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# THE COLLEGE VOICE

CONNECTICUT COLLEGE'S INDEPENDENT STUDENT NEWSPAPER

## Through Three Mediums: Ammerman Scholars Reflect on Senior Projects

ALEXIS CHENEY  
CONTRIBUTOR

Although Drew André '16, Juan Flores '16 and Grace Juster '16 all combine art and technology in their projects as scholars of the Ammerman Center for Arts and Technology (CAT), they do so in unique ways.

Due to his interest in music technology, André, a Music major, applied to CAT. Once accepted, he took the required Computer Science course. "Computer science changed my world," he said. It gave him the skills to create his project, which explores accurate representations of music through light. Using Arduino, a microcomputer, he has developed a technology to create audio-reactive LED art. The technology converts sound to colored LED light, based on the sound's frequency. For example, when André connects his technology to a drum, red light represents the bass kick, green the snares and blue the hi-hat cymbals. He jokes, "It's great to see instruments in new light."

Now that André has developed the technology to convert music to light, his CAT advisor, Professor S. James Lee of the Computer Science department, has encouraged him to further develop the artistic appearance of the light through creative coding. "What will make my project stand out is the art. Everyone can convert sound to light, but not everyone can do it beautifully," André said. His audio-tech internship with the artistic lighting team at the Eugene O'Neill Theater Center in Waterford, CT last summer has given him skills to perfect his artistry in the medium of light.

André plans to spend the next ten years developing sound to light technology that enables users to display their unique visions of sound. He aims to get an MBA to gain the business skills to manage supply lines and refine his creative vision. He seeks business programs that, similarly to CAT, support an arts and tech curriculum. Needless to say, his future looks bright.

Another visual artist, Flores, whose medium is painting,

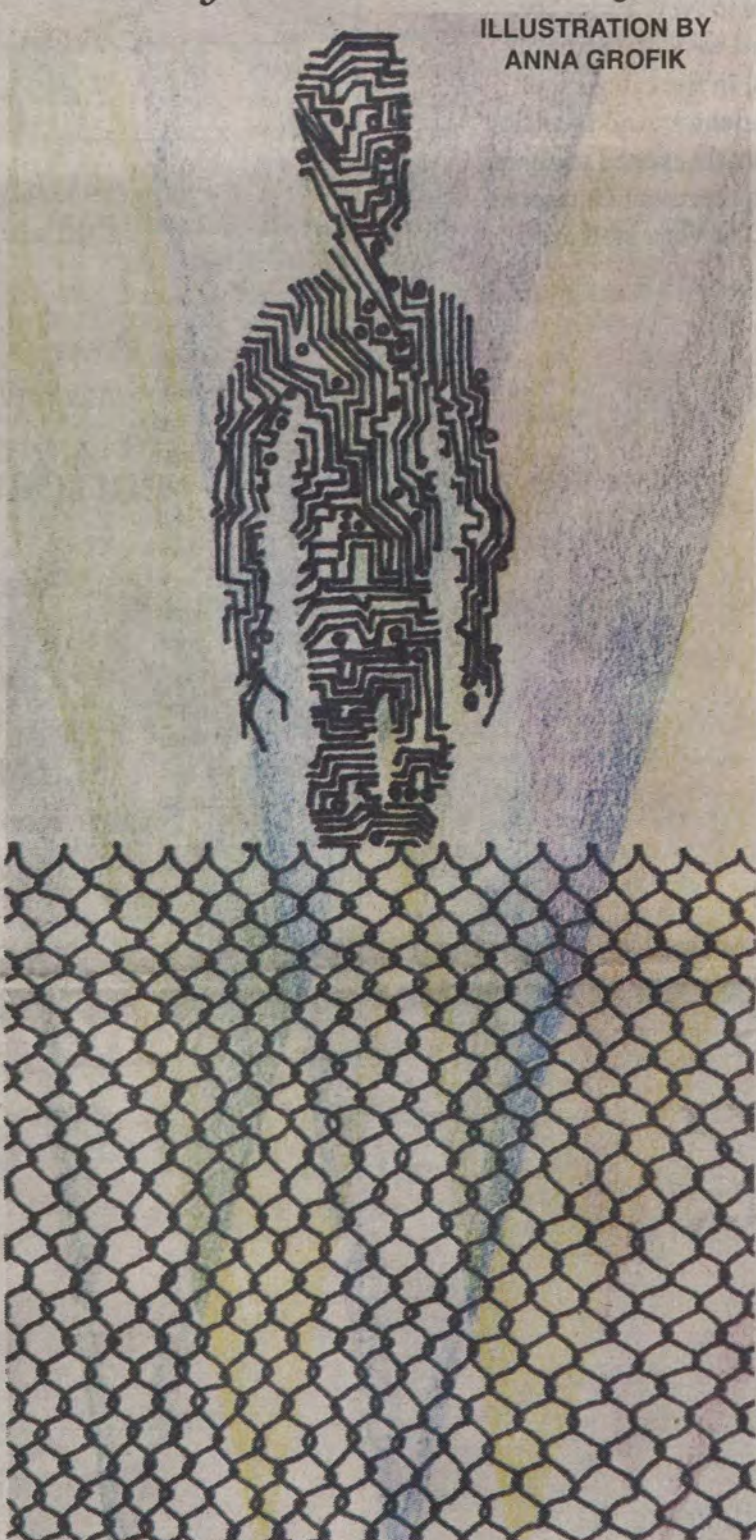


Illustration Editor Anna Grofik imagines a combination of the works of André, Flores and Juster.

explores how mental, geographic and political borders define individuals' identities. His internship with the sculpture and visual artist Adriana Corral in San Antonio, TX the summer after his sophomore year inspired him to artistically consider the U.S.-Mexico border. Similarly, his internship with audiovisual artist Daniel Canogar in Madrid, Spain last

summer encouraged him to reflect on the Spain-Morocco border through video projections, and through studying abroad in Berlin he explored the lasting impact of the Berlin Wall on the city.

Flores has created four paintings about the idea of getting stuck on the border and the implications of crossing over it, and his

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ILLUSTRATION BY  
ANNA GROFIK

## Dean Cobham to Introduce Non-discrimination Policy to Campus

SAADYA CHEVAN  
STAFF WRITER

The search for a permanent Dean of Institutional Equity and Inclusion continues, but already, B. Afeni McNeely Cobham, the new Associate Dean of Institutional Equity and Inclusion, has been on the job for almost three months.

Dr. McNeely Cobham brings 25 years of experience in higher education to her role at the College. Although this appointment marks her first time as a full time diversity officer, she has previously performed administrative responsibilities as a faculty member at various institutions.

Here at Conn, she is working on the development of a nondiscrimination policy that would apply to faculty, staff and students, a document that she described to the *Voice* as a "masterpiece in progress." According to the College's website, at present the three groups have separate policies that they adhere to,

which comply "with federal and state legislation and regulations regarding nondiscrimination."

Explaining why such a policy is necessary and what it entails, Dean Cobham said, "the climate of higher education present day across the country calls for an effective document, where in short it simply says: we are in an environment where our ideas and perspectives should be valued and heard, but we also have to adhere to some form of civility."

Dean Cobham also sits on several college committees; she describes her role on them as ensuring "that there are considerations given to groups that may fall off the radar because they are not necessarily part of the majority culture in some way." She highlighted her involvement with one committee that is working to "fill in the gaps for" first-generation students, students whose parents or guardians have not attended a four-year institution.

"They are the first in their families to make that wonderful

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## Coast Guard Game Officially Canceled

LUCA POWELL  
CO EDITOR IN CHIEF

Although it was never official on the books, for the first time in its storied history, the classic club hockey faceoff between the United States Coast Guard Academy and Connecticut College, neighbors from across Route 32, will not be occurring.

The reasoning for the cancellation has not been obvious. Some have suggested that a simple lack of communication between rink managers was the cause. Others put forth that the game, which has the reputation of being rowdy, had been cancelled in favor of maintaining the decorum of both schools. The game, which has packed Dayton Arena for years now, is notorious for disruptive

audience involvement, particularly in the form of projectiles. Students in attendance of last year's game may still vividly remember the sight, and smell, of Jay Hooper '16 carrying a squid off the ice.

No where was the debate around the game more vocal than on the anonymous chat app, Yik-Yak, which has become a shared forum for Camels and Bears, the mascot of the USCGA. Over the weekend, the app became a place to set the record straight on why the game was cancelled. It was also a means for unmediated communication between players on both teams.

"Listen, despite the fact that

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Each issue of *The College Voice* represents two weeks of meetings, planning sessions, interviews, writing, photography and illustrations. Our only goal every other Sunday as we sit in Cro and pour over the computers is to create an issue that is better than our last.

However, this one felt like a labor of even more love than usual. Over spring break, eleven *Voice* staff members will venture to New York City for the 2016 National College Media Convention, and we will be submitting this issue for the David L. Adams Apple Awards, in the category of best newspaper (for a school with less than 5,000 students). And as exciting as the prospect is of winning an award, we are mostly excited to share our hard work with fellow student journalists, and to represent Connecticut College on a larger platform. Not many of us on the *Voice* staff are athletic, but this is our nationals, so wish us luck.

- Dana

### Contact

## THE COLLEGE VOICE

Editors in Chief: [eic@thecollegevoice.org](mailto:eic@thecollegevoice.org)

Business / Advertising: [business@thecollegevoice.org](mailto:business@thecollegevoice.org)

News Editors: [news@thecollegevoice.org](mailto:news@thecollegevoice.org)

Opinions Editors: [opinions@thecollegevoice.org](mailto:opinions@thecollegevoice.org)

Arts Editors: [arts@thecollegevoice.org](mailto:arts@thecollegevoice.org)

Sports Editors: [sports@thecollegevoice.org](mailto:sports@thecollegevoice.org)

*The College Voice* meets each week at  
9 p.m. on Monday in Cro 224.

Join us.

## THE COLLEGE VOICE

"The views and opinions expressed in *The College Voice* are strictly those of student authors, and not of Connecticut College. All content and editorial decisions remain in the hands of the students; neither the College's administration nor its faculty exercise control over the content."

LUCA POWELL

&

DANA SORKIN

*Editors in Chief*

HALLIE GROSSMAN

*Business Manager*

APARNA GOPALAN

*Managing Editor*

### EDITORIAL STAFF

MOLLIE REID

SAM WILCOX

*News*

MAIA HIBBETT

SARAH ROSE GRUSZECKI

*Opinions*

MITCH PARO

ANDREW SHAW

*Arts & Entertainment*

PETER BURDGE

DYLAN STEINER

*Sports*

DANA GALLAGHER

*Head Copy*

### CREATIVE STAFF

ANNA GROFIK

JAMES LAFORTEZZA

*Illustration Editors*

OLGA NIKOLAEVA

*Photography Editor*

Emily Walsh

*Lead Designer*

*Copy editors this week:*

Guin Feldman,

Isabelle Smith & Sam Ratkin

### CONTACT US

[eic@thecollegevoice.org](mailto:eic@thecollegevoice.org)  
270 Mohegan Avenue  
New London, CT 06320  
[thecollegevoice.org](http://thecollegevoice.org)



# Checkup With The Health Center

**CAM NETLAND**  
STAFF WRITER

The Health Center at Connecticut College has an infamous reputation for both delaying student appointments and its policy of being closed on weekends. The lack of accessibility last semester, which students ascribe to poor organization, was actually a result of understaffing. Laura O'Connell, one of the nurses, told *The College Voice* that it was an "incredibly stressful semester. We were operating with only half of the usual staff. I'm working on a degree right now and I was struggling every day to balance writing papers and working extra hours for my job."

The *Voice* spoke with Cate Moffet, Director of Student Health Services, and Health Center employee Elizabeth "Lizzy" Henry '07, about their experiences in the Health Center and their feelings toward students' disdain.

*The College Voice:* How did you get involved with the College Health Center?

Lizzy Henry: My husband had the opportunity to relocate for work and we moved to East Lyme, which is the town I grew up in and where most of my family lives. When my daughter turned 15 months I was ready to go back to work after being off since her birth. I've always been interested

in College Health and have a great relationship with Conn. When another CC graduate who happens to be my neighbor told me about the job posting on the Conn website, I jumped at the opportunity. I was eager and ready to get back to work after having a baby and also excited to work at such a great college with a population I've always been excited to work with.

*TCV:* What has changed about the Health Center since you were a student?

LH: The Health Center is more modern now. Aside from the renovation to the waiting area, there weren't electronic medical records when I was a student. Having an EMR, electronic medical records, really helps improve accuracy and efficiency of documentation and communication. The influence of social media also marks a change. The health center has a Facebook page and Twitter account, both of which help facilitate communication between our staff and students. Social media helps improve access to patient education and increase knowledge and awareness about services the Health Center offers.

*TCV:* Have your personal feelings towards the Health Center changed since you began working there?

LH: As a student, I always had positive experiences at the Health Center, and I think that is why I was excited to work here. I have

come to appreciate more what a great place this is to work and how fortunate the students and providers are to have such a unique amount of time for visits and accessibility to each other.

I love working with the students because they are so eager to learn and educate themselves about their health. Students are at this dynamic time in life when they are learning to live independently and navigating how to be an adult. Understanding and utilizing the healthcare system is an important part of this, and I hope that we can help teach the students so it is less intimidating when they are out on their own.

*TCV:* What is the most common student illness/injury you take care of?

Cate Moffet: Upper respiratory infections (colds, sore throats). The most common injuries are ankle sprains.

*TCV:* Are not enough students getting their flu shots?

CM: It would be much better if more did, but we had a very good response this year and it is still not too late to get one! The flu has barely arrived and the antibodies can take just 2 weeks to develop after the immunization.

*TCV:* The Health Center was working with half of its usual staff last semester. How did this affect the workload? Are you at full staff now?

CM: Unfortunately, as we were understaffed this fall, our appointments occasionally ran late and some students were not seen as quickly as we would have liked. We are fully staffed now.

*TCV:* Lizzy, where do you believe the negative reputation is derived from? Is it justified?

LH: I'm not sure what you mean by negative reputation. I know some students were frustrated with the wait time to be seen last semester. I think one thing that can be challenging is that providers are seeing patients when they are typically not feeling well. Often, students can be frustrated by their illness, whether physical or mental, and just not feeling well can color an experience.

I think another issue involves the challenge of meeting patient expectations. Many times patients want a quick fix or believe certain medications will help them feel better faster. It can be difficult because sometimes the appropriate treatment or plan of care is allowing time for the illness to get better, which is not always in line with what a patient thinks they need. This frustration is very familiar to me and was encountered commonly in the retail walk-in clinic where I previously worked. Many patients would come in requesting antibiotics to help with cold symptoms, for example. I was challenged to not give these medica-

tions because I know they are not helpful and can cause more harm than good. Educating and communicating this to patients can be very difficult when I was allotted about 15 minutes for an appointment in my previous job.

Lastly, I think students can get frustrated by the fact that accurately diagnosing certain conditions/illness can take time. A conclusive answer is not always present during the first encounter with a patient. Although healthcare is a science, it is also an art, and figuring out the answer can be a puzzle that takes time to solve.

What I enjoy so much about working at the Health Center is that I have a great opportunity to take the time to educate students and follow up with them closely. It's a win-win situation because I am able to teach, and hopefully students are able to learn about their illness. I know providers at Student Health Services strive to treat every patient with professionalism and care. We value honesty, compassion, good listening and a mutual respect between patients and providers. We believe that having open communication and transparency regarding how the healthcare system works and what it costs, that everyone will have a positive experience at health services.

*TCV:* Considering the frequency of injury on weekends, why

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PHOTOS COURTESY OF KATE GOLDBERG



The Connecticut College Women's Empowerment Initiative presented "Coming From the Beast" on Feb. 20 in Evans Hall. The show featured over 100 women reading monologues written by Connecticut College students on the topic of womanhood and the many ways it impacts them.





## CONTINUED FROM FRONT

transition, but when you're the first in the family oftentimes you don't have information around how to fill out a FAFSA form or what orientation might feel like," she said.

Besides her role as a college administrator, Dean Cobham has also had success as an academic with expertise in educational policy studies and hip-hop culture, which she said is "a big leap, but it exists nonetheless." She has written a chapter for a textbook about how hip-hop culture influences issues around oppression and identity formation, and developed the Sankofa lecture series, a conference about hip-hop. She

described her research as "the best of both worlds, I grew up in Brooklyn, New York and hip-hop was very much a part of my life and influence and shaped a lot of who I am as a person, scholar and administrator."

Dean Cobham's research also informs her work. She sees aspects of hip-hop culture in how students engage with each other; "to give the most polarizing [example], one time I had to deal with a situation where students were accused of being racially insensitive because they were singing the lyrics to a song that had the n-word. [While] racial insensitivity certainly was a factor,

and we had to do some education around why that would be problematic and also why not, I thought it left a great opportunity to have a conversation around art and the cutoff point for thinking about language and the appropriate way to use it."

Such experiences are likely to inform her work here at Conn as well, since the new discrimination policy will be about these very same issues.

Meanwhile the search for the other half of the "dynamic duo," in Dean Cobham's words, in the Office of Institutional Equity and Inclusion continues. In an e-mail sent to the college community

on Feb. 16, Dean of the Faculty Abigail van Slyck and Associate Professor of Education Dana Wright, the co-chairs of the search committee reported on their progress. According to the e-mail, a job offer had been made to one of the finalists who was brought to campus in November, but that finalist chose to remain at their current institution. The search committee felt that, "while the other finalists were quite capable, neither of them seemed to offer just the right fit for our campus."

Earlier this semester, the committee identified two new finalists, one of whom is the current

interim dean, David Canton. The other finalist later chose to remain in her current position. According to the e-mail the committee is identifying new finalists, and will review applications again in early March.

Members of the college community are encouraged to inform their "professional contacts" about the search, and to forward any names that they feel might be "particularly effective in this role." What is certain about the search is that it has already proven to be a long and difficult process, and it will be a relief when a permanent dean is announced. •

## Evolving Activism: The Black Freedom Movement

DANA GALLAGHER  
HEAD COPY EDITOR

On Feb. 17, Barbara Ransby, a professor of African-American studies at the University of Chicago, spoke about the cultural legacy of the Black Freedom Movement in Cro's Nest. The talk, entitled "The Long Black Freedom Movement: from Civil Rights to Black Lives Matter," focused on the difference in organizational style of '60s activists compared to present-day social advocates. Commenting on the effectiveness of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.'s centralized campaign structure, Ransby expressed her view that Americans today dismiss the validity of the grassroots "Black Lives Matter" movement. Specifically, by holding Dr. King as the ultimate martyr for issues of social justice, she feels the public fails to recognize today's activists as true standard-bearers for reform.

In opening her talk, Professor Ransby sought to dispel the myth of a "leaderless" Black Lives Matter movement. To the contrary, she portrayed it as "leaderful" movement that channels the voice of Ella Baker more than that of Dr. King. "We see history as a series of great deeds by great men," Ransby observed. "This narrow, male-centered view persists in historical narratives. To understand the Freedom Movement, and its relation to Black Lives Matter, we must understand Martin Luther King, Jr. from a different perspective."

Americans have come to regard Dr. King as the dominant force behind the 1960s Civil Rights Movement. He energized activists and, in turn, sustained the movement almost single-handedly. But Ransby, quoting Ella Baker, observed that, "Martin didn't make the movement. The movement made Martin."

In accepting the Nobel Peace Prize, for instance, Dr. King paid tribute to the movement's many unsung, foot soldier-activists. "Every time I take a flight, I am always mindful of the many people who make a successful journey possible -- the known pilots and the unknown ground crew," said

Dr. King. While accepting the sentiment behind Dr. King's metaphor, Ransby found it "wholly inadequate." "Although these activists fought in the trenches and were not covered by the media," she noted, "they were strategists and intellectuals. They were technicians...They never stood on King's mountaintop, but they worked in the valleys."

The decentralized, but effective, leadership structure featuring the movement's "ground troops" would serve as a model for contemporary civil rights activists. The Black Lives Matter network, operating in a similar spirit, lacks a formal hierarchy with its over 30 chapters organized to

to channel the ideas of a so-called "radical King." Dr. King sought to broaden public awareness of state-sanctioned violence. In his most influential speech opposing the war in Vietnam, Dr. King drew on parallels to violence perpetrated by the U.S. government at home and abroad. America, he orated, could "never be saved so long as it destroy[ed] the deepest hopes of men the world over." Black Lives Matter activists expand upon Dr. King's dialogue by protesting against police brutality. As agents of the state, Ransby explained, "police violence reduces our ability to combat street violence. When we dress up state

In South Carolina, Walter Scott "runs from the police because he is afraid that he will have to pay child support. The fear of punishment, because of Scott's financial situation, led to this violent confrontation." The Black Lives Matter Movement, by seeking to check police behavior, strives to reform a divisive economic structure used to justify bloodshed.

Millennial activists, while they align with Dr. King ideologically, deviate from his "politics of respectability." The sexual orientation of Bayard Ruston, a close advisor to Dr. King, kept him in the shadows of the Civil Rights Movement. Jane Stenberg, who worked extensively with Ella Baker, suffered a similar fate. She eventually left the movement, Ransby said, because "she couldn't find a safe space as a lesbian, within it." This history of marginalization among earlier activists encouraged the four founders of Black Lives Matter, "two of whom were queer, to have their sexual orientation acknowledged." As Ransby pointed out, they "did not want to be invisible as a matter of principle."

The rhetoric of the Black Lives Matter Movement, therefore, also reflects the ideals of Ella Baker. Baker rejected Dr. King's "leadership from the pulpit" theory and instead sought to forge a coalition representative of the U.S. population. In meetings, Ransby lectured, Baker "sought to engage those who were not speaking, or who felt silenced, because all had the capacity for leadership."

The importance of the Black Lives Matter movement, Ransby concluded, stems from its role as "a catalyst for other movements." The movement's multi-issue focus encourages activists to "realize that they have overlapping interests other communities. An inclusive environment is one important means for people to realize that the mutilation of black bodies is detrimental for everyone." •

*"When we dress up state violence, we have little hope of combatting other forms of violence, especially violence embedded in an informal economy that has developed."*

ensure responsiveness to the needs of individual communities.

Ransby viewed the socioeconomic composition of Freedom Fighters as a harbinger for the diverse coalitions that activists in the Black Lives Matter Movement seek to cultivate. Black Lives Matter, while allying itself with activist organizations like the Black Youth Project, also collaborates with Latinos and the LGBTQ community. In the '60s, Fannie Lou Hamer, the daughter of a sharecropper, participated in protests alongside college educated Ruby Doris Smith-Robinson. Anne Braden, a white woman, further sought to redefine cultural expectations of a "Gentile-Southern" under the umbrella of the Black Freedom Movement.

Ransby sees activists in the Black Lives Matter Movement striving

violence, we have little hope of combatting other forms of violence, especially violence embedded in an informal economy that has developed."

Dr. King, criticizing U.S. actions in Vietnam, further emphasized the war's deleterious impact on the black poor at home. America, he understood, "would never invest the necessary funds or energies in rehabilitation of its poor so long as adventures in Vietnam continued to draw men." Ransby felt that, in the modern era, "there exists a nexus between economic inequality and desperation, which is closely connected to police and state violence. Eric Garner, selling 'loosies,' participated at the margins of the economy. 'To clean up that activity,' Ransby concluded, 'he was assaulted and ends up dead.'"



CONTINUED FROM FRONT

CAT project will add dimension to the paintings he has already created. He is in the process of constructing three video projections of a figure climbing a swinging fence and installing an oscillating metal fence to overlap the videos. He intends for his work to encourage viewers to put themselves in the shoes of immigrants, and he hopes not only for his art to add to the conversation on immigration, but also to interpret his and others' experiences as members of minority groups at Connecticut College who live far from home.

Flores will display his paint-

ings and video projections at a solo show in San Antonio in June.

Similarly to Flores, Juster, a double major in Computer Science and Art, is interested in exploring identity. She is fascinated by the duality of individuals' virtual and physical identities. For her CAT project, Juster plans to represent her virtual presence through a visual artifact. Already an expert in 3D printing through her internship at MakerBot, the leading producer of desktop 3D printers, and having built her own 3D printer, Juster decided to use a 3D printer to display her virtual

presence. In order to print her virtual presence, she has tracked her virtual activity, meaning the time she spends using electronics. Juster views her project as a prototype of a machine that could help individuals better understand their virtual activity and, thus, their identities. "My project explores the implications of humans inability to 'see' the nature of their virtual selves in familiar terms. That's why I'm mapping virtual activity to physical output, to get to know ourselves, all of ourselves, better," she said.

After graduation, Juster hopes to continue using 3D printing

for the common good. She takes particular interest in the capacity for desktop 3D printers to battle the environmentally unfriendly surplus that results from mass-production.

According to Juster, CAT provides its scholars with an "artistic community on campus." She also appreciates CAT because its lecture series and symposium enable her to keep up on artistic and technological trends and to better understand art. In addition to providing its scholars with the intellectual tools to conduct their projects, the center provides students with the necessary material

tools and has recently opened a new workshop on Williams Street. "The Arts and Technology Center is limitless," André said, "whether or not you are majoring in Computer Science."

To learn more about all CAT scholars' projects and the intersection of arts and technology, attend the Center's 15<sup>th</sup> Biennial Symposium on Arts and Technology, entitled "Open All Ports," at Connecticut College on Feb. 25, 26 and 27. •

## Sexual Assault and Violence Facts Brought to you by 1-in-4

*1-in-4. is a campus group committed to raising awareness about sexual and domestic violence, as well as promoting healthy masculinity and deconstructing the patriarchy. They meet on Wednesdays at 9pm in the Women's Center with free tea and coffee. The following information deals with rape and sexual assault. All facts are from Georgetown Law.*

### FACT:

Victims of sexual violence can have an array of emotional responses, including denial, shock, anger, withdrawal and even a sense of calm. Everyone responds differently, and there is no way to assume how someone will act.

Sexual assault and rape are not responses to someone dressing provocatively or anything other similar actions. These are crimes of violence and the need for a person to control another. Regardless of what someone is wearing, non-consensual sexual activity is still assault.

Most sexual assaults are not reported to the police. From 1993-1999, nearly 70% of cases were not reported. There are many reasons this is the case, including fear of retaliation, fear of not being believed and fear of being blamed.

Rape and sexual assault can occur anywhere, at anytime and to anyone. According to FBI data, nearly 70% of reported sexual assaults occur in private residences. Many rapes and assaults are committed by someone whom the individual knows.

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# Alumni Spotlight: Phoebe Bakanas '10

## Thriving in Technology and Data Visualization

### SARAH ROSE GRUSZECKI OPINIONS EDITOR

*Editor's Note: To further connect alumni to current students, The College Voice is working to create a consistent Alumni Spotlight column, featuring alumni from all walks of life. If you are a Connecticut College graduate and are interested in being interviewed by one of our writers, please email [contact@thecollegevoice.org](mailto:contact@thecollegevoice.org).*

"I wanted a school where I could do everything," said Phoebe Bakanas '10 when discussing her initial decision to attend Connecticut College. As a musician, athlete and student of computer science, Bakanas wanted a liberal arts college where she would be supported in the exploration of all of her academic, athletic and extracurricular interests. In her time at the College, Phoebe studied as a double major in Computer Science and Music Technology and

received a certificate through the Ammerman Center for Arts and Technology (CAT).

As Bakanas described, it was this very interdisciplinary, liberal arts education that has shaped her current career working for Denodo, a software company located in Palo Alto, California, which specializes in data visualization. Bakanas detailed that in her three years working for the small company, her role has evolved significantly. She described her current position as a service engineer, which involves consulting, professional services, support and training. Within this role, she primarily works as a consultant, responsible for debunking issues and developing company-wide best practices for development.

Bakanas explained, "You need to have a wide variety of abilities in this type of position. You need to know engineering and technology, but you also have to be able

to work really well with others and have strong communication and interpersonal skills with clients. Playing water polo, studying computer science and participating in the orchestra allowed me to master and practice all of these skills in a variety of different settings."

Bakanas also emphasized that her drive to succeed as a woman has similarly propelled her in the field. "As a female, I have a drive to feel like I can do something," she described. While Bakanas believed that her gender has provided her with many opportunities, especially considering the current demand for more women in the field, she also acknowledges the gender bias that continues to prevail. "Sometimes there are these conceptions that women are incompetent or get frustrated easily," Bakanas explained. "I've had people pat me on the head when I'm having a problem or trying

to figure things out." Although she does not often feel that this patronization is intentional, such behaviors are often more subconsciously embedded within the professional culture.

When discussing her advice for prospective Conn students interested in the field of science and technology, Bakanas emphasized the importance of confidence. "It can be a really intimidating field at times, but you can't let other people's knowledge intimidate you," she asserted. Bakanas reflected on her time studying in England, where she received her Master's degree at the University of Leeds. Since liberal arts education is practically non-existent in the country, many of her peers knew their specific field to a tee.

Bakanas explained, however, that although her colleagues' area knowledge could be intimidating at times, she was ultimately able to utilize her broad and interdis-

ciplinary educational perspective to best support her work and research: "One of the most important things in technology is to step back and see the big picture and solve it, which a liberal arts education definitely supports. Whenever you feel stressed and feel like you can't do it, step back and remember that technology is logical," Bakanas advised.

Looking forward, Bakanas hopes to be able to predict the future of data visualization. "I would love to be able to see in the future where data visualization should go. This means seeing what people will need and what problems they may need solved before they're even confronted with them. I hope to gain more experience to take the next step and be able to not just solve today's problems, but also to predict the challenges of the future, even those that we don't know exist yet." •



## Examining Demographics in New Hampshire

LUCY WEAVER  
STAFF WRITER

Overall, this year's democratic race has been very surprising. In New Hampshire's primary, Hillary Clinton suffered an unprecedented loss. Though polls had predicted Sanders leading in New Hampshire for quite some time, the margin by which he won shows instability in Clinton's campaign. When Sanders launched his campaign last spring, he was considered an outsider. Pundits thought Clinton would win by a mile and that the United States would probably keep a moderate democrat in the White House. When Bernie's campaign gained traction over the summer, showing that he had strong backing among young people, analysts still questioned his ability to gain support from older democrats and minority populations.

On Feb. 9, Sanders captured every demographic in New Hampshire. He won among democrats young and old, rich and poor, with especially high numbers from new and/or low-income voters. The impact of Sander's victory, however, should not be overstated. New Hampshire is one of the least diverse states in the nation, with a 94-percent white population. South Carolina may be the deal breaker for Sanders, as he will be challenged to appeal to a greater population of non-white voters.

Since winning New Hampshire, Sanders has gained some support from several significant figures in the black community, including author and MacArthur fellow Ta-Nehisi Coates, whose *Between the World and Me* won the National Book Award and the Kirkus Prize for nonfiction in 2015. Endorsements from other minority leaders will be integral as Sanders and Clinton move into South Carolina, where Clinton currently leads Sanders in minority voting. While Sanders polls well with both older and younger white democrats, he lags in comparative support among minority voters. The older minority generation tends to back Clinton, and while Sanders does relatively well among minority students, the overall vote still overwhelmingly supports Clinton; some polls among black voters in South Carolina show Clinton maintaining at least a 29-point lead.

Students at Connecticut College weighed in on the age disparities between supporters of Clinton and Sanders. "I do think it's a generational difference, which is why people have been saying this is the 'election of the youth,'" said one student when asked why she thought Clinton has more support from older voters. "In terms of parents, I

feel like there's more familiarity with Hillary Clinton. She's been around for longer, and she's more of a straightforward businessperson and activist. Parents and grandparents are leaning more toward someone who is saying her concrete plan."

This has been the refrain of Sanders' critics, many of whom support his economic vision but are skeptical of his ability to accomplish it. For an older democratic generation, most of whom supported Obama in 2008, Sanders' radical views may be a turn-off. Clinton, as a woman, represents the unprecedented possibility of a female commander-in-chief. While Sanders boasts endorsements from former NAACP President Benjamin Jealous and Black Lives Matter activist Shaun King, Clinton's political work has placed her in the favor of many minority voters. Rep. Hakeem Jeffries D-NY said to *The Washington Post* on Feb. 10 that "Hillary Clinton has been a true friend to the African American community for the last 40 years." Polls show South Carolina as virtually opposite to the New Hampshire results, where Bernie Sanders won by 22 points. In South Carolina, polls project Clinton winning by a greater margin than that.

Sanders' campaign has exceeded expectations. Nearly tying in Iowa and winning New Hampshire has benefitted his campaign. Barack Obama won in South Carolina in 2008, and it will be interesting to see how the democrats in South Carolina, where the majority of the electorate is black, change the democratic field. For Clinton, winning may propel her toward the White House, leaving Sanders in the dust. If Sanders is able to connect more with minority populations, however, he may have a clearer path to victory at the Democratic National Convention.

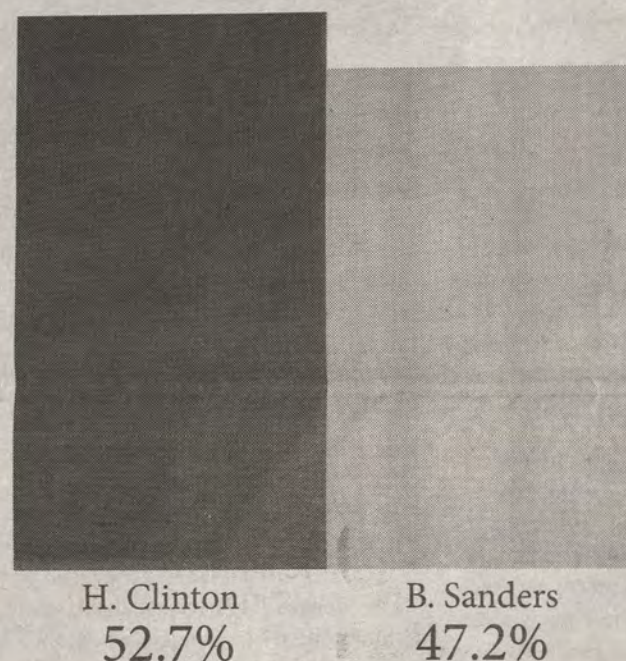
Sanders faces a setback, however, as Clinton prevailed in the Nevada caucus with a 5-percent margin over Sanders. The win served as a relief for the Clinton campaign because recent Nevada polls showed Sanders creeping up in popularity. Clinton stressed her support of people of color, particularly Latino immigrants, when campaigning in Nevada, and her success emphasizes the gap that Sanders must fill in order to win the minority vote.

As in New Hampshire, Donald Trump took the Republican primary in South Carolina. Jeb Bush dropped out of the race after his South Carolina loss. If Sanders defies the odds, the two may in fact come head to head this November, which would be perhaps the most ideologically extreme election in recent history. •

## The Results are in: Analyzing Nevada and South Carolina

### Nevada: The Democratic Caucus

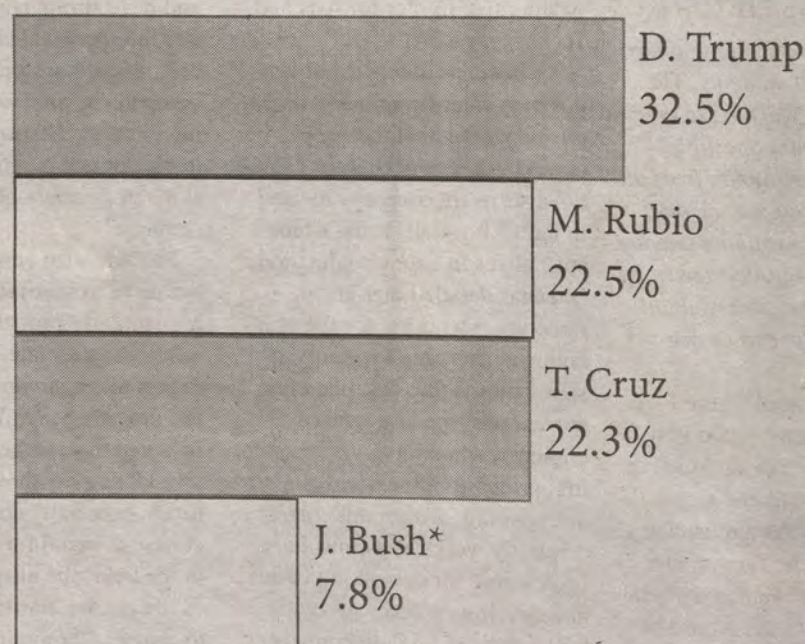
The Nevada Republican Causcaus will take place on Feb. 23, 2016.



### South Carolina: The Republican Primary

The Democratic South Carolina Primary is set for Feb. 27, 2016.

\*Jeb Bush officially withdrew from the Presidential race on February 20, 2016.



INFOGRAPHIC BY EMILY WALSH



# Suze Clues

*Editor's note: The College Voice is bringing back the classic advice column in a big way! Ask Suze, our in-house relationship and lifestyle guru, all the questions you've been mulling over. Send Suze your questions anonymously at [www.sayat.me/CCCollegeVoiceAdvice](http://www.sayat.me/CCCollegeVoiceAdvice).*

**Am I a terrible person if I want my friend from home to break up with her boyfriend so I can date her?**

Well no. I wouldn't say you're a terrible person, that seems a bit extreme. Feelings are feelings, and they're weird and inexplicable and sometimes they seem inappropriate but they are what they are. I would suggest you examine the situation more carefully. Is your friend happy with her boyfriend? Does he treat her well and is she in a safe and healthy relationship? If so, then perhaps you might need to consider her happiness with the relationship over your own feelings. Which sucks. But if this is something you really want, and you think it might end up working out, then why not say something? However, there is the possibility that the friendship could get all weird if things don't work out. Perhaps you could make a pro/con list. I am a huge fan of those. Let me know what happens, but rest assured that you are not a terrible person. •

does the College close the Health Center?

CM: We continue to monitor this issue. We are best suited for primary care preventative care, and management of chronic illnesses. Accidents often (not always) are better evaluated where there are labs and x-rays available. We encourage students who need care urgently during the weekend to seek care at Physician One in Groton if appropriate. By exchanging medical information with our Student Health Services and Physician One the cost of the Yellow Taxi fare is covered by the College. This information is on our web site as well as on posters in the residence halls.

That said, our recent survey with a 24% response rate concerning care on weekends and the free taxi service to Physician One on Saturdays and Sundays was surprisingly positive: 65% of the respondents felt that the plan met their needs or that they were not concerned with care on weekends.

We recently conducted satisfaction surveys and one of the top "complaints" was the ability to get appointments when students wanted. We are very excited to announce we are going to start on-line scheduling in 2 weeks so that students can better access appointments at all hours! •

## Keep Health in Mind

HANNAH PEPIN  
STAFF WRITER

It's difficult to balance everything while staying physically healthy, not to mention mentally healthy. Most of the time we put our mental health on the backburner, thinking it is nonessential and we are too busy to worry

about it. Between practice, club meetings, homework and class, we barely have time to eat and sleep. However, mental health is integral to our overall health, and we need to spend some serious time maintaining it.

Here at Conn, we are lucky enough to have supportive Student

Counseling Services (SCS). About 25% of our student population attends counseling, and by graduation approximately 50% of students will have been to SCS at some point during their four years at Conn. SCS is composed of a group of seven highly-trained directors, counselors and consult-

ing psychiatrists, as well as three doctoral level practicum students in psychology.

Members of SCS prioritize the emotional and mental health of each student, and they are here to support us all through any challenge we may face. As Director of Student Counseling Services Janet Spoltore explained, "We want everyone to have an equal chance."

As many members of the Conn community know, SCS increased counseling hours this semester. This change was prompted mainly by a greater need for counseling services, which not only Conn experienced. Spoltore commented, "There has been a change in the culture of mental health on college campuses." The demand for services like SCS has increased across the country because more college students understand the importance of mental health.

At Conn, SCS has made an effort to increase the number of hours available over the years, and the senior administration has been generally supportive. In addition to offering 30 extra hours, Spoltore and the other members of SCS are working to get approval to fill two more positions for postdoctoral fellows in psychology. These positions will specialize in multicultural mental health, as well as substance abuse, wellness and mindfulness.

We have numerous resources on campus that focus on our mental wellbeing. In addition to SCS, CC Curtiss, Director of Student Wellness and Alcohol/Other Drug Education, is more than willing to speak with students about their overall health and wellness. She serves as a referral source, working closely with SCS to give students whatever support they may need.

Curtiss explained, "There is a difference between making it through the day and really

thriving."

Unfortunately, a stigma often surrounds mental health issues and deters some students from seeking help. Active Minds, a student group, fights this stigma and serves as a proponent of mental health on campus.

Spoltore explained that the importance of mental health "hasn't been consistently supported." People worry more about the physical ailments that they can see, like when they get sick, but mental illnesses are no less harmful. Connecticut College is a typically healthy school where most students take care of themselves, and this care should include our overall wellbeing—mind, body and soul.

SCS is a great place to go for those who need to speak with someone completely unbiased and detached from their personal lives. The main goal of SCS is to support students and create a positive, healthy lifestyle at Conn and in life beyond college.

SCS is an incredible resource for any and every student. Tragedy happens. Misjudgment happens. Life happens. Sometimes we all need an extra push back in the right direction to take care of our mental health. We are extremely as busy college students, but no matter how busy we are, our health should come first. I encourage everyone to have even just one meeting at SCS because it will do nothing but good, whether you are really struggling or just need to talk.

Let's end the stigma around mental health and take care of our minds as much as we take care of our bodies. Connecticut College Counseling Services is open Monday, Wednesday and Thursday 8:30am-6pm, Tuesday 8:30am-7pm and Friday 8:30am-5pm. They can be reached by emailing [SCS@conncoll.edu](mailto:SCS@conncoll.edu) or at (860)-447-4587. •

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# Provisions for Programs

ISABELLE SMITH  
STAFF WRITER

In our super competitive world, it becomes increasingly important to stand out. This is evident on websites, resumes and college profiles. Connecticut College prides itself on its 55 areas of study, which is fantastic for the undecided high school senior applying to school. It has the best of both worlds: a liberal arts environment with the berth of study of a big university. A problem arises, however, when the reality does not meet advertised expectations.

Fields of study at the College are broken into two categories: programs and departments. The departments constitute the majority of the fields of study at Connecticut College: Biology, English, Economics, French and Art, among others. There are also some unique departments compared to other colleges: Botany, Gender & Women's Studies and Slavic Studies. Then there are programs: Africana Studies, Architectural Studies, Environmental Studies and so on.

The programs are what make the College stand out when high school seniors are choosing a school. They add an intriguing layer to the academic world. Programs are a huge asset to the school, but this does not always shine through when it comes to administration.

In order for a field of study to become a department, it must have at least three tenure-track faculty members. There are three kinds of professors: visiting professors, adjunct professors and tenured associate professors. The main difference comes down to finances. A visiting professor receives full pay and a full schedule. The College and the visiting professor do not have a responsibility towards each other for more than the year of their contract. An adjunct professor's pay is deter-

mined by the number of classes he or she teaches. The school is not responsible for their health insurance or any other expenses.

A tenure-track professor is given associate professor status and essentially cannot be fired unless they break a major rule of the College. This is the best situation to be in as a professor, because they have the ability to leave if they wish, but are rarely forced to leave. This is a huge expense to which a college needs to commit. Because pro-

necessary courses are taught for the major, but they are taught at the same time. Additionally, because the school has no obligation to adjunct professors, financial cuts may force an excellent professor to leave the school. It is a long term cost that is not often considered in the development of programs.

Despite these prominent challenges, some programs, like Environmental Studies, thrive within the system. Sometimes, programs face challenges in course mapping, but by with a plethora of professors, they can offer a great variety of courses.

Professor Peter Siver, head of the Environmental Studies Program explained, "There are faculty who would need to be teased from their primary departments if the Environmental Studies Program were to become a department." Because it remains a program, Environmental Studies cross-lists

courses with up to 12 other departments, but due to the huge size of the program, it functions like a department. It even has an advisory board, which is unusual for a program. They have managed to build a strong system of education despite the confines of the program.

It all comes down to money, of which there is rarely enough. This applies no differently to academic programs. If there were unlimited funds, more faculty members could be hired, and there would not be as much restriction. It seems that there are so many benefits to being a program, primarily the diversity of classes offered and the different views and backgrounds of the individuals within the classes. If the school could balance the funding between the departments and programs more evenly, it would drastically reduce the differences between expectations and reality. •

*Because programs are not as generic as departments, they may be less dependable in pulling in students on a yearly basis, making it difficult to see reason to set aside the necessary funds.*

grams are not as well-funded as departments, they may be less dependable in pulling in students on a yearly basis, making it difficult to see reason to set aside the necessary funds.

There are no tenure-track faculty in programs, limiting the consistency in courses. The departments have less say as to which courses are taught and how they are mapped. This can be a challenge for students because different logistical boundaries may prevent students from studying their passions.

Professor Courtney Baker, Director of the Africana Studies Program, explained: "It can be difficult to major in a program because the program's faculty's first obligation is to their home department." This means that a student may rely on a course that was taught in the spring in years past, but instead of being taught in the upcoming spring, the professor must teach a course in their home department. Or, sometimes, two





ILLUSTRATION BY JAMES LAFORTEZZA

## Assuming Responsibility for Our Safety

ISABELLE SMITH  
STAFF WRITER

Although it feels like spring is in full swing, winter's snow was falling just days ago. On the Connecticut College campus, the community experienced "winter," in its full effect for about a month – snow igloos, nordic skis and snowball fights. A celebratory cry rings from students when classes are cancelled, but it seems that the reason for cancellations is overlooked. The weather was never bad enough that students couldn't walk from their dorm to their classroom building; just lace up the winter boots, put on a winter parka, and it was all okay. The real reason for canceling classes is safety.

In order for the grounds and custodial staff to be able to clear the essential pathways of snow, people cannot be walking in the way, and cars cannot be blocking the roads. Cancelling classes on extremely heavy snow fall days makes it easier and safer for everyone involved in the snow removal process. The job is taxing enough without added obstacles.

The grounds and custodial staff are on call all the time, so

as soon as Campus Safety perceives it is becoming slippery, the nine-person Snow Removal Crew is called in. On a normal day, they work from 7am to 3:30pm. If the snow persists, or more work needs to be done to keep the campus safe, half the staff will stay until 12am. If even more work is needed, the half crew that went home at 3:30pm returns at 12am and works their overtime shift, 12am-7am, as well as their normal shift, 7am-3:30pm. If the snow continues to cause safety concern on campus, the 16-hour workday cycle continues. The result, according to Jim Luce, Head of Grounds: "the crews are exhausted!"

Grounds staff are in charge of machinery and plowing, while the custodial crews are in charge of shoveling. The school owns plows for the roads, little Bobcats for the wider sidewalks and shovels for steeper or narrower paths and stairs. Because there was so much snow last year, the school even has a three-month rental on a pay loader to stack the snow away from important paths.

There are so many little things that need to be remembered when conducting this work. Fire extinguishers,

handicap ramps and emergency exits need to be cleared immediately. Snow piles can only be stacked in certain places on campus to ensure they are not in the way. Salt sand mixtures need to be distributed as quickly as possible to prevent black ice. Additionally, parking spaces need to be cleared so that faculty and staff can meet their obligations on time. It is increasingly difficult to clear parking spaces of snow if there are already cars in the spots. This is why the parking ban is so important.

"Snow removal is a big responsibility, and unfortunately, it is usually a thankless job as well," Jim Luce described. It's a lot of work, and when it isn't done fast enough, the staff are held responsible. This is an unfair responsibility. The staff doesn't control the weather, and they only have a limited number of people working at clearing the snow. A lot of the time, students do not see the amount of work that goes into clearing the campus, so it is not publicly recognized or thanked.

While it seems as if winter is nearly over this year, an improved system, which includes the entire school, should be considered for next winter. •



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# Hollywood's Depiction of a Gender Transition

## "The Danish Girl" Review

ISABELLE SMITH  
STAFF WRITER

*Editor's Note: If you do not want to know the end of the movie, do not read this article.*

In response to the current international transgender awareness movement, perhaps made most visible by Caitlyn Jenner's widely publicized gender transition, Hollywood has produced a film depicting the beginnings of the movement. Tom Hooper's film, *The Danish Girl*, is a biography of Lili Elbe (Eddie Redmayne) who underwent the first gender reassignment surgery in the early twentieth century. Throughout her transition, Lili is supported by her (eventually ex-)wife Gerda Wegener (Alicia Vikander), childhood friend Hans Axlil (Matthias Schoenaerts) and Ulla Paulson, a

close friend (Amber Heard).

The film represents the transition of identity well. It is clear that Lili struggles emotionally between society's expectations and her own internal desire to live openly as Lili instead of as Einar. The film's narrative makes it easy for the viewer to understand the path that she is traveling.

As the film opens, it introduces us to Einar and Gerda. Einar, wearing a suit to work every day, is an established painter, while Gerda still struggles to find success in the art world. The film then moves into the beginning of Einar's questioning. When Gerda needs to finish a portrait and her scheduled model fails to attend their session, Einar dresses in women's attire to model for her and feels comfortable in the women's gown. Initially framed

as just a game, Einar dresses as a model, Lili, to the next party the coupe attends. After Lili becomes a public figure thanks to Gerda's artwork, she wants to permanently have the body with which she identifies. Because the audience watches all these little steps along the way, we understand her decision to undergo surgery. Hopper depicts and emphasizes Lili's internal struggles as well as her struggles to gain acceptance in society. With Gerda's support, she meets with multiple doctors. One decides she is gay, another thinks she is crazy and another concludes she is schizophrenic. The camera flashes from doctor's conclusion to doctor's conclusion, conveying Lili's struggle to find someone who understands her. Only after a friend suggests that she see a sexual science doctor does Lili find a

physician who truly understands her.

The only real issue I have with the film is the ending. Lili dies after a failed operation to implant a uterus in her abdomen because science was not advanced enough at the time to account for hormone rejection. When Lili dies, both Gerda and Hans, her two biggest supporters, are present. After Lili dies, Gerda and Hans return to the place where she grew up. Gerda lets the scarf that Lili wore through her surgeries fly off in the wind, an action that feels too much like they are holding hands and dancing into the sunset. The scarf represents the struggle that Lili endures. By letting the wind take control at the end, the film seems to say that the human effort is not as strong as nature. This scene contradicts the film's whole

message because Lili's story is one of human will conquering nature's design. It is a misleading ending.

Despite my issue with the ending, I enjoyed the film and appreciated its efforts to demonstrate some of the challenges that transgender individuals may face, both today and historically. At a time when transgender experiences and rights are being more widely discussed, it is important and significant that Hollywood has chosen to engage in the conversation. The film industry can have a significant impact on society's perception of the topics that it chooses to cover, so I am glad that Hooper portrayed Lili's story in the way that he did. •

# Review Battles: *Straight Outta Compton*

CAM NETLAND  
STAFF WRITER

Felix Gary Gray's smashing summer blockbuster, *Straight Outta Compton*, is a compelling examination of one of the most radical civil rights movements of the 1980s. The now classic story of N.W.A.'s creation of the hip hop genre and the subsequent plague of record labels and personal ambitions is portrayed in one of the most convincing films of 2015.

The film analyzes the power of art in social movements and how that art is then exploited. With impeccable performances from Jason Mitchell as Eazy-E, O'Shea Jackson Jr. as Ice Cube, Corey Hawkins as Dr. Dre and Paul Giamatti as the infamous Jerry Heller, it is disheartening that none of these talented actors have been nominated for this year's Oscars.

Though the perspective of the film has been skewed to favor the richest surviving members of N.W.A. (Dr. Dre and Ice Cube both are portrayed as heroes who fight for justice and individuality while MC Ren and DJ Yella are hardly mentioned), the message of the film is clear: there is unresolved social unrest in America.

From the dorm room halls to the dish station in Harris, powerful statements such as "Fuck the Police" and "Express Yourself" still echo around our own college. The expressions mirror the energy of the Black Lives Matter movement today, which was most recently championed by Beyoncé in her Super Bowl Halftime show. Cities such as Baltimore and Ferguson are plagued by a division between law enforcement and the public, and although one would like to

believe that the impact N.W.A. made on the world incited a radical shift in people's ideologies, there is no doubt at how much is left to be done.

Critics may find fault with the biased tone of the movie. Dr. Dre and Ice Cube are portrayed as heroes who fight for free speech, which makes sense.

Nevertheless, the story progresses with such a captivating and emotional tone that no theatergoer will not leave disappointed. The disjointed but relatable friendships and the tragedy of group superstar Eazy-E is almost Shakespearean in execution. The death of a bright young talent due to his own greed and recklessness while his former friends continue their hugely successful solo careers leaves viewers wondering, like the characters in the film, "what could have been?"

The film's cautionary tone against greed is most evident in the polarizing character of Jerry Heller (Paul Giamatti). Heller is an example of the genius of the film because he is not the stereotypical, one-dimensional evil record label representative; he is also portrayed as a misguided father figure. Heller evidently exploits the group for his own ambition. Yet without him, the group could have never made the cultural impact that it did. The murky morality of his character remains unresolved.

Overall, the film is a contemporary milestone. It expresses not only cultural and artistic phenomena but also extremely personal feelings and the connections that are formed and broken when one is a part of something much grander than oneself. •

JAMES MURRAY  
STAFF WRITER

The emergence of N.W.A. in the late '80s and early '90s came at a pivotal moment when issues of race relations, inequality and prejudice came to a head. The group that emerged comprised of young, frustrated, once-in-a-generation talented but marginalized young men who were embracing hip hop to express anger, raw emotion and distaste with the state of our country, especially when it came to social issues.

I believe that *Straight Outta Compton* could have achieved critical success simply because the story of the group is so utterly captivating. But, not only does the movie successfully provide us with an amazing story, it also features the exceptional performances of several largely unknown and inexperienced actors. The acting itself creates such a visceral experience for the viewer that, at times, the film almost feels like a documentary. In a movie that is acclaimed for its ability to capture raw emotion, whether it be in a moment of creative brilliance in the studio or the tragic loss of a loved one, the actors deliver one hundred percent.

In an interview with Kendrick Lamar, the members of N.W.A.,

now well into their 40s, sat down and talked about their experience. All surviving members of the group were present and talked like nothing had changed in the years that had followed their breakup, explaining that it had to happen and that they held no ill will toward one another. They explained that they were simply five young men who had an insatiable love for making and producing music. While acknowledging that they were one of the most influential musical groups in history, they remained grounded. On several occasions, they said that they did it all for the love of the art form. Importantly, however, they talked about how their music was also a way to express the struggles that African-Americans and other minorities must endure daily. One of the aims of their music was to bring the recurring problems of racism, police brutality and minority marginalization onto the surface and into the mainstream.

I was struck, while watching this interview and thinking back on my experience watching the movie, by how well the actors were able to effectively capture the individual mentalities as well as the group dynamic of N.W.A. •



FICTION:

# Parents

DAVE WINKING

A girl once told me that she was mad at her parents.

Little did she know I had a lot of experience in that field.  
Not as a parent, but someone who missed them.

I asked, "Why are you mad at them?" To which she replied  
"My mother's just always on my back about everything."

The funny thing is I remember myself saying things like this.  
I don't anymore, and in that reality I now see how truly foolish  
I once sounded.

Recognizing my position and taking a bold, firm stance I responded  
"Your mother just cares a lot about you. Don't get the wrong idea, just  
know she's looking out for you. Trust me, not having her around is  
worse than anything your mom could ever say or do."

My response caught her off guard - truthfully it surprised me too -  
but for whatever reason I wanted to know what kind of reaction  
my unexpected words would invoke. Who knows, maybe one person's  
trash is truly another's treasure.

She looked at me quickly, disarmed, and said: "You're right.  
I know she means well."

"I don't mean to act like I know the relationship between you  
and your mother. It's just, when I think about what's valuable  
the only consistent answer I find is family. You know, that group  
of people who would do anything for you" I said.

Perhaps I didn't need to tell my side of the story. Maybe I could  
have agreed with her. "I know, sometimes parents can be the worst" was  
a possible response. Simple. *What's the harm in agreeing with her?* But  
I couldn't.

Love your parents. Ask them questions. Learn about their life and  
listen. Trust me. ♦

## Sparks Fly at New London Makerspace

HALLIE GROSSMAN  
BUSINESS MANAGER

Last October, Spark Makerspace opened at 86 Golden St. in downtown New London. The project was spearheaded by social entrepreneurs Hannah Gant and George Ryan, and the space joins many across the country cultivating creativity in various media. According to their website, Spark members pay a monthly fee for access to a full woodshop, commercial kitchen, 3D printers, Computer Numerical Control (CNC) machine and laser cutter, robotics lab, screenprinting equipment and much more. Spark's community also extends to its shared office, meeting, classroom and retail space at 13 Golden St.

Spark emphasizes collaboration and cooperation within the New London community, hoping to engage artists, thinkers, inven-

tors and anyone with the desire to create. As a community-run workshop and learning center, they also provide classes led by members and encourage members to share skills through engaging with various events. Instead of highlighting the space as an incubator solely for STEM fields, Spark encourages participation in STEAM (science, technology, engineering, arts, and math) skills and products.

Inclusion of the arts is a vital aspect of Spark's mission and the mission of makerspaces across the country. Makerspaces, also known as hackerspaces, have evolved with technology and accessibility to machines and equipment. Employing DIY (do it yourself) ethic, makerspaces have become a sort of subculture. Verbs such as "tinker" give an

idea of the type of work being done in these spaces. DIY ethic preaches self-sufficiency and completing work without the help of a paid expert. Makerspaces fill in the rest of the equation, providing community spaces that are hubs of knowledge sharing and opportunities to learn from peers.

According to Wikipedia, "Central to the [DIY] ethic is the empowerment of individuals and communities, encouraging the employment of alternative approaches when faced with bureaucratic or societal obstacles to achieving their objectives." Locating the space in the heart of downtown New London makes creativity visible in the community. It also makes me wonder, however, about how we allot creativity to certain spaces.

Makerspaces create an inter-

section between traditionally feminine practices--crafting, DIY projects, things one might find on Pinterest--and traditionally masculine practices--inventing, operating machinery, participating in STEM fields. Overlapping all these aspects of creativity and eliminating an authoritative figure serves to blur the lines between these types of practices, hopefully opening them up to a wider audience. Gant, who played a large role in Spark's creation, also serves as an example of the business and entrepreneurial opportunities available in this line of work, another field that has historically been dominated by men.

In a sense, every college campus should function as a type of makerspace, where inspiration comes from individuals, not

solely professors or instructors. Cultivation of creativity should happen inside and outside the classroom, and creativity should exist across disciplines and not be isolated to the arts. In my near four years here, I have felt that classes are not only for learning from professors, but from peers as well.

That said, the College and Spark are collaborating on an event this coming Saturday, as a part of the 15th Biennial Symposium on Arts and Technology held by the Ammerman Center. The symposium will be held Feb. 25, 26 and 27 and includes events at the College and in the New London community. The community event on Saturday is an experimental sound show and will be held at 86 Golden St. ♦



# Help is Needed in Cleveland

## *Why Johnny Manziel is no Longer About Football*

**JAMES MURRAY**  
STAFF WRITER

The camera pans over to Johnny during a preseason game in 2014. After being chided and barked at by numerous Redskins players, he momentarily loses his cool and flips his middle finger behind his head. After throwing an interception in a game against the 49ers this year, the camera goes to the Browns sideline where we see Johnny smashing a Microsoft Surface tablet against his head repeatedly. After a failed attempt at a come-from-behind victory against the Kansas City Chiefs, we see Johnny angrily rip off his helmet and spike it into the turf. This last moment effectively sums up the Cleveland Browns' season.

Johnny Manziel's brief existence in the NFL has consisted of an amalgamation of bizarre stories, sound bites, controversial video clips and pictures and quotable

statements from the quarterback himself. As an observer and a fan of the league and the Browns, I've experienced a plethora of contradictory emotions about the polarizing quarterback.

In the beginning, I felt a combination of excitement and hope which unfortunately turned into frustration, confusion and tired resignation. This is an all too familiar narrative for Browns fans who, in the past decade, have consistently supported a team with double digit losses, poor decisions on draft day and failures in filling head coaching vacancies and free agent acquisitions. In fact, the narrative specific to this story, of a young, talented player suffering from substance abuse problems, is something all too familiar for the Browns.

Josh Gordon, a talented wide receiver from Baylor whom the Browns acquired in the supplemental draft a few years

ago, quickly spiraled into legal trouble surrounding drinking and drug related incidents, which led to several suspension handed down by the NFL. Two years ago, when I was living in Cleveland, I was dropping my older brother off at the airport when I saw a black Escalade come up to the curb and a tall, imposing figure get out of the front seat. He had gold Beats headphones draped around his neck and was followed by a small entourage of friends wearing dark sunglasses and carrying Louis Vuitton luggage. It was Josh Gordon, according to later reports, off to a Vegas party the day after the season had ended.

"I don't have a drinking problem, the team has a problem with me drinking," Manziel later said in an interview broadcast on the Faux NFL network.

After Johnny Manziel was drafted, there was a merchandise explosion and a wave of people

clamoring to purchase season tickets. Fans in Cleveland were energized, excited and genuinely felt that life had been breathed into the franchise. But Johnny Manziel's reputation as a partier has transcended his abilities on the field as well as all other aspects of his personality, including his fiery competitiveness and potential to be a leader. In the NFL, we've seen flashes of what made him the most exciting player in college football during his time at Texas A&M. The wild scramblings for first downs, shaking off defensive ends and scampering around in the backfield inspired glimmers of hope in perpetually disappointed Browns' fans.

But what has dominated the narrative surrounding his time in the NFL has been the videos of him partying on off days and bye weeks, and the numerous missed meetings, treatments and practices. Just this year alone, there has been

a dizzying number of incidents ranging from speeding tickets to domestic disputes to reports of him wearing a disguise in order to party in Vegas anonymously. Allegations have even spread that claim the Browns covered for Manziel when he was hungover by saying he got a concussion.

With over 20 different starting quarterbacks in as many years, drafting a young, promising and charismatic player who has the potential to be the leader of the franchise is a cause for celebration. But it pretty much feels like Groundhog Day for Browns fans. More importantly, the story of Johnny Manziel isn't about football anymore. It has become a story about someone who appears to be a danger to himself and to others around him, and someone who needs help. How, when and in what form that help will come remains to be seen. •

# Scandal in Time for March Madness

**COLE MITCHELL**  
STAFF WRITER

In 2013, the Louisville Cardinals won the NCAA Tournament, but the Cardinals will not be competing in the 2016 Tournament because of a self-imposed ban relating to a recent investigation into a recruiting scandal involving escorts and strippers. The scandal involves their assistant coach, Andre McGee, paying an escort to have dancers show up at a Louisville and dance for possible recruits and other basketball players. Katina Powell, the escort McGee is alleged to have paid, has written a book saying that she was providing dancers to McGee from 2010 to 2014. McGee is not working at Louisville for the time being.

ESPN's *Outside the Lines* broke the story and now there has been an NCAA investigation that Rick Pitino, Louisville's basketball coach, has said will not end until possibly July. The story originally came to light when Powell wrote a book called *Breaking Cardinal Rules: Basketball and the Escort Queen*, which was about

sending dancers to Louisville's Billy Minardi Hall, a dorm room where basketball players and other athletes of Louisville University live.

*Outside the Lines* also interviewed five former Louisville basketball players that chose to remain anonymous, but did say that at Minardi Hall prostitutes would show up and dance for them. In return the players would throw dollar bills at their feet while they were dancing. Three of the players were recruits at the time of the event and would later become players for Louisville's basketball team.

*Outside the Lines* and ESPN also talked to Katina Powell about sending the dancers to Billy Minardi Hall. She said that McGee paid her \$10,000 to send women for these events. She also said that in the four years she sent over two dozen dancers. After the first couple of events, McGee asked if he could pay extra for the dancers to also have sex with players or recruits. Powell said yes and that strippers having sex with the recruits would usually cost an extra \$100 per person.

Also in Powell's journals she writes about meeting McGee through a mutual friend, that she was paid by McGee and that she was sending dancers to Billy Minardi Hall. The journals not only included information on the scandal, but personal things about Powell. The journals clearly were not written for the purpose of tarnishing the school but just to keep entries on her life. She did find it important to note the scandal because she thought no one would believe her without proof. The NCAA is doing its own investigation into the matter and has not disclosed anything it has found about Louisville or Rick Pitino and will not until the investigation is over.

As for Rick Pitino, he says that he knew nothing about the dancers or sex with recruits and stands by his word. Players that used to play for Rick Pitino say that they believe him, but there are some players that had no comment on the matter when asked about the strippers in Billy Minardi Hall. Pitino has told Louisville fans that he will not be stepping down from

his coaching job right now. However, after talking with James R. Ramsey, the President of the University of Louisville, and Tom Jurich, Cardinals athletic director, Louisville chose impose its own postseason ban, not playing in the 2016 NCAA Tournament or ACC Tournament. Some believe that Louisville is creating this ban in order to get a smaller punishment from the NCAA.

Today, recruiting is a difficult process, nothing like signing a free agent in a major sport. Instead, a college is attempting to choose the best athletes from the country and is giving them a scholarship to play. Instead of competing with 30 other teams and having a set cap price to spend, universities are competing with hundreds of other schools to get any athletes they want. The problem is that, although it seems all the schools are going to be competing with each other, really only the top schools compete for the best players.

Each school has a different set number of full or partial scholarships they can give out. Immediately, players who may

not be able to afford college have to settle with the schools that are going to be giving out full scholarships. Also, big name schools tend to get first picks on which players they want because going to a school such as University of North Carolina or University of Louisville can give a player a much better chance of making professional leagues such as, in the case of Louisville, the National Basketball Association. If the allegations are true, then McGee may have felt that he could get some type of advantage for the school if he provided recruits with dancers, strippers, and more.

Obviously there will be no word on whether the allegations are true until the NCAA has made a decision, but with the amount of evidence against Louisville and the school choosing to pull themselves out of the NCAA Basketball Tournament, when they were a favorite to be in the Final Four and even the championship game, it is pretty clear to me that they feel that there will be a severe punishment. •



# Saying Goodbye to Camels, Bears and Squids



*Saying goodbye to a long-standing tradition against our neighbors from across the street, the Connecticut College Camels and the USCGA Bears will part ways.*

## CONTINUED FROM FRONT

our hockey team backed out of a game, it shouldn't be a representation of our entire school. It's not our fault our coach decided it wouldn't be a good idea to play you guys," read one post. Other YikYakkers went on to suggest that Command, and other administrative bodies at the school, had influenced the team's coach, Chief Dore, to cancel the event.

"Chief Dore informed us last Monday that he and his team were not interested in playing us this year," said Paul Luba, a senior organizer on Conn's Club Team. "Dore told us that they had an incomplete roster and no depth to go three periods. He also told us in an email that from a coaching perspective, this game would add no value to his program or players."

It's not difficult to see this rationale. The Coast Guard has not enjoyed any recent victories in the annual competition. In 2010, Conn was up 10-1 before the game was called off in the third period. The closest match-up occurred in 2013, when a 9-8 game

went Conn's way in double overtime. In 2015, the Camels won again, this time with a final score of 7-2.

Luba and others on the team, including Hooper, reached out to Dore in an attempt to get the game back into action. They emphasized the unique nature of the rivalry as a common ground for schools which, apart from their host city of New London, share little in common.

In an e-mail to Dore, the team wrote, "When players from both of our teams meet down the road in life, hopefully it is this crazy, unexplainable club hockey rivalry that we will talk about, and not the year that it all inexplicably ended." They also offered to match the limited depth of the CGA team for the sake of fairness. Both moves underlined Conn's determination to keep the tradition alive.

Dore's disinterest in the game was likely not shared by the Coast Guard's players, many of whom took to YikYak to say that they would have been interested in playing. Furthermore,

they emphasized that Dore himself was "being pressured by higher ups," and therefore should not have been scapegoated for spoiling the party.

As of now, it looks like the traditional game CGA vs. Conn game will not happen. Instead, the Connecticut College club team is planning to bus the club team at Trinity -- as well as Trinity fans -- to Dayton Arena on Friday, Mar. 1. Hooper expressed excitement that this alteration could still be a good thing for their team and overall school spirit surround the annual tradition.

"Trinity is a far more likeminded team than the Coast Guard. They will bring the raucous, and we'll assist them with fan buses so long as they can muster interest with their fan base," said Hooper concerning the prospective event. "Their enthusiasm seems promising, and they'll be a far more challenging match-up so I think we'll manage to salvage the annual allure of this rivalry tradition." •



# Men's Squash Takes on NESCACS

## Earns National Ranking

ELIZABETH VAROLI  
STAFF WRITER

The Connecticut College Men's Squash team just finished a tough weekend in the NESCAC Championships, facing some of the strongest teams in college squash. Senior tri-captain Brendan McClintick positively reflects on the tournament, saying he felt "extremely proud looking back on this weekend." The Conn men entered the weekend as the last

seed, ranked 11 in the NESCAC, and fought through three competitive matches. As the underdog, McClintick admits his team went into the tournament "with plenty to prove," but he says his teammates played some fantastic squash.

The team started the tournament off with an early match Friday afternoon against Wesleyan, ranked 6th. Conn fell to Wesleyan 0-9 and moved on to the consolation tournament the next day. But the players didn't let their initial loss

deter their spirits and went into their next match Saturday morning ready to fight for a win. Conn defeated Tufts, the 9th ranked team, 5-4, getting revenge after losing to them at home earlier this season.

Against Tufts, with McClintick playing first in the lineup, junior tri-captain Matt Lillie playing third, and first-year Louis Feingold playing eighth, the Camels triumphed; each player won in straight sets. Sophomore John Dunham was also able to cinch

a win, while playing fourth, in four sets (6-11, 11-3, 11-4, 11-8). To seize the overall win, senior tri-captain Niccolo Premutico won a competitive five game (11-9, 8-11, 11-8, 8-11, 11-9).

McClintick commended his team's attitude going into this match, saying, "Everyone knew that it would take a lot of hard work to pull off the upset... The guys worked really hard." Conn pulled off the upset and moved on to its second match of the day.

A few hours later, Conn fell to Hamilton in a close 3-6 loss. For the second time on Saturday, John Dunham won at number four and Niccolo Premutico won at number five. Santiago Moran also got his first win of the weekend, playing number six. In the second slot Daniel Reisman lost a 1-3 match, and in the eighth slot Louis Feingold lost a 2-3 match.

Going into the tournament, Hamilton was ranked one spot above Conn in the NESCACS and in national rankings. McClintick

explains that Conn always has tight matches with Hamilton and anticipates a match against the school at Nationals. As Conn's squash team prepares for the final tournament of the season, set to take place the weekend of Feb. 19, McClintick said, "If we are going to beat them it is going to take lots of hard work."

**The latest Dunlop Men Squash Association Team Rankings of the 2015-2016 season puts Connecticut College at the 29 seed.** For Conn, the NESCACs were an opportunity to play serious competition and to improve upon its game. With Nationals quickly approaching, Conn has the opportunity to take momentum from its win against Tufts to upset a few more teams and move up a few spots in the national rankings. McClintick said, "The next two weeks we will be training with a very high intensity, making sure that we get in the best shape possible for Nationals." •



PHOTOS COURTESY  
OF DAN BURNS

DAN BURNS  
CONTRIBUTOR

The Men's and Women's Track teams participated in the New England Division-III meet this past weekend. The men competed at MIT, where Niall Williams '16 raced one of the best individual races of the day for the Camel men, clocking a 2:29.33 in the 1000m, a time good enough for 2nd place at the meet. The men's 4x800 team comprised of Price Day '19, Connor Trapp '18, Ben Bosworth '17 and Williams also had a strong performance on their way to a second place

finish in 7:50.39. "We knew it was going to be a battle with a lot of great NESCAC and NE D-III teams," Bosworth expressed after his race. "Everyone did their job and we came out with a great second place finish. We've really established ourselves as a strong mid distance program." The Women's varsity track team competed in the state over at Middlebury College. Key performances of the day were junior Bella Franz's 2:56.56 in the 1000m and sophomore Ashley Curran's 18:06.15 in the 5000m. •



# NFL Early Retirements: A New Trend?

**NOAH JOHNSON**  
STAFF WRITER

The beginning of the NFL offseason: a time for many players to mull over their futures in the league. While players approaching the prime of their careers are signing contract extensions or testing the free agent market, many older veterans are choosing to end their careers. Usually, starting-caliber players will stay in the league into their mid-30s. However, the past couple of seasons have experienced a trend toward player retirement at an earlier age.

Many players retire after an obvious decline in their abilities. Now, more than ever, younger players are competing right away for starting jobs. In

other words, usually the writing is on the wall. For example, Troy Polamalu, the once dominant playmaking safety, retired after showing he was a liability on a struggling Steelers defense. Many believe that we have seen the last of legendary quarterback Peyton Manning, who, despite winning a Super Bowl behind an unstoppable defense, turned in the worst passing rating among all quarterbacks who qualified in the 2015 season. However, more and more, recent retirements have not fit into this mold of a steep decline.

Patrick Willis, a five time first-team All-Pro linebacker, retired last March after just eight years in the league. Marshawn Lynch, the iconic Seahawks running back, retired just a year after

one of his finest seasons, where he helped carry the Seahawks to another Super Bowl appearance. Quarterback Jake Locker and pass-rusher Jason Worilds, two coveted free agents, called it quits at age 27. And now, Calvin Johnson is drawing comparisons to Barry Sanders as possibly another Detroit Lion to hang up his cleats in his prime years.

However, none of these cases is more interesting than that of former San Francisco 49ers linebacker Chris Borland. As a rookie, Borland totaled a whopping 108 tackles in just eight games, filling in for the injured All-Pro Navarro Bowman. Although he was placed on season-ending injured reserve for an ankle injury, he was hailed

as one of the best young players in the league and was a bright spot on an otherwise unimpressive 49ers squad.

Then, in the offseason, the 24-year old shocked the league by announcing his retirement, giving up almost a half of a million dollars in bonuses. He cited concern of head injuries as the reason, arguing that football was not worth the risk. He brought up the stories of NFL greats Mike Webster, Dave Duerson and Ray Easterling, who were diagnosed with the brain disease chronic traumatic encephalopathy (CTE) after their deaths.

These announcements have only added to the scrutiny that the NFL has encountered in the recent years regarding player safety and concussion concerns. In 2012, Hall-of-Fame linebacker Junior Seau's suicide prompted concerns of a correlation between concussions and player deaths. A research project done by Boston University and the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs displayed this correlation as well as the prevalence of CTE. Of the 91 former players who donated their brains for research after death, 87 tested positive for CTE, according to the *IB Times*. The disease can cause aggression, depression and loss of memory and motor skills.

Last year, the NFL reached a settlement of almost \$1 billion with thousands of former players in response to the research done on concussions. This settlement was met with much scrutiny and criticism; split between 5,000 players, it did not adequately cover their medical care and other costs.

Despite concerns regarding these long-term and potentially life-threatening injuries, the conversation around these topics is relatively new. The NFL has taken measures to improve player safety within the past few years, fining and suspending players for helmet-to-helmet hits and other personal fouls. However, season-ending injuries, including ACL tears, have only kept increasing.

Given all of these facts and figures, it's not surprising that more and more players are deciding to walk away, rather than risk ending their careers with an injury. Injuries can occur on any snap of any game; staying in the league only increases the likelihood that one of these damaging injuries will occur.

With players more informed than ever on these issues, it will be interesting to see if younger players in their prime will reconsider staying in the NFL for a long time. After all, we have to remember that NFL players are people, with many years to live after their football careers end. Although the hope is that fewer players will be affected by these injuries down the line, only time will tell if this trend can improve the lives of players after they've played their last down. •

## Connecticut College Prize for Undergraduate Library Research

- \$500 award
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For complete eligibility and  
submission information:  
[conncoll.libguides.com/libprize](http://conncoll.libguides.com/libprize)





On Friday, Feb. 19, Natalie Jeremijenko, whose work is currently installed in the first floor of Cummings, led a workshop for Ammerman Center students and the larger Conn community. The exhibit, titled xHIBITION, is a space full of prototypes, devices and concept plans that combine art, technology and the environment, according to the College's press release.

Jeremijenko, who is an associate professor at NYU in the visual art department (also affiliated with their computer science and

environmental studies program), will give the keynote address on Friday, Feb. 29 at 9:30am in Evans Hall for the Ammerman Center's OPEN ALL PORTS 15th Biennial Symposium.

The Symposium will go from Feb. 25 until Feb. 27, and will feature numerous visiting artists and lecturers, as well as work and presentation from Conn students. Work will be shown in Cummings, 768 Williams Street (the Ammerman Center House), the Hygienic Galleries and Spark Makerspace in New London over the course of the symposium. •

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OF OLGA NIKOLAEVA

