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Student Newspapers

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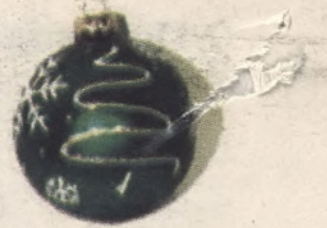
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Happy holidays and good luck with finals



WEEK OF **DECEMBER 15, 2005**

Vol. 31, Iss. 14 - 16 pages
FREE - Take One

The **MIRROR**

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The independent student newspaper
of Fairfield University

Gai released by the 76ers after playing only two games

BY BEN DOODY

In his career at Fairfield, Deng Gai '05 was a man playing amongst boys. But that wasn't the case in the NBA.

Gai, who finished his college career tied for sixth all-time on the NCAA career shot-blocking leader board and was perhaps the best player in team history, was released last week by the Philadelphia 76ers after playing just two games. He did not score a point in the league.

"They told him that they really liked him and they thought he could play in the league, but it was kind of a business decision," said Fairfield Associate Head Coach Jerry Hobbie, to whom Head Coach Tim O'Toole

referred questions. "What was hurting Deng was that they were losing...the way it sounded, I think if they were winning they would have never let him go."

Hobbie said that Gai was "a little bit down, but positive" when he received the news. He said that according to Gai's agent, there is a chance he could end up with another NBA team and that he has received "a couple of lucrative offers" to play in Europe, where he could end up within the next several weeks.

One possible suitor was rumored to be the New Jersey Nets, who are in need of low post help, but Nets President Rob Thorn told the Star Ledger that Gai "is long, but he's really only 6'7" 1/2."

The 76ers simultaneously

released Gai and forward James Thomas, while signing forward Matt Barnes, who was released Dec. 3 by the New York Knicks.

Sixers Head Coach Maurice Cheeks told PhillyBurbs.com that the numbers simply didn't work for Gai to remain with the team.

"Unfortunately, we didn't get a chance to see Deng Gai as much because he was hurt or we had too many guys," he said.

Gai was the second former Stag to play in the league and the first to appear on an opening day roster. The only previous Stag to play in the league was A.J. Whynder '87, who signed a 10-day contract with the Boston Celtics in 1991.

Last year, Gai easily led the nation in shot-blocking. He

averaged 5.5 blocks per game, and finished his career with 444 blocks, the best all-time at Fairfield and in the MAAC.

Gai was the MAAC Defensive Player of the Year three times, and developed a shot-blocking ability that the 76ers deemed worthy of a spot on their opening night roster.

But when the team began to struggle, they opted to go for Barnes, a more experienced player with a more polished offensive game.

"They felt they needed someone who could help right away," Hobbie said. "They were really positive with him in practice, [but] most people think he needs to polish his game offensively to stay in the league."



Mirror file photo

Deep sixed: Gai was the second FU basketball player to play in the NBA.

SNOW WOES



Mark Servidio/The Mirror

S'no Parking: Fairfield received its first major snowfall of the season last Friday morning during a storm which lasted approximately six hours. No classes were delayed or cancelled, and many students found themselves battling icy roads and slippery walkways as they made their way to class.

University asks for students' patience during Kelley construction

BY AMY DiSANTO

During the 2000-2001 school year, Fairfield students were burdened with renovations being made to the Barone Campus Center, DiMenna-Nyselius Library and Gonzaga Hall. Students have been plagued with similar projects during this school year with the ongoing construction of the Kelley Administrative Center.

Even though our current construction situation on campus is minimal in comparison to the past projects, students are still complaining about the inconvenience.

Martha F. Milcarek, assistant vice president for public relations, say that students must be patient. "Renovations and new construction at colleges and universities are a sign of a vibrant, financially sound and growing academic community," she said.

FUSA President Jessica DiBuono '06 also encourages students to be patient.

"I think the construction is a sign of progress for our university as a whole," she said.

While both Milcarek and DiBuono look at the construction positively, they pointed out that it may be an inconvenience to students until completed. As a student

herself, DiBuono has accepted the current condition of campus.

"Students will need to be patient as the building progresses," she said, "and know that the building will largely benefit them," she said.

With the current construction of the Kelley Administrative Center and initial plans for a possible new dormitory, students are left to wonder how Fairfield plans its additions. Here is a behind-the-scenes look at the process governing Fairfield's campus construction.

Within the University administration, there is a formal process in which the need, cost and timing of the proposed project are carefully examined before any formal proposals are made.

Before the construction process can begin, every renovation or building constructed at Fairfield must be approved first by the Board of Trustees at the University and by the Fairfield Town Plan and Zoning Commission.

The university prepares a plan complete with construction drawings and on-site plans, which is then brought by representatives to

SEE "UNIVERSITY" ON P. 5

A career of student service: Schimpf to retire after almost 37 years at Fairfield



Contributed photo: Bill McBain/The Mirror

Then and now: On Dec. 31, Vice President of Student Services Bill Schimpf will retire after almost 37 years at Fairfield University. In the photos above, Mr. Schimpf is pictured in the 1976 edition of *The Manor* (left), and last week in his current office (right).

BY TARA LYNCH

After almost 37 years of working at Fairfield University, Bill Schimpf, Vice President of Student Services, will retire on Dec. 31. The Mirror sat down with Mr. Schimpf to discuss his time at Fairfield, how the campus has changed, and his plans for the future.

The Mirror: Could you tell the readers of *The Mirror* how you first came to work at Fairfield?

Bill Schimpf: I was working at the University of Connecticut, and a friend of mine said he had submitted my name as an applicant for this job. So I came down and interviewed with Fr. George Mahan. At that time Fr. Mahan was the executive assistant to the President, and he offered me the job. It was that simple. I decided to come.

Mirror: And now you've been at Fairfield for 37 years...

Schimpf: Thirty-six plus [laughs].

Mirror: In that time, how have you seen the students and campus change? What is the most significant difference between Fairfield in 1969 and Fairfield in 2005?

Schimpf: Certainly, issues have changed. When I arrived in 1969, undergraduate students were really concerned with the draft, the Vietnam war, and, I'd have to say, a belief that the school was acting too much as a parent....and so that was a real focus in '69, '70, '71, '72....by 1980 things had changed. The 1980 students and the 2005 students are almost identical....The student body has become much more geographically diverse, and we've grown as a school. Fairfield when I arrived was 1,800 students, so the student body has almost doubled in that period of time, and that's with a commitment to really hold back on growth.

Mirror: You were also here when women were first admitted to Fairfield.

Schimpf: Yes, 1970.

Mirror: So right after you came. That was a big change.

Schimpf: Absolutely, but the decision was made before I got here. When I first came here in '69 one of the first things I had to do was hire an assistant dean to lead us through co-education...

Mirror: How many women were admitted that first year?

Schimpf: My recollection without checking it is that the first class of women was somewhere around 212 students.

Mirror: During your time here at Fairfield, what have you found most fulfilling about the job?

Schimpf: Well, I think the greatest fulfillment in the job is the fact that we work on a regular basis to improve the student experience, and it goes on and on. It's not exciting, it's not flashy, but it's the things that make Fairfield a different place. It's the attention that we pay to detail. I said to someone the other day that at Fairfield, when a student has an issue or a problem, it's really reviewed at the highest levels. That's sometimes at 3 a.m. and sometimes on weekends, but when a student has a problem, the appropriate resources are dedicated to that student.

Mirror: What made you stay at Fairfield so long? What about the student body, the school or the campus made you want to work here?

Schimpf: Well, certainly it's a good physical place. The campus is attractive, and the living in Fairfield County is pretty good living. So that would be a factor. Another factor would be that I can very much identify and appreciate the values-based education that we focus on... I'm a product of public higher education, and worked at public schools for a number of years – and I started to see a real change in their

philosophy. Basically the standard of whether they did something or not in public education became: is it against the law? But we hold a higher standard than that and in fact try to hold and motivate our students to higher standards. That's not to speak against public education, it's just that I'm more comfortable in a setting where we're trying to do our best, not what is legally the minimum.

Mirror: Do you have any idea of what you're going to do after you retire? Any special plans?

Schimpf: I'll get into a lot of trouble if I start teasing about what I'm going to do, so I'm not going to do that [laughs]. I don't have any specific plans. I'm going to do some traveling. I moved into a new house in August, and so there's a lot of work to be done there and I'll be doing some of that. But I'll also be looking for way to increase my volunteer work.

Mirror: What will you miss most about working at Fairfield?

Schimpf: The friendships and associations that I've made over the years, and the constant challenges associated with new issues everyday. This job has never been a routine job; there's always something new. It's not a job where you can fall back on precedent and say, "Well, this is the way you do this." The issues change, and the people that are involved change. And I think it's very important that an individual be treated as an individual and that their problems or their issues or their successes be recognized as individual successes or failures.

Mirror: Any good stories to tell from over your years at Fairfield?

Schimpf: I think in reality it's better that maybe I don't tell a lot of stories, because if I start telling stories on people they might start telling stories on me [laughs].

Fairfield professors debate the new science standards



BY VALARIE MONTINAT

In the midst of a roiling national debate about evolution and intelligent design, the Kansas Board of Education's adoption of new science standards, which challenge the Darwinian theory of evolution, are a red flag for professors at Fairfield University.

The *New York Times* reported that on Nov. 8, the Kansas State Board of Education changed the official state definition of science. The changes mainly involve the removal of two words: "natural explanations."

Such a move raises serious concerns for several Fairfield science professors who say the change eliminates the distinction between natural and supernatural explanations in science.

According to intelligentdesignnetwork.org, the theory of intelligent design (ID) holds that certain characteristics of the universe and of living things are best explained by an intelligent cause rather than natural selection.

"The new definition removes the fundamental aspect of science that of natural explanations and instead leaves open the possibility for supernatural explanations," said

Assistant Biology Professor Shelley Phelan. "This is completely inconsistent with science, as we know it."

According to the *New York Times* article, the old definition of science states that science is the human activity of seeking natural explanations for what is observed in the world. The new definition issued by the Kansas State Board of Education, which can be found at KansasScience2005.com, calls science "a systematic method

of continuing investigation that uses observation, hypothesis testing, measurement, experimentation, logical argument and theory building, to lead to more adequate explanations of natural phenomena."

Glenn Sauer, chair of the biology department, said that the new definition by the Kansas Board of Education would have a negative impact in the field of science.

"The [Kansas State] Board of Education is being motivated by religious fundamentalist to the teaching of evolution and are trying to insert a very narrow religious point of view into the curriculum," said Sauer.

L. Kraig Steffen, an associate chemistry professor, said that the change in the definition of science is a fundamental dismantling of science and science education.

"Such a change does not represent simply letting the camel stick its nose into the tent, it represents letting a whole herd of camels in," said Steffen.

On the other hand, Michael Brienza, a physics instructor, said that he does not believe the

Brienza. "If some folks want to deny the body of knowledge supporting the continuing evolution process they should certainly be free to do that. However, their beliefs should not be used to change or pollute the evidence at hand."

Stephanie Serpa '06, who is biology major, said that although the new definition of science is more detailed, the new definition clearly defines science and does not affect the evolution debate.

"Evolution is a fact scientists can prove that, even with the new definition given," said Serpa. "However, intelligent design is an opinion, and if people can find observations, testings and logical arguments for or against intelligent design that is a matter of opinion, not science."

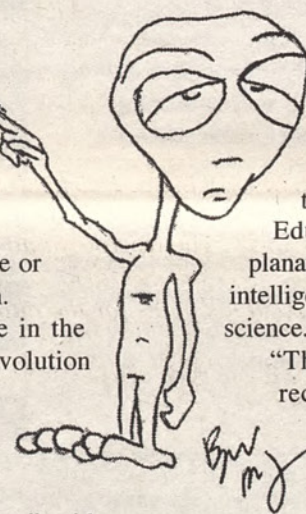
Phelan said that the new definition by the Kansas State Board of Education would allow explanations such as the theory of intelligent design to be considered science.

"The scientific community recognizes this as being in opposition to the rules that govern the field of science," said Phelan.

new definition will alter the course or direction of scientific investigation.

But how might such a change in the definition of science affect the evolution debate?

"The effect of such a decision will needlessly fan the flames of a religious debate that should not be part of the scientific process," said



Fairfield student plans to run across America for cancer

BY MARY THERESE CHURCH

Twenty-five miles per day. Seven days a week. Five months straight. Fairfield graduate Christian McEvoy '04 has only big dreams for his small organization that will benefit his run across America to raise money for cancer survivors.

"I just want to help people who have had a bad hand dealt to them," McEvoy said about his 3,500-mile-run. He said that running across America has always been a dream of his. He can now accomplish his dream and more importantly work for a greater cause.

McEvoy was the featured speaker for the Dinner Series held in Loyola Hall last Thursday. He spoke to 30 students about his efforts to raise money for the Connecticut Challenge Adult Survivorship Center at Yale Cancer. McEvoy said he is looking to raise more than \$1 million in donations for the Yale Cancer Center, which will be the biggest cancer center in the nation.

The run, which will begin in July 2006, will start in San Francisco, Calif., and end in Narragansett, R.I., and will make stops at local high schools across the nation to help fundraise for cancer.

McEvoy's foundation, Challenge America Foundation, is set up to attract high school students throughout each state to run with him. Each high school will raise funds to donate to their own cancer charity.

"We want this to make a difference in their world," said McEvoy. Challenge America Foundation "gets kids involved in philanthropy by doing crazy things, like running across America."

McEvoy, who is currently an English teacher at Fairfield Prep, has been involved in triathlons since he was 18 years old. An avid swimmer and resident assistant while he was an undergraduate at Fairfield, McEvoy says that there is no real way to train for something like this.

"I'm very worried about getting sick and injured, but isn't everyone?" McEvoy said.

He works closely with a trainer to try to strengthen his joints and has a stringent diet in order to keep his body healthy. The first couple of weeks will be hard, said McEvoy, but after that the body just adjusts to the running.

Julie Cronin '07 was intrigued by the goals of McEvoy.

"His ideas and motivation are inspiring and refreshing," she said. "The effort he is putting into this and the desire to raise the money for the Yale Cancer Center is amazing."

Already inspired by his efforts, Kelly Beatty '07 thinks his run will inspire many people for this good cause.

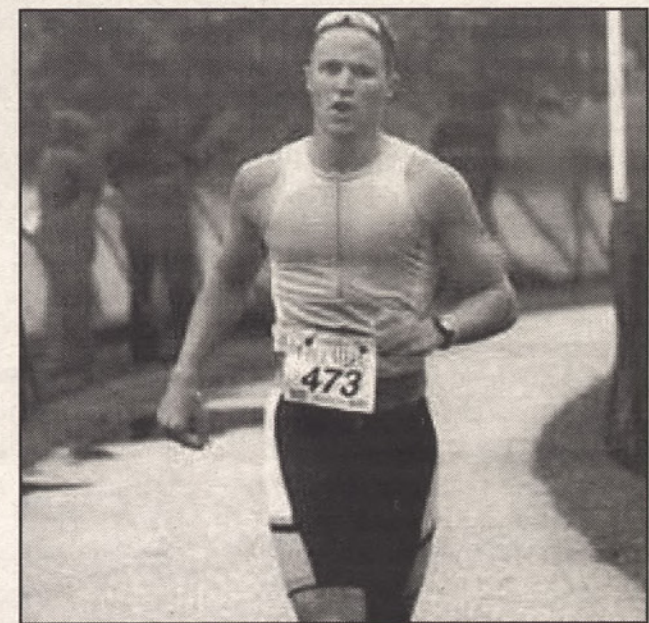
"Christian really is bringing the Jesuit ideals that he learned here at Fairfield into his run across the country," said Beatty.

The run across America is planned to start on July 1, 2006 and end, "God-willing, sometime before it snows in

Connecticut," said McEvoy.

McEvoy hopes to raise enough money to help the survivors, but stays humble in his own actions.

"Whatever I do fails in comparison to what cancer survivors do," he said.



Contributed Photo

Run Christian, run: McEvoy '04 plans to run from California to Rhode Island in 2006.

Campus Crime Beat: Student finds urine on futon, reports housemates to Public Safety

Wednesday, Dec. 7

2 a.m. – The Health Center placed a call to Public Safety to report an altercation between two females in Dolan Hall.

3:30 p.m. – A female student living in the townhouses reported that an unregistered party was held by her housemates over the weekend while she was not present. She complained that she returned home to find urine on her futon.

Thursday, Dec. 8

5:00 p.m. – A female student living in The Village reported that a credit card and license were stolen from her apartment while she was taking a shower.

10:54 p.m. – A female student in Jogues reported that \$70 was stolen from her purse on her desk.

Saturday, Dec. 10

12:58 a.m. – A Public Safety officer witnessed a fight ensue between three students, two female and one male, outside the townhouses. The officer broke up the fight.

1:10 a.m. – In Claver hall students discovered “KKK” written on the wall with a burning cigarette. The stain has been cleaned and Public Safety is looking for a suspect.

11:30 p.m. – A Public Safety officer found a student running from townhouse to townhouse, apparently trying to enter each one, without wearing shoes. The officer brought him to the Health Center for intoxication.

Sunday, Dec. 11

12:30 a.m. – A party in Campion Hall ended when Public Safety entered to remove a Beirut table. Other alcoholic paraphernalia was taken from the room and the students have been sent to Judicial.

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Students are allowed to take one copy per week as part of their school subscription.



CORRECTIONS/CLARIFICATIONS

In a column published in the Dec. 8 issue, it was incorrectly reported that Mark Reed and Bill Schimpf proposed the Student Conduct Fine/Toys for Tots compensation program. The program was proposed by Caitlin Wagner '06.

The Mirror strives to report accurately in its stories. However, if you are aware of any errors, please call Editor in Chief Tara E. Lynch at 256-6529.

Officials say Kelley building will be completed in spring

CONTINUED FROM P. 1

a preliminary meeting with the director of planning and the assistant planning director, explained Jim Wendt, who is the assistant planning director.

This preliminary meeting also analyzes the percentage of land already occupied by structures on campus to meet the full campus plan set by the university.

On the Town Planning and Zoning Commission, there is "a very good working relationship with the folks over at the university," said Wendt. "We try to mold the project to meet everyone's objectives."

The Kelley Center, which will house all Financial Aid offices, Bursar, Registrar, Student Support Services, Residential Life and Admission was planned in 1995. The plans were brought to the public hearing of Fairfield's Town Planning Zoning Commission on March 29, 2005 and approved on April 12.

Preliminary work on the site began this past August, and the completion of the Center is scheduled for the spring of 2006, officials said.

Colleges throughout the nation are adding new buildings to their campuses because of the increase in student admissions, according to the Chronicle of Higher Education.

David Collis, a professor at Harvard University, explained the growing competi-

tion between colleges to have new buildings and updated facilities for students. He attributes this competition to ranking schools fiscally, politically and competitively.

At Fairfield, contrary to what many students believe, tuition dollars are not used for construction. Instead, the money is obtained through fundraising done by the advancement division of the university or through the finance division with tax exempt borrowing, said Rick Taylor, Fairfield's vice president of finance.

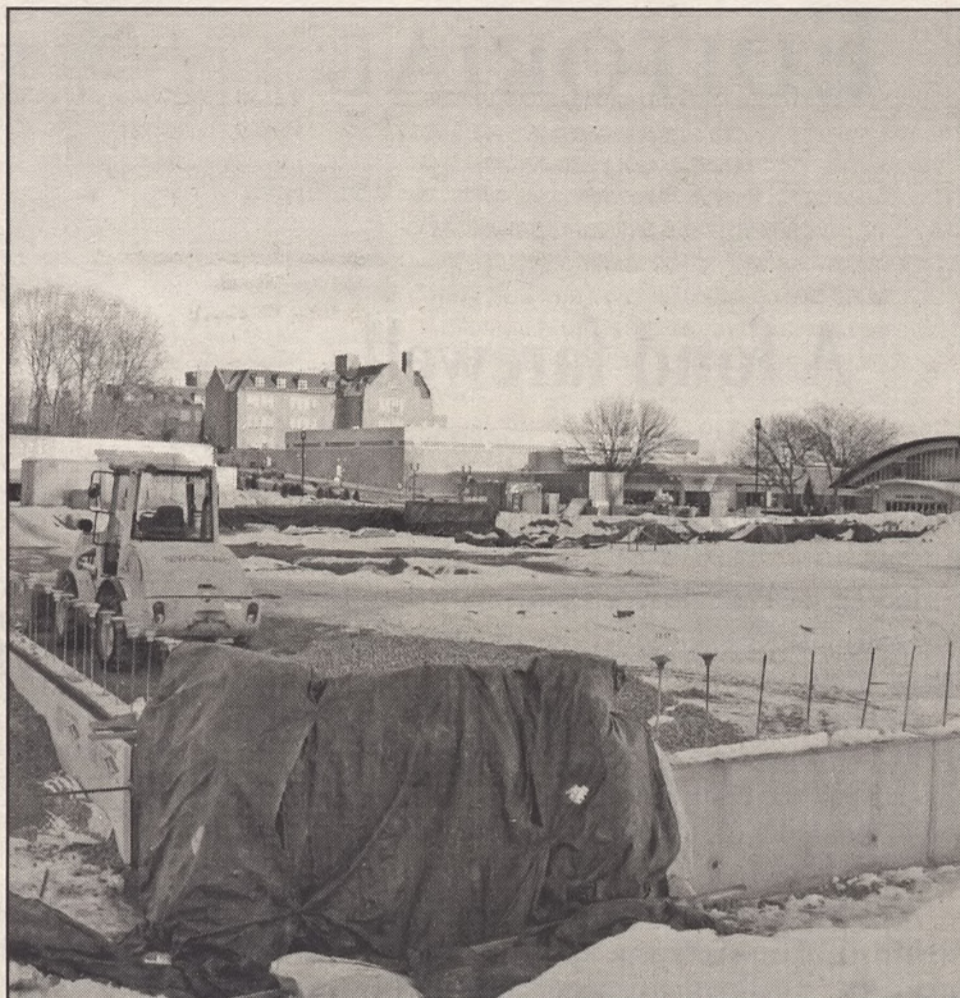
Fairfield also uses tax exempt bonds to pay for building construction. Other forms of financing are also used, although their primary income is obtained through fundraising.

Fairfield recently completed a major campaign in which over \$135 million was raised for building renovation and construction, among other things. Fundraising money comes from alumni, parents, and friends of the university who provide major gifts to the institution, according to Milcarek.

The cost of borrowing through bonds at any university is determined by the relative financial strength of the university.

Officials across the country identify campus construction as positive growth and members of the Fairfield community agree.

"The Kelly administrative building is a wonderful example of a carefully conceived and designed structure designed to serve prospective students and their families," said Milcarek.



Jim Scholl/The Mirror

Construction frozen? Students say they don't see improvement in the status of campus renovations.

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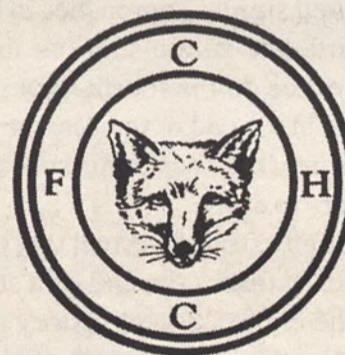
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EDITORIAL

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A fond farewell

Eighteen hundred men were taught by a small faculty in fewer than half of the buildings standing today. This is the Fairfield at which Bill Schimpf started work in 1969.

Indeed, the Fairfield we all know and love today bears little resemblance to the university on Mr. Schimpf's first day of work.

As he prepares to end his 37-year tenure on December 31, it is important to examine the legacy of the man who shaped the Fairfield University experience for the tens of thousands of students who passed through campus during that time.

As Vice President of Student Services, Mr. Schimpf has had a hand in every aspect of student life on campus. No aspect of the campus experience, whether it be the dorm room you slept in as a freshman in Jogues Hall, the food you ate for lunch yesterday in Barone, the rules and regulations you abide by in the townhouses, and the comfy chairs you sit in between classes in the campus center, has been left untouched by his influence.

Mr. Schimpf's departure marks the end of an era. His leadership style has inspired similar approaches in many of the rising stars in Fairfield's administration; though he will leave his corner office on the fourth floor of the Barone Campus Center on at the end of the year, his bold example will be the benchmark by which his successors will be measured for years to come.

The Mirror staff sheds an extra proverbial tear on the occasion of his departure. It marks the end of a storied relationship that spans the entire 28-year history of the paper. As our liaison to the administration, Mr. Schimpf has showed utmost respect for the freedom of the press and has been a staunch defender of the students' right to have an independent voice on campus.

We hope that his successors share his views in this regard and continue to nurture the public forum provided by *The Mirror* for years to come.

The editorial represents the opinion of the majority of *The Mirror* editorial board. What is your opinion? Write to us: themirror@stagweb.fairfield.edu

THE FAIRFIELD MIRROR

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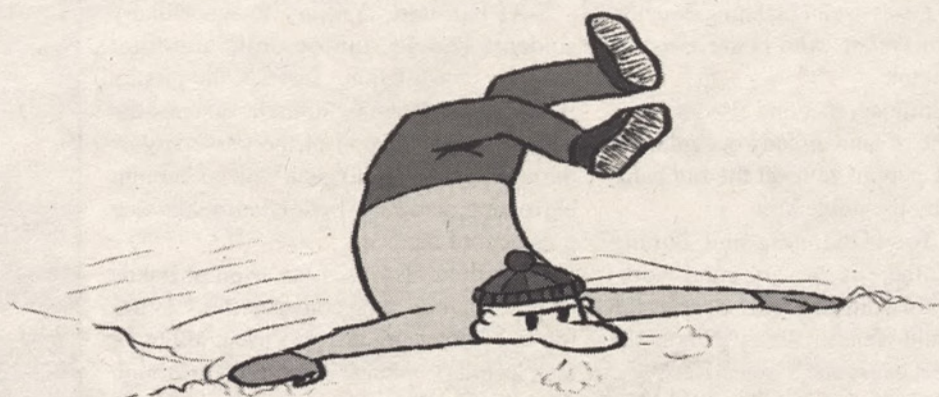
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The Mirror is in room 104 of Barone Campus Center

"December 9, 2005"



by Dan Otfinoski

Public Safety: Grinches in uniform?

By NICOLE CAPPICILLE

Christmas is supposed to be a time of love, trust, and overall good will toward men. One would think that at such a special time of the year, the staff at a Jesuit university would exude this very spirit of the holiday. But last December, I encountered an experience with Public Safety that has left me wondering if their officers have any trust in the student body.

It was a Monday morning and I had just gotten out of the shower and was getting ready for class. I was alone in my townhouse because my housemates had already left for their classes. I was getting dressed and listening to music in my bedroom when I heard a knock at the door. I looked outside my window and saw that it was Public Safety.

I thought, what could they possibly want at 10 a.m.? I hope they didn't tow my car because of all my unpaid parking tickets!

I nervously ran downstairs and opened the door, wet hair and all. Standing at my doorstep was an officer holding up a five-inch piece of what appeared to be a bush branch.

"We have received reports of stolen real Christmas trees, and I just found this suspicious tree branch laying on your front step," he said. "I'd like to come in and investigate."

"Uh, okay, sure," I replied. I had no idea what to make of this accusation.

As if investigating my house for stolen trees wasn't strange enough, when the officer stepped inside, he spotted my fake, decorated Christmas tree in the living room and became frantic. Within a matter of seconds, I couldn't believe my eyes as the officer whipped out his

walkie-talkie and called his Public Safety partner.

"10-four, back-up! They have a tree," he said. "I repeat- they have a tree!"

He dashed into the living room and inspected my artificial tree.

"Do you have a receipt for this tree?" he asked.

"Um, Sir, that tree is fake," I said, wondering if he was serious. "I brought it up from home in New Jersey."

Just as he began to feel my fake Christmas tree's branches to make sure I was being truthful, another Public Safety officer busted through the front door.

I explained to both officers that my housemates and I had not stolen any trees lately, and that they were not holding any hostage either. The second officer seemed to believe me, but the first was not so sure. He requested to investigate more in our basement, and I, of course, complied, still in shock about the accusations.

Eventually, the officers left and for days after the incident I still had no idea why Public Safety thought I stole Christmas trees, or where these trees were even taken from. It wasn't until I read in that week's Campus Crime Beat that there had been three trees chopped down in front of Dolan Hall the previous Sunday that I began to understand what happened.

I still, however, cannot comprehend how a tiny piece of what was obviously a bush on my front step constitutes sufficient evidence for Public Safety to search for large pine trees in my townhouse.

For a long time after the incident I pondered whether Public Safety officers have nothing better to do with their time than to loiter around the townhouses looking for evidence of stolen trees. Either way, I must admit that this is one Christmas memory I will never forget.

Bottom line: Toys for Tots drive a success

To the Editor:

I would like to congratulate the Campus Ministry Council, and specifically Caitlin Wagner '06, for her efforts with administration to promote such a successful Toys for Tots drive on campus last week. I hope this can become a yearly tradition at Fairfield.

The toy drive was not only for students with alcohol violations. There were a few events on campus, such as the Women's Forum and an Ignatian Residential College Alumni event, that asked participants to bring a toy for the toy drive.

If Fairfield University is committed to living out the Jesuit principle of developing a student body of "men and women for others," then there is no way that we can object to a Toys for Tots drive.

Yes, those students who had alcohol fines were

obligated to donate a toy instead of paying the fine. However, this act does not eliminate the violation.

This donation is now a way for Fairfield University to reach out to needy kids during the holiday season on a large scale. Students still paid for the violations, but the proceeds are going out into the community.

I am proud of the way the student body came together to volunteer for the Toys for Tots drive and to donate toys. Also, many students without alcohol violations willingly donated gifts to the drive to share the Christmas spirit.

The drive was a huge success with more than 500 toys donated!

Sincerely,
 Jocelyn Collen '06



"Imagine all the people"

Anniversary of John Lennon's death draws hundreds to Central Park

By TOM MALLEY

Thursday, Dec. 8, was the 25th anniversary of the passing of John Lennon. I decided to go to the annual remembrance gathering that morning at Strawberry Fields in Central Park, where the Imagine circle is located. I could barely sit through my four classes and as soon as I got out, I bought a train ticket and headed down to New York City.

All I could think of on the train ride down was the opening lyric from "Sgt. Pepper's Lonely Hearts Club Band": "It was twenty [five] years ago today, when Sgt. Pepper taught the band to play..."

I took a late train because I wanted to be there for the two moments of silence, one at 10:50 p.m., when Lennon was shot, and one at 11:15 p.m., when he died: "The worst moment in history," as one fan put it. But I was faced with a dilemma: Do I walk the 30 blocks in what might be a blizzard, or do I take my chances on the subway at night? I ended up walking.

I'm not sure what I was expecting, but I knew it was going to be good. I wondered if there would be a line or just a big group of peace-loving people, or maybe a small group of very die-hard Beatles fans. I had been to Strawberry Fields before, and I couldn't imagine thousands of people fitting into that space. But they did.

I was two blocks away when I first heard the chorus to "Ticket to Ride" echoing off the surrounding apartment buildings. It seems everybody had the same idea as me. There was a line, indeed. There were at least 800 people there, and dozens were streaming in. Some had been there since 2 p.m., and some had traveled halfway across the country just to be there. I felt like I was at Disney World.

There was a very long line stretching along one of the paths of Central Park. Every five minutes, the NYPD let 50 people into this secondary holding area, which was

basically another line. Then, they would let 10 people at a time into the area where the Imagine circle was.

You were able to walk past the circle, which was behind multiple barricades, and allowed to take one picture (one, and only one—I took three). Then the cops prodded you away into another holding area, where you could go and wait for hours to maybe see it up-close. Of course, there was no chance of that since people were basically hovering around that stone.

I mingled in a very large group centered around five guitarists, who played every song any member of the Beatles ever wrote. A group of girls kept screaming for "All You Need is Love" after every song. They finally played it after about three hours. There were three or four other large groups like this and all of them were singing different songs. It was very confusing.

There was one point, however, when everyone was singing "Hey Jude." I know I don't need to point out the irony of a song written by Paul McCartney being the biggest crowd-pleaser at a John Lennon remembrance. It was a celebration.

The two moments of silence were the most emotional events I have ever witnessed. The floodlights illuminating the area were shut off, and the only light came

from candles in the group. The entire group of 1,000 people fell absolutely quiet, waving peace signs in the air. It was truly a global moment and it happened not once, but twice.

I heard every language and accent you could imagine, all echoing the same sentiments: "We miss you," "We need you," and "Peace." For the rest of the night, more people kept flowing in from the street and the lines kept getting longer.

I left, reluctantly, to catch the last train home. I was dazed, having just spent four hours in this huge mass of people united by one single person. My voice was hoarse and I couldn't feel my extremities, but I could still hear the crowd starting the first verse of "Nowhere Man" when I was three blocks away, the sound wafting on the frigid breeze.

And it seemed like something, or someone, held back the snow for a little while.



Contributed Photo

"We Miss You": Fans gathered at Strawberry Fields in Central Park to pay respects to the legendary Lennon.

New Darkness is a "One Way Ticket to Hell," period

By PETER LAPRE

With the release of their second album proper, "One Way Ticket to Hell...And Back," UK darling, The Darkness, offers more of the same; this time it's just bigger and gaudier.

The band makes no qualms about it; this is not an album aimed at drawing the admiration of critics and in fact, it strives for just the opposite. Everything on the retro-act's sophomore offering elaborates on the original release's criticisms and perpetuates them to comedic proportions.

From their advent, The Darkness was panned by critics and cynics alike for being nothing more than a Queen-AC/DC rip-off, with uber-glossy production bad hair and an ill-advised penchant for leotards.

So is it surprising that they have come back with the volume turned up to eleven,

belting out a slicker, more meretricious sound complete with bloated orchestrations, including everything from flutes to bagpipes? Not in the least. It even seems as if front man Justin Hawkins ordered his leotards one size smaller to facilitate an even higher falsetto.

The thing is, they couldn't care less about what the critics think, especially not after selling millions of copies of their debut and achieving worldwide fame. In a sense, this makes the album their diatribe against the current industry's conventions; it's their big "screw you" to the establishment.

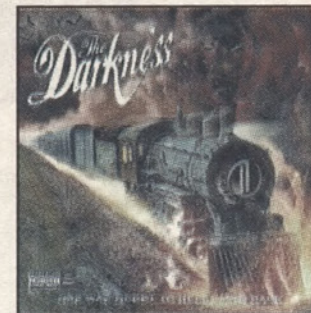
As for the compositions themselves, they touch, for the most part, on the general pitfalls of quickly realized fame: cocaine use, alcohol abuse, hangovers and the plight of having an over-abundance of women falling all over you. However, this time around there is no "I Believe in a Thing Called Love." There are strong points such as the title track, "One Way

Ticket" and "Seemed Like a Good Idea at the Time," but without a killer single, the effort falls far short of its predecessor, "Permission to Land."

Similarly, the lyrics are at times downright atrocious. In "Bald," Hawkins screeches: "His hair, at an alarming pace / Running away from his face." If the effort proved humorous in any way, it would almost be forgivable, but with a general disregard for the lyrical form, it is evident that Hawkins has found his "one way ticket" and has no hopes of ever coming back.

If there is one thing to revel in here, it's that it is refreshing to find rockers jettisoning the common pretensions and instead crafting a sonic landscape of unabashed fun. The Darkness achieves new levels of hopelessly misguided cheese, but it's not as if they give a damn and their message is just this: neither should you.

DISC DATA



Rating:



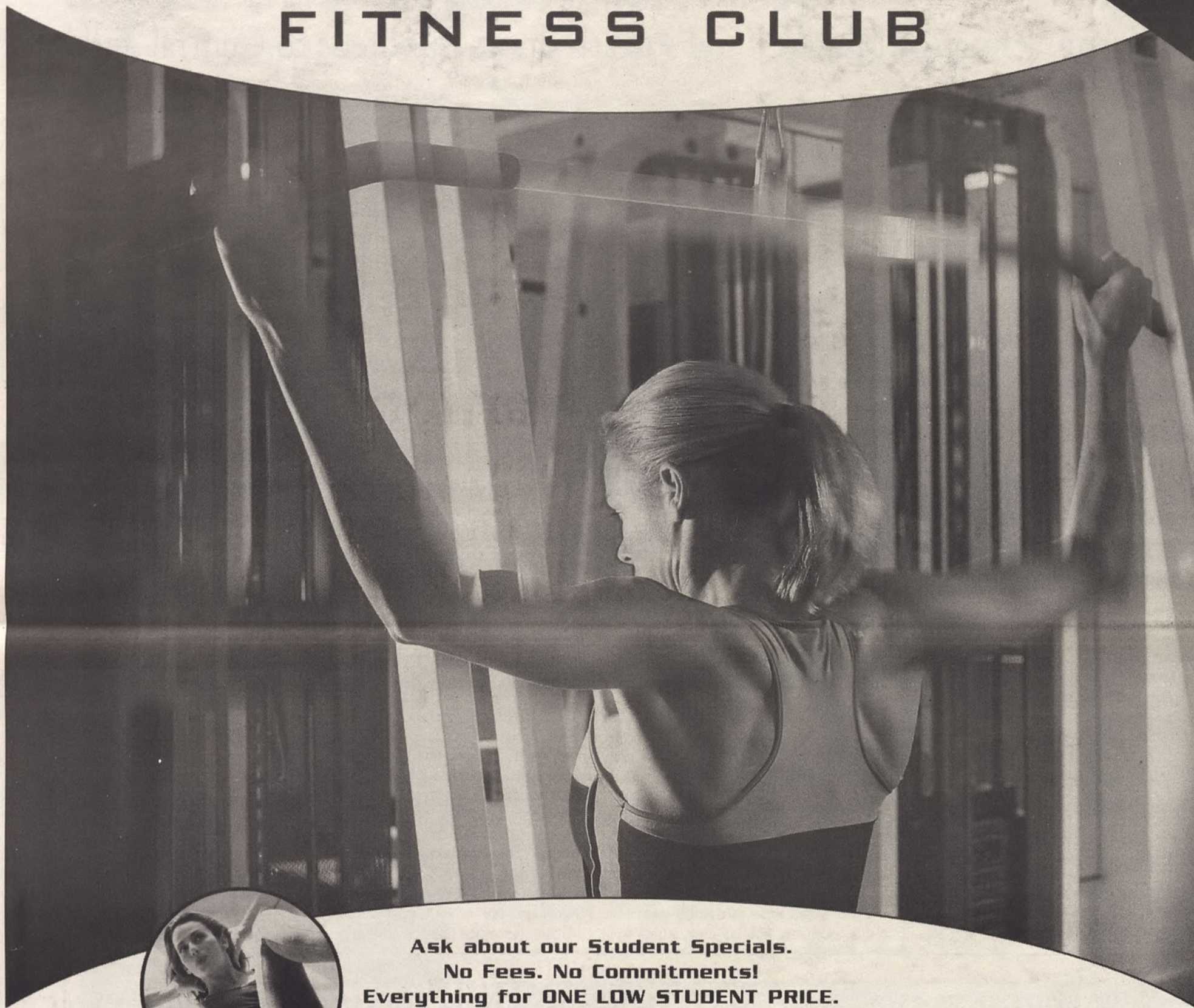
Artist:

The Darkness
Album: One Way
 Ticket to Hell...And
 Back
Label:
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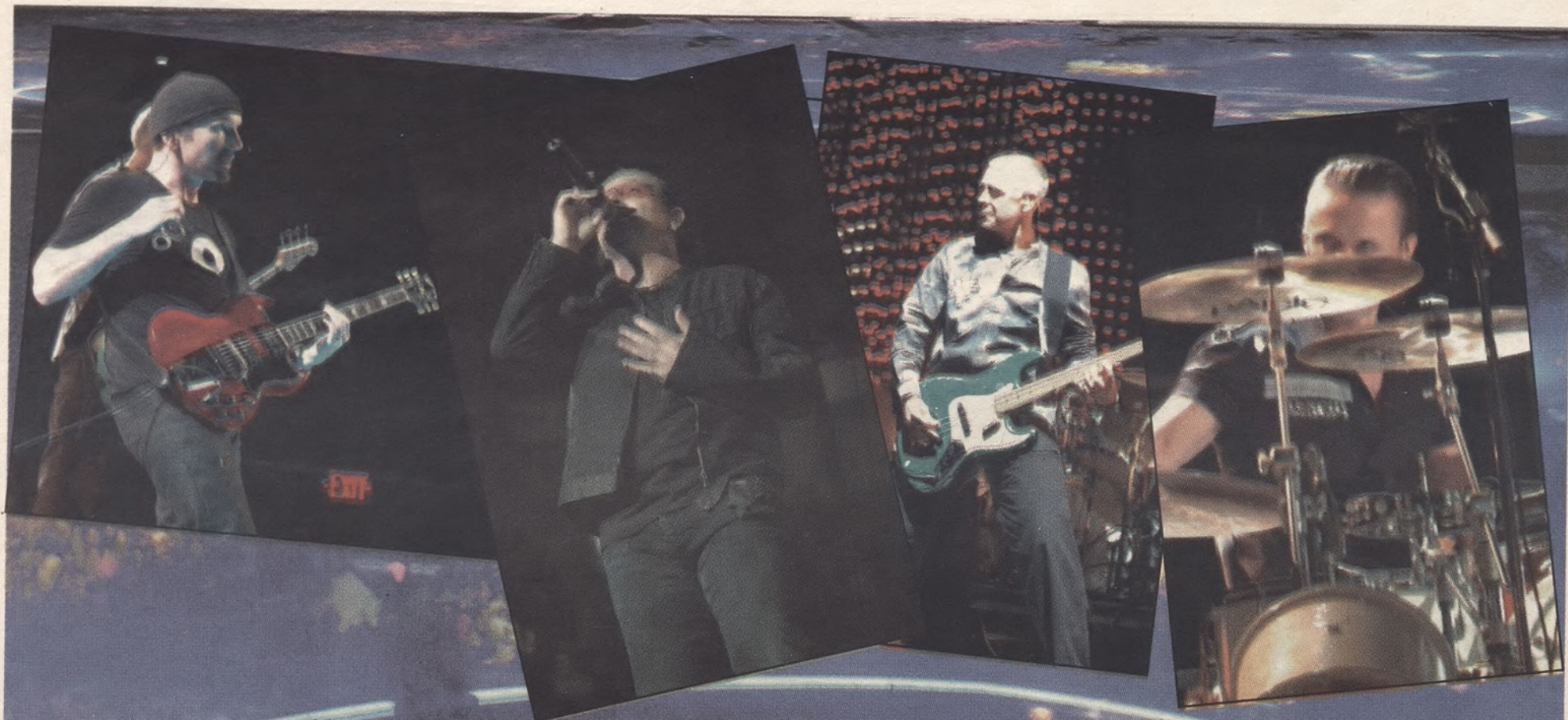
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U2 "Elevates" Hartford

Check out *The Mirror's* online exclusive slideshow of U2 from their Dec. 7 show at the Civic Center at www.fairfieldmirror.com

Graphic by Mark Servidio



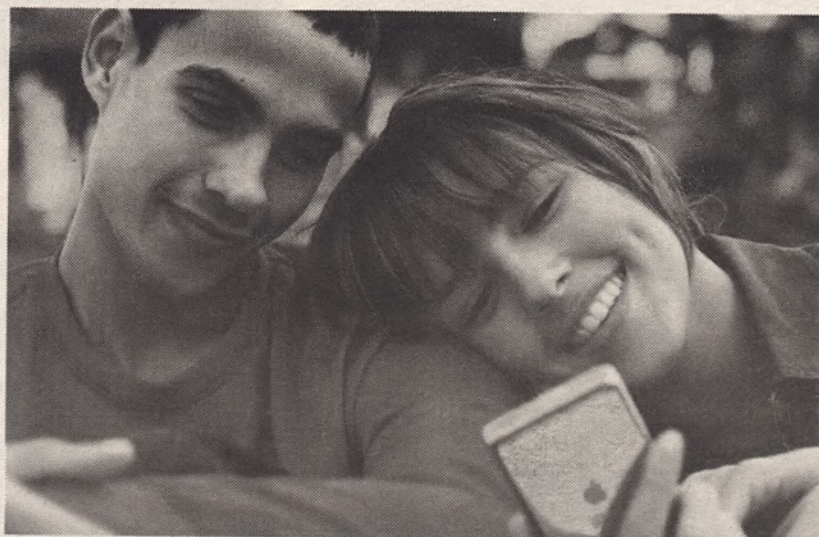
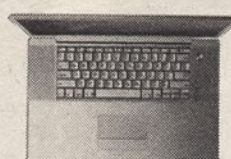
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Tis the season...

Campus twinkles as students spread holiday spirit



By CHRISTINA STODDARD

The railings are lined with lit garland. A decorated tree stands among wrapped presents, and office windows are decorated with lights, fake snow and stockings. Just walking through the Barone Campus Center can be a festive experience in and of itself.

The snow has fallen and the decorations have gone up. It is truly "beginning to look a lot like Christmas" here on campus.

Even the hardest of hearts cannot help but appreciate this special time of year. Many Fairfield students are doing their best to get into the Christmas spirit.

"We're in full swing of the holiday mood," said FUSA President Jessica DiBuono '06. "We had a night where we got some food and [listened to] Christmas music and decorated the FUSA office."

Decorations are an essential part of properly kicking off the holiday season. Boring dorms and bleak townhouse basements can be transformed into winter wonderlands.

Elyse Rabi '08 decorated her room with lights and her door with festive wrapping paper. "It is nice to have all the joy in your own room, too, to remind you of the season," she said. "I also brought my nativity set from home, which is very important to me."

Competition motivated many students to get their creative Christmas juices flowing. The Inter-Residence Hall Association's "Lighting of the Halls" and RASOR/UNITE's townhouse competition plotted campus residences against each other in a decorating extravaganza.

Apartment 304 and Townhouse 115 emerged as the winners of these contests, and each were awarded gift certificates to Stop N Shop for their festive efforts.

Campion Hall, winner of "Lighting of the Halls," had students dressed and dancing like Rockettes alongside a live nativity scene. Nothing shows off one's Christmas spirit quite like dressing in swaddling clothes and lying in a manger.

Glee Club performances, gift shopping, Christmas parties, holiday movies, charity donations and more are perfect ways to celebrate this wonderful time of year.

The problem, however, lies in the unavoidable fact that it is also the time of year for final exams. Students can easily get overwhelmed by stress, putting any notion of merriment on the back burner until it is practically too late.

"It's too bad exams get in the way of the fun of the season," said Tim Lund '07, "but I have Christmas songs playing all day in my room, and I know that break is just around the corner."



Decorations are appearing all over campus, from the library (above) to inside individual dorm rooms (right). Some townhouse residents took every opportunity to show their holiday cheer. Photos by James Scholl and Mark Servidio.



Sub-free floors have benefits and shortcomings, students say

By Audrey Adade

Your roommate just came back from a long night of partying. You decided to stay in and do some work. Your roommate is drunk and throws up all over your floor. Your peace has been disrupted.

Substance-free housing is an alternative for students who do not wish to be exposed to alcohol, drugs and smoking in their residence hall. These students share the same feelings about substance abuse and usually do not drink, smoke or use drugs.

"Substance-free housing brings kids together," said Dameron. "Everyone is friends, and we hang out together. We have the cleanest bathroom on campus. Substance-free housing is a great way to form a good community."

All of the residence halls on campus are smoke-free, and drinking is illegal for students under 21 years old, so how does substance-free housing make a difference in how students live? Is it just a public relations gimmick for parents?

According to *The New York Times*, substance-free housing has become popular at many campuses nationwide since the early 1990s, from large state universities like the University of Michigan to Ivy League schools like Dartmouth and small liberal arts colleges like Vassar.

Students choose substance-free housing for a variety of reasons. Some students are influenced by their parents, while others

make a personal decision.

"My parents influenced my decision," said Adam Zandonella '09. "I took into account what they said because they are paying my school fees."

Substance-free housing makes a large difference, according to some students who utilize this alternative form of housing.

Patrick Dameron '06, who is a Resident Assistant on the fourth floor of Campion, Fairfield's only substance-free floor, lived in sub-free housing during both his freshman and sophomore years.

"Substance-free housing brings kids together," said Dameron. "Everyone is friends, and we hang out together. We have the cleanest bathroom on campus. Substance-free housing is a great way to form a good community."

Students in substance-free housing at Fairfield agree that it surrounds them with like-minded people. They are taught that it is OK if you do not drink, said Dameron. It also helps them stay focused on schoolwork.

According to *The New York Times*, a 2001 study of more than 14,000 students nationwide found that, compared with other students, only three-fifths as many residents of substance-free housing reported binge drinking in the previous two weeks.

"Substance-free housing keeps me focused on education and helps me keep my priorities straight," said Zandonella.

A major benefit of living in substance-free housing is that students can study in



Jeff Billingham/The Mirror

Casey Rieger '09 loves sub-free living.

their rooms versus walking to the library, according to residents. Substance-free floors are usually quieter and cleaner than regular dorm floors, residents also report.

"Conditions are clean," said Zandonella. "There are no worries of the bathroom being dirty the morning after."

Some students, like Casey Rieger '09, said that there is a sense of respect that students have toward one another in substance-free housing.

"It's a situation where people go out to do things but don't bring it back to their rooms," said Rieger. "There are no write-ups. We have the opportunity to go out, but there is no noise back at the floor or rowdy parties. Everyone respects each other."

According to the *New York Times*, some campuses, including Rutgers, offer "recovery" housing for students who have been in treatment for addiction.

"Some students attend Fairfield who

may be in recovery," said DiMuzio, "meaning, they come from a home where a substance(s) affected their lives. These students are in the pre-contemplation phase of choosing to abstain from all substances and need an environment that will support this decision."

For other Fairfield students, substance-free housing falls short of expectations.

"I didn't like it," said Elizabeth Mangione '06, who lived in substance-free housing during both her freshman and sophomore years. "I also don't understand it because it's mostly freshman and sophomores who are supposed to be substance-free anyway since most are under 21."

Other students believe that substance-free housing can have an isolating effect.

"Drawbacks are that if you're not really into the whole substance-free thing, you're treated like an outsider when it's really just supposed to be a community," said Mariel Kauffman '06.

"People weren't very social, especially freshman year," Mangione said. "Sophomore year there were social people, but most of the people that year, like me, had only applied for substance-free housing to get a room on the quad."

All in all, substance-free housing has its benefits and its shortcomings. Students have mixed feelings about its purpose.

"In theory, it's a great idea," said Kauffman. "But not everyone adheres to the rules. It's college. There is no way to make everyone sub-free."

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Peppers	\$6.50	\$9.00
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Sausage	\$6.50	\$9.00
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Check Out the Spring '06 Fitness Class Schedule

Student Registration Began Fri. Jan 20th
University College Student & F/S Registration Began Mon. Jan. 23rd

Note - All classes must have a minimum of 12 participants to be held - 12 week Courses

Monday

- Beginning Pilates** - Mon & Thurs - 12:00-1:00pm - Students \$35, U.C. Students \$50, Non-Students \$70, Innovative floor exercises that give you strength, flexibility and improved body alignment - **With Billy**
- Yoga Flow I** - Mondays - 4:30-5:45 pm - Students \$30, U.C. Students \$40, Non-Students \$60, A mixed level class with postures, breathing exercises and relaxation. Come see why yoga has become the exercise of choice for "stars" like Sting, Madonna, and Ashley Judd - **With Jeannie**
- Cardio-Express I** - Mondays 6:00-6:30pm - Students \$ 10, U.C. Students \$ 15, Non-Students \$15, Try 30 **INTENSE** minutes to guarantee you workout like no other - perfect for the hectic, time crunched student! - **With Sue-Ellen**
- Rock Hard Bottom Line I** - Mondays 6:45-7:30pm - Students \$25, U.C. Students \$35, Non-Students \$45, forty five **INTENSE** minutes to guarantee you a rock hard bottom &! Tummy - **With Sue-Ellen**

Tuesday

- Intermediate Pilates I** - Tues & Fri - 12:00-1:00pm - Students \$35, U.C. Students \$50, Non-Students \$70, Same as above, just more advanced, participants must have previously taken a Pilates course to be ready for this course - **With Billy**
- Cardio Blast** - Tuesdays 3:30-4:30 - Students \$20, U.C. Students \$30, Non-Students \$40, A little bit of everything from weights, step, and more to get you sweating & smiling! - **With Carol**
- Mixed Pilates** - Tues & Thurs - 4:45-5:45pm - Students \$35, U.C. Students \$50, Non-Students \$70, A little bit of beginning and a little bit of advanced pilates a class with truly something for anybody - **With Billy**
- Beginning Cardio-Kickboxing** - Tuesdays - 6:00-7:00pm - Students \$20, U.C. Students \$30, Non-Students \$40, Come out and kick, punch and chop your way to a new way - no experience required! - **With Kristine**
- Advanced Cardio Kickboxing** - Tuesdays - 7:15-8:15pm - Students \$20, U.C. Students \$30, Non-Students \$40, Taking kicking, punching and chopping a new you to a whole new level! Not for the faint of heart! - **With Kristine**

Wednesday

- Yoga Flow II** - Wednesdays - 12:15-1:15pm - Students \$35, U.C. Students \$55, Non-Students \$75, same as above, just a different day & time - **With Jeannie**
- Cardio Pump** - Wednesdays - 3:45-4:45 - Students \$20, U.C. Students \$30, Non-Students \$40, Come in get moving and grooving to this class which will concentrate on all of those tough to train parts! - **With Carol**
- Yoga-lates** - Wednesdays - 4:45-5:45pm - Students \$20, U.C. Students \$30, Non-Students \$40. Combine the stretching and relaxation techniques of Yoga with the prime conditioning exercise of Pilates into one productive workout program, the benefits of both create an all-encompassing exercise regiment. **With Karen**

Thursday

- Cardio-Express II** - Thursdays 6:00-6:30pm - Students \$ 10, U.C. Students \$ 15, Non-Students \$15, Try 30 **INTENSE** minutes to guarantee you workout like no other - perfect for the hectic, time crunched student! - **With Sue-Ellen**
- Rock Hard Bottom Line II** - Thursdays 6:45-7:30pm - Students \$25, U.C. Students \$35, Non-Students \$45, forty five **INTENSE** minutes to guarantee you a rock hard bottom &! Tummy - **With Sue-Ellen**

Classes Begin January 30th

Here is the Spring '06 Intramural Schedule

Sport	Format	Divisions /Levels	Registration Begins	Registration Deadline	Play Begins	Forfeit Deposit
Racquetball	Tourn	M/W	Jan. 23	Feb. 1	Feb. 3	None
Hoops Skills (3pt Free Throw Slam Dunk) MAAC Campus Tour Spot Shot Contest	Event	M/W/C	Feb. 1	Feb. 10	Feb. 10	None
Dodge Ball	Round Robin	M/W/C - A/B	Feb. 6	Feb. 17	Feb. 22	\$10
Indoor Soccer	Round Robin	C - A/B	March 1	March 21	March 23	\$20
Softball	Round Robin	M/W/C - A/B	March 1	March 21	TBA	\$20
Indoor Women's Field Hockey	Round Robin	W	March 1	March 21	March 23	\$10
Men's 7 x 7 Lacrosse Tournament	Tourn	M	March 1	March 21	March 24	\$10
Sports Trivia	Event	Open	March 20	March 31	March 31	None
Outdoor Women's Lacrosse	Round Robin	W	April 3	April 7	April 11	\$10
Tennis Doubles	Tourn	M/W/C	April 3	April 20	April 22/23	None
2 x 2 Street Hoops	Event	M/W/C	April 10	April 21	April 23	\$10
Wiffle Ball	Event	Open	TBA	TBA	TBA	TBA

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Brian Larkin

HE said / SHE said The quirky traits we love to hate

Megan Pizzo

Some might say that there's nothing wrong with the female species. Women are nicer, smarter, cleaner and smell much better than men. They even know how to cook meals other than Chef Boyardee and toast. Women are also unquestionably the more attractive of the two sexes.

However, as a wise man once pointed out, no matter how hot she is, someone somewhere is sick of her.

Women think too much... way too much. Just about every chick I have met is a psychotic train wreck about to derail. Maybe guys think about sports and sex on a daily basis more than what would be considered healthy, but at least we are not worried about every minute detail about every tiny little incident ever. Women need to learn that staring blankly into space for a few minutes is a great way to clear the mind of all your troubles.

Also, when done in class, mid-conversation or during sex, it makes you look like you are paying attention.

No matter what they say or do to the contrary, women hate everything. They hate their roommates. They hate their big butts. They hate their mothers.

And they hate this column. There is more drama in one woman's standard weekend than in multiple guys' entire lives.

Females are untrustworthy and vague. Their deceitful advances are nothing more than a put-on to piss off that guy they kind of like but not so much anymore because he might have hooked up with what's-her-face a few days ago. They are also late for everything.

Women complain too much... way too much. I am sorry that your life is not panning out exactly as you pictured it when you were 11 years old, but that is not a reason to get all bent out of shape. Just go with the flow and stop caring about everything. That C- you got (and deserved) on your history test seems a lot less catastrophic when you could not care less about your GPA or future.

With all this in mind, it is hard to believe that guys, with all our superior qualities, do not ditch the ladies, with all their obvious shortcomings, and go it alone. The reason we continue to chase them, however, is because we like the ladies too much . . . way too much.

As women, we understand that men are merely aged boys who believe there is an anatomical connection between the dominant hand and the testicles. Along with this characteristic, as well as others (the obsession with video games), we learn to tolerate them because we realize that men accept some of our quirks, such as taking two hours to get ready, without understanding the underlying principles. Nonetheless, just because we let these characteristics slide by, there are certain others that by this age are no longer acceptable. The following is a list on what women find to be the most annoying manly features. So men, sit back, take notes, and pay attention!

Binge drinking: By the time you are twenty-one, shot gunning twelve beers or being able to do a keg stand for forty-five seconds is not a quality respectable women find attractive. We understand that drinking may be the only physical activity you partake in, but do us all a favor: save this God-given gift for the freshmen girls who may actually appreciate it.

Not shaving: There really is no excuse for the teen wolf resemblance when you are trying to seduce us. When we say we "like it rough" we are not referring to your stubble—how would you like it if we went a week without

shaving...anything?

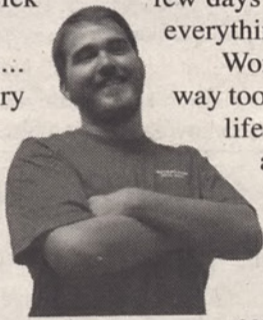
"Sex on the go" motto: A quickie during exam week is acceptable, but not on a regular basis. Our dorms or houses are not drive up windows so don't try ordering take out! (This is not Burger King, you can't always have it your way)

Forgetfulness: How is it possible that men can remember every sports statistic on all 39 members of their favorite team, but the date of a three-month anniversary seems to escape their memory?

Financial Instability: As college students, women understand that money vanishes faster than the Titanic. However, when you routinely supply alcohol for the greater portion of underclassmen, is it too much to ask for a dinner date some place the Stagcard isn't accepted?

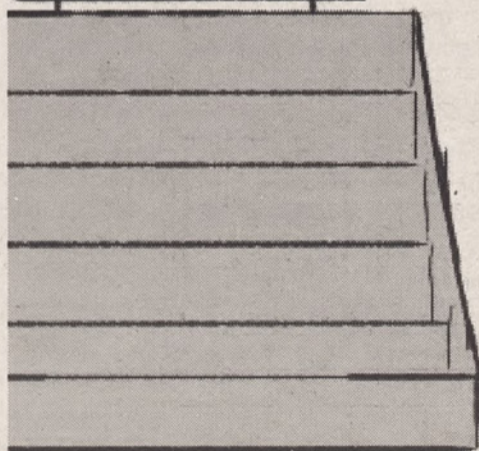
Ogling: We understand that the digitally air brushed sex goddesses in Maxim elicit a tingling sensation in your groins, but please save the comments on her cellulite lacking buttocks for poker night with the guys.

Ladies, you owe me one...
Now stop procrastinating and get back to studying!

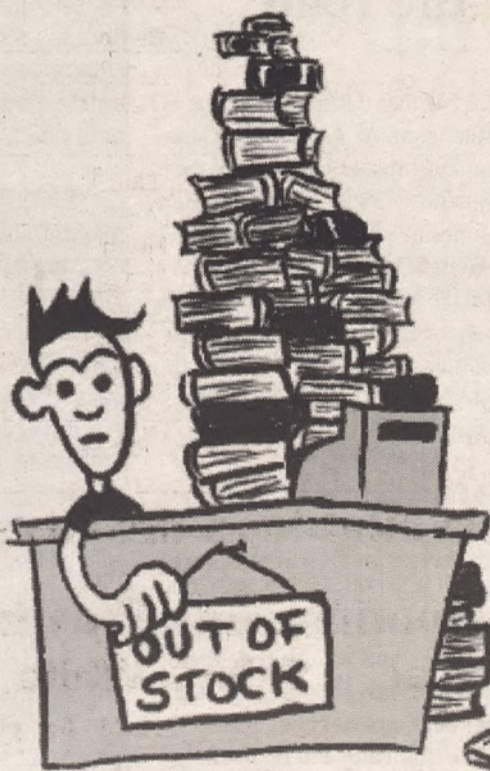
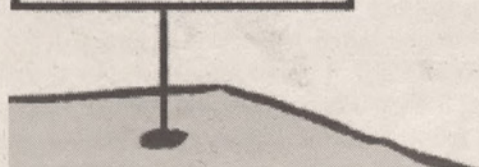


You know you're from Fairfield when . . .

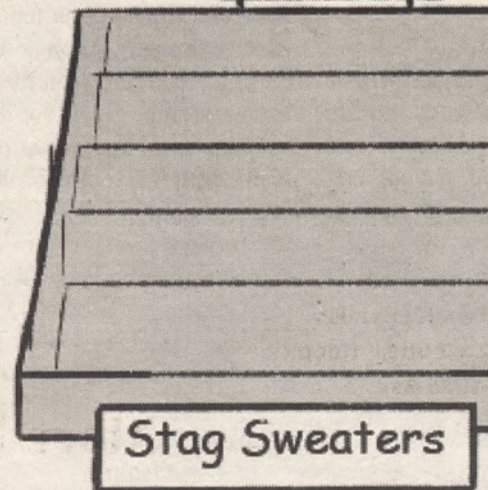
Stag Commemorative Plates



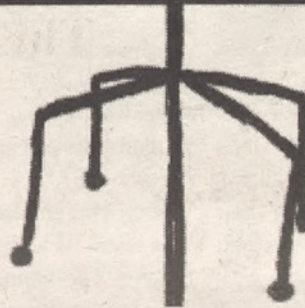
Stag Blankets



Stag Mugs



Stag Sweaters



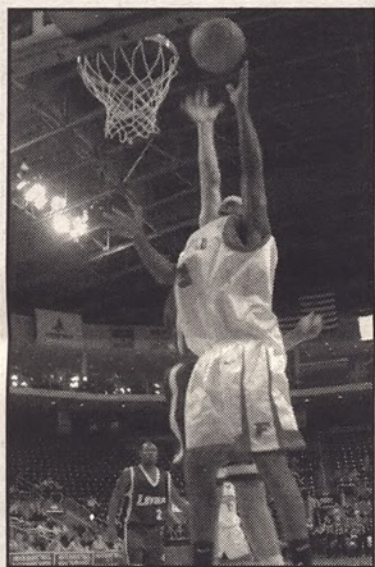
...your idea of Christmas shopping is swapping books for sweatshirts.

Beltway bombers

Sharp-shooting Loyola and hard-hitting Georgetown were too much for the Fairfield men

BY BEN DOODY

In twelve seconds, it all changed. The Fairfield men, fresh off their first win of the season, were seconds away from beating a good Loyola team and winning their conference opener. Michael Van Schaick '07, enjoying perhaps his best stretch of basketball as a Stag, drove to the hoop and laid the ball in, while drawing what ap-



Bill McBain/The Mirror

Up strong: Terrance Todd '06 takes it to the hoop against Loyola.

Standout seniors at the end of the road

CONTINUED FROM P. 16

Volleyball

Despite losing in the MAAC Championship to Siena, the women had an overall successful season filled with personal accomplishments, especially from the seniors, who led the team to the regular season conference title. **Lauren Laramore** became the all-time digs leader for Fairfield with 1,612 in her career. **Alex Fox** posted 84 block assists, to move into sixth best in school history. **Casey Machon** also had a stellar career, with 264 total career blocks, to finish as fifth all-time. "I believe that they have each had a different affect on our returning players as each senior has their own personality," said Head Coach Jeff Werneke. "This allows them to affect other players in their own way leaving an impression and stamp on the program."

Field Hockey

It was a hard-fought year for the women as they worked their way into a spot at the NEC Tourna-

peared to be a blocking foul on a Loyola defender who was camped out underneath the basket.

One referee signaled that the basket was good, and Van Schacik was on his way to the free-throw line to seal the game. But then, with one motion from a second official, the Stags' fate changed. Van Schacik was called with a charging foul, and the Greyhounds were still alive. Then, after a miracle three-pointer at the buzzer by Mayland transfer Andre Collins sent the game into overtime, the Greyhounds escaped with a 90-85 win, and sent the Stags on the longest of bus rides: a six-hour trip to Washington to play Big East powerhouse Georgetown.

For those six hours, they mulled over what could have been and what should have been, and at 1 p.m. on Sunday, an all-out assault at the hands of the big, athletic Hoyas was underway.

The Hoyas scored the first six points of the game, and rolled to a 76-51 win that wasn't nearly as close as the score indicates. No Hoya starter played more than 23 minutes, and during the final 7:30 of the game a cast of seldom-used Georgetown walk-ons entertained the small but rowdy crowd at the MCI Center.

"We came out flat," Terrance Todd '06 said. "We could have showed more effort and it could have been different."

And with that, a weekend that could have gotten them off on the right foot in the conferece ended with nothing but dissapointment,

ment and almost upset top-seeded Rider University. Though it was a bit of a rebuilding year, the young team saw some great contributions from their two lone senior players. **Kelly Rath** was second on the team in scoring with 17 points. **Rebecca Odenwaelder** also contributed in scoring with 14 points, fifth on the team. "My experience with Fairfield athletes has always been great," said Rath, "Some of the people I've met playing sports here turned out to be my best friends."

Cross Country

Cross country will be bidding farewell to five seniors this season, each of whom had an impact during their final season. For the men, **A.J. Kastanotis** finished second on the team at the MAAC Championships. **Devin Hagen** also ran well to help the team, as he has throughout his career. The women had solid performances this season from their seniors as well. **Kara O'Connell** led the team at the MAAC's and then set a personal record at the

embarrassment and a 1-6 record.

What may have hurt the most about the Loyola loss is that it isn't as if the Stags can pull back to .500 in the league any time soon. They don't play a league game until Jan. 5, against Siena and have to sit at the bottom of the league standings from that point on.

The Stags now find themselves in a difficult, but not all-out awful, situation, in part because of the grueling non-conference schedule they have played. They go into Wednesday night's game against Fordham with only one win, but improvements have been made, and this is a team inching towards looking like a contender in the MAAC.

Take, for example, Geoff Middleton '09. The only Stag who doesn't look like a small child compared to towering opposing post players was virually silent against Providence; he managed no points and just one rebound in 11 minutes. But Sunday at Georgetown -- a team that featured 7'2" center Roy Hibbert, Middleton looked for the first time like a legitimate big man. In a career-high 27 minutes, he pulled down a career-best six rebounds, and even managed to block one of Hibbert's shots.

As they move forward, the Stags look to build on lessons they learned Saturday when they visited Arlington National Cemetery.

"We leaned how hard [the soldiers] competed for us, so it taught us how to compete," Han said.

NCAA Northeast Regional to again lead the team. At the ECAC/IC4A Championships, O'Connell led the Stags with a 20:29.5, one of the best times in school history. **Shannon Kenefick** finished third on the team at the MAAC's and fifth on the team at the ECAC/IC4. **Maryellen Pribish** took fourth on the team at the MAAC's and ended her career finishing third at the ECAC/IC4.

Throughout their careers, the senior Stag athletes have been dedicated not only to their fellow students and athletes, but their University. Though they will never be in the red and white again, their impacts will last long through the players and coaches they touched and the efforts they left on the field and court.

"My experience with Fairfield athletes has always been great," said Rath. "There is an understanding you have with one another when you walk by someone with a bag of ice or a black eye."



Bill McBain/The Mirror

Close call: Jonathan Han '09 drives to the hoop in the Stags' 90-85 overtime loss to Loyola Friday night.

STAGS REPORT CARD

LOYOLA 90, FAIRFIELD 85 (OT)
GEORGETOWN 76, FAIRFIELD 51

PERIMETER PLAY: B. For the first time in a long time, Jonathan Han '09 played like a freshman, committing more turnovers than he had assists in Sunday's loss to Georgetown. And the Stags guards failed first to shut down Loyola's Andre Collins, who hit a three-pointer at the buzzer to send Friday's game into overtime, and then were thoroughly out-played by the Hoyas. Still, Todd kept the Stags in the game Sunday, leading the team with 14 points and six assists. Michael Bell, though he missed a critical free-throw in overtime that could have tied the game, had a season-high 18 points against Loyola.

LOW POST PLAY: B. They get an "A" for effort and for exceeding expectations, and a "C" for what is still a startling lack of production when compared to the perimeter players. So we'll settle in the middle. It doesn't seem spectacular, and it doesn't show up much in the box score, but the Stags' post players probably had their best two games of the season. Alvin Carter '05 had a career-high 10 points against Loyola, and Geoff Middleton '08 may have had his best game as a Stag against Georgetown. In a career-high 27 minutes, he pulled down a career-high six rebounds. And while 7'2" Hoya center Roy Hibbert only played 19 minutes, it is still worth noting that, in part because of Middleton's defense, he had only nine points, five below his season average.

EXECUTION: C. In the Loyola game it was a lack of defensive execution (they gave up a season-high 90 points), and against Georgetown it was on the offensive end. On Sunday, the Stags seemed overwhelmed by the Hoyas' size and athleticism, and Head Coach Tim O'Toole hinted in the post-game press conference that his team never fully got over Friday's loss. The Stags, as Todd said, came out flat. They got virtually no production from anyone but Todd, who as late as the early second half had half of the Stags' points (13 out of 26). Wednesday against Fordham, they'll need to revert back to the balanced scoring attack that helped them beat Tulane. But as Han said after the Georgetown game, it all starts with defense, and that's what the Stags have focused on in practice early this week.

OVERALL: C+. Had it not been for Collins' miracle at the buzzer, the Stags would have beaten a good Loyola team and regardless of what took place in Washington on Sunday, would have come out of the weekend with a 1-0 league record. But the bottom line is that however close that game may have been, they lost a winnable game, and they did not impress against Georgetown. They've played a tough schedule and are a far better team than their 1-6 record indicates, but this is the time in the season when the wins have to start coming. Wednesday's game (7:30, Harbor Yard, WVOF, 88.5-FM) will be a good test before MAAC play resumes after the holidays.



Bill McBain/The Mirror

In for the kill: Lauren Groom '09 goes in for a lay-up late in the game Friday against Niagara. The Stags cruised to a 74-47 victory, the first of two over the weekend.

Off and running

The Stags jumped off to a 2-0 start in MAAC women's basketball

BY JOE SERZAN

If history does indeed repeat itself, then the Fairfield women's basketball team should be very excited about the outcome of last weekend's games.

The Stags defeated Loyola College, 76-71, Sunday at Reitz Arena in Baltimore, M.D. With the victory, Fairfield improved to 2-0 in conference play. The last time the Stags began a season 2-0 in the MAAC, their season ended with an NCAA tournament berth.

Sabra Wrice '08 scored a career-high and game-high 26 points for Fairfield Sunday in the win over Loyola. Two days earlier, Wrice led the team in scoring

with 18 points in a 74-47 victory at home against Niagara.

Friday night's blowout was one of the Stags' best-played games all season. At home at the Arena at Harbor Yard, Fairfield pulled down a season-high 57 rebounds as a team and forced Niagara to commit 22 turnovers. The Stags got great leadership, too. Junior Candice Lindsay added 15 points and senior guard Cara Murphy scored 12.

"We didn't want them hanging around because Niagara is a good team," Murphy said. "We needed to build on that and shut them down, and send a message to them and the rest of the MAAC."

Nolan was impressed with the upperclassmen and their ability to lead.

"We are such a young team that the veterans, regardless of their past playing time, they really need to step up because they're good leaders and the kids enjoy being with them, so they will listen to them," she said.

Sunday's game against Loyola was a lot closer. The Stags led by only three points at halftime, 39-36. Loyola stayed close and with

1:15 remaining took the lead, 69-68. But the Stags would not quit and 24 seconds later, Wrice put them up for good with a lay-up.

Fairfield played great defense and got great free-throw shooting during the late stages of the second half to hold off the Greyhounds. The Stags connected on each of their final eight free-throw attempts during the last 2:31 of the game.

After the first weekend of MAAC play, the Stags sit atop the MAAC standings with a 2-0 record. The victory Sunday improved their overall record to 4-3.

The MAAC conference has noticed the Stags' fast start. Wrice was named the MAAC player of the week for her efforts. In addition, freshman forward Beandu Lowenthal was named the rookie of the week for the second time. Lowenthal has averaged six points and six rebounds over her first seven games as a Stag this season.

Stags' next game is Dec. 17 at the Arena at Harbor Yard against Vermont. Game time will be 7 p.m.

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One for the ages

As the semester and the calendar year come to a close, *The Mirror* reflects on the Fairfield athletes who played their last game in the red and white this fall.

BY DAN AKESON

It is always tough to say goodbye, but at the end of every season, Fairfield's senior athletes graduate from their respective teams and many from the sports that they have grown up with. This semester, Stags seniors won everything from individual "Player of the Week" awards to a MAAC Championship, and left behind a unique legacy in Fairfield sports history.

After one of the most exciting fall seasons in recent history, women's and men's soccer, volleyball, field hockey and cross country all will be moving on without their seniors, many of them captains and major impact players to each of their teams.

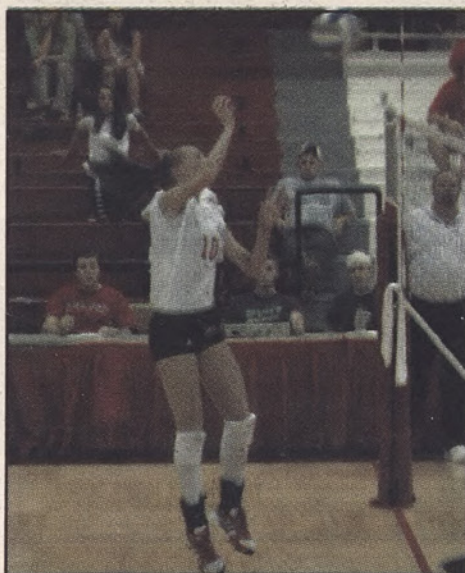
In the four sports, a total of 21 seniors will graduate, leaving a lasting impression on their sport and Fairfield University.

Women's Soccer

After a miracle upset of first ranked Niagara, the women won the MAAC Championship and went up against No. 10 Duke in the NCAA Tournament. Though they lost a hard-fought effort, the team could be proud of not only a MAAC Championship, but an overall successful season. A big part of their success came from the senior leadership and veteran performances over the season. "The seniors wanted to finish out on a high note and they did," said Head Coach Jim O'Brien, "They led by example...were positive and supporting and excellent role models." Shannon Helm was third on the team while **Megan Mones**, a returning senior, served as a co-captain and maintained stellar defense all season long. **Katie Ely** had an accomplished career and was an effective back up to starting goalie Brett Maron. **Jessica Stamos** also had an effective career, being named to the MAAC All-Academic Team in 2004 and was always one of the team's top defenders.

Men's Soccer

Though the season ended on a tough note with a MAAC Championship loss to Marist, the team's undefeated season in the MAAC and 12-game unbeaten streak will go down in the history books. The seniors were an essential part in the success of the team over the season. The Stag defense was led by goalkeeper **Andrew Frankel**, who earned six MAAC Player of the Week awards during the season and finished with six shutouts. **Bill Androutsos** led the offense finishing first on the team in points, with 11 goals and six assists. **Ed Meyer** was pivotal at midfield, recording one goal and one assist along with 14 shots. **Joseph Dos Santos** was another steady midfielder who recorded three goals and five assists and played in every game during the season. **Robert Miller** worked through the ranks during his career as a reserve, which



The end of an era: Clockwise from top left, Alex Fox '06, Andrew Frankel '06, Megan Mones '06, Rebecca Odenwaelder '06, Kara O'Connell '06 and Devin Hagan '06 in their last season as Stags' athletes.

began at Fairfield as a successful Fairfield Prep player. **Armand Dikranian** was another hard working player who was an asset on and off the field during his four year career and

recorded his first goal this season.

SEE "SENIORS" ON P. 14

All I want for Christmas



THE AK ATTACK
DAN AKESON

During the holidays, we often look to the less fortunate, look to give a little more, or put others before ourselves. However, at the same time we all get a little greedy for those holiday gifts and wishes. So in keeping with the holiday spirit, here are my top 10 holiday wishes for Fairfield athletics:

10. A Sold Out Game at Harbor Yard:

The curtains and risers all make for a little cozier atmosphere, but who goes to a basketball game for coziness? Get a ticket and get to Bridgeport!

9. Return of Alumni Hall: Maybe this is contradictory to my last wish, but a "full house" would be a little easier in a renovated Alumni Hall. No buses, no tickets, and no Bridgeport! If you're going to continue to raise tuition, put some aside for a new on-campus arena.

8. Tailgating: I don't care before what sporting event, but dammit, get some cars, kegs, and hot dogs in a parking lot. No college experience is complete without at least one true all-student tailgate.

7. A Home for Deng: We have to have at least one former Fairfield athlete who did a little something significant as a professional. After being released last week by Philadelphia, a new team has to realize what we all know, Deng's the Gai!

6. Fairfield Football: OK, so we stunk when we had a team and we would probably stink again, but people would go; there's not much else to do. Besides, if the Prep school can pack the stands, can't we?

5. A Streaker: Stupid? Yes. Immature? Certainly. Hilarious? Absolutely! Besides, isn't that what college is about? Acting stupid and immature, but laughing your ass off along the way?

4. Stag Boxing: Bring back A.P.K. and have him go 12 rounds with Fr. von Arx at Alumni Hall. Why? It would sell out and would probably draw more interest than any basketball game. (Note: A.P.K. is favored 25:1)

3. Prep Driving: By 3 p.m. every day, have a contest in which F.U. students attempt to dodge the Prep students and athletes. We do it every day anyway, but we could make it club status to help subsidize the inevitable medical costs.

2. Mandatory LAX: If you miss any home men's lacrosse games this season, you should serve judicial punishment. As part of the highest conference, the ECAC, of any Fairfield sport, this will be the most entertaining sports season since...last year's GWLL championship victory.

1. Red Sea on the Red Line: Bring back hockey already. No excuses! The club team is dominant and the fans are going farther than Harbor Yard to see them.