Chair:

There has been talk of a vote of affirmation on the Honor Code. Do you support such a step?

##### SAC Chair:

The SAC chair not only serves as a primary planner of SAC events, but also acts as a scheduling liaison with smaller organizations. How do you plan on working with clubs to coordinate a diverse, strong calendar of events?

##### Public Relations Director:

What role do you believe PR should play in efforts to earn students' and administrators' respect for student government and what measures would you implement to meet this goal?

##### YATs were asked three questions:

What role do you believe the Board of Trustees plays on this campus, and how would you, as YAT, fit into that picture?

What two issues do you anticipate the Board will address in the next three years, and how will your specific experiences enhance decisionmaking in these areas?

Connecticut College has started to come into the forefront with new publicized programs. Some would argue, however, that these programs have come at the expense of the college's strengths. In a time of fiscal restraints and limited resources, how would you strike the balance between tradition and innovation?

## PRESIDENT

We recommend **Colleen Shanley** for the position of SGA president. With extensive experience in student government, a reputation for thoughtful leadership and a demonstrated ability to understand broader issues and long-term ramifications, Shanley can serve the student body well. Her background has spanned committees, Class Council, the Assembly and the Executive Board, giving her an invaluable and unique perspective into the organizational dynamics of student government. In addition, Shanley has pledged to reinvigorate student government internally and externally, with concrete ideas for improved Assembly participation and a willingness to tackle issues with the administration and faculty professionally. Her campaign has cited effectiveness, administrative relations, academic issues, diversity, and the College Center project as major issues facing student government within the next year. We concur with her initial assessment of these challenges and are confident that Shanley is the best qualified candidate for this important position during this critical time.

## VICE PRESIDENT

We recommend **Robin Swimmer** for the position of SGA vice president. Swimmer is set apart from the other candidates because she has served on the Finance Committee and clearly understands the complexities of the budget process, qualifications which we believe are essential to the successful and timely completion of the vice president's primary responsibilities. In addition, Swimmer's call for expanding the target pool to increase contributions under the Umbrella Plan and goals to research the dorm dues system and the legality of charging additional fees for alcohol illustrate a commitment to larger financial issues. We recognize that Swimmer has been a member of an SGA which has had its weaknesses this year and hope that she will work to use her knowledge of college channels to bring leadership to the Executive Board.

## CHAIR OF ACADEMIC AFFAIRS

We recommend **Saveena Dhall** for the position of chair of academic affairs. While Dhall has not worked specifically with the Board of Academic Chairs, she has served as a strong member of several committees which examine and address curricular and academic issues, including the Minority Student Steering Committee, the college's Diversity Committee and the International Studies Faculty Committee. Her leadership on these bodies combined with a commitment to the pressing issues of class size, course distribution and offerings, General Education requirements, and sabbatical scheduling make her candidacy strong. Dhall's insight into the importance of the increased cooperation between advisory chairs in interdepartmental issues indicates an acute organizational ability. We were particularly impressed by her stance on diversity, which advocates the broad implementation of multicultural and ethnic studies as opposed to the creation of a mandatory general education area requirement. Given these considerations, we believe Dhall is significantly qualified for the position.

## JUDICIARY BOARD CHAIR

We recommend **Julie DeGennaro** for the position of Judiciary Board chair. DeGennaro, as junior class J-Board representative this year, offers experience in adjudicating the Honor Code and the necessary comprehension of reforms passed this year to facilitate their successful and efficient implementation. In addition to carrying out these changes, we would like to see DeGennaro launch more specific and original ideas to strengthen the Code; however, her plan to examine the current term of office for Judiciary Board members illustrates a commitment to this goal and an understanding of the powerful role members play in students' lives. As a frequent substitute on Assembly, DeGennaro is also likely to have a grasp on the workings of the legislative body, which is an important qualification in a campaign for any Executive Board position.

## SAC CHAIR

We recommend **Gerard Choucroun** for the position of SAC chair. In his campaign, Choucroun has committed himself to making SAC "daring, creative, and receptive to the interests of a greater majority." We agree that the time has come for these changes and believe Choucroun's relations with different segments of the student population and understanding of student interests will assist him in fulfilling his goals. We recognize that Choucroun has not served on SAC since his freshman year; however, his review of the SAC position as a member of the ad hoc Committee on Student Governance provides this candidate with a sufficiently informed perspective. While pledging to maintain traditional events, Choucroun has expressed a commitment to follow up on new ideas and improving entertainment possibilities for on-campus performers. It takes more work to facilitate change than to maintain the status quo, and we hope Choucroun will remain committed to his plans. Provided he does, Choucroun is a qualified and viable candidate for SAC Chair.

## PUBLIC RELATIONS DIRECTOR

The only candidate for public relations director declined to participate in *The College Voice's* recommendation process. Without the opportunity to interview the candidate, we do not feel sufficiently informed to make a recommendation for this position.

## YOUNG ALUMNI TRUSTEE

With differing perspectives as to the primary role of the Young Alumni Trustee and the inability of one candidate to meet the concerns of all Board members, we could not reach consensus on a YAT candidate. We, therefore, offer no recommendation.

#### Correction:

The final sentence in "Diversity and Class Size: A Status Report," *The College Voice*, March 31, 1992, should have read, "Let us work together to continue this: unique and important Connecticut College approach to problem solving."



# CANDIDATE PROFILES

"I am running as a student like yourself – a student who wants the SGA to make the advancement of student interests its top priority again," reads the platform of Chad Marlow, who is running for Student Government Association vice president.

Marlow denies the perception that the student body as a whole is apathetic towards student government. According to him, proposals debated by the Assembly have had little direct effect on student life, and therefore are unimportant to most students.

"In the past, you've had no tangible evidence that [house senators] are working for you," he said.

Marlow was pleased with this year's Finance Committee decision to open budget hearings to the public, but said he would not enforce the guideline that prohibits students-at-large from speaking at the hear-

## VICE PRESIDENT



**Chad Marlow**

ings.

Marlow said all students should be allowed to speak, but under a time limit to avoid stalling the hearing. "As vice president, I will take pride in hearing the individual student's voice, not silencing it," he said.

According to Marlow, there should be less intervention with club affairs by the Finance Committee. As an example he cited the removal of *The College Voice* computer earlier this year and the Committee's refusal to allow the class of 1994 to sponsor a scholarship for a New London high school student.

"The Finance Committee should be more lenient," he said, arguing that penalties for breaking rules should not supercede the crime.

Marlow concurs that the Finance Committee has a responsibility to students to ensure that their money is not wasted by clubs, but he emphasized that he "will not attempt to be the head of every club on campus."

He added, "I don't believe it hurts to keep an eye on clubs and see how they're doing," and does advocate frequent auditing.

Marlow suggested the implementation of a matching system for clubs which are chronically in debt. Under this plan, the Finance Committee would set aside a portion of a club's allocation and require them to fundraise money to match the reserve to receive the total allocation. "It would force [clubs], if they really wanted to meet their allocations, to go out and raise money," he said.

Marlow has had class council experience as the assistant to the president of the Class of 1994, where "I had an opportunity to sit down and work with students and hear what they wanted done," he said.

Marlow also mentioned that his recent CONNThought piece on Dean's List standards was a reflection of his involvement in the issues, representing compromise skills that are valuable in administrative relations.

Fostering the development of new campus organizations is one of the primary goals for Michelle Moon, candidate for Student Government Association vice president.

Although she has no experience serving on the Assembly, Moon said, "I don't see that as a detriment to my campaign. When working as a reporter for *The College Voice* and covering Assembly meetings, I got really familiar with the process, with the committees, with individual legislators, senators, and the Exec. Board, very comfortable talking to administrators and faculty."

Among her other qualifications, she cited work as head counselor at a camp for four summers, where she oversaw budgets, special events, and staff management. "That was probably, as far as organizational issues go, pretty significant," she said.

She views the role of vice president as

## VICE PRESIDENT



**Michelle Moon**

being a liaison and link for campus clubs and organizations to the SGA. Because of her involvement with a varied assortment of clubs, such as the *Voice*, POWR, and athletics, she said she is qualified for the job. "I've been into everything just a little bit."

Moon believes the budget allocation for new clubs will be a major issue in the coming year. She suggested examination of the minimum allocation to new clubs, among other incentives, because the formation of clubs benefits the college community. "Clubs are key in providing lots of various experiences. That enriches campus life for all of us," she said.

Moon emphasized the need for close scrutiny of clubs and organizations when preparing budgets. "The more specific [budgets] are, the better. Everybody should take a stronger role in looking at the budget."

In addition, Moon said the preparation of budgets presently takes more time than necessary. "I would like to speed up that process," she said.

One issue she would like to see addressed is the Finance Committee's traditional stance which forbids Student Government-funded clubs from political lobbying. "In the Mission Statement of the college, there's a lot of talk about teaching students how to participate in the world and how to be an active member of their communities, and yet we're confined to the college community. We should learn how to operate in the outside world."

Moon also said it would be necessary for the vice president to be an assertive assembly member. "Next year we are going to need an especially strong Executive Board."

Before coming to Connecticut College last year, Moon worked as a police reporter for a newspaper. "A lot of my work had to do with keeping records," she said. "The vice president does a lot of that. I think that I'm adequately prepared for that sort of task."

The position of SGA vice president is being sought by Robin Swimmer, SAC chair, who believes her initiative and her experience make for a strong write-in candidacy.

Swimmer has a year's experience on the SGA Executive Board and has participated in a broad range of activities and committees, such as the College Center Committee and the Student/Trustee Liaison Committee.

In these positions, Swimmer has had the opportunity to work with various students, trustees, and administrators, experience which she said will be helpful to her as SGA vice president.

As vice president, Swimmer believes that her greatest challenge would be producing an accurate and efficient budget that would allot the appropriate amount of money to each club.

As a current member of the Finance Committee, she believes that auditing each club at least twice a year would be sufficient. Her experience as SAC Chair has given her a knowledge of the costs for various types of events. This experience, she says, will help insure that every club will be given an accurate amount of money to support their proposed events.

Swimmer's cited the Umbrella Plan as one of the main issues of her campaign. The plan, which was implemented last year, allows alumni to donate money to specific clubs. She would like to increase the amount of funding for this plan, citing that as of March 30 it "only has \$365 in it." To increase the amount, Swimmer advocates the targeting of younger alumni and current students and their families for donations.

In addition, Swimmer pledged to enhance student life, saying, "Involvement and interest in extracurricular activity is one of Connecticut College's true strengths."

Swimmer also proposes to set up a com-

mittee of club officers who are devoted to increasing fundraising.

Issues of dormitory dues and the re-evaluation of that system are also included in her campaign. She is "committed to implementing the strongest possible support system" for dorm social life and would like to make sure it is as efficient and useful as it could be. She believes that the system, as it stands this year, is not being used properly and, with some modifications, could be more useful and practical. Swimmer also said she would examine the legality of charging additional money for alcohol at dorm functions.

In her campaign, Swimmer stresses a willingness to reform. "I am not afraid to change policies or rules if there is a need for this to occur," stated her platform.

## VICE PRESIDENT



**Robin Swimmer**

The SGA parliamentarian, Gerard Choucroun, is running for the position of SAC Chair. He was a representative for SAC his freshman year, served as last year's house governor of Blackstone, and is the chair of the Ad-Hoc Committee on Student Governance.

Through these positions, Choucroun believes he has had the unique opportunity to take an "in-depth look at SAC without being part of the Executive Board." Also contributing to his experience is his membership in MOBROC and UFO. These organizations have exposed him to the planning and the public relations skills that are needed to host a successful event, he said.

Choucroun's goal as the next SAC chair is "to make events memorable and interesting and, at the same time, appealing to the majority of people on campus." Supporting this idea of mass appeal, Choucroun advocates diversification of SAC membership and more creative SAC events.

Choucroun would also like to utilize subcommittees in SAC, each of which would be in charge of specific events. In accordance with the subdivision of the organization, Choucroun would ideally like to have minutes for each meeting, to ensure all ideas, while informally presented, are followed up. This way, according to Choucroun, SAC would be able to take into account the input of all of its members, thus broadening its role on campus and increasing its effectiveness.

Choucroun said, "Student Activities [Council] goes beyond presenting huge TNEs or whatever the campus sees them as doing."

With this year's introduction of the Big Band Committee, Choucroun believes that it would be more efficient to include this in the role of SAC. "The people on that committee do, by no means, represent the campus. I think it would make more sense to have SAC

doing the big band," he said.

When asked how he would deal with planning and working with other campus organizations and smaller clubs, Choucroun responded, "I'd like to make an effort to meet with the campus clubs... to see if there is not a way that we can't combine them."

He would also like to plan "a grand fine arts performance" of student works, keeping in mind that the event would be popular and would not cost an exceedingly large amount of money.

Acknowledging this year's problems with SGA, Choucroun believes that the Assembly will have to "do a lot to restore faith." It must also devote time to "patching things up with administration" and reinstating the "firm role of student governing," he said.

## SAC CHAIR



**Gerard Choucroun**



# CANDIDATE PROFILES

Sean Curry, housefellow of Harkness and co-captain of the men's hockey team, has launched a write-in campaign for the position of Young Alumni Trustee. He said the decision was made "after seeing who was running, and evaluating what I want to do, how I want to participate and how I want to stay in touch with the college."

Curry sees the Board of Trustees as a body which makes policy and determines the framework by which the college can develop. As YAT, Curry believes he can be the person "who is relatively close to the student body and knows the issues, [and] on a lower level to keep perspective in line with what students as a whole want."

Curry supports the continuance of need-blind admissions, which he cites as one of the main issues facing the trustees in the upcoming years.

"For me, that's a big thing, as a student on financial aid," he said.

He views the implementation of some of the college's new projects as a detriment to the students currently enrolled at Connecticut College. "I see Conn pushing more towards the development as a whole and not necessarily for the students."

Curry stressed the need for concern about the individual student. He said he has seen the college turn into a "twelve-month campus," and that maintenance has become of secondary importance. "Changes are being made on a campus-wide level without actually taking into consideration whose home it is for eight months out of the year," he said.

Although Curry supports the Strategic Plan, he has witnessed increasing class sizes and, therefore, wants to "make sure that while we are innovating and implementing new programs and making ourselves known . . . we do not forget who we are and where we came from as a student body."

"I have seen the college change over the



Sean Curry

past four years. One of the reasons why I chose Conn was because . . . of small classrooms, the student/faculty ratio, and over the years we've all witnessed an increase in classes, less teachers teaching courses, and that was one of the strengths of this school," he added.

Curry said he is "not afraid to be confrontational" when it comes to addressing student issues on the Board of Trustees.

He advocates a senior-only vote for YAT because he believes fellow seniors, compared to underclassmen, would know the candidate best after four years.

He believes his experiences as a student athlete will allow him to "identify with [financial, athletic issues] . . . and be more aware of how [cuts in sports programs] affect student athletes."

what we will enhance, and what we can eliminate without hurting the strength of the school."

Mass expressed her belief that trimming the inefficiencies off Connecticut College programs is a beginning, but not an end in itself.

According to Mass, the Board of Trustees will have to reassess and examine the college's priorities to make decisions regarding the funding of various programs while taking into account the balance that needs to be struck between tradition and innovation.

"I don't believe that we can continue to expand unconditionally without looking at what we're doing now," said Mass.

Mass views the role of Young Alumni Trustee as a "behind the scenes" role when it comes to student demands and interests.

According to Mass, students have to articulate their own concerns to the Board of Trustees, but as YAT she would see her role as one of "smoothing out" that process. She cited, as examples of this, assuring that all research is done and that all proper procedures are followed before the students go to the trustees.

"The YATs are not there to advocate for students but they are representing them," said Mass.

Mass also believes, "The Board of Trustees right now is somewhat removed from the student population and . . . the faculty as well."

According to Mass, one of her goals in the position of Young Alumni Trustee, one she also said is a goal of current YATs, would be to facilitate interaction between students and trustees on essential issues.

She cited informal gatherings and dinner parties as ways to meet this goal.

"The Board makes a lot of the decisions but needs to have a little bit more interaction with the other bodies on campus," said Mass.

"While many students have spent their energies attempting to let their voices be heard, I have spent my energy pursuing the goals of the college, and more importantly, listening." So states the platform of Peter Jennings, candidate for Young Alumni Trustee.

Jennings said he is uniquely qualified for the position of YAT, adding, "I feel as if I understand the ethos of the college," a comprehension he gained, in part, through his work with the admissions and development offices.

Jennings believes a main issue facing the Board of Trustees in the near future is raising the endowment.

"We're pushing all our resources out to the bubble, out to our financial bubble, and what we need to do is move that bubble out. Raise more money and, therefore, we have more elbow room to work with," said Jennings.

Another issue Jennings addressed is that of need-blind admissions. "I don't think it's a dead issue, I think that's going to come up over and over again," he said. "Having need-blind admissions doesn't only affect the poor students, it affects every student at this school." Jennings pointed out that the position of "borderline" students will have to be watched in terms of their being able to afford Connecticut College.

One incentive for top students to come to Connecticut College is, said Jennings, a \$3,000 stipend offered to Sykes scholars for summer research.

According to Jennings, through the Center for International Studies program, internships are becoming more attractive, but acknowledged that financial expenditures for special programs should be approached cautiously.

Jennings also expressed his belief that it would be beneficial for not only seniors, but the entire campus, to vote for the Young



Peter Jennings

Alumni Trustee.

Jennings' reasoning was that seniors may have "prejudices" carried over from freshman year that may no longer be true of the candidates, especially candidates that have spent time abroad.

Jennings expressed displeasure with uncontested and barely opposed candidacies. "Having three people running for YAT is just sad," he said.

Jennings also stated that although the YAT does not replace student voice, it is important for the YAT to be accessible.

"It's important to touch base with groups such as SGA . . . SOAR, UMOJA," so the YAT can better understand students' issues. In addition, Jennings said his varied activities at the college would lend him a special perspective.

the University of Chicago several years ago. He said the college could build a solid reputation through quality academics in much the same manner that Chicago did.

"Poverty has done wonderful things for Connecticut College. It has made us frugal," Montjane said. He added that what has become important is "how the dollar is spent."

Montjane sees the Board of Trustees as an "arbiter between the administration, students, faculty, and staff of the college." Montjane sees the Board as removed from the situation and able to come in as non-partisans and make "a judgement call."

"That's the primary responsibility of the Board of Trustees; to see where the institution is," Montjane said, "and to drive it to the needs of the people that are there." Montjane continued, "That is what I would see as my primary responsibility; to articulate the needs of students."

In his platform, Montjane speaks of the side effects of the Strategic Plan that are currently troubling students. As a result of the 3:2 plan, "Some of us found it hard to take classes we need for our major," he wrote in his platform.

In regards to need-blind admissions, Montjane recognized the financial costs of the program, as well as the cost of abandoning the program and the diversity and academic standards that go along with it.

"If the college is forced for fiscal reasons to drop need-blind admissions, as a trustee, I would work hard to ensure that the college does not stray too far from our present policy," Montjane said.

Montjane's experience includes the position of housefellow, SGA house senator, international students' advisor, and work in the admissions office.

"This institution is for us. It is not for the administration. It is not for the faculty. It would not be here without us," he said.



Stephen Montjane

Stephen Montjane, candidate for YAT, made it clear he is not afraid to take a stand if elected to serve on the Board of Trustees.

"I will articulate what students feel and not be shy," Montjane said.

Montjane said the college's current course toward attempting to build name recognition mostly through publicity is important, but has to be questioned. Appearances on CBS and in *U.S. News* are not what Montjane believes the college should strive for.

"Alerting the Board to . . . concerns may mean taking unpolitical stances. I am willing to do that," his platform states.

"We must actually sit down and talk about education for what it is," he said.

Montjane said Connecticut College is going through growing pains, and compared the potential that the college has now to that of

## YAT



Amy Mass

With three years left in the course of the Strategic Plan, Amy Mass, candidate for Young Alumni Trustee, said the most important issue now for the Board of Trustees is that "we need now to ensure that we have the financial capabilities to meet those goals."

In order to realize the goals laid out as the priorities of the college by the Strategic Plan, Mass said, "Ensuring the financial capability of the school is absolutely the top priority. We're a tuition-driven school."

The way to financial security for Mass lies not only in increasing the college's endowment and capital projects, but also in prioritizing and "growth by substitution."

Mass maintained the importance of balancing Connecticut College's financial resources and programs. She stressed the need to make choices about "what we will keep,



# CANDIDATE PROFILES

Simon O'Rourke, candidate for Young Alumni Trustee, has pledged to be a bridge between the Board of Trustees and students. One of the Young Alumni Trustee's jobs, he said, "is to keep in touch with students, not just in the class that elected them, but to keep in touch with freshmen, sophomores and juniors so that the students have the sense that the Board of Trustees really responds or at least listens to them."

The Young Alumni Trustee "not only has the duty to the students to keep in touch with [the students], but also to the Board so that the Board knows that the Young Alumni Trustee is in touch with the students," he said.

O'Rourke advocates increased participation by students at trustee meetings, but does not believe the SGA Executive Board should be the only representative of student issues to trustees. He, specifically, would like the Board of Academic Chairs to have a greater connection with the Board.

One large issue that O'Rourke foresees the Board of Trustees facing in the next two years is the college's "scarcity." He explained that although the endowment has risen in the last four years, "still, that's just not enough money to do the kinds of things that are laid out and planned."

One of the main goals of the trustees must be "to work to increase the endowment," he said. He stressed the value of endowed chairs, which would allow money to be used for other uses.

The other important issue of the Board, according to O'Rourke, is diversity. "Diversity is closely tied in with money. It's impossible to do these kinds of programs without looking closely into them," he said.

O'Rourke also cited need-blind admissions and class size as important issues.

Of need-blind admissions, he said, "I certainly support to continue the policy but we have to look at that every year. It's a very

## YAT



Simon O'Rourke

tough decision."

"If the students feel like they're not getting the classes as small as they want or if there aren't enough faculty in certain areas that they feel are needed, then definitely the innovation has started to rip away at the tradition," he said. O'Rourke believes the school takes advantage of students when it uses parking tickets and lockouts as a way to fill gaps in the budget.

His experience as manager and director of Castle Court Cinema has given O'Rourke what he believes to be valuable experience working with budgets. This along with "what I perceive to be an extensive knowledge of the students' concerns, not just those of my class," are the contributions O'Rourke feels he can bring to the position of Young Alumni Trustee.

of the PR Director.

As chair of the Election Board, Green aspires to increase student awareness about upcoming elections as well as increasing candidate awareness.

He plans to educate candidates further about what the positions they are vying for consist of and what types of responsibilities they should be prepared to assume.

Green foresees his tenure as PR Director as a chance to expand the traditional role of the position, by becoming a stronger member of the executive board of SGA. If elected, Green will hold contact sessions to allow discussion with groups of students on subjects and issues circulating in SGA, as well as holding the equivalent of office hours to talk to students individually about subjects that they feel are necessary.

His past involvement with SGA is a major factor in his running for this position. Green's experience includes being last year's Associate Public Relations Director and house senator of Smith. These jobs acquainted him with Connecticut College's Student Governance structure as well as gave him the chance to learn about the position of PR Director.

He said he attended all SGA meetings in the last two years, believes he understands the issues being discussed, and strongly desires to continue his working relationships with other SGA members.

Green won the election for PR Director last year, when he also ran unopposed. But, after taking office, he found that his GPA was below the 2.5 minimum required for all Assembly members.

Although his GPA is currently 2.49, he received permission to run from Robert Hampton, dean of the college.

Green declined to participate in *The College Voice's* recommendation process.

## Seniors campaign for Young Alumni Trustee

by Carl Lewis  
News Editor

The candidates for Young Alumni Trustee: Simon O'Rourke, Peter Jennings, and Amy Mass, presented their opinions on the role of a YAT in shaping the future of the college.

The candidates expressed the need for a YAT who will serve as an effective contact between the students and the Trustees.

"We need to make sure the Board of Trustees continues to bear in mind the needs of the future students," said O'Rourke.

"It's very hard to tell what student concerns are unless you are in constant touch with students," he said.

Mass believes she would be able to fill the need for a YAT that will stay in contact with students. "I have been committed to student issues for the last four years," she said.

Said Mass, "I understand the need for preserving the lines of communication."

"We need to take immediate steps in involving trustees [with student issues]. That is a primary role of a YAT," Mass said.

Jennings believes he would serve as an effective contact between the Trustees and the students. He said, "I am very much in touch with what goes on on campus and I think I can articulate that."

"I have listened to a lot of what is going on in SGA," he said.

O'Rourke said, "I would move to increase that contact . . . but not just through SGA."

He believes the YAT should be involved in many aspects of student life.

All candidates agreed that the college's finances will have a very strong influence on the future of the college.

Mass said the objective of the Trustees is to achieve strategic plan goals. "We must insure we have the financial resources to meet this goal," she said.

Financial limits will begin to place restrictions on some of the college's programs, according to Mass. "Our spending will con-

tinue to create pressure points." She added, "We need to prioritize."

O'Rourke said, "We are under severe financial stress," and added, "There are a variety of issues that depend on the amount of money we have available."

According to Jennings, the Trustees do not have an accurate understanding of the college's financial situation. "The Board of Trustees has a blurred vision of how money works on this campus."

### The candidates expressed the need for a YAT who will serve as an effective contact between the students and the Trustees.

"I'd like to see the Board become more cohesive in its monetary dealings," said Jennings.

Faculty positions and course offerings are another issue the Trustees will consider in the coming year.

According to Jennings, the curriculum has recently suffered from the lack of faculty. "There really was a loss of classes," he said.

He said the hiring of part-time faculty is not sufficient, and full-time faculty must be hired. "The number of faculty needs to be increased," he said.

Mass agreed, "It may be time to look at the hiring process."

O'Rourke stressed the importance of not following specific guidelines when considering faculty positions. He said when dealing with issues of faculty positions and course offerings, the Trustees should "reassess the priorities within the departments."

He believes fundraising should be increased to allow for more faculty positions to open. Funding for new faculty can be found by seeking donations from specific alumni, according to O'Rourke.

Write-in candidates Sean Curry and Stephen Montjane were unable to participate in Speech and Debate Night.

## PR DIRECTOR



Adam Green

Adam Green, running unopposed for the position of Public Relations Director, wants to bring a personal touch to this office. As a liaison between students and SGA, Green promises to end the alienation that students have felt from the SGA.

If elected, Green promises that public relations will mean more to the community than just the hanging of signs. He will attempt to keep the college community well aware of events occurring on campus as well as what is being discussed in SGA.

In addition, public relations will serve the purpose as its title suggests—encouraging people to voice problems or complaints they have, as well as any opinions they feel should be considered. He believes that this should be a responsibility held by all members of SGA, but that it should especially be a requirement



Two of the YAT candidates, Peter Jennings and Simon O'Rourke, applaud.



# PLATFORMS

## Simon O'Rourke for Young Alumni Trustee

An effective member of the Connecticut College Board of Trustees must necessarily be experienced, dedicated, and fully committed to addressing the concerns of the entire college community. A dependable Young Alumni Trustee especially represents the needs of many different students, both current and former, while simultaneously maintaining the breadth of vision to manage the resources of the college responsibly. The Young Alumni Trustee must be able to think pragmatically and creatively about the future of Connecticut College. Ultimately, a mixture of imagination, integrity, and honest humour is essential to effect progress and change. *Representing diverse and unique experiences, a balanced perspective of life at Connecticut College, and a progressive vision for future growth, I am a strong candidate for the position of Young Alumni Trustee.*

My involvement as a student and on academic and administrative levels is varied and extensive. As a member of the SGA Finance Committee, I took active part in the student budget process, gained an

appreciation for the financial pressures we face, and learned of many ways in which the college can use its resources efficiently. As a *Student Advisor* for two years, I interacted closely with many students, faculty, and administrators while learning a great deal about the values and cultures of our diverse student body. As a *Writing Fellow for the Freshman Focus program*, I have worked intensely with a range of students and faculty members in an innovative attempt to hone students' research and writing skills. As a *participant in a MIMIC grant*, I was intimately involved with designing and implementing curricular change as part of an ongoing commitment to diversity in the catalogue. And as *Chair of the History Department Student Advisory Board*, I have been directly involved with such faculty and administrative processes as hiring, course evaluation, and curriculum review. **With this experience in the largest department in the college have come responsibilities that reflect the needs of many people, and broad insights to the concerns of students, faculty, and staff.** Our

faculty is exceptional. In my experiences with them I have developed a deep respect for the work they do, and an understanding of the intricate and evolving relationships between faculty, students, and administrators.

My activity in social and cultural affairs at Connecticut College features four years as *Manager and Director of Castle Court Cinema*, a very successful movie theater that provides a convenient, affordable, and attractive social service to many people. Castle Court Cinema has substantially increased interaction among the Connecticut College, Coast Guard Academy, and New London communities, and has given me extensive experience with social affairs, business practices, and the college administration. As a result, I am proud to have enhanced a college cultural community that extends far beyond the walls of our campus. Recently, I *procured funding for, designed, and implemented an extensive public lecture and film series on Islamic and Middle East Studies* in an effort to expand the college's international scope. My long experience as an *editor and writer for several campus*

*publications* further emphasizes my commitment to defending freedom of the student press and the liberal expression of opinions in a vigorous academic community.

*I am committed to representing the interests of students on the Board of Trustees by working hard for diversity and growth in facilities and in the curriculum.* This is reflected by my strong support of African Studies; Islamic/Arabic Studies; expanded science programs and facilities; and the distant possibility of a new performing arts center. I would work diligently to reduce course size in various ways, such as pursuing independently endowed chairs—thus using college money more efficiently. Even as the college strives to bolster its financial strength, I am confident that students, faculty, and administrators can work together to unearth innovative sources of support. Only through hard work and consistent effort will we be able to increase faculty hiring and salaries, consequently reducing class size. Students must capitalize on the college's flexible structure, and take advantage of the wide freedoms that individuals and college groups enjoy in order to found exciting and progressive programs. A commitment to enhancing the social and cultural life at Connecticut College is crucial to ensure the well-being of current students and to attract bright and motivated applicants. This will also require further administrative support of popular student-run activities like campus

publications, cafés, film organizations, lecture series, performance groups, and sports teams.

*The administration, faculty, and Board of Trustees must ensure that the current strengths of Connecticut College are maintained consistently and expanded appropriately.* We can continue to design new programs, both academic and social, without sacrificing our established core of assets and values. This will, however, require hard work, commitment, imagination, and creativity. I would contribute these qualities to the Board, along with a sense of responsibility, a capability for handling committee and individual work reliably, and an ethical, liberal, and open-minded view of the future.

*As a candidate for the position of Young Alumni Trustee for the Class of 1992, I represent a unique voice for diversity, progress, and honesty.* I never cheat on my wife, or bounce checks. I have maintained a balanced perspective through my involvement with various aspects of Connecticut College, while different interests and activities as a student have given me a profound appreciation for the ideals represented by this college. As Y.A.T., I would continue to expand on the many essential strengths inherent at a fine institution like Connecticut College. I am inspired by the challenge and prospect of being Young Alumni Trustee for the Class of 1992.

## Choices

The Board of Trustees faces critical choices about the future direction of Connecticut College. When we implemented the Strategic Plan, we decided the values that are the priorities of this institution. Our task, now, is to choose how to articulate that philosophy with the opportunities that we offer to our community.

As we enter the third year of the Strategic Plan, our greatest challenge is to assess our financial resources and decide whether or not we are meeting our priorities. We are continuing to fund programs including: Need-Blind Admissions; construction projects; and academic initiatives such as Gap Closing for Faculty Salaries, the High School Summer Advancement Program, and the Center for International Studies. While we recognize the merit of these programs, we must realize that our goal of "growth by substitution," requires a review *all* college programs in order to make the choices that allow us to remain competitive.

A critical component of a strong institution must obviously be a commitment to academic issues. Just as student organizations are reviewing the data on class size and recent academic trends, the Trustees are reviewing this data to determine the nature of the "class size" issue - is it a problem or a perception? The Plan dictates action in developing our General Education philosophy and enhancing diversity through the academic curriculum. With so many competing priorities, our decisions will dramatically impact the college's future.

My experience gives me a unique understanding of the role of the YAT. On the SGA Executive Board, I served as SAC Chair and Acting P.R. Director, and as SAC Cultural Events Director. This year, I was appointed to PPBC, the College Committee that establishes the Budget. Other major committees include: 3 years, Finance Committee; 2 years/present Co-Chair, Alcohol Policy & Recommendations Committee; College Center, Student/Trustee Liaison, and Financial Aid Review Committees. I am the 1992 Yearbook Publisher, and I was an OVCS Mentor and Program

Coordinator, and Women's Lacrosse Team member.

I have demonstrated a continued commitment to Connecticut College and an understanding of how to serve it as we work to achieve the goals in the Strategic Plan. The best indication I can give you of my commitment as YAT for the next 3 years is to point to my work during the last 4 years. The Class of 1992 now has an important choice to make about who will serve as the next Young Alumni Trustee.

Amy Mass for Young Alumni Trustee

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# PLATFORMS

## Stephen Montjane

Since the arrival of President Gaudiani with our class four years ago, Connecticut College has set new goals for itself. In the Strategic Plan, the college community articulated the areas in which the college could make improvements. It is hoped that after the full implementation of this plan, Connecticut will be bolted to the forefront of liberal arts colleges.

With change comes side effects. We as students experienced the effects of these new policies with the 3/2 plan. Some of us found it hard to take classes we needed for our majors. When we found courses, they had large enrollments. The college has monitored the consequences of 3/2. Student input has been important in alerting the college of these growth problems. As a Young Alumni Trustee (YAT), it will be imperative that I articulate such concerns to the trustees.

An issue that the trustees are tackling at the moment is need-

blind admissions. Approximately 40% of students at the college are on some kind of financial aid. It will be important that the college continue its commitment to need-blind admissions. But the financial costs of this program are high; the alternative to abandoning this policy carries an even higher cost. The college will not be able to attract the same quality of students or meet its diversity goals if we drop a need-blind admissions policy. Thankfully the trustees have realized this and have made a commitment to this policy as long as possible. If the college is forced for fiscal reasons to drop need-blind admissions, as a trustee, I would work hard to ensure that the college does not stray too far from our present policy.

The next YAT will have to communicate the growth pains that students are experiencing. Alerting the board to these concerns may mean taking unpolitical stances. I am willing to do that!

## Colleen Shanley for SGA President

Hello... As a candidate for the position of Student Government President, I believe that I can provide the kind of dedicated and experienced leadership that the position requires in this crucial upcoming year. Many important issues will be facing next year's Assembly, five of which I have highlighted:

**Effective Student Governance.** There is now no denying the lack of faith that students have in their own leadership. Not only have grave mistakes occurred this year, but the inefficiency of our governing structure as a whole has been revealed. What needs to happen is a pro-active investigation of all SGA branches: we must discern what we really want from student government as a whole. Once this key question is addressed, solutions to the problem of good government can be actively explored.

**Student/Administration relations.** This year, there have been several problems that reveal the deterioration of the relationship between SGA and our Administration. Through careful and open communication, trust and respect must be rebuilt. The student government must stop acting as a reactionary force, acting only after the administration attempts to push something through without the input of the student body. Connecticut College's tradition of student involvement in the decision-making process has to be re-affirmed.

**Academic Issues.** General Education, class size, academic advising, the continuation of MIMIC, a standardized class review evaluation: these issues will continue to be important next year and require the continued input of SGA. Furthermore, with the belt-tightening resulting from the economic situation, cuts will begin

to be considered. It is imperative for the student government to ensure that the programs most important to students are sustained and strengthened as needed.

**Continued commitment to diversity.** Connecticut College has pledged support to multicultural education, yet to maintain this commitment requires the constant supervision of students. Through working with the Minority Students Steering Committee, SGA must remain committed to issues of diversity, and further action needs to be taken to educate ourselves and the students at large about these issues, MSSC, and Unity House.

**Continuation of the Crozier-Williams Renovation.** Next year student activities facilities will be at their most limited. Student offices will continue to be at South Lot, and even the snack shop and bar will be temporarily moved. With no geographical unity, SGA must be even more vigilant in the publicizing of issues and events. The renovation has been a necessity for years, and will benefit the quality of student life tremendously in the years to come. However, SGA must continue to protect the needs of the student body now.

I have served on SGA since my freshman year in the following capacities:

- \* class vice-president
- \* house senator (two terms)
- \* Public Relations director
- \* Committee experience includes: Ad-Hoc Committee on Student Governance (chair); South Africa Support Committee, Diversity Committee, Constitution Committee, Student/Trustee Liason Committee.
- \* other leadership experience: SOAR treasurer, SOAR vice-president

I have been an active member of class council, house council, the SGA Assembly, and the SGA Executive Board. With this experience, combined with my dedication to SGA and the student agenda, I feel prepared to take on the position of SGA President. My extension number is 3457; I'd be happy to answer any questions. Thanks.

COLLEEN SHANLEY

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imagination.



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# PLATFORMS

gerard choucroun

## SAC Chair

Finding a way to offer fresh, memorable events to a diverse campus is the greatest challenge that faces any Chair of the Student Activities Council. Though SAC has been successful in presenting activities which have appealed to a notable number of students during my three years at Connecticut College, I would like to see SAC grow into an organization which is daring, creative, and receptive to the interests of a greater majority of the population at Connecticut College.

SAC will have to make a few changes if it is going to broaden its appeal. Club, dorm, and class representatives must play a larger role in the development of ideas for SAC events if a true representation of the entire campus is sought. I plan to foster this participation by keeping stratification between the SAC Executive Board and the rest

of the council to a minimum, and by meeting individually with the members of the council to encourage them to take an active role in the entire process. I would also like to see as heterogeneous a SAC Executive Board as possible, which would doubtless create an environment in which a large variety of tastes, ideas, and styles could be shared.

SAC needs to recognize student interests outside the realm of entertainment. In a school year which will contain a presidential election as well as a Supreme Court evaluation of *Roe v. Wade*, I foresee SAC bringing a more topical set of speakers than it has in recent years.

Our campus is rich with student involvement in many areas, such as music, dance, theater, diversity clubs, and film to name a few. I believe that SAC should make a concerted effort to find student

organizations that have ideas which could be combined with SAC's resources to benefit the whole campus.

Floralia, Harvestfest, and the Winter Formal are all staples of social life at Connecticut College, but I will be extremely hesitant to repeat any other events from this year. There are plenty of excellent comedians and musical groups for SAC to choose from, and I would prefer to present new acts in favor of 'old favorites.'

Through my work as a SAC Coordinator, a House Governor, the Chair of the ad-hoc Committee on Student Governance, and as a member of the SGA Exec. Board this year, I have had experience with both SGA and SAC. With this experience, I feel confident that I will lead an open-minded and efficient council next year.

## Chad Marlow

Hello. My name is Chad Marlow and I am running for the office of SGA Vice-President. I am running as a student like yourself - a student who wants to SGA to make the advancement of student interests its top priority once again. If elected Vice-President, I would bring a sharp focus on the student into every aspect of my job. This is my campaign promise to you. You may wonder exactly what type of things I would do differently if elected that would help student interests play a larger role in our government. Let me share with you three examples of some changes that I feel are important and how they would positively affect both the SGA and our student body.

**The Assembly** - As a voting member of the SGA, as well as a member who proposes legislation, I would focus my efforts as Vice-President (and if possible, the efforts of the assembly) exclusively on the improvement of student life at Conn for both its current and future students. Only a strong and unwavering emphasis on the issues which directly affect our students will bring the SGA back into good standing with its constituents. The greatest fallacy our leaders have tended to hold in the past is that the lack of student interest in the SGA is a result of the overwhelming apathy of our student body. In reality, it works the other way around - the recent lack of significant SGA proposals which students can easily identify as having impacted their daily lives has, over time, triggered our students' apathy. By making the average students' interests an every day factor in my actions as Vice-President, I hope to increase student interest, as well as student participation and satisfaction, in the SGA.

**The Budget Hearings** - Last year the SGA Finance Committee opened up the budget hearings to all who cared to attend. I feel this was a very positive step. Unfortunately,

in accordance with this past year's policy, the "C" book next year will read that, "Audience members are not allowed to speak during the hearings, and if creating a disturbance, may be ejected by the Vice-President." As a result of strict measures like this, the appeal to students to attend these meetings was very low, as was the turnout. If elected, I will allow all students who care to speak before the committee to do so. The only restriction I would impose would be to limit the amount of time a student could speak, so that all those who wish to can, without stalling the hearings completely. As Vice-President, I will take pride in hearing the individual student's voice, not silencing it.

**Club Autonomy** - In the past the Finance Committee has, at times, crossed the line between reasonably overseeing club activities and infringing on a club's right to be self-governed. Specifically in the past, the seizing of *The College Voice's* computer, and the denying the Class of 1994 the right to establish a scholarship fund for a New London high school student to attend college, constituted extreme measures of club intervention which would not be tolerated if I was Vice-President. The Finance Committee can impose general limitations on club activities, but

those limitations should never become so specific that they infringe on a club's autonomy. Finally, when a club does violate the rules, the Committee should not impose a penalty that far exceeds the severity of the crime, as they did with *The College Voice*.

In my time spent at Conn, I have had experience at all levels of college government. I served on the Executive Board of the Class of '94 as Assistant to the President; I was Chair of the Publicity Committee for the Class of '94; I have served as common substitute Senator for my dorm this year; I was recently elected to the SGA Land-Use Committee; I have been very vocal in complementing and criticizing the SGA at both Assembly meetings and in *The College Voice*; and I was credited by the Secretary of the AAPC with having proposed our new Dean's List standards and with having saved the "grandfathering" of those changes for our students.

I sincerely hope that on April 7 and 8 you will choose the Vice-Presidential candidate with our students in mind. WRITE IN CHAD MARLOW FOR VICE-PRESIDENT AND GIVE THE AVERAGE STUDENT A VOICE IN GOVERNMENT, ONCE AGAIN.

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## Michelle Moon

Write-in Candidate

## SGA Vice President

When I transferred to Conn last January, I was thrilled to find that the college was making the possibility of student self-government a reality. Students here enjoy an unusual degree of access to power, strength, influence and respect; it's one of the things that makes Conn unique, and it's one of the reasons I chose to study here.

But recently, students have not been taking advantage of that power. This year, we have watched issues slip out of our hands. The channels of communication between students and administration are eroding. Student input on issues that affect our academic, social, and residential lives is not being sought or considered.

It's time to reverse that trend. Next year, we'll need a strong, vocal, and active SGA Executive Board. I'm running for Vice President because I care about student government. By electing me, you'll be electing a knowledgeable, motivated, committed student leader.

### Issues for '92-'93

**1. Student Life.** As the SGA member who oversees budget allocations for student organizations, the Vice President has a major impact on students' extracurricular life. As Vice President, I want to help make Conn a more vital, varied, and exciting community. I will do this by reducing the restrictions placed on first-year clubs; starting a club should be easier and more rewarding. I will also make the most of my position as a club liaison officer - club members should think of the Vice President as their SGA contact information and legislation. I believe the present policy of open budget hearings and clear written explanations has worked well, and I will continue to make the budget process more open

and understandable.

**2. Academic Issues.** I believe the Executive Board should take a hard look at the changes that are taking a toll on our academic life. As Vice President, I would press for examination of the new course evaluation process, which trivializes student input by asking superficial questions and not allowing for comments. I will also urge SGA to come to an objective conclusion about the 3/2 plan and how it has affected the quality of our education, and to determine a course of action for the student body.

**3. Student/ Administration Communication.** Student's ties with college officials have been weakened this year. We need to rebuild our channels of communication and use them to the greatest possible extent. Issues such as evaluations, 3/2, and the renovation of Cro should be discussed more frequently and more openly. Students need to know what's going on; administrators need to know what students think.

**4. Diversity.** The end of the MIMIC program should not cause a slowdown in curriculum development. The SGA should urge the college to seek new sources of funding and to revise existing courses. Also, the Executive Board should help move the college faster toward its goal of a representative population, and a more welcoming community for students of all backgrounds.

Apathy and stagnation do not have to be the norm. The choice is yours.



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**COUNCIL**



# PLATFORMS

## Peter Jennings

During to past few years, Connecticut College has made significant strides to improve its commitment to its reputation as one of the nation's premier liberal arts colleges. Although the entire college community is responsible, the board of trustees is certainly one of the central campus bodies eagerly pursuing the goals of the strategic plan. The Young Alumni Trustee position is a vital component to the mechanics of this board, as it provides the board with a solid link to recent developments on campus and well as to the college's newest alums.

In 1988, our class arrived on campus energized with President Gaudiani's enthusiasm and vision. Since that time we have repeatedly responded to the catch phrases of the administration—"tradition and innovation" and "the global decade."

Each of us in our unique manner has contributed to the growth of the college. While some of us have made a commitment to serving on various administrative cabinets and committees, others have challenged the status quo on issues such as divestment in South Africa. While some of us have strenthened the college's relationship with the community through participation in volunteer activities, others have pursued excellence in the Camel uniform. Most improtantly, all have brought our respective uniqueness to invigorate and develop the academic community.

While many students have spent their energies attempting to let their voices be heard, I have spent my energy pursuing the goals of the college, and more importantly, listening. While listening to the philosophies of the college, looking beneath the surface of these

slogans, and monitoring the direction of the college, I feel as if I understand the ethos of the college. For example, while working closely with the Administrations office, I have seen how the college has pursued its goals of diversifying the student body. Certainly during the last four years, not only have the numbers of applications of these under-represented groups increased, but also the campus awareness has increased. This understanding of the Connecticut College ethos is

imperative to the Young Alumni Trustee.

Our class needs to choose a Young Alumni Trustee who listens to the forecasts of the college and subsequently responds to them. Although I feel it inappropriate to list these within the prose of the platform, I think my involvements with campus will speak for themselves.

Please take the time to look at all the candidates' credentials closely so that you can elect someone who will represent our campus best.

## Sean Spicer FOR SGA President

Dear Student,

Over the past few years the student government at Connecticut College has lost touch with its real purpose. I am running for president in order to change the focus of the SGA back to serving the needs of the students. I have served on the SGA Assembly for two years as a senator and have witnessed the excutive board of the Assembly lose its ability to effectively handle issues that reflect the problems that the students have brought forth. It is time that the Assembly stopped consistently wasting time on issues that have no effect on student life.

By electing me as president, I will change the role of president by becoming an active and voting member of the Assembly. In the past few years the president has taken a backseat in bringing forth proposals and actively participating in debate. It will be my goal to end this tradition. I believe that if I am elected by the

students, I should serve the students as an active member of the Assembly. In assumung this role I will pay close attention to the real need of the students and the changes that needs to happen, whatever they may be; academic or social.

I have the ability to lead the SGA and the innovation to make real change. Please vote for change on April 7th or 8th.

Thank you, Sean M. Spicer

Plan for Change: \*Active and voting member of SGA, \*Support of cultural events, \*Review of 3/2 and general education, review of housing problems and special housing needs, \*Review of student/faculty ratio, \*Support of change in time that events must end to 3am, \*Support of "alternative" events/clubs, \*Accountability of all SGA members, \*Thorough review of SGA structure, \*Publicity of SGA events and current proposals, \*Allow more student participation, \*Restructure of SGA committees

Experience: House Senator of Harkness, House Senator of Wright, SGA Committees: Alcohol Policy, Food, Shareholders Responsibility (voted to divest holdings in South Africa), \*Orientation Committee, \*Sailing Team Captain

## Write In: SWIMMER Vice President

I am a strong candidate for Vice President for both my **INITIATIVE** as well as my **EXPERIENCE** with Finance Committee, SGA Assembly, SGA Executive Board, and clubs.

**EXPERIENCE:**

\* Chair of the Student Activities Council \* Associate Chair of the Student Activities Council \* Member of the Student Government Association Executive Board \* Member of Assembly \* Member of the Student/Trustee Liason Committee \* Member of many other committees I know that my experiences this year will serve to my benefit as Vice President next year. I have had the opportunity to work with students, trustees, and administrators in a number of settings, and as Vice President I would hope to continue many of the projects that were initiated this year. I strongly believe that my experiences as a club member, president, finance committee member, executive board member, and Assembly member

will enable me to be a resource for students in the future year.

**INITIATIVE:**

I am not afraid to change policies or rules if there is a need for this to occur. I will be committed to the further implementation of the Umbrella Plan and to aiding clubs in receiving more funding from outside sources. I am also interested in conducting a campus-wide re-evaluation of dorm dues. I would like to evaluate the amount, look at its' affects in terms of people living off-campus, and examining the policy as it stands with respect to the stipulations on the spending of the dues. I would also like to work with clubs and organizations so that fundraising can be a viable income for them. The solution may be in perhaps creating a committee that could work to find new ways to fundraise. I am committed to the clubs and organizations on campus and I feel that they are on of the strengths of our campus.

Thank you,  
Robin Swimmer

## Julie DeGennaro for Judiciary Board Chair

During the past year the Judiciary Board has undergone major changes. The two most important changes are the addition of an investigating officer and an educational officer. One of the most important jobs of next year's Chair will be to work closely with these two people in order to ensure that these are positions utilized effectively.

As a current member of the Judiciary Board, I have worked with the Board to help bring about these changes. I have had the advantage of seeing the way the Board operated before these changes; therefore, I will be better able to examine them and assess the merits and the problems with the new system.

As Judiciary Board Chair, I will continue to produce a monthly log as Molly and Vinny have done this past year. Although I have never served as an assembly member, I

have often substituted for both the current Judiciary Board Chair and the President of the Class of 1993.

*Next year I would like to develop a survey which would measure how much people know about our Honor Code and how effective they think the Honor Code is. This survey will also serve as a foundation for the Educational Officer. I would also like to examine the term of office that the Judiciary Board representative serves. Under the current system, the representative serves a term which begins before any training--I believe it would be more effective for the term of office to begin after the training takes place.*

**Experience**

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## Hi, I'm Adam Green

... and I'm running for the position of **Public Relations Director** of Student Government.

Many of you have become displeased with the Public Relations over the past few years because of what has been perceived as an inadequate job by PR Directors. I am aware of this dissatisfaction and I would like to turn it around. There are some aspects of SGA that alienate students, but Public Relations, a liaison between SGA and the community at large, will no longer be one of these areas.

If I am elected PR Director I will work to make Public Relations more than just hanging up signs around campus. While informing the community of upcoming SGA

events or issues is important, there is also the other side of PR - giving students an outlet for their grievances. Although all SGA members should be open to this, I feel that this aspect would be enhanced by making it the particular responsibility of the PR Director. All students should feel welcome into SGA and be encouraged to express their opinions.

As Chair of the Election Board, I would work to increase student awareness of referendum issues as well as of the candidates for Student Government positions. To avoid past problems, I would see to it that all candidates are thoroughly briefed on the duties of the positions they are running for to be

sure they understand what the job entails.

As Associate PR Director last year I was involved with the technical aspects of the job, and as a House Senator I learned the processes of Student Government here at Connicut College. With perfect attendance at SGA Assembly for the past two years, I am very well informed as to what the issues are facing SGA and the community. As a member of this community, I would like to add these qualifications to the **much needed personal** side of the position to become your new Public Relations Director. Thank you very much.

Adam



# SPEECH COVERAGE

## Sean Curry

I, Sean Peter Curry, am announcing my candidacy for the position of Young Alumni Trustee. I want to represent the Class of '92 on the Board of Trustees to ensure that policy initiatives are made in the best interest of the students. Often, these decisions are made without assessing how they will affect the student body. If elected, I will make sure that the Board of Trustees implements policies that serve in the best interest of the individual student.

Tradition and Innovation is a fantastic concept as long as we, the collegiate community, don't forget who we are and where we came from. In order for Connecticut College to continue its drive for excellence, it is essential that we capitalize on our strengths. I

believe that the backbone of this institution is the quality and character of the student body.

As the Young Alumni Trustee, I will make sure that the following projects such as Need-Blind Admissions, the Summer Advancement Program, Athletic Budgets, and Crozier-Williams Renovation receive complete and thorough examination. In addition, if this college is truly committed to diversity, growth and continued excellence, it should maintain quality professors, small classes, increased access to computer facilities and it should be more accessible to the handicapped.

April 7th & 8th, vote Sean P. Curry for YAT. Vote for the Grass-Roots Campaign and you will be casting a vote in your best interest.



Attendance was slim at Sunday's speech night.

## Assembly waffles over decision about Speech Night participants

by Carl Lewis  
News Editor

During a highly unprecedented emergency meeting Friday afternoon, the SGA reaffirmed a rule allowing only registered candidates to participate in Speech and Debate Night.

At Thursday's meeting, the Assembly, by a vote of 12-6-2, passed a proposal allowing write-in candidates to participate in Speech Night. One of the main reasons for the proposal was the fact that there are no registered candidates for vice president.

The proposal to allow all candidates to speak at Speech Night was brought to the floor after Sarah Huntley, publisher of *The College Voice*, said write-in candidates would be invited to participate in the newspaper's recommendation process this year. Some Assembly members believed it would be unfair for the *Voice* to be the only method for write-in candidates to convey information to the public.

An emergency meeting was called Friday in response to the concerns of some Assembly members that the proposal should not have been passed. At this meeting, new legislation, overturning the previous night's decision, passed 9-7-2.

The primary concern was the realization that the Assembly is unable to set rules for the election of the Young Alumni Trustee. "The YAT position is not under the jurisdiction of SGA. It is under the jurisdiction of the President's Office," said Penny Leisring, junior class president.

Leisring said allowing write-in candidates to speak would give them a privilege they are not entitled to. "I don't think it's fair to students who signed up on time," she said.

In the process of signing up for the election, candidates agreed to election rules that would have been violated if write-in candidates were allowed to speak, said Gerard Choucroun, parliamentarian. "It's a contract, in a way," he added.

Junior Marisa Farina said the Assembly should not alter rules just because there are few registered candidates this year. "This body seems to be conforming to the apathy on the campus," she said.

Some Assembly members believed all candidates should be allowed to participate. "If there are more people that think they have something to share with the campus, we should let them," said Robin Swimmer, SAC chair and a write-in candidate for vice president.

Adam Green believed only candidates for vice president should be allowed participate in

Speech night.

Support for this idea centered around the fact that this year's election warranted special attention. "Not having any candidates for the position is a special circumstance," said Molly Embree, J-Board chair.

Jackie Soteropoulos, vice president, left the room shortly after the meeting began, and said, "I have tremendous problems with the procedure of that meeting."

She said the meeting should not have been held, because not enough Assembly members were present. "I was concerned with issues of quorum and procedure," she said, and added, "I did not feel [Reg Edmonds, SGA president] could or would give an adequate response."

She said quorum had always consisted of 19 Assembly members, but had been reduced for Friday's meeting.

"It did seem there was a lot of confusion," said Edmonds, who stated that the removal of senators who had failed to meet attendance requirements legitimated altered quorum procedures.

## SAVEENA DHALL

As CCASA Political Chair/Vice President and a member of MSSC, I have worked on curricular issues as well as other academic concerns. Being one of the student representatives on the International Studies Faculty Committee and a member of the College's Diversity Committee has given me the opportunity to see the perspectives of administrators, faculty, and students on academic and non-academic issues.

One of the ways that I would like to continue the communication that has been built among the administration, faculty, and students is by having more contact sessions on issues that are of concern to us.

It is essential to keep the student body informed and educated in order to work effectively on issues such as class size, course offerings, General Education, distribution of courses, organization of

sabbaticals.

Some of the things I would do if elected:

- \*get the Board of Advisory Chairs more involved with interdepartmental academic issues

- \*work closely with the Educational Planning Committee to make sure that students have input in the new General Education Plan

- \*create a tentative schedule available at department offices of professors going on sabbatical

- \*make sure that our concerns about class size/course offerings, as shown by the SGA survey, are addressed by the administration

This is only a brief description of some of the ideas that I have. I hope that you will give me your support because I believe that that I have the experience and the initiative to be the next Chair of Academic Affairs. Just Do It . . . Vote for Saveena Dhall.

**Typographical and grammatical error in the candidates' platforms were in the original copies. The editors of *The College Voice* have attempted to leave the format of platforms intact as much as possible; therefore, no corrections were made.**

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# SPEECH COVERAGE

## Unopposed candidates seek Assembly slots

by Angela Troth  
Associate News Editor

Though running unopposed for their respective positions, candidates for SAC Chair, Judiciary Board Chair, Chair of Academic Affairs, and Public Relations Director nevertheless presented their campaign views at speech night.

Saveena Dhall, candidate for Chair of Academic Affairs, stressed that she has extensive experience that would assist her in this position. She cited as examples her tenure as CCASA Political Chair/Vice President and MSSC member as well as her experience as a student representative on the International Studies Faculty Committee and on the College's Diversity Committee.

She would like to implement more contact sessions involving administrators, faculty and students.

Dhall supports creating more class offerings. She stated that priorities need to be evaluated and possibly the hiring of new professors is called for.

"One of the major issues is going to be working with class size and course offerings," she said.

She proposed having a tentative sabbatical schedule to help students in planning their course study.

"In working with the administration and faculty, I see they are very open to these issues," she said.

On the issue of General Education requirements, Dhall believes that General Education, as it stands, has many loopholes. She said there should not be a separate diversity requirement, that, instead, what is in the required areas should have something to do with diversity.

Dhall pointed in the direction of hiring faculty who can bring something different to the department as one of the goals of her position.

Julie DeGennaro is running for the position of Judiciary Board Chair. She stressed that her main job will be to put into effect the changes that have been implemented this year.

She cited the new positions of Education Officer, Investigative Officer, the addition of an appeals board as changes she will have to work out.

"The most challenging part is to work closely with the new positions," she said, and added that the evaluation of the new jobs will be very important.

DeGennaro said that as chair she would like to offer training for newly elected Judiciary Board representatives during the confusing turnover time.

She would also like to distribute a comprehensive survey to measure students' opinions of the Honor Code.

Much of DeGennaro's platform was based on her belief that next year the chair will be most challenged by implementing, modifying, and accessing the current changes in J-Board.

"Too many innovative proposals with no fundamental groundwork will cause all changes to fail or at least not be used to their fullness," she said.

DeGennaro said that she does support publicizing a role call vote because she believes that it hold J-Board representatives more accountable for each decision. She said J-Board representatives would be more likely to not get re-elected before they were swayed by public pressure.

She also believes that there are cases that could be handled by house councils instead of J-Board, decreasing the number of cases handled by J-Board each year.

Addressing the question of the lack of a replacement method when J-Board fails to reach quorum for a trial, DeGennaro said this is an issue that needs to be investigated but that campus wide education of the duties and



Candidates campaign at Speech Night.

actions of the J-Board must come first.

DeGennaro stated that she firmly believes in maintaining confidentiality but that she would support the board's position when necessary.

"I think confidentiality protects the integrity of the board," said DeGennaro.

SAC chair candidate, Gerard Choucroun, believes that activities at Connecticut College can be improved. According to Choucroun, the changes need to be both structural and ideological.

"The format is not as conducive to getting SAC council members' ideas as it should be," said Choucroun.

One change he proposed would be for the entire SAC council to meet less frequently, but for the subcommittees to meet weekly. He compared the current format to that of an oversized class.

"Ideologically SAC needs to be more risky and receptive to new ideas," Choucroun said.

Diversity in the SAC Executive Board is important to Choucroun, who added that SAC needs a change in general personality.

Other issues Choucroun addressed in his speech were his hesitancy to repeat events and his concern with the lack of tapping into campus resources.

Some ideas he proposed for SAC were block parties and a fine arts festival involving campus performers that would be held at the end of the school year.

He stressed the importance of SAC chair on the SGA Executive Board. Choucroun said he foresees a tough year in which the main purpose will be to revive respect for SGA.

When questioned on the SAC chair's position on the Finance Committee, Choucroun said he sees this as an

informational role and does not support the SAC Chair serving on the committee, but said he did not feel the decision could be made without further research.

Choucroun said he was surprised that SAC did not ask for money for a band in their budget last year.

"I would like to see SAC play a larger role in the Big Band Committee, if not taking it under its wing," he said.

Adam Green, candidate for PR Director, served as associate PR director last year and asserted that he has attended every SGA assembly meeting this year.

"I have the edge that would allow me to adapt," said Green.

Students must be kept up to date, Green claimed, and he added that he proposes increasing the responsibilities of PR Director.

To follow through with this idea, Green wants to initiate a campaign to encourage more students to attend Assembly meetings, and would like to plan more contact sessions on issues.

He also intends to schedule office hours to make the PR director more accessible.

When questioned on the debate surrounding whether PR director should be an elected or appointed position, Green responded, "The PR director in the past has mostly been an advertising director, but the PR is also chair of the Elections Board. The person running this should be elected by the students."

Addressing the question of what role the PR director should have in the college community, Green replied that he envisions PR director as playing a larger role in the relationship between the SGA, students, faculty and administration.

### Looking

I've been here.  
I've been there.  
Only to be told,  
"SORRY, TOO LATE."  
Take this address and go there.  
I wish you luck."

Luck. Hah!  
If that's what it takes,  
Then I am doomed to live a lifeless life.  
My children and I in homeless homes,  
Never knowing for how long.

—Laura Lee Nash,  
from the book by Barbara Bach,  
*The Women of the Regent Hotel*

Photographs, by alum Barbara Bach, accompanying this poem and others are on display in the basement of Harkness Chapel from April 6 through April 19.

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**Seniors, you are eligible to  
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# SPEECH COVERAGE

## Presidential candidates pledge to improve effectiveness

by Carl Lewis  
News Editor

The two candidates for SGA president, in their presentations at Speech and Debate Night Sunday, offered ideas for increasing the effectiveness of student government.

Sean Spicer and Colleen Shanley delivered speeches and answered questions raised by a panel consisting of Sarah Huntley, publisher, and Jon Finnimore, editor in chief ex officio, of *The College Voice* and Vin Candelora, SGA presidential associate.

Spicer discussed the shortcomings of student government that have become prevalent, and how they can be repaired. Shanley focused on methods of expanding on the recent actions of student government and addressing communication troubles.

A high priority for next year will be to improve the relationship between SGA and the administration, according to Shanley. "Communication needs to be strengthened between both of these groups," she said.

She believes student government needs to facilitate more respect from the administration. She said, "We have to show that we are worthy of that respect."

Spicer agreed that evaluation will be necessary. "The committee structure of SGA has to be evaluated," he said.

According to Spicer, student government has considered an inadequate number of issues which are truly important to students this year. "There are no true issues that are brought up week after week," he said.

"The issues have fallen by the wayside, and it is time to bring them to the forefront," Spicer said, and added, "My main goal is to

***"It is time for the committee structure to be re-investigated . . . There are a lot of student concerns that aren't being addressed."***

—Colleen Shanley, SGA presidential candidate

make changes happen next year."

Shanley said the Assembly should begin to examine issues outside the college community. She said, "We have to deal with



Shanley and Spicer debate the issues Sunday night.

issues beyond Connecticut College issues."

Both candidates believe the SGA Executive Board must find a better way of working together with the rest of the Assembly. "There is a lack of communication between the two groups," said Shanley.

Shanley proposes to implement informal weekly dinner meetings with all Assembly members as a method of discussing important issues without the limitations of parliamentary procedure.

Both candidates believe stronger leadership training for Assembly members will strengthen the effectiveness of the SGA.

According to Spicer, the president should take a strong stance on issues being debated. "I support voting and participating in SGA as an elected member," he said.

Shanley argued that it is not the role of the

president to assert opinions on the Assembly. She explained, "I see the role of president in SGA as a moderator."

Shanley stressed the importance of an objective facilitator of representative ideas to guide the Assembly.

A goal of Spicer is to "integrate freshmen into student government."

He believes this can be done by educating the students more during orientation.

According to Shanley, there are orientation programs in place that can be improved. "These things that already happen need to be strengthened."

She said other classes should help the freshmen get involved in SGA. "There needs to be guidance from above," she said.

Committee activities are also issues that will be important to the SGA president next year.

"It is time for the committee structure to be re-investigated," Shanley said, and added, "There are a lot of student concerns that aren't being addressed."

She discussed the importance of setting guidelines and goals for committees.

Spicer believes the issues need to be examined before goals can be set. He said SGA should "work some issues out so they

have goals to set."

The candidates were asked to identify specific issues they have dealt with in SGA.

Shanley said she was instrumental in organizing the emergency Assembly meetings that were held earlier this semester in response to the release of confidential documents by the current SGA president. "I helped facilitate and plan the meetings," she said.

***"The issues have fallen by the wayside, and it is time to bring them to the forefront . . . My main goal is to make changes happen next year."***

—Sean Spicer, SGA presidential candidate

The issues Spicer dealt with were primarily concerns of the students in the dorm he represented. He advocated lowering the lockout fees and installing cable television in dorms. He said, "My job was as a representative, and I think I did that."

## The following staff members contributed to this issue:

Sarah Huntley  
Rebecca Flynn  
India Hopper  
Esther Potter  
Jon Finnimore  
Kate Bishop  
Amy Ross  
Toby Efferen  
Carl Lewis  
Yvonne Watkins

Sally Voorhees  
Carli Schultz  
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Dobby Gibson  
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