Charter Day Celebrated

by Peter Milburn

Despite the overcast sky, a jovial mood prevailed as Connecticut College celebrated its seventy-fifth anniversary on Charter Day. Classes were cancelled Friday, April 4, and most campus offices were closed between 10:30 and 12:30 in order that the entire College community could participate in the Charter Day ceremonies.

Members of the College community gathered in front of Blaustein Humanities Center before marching down to Palmer Auditorium for the formal ceremonies. The Mystic Wailers, a five piece swing band entertained, while children from the Children's School played with the two-man version of the Connecticut College mascot, the Camel. The march to Palmer Auditorium, organized by the newly founded Undergraduate Alumni Board, included club and class banners.

The Faculty and Trustees sported the finest in academic formal wear. Bruce Kimmerse, Associate Professor of History, explained the significance of the faculty's gowns, "We only get to wear these two times a year, but every seventy-five years we get to wear them one more time."

"No interviews," Robert Hampton, Associate Professor of Sociology, said, warning off admirers with smiles further ahead in the procession. Not all faculty members were present, however. One source reported that one faculty member remarked, "I don't do windows, and I don't do parades."

After a successful journey all the way from Blaustein to Palmer, everyone moved into Palmer Auditorium for the climax of Charter Day. After a short invocation and a prayer, the ceremony began. Brita Schein McNemar, chairwoman of the Trustees, welcomed Wesleyan students to participate by lending their hands from one to four in the afternoon. Student volunteers, under the leadership of tenants, will be picking-up litter and planting, trees, shrubs and flowers at the Winthrop High-Rise and Bates Woods, two of the city's poorest housing projects. The New London city administration and the city planner will be giving the necessary supplies and support for the 'Spring Clean-up.'

Local businesses are sponsoring Conn students' clean-up project, and these funds will be divided between a local food bank, church supported soup kitchen and a Bank Street soup cart. The food bank provides meals for New London residents who have not received their welfare checks. The soup kitchen provides lunch while the soup cart offers a modest dinner for local homeless and hungry.

Because the Office of Volunteers has covered all the administrative costs of SHOW New London, every cent which students raise will be given directly to hunger relief programs. SHOW New London was modeled after "The Great Hunger Clean-up," a program which started at Agassis College in Grand Rapids, MI. Three-hundred-fifty students from ten Michigan area colleges were successful in raising $10,000 in only three hours. The ten-thousand dollars were divided between USA for Africa, and a hunger-out reach umbrella program. The participating students spent a portion of their afternoon cleaning up depressed areas, while raising money to aid the hungry. Conn students will be given a similar opportunity, but this is only a beginning. "We are starting small and if the Great Hunger Clean-up is successful, in the future we can become involved in proposals which have a longer lasting effect," Wenley says.

Charter Day Parade from Blaustein to Palmer Auditorium. Photo by: David Ewing

Missile Debate

by Peter Falconer

A debate on Ballistic Missile Defense, co-sponsored by Connecticut College, the U.S. Coast Guard Academy, and the New London Day, was held on Tuesday, April 1, in Palmer Auditorium. Speaking on behalf of the Strategic Defense Initiative (SDI) was William Furnace, Special Assistant to the Assistant Secretary of Defense and an expert on ballistic missile defenses. George Rathjens, a professor at MIT and representative of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences, spoke against SDI.

Mr. Furnace spoke first and began his defense of SDI by providing a brief history of the military balance between the United States and the Soviet Union. In the 1960's, the U.S. decided to build its deterrence policy on offensive weapons and retaliation, since defensive weapons were ineffective against ballistic missiles. Accordingly, the U.S. cut back spending for defensive weapons and fell behind the Russians. In addition to an overwhelming advantage in anti-aircraft defenses, the Soviets have the world's only ballistic missile defense deployed around Moscow and are presently upgrading that system. They have developed an additional rapid-deployment ballistic missile defense which they could use at any time if they should choose to break the 1972 Anti-Ballistic Missile (ABM) Treaty.

Mr. Furnace stated that the Soviet Union has not neglected its offensive forces either. Since the 1972 ABM Treaty was written, they have...
Parking Problem

The parking situation has become unmanageable. Students are parking in faculty spaces, faculty in the student's spaces. Something must be done to ameliorate this problem.

It is clear that the present system does not work satisfactorily. The amount of time spent by campus safety officers ticketing cars could surely be spent on more useful tasks. The problem is not, however, with campus safety, who, after all, is only doing its job.

The problem lies with the college's generous policy of issuing parking permits to all students. The parking crisis will not improve until this policy is changed.

The issuing of parking permits should be rationed. A priority list must be drawn, assigning permits as a privilege, and not a right. Seniors should have priority over juniors, who should come before sophomores, etc. Also, this list should take into account those students who, regardless of class status, must have a car on campus because they live or work off-campus.

Only in this manner, short of constructing a new parking lot, can we hope to improve the car situation on this campus.
To the Editor:  

As I am busy preparing for graduation, I would like to take a moment out to address an issue which the Connecticut College community almost always manages to ignore. Homosexuality is a very real part of our community and it directly and indirectly affects us all. I am a gay student who is very involved in the gay and bisexual community at Conn. and I am very deeply concerned about the dangers of ignorance on this subject. I ask you all to consider some of the thoughts and observations that I have made as a gay student during my four years at Connecticut College. First of all, let me shed some light on a fact which many of you are perhaps aware of. At least ten percent of our college community is comprised of homosexual people, not to mention a large number of bisexual people. This means that the gay people at Conn. could easily fill J.A. and Freeman dormitories while I am sure that the bisexual people could take up residence in Harkness and perhaps even in Kwolson dormitories. I personally know of only six people who are openly gay or bisexual on this campus. What does all this tell us? It means that a substantial number of students at Conn. are being deprived of their need to express their true selves.

Next, let me pose a question to the heterosexual community at Connecticut College: " Aren't you angry?" Doesn't it make you mad to know that you have been taught to hate a group of people about whom you know little or nothing? Don't you wish you could objectively explore the issue of homosexuality without having to worry about what other people thought about you? Aren't you angry that your friend, professor, administrator and even favorite dining hall have to hide a vital part of their identity and are constantly subjected to painful, debasing comments? Finally, I'd like to ask a question to gay and bisexual students: " Aren't you angry?" Aren't you angry that history has been denied and that your curriculum includes no courses concerning homosexuality? Don't you wish that Conn. had a gay student advisor as well as a cafeteria, comfortable environment where you could meet other gay and bisexual students? Aren't you angry when you realize that you have to live a lie in order to be labeled acceptable? I would like to direct the majority of my closing comments to those people who are in touch with their gay and bisexual identities, but who are forced to live in the closet because of the unaccepting atmosphere at Connecticut College. I understand all too well your pain and frustration at having to hide your true selves from others for fear of misunderstanding and rejection. Even as an openly gay person, I still find myself either hiding my gayness or coming out to new people all of the time. By the same token, however, I would like to emphasize that coming out of the closet was the best thing I've ever done for myself. And people coming out is what needs to happen more often at Conn.

As present, efforts are being made to hasten the process of creating an accepting environment at this school. Bisexual Gay and Lesbian Awareness Days are scheduled for May and plans are being made to train special student advisors to meet the needs of other gay and bisexual students. In addition, a gay and lesbian alumni group is being formed and efforts are being made to include a passage in the school's nondiscrimination policy which would forbid discrimination against anyone on the basis of sexual orientation. But these efforts must be supplemented by increased participation in Conn's Gay/Straight/Bi Alliance. And participation does not take into account one's sexual orientation. For simply put, the needs of the gay and bisexual students and faculty at Connecticut College are not being met. And if you are not part of the solution, you are certainly part of the problem.

Christopher Frey '86
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ICELANDAIR
Three Strikes And You're Towed

by Heidi Sweeney

Three strikes and he's out, or in the local jargon, three parking tickets and Michael's Towing comes and gets the offending Conn student's car. The 575 more cars on campus than parking spaces explains the presence of Michael's towing trucks on campus.

Last year, a car was towed only after its owner had received five parking tickets. This year with the increase in cars over parking spaces, Campus Security only gives people three chances. Due to the space crunch, Security must be especially conscious to keep fire lanes and traffic hazard areas clear of parked cars, thus the increase of tickets.

Of the 931 parking spaces on campus, 609 are designated for students and 322 for faculty. Eight hundred cars are currently registered on campus, but there are 191 more cars than parking spaces. The added factor of 656 registered campus vehicles, which is banned for campus or street use, has been banned on the campus.

The cost of towing is $25 to $38. The money which Campus Safety collects in parking fines goes to the College's General Fund.

As to why Michael's Towing is used, Director of Campus Security, Charles Richards, explained, "They are available and they have a large number of two vehicles." Only two campus security officers are on duty from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Since an officer must be present at a towing, the availability and promptness of Michael's Towing speeds up the officer's job so they can resume their duty more quickly.

When asked if giving parking violations has monopolized Campus Security's attention to the exclusion of their other duties; Richards replied emphatically, "No." In any emergency case, the security of the people and buildings is Security's first responsibility.

The possibility of using the Denver Boot instead of towing was considered, but later dismissed as impractical. Using the Denver Boot would immobilize the vehicle, but it would not remove a vehicle that is a safety hazard. At present there are thirty-seven cars banned from campus. If a student were to attempt to drive a car with a Denver Boot, major damage would be incurred.

The increase in towings, according to Richards, is due to many cars on campus and people disobeying parking regulations.

One offender, Dean Ather- ton, did not have a registration sticker on his car for the past two months, and his car was not towed. When asked if he knew of this, Richards replied, "no comment." The Dean's car, however, now has the proper parking decal.

The heart of the towing and parking problem lies in the lack of available space. The Long Range Planning Committee's plan to increase parking availability should somewhat improve the situation. The committee's plan unveiled in December 1985, however, only planned to increase parking by two hundred spaces. If the two hundred spaces were added now, that would still leave 375 cars without spaces.

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Features

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Unadulturated Foods

by Melissa O'Neill

A sweeping new trend has evolved in America focusing on wholesome, unadulturated foods which are commanding relatively steep prices as well as enjoying increasing popularity.

Natural, or chemical-free foods seem to be directly paralleled with affluence and prestige.

"The food you purchase is a reflection of your position in society," said Barbara Kafka, food consultant and cookbook author, "It's a class thing and has a lot to do with upward social mobility."

Such "pure" foods include unhomogenized milk, free-range chickens, and all-natural beef, which is raised on chemical-free grazing land and feed.

The increased demand for natural foods has been the result of a health-conscious generation of Americans who have been educated about their food supply.

"It isn't just the hippies," says Clark Wolf, a New York-based food industry consultant. "It was the early political activists and old-fashioned do-gooders." Rachel Carson was one of those people, whose book Silent Spring outlined the effects of pesticides on nature. She and other activists warned of the serious hazards of cyclamates, saccharin, sodium nitrate, and monosodium glutamate, pesticides and other questionable chemicals.

As middle-class consumers became more informed of these health hazards, they became skeptical about mass-produced, preservative-loaded foods they were consuming. According to a nationwide survey of one thousand adults conducted by Louis Harris, each year since 1981, about ninety percent of those polled say they consider pesticides, herbicides, additives and preservatives either a serious hazard or somewhat of a hazard. About half of them refuse to buy certain foods because of concerns about safety.

The cottage industries have been appearing all over the country, in an attempt to take advantage of the trend. They offer sugar-free jams made from organically grown fruit; additive-free sorties; handcrafted cheeses, fresh herbs and breads, brownies and cookies without emulsifiers, stabilizers and preservatives.

The fact that these small-scale industries are labor-intensive has consequently led to higher prices.

As it became apparent that there was a profit to be made selling "pure" foods, supermarkets were quick to stock them. In 1979, Grand Union introduced natural products, calling the whole section Coops Harvest. Safeway, based in California, continues to expand its produce sections.

Shop well, renaming its stores in 1980. Emporiums has allocated more space for specialty foods and produce, designed to attract affluent buyers.

David Fenci, Publisher of special topic reports for MRCA Information Services, sees the trend as a result of an increased awareness of health consciousness, social status, and an education about food supply. He added that both young professionals and "the university population" are consumers of such goods, "The university population doesn't have much money, but because of their education they choose to spend money on better foods," Mr. Fenci said.

Camel's Eye - Penguin Camels

by Jennifer Scheller

This past week nothing particularly unexpected occurred, except perhaps snow flurries last Saturday night. Mother Nature decided we had our dosage of tropical weather during Spring Break, now scaling with the threat of snow. Last week the sun bathers were out in full form. Jam, flip flops, bikinis, savage tanning oils, T-shirts and frisbees were removed from winter storage, parading about campus, welcoming the Spring and boasting, "Summer is here!"

However, the apparent triumph of The Heat Miser over his brother Mr. Snow was only temporary.

Now I wake to weather reports, "High today in the forties. Chance of flurries tonight and tomorrow." Ge-nuine penguin weather. No longer attend New London's sub-tropical Club Med resort. Why not build a chair lift up the hill by the athletic center, dump Zamboni snow from the skating rink and rename it "back ski area?"

Beware women this is not weather conducive to wearing sundresses unless a winter ski suit, frost bite and goose bumps enhance your complexion. Beware buds, go back to your dirt, it was a false alarm. Goodbye flip flops. Hello snow shoes.

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Harcourt Brace Jovanovich
Arts & Entertainment

Itzhak Perlman
by Elizabeth Lerner

Professor of Music John Anthony summed up the night’s performance: “He [Itzhak Perlman] exhibited a great variety of styles, mainly violinist. He has a beautiful voice. His performance was, needless to say, excellent. This is to be expected of one boasting Mr. Perlman’s credentials: he trained at the Academy of Music at Tel Aviv, and followed with study at the Juilliard School. Winning the famous Lenuvrit Competition put him on his way to current renown as a virtuoso performer and a ‘unique and unrivalled combination of talent, charm, and humanity.’

His performance at Connecticut College consisted of three long works: Sonata in A Major, Op. 100 by Brahms; Partita No. 1 in B Minor by Bach; and Sonata No. 3 in C Minor, Op. 45 by Beethoven. The Sonata in A Major alternated delicate light passages with more dramatic and passionate ones, the third movement culminating in a flourishing finish. Although this piece and the third were done with fine, attentive accompaniment by pianist Samuel Sanders, the second work, Partita, was a solo. As a solo performance, Perlman exhibited a special power throughout the three very different movements.

The Grieg Sonata, played after an intermission, was done with fire and brilliance. Following this, Perlman played five short encore works that he chose spontaneously on stage. These selections ranged from such works as a Tempo de Minueto by Heuberger, to Midnights, by Hoybert (from the Opera Ball), to Vocalises by Rachmaninoff. As Erik Halvin, a music student present in the audience, said, “He’s amazing. Nothing more can be said.”

This statement can be applied to Perlman the person as well: despite his world-fame, he was unassuming and approachable. The mysterious, sensual, worldly man of the publicity poster, with a face half-hidden in a romantic shadow never appeared. Instead, out swung a disabled man on crutches whose awkwardness melted into masterfulness each time he launched into a selection. His investiture of himself in the music was evident in many ways: the relish with which he played, his facial expression, even his posture relayed the style and feeling of a passage or movement. Although the audience only got glimpses ofPerlman “the man,” what he conveyed in terms of warmth and sensibility mirrored and supported his excellence as a musician.

Itzhak Perlman

Today’s Movie Weirdos

by Alexandra Stoddard

Oscars To Low-Budget Flicks

by Alexandra Stoddard

Assistant Arts & Entertainment Editor

Assistant A. E. Editor

These days it seems the most talented people in the entertainment business are those off the beaten path. Risa Bramon, 29, and Billy Hopkins, 27, are young and weird and together they are on the rise to the top. Susan Seidelman, who made Desperately Seeking Susan, hired the two of them from the Ensemble Theatre in New York. In seven weeks, they had cast fifty-six actors in that whimsical movie that became a box-office hit.

"People started calling us and saying, 'We want you to do for us what you did in Desperately Seeking Susan,'" Hopkins said.

Bramon and Hopkins are now working on new movie projects: Making Mr. Right, which Seidelman is making, and another by Alan Parker (maker of Sholto the Moon, Birdy, Fame, and Midnight Express). Presently, Bramon is directing Rose Cottages at the Ensemble Theatre. The two met eight years ago, and have been working at a film directing and producing. But, it is their special knack for finding quintessential weirdos that is making them known in the casting business. Recently, some well-known Hollywood directors summons Bramon and Hopkins to the west coast to discuss a possibility for a film. One of the directors told them that he would be able to get a few of the "brat pack" actors.

"We said, 'If you want them, you don’t want us,'" recalled Bramon.

Both Bramon and Hopkins trust the certain "inner life" that these undiscovered actors have. Finding the right ones is part intuition and part research. "There's something that's it," says Braman. "They walk in the room, and you know they'll be a star."
Cameron MacKenzie

This tale recounts my most vivid childhood memory. First, the background is needed. When I was in the middle of my kindergarten year, my family moved to the next town. My sister and I had to drive two elder sisters and I to and from school, so we could finish the year at our native elementary school. Their sister’s names were Kate and Molly, and they were in the first and fourth grades, respectively. Thus, the tale begins.

One day, as my ma was driving us home from school, I became jealous since my sisters had funny and interesting stories to tell of their day at school. Feeling left out, I invented an adventure of their day for attention. I said, “There was a new girl in school today.” That aroused interest. “Her name is Molly,” said my name heroine, named to add that element of coincidence.

“What’s her last name?” someone asked.

I was, for some unknown reason, inspired to say, “Molly Pickleton-Pickleton! It’s Molly Pickleton!”

Well everyone laughed at that and I was satisfied since I added an anecdote of my own to the day’s conversation.

But, as chance would have it, a few weeks later I was helping my mother clean out a storage room. She came upon a sweater my sister Molly had outgrown. It was a dark green cardigan with cables, and had the name “Molly” embroidered in white script underneath so that the grass can get through to the bag. Another problem is Genevive. She always wants to make love in the early morning and evening. I’m sitting in bed now. I can see the grass through the window to my right. Genevive taps me. “What are you thinking?”

“About my grass.”

“You always think about the grass.”

“You always think about love.”

“I don’t. I’m thinking of you.”

“That’s love.”

About You

Bruce Marchand

She is silent, and I think of what I am going to do. I want to make an omelette—ham and cheese. I go to the kitchen, drink some orange juice, and look for some ham. There is none. I look at the floors as I go back to the bedroom. I notice that my right big toe is smaller than my left big toe, but smaller than the toe next to it. At the moment it doesn’t bother me.

“Do you have any ham?” I ask.

Genevive is sitting up in bed and smiles. “I’m pregnant.” “Pregnant?” I’m stunned. She nods and smiles.

“A boy?” I stutter.

“I don’t know.”

“We’re going to have a baby!” She nods and smiles again. Can you imagine that? Just think of watching him grow. What if it’s a her? She’ll be beautiful. Either way the kid will have to learn to cut the grass. Are you o.k. Does it hurt?

“I’m fine.”

“I’m not going to work today.”

“Why?”

“Because you’re having a baby.”

That’s not for another nine months.”

“I’ll stay home anyways. The grass needs to be cut.”

“Do you think it’s good that we’ll have a child?”

“Of course!”

“We’ll teach him… or her.”

“And watch?”

“… and watch.”

“I love you.”

“You’re perfect.” I say.

The day will be long and easy. I’ll cut the grass in the evening. Then it will be quicker because the grass will be dry, and I won’t have to stop the mower and clean underneath it.

It is dark, and the little Toyota mini-vans we are in speed along the bumpy, dirt road. The driver doesn’t pay attention to what side of the road he is on, and sometimes the headlights blind us and we wonder if the driver knows he is about to hit another vehicle. I watch as we pass by shacks, houses, trees, and fields, overgrown with grass and weeds. I know that the ocean is near. The windows are open, and the wind blows harder against my face so that I can barely open my eyes. I can smell the sea.

It is dark, and there are nine of us crammed into one Toyota mini-van. Rob and Jay are sitting on either side, if not on top of me. It is hot and humid, and the wind drives harder against my face so that I can barely bear the revving engine. I squint and notice that we are near to the other mini-van filled with the rest of our group. I see Drew’s face in the window.

After passing the other van, we take a sharp curve. The faded light of a Coke sign hanging above the door of a shack, reveals itself for an instant. We go faster in the darkness until I am used to the bumps, the noise of the engine, the people on top of me, and I want to sleep.

We arrive at the hotel first, and unload our bags as the other van drives up and almost hits us. The hotel is a big blue house. We need to catch a plane to St. Vincent at four a.m. and tell the drivers to pick us up in a few hours. I was in Barbados.
Debate

developed ten new nuclear missile systems and has modified existing systems fifteen times. The United States, however, has deployed only two versions of a missile defense system. The Russians have already begun an extensive program to develop an advanced ABM system using lasers that could be either land or space-based and the U.S. must not fall behind the Russians in research. Secondly, the American deterrent policy is no longer viable because a preemptive strike by new, more accurate Soviet missiles could severely disable our retaliation.

An effective strategic defense system would be capable of detecting Soviet missiles with high accuracy and speed. The United States could then launch a counterstrike before the Soviet missiles reached their targets. This would be a powerful deterrent. However, the concept of an effective defense system requires an accurate and reliable detection system. The system must be able to process information quickly and accurately to determine the number, type, and location of incoming missiles. Once the system has processed the information, it must be able to launch a counterattack before the missiles reach their targets.

The effectiveness of a strategic defense system would depend on several factors. For example, the accuracy of the detection system is critical. If the system fails to detect a missile or if it misinterprets the information, the United States would be unable to launch a counterstrike before the missile reaches its target. Additionally, the speed of the system is also important. The system must be able to process the information and launch a counterstrike quickly enough to prevent the Soviet missiles from reaching their targets.

The United States has invested billions of dollars in research and development to create an effective strategic defense system. However, the effectiveness of this system is still uncertain. The United States has not yet tested its system in a real-life scenario, so it is difficult to determine how effective it would be in a real-world situation.

The debate over the effectiveness of a strategic defense system is complicated by political and economic factors. Some countries, such as the United States, believe that a strong defense is necessary to protect their citizens and interests. Others, such as the Soviet Union, argue that a strong defense is unnecessary and that investment in other areas, such as social welfare programs, would be more beneficial. The debate over the effectiveness of a strategic defense system is likely to continue for some time to come.
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Women's Track Team

by Marc LaPlace

The Connecticut women's track team is making great strides in its first varsity season. The Camels, under the direction of Head Coach Ned Bishop, have performed impressively in their first two meets, already breaking several school records.

In their first outing of the season on March 29 at Waterford High School, the squad set 11 new school records. Coach Bishop has been very impressed with the team's early success. "I didn't set too many specific expectations since it's our first season, but I've been very pleased with the performances. We're doing very well."

On April 5, at the 15-team Fitchburg Invitational, the Conn women captured 67 points and set eight more school records.

Senior co-captain Laura Niautait set school marks in the 800 meters (2:26.9) and the 200 meters (26.8), both new Conn records.

One of the sports clubs here at Conn that hasn't received the attention that it should, is the Camelettes. The Camelettes are twelve Conn students who put on the between periods figure skating exhibition at the men's hockey games. The ladies demonstrate their skills in a spectacular ice show at the end of each season. Unfortunately, attendance for this show and the general attitude toward the Camelettes hasn't always been enthusiastic.

One team member Amy Wallen said that many people have the misconception that the Camelettes are just cheerleaders for the men's hockey team. "They're a very enthusiastic bunch; we're off to a real good start."

The team hopes to have more matches set up in addition to some intersquad games.

The team has had original wishes to have Mr. O'Neil coach the club, but due to his other work obligations he found that he would be unable to assist the fledgling club. Senior Kim Valentino has stepped in and taken the coaching duties. Team founder Rusty Logan praised Valentino for his organizational skills, and expressed how the players liked having one guy calling the shots.

The turnout for the team has been strong. Eighteen to twenty-two practice each day. There is no set line-up, due to the strong emphasis that everyone gets a chance to play. The team has plenty of skilful members who are very happy that there is finally a team here. As sophomore Kevin Wolfe eloquently put it, "We're all having a good time."
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