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Women's basketball faces Marist for first-place

Fairfield, ridding eight game winning-streak, battle for first place against the Red Foxes on Thursday night at Alumni Hall. See p. 20 for story.

WEEK OF FEBRUARY 12, 2009

Vol. 34, Iss. 18- 20 pages
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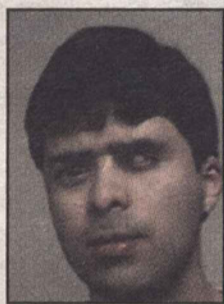
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The independent student newspaper
of Fairfield University

Graduate who held classroom hostage released from psych ward

BY ANNIE ROONEY

Last Friday, Feb. 6, Jim Fitzpatrick, assistant vice president of student services, joined students from the Ignatius Residency and discussed "events that stuck out in their minds."



ARBELO

Fitzpatrick did not need to think twice for his story, as he began discussing the day in 2002 when a Fairfield graduate came to the University and held a classroom of 26 students and one professor

hostage with a bomb.

Little did he know that during the time of his reminiscing, the offender, Patrick Arbelo, a member of the class of 2001, was officially being released from the psychiatric ward he had been living in since 2003.

Arbelo, who was a student from Bridgeport, was found not guilty of 27 counts of first-degree kidnapping and one count of possession of a dangerous weapon by reason of insanity after the incident in February 2002.

Now 31 years old, Arbelo was released from a state mental health hospital under the circumstances that he will remain on medication for the rest of his life and will live with his father at an unidentified location.

Unfortunately, there will be no legal

way to supervise and ensure that Arbelo continues to take his medication.

On Feb. 12, 2002, Arbelo arrived in Canisius Hall around 4 p.m. with a computer case and wearing a backpack. He entered English Professor Elizabeth Dreyer's "Voices of Medieval Women," immediately stating, "I have a bomb do what I say."

Students were immediately ordered to throw their backpacks out the window as Arbelo uncovered a cardboard box, revealing exposed wires and wrapped in duct tape. He alerted policemen as they arrived of this bomb in his possession.

His motive? To read a testimony on the New York radio station WCBS providing strong racist and anti-Semitic statements.

Fitzpatrick recalls this seven-hour period as "a moment where the moment almost takes over."

"It happened so quickly that everyone went into emergency mode, where you don't think about a normal thing," Fitzpatrick said.

Assistant Vice President and Director of Counseling and Psychological Services Susan Birge remembers being called to the scene.

"At one point, I looked up, saw snipers on the roofs of Gonzaga and Regis Halls as well as helicopters flying overhead," Birge said.

Through immediate actions on behalf of Public Safety, Fairfield Police and Connecti-

SEE "EX-STUDENT" ON P. 6

Settlement reached in Marx wrongful death suit

BY KRISTEN McMANUS AND TOM CLEARY

Fairfield University's 2004 commencement was remembered differently than any others because of the death of Francis J. Marx V, the valedictorian-to-be who was killed shortly before graduation.



MARX

On Tuesday, almost five years after the incident, settlements were reached in a lawsuit brought by Marx's parents against two University of Rhode Island students, Jarred Rocheleau and Loren Welsh. The terms of the settlements were not disclosed, but Rocheleau's attorney, Lauren Wilkins told *The Evening Sun* that the sum was "substantially less" than the \$5 million that Marx's parents sought.

In addition, there was no admission of wrongdoing as part of either settlement. The Marx family was seeking "net lost income" according to the *Providence Journal*. They said that they believed if he had lived a full life he would have earned \$10 million, a figure reached by economist Richard Siegal, who testified on Monday. Marx had already found a job at General Electric at the time of his death and planned to pursue a M.B.A.

Lawyers from both sides commented in local papers that the settlements were fair.

SEE "NEW" ON P. 6

Failing expectations



Jon Ollwerther/The Mirror

Gone for good: Senior guard Jon Han has left the men's basketball team due to personal reasons. He was named a co-captain and averaged 12.5 points per game and 5.3 assists per game this season. For the full story, see p. 20.

Fairfield answers calls for increased financial aid before budget release

BY LILY NORTON AND JACK McNAMARA

At a FUSA meeting Sunday, University President Fr. Jeffrey von Arx said the school is making financial aid a top priority.

Von Arx could not answer questions as to how much would be going to financial aid because the new budget will not be released until March, but said that Fairfield will be "tightening [its] belt" to ensure the return of the majority of students by increasing financial aid packets.

The visit by von Arx and other Fairfield administrators to the Senate focused primarily on anticipated shortfalls in previous budget predictions.

The University accounts for 93 percent of its operating budget through tuitions, and many students are not

able to pay the same amount they could prior to current economic crisis.

As he prepared students to brace themselves for the future, von Arx also sought to relieve them a bit by pointing out Fairfield was not in as dire financial straights as other schools.

"Fairfield is in as good a position as I think it could be for an institution of its type," he said.

Von Arx explained this was because of the University's "modest" endowment, which recently shrank from \$265 million to \$203 million. Fairfield relies on only 7 percent of its endowment for its operating budget, as op-

posed to schools like Yale that rely on endowments.

"We took a hit, but not as bad as others have," he said.

But while Fairfield may not have as many endowment worries, the University must work at maintaining student enrollment, and making sure next year's incoming class stays at the same level as past years.

"This year's enrollment is OK," said von Arx, "What we have to be worried about



VON ARX

SEE "CONSTRUCTION" ON P. 5

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PAGE 2

JESUIT RUNDUP

News from the 27 other
Jesuit colleges
in the U.S.

BY COURTNEY KERN

LOYOLA (MD)

Band chosen for annual music festival

The Student Government Association announced the band Citizen Cope as the musical act for Loyolapalooza. The event is the annual end of the year festival held outdoors. SGA members worked with a booking agent when looking for the headliner for this popular event.

Tracy Petruziello, the vice president of policy adds, "We like to keep it a good clean show. Loyolapalooza is more selective because of the fact that we are inviting the whole neighborhood, the surrounding area, and a lot of professors bring their families."

This festival is a way for students to celebrate the end of the semester. SGA is currently looking for a date and also an opening act for the show.

Source: *The Greyhound*

GEORGETOWN

Former Senator hired as professor

Former Sen. Chuck Hagel, R-Neb., has been hired to teach at Georgetown in the fall. He is signed on to teach both undergraduate and graduate students.

Hagel is also going to hold seminars for students and the rest of the community. He is joining the Walsh School of Foreign Service as a professor in the practice of national governance.

Hagel wrote, "America: Our Next Chapter: Tough Questions, Straight Answers," which explores domestic and foreign policy.

The former senator said, "I am honored to become part of this respected institution and look forward to contributing to the important efforts that Georgetown continues to make in educating our next generation of leaders."

Source: *The Hoya*

LOYOLA MARYMOUNT

Hazardous chemical detected in building

Students and faculty at Loyola Maryland were evacuated early in the morning from their engineering building, Pereira Hall, when hazardous material was detected by inspectors.

This chemical was phosphoric acid and was discovered by public safety officers who were there for a routine fire inspection. This particular chemical is typically in a liquid form, but the officers thought that the storage of the phosphoric acid would risk its crystallization that makes it very dangerous.

A professional hazardous waste team removed the chemical from the building and disposed of it. Apparently the phosphoric acid had been in the building for a few years. The evacuation lasted nearly seven hours.

Source: *Los Angeles Loyolan*

... where we want students at Alumni Hall on Thursday night for the women's basketball team. Do it, you won't.

Skiers win conference gold

It's all downhill from here



Jon Ollwerther/The Mirror

All downhill: Junior Nick Carlucci tears down Hunter Mountain Sunday afternoon to take first place in men's giant slalom by more than three seconds, in an event usually measured in tenths or hundredths of a second. Carlucci's wins in slalom and giant slalom this past weekend helped the team secure first place in the conference for the season. Go to "This Week In Sports", p. 17, for more information on the Ski Team.

School of business receives \$50,000

BY MEGAN GONSALVES

Three accounting professors in the Dolan School of Business recently received a \$50,000 grant from PricewaterhouseCoopers to incorporate the accounting standard, International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRS) into its curriculum. IFRS is used in over 100 countries all over the world and it is expected that major companies in the United States will start to use this standard as well in place of Generally Accepted Accounting Principles (GAAP).

By applying for and securing this grant, Fairfield's Dolan School of Business is able to keep its accounting curriculum on the cutting-edge. Teaching this standard will be beneficial to students by ensuring they are familiar with the most up-to-date financial reporting guidance.

In the University's press release Norm Solomon, dean of the Dolan School of Business, states, "Knowing these

standards will be a big asset in the job market for graduates. My understanding is that PricewaterhouseCoopers wants to encourage faculty to focus more on the upcoming implementation of international accounting standards in the U.S. These standards will become a reality here very soon."

This new curriculum helps the Dolan School of Business stand out among the other business schools in the country.

According to the University's press release, Fairfield was one of only 24 schools that received a grant out of a pool of more than 120 that applied. Other schools selected include: New York University, Fordham, Villanova, University of Notre Dame, Ithaca College/Cornell University, Wake Forest and Ohio State.

Plans call for incorporating into the introductory accounting sequence an overview of IFRS and an understanding of its importance to the business community. For the accounting major courses beyond the introductory sequence, faculty plans to more thoroughly integrate IFRS. Professors will share the model syllabi from these courses with other schools that wish to adopt, or adapt, their ideas.

PricewaterhouseCoopers, one of the "Big Four" international accounting firms, sponsored the grant program, citing the importance for business schools to teach the standards, and has committed \$1 million over two years to this effort.

Michael P. Coyne, Dawn W. Massey and Joan Van Hise, who are all accounting professors, were the ones who applied for the grant.

Having taught international standards in Advanced Accounting for the past 10 years, Van Hise said, "[The accounting faculty] are pleased that PWC has chosen our grant proposal from among a very competitive field as we believe it provides renewed external verification that we continue to provide an innovative and up-to-date accounting curriculum to our students."



Contributed Photo

Getting money: The Dolan School of Business received a \$50,000 grant to teach international accounting standards.

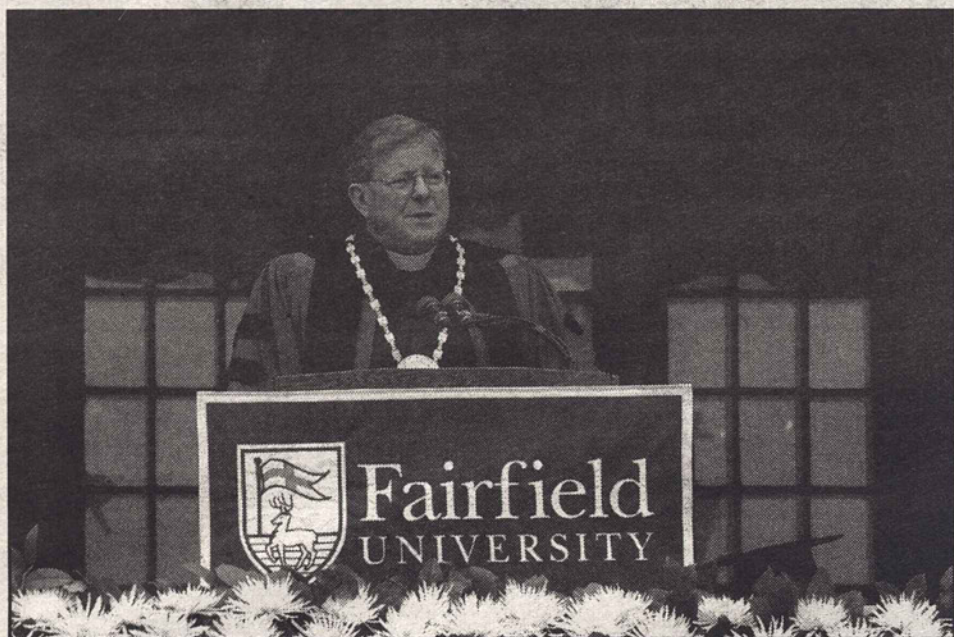
ONPAGE4: HOW THE CONVOCATION SPEAKER IS SELECTED, NEW UNIVERSITY CHAPLAIN SELECTED

Commencement committee searches for graduation speaker

BY BRENDAN MONAHAN

The year was 1991, and Billy Joel was gracing the Fairfield University Commencement exercises with an honorary degree in his hand and wise words in his mouth. Fast forward 17 years to 2008 and University President Rev. Jeffrey von Arx, S.J., was delivering the commencement speech at his very own school.

Among Jesuit gurus, von Arx's speech was ideal. Among students, it was anything but ideal. This year, students are hoping for more and are turning to the annual commencement committee to land a well-known guest.



Mirror File Photo

Guess who's talking now?: Last year Fr. von Arx gave the convocation speech. This year's commencement committee has taken into consideration the Class of 2008's negative reaction to the selection.

Sitting on the committee is Senior Class Secretary-Treasurer Mary Sullivan. She says that the gripes of the Class of 2008 did not go unheard.

"For this year in particular, a prospective student was highly sought after because of the feedback that seniors gave post-graduation. There is a sincere desire to have graduation to be as personal and momentous as possible," Sullivan said.

The committee Sullivan serves on looks at much more than just the speaker. It works on the ceremony as

a whole, not just the commencement speaker. One of the committee's main accomplishments this year is creating an entirely different, second graduation on campus.

"We made a decision to separate the undergraduate and graduate ceremonies this year. That was the result of the disconnect that was felt in the past on behalf of both graduate and undergraduate students," Sullivan said.

Sullivan also noted the enhanced efficiency of the graduation procession.

"It makes it nice because we have a more intimate setting, and it will cut down on the number of names called off as we sit waiting to receive our own coveted diplomas," she said.

The committee handles all logistics of the ceremony and has suggestions, but the final decision in who graces the Bellarmine Lawn is out of any student's hands.

Mary Frances Malone, associate academic vice-president at Fairfield, said the process goes much deeper than just looking at the name familiarity that so many students place value in. The Honorary Degree Committee, made up of a student, faculty and administrators accepts nominations for honorary degrees.

"Once all the nominations are collected," Malone said, "the committee reviews the pool of nominees and makes recommendations to the President."

Although the committee can make its best suggestions as who would be an ideal candidate, the decision is ultimately up to von Arx.

Von Arx told *The Boston Globe* last spring that the choice he makes is "not a matter of 'I have to be careful of the Cardinal Newman Society,' or what the bishop thinks, but from listening to a lot of awful commencement addresses from famous people."

Von Arx went on to tell the Boston paper that speakers at Fairfield's commencement would be ones "who have a close relationship to Fairfield and to the kind of education

we stand for," he said.

But the process does not even stop when von Arx points his finger at what he views as the perfect fit, even if the finger points back at him.

"The President confers with the Board of Trustees, who must approve the conferring of all honorary degrees," Malone said.

Regardless of who is making the decision, one that takes place over the course of both semesters of an academic year, students feel their voices and suggestions should not just be heard, but also followed.

Many students say the speaker should be chosen based on more than just the Jesuit qualities the person exhibits.

Requests for the release of those under consideration were denied, leaving students to wonder just who will be chosen and if they will have ever heard of them or care what they have to say.

Class of 2009 President Liz Grimm says that she, for example, would like to see some political diversity in the speaker this year.

"After four years of a liberal agenda, it would be refreshing for Fairfield University to show efforts of bipartisanship. I know, personally, I would be disappointed to find out my \$160,000+ went to funding yet another 50 minute liberal rant," she said.

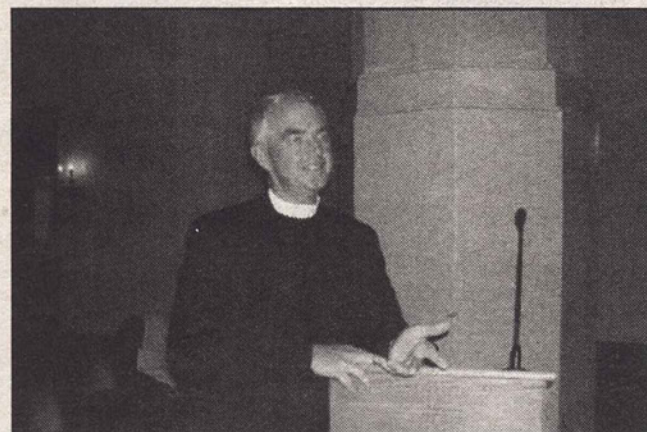
Chair of Senate Senior Dan Lamendola '09 hopes that no matter who speaks, that it is "somebody who goes pretty quick and that can hammer home what responsibility I now have to the global community."

Trish Konefal '09 said, "The commencement speaker at Fairfield's graduation ceremony should be someone who has impacted our world for the better; the speaker should uphold Jesuit ideals and be a role model for the graduating class."

Emily Dragone '09, vice-president of FUSA, said perhaps the economy is a great motivation for a quality speech this year.

"My ideal commencement speaker would be enthusiastic, engaging and most of all — a realist," she said. "This is the last time our class is going to be together as a group and in many respects, the farewell message that we take from Fairfield University."

"In such difficult economic times, it would be useful to have someone talk about the connection between our education and the world today and in what ways to utilize our skills."



Contributed Photo

Welcome to Fairfield: Former Fordham Chaplain, Fr. Gerry Blaszcak, will fill the same position at Fairfield.

UNIVERSITY PRESS RELEASE

Fr. Gerry Blaszcak, former pastor of St. Ignatius Loyola Parish in Manhattan, who has served as both University Chaplain and vice president for University Mission and Ministries at Fordham University, has been named Fairfield University Chaplain, effective July 1.

In making the announcement, University President Fr. Jeffrey von Arx said, "I am delighted to be able to fill this critical position with one of the most talented Jesuits I know. Fr. Blaszcak is very familiar with university life and has worked effectively with students, faculty, alumni and staff. He is a man of great pastoral experience and sensitivity and deeply familiar with Jesuit spirituality. He has extensive experience as well in ecumenical and interfaith dialogue,

which will be an important part of his responsibilities at Fairfield." Blaszcak will also assist Fr. James Bowler, University Facilitator for Mission and Identity, in his work with faculty and staff.

Blaszcak said he has long admired the work of many of Fairfield's distinguished faculty and is eager to get to know them and to collaborate with them and the administration and professional staff.

"I am energized and inspired by the University's strategic plan, and eager to develop the Office of University Chaplain in such a way as to contribute to its realization," Blaszcak said.

Among his top priorities is getting to know the students at Fairfield where he plans to live in a residence hall and even teach, if his other duties permit. He said he would like to join students in their local and international service projects.

"I feel fortunate to be joining a young and dynamic University," Blaszcak said, "one that is strong and clear about its

University fills vacant Chaplain position

foundational tradition, and open and creative in responding to new challenges and opportunities. I appreciate that Fairfield enjoys the enthusiastic support of its alumni/ae and that of the local community." He said he is committed to using his position to strengthen Fairfield's bonds to the cultural, religious,

and the Baccalaureate Mass. He will also be responsible for the 11 a.m. Sunday mass in the Egan Chapel of St. Ignatius of Loyola, helping to serve and to build the Fairfield congregation. He said he will be reaching out as a representative of the University community, helping to express Fairfield's distinct mission and identity as a Jesuit and Catholic University.

Blaszcak earned his Ph.D. from Harvard University in New Testament and Early Church History, with a secondary field of Islamic Studies. He has taught at Le Moyne College, Syracuse N.Y., Hekima College in Nairobi Kenya, and in the Theology Department at Fordham, among other places. He was also the Rector of the Jesuit Community at Fordham from 1998 to 2001.

Blaszcak is a member of Phi Beta Kappa and a Danforth Fellow. He is proficient in reading, writing and speaking French, German, Spanish and Kiswahili and also in reading Latin, Greek, Hebrew, Syriac, Aramaic, Coptic, Dutch, Italian, Portuguese and Swedish.

He has served on the board of trustees of several universities, including at present Loyola College, Baltimore, and Loyola University New Orleans. He is also a member of the board of Colavita Foundation for Children in New York and Regis High School.

educational and social institutions of the county and region.

As the University Chaplain, Blaszcak will minister to the entire University community and have responsibility, in collaboration with Fr. Michael Doody, director of Campus Ministry, for all public liturgical events, such as the Mass of the Holy Spirit

FairfieldMirror.com

Get to know the new chaplain:

For an exclusive Q&A with Fr. Blaszcak check online later this week.

Click on it today

Campus crime beat:

Fake IDs, misused parking passes, entrapping elevators

BY DANIEL LEITÃO

Wednesday, Feb. 4

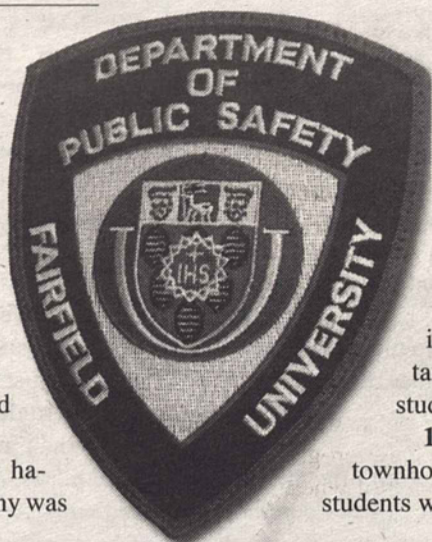
10:10 a.m. A Pritchard employee was stuck in the Dolan West elevator. Officers responded and opened the doors. The elevator was inspected.

12:14 a.m. A falsified ID was confiscated. The student was referred to judicial.

Thursday, Feb. 5

7:11 a.m. A student was found to be misusing a parking permit. He was referred to the parking office.

5:00 p.m. A student reported being harassed by a Fairfield cab driver. The company was notified and the driver was identified.



Saturday, Feb. 6

9:30 a.m. Two students were trapped inside the Gonzaga elevator. The students were retrieved from the elevator by the University fire marshal.

Monday, Feb. 7

2:45 a.m. Public Safety assisted the Fairfield Police Department with identifying students who had evaded a taxi fare. Restitution was made and the students were referred to judicial.

10:27 p.m. An assault occurred at the townhouses. Public Safety was called and the students were referred to judicial.

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CORRECTION/CLARIFICATION

In the Feb. 5, 2009 cover story "Out of the city, without a paddle," the subhead incorrectly stated that Fairfield was sued by Bridgeport land owners, which does not match the article's content. To clarify, the article correctly stated that the owners plan to file a suit.

The Mirror strives to report accurately in all its stories. If you encounter any errors, please contact Editor in Chief Alexandra Gross at (203) 256-6529.

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ONPAGE5: CONTINUED COVERAGE OF THE FUSA MEETING

Construction will continue as planned

CONTINUED FROM P. 1

is [if] we will be able to make the budgeted amount of students for next year and the years after."

Accompanying von Arx were three University administrators, including Vice President for Student Affairs Mark Reed. Reed stressed any budget alterations will not really be known until May. Even then, he stressed the University would be trying to make cuts on a "microcosmic" level that would probably be invisible to students. He also emphasized the amount of major spending that the University would need to remain static one-way or the other.



REED

"We do not have the ability to have new programs without cutting something else," Reed said.

Because FUSA senators' main concerns have been about increasing financial aid packages for students since the word recession hit newspapers, Fairfield has been preparing to cut down the increase in tuition as well to further help students.

Funds from this year are being saved to rollover to next year's budget, which much of will go to financial aid packages, said Vice President of Finances William Lucas, also in attendance.

Reed also answered many questions posed by senators concerning housing.

The schedule is on track, according to Reed, and Fairfield has not yet postponed any construction of the new dorms, which is usually the first place that universities will first cut spending.

Reed also said that plans for two new dorms, one in the Quad and one in the village, are still moving forward as scheduled.

But in economic straights like this, there is always

a bad side. Because of the smaller increases in tuition, the University will have to make sacrifices, campus officials said.

One may be the procurement of the golden Stag statue, which was announced to the Fairfield community two years ago. When Senate Chair Dan Lamendola '09 asked if students were likely to see the statue that would be placed in the center of campus by the student center soon, Reed replied that artists were commissioned, but that it isn't likely that the Stag will grace campus soon because the cost would be upwards of \$70,000.

Von Arx also reminded senators that for every dollar the University decreases from tuition, it will also be seen in the decrease for funds for new programs. But he said he doesn't have a specific list of where he wants to cut.

"We've been asking our departments to seriously consider what they can do for budget cuts," Von Arx said.

"It's not exactly happy news," he later added.

Lucas said that every department has been asked to save at least 2.5 percent of the money they were given this year, which will go back to the general fund at the end of the year.

Also, cuts will be made to travel budgets and the staff salary will probably see no increase, although their benefits will continue to improve.

While the lack of salary increase may be tough on faculty, von Arx said this is a better option than firing staff.

"The last thing that we want to do is layoff employees," he said.

Lucas agreed, adding that the main plan of action will be to "trim money equally" among departments, rather than erasing entire programs.

Billy Weitzer, executive vice president, said that any decision to take from the financial aid fund, or staff and faculty salaries would be thought out thoroughly.

While keeping financial aid high is a priority, he said, "We want people to come back here to an institution."

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Employer Presentations:

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Saturday, February 21st

10am-11am: Attend Our CE Seminar
11am-12pm: Enjoy a Delicious Lunch
12pm-3pm: Open House - Come Meet Our Leadership Team!

10am-11am | CE Seminar

given by Daria C. Ruffolo, RN, MSN-CS, CCRN ACNP
Location: ETC on Level 3, past library on left-hand side

Shock: The Death of A Cell

This session will present an overview of shock states including cardiogenic, hypovolemic, distributive, and neurogenic shock. An evidenced-based and practical approach to the care and management of these patients will be provided.

Daria C. Ruffolo, RN, MSN-CS, CCRN ACNP, spent nearly 20 years as a bedside nurse in the surgical/trauma intensive care venue before taking on the role as an Acute Care Nurse Practitioner, with the trauma team at a busy urban level one trauma center located in Chicago, IL. She holds undergraduate degrees in both nursing and biology. Daria has adjunct appointments in two collegiate nursing programs and has spoken at over 200 national conferences including NTL, Trends and the Midwest conference. In addition she has a number of publications to her credit in journals such as The International Journal of Trauma Nursing, AACN Clinical Issues, Journal of Trauma Nursing and Nursing Ethics.

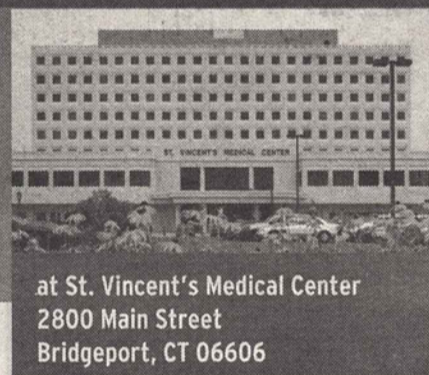
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To register call (800) 866-0919,
e-mail ce@gannettthg.com or visit
http://events.nursingspectrum.com/Seminar

Bring this ad to our Open House and be entered to win a special Gift Basket!



11am-12pm | Lunch



at St. Vincent's Medical Center
2800 Main Street
Bridgeport, CT 06606

12pm-3pm | Open House

Come meet our Leadership Team!
Learn about: Flexible Scheduling • Shared Governance • Learning Opportunities • Certification Reimbursement • Multi-disciplinary Training • Sign-on Bonuses • And More!

Excellent Full time, Part time & Per diem opportunities!

St. Vincent's Medical Center, a trusted, 397-bed acute care hospital with a tradition of clinical excellence, depends on the collaborative efforts of our highly skilled nursing team to ensure the continuous delivery of quality, compassionate health care to our patients. As an employer, we value all of our nurses and have a strong commitment to development, diversity, and work-life balance.

At the open house, you'll also discover Psychiatric Nursing opportunities at Hall-Brooke Behavioral Health Services, working with children, adolescents, adults, or in the Women's Specialty Unit.

SVMC is an equal opportunity employer committed to building a diverse and supportive workplace. Conveniently located, St. Vincent's is accessible from the Merritt Parkway and I-95. If you're unable to attend our open house, please email your resume to dgregorio@stvincents.org or apply online at our dedicated CE/Open House microsite:

www.saintvincentsCEopenhouse.com

St. Vincent's
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ON PAGE 6: CONTINUED COVERAGE OF MAN RELEASED FROM MENTAL INSTITUTION AND WRONGFUL DEATH LAWSUIT

Ex-student found 'appropriate for discharge' from institution

CONTINUED FROM P. 1

cut State Police, the hostages and professor were safely released by 11 p.m. that night and the box Arbelo had claimed was a bomb was found to be a fake.

Fitzpatrick acknowledges the heroes who made the favorable outcome possible. "Nothing that you do [beforehand] prepares you for the real thing," he stated, while adding that he values the efficient teamwork by all the people involved.

With the professional help of Birge and Director of Public Safety Todd Pelazza, "it is easy to forget that it was an act of terrorism," Fitzpatrick said.

Arbelo, who is legally blind, received his diploma in 2001 from Fairfield with a seeing-eye dog at his side.

As per recent reports by about his release from the psychiatric hospital, the *Connecticut Post* states "he is now completely blind."

Dr. Christine Naungayan, attributed with psychiatric expertise, evaluated Arbelo through his progress over the years.

"He is appropriate for discharge, I don't believe he will pose the same risk he did when he committed the crime," she said in the *Connecticut Post* article.

Dreyer, who is still teaching at Fairfield even after the 2002 incident, said she is "confident that the local community in which he lives will find ways to support Patrick as he begins this new phase of his life."

Birge said she also wishes him well.

"As a Catholic Jesuit institution, we are a forgiving community and a community that believes individuals can change," she said.



Mirror File Photo

Taken too soon: Frank Marx, facing the camera, died one week before graduation.

CONTINUED FROM P. 1

"A difficult chapter is finally over," said Robert Parillo, the attorney who represented the Marx family, to the *Providence Journal*. "They did kill him. They didn't intend to kill him."

"It's a fair resolution for everybody," said Wilkins in the same article. "A whole bunch of decisions brought those kids to the corner that night."

Reports surfaced during the trial that his blood alcohol level that night may have contributed to his death.

Dennis C. Hilliard, a criminalist at the University of Rhode Island, testified last Thursday that Marx's blood alcohol level was .249 on the night of his death. This level is the equivalent of Marx consuming 17 or 18 drinks. He said that this could have affected his critical judgment, as well as his balance and speech, according to a *Providence Journal* article.

Rocheleau and Welsh were downtown the night of May 20, 2004 with about 300 other students for the URI senior pub-crawl. Marx was in Rhode Island that night to accompany his girlfriend Anna Cochrane to a Wheaton College formal. His best friend and classmate, Jared Fomenko, was also present. After the dance, the group took a taxi to a local bar and left said bar at closing time.

According to Cochrane's sworn deposition, which was

New evidence in trial

read during trial last Tuesday, she walked ahead of him on the sidewalk after leaving. She heard a girl screaming, turned around and saw Marx in a fight. He took two steps backward and disappeared from sight.

Commander Martin J. Woolley of the British Royal Navy also testified, saying that as soon as Marx fell, the rear wheel of the bus ran over his head. He was in town that night with colleagues from the Naval War College. The bus was carrying students home from the pub-crawl.

He stated that Marx did not appear to fall because he was drunk. It was the curbside argument that allegedly Marx had with Rocheleau and Welsh, which drew Woolley's attention.

Fomenko told *The Mirror* in 2004 that he witnessed the entire incident.

"We walked outside the bar, wearing our tuxedos, and kids wearing casual clothes were yelling at us about our tuxedos. They seemed to be looking for a fight," said Fomenko.

"I saw him [Marx] get pushed, and in a matter of seconds, the bus had already come and ... Frank was gone. The police came, but I went to the hospital immediately with Anna, his girlfriend. Frank was killed at the scene."

Anna's twin sister Aubrey Cochrane's sworn deposition was also read last Tuesday. Fomenko, Marx's best friend, escorted her to the dance that evening.

She said that she observed Marx was drunk because he seemed "happier than usual" and slurred his speech, according to the *Providence Journal*. She returned to the hotel before the rest of the group and therefore did not witness the actual fall.

Marx, a native of Richboro, Pa., was a four-year rower at Fairfield University. He served as captain of the crew team during his senior year. During the 2004 Alumni Weekend, his coach said that he was the team's strongest member.

During last Wednesday's testimony, Francis J. Marx IV, the father of the victim, told jurors that his son "had a lot of heart," according to the *Providence Journal*.

He also said that his son was the oldest of four children, intelligent and handsome, and an active community service volunteer during his college years.



FAIRFIELD BASKETBALL

2.12.09

ON CAMPUS

For 1st Place in the MAAC

Women's vs. Marist

@ 7:00 p.m. - Alumni Hall

Free 'Frager Fanatic' T-Shirts

Plus....

A chance to win \$500 Dollars!

2.14.09

ON NATIONAL TV

Senior Day!

Men's vs. Niagara

@ 9:00 p.m. - Harbor Yard

200 Free T-Shirts

Win a XBOX 360

Win FOUR \$100 cards

FREE Pizza and

Chicken Turnovers

Go to the BCC Info Desk for more information!!!



EDITORIAL

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Balancing more than budgets

Even before the current economic crisis, a Fairfield education – and other private institutions of its size and caliber – came with a hefty price tag. Affording the nearly \$50,000 tuition is a burden for many students and their families, and the economic climate is obviously not helping. Yet, as discussions begin about the University's budget, it is increasingly apparent that Fairfield and its administrators have student interests and their academic futures at heart.

In a presentation to FUSA Senate Sunday night, University President Fr. Jeffrey von Arx, Vice President of Student Affairs Mark Reed, Executive Vice President Billy Weitzer and Vice President of Finance William Lucas reassured students that while Fairfield would be facing budget constraints, they would not be to the detriment of current and prospective students.

Although the 2009-2010 budget numbers are not confirmed, cuts will need to be made. Because Fairfield predominately relies upon tuition to determine its operating budget, the University clearly needs students (and their parents) more than ever.

Von Arx assured student senators that Fairfield, when compared to other academic institutions, is not in as bad of a situation as others, such as those that have resorted to firing valued employees. Construction, including work on the new Jesuit residence, dorms in the Quad and the conversion of the old Jesuit residence into the Just Us community, will continue as planned.

In an effort to keep students at Fairfield and entice new students, the University will make smaller increases in tuition. But this may also decrease the amount of funds for new programming. By saving extra monies now – including the reservation of 2.5 percent of funds allocated to University departments from the current budget for next year – the economic burden will be softened for students, staff and the University community at large.

Now what does this mean for the grandiose plans of the Golden Stag? The estimated \$70,000 projected to be spent on an ostentatious statue of our beloved mascot would be better spent elsewhere: Keeping students here. While students may complain about their discontent with the meals offered at Barone or the "need" for new treadmills at the RecPlex, Fairfield students and faculty have it pretty good here. And, it is reassuring to see that in an attempt to retain and gain students, the University is finding ways to maintain and even improve financial aid packages.

Now is the time that people are proving that Fairfield continues to preserve its mission of caring for and cultivating well-rounded students even in the face of economic hardship.

The editorial represents the opinion of the majority of The Mirror editorial board. What is your opinion? Write to us: mirror.comment@gmail.com

THE FAIRFIELD MIRROR

The Mirror welcomes the opinions and contributions of its readers:

Letters to the editor must be timely and submitted by disk, e-mailed to themirror.feedback@mail.com

or submitted through our Web site: www.fairfieldmirror.com.

Once received, all letters become property of The Mirror.

There are no guarantees of publication and all submissions must be signed.

The Mirror reserves the right to edit letters and articles for content, length and grammatical error. Letters should be free of obscenities and personal attacks, and should contain correct and factual information.

Please keep letters to under 350 words.

Include a daytime phone number at which the author can be reached.

The Mirror is in room 104 of Barone Campus Center

I pledge allegiance to the Stag...



In reference to the golden Stag statue proposed for the BCC traffic circle last year. At this week's Senate budget meeting, administration said the purchase of the estimated \$70,000 Stag statue may be postponed due to financial reasons; see "Fairfield answers calls for financial aid before budget release" by Lily Norton and Jack McNamara, p.1

Educating yourself while educating others



CHATTIN' WITH CHAPIN
ANDREW CHAPIN

Whoever said second semester senior year was a cinch must have taken a victory lap. There are education minors who are student teaching in their final semester and I do not envy them or their 5 a.m. wakeups.

Fairfield's education minor is as comprehensive as most majors. However, the work that I have done and will continue to do within the Bridgeport School District has motivated me to become a teacher. And this feeling to seek this profession has only been furthered with each inept, incoherent teacher I have encountered over the years.

While observing a sophomore English class at Central High School in Bridgeport, Conn., last year, a student asked me, "Mister, why would you want to teach dumb kids like us?"

His fellow classmates supported his sentiments with similar "Why's?" I smirked their remarks away before the teacher hustled the class.

As I walked to my car later that day, I acknowledged the drug dealer look-alike who frequented the corner where I parked. It appeared to me that the problems that plagued Central High School extended far deeper than just inadequate funding or overburdened teachers.

This is a systemic problem, where the plights of the students are directly related to the despair seen every day on the streets of Bridgeport. Almost 100 percent of Central High School students are eligible for some form

of lunch rebate, with close to 93 percent eligible for free lunch and another six percent eligible for reduced price lunch. This is a stark contrast to the state of Connecticut as a whole, with only 21 percent of the students overall eligible for free lunch, according to publicschoolreview.com.

Because of a lack of change taking place, non-profit organizations such as the Bridgeport Child Advocacy Coalition (BCAC) have taken the charge to educate the unaware of the facts; they are staggering.

According to BCAC's Web site, children without adequate child care are left in the house alone, on average, for 25 hours per week. Even worse: 1 out of 5 Bridgeport freshmen drop out of high school before they graduate.

Emily Smith, Fairfield associate professor of curriculum and instruction, recognized a number of systemic problems that plague the educational system in

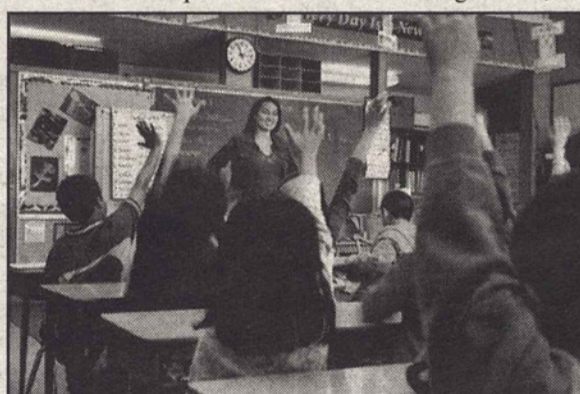
impoverished districts, including "unequal school funding and resources, standardized tests that are not culturally sensitive, institutionalized racism, lack of health care or access to essential community resources."

To Smith, the relationship between student and teacher is integral in order for learning to take place.

"The biggest motivator, I think, for students is whether or not they feel that their teachers and school have faith in them and want them to succeed," she said. "When students come to school with pressing non-academic issues or problems on their mind, it is quite difficult to focus on school."

Fairfield University offers its students a variety of ways to assist not just the Bridgeport School District, but the community at large. Some of these include Head Start Tutoring and free income tax handling through the Federal Income Taxation II course.

However, I was never inclined to volunteer my time in Bridgeport until it was a course requirement. Why? Because, for a while, I felt as if someone else would do it. After seeing Central High senior English students who could barely read and upper class students who needed to be reminded to write in complete sentences for written assignments, I adjusted my position.



Contributed photo

Raising the bar: Lack of change means Bridgeport schools will continue to struggle.

Fairfield graduate student Danielle Durso, who is a permanent substitute at Harding High School in Bridgeport, wondered if it had to do with the culture the students have been brought up in, or if it was just the district valuing standardized testing over student success.

"The classroom I'm in is geared towards CAPT (Connecticut Academic Performance Test) concepts," said Durso. "A lot of what is being emphasized is formulas and geometric concepts on the test."

"As far as succeeding goes, I don't think much emphasis is placed on getting to the next level in math."

The statistics echo the bleak outlook: There is only a 63 percent graduation rate for the Bridgeport School District, compared to a 95 percent overall graduation rate for the state of Connecticut, according to publicschoolview.com.

On Friday, I'll go to Central High School and co-teach "The Great Gatsby" and the academic epidemic will continue to grow in the Bridgeport School District.

I need to believe that what I'm saying in that classroom is resonating with some students; if not, it would be a more monotonous and unfulfilled endeavor than philosophy at Fairfield.

25 random things all about you

BY TRACI DANTONI

I'm sure I'm not the only one who has logged onto Facebook recently, only to be bombarded with precisely 2,025 notifications that my friends would like to share completely random, interesting facts about their lives with me. You know what I'm talking about—those often, but not so random "25 Things About Me" notes that you most likely complain about, but then guiltily enjoy reading later.

If you aren't a Facebook user (good for you), these notes come in a chain mail format. They ask the recipient to "write a note with 25 random things, facts, habits or goals about you" that can be viewed by all your friends. After you carefully craft your list, you're then to "tag" 25 more friends to do the same.

There's something about them—well, some of them—that is endearing.

When done well, the blatant honesty infused ones are attractive. The secrets revealed are fresh and thoughtful, and the humor is light and sarcastic. These notes have the potential to be undeniably good reads if the writer either utilizes a decent sense of humor or reveals something about himself or herself that is not cliché, uninteresting (sorry, I don't care that you're wearing purple socks right now) or irrelevant to anything about yourself ("I'm going to see the best boyfriend ever in six hours." Ugh.)

When not done with good taste and discretion, these notes can become downright pesky. The more annoying

ones contain the likes of "I've been to Timbuktu, the African savannah and many other places you will never be cool enough to go" or "I really love music, it's awesome." It comes off as bragging in this context, and no one likes pretentious people. And, yes, we all listen to music, thanks. That is neither random nor original.

So how do you string together your list of 25 and be able to post it with your dignity still intact? Think carefully

about what you choose to say and not say. Reveal something quirky about yourself. Steer far, far away from the commonplace. Make it personal, not something that can be said just about anyone at Fairfield (i.e.: "I always wear my North Face jacket").

If you just can't come up with anything creative and still must join the masses who engage in this chain, it's

safe to say that you can just be completely ridiculous. I've seen some lists include "I'm so interesting that everyone will be excited to read about my life! I'm so cool!" and "I can do so many things that you can't, including shooting laser beams out of my eyes and spider webs out of my hands!" While slightly stupid, at least they're funny, at least they're random, and at least they raise a smile. That's more than can be said for the "random" fact that you happen to love working out.

Now hurry and tag 25 more people before the trend is over.

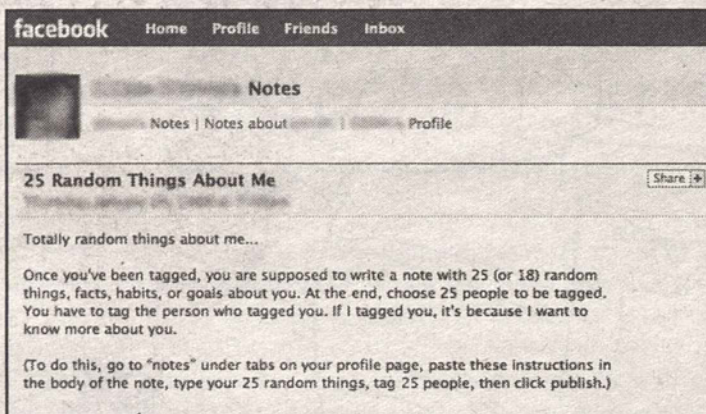
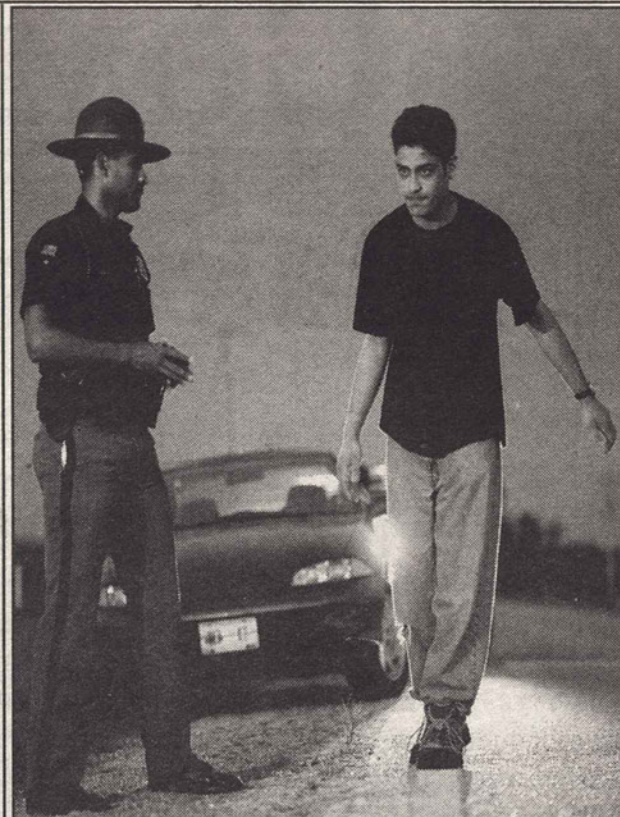


Photo illustration by Peter Caty/The Mirror

Do you really want to know more?: This survey is becoming all too popular on everyone's news feeds.



Contributed Photo

Walk the line: Students too eager to get behind the wheel under the influence are a hazard on campus, too.

Avoiding the drunken drive

BY DAN LEITÃO

A frequent conversation that occurs any night of the week at Fairfield usually involves: "Hey man, I'll pre-game in Jogues and then drive down to the suites." It doesn't matter where you live or where you need to go: dorms, village, townhouses or the beach all fit in that sentence.

It is a lie to say that the number of DUIs that Fairfield students receive are proportionate to the number of drunken drivers, and it's also a lie that those caught driving under the influence were first time offenders. DUIs that are off campus have been a concern, especially at the beach.

What about the DUIs on campus?

We all know that at this time of the year that walk to the townhouses seems longer and, unless you've done a few extra shots, a lot colder. Hopping behind the wheel makes a lot of sense, and taking a ride up to the townhouses seems like a great idea; it's safe to say almost everyone manages to get away with it.

It seems a bit crazy to find a designated driver for a ride up to the townhouses. The same argument can be made for the beach: Who wants to wait 45 minutes for a cab? If you can get a cab, it will cost \$10 each way. So when you can avoid the wait and the price, getting behind the wheel and taking the 10-minute drive to the beach sounds much more appealing. It seems that the ease of driving post pre-game makes sense.

When it comes to drinking and driving, there are two kinds of people: People that do it or people who don't. If they don't, they are responsible about it: They find a designated driver, suck it up and walk, or pay a cab. This will often lead to an extra expense, an argument about whose turn it is to drive, or an embarrassing three-mile walk.

For those who are going to drive under the influence, they are going to do it until they get caught. But when it comes down to it, what can be done to dissuade them and keep the roads on and off campus safer?

Having a DUI check point on Loyola Drive may be a bit extreme. Of course, if students were being caught, this might ease the parking situation next year by possibly opening up more parking spaces for rising sophomores.

So what do we do if we want to avoid creating such a DUI check point? Besides sending offenders to court, what other options are there?

Suggestions: Possibly having the Stag Bus or mini-bus run on campus at night, bring safe rides back, and, yes, once again, have a bus to the beach.

Sadly, hitching a ride from the Domino's Pizza guy mid-delivery in the townhouses is not a good enough option to prevent drunken driving. The University of course would have to find a reason besides providing intoxicated students transportation to their party destination on weekends. Student safety can always be provided as the official reason behind it.

If the frequency of drunken driving on campus continues, it is only a matter of time before someone stumbles in front of a driver post pre-game driving the wrong way in the townhouses. Are we going to wait for that to happen before we do anything to prevent it?

The dying world of print journalism

BY SARAH FRANK

Ever since I was a little girl I have loved to read; whether it was a book, a newspaper or a magazine, the act of turning a page engaged me as I became enveloped in the written words on the pages.

Eventually my love of reading sparked my interest in writing, and so my dream has been to someday write for a magazine — however, attaining my ideal job is becoming less and less likely with the rapid advancements being made in technology, as there has been a constant decline in newspaper and magazine circulation.

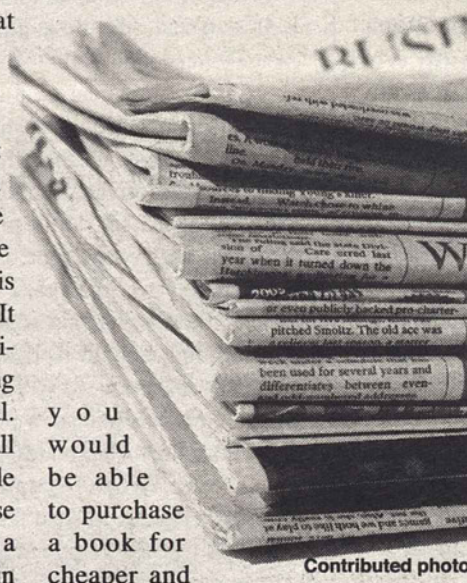
When the newspaper first came to be, readers didn't get their news from many other places. The newspaper kept them in touch with their community and the rest of the country; they became dependent upon it.

Now, people are capable of getting their news from the Internet on their PCs, MacBooks, iPhones and Blackberries. They can buy books, magazines and newspapers on their Kindles for a cheaper price. Will newspapers and magazines go belly-up because of decline in readership? Or will the physical items just cease to exist?

It has actually been proven that although less people are buying newspapers and magazines, the net readership has increased because of online editions, according to a 2008 *New York Times* article. Why is this? I understand that we are in the information age where news and gossip are as easily attainable as the push of a button, but how easy is it to read an article on a phone screen? It seems to me that taking away the physical action of holding a paper or turning a page makes the experience less real. Additionally, are you really exposed to all news stories if you're reading an article on the Web? Instead of having to browse through all of the stories while reading a newspaper on the Internet you can type in exactly what or whom you are looking to read about and miss all the rest.

Will books soon become obsolete as well? Last year, I discovered that Amazon put out a product called the Kindle, a cutting edge electronic device that allows you to buy books, magazines and newspapers that are then auto-delivered wirelessly in less than one minute.

Both lighter and thinner than a book with a high-quality paper like screen, this product seems to be the future of books... but I'm not so sure I want it to be. Sure



Contributed photo

you would be able to purchase a book for cheaper and receive it more quickly, but the idea of pushing a button that turns a page for me is slightly disheartening, and furthermore, what if it crashes? Are all of the books you bought lost forever?

According to figures released by the Newspaper Association of America, the advertising revenue for newspapers in 2007 fell 9.4 percent to \$42 billion, which, to date, is the worst drop in more than 50 years. The newspaper industry, however, has in recent years played down the drastic circulation declines according to a *New York Times* article, even though some of the circulation drop has been intentional. Most newspapers have reduced their physical size by downsizing their office space and staff.

All in all, I thoroughly enjoy being able to grasp a book, newspaper or magazine in my hands and physically turn the pages, and, hopefully, you do too. I find the idea of living in a world based solely around electronic devices slightly daunting; will favorite bookstores go out of business? I know that they most likely won't go anywhere too soon, but I can't imagine buying e-books for my kids and reading to them from a screen. Books, magazines and newspapers are concrete items that, unlike digital media, cannot crash or get viruses.



Contributed by Getty Images

Classic American image disappearing as we know it: As the newspaper fades from circulation, newsboys will be no more.



Show some heart

BY ALEXANDRA GROSS

For many, Valentine's Day has turned into a day of obligation rather than a time to appreciate and recognize loved ones. Flowers, chocolate and sappy cards have become the norm – and a little boring. While gifts should not be the primary focus of Valentine's Day, here are some creative ideas that have life after you give them to that special someone.



Courtesy of Oxfamamericaunwrapped.com

Keep on giving: Oxfam Unwrapped has made it easier to have a guilt-free Valentine's Day and do a little good with some of its thoughtful gifts, starting at \$15. Recipients will receive a personalized card, explaining the meaning of your gift. Buying a **dozen chicks** (\$40) – as in baby chickens – in the name of your boyfriend and girlfriend will provide HIV/AIDS-affected families in developing countries with means for nutrition and income. While your loved one might not receive an actual gift of **chocolate** (\$18) or **fair trade honey** (\$18), you are supporting the education of small-scale farmers and sustainable growing practices. What's more compassionate than that?

Contact: www.oxfamamericaunwrapped.com



Valentine's Day gifts with a purpose

Oprah approved: Global Exchange was listed on Ms. Winfrey's "Best Eco-friendly Valentine's" feature as the best place to shop for **Fair Trade chocolate** (ranging from \$5.25-\$16.00). Other fun gifts include **hand-beaded seed necklaces** (\$36), **hand-carved heart-shaped boxes** (\$11), **soaps** (\$28) and **candles** (\$15-\$16), made by individuals who are paid fair wages and work in safe working conditions. The organization is "dedicated to promoting environmental, political and social justice" through the promotion and sale of responsible gifts.

Contact: www.globalexchangestore.org



Courtesy of Globalexchange.org



Courtesy of Organicbouquet.com

When a rose isn't just a rose: It doesn't take that much thought to stop off at a grocery store to pick up a last minute flower bouquet and a cardboard box of chocolates. Spend some extra time to visit online retailer **Organic Bouquet**. The company provides its **Charitable Bouquet** collection (\$45-\$75) that not only features organically harvested flowers, but arrangements that support credible non-profits groups such as the Human Society, Amnesty International and the Breast Cancer Fund. Although it might be pricey, it is still rewarding. Spending a little extra ultimately promotes the improvement of environmental and social health for others.

Contact: www.organicbouquet.com

Be green: For less than \$10, you can become carbon neutral. Sure, it doesn't sound too romantic or exciting, but as part of **BeGreen's Gift of Green** (\$9.95), three trees will be planted on behalf of your significant other as part of the Mendocino National Forest Hunter Fire Restoration Project. By purchasing one metric ton of carbon offsets, you can offset "emissions created by driving to your favorite romantic spot, electricity emissions used to power your evening" and "shipping your chocolates and flowers around the planet." Plus, once you purchase your offsets, you receive a certificate to print out for the recipient. No need for a card!

Contact: www.begreennow.com



Courtesy of Begreennow.com

With money tighter than ever, it's important that your gift actually means something. Any of these gifts, coupled with a hand-made card, is sure to make a memorable and love-filled Valentine's Day.

Tuition struggle:

BY VAL BERTOLAMI

The current state of our economy has forced the entire country to cut back on expenses, and this is no exception at Fairfield. Affording a Fairfield education is becoming increasingly difficult for many undergraduates and their families.

It is difficult not to think of how this economic crisis is going to affect Fairfield students' ability to stay enrolled at the University, as well as how it will influence high school seniors' decisions to attend Fairfield in the fall.

There could already be evidence that the current college applicants are already impacted.

"The number of first-year applicants to Fairfield is down slightly," said Director of Admissions Karen Pellegrino. "This is fairly consistent with most other private schools with which I am familiar."

But it is uncertain if this decline is entirely because of the state of the economy. Last year, the number of high school graduates hit an all-time high in the United States, but the number of graduates this year was expected to decline in any case.

At the moment, the University is striving to enroll a freshmen class that is similar to the size of the class of 2012, which is around 900 students, according to Judith Dobai, associate vice president for enrollment management.

Hard times may mean lower enrollment, financial problems for Fairfield students

However, this number may not be attainable. Dobai added that this target number "could change if we learn that currently enrolled Fairfield students are not able to return to the University."

Some high school students have already been accepted to Fairfield through the Early Action Program. Usually, at this point in the year, the number of definite students is relatively low, and this year is no exception. This year's number of confirmed students is not much different from past years at this time, but there is still much time remaining in the acceptance process.

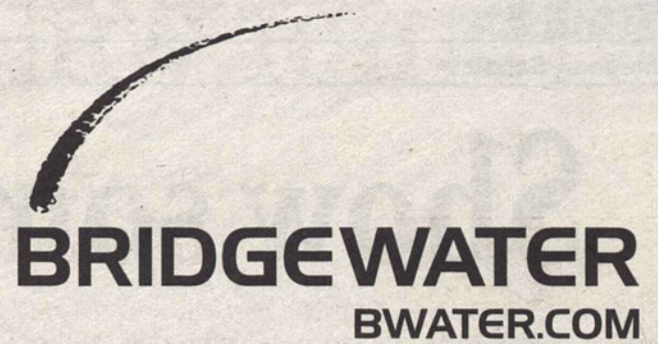
Students who are currently enrolled are finding that their economic situations at home are changing this year, and many are in need of adjustments to their previous financial aid packages.

"We would much rather assist current students to stay at Fairfield," said Dobai, "We have already helped over 100 students this year with financial aid adjustments."

The administration is continuing to work toward solutions to help students remain at the University, despite difficult economic situations at home.

When University President Fr. Jeffrey von Arx and other top members of his administration met with the FUSA Senate on Sunday, they once again stressed the importance of helping students in need, especially through financial aid opportunities.

FOR MORE ON THE ECONOMY SEE: "FAIRFIELD" P. 1 "EDITORIAL" P. 7



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Junior wins free trip to Disney

BY BRENDAN MONAHAN



HUMMEL

Jordan Hummel '10 woke up Friday morning without plans for spring break and with no reason to celebrate that night, besides the fact that it was the start of yet another weekend at Fairfield.

Before the University could close to kick off the weekend, Hummel won a free trip to Disney World for herself and her three best friends.

Associate Dean of Students Matt Dinnan donated Disney Vacation Club points as part of a fund-raising campaign sponsored by the Class of 2011.

The junior history major and FUSA Secretary of Communications wasted little time in celebrating.

The drawing happened just before offices closed at 4:30 p.m. on Friday, less than half an hour after Hummel purchased her ticket to, what many would consider, the world's happiest place on Earth.

The raffle was an effort to raise money for the Class of 2011's spring boat cruise that is set to sail on April 17 in New York's harbor. Meghan O'Connor, treasurer for the class of 2011, said that the event raised \$350 and was seen as a win-win on campus.

"The student body was given the opportunity to go on a wonderful vacation and we were given the opportunity to put on a very exciting fund-raiser," O'Connor said.

The five night stay at Disney's Old Key West Resort was a donation to the class, a gesture much appreciated by the sophomore class council.

Hummel is grateful and excited to fly the friendly skies en route to a free week's stay.

Shortly after claiming her prize, *The Mirror* sat down with Hummel to get her initial reaction on the big win.

***The Mirror:* Some students bought dozens of tickets for a chance to win this vacation. How many raffle tickets did you buy?**

Jordan Hummel: I bought four tickets.

***TM:* You bought \$20 worth of tickets 10 minutes before the deadline. Do you feel any remorse for those who spend so much on the tickets, possibly days earlier?**

JH: I do feel bad that I bought so few tickets when other people were so dedicated to it. But I'll enjoy it enough for everyone!

***TM:* What was your reaction when you heard that you won?**

JH: When I heard that I won, I thought it was a joke. We had just been talking about how I was buying my tickets so late, and I wasn't entirely sure when the official drawing was taking place, so I was really excited and surprised!

***TM:* Who are you taking?**

JH: I am taking my three friends who also bought tickets with me and made a pact to each other.

***TM:* When are you going?**

JH: We leave March 1!

***TM:* Who did you call first?**

JH: I first called [my friend] Jen, but she was in a movie and couldn't answer the phone, so my next calls were to [my friends] Ally, Lauren and my mom.

***TM:* How did you hear the news?**

JH: They picked the name out, and they had a blank expression on their face. I couldn't see the name on it so I walked closer and saw my name and I started jumping up and down!

***TM:* How did you celebrate?**

JH: Hung out with the my friends...and we started planning things we want to see and what parks and shows we want to go to make this trip the best!



Contributed Photo

Happiest place on Earth: Hummel and friends will be joining the Disney troupe on their upcoming spring break.

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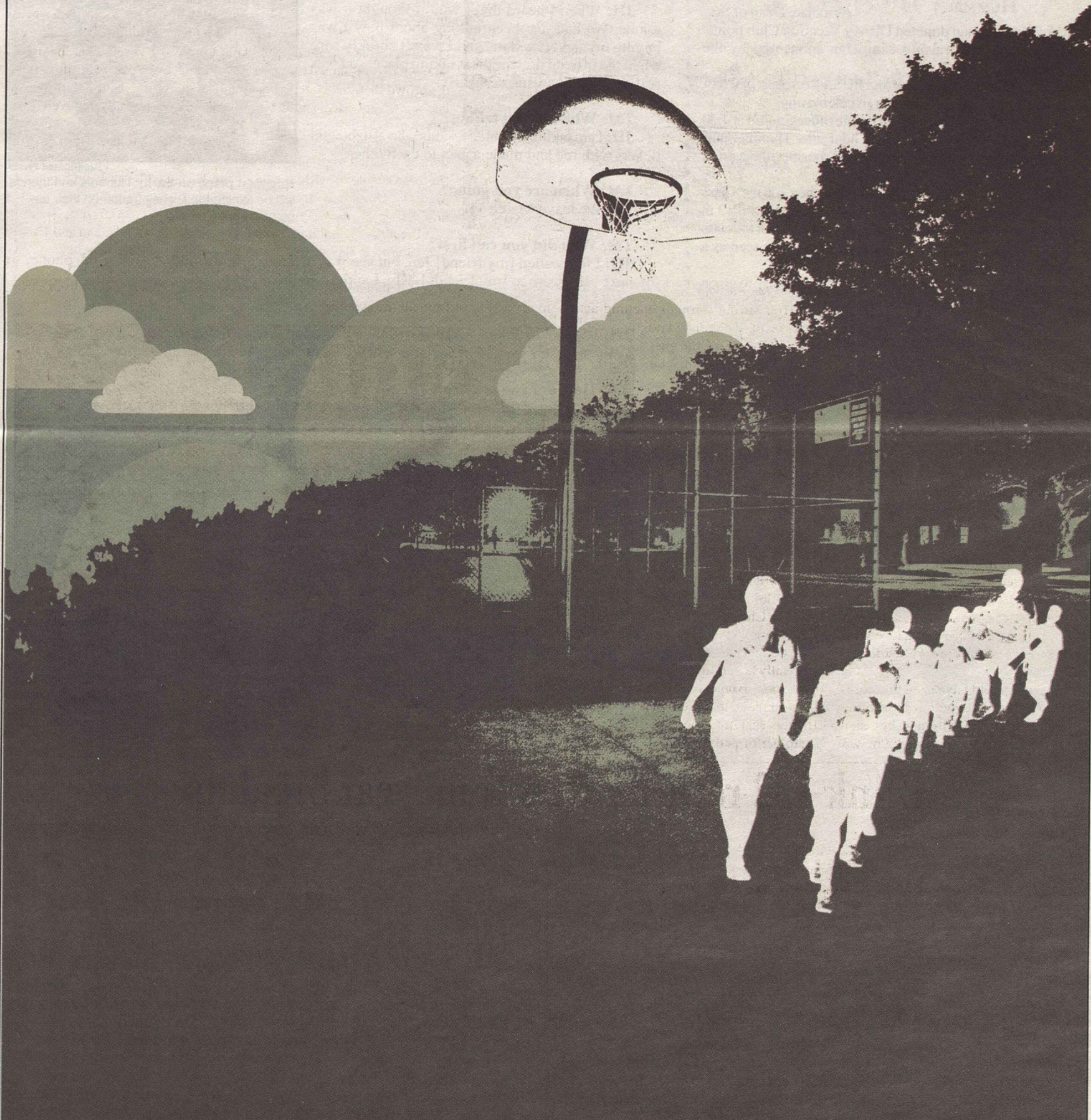
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Meg & Dia concert is a 'Monster' of a hit



Andoni Flores/The Mirror

Female rockers come to town: *The Mirror's* friends Meg & Dia rocked out to a packed crowd Sunday night.

BY ANDONI FLORES

It's freezing in New Haven. No surprises there. We parked the car just across the street from the Yale bookstore and make our way down the street. Toad's Place is just around the corner but the line outside its doors is half a block long.

"Great," I said to myself as we walked down to the end of the line. The will call window wasn't open yet so I couldn't get our four tickets or pick up the press passes, meaning I had to stand in line outside just like everybody else, so much for preferential treatment.

As I made my down to the end of the line I started to notice a very peculiar pattern. Girl, girl, girl, girl, girl, girl, girl, then the occasional dad waiting with his prepubescent daughter sticks out — but 99 percent of the crowd outside this place is girls.

I guess I should have seen this coming; Secondhand Serenade is headlining the tour. Not my favorite act, but then again I wasn't here for that band; I'm was

here for Meg & Dia.

After sitting through opening acts, "Rookie of the Year" and "White Tie Affair," the girls of Meg and Dia finally hit the stage.

The band opened with its hit song "Roses." If ever there was a band that had chemistry and loved its job, it has to be these guys. Dia danced around barefoot, bouncing to Meg's riffs and drummer Nick's beats. Meg swayed with her guitar but never wandered. Carlo could not look any happier, he looked like a little kid who just got to open his Christmas presents early. He joked around with Nick during the set and occasionally kneels at the edge of the stage to unleash a wailing solo. Fans in the crowd became ecstatic when the group performed the band's

hit song "Monster." Dia played keyboards during one of the softer songs and toward the end of one of the group's songs some strange notes begin to be heard.

To everyone's shock and to the band's relief, the guitarist from "White Tie Affair" had snuck behind some of the speakers with his guitar and managed to get into the sound system during Meg and Dia's set to play a prank on them. He explained to the crowd that this is the last show that Meg and Dia will be performing with this tour and that's why he decided to prank them. All jokes aside, Meg and Dia rocked the house.

Finally, Secondhand Serenade took the stage. My least favorite of the acts, I sat down on a bench near the stage to rest my back from all the standing.

John Vesely's hair was ridiculous, gelled straight up, and instead of drinking water like the rest of the bands had, this guy had a beer. I don't know if it helps his vocals but it explained the hair. Don't get me wrong, Vesely has got talent but his lyrics are disgustingly sappy.

But I guess that must have been a good thing because during the performance, he stopped and let one of his friends propose to his girlfriend on-stage in front of the entire crowd. The girl said "yes" and everybody is fine and dandy. Vesely moved on and took some Q&A from the crowd before going back to singing.

During most of Vesely's set, he used did a solo on an acoustic guitar, occasionally rocking out with a full band, but when he does, he fully recovers his masculinity.

It's no surprise that the all-girl crowd screams for an encore. And Vesely gave it to them. He ended his last song, put the guitar on the ground and left.

Finally, I thought to myself. Show's over. I headed over to Meg, Dia and Carlo who are selling merchandise, and got a picture with them and finally left.

Not bad for a couple of girls from Utah.



Andoni Flores/The Mirror

Secondhand Serenade is second-rate: The headliner of the tour recently brought its emo rock to Toad's Place.

Blink 182 returns after four-year breakup

BY JP PORRETTA

After a long four-year hiatus, multi-platinum selling rock band Blink 182 pleased fans worldwide this past weekend with the announcement of the group's reformation.

"We used to play music together, and we have decided we are going to play music together again," drummer Travis Barker stated on stage at Sunday night's Grammy Awards.

Barker's announcement was followed by bassist Mark Hoppus, who ecstatically shouted, "Blink 182 is back!"

Immediately following the Grammys, the trio's Web site was updated with a new promo photo of the band, a new band logo and a press statement that read:

"To put it simply, we're back. We mean, really back. Picking up where we left off and then some. In the studio writing and recording a new album. Preparing to tour the world yet again. Friendships reformed."

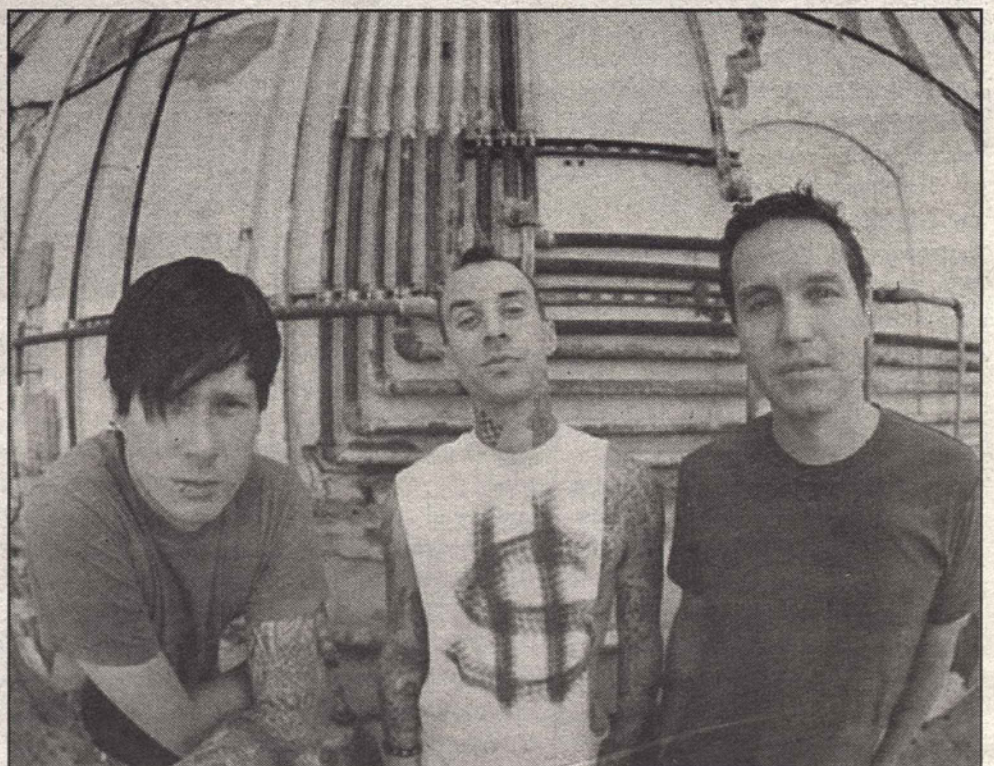
The return of the pop-punk trio has been anticipated by millions ever since the band dispatched in early 2005. Tom DeLonge quit the band after a heated argument with his fellow band mates about making family a larger priority than the band, leading to the band being officially put under "indefinite hiatus." DeLonge went on the front the band Angels and Airwaves, while Barker and Hoppus formed the short-lived band +44.

After four years apart and an uncomfortable amount of animosity shown by both sides, the trio began speaking again after Barker barely survived a tragic plane crash in September, which left him severely injured and four others dead.

While the band has been keeping tight-lipped on what's in store for fans, several sources have indicated a summer tour and a summer release date for their upcoming sixth studio album.

In an interview with MTV last month, Hoppus talked about the then unconfirmed Blink 182 reunion, stating that "it would have to be the most amazing, ridiculous, mind blowing show and tour ever."

Here's to hoping Blink 182 lives up to its word.



Contributed Photo

The wait is finally over: After four years since its break up, pop punk icons Blink 182 announced its return with a new album and world tour.

The 51st Grammys

Memorable performances by old favorites

BY GABRIELLA TUTINO

On Sunday, the 51st Annual Grammy Awards Ceremony was held in Los Angeles, bringing together hundreds of musical acts from different genres for one star-studded evening. The show kicked off with a performance by U2, setting the fast-paced energy that is characteristic of the Grammys.

Immediately after, the award for Best R&B album was presented by Whitney Houston to Jennifer Hudson for her self-titled debut album. Dwayne "The Rock" Johnson, made a failed attempt at being comical then turned the stage over to Justin Timberlake who performed with Boyz II Men, Al Green and Keith Urban.

A total of 110 Grammys were given out this year, though not all were broadcast due to time limits. Sugarland won Best Country Performance, dark horse nominees Robert Plant and Allison Kraus won twice for Best Pop Collaboration and Record of the Year, and Coldplay took home two Grammys, one for Song of the Year for its hit single "Viva la Vida" and also Best Rock Album for the band's platinum record of the same name. Adele scored Best New Artist, John Mayer won Best Male Pop Vocal, and Lil' Wayne took home Best Rap Album.

The better performances were those of 'older' acts, specifically Coldplay, as well as Jay-Z, Kid Rock, 10-time Grammy Winner Kanye West with Estelle, and Radiohead. Par tradition, this year's Grammys once again delivered a new batch of eclectic collaborations between different artists. "Best friends" Miley Cyrus and Taylor Swift came together for the first time to perform an acoustic rendition of Swift's "Fifteen." Stevie Wonder bridged the generation gap with the Jonas Brothers, chiming in on the chorus of "Burnin' Up," which then melted into Wonder's super-hit "Superstition." To honor New Orleans and the victims of Hurricane Katrina, Lil' Wayne paired with Robin Thicke to perform "Tie My Hands."

The highlight of the Grammys was the collaborative performance of rap superstars Lil' Wayne, Jay-Z, Kanye West, T.I. and a very pregnant M.I.A. Their rendition of "Swagga Like Us" was the first time all four rappers have ever shared a stage together.

Although it was a small event, pop punk trio Blink 182 appeared onstage together for the first time in over four years to present the Best Rock Album. Before presenting the award to Coldplay, Blink announced to the crowd that it is officially back together, clearing up the many rumors that spread over the week prior.

The final award for Album of the Year was presented by Green Day to Robert Plant and Allison Krauss for "Raising Sand."

'Just a Lil' Bit'...better

50 Cent will grace the stage at Sacred Heart next month

BY ELIZABETH MAINIERO

It's pretty easy to guess the response to who would win the cross-town showdown between 50 Cent and John Legend. The same can be said for the potential turn out of college students at a concert.

Sure, John Legend has that hit about the stoplights, but 50 Cent is a platinum-selling rapper who rose from the drug dealing streets of Queens, survived nine gun shot wounds, and has collaborated with the likes of Eminem, Dr.Dre, Justin Timberlake and Akon. He's also the rapper who, come March, will be appearing on the stage at the William H. Pitt Center of Sacred Heart University.

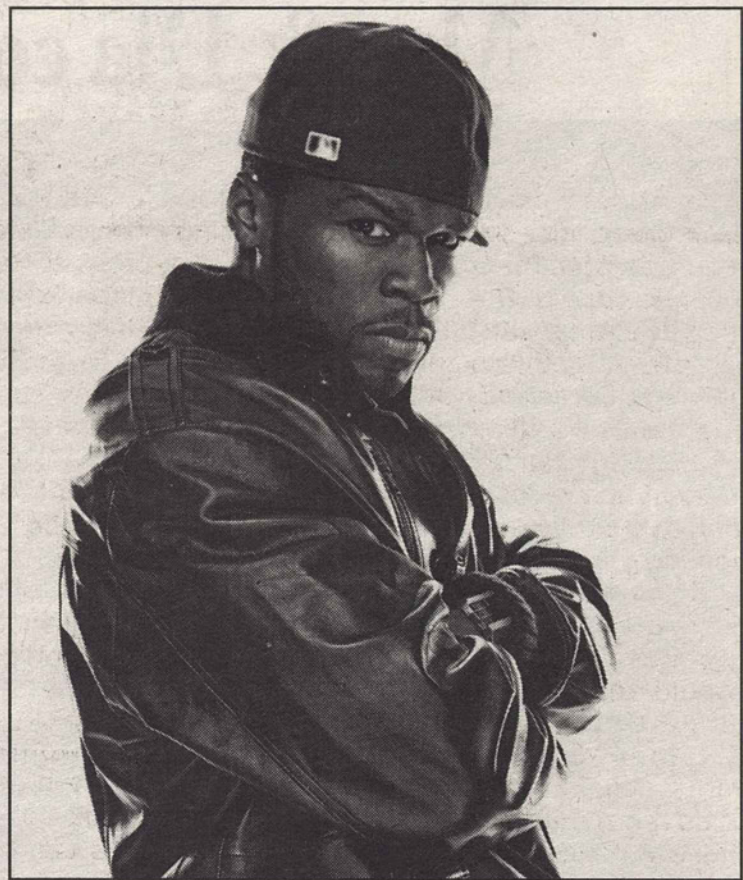
Last year's performance at Sacred Heart of Grammy Award winning artists Ne-Yo and T-Pain, and this spring's headline of "Fidy" leaves Fairfield students asking: Why does Sacred Heart always seem to outshine us when it comes to the much anticipated Spring Concert?

Last year, T-Pain and Ne-Yo were at the top of their games with hits like "Buy You a Drink," "Bartender" and "Because of You." Sure, Fairfield increased its street cred with the Southern rapper, Ludacris, but his latest hit, "Money Maker, had been popular in 2006, making many Fairfield students regard it as a "throw-back" concert.

50 Cent has been out of the concert circuit for the past few years and this will be his first concert in Connecticut for the former Nutmeg State resident in two years; but with the recent release of his newest single, "Crack Bottles," 50 Cent has come roaring back onto the rap scene. This current single, a collaboration with Eminem and Dr. Dre, currently sits at number one on the iTunes top songs chart.

One can muster a guess that on the night of March 27, 50, who already owns a key to the city of Bridgeport, will take the stage to a packed house at the Pitt Center. The crowd will obviously include a large portion of the SHU student body but also a huge following from Fairfield's own student body. Could the Fairfield turnout at Sacred Heart be more than the turnout was at John Legend on Dec. 26? I guess it remains to be seen.

But why? Is it because the demographics of the student body at Fairfield emulate the image of kids who desire the likes of bands like O.A.R., Guster and Dashboard Confessional? Of course these are still great bands in their own. However, after the sold out show of Girl Talk, and the excitement that surrounded Ludacris, one has to wonder if FUSA is completely missing the mark when it pays thousands of dollars



Contributed Photo

Rap superstar comes to Sacred Heart: SHU outstaged Fairfield once again, announcing 50 Cent as its spring concert.

to hire the artist who quietly serenades us as we wait for our coffee at Jazzman's. Who wants to spend their Friday or Saturday night sedated by coffee shop music surrounded by people who remind them of their parents? It's a question of personal opinion but, personally, I'd rather "crack bottles" with a pumped up crowd to songs like, "In Da Club", and "Disco Inferno."

With the hope of our own spring concert dwindling, the bridge between the cross-town rivalries will be crossed on March 27. Fairfield students will attend to pay their respects to the rapper who made gunshot wounds, candy shops and shawties cool.

Learn why 'he's just not that into you'

BY LILY NORTON

The film "He's Just Not That Into You" is not like any romantic comedy you've seen. Intertwining stories of lovers and friends that appear in the movie are meant to represent all the cardinal points in the #1 *New York Times* best-selling how-to style book of the same name that appeared in 2004. The film accomplishes both getting across the message of the book and entertaining audiences. But there is still so much more information and fun to gain from the movie. That's why I've compiled a list of what people can gain from this film.

10 Reasons Every Person Should See "He's Just Not That Into You"

10. Bennifer. The story line between Jennifer Aniston and Ben Affleck is on fire. Even if Affleck's character is quite perplexing and mysterious at the beginning of the movie, he makes up for it with the pants (I know this doesn't make any sense to you now, but just more reason for you to go see it!)

9. Every person in college is aware of the technologies that plague our lives. In the film, Mary, played by Drew Barrymore, speaks out against the way gadgets and social networking services have warped the way dating should actually work. Thus, the film presents the message that hiding behind our Blackberries and Facebook accounts is probably not the best way to find "The One."

8. Learning that gay signals are very different than straight signals. A look into the uncomplicated way gay men supposedly operate is enlightening, but may also make you jealous. Why can't straight people be so straightforward?

7. By watching it, every guy will realize that Caller ID may have been the best device ever invented.

6. Scarlett Johansson. Isn't it weird that Scarlett Johansson always plays the role of the other woman? Even so, she is as equally banging in

this film as any other. Girls, telling your man that Scarlett strips down in this movie may be enough to get him to the theater with you.

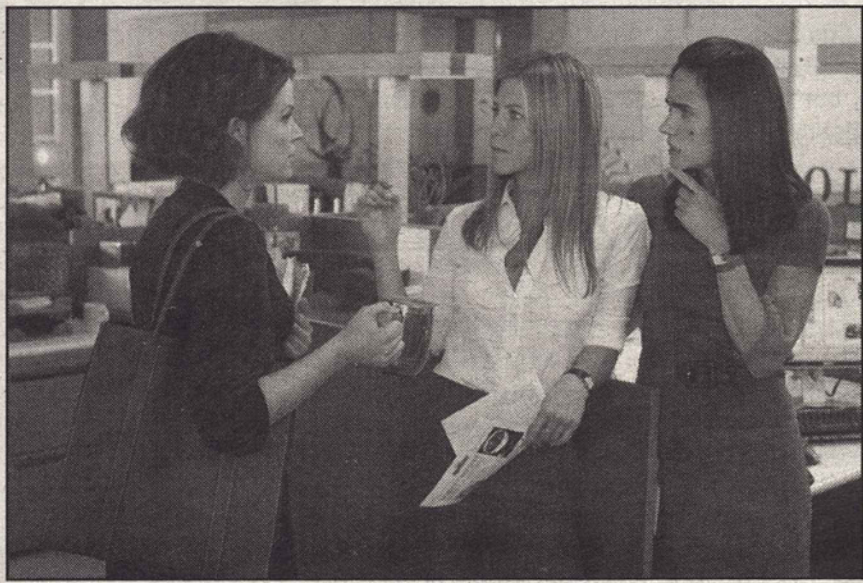
5. Bradley Cooper. After you saw "Wedding Crashers," this blonde might not have struck your fancy because his character was nothing short than every girl's worst nightmare. But, when you see him and Affleck, you realize that both of these guys are pretty smoking, even if there names haven't appeared as doodles on girl's notebooks lately.

4. It actually presents realistic love stories. A man that doesn't want to get married, but wants to live together. A woman who suspects her husband of cheating, but is prepared to let it slide. A woman who can't decide to be the mistress of a married man or stay with a sweet, charming friend. Some have happy endings, some sad. Doesn't get much more real than that.

3. Justin Long is the new Love Guru (sorry, Mike Myers). I know this is a bold statement, but Long's character is the greatest thing to ever grace a romantic comedy.

2. It's not a chick flick. It avoids the top clichés such as loves that transpire from bets, makeover montages and scenes where someone has to stop another person from getting on a plane because they just love them so much. If you like this stuff, though, you will still find enjoyment in the somewhat corny scenes in the movie.

1. If you've ever sat around waiting for a phone call or not been able to concentrate because you always want to check your voicemail or MySpace or e-mail or whatever, you will understand why you need to see this movie. Everyone who has ever dated will unite through this movie, and perhaps learn something too.



A handful of reasons you'll enjoy this film: "He's Just Not That into You" proves to be a highly enjoyable and realistic romantic comedy.

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• "He's Just Not That Into You" (2009) •

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Editor: Lily Norton

February 12, 2009

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Josh Kenney

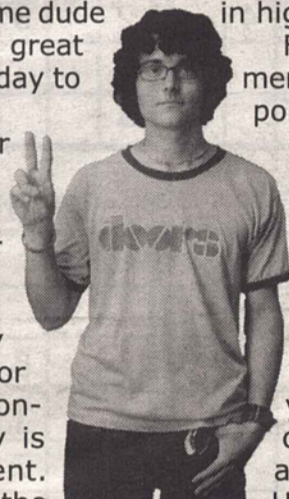
HE said / SHE said

Tina Masciadrelli

The day when lovers celebrate, singles boycott

Back in the 1920s, someone decided that it would be a great idea to capitalize on revenues from the tradition known as Valentine's Day. Ever since then, the American male has been commercialized into buying roses, Hallmark Cards and Russell Stover Chocolates at ridiculously inflated prices. Either that or some dude thought it would be a great idea to make a sex holiday to benefit all of mankind.

In light of the latter explanation, it would seem to me that they should rename Valentine's Day "National Get Into Your Lady's Pants Day." For many of us men, especially for those in devoted relationships, Valentine's Day is a very important event. For many, it might be the only day of the year you get laid. Even if you, like myself, are lucky enough to get some loving year round, Valentine's Day still represents a guaranteed ace in the hole. I'll be staying in with my girl with a bottle of wine and a delicious home cooked meal. That is if she doesn't read this...



For single men, however, Valentine's Day represents something entirely different. For many, it is a night of self-loathing. The only things keeping these men from hanging themselves is a subscription to porn sites, a handle of Jack Daniels and, of course, a picture of the girl he used to date in high school.

Fortunately, other single men decide to take a more opportunistic approach on Valentine's Day. It is fact that Valentine's Day is a good opportunity to seal the deal because for some reason, the only cure for a woman's Valentine's Day blues is a drunken hook-up. Maybe afterward you can both share a pint of Ben and Jerry's together and watch "Ten Things I Hate About You" after you stumbje back from the Grape.

Is Valentine's Day pointless? Probably yes. But regardless, it's certainly responsible for creating most of the population born every November. So relax, sit back and reap the benefits of overpriced flowers and chocolate; at least for one night.

It's Wednesday ... you have three days to find a date for Valentine's Day on Saturday night so you can get a bouquet of roses, chocolate and a nice dinner at an extremely overcrowded restaurant decorated with red hearts and a corny menu featuring "Be Mine Berry Martinis" and "Sweat Heart Surf and Turf." Or you could choose to catch the new flick "He's Just Not That Into You" and take shots of vodka with your best friends. The choice is yours.

One Valentine's Day, I had spent the day in bed with my life partner, Ketel One. The two of us watched romantic movies together and I began to notice that at some point during almost every romantic comedy, the female lead suddenly trips and falls, stumbling over something ridiculous like a leaf, then some Matthew McConaughey-type either whips around the corner just in time to save her or is clumsily pulled down along with her. That event predictably leads to their magical first kiss. Please. I fall all the time. You know who comes and rescues me? The bouncer.

Then, within the two-hour time frame of the movie, two people meet, fall in love, fall out of love, break up and then just before the end of the movie, they happen to bump into each other by "coincidence."

This never happens in real life. One time, I bumped into an ex-boyfriend at 3 a.m. at a diner. I was stuffing my face with a tuna melt.

If you haven't found your romantic comedy sweet heart and plan on being alone on the 14th, do yourself a favor and avoid the mail room in the BCC. If you know you won't be getting flowers, don't wait in that line. I once was behind a girl who eagerly handed over her slip and StagCard while telling me that the heart balloons were definitely for her. Instead, she received a textbook from Amazon.com. So don't make life harder than it needs to be. Other single people will be at the bar just as depressed as you, and we all know misery loves company.



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College Crossword

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V-Day Messages

by Joshua O'Connell

ACROSS

- 1. insects between larvae and adult
 - 6. '96 Republican vice presidential candidate
 - 10. slick spokesperson
 - 14. prop for "tall man"
 - 15. dragon's home, perhaps
 - 16. wife of a raja
 - 17. tortilla chip dip
 - 18. related Celt languages
 - 19. elevator name
 - 20. candy heart saying
 - 23. printing term for bigger spaces
 - 24. made of aluminum, perhaps
 - 25. pants measurement
 - 27. Atlanta baseball team
 - 31. giving a false impression
 - 33. violent crime
 - 34. one who tosses something
 - 36. Firefox alternative
 - 38. be unwell
 - 39. completed again
 - 43. one who uses cash
 - 46. not mean
 - 47. drink
 - 50. last step before humans, some think
 - 52. chalk clean-up device
 - 53. curvy letter
 - 54. spanish thousand
 - 55. candy heart saying
 - 62. covered with frozen water
 - 64. part of a foot
 - 65. regular
 - 66. org. that brought countries together (abbrev.)
 - 67. former VP Al
 - 68. Inferno namesake
 - 69. Finnish village
 - 70. racial insult
 - 71. selected
- Down
- 1. a quiet "YO!"
 - 2. 2002 Winter Olympics locale
 - 3. clothes before they're washed?
 - 4. too
 - 5. posture
 - 6. Bridgeport concert hall
 - 7. NBC show namesake
 - 8. type of soup
 - 9. give a taste beforehand
 - 10. to and ____
 - 11. sail type
 - 12. inner selves
 - 13. candy heart saying
 - 21. compass direction
 - 22. go in
 - 26. peaceful
 - 27. not sis'
 - 28. Eminem's musical style
 - 29. imitate
 - 30. poetry pieces
 - 31. feeling of satisfaction
 - 32. actors get absorbed in one
 - 35. surfer saying: "____ ten"
 - 37. after an activity
 - 40. low lighting
 - 41. water's solid state
 - 42. Cub Scout "pack"
 - 44. types of insect
 - 45. red skin irritation
 - 47. candy heart saying
 - 48. numerous of a particular female
 - 49. people who park cars
 - 51. not genuine, but it seems like it
 - 53. colorless, highly inflammable liquid
 - 56. organic compound
 - 57. very light brown
 - 58. the sooner the better (abbrev.)
 - 59. little kid (slang)
 - 60. Soap family name
 - 61. winter mountain toy
 - 63. a deer... a female deer

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	
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62			63		64					65			
66						67				68			
69						70				71			

Looking for the answers? Head online to check your answers at www.fairfieldmirror.com

SUDOKU

A NUMBER LOGIC PUZZLE

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Place the numbers 1 through 9 in the grid so they appear once in each row, column, and nine-box square.

PUZZLE #1 - EASY

6			2	8		3	5	
7				9			1	
	8	1	7		3			4
						7	8	
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	7	9						
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	1			4				9
4	5		3	6				8

PUZZLE #2 - MEDIUM

			4					5
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	7		4	3		6		
6								1
		4		8	6			7
2	9		5	3	4			
		9						5
4			1					

PUZZLE #3 - HARD

9	2			5	7			
5		3			4	6		
		7			5			
8				3		1		
		1	4					
	7	6						9
		5		1				
	9	4			8			3
		8	4			9		6

PUZZLE #4 - BRAIN FREEZE

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The MIRROR
twis
this week in sports



SKIING

Each Saturday morning in January and February, the Fairfield ski team gathers in front of Alumni Hall before the sun rises.

Skis and snowboards clutched on top of their cars packed in Thule boxes, poles, helmets and boots in their trunks, they caravan North to Hunter Mountain, Wyndham Mountain, Mountain Creek or another "local hill" for a weekend of racing.

For the first time in club history, both the men and women's teams came home this past weekend from their final regular season race with first place trophies for their conference. Other teams in the New Jersey Conference include Princeton, Scranton, Columbia, Rutgers, Lafayette and Lehigh. Coming home with hardware this weekend was junior Caity Barber who trounced the women's league with a lead of over one hundred points. On the men's side, both junior Greg Peterson, who won the men's league by a small margin over teammate, and fellow junior Nick Carlucci, who came in second for the league but had more regular season wins than anyone in the league, finished at the top of individual events.

Prior to the team's recent competition at Hunter Mountain, conference wins were not certain. A strong showing, though, by brothers Nick and senior Patrick Carlucci, and Peterson for the men, as well as Barber for the women, helped Fairfield clinch a win over rival Lehigh.

"We've always been a consistent team in terms of our ranking in the New Jersey Conference," Carlucci said. "Each year since I was a freshman, we've done better and better but never won the conference, so coming out on top of the rest of the competition was a great way to end my college skiing career."

Collectively, the men and women's teams will lose three seniors next year: Amy Coyne, Carlucci and Kevin Dempsey.

"We'll definitely miss the seniors," Barber said. "But we're all focused on repeating our conference win next season."

—Jon Ollwerther

UP NEXT:

This coming weekend, the Fairfield men's and women's swimming and diving teams travel to Baltimore for the MAAC Swimming Championships at Loyola (Md.)

CLUB SKIING



Jon Ollwerther/The Mirror

Let it snow: For continuing coverage and an online slideshow of the Fairfield skiing team, log onto Fairfieldmirror.com.

MEN'S CLUB ICE HOCKEY



Peter Caty/The Mirror

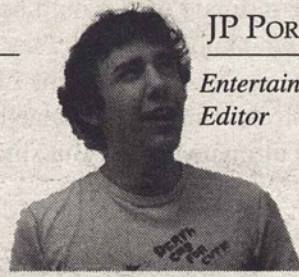
Race for the puck: Junior Pat Walters stretches for a loose puck in the Stags' recent game against SUNY-New Paltz.

MIRROR SPORTS

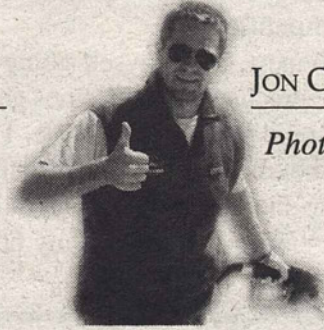
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VALENTINE'S EDITION



MEGHAN SCHELZI
Campus Life Editor



JP PORRETTA
Entertainment Editor

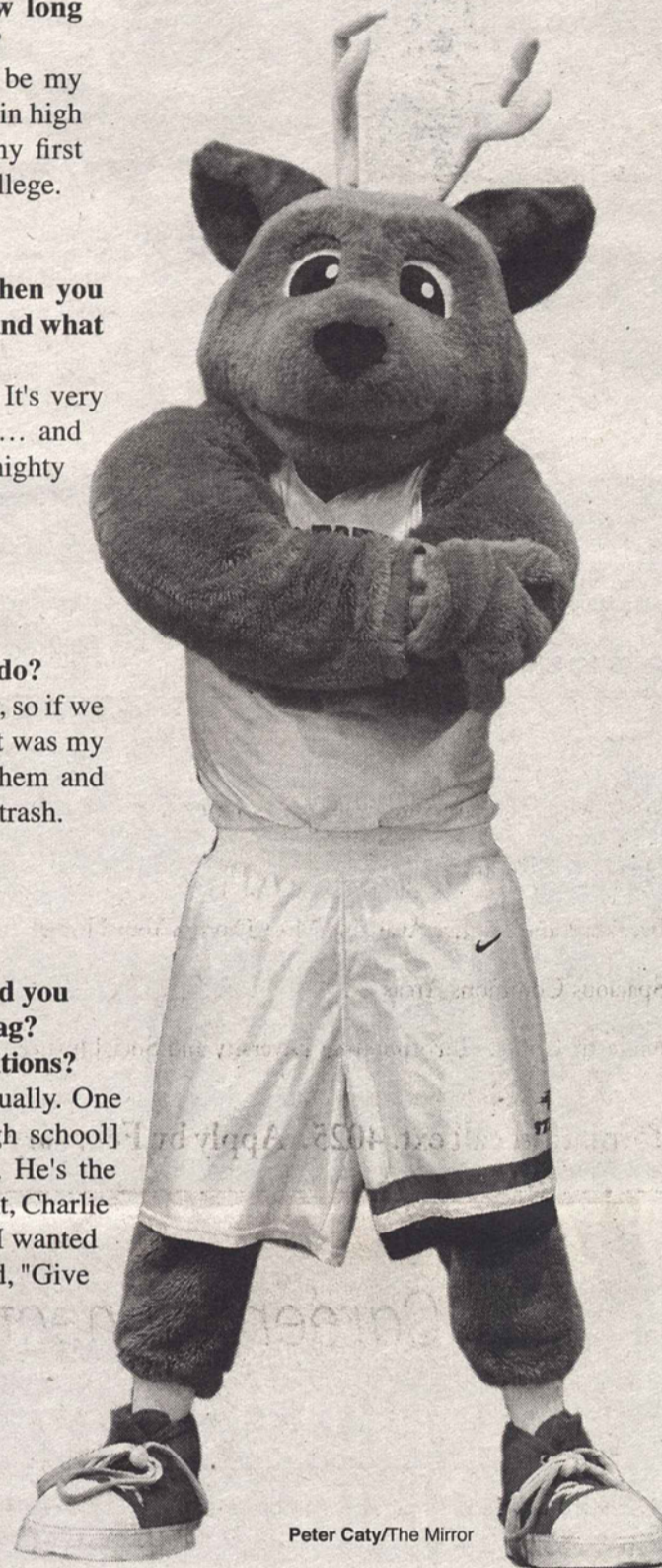


JON OLLWERTHER
Photo Editor

1. Is Valentine's Day really a holiday?	If by holiday you mean a day off from classes, then no, Valentine's Day does not qualify.	It's not a holiday if my parents don't guilt me into attending morning mass.	It is if you work for Hallmark, Godiva or Tiffany & Co.
2. Gift Toss-up: Chocolates or Flowers?	I'll let you know...	Well, she can't get fat from eating flowers...	Flowers. Show her you really like her by getting her favorites.
3. Who is your celebrity athlete Valentine?	Not A-Rod.	Maria Sharapova.	I'll take two: Misty May and Kerri Walsh.
4. Weekend toss-up: Presidents' Day or Valentine's Day?	Presidents' Day I can sleep in. Valentine's Day I'm baby-sitting.	Well, no one has gotten laid because it was Presidents' Day.	Presidents' Day. We don't have class.
5. Roses are red, violets are blue...	Valentine's is this weekend, I don't have a date, how about you?	I was never good with poetry.	My girlfriend will be pissed if she catches me ogling you.

LET'S BE FRANK: STAG SPOTLIGHT

BY FRANK ROMANO AND ANDREW SIMONE

NAME: DAVE HUGHES '12
TITLE: STAG MASCOT**Andrew Simone: So how long have you been a mascot?****Dave Hughes:** This will be my third year. I did two years in high school and now this is my first year [as a] freshman in college.**AS: Where were you when you were the mascot before and what was the mascot?****DH:** I was at B.C. High. It's very similar to Fairfield Prep ... and we were the Eagles, the mighty Eagles.**AS: What did the Eagle do?****DH:** He was a bird of prey, so if we had any rats in the gym, it was my duty to catch them, eat them and leave their remains in the trash.**Frank Romano: How did you become the Fairfield Stag?****Were there mascot auditions?****DH:** There were not, actually. One of my friends [from high school] actually got me the job. He's the [freshmen] class president, Charlie Knights. He asked me if I wanted to be the mascot and I said, "Give it to me; I'll do it."

Peter Caty/The Mirror

FR: Where do you see your mascot career going? I hear there are national competitions...**DH:** To be honest, I see myself going pro. My ultimate goal would be to be Lucky the Leprechaun at the Celtics game, but who knows in this crazy world where this could be going with me. I could be on "Saturday Night Live," I could be homeless. What I'd actually like to do is be a high school teacher. If I could get into show business, that would be my ultimate dream. But since that might be unrealistic, teaching is my fallback.The
MIRROR

Senior captain, All-MAAC guard elects to leave team

CONTINUED FROM P. 20

and finish his studies.

"To come to that conclusion with 10 games left in someone's senior year, I had some sleepless nights," Cooley added. "At the end of the day, he is still our kid and he is someone I want to see have the most success as he moves on in life."

Han's departure is the end of an era, one that began under former head coach Tim O'Toole and will end not with a celebration at center court on senior day, but instead in an office in the Walsh Athletic Center, an unfortunate finish to a remarkable career.

Despite seeing little success as part of a team in his three and a half years, Han found a lot of personal prosperity. He finished his career with 1,072 points and 526 in 110 games and is only the third player in Fairfield history to record 1,000 points and 500 assists.

"It is a learning experience for both of us," Cooley said. "Hopefully we are both better because of it."

Now, after a 1-1 trip to Buffalo, Cooley has to put the Han situation behind him and worry about the final five games. But to keep things in perspective, the Stags remain 15-10 and are 8-6 in the MAAC, which puts them in fourth place.

"I think the Jesuits said a prayer for us. It is something I have not gone through as a player or as an assistant coach," Cooley said. "You basically don't have a starting

one, two, three, four or five. Who could survive that?"

"It hasn't been easy. The fact that we are above .500, it's a miracle. Wow."

Cooley has been as proud as ever with the way that his bench players have stepped up, especially sophomore Lyndon Jordan and freshman center Ryan Olander.

"It is really a tribute to the way those guys have come together. I am really proud of those guys. As a coach you can only praise them for the adversity we have just gone through," said Cooley.

With a younger lineup on the floor, Cooley has realized that his coaching style must change, as the veteran squad that started the season is long gone.

"I've taken a little of my emotion out of the game as far as how excited I can get can from a negative standpoint," Cooley said. "Because I think with a veteran team you get a little picky. With a young team you don't take that approach."

Instead, Cooley has decided to focus his efforts on building confidence and encouraging the Stags to play tough defense.

Now it is back to the ankle-biting, hard-nosed style that made the Stags a tough team to play during Cooley's first two years, except, of course, without Han.

No matter who is on the court, if Cooley is on the sideline, the Stags won't go down without a fight.

With five games remaining, Cooley better keep his Tums by his side, as it won't be pretty, no matter what happens.

Cooley maintains optimism, keeps Niagara loss in perspective

BY KEITH CONNORS

Joe Paterno once wrote, "Teams don't lose because of injuries, they win because of them."

Head coach Ed Cooley has never met Paterno, but he can surely relate to him given the myriad of injuries and ailments that the Stags have suffered through during the court of the season.

"I think I should become an M.D.; I think I could make a lot of money on my own team," Cooley added.

Cooley cited a bruised and battered roster, as well as relatively little game experience, as the main factor in the Stags setback to Niagara, a 75-50 loss on Sunday afternoon in Buffalo, N.Y.

Collectively, the Stags committed 21 turnovers, 11 of which came from underclassmen guards that are attempting to fill the void for senior point guard Jon Han, who announced that his decision to leave the team on Monday afternoon.

Furthermore, a multitude of role players that now play key roles in the team's rotation were held scoreless, including freshmen Ryan Olander and Sean Crawford.

"When you look at the best teams in the league, they don't play freshmen," Cooley said. "Most good ball clubs don't use freshmen, just like in the NBA. How many first-year players play a ton? Not too many."

All things considered, the third-year head coach is optimistic given the recent grueling schedules, and the team's success prior to Sunday loss against the Purple Eagles.

The Stags entered the game winners of three consecutive games, including a thrilling, second-half comeback against Marist and a dominant showing less than 48 hours later against Loyola (Md.) a few days later that sealed a season sweep of

the Greyhounds

"The injuries, I don't know if any coach in the country has gone through a 12-day gauntlet like we have gone through," Cooley said. "And we got three wins out of it. I don't care if it was against a good high school team; that was tough."

Cooley added, though, that continuity has been a challenge given the flurry of injuries and inconsistent practice participation. Sophomore forward Yorel Hawkins (hamstring), junior forward Greg Nero (back) and senior guard Herbie Allen (wrist and the flu) — arguably the three most experienced players remaining on the active roster — have played through injuries since well before the calendar turned to 2009. The three have also seen limited participation in practice for weeks.

"You basically don't have a starting (five), and who could survive that?" Cooley said. "You take away (Kenny) Hasbrouck, (Edwin) Ubiles and (Alex) Franklin from Siena, [and] how are they winning? If we were healthy they wouldn't be playing. I'd probably sit all three of them."

"Right now they are playing on just pure fortitude," Cooley said.

Following a four-day respite, the Stags return to action in Poughkeepsie, N.Y. on Thursday evening against Marist, and then return home for a rematch against Niagara, which currently sits tied for second place in the MAAC standings.

The Stags hope that a few days off will be enough to lick their wounds and make all the difference.

"Right now our number one goal is to try to finish in the top half of the league," Cooley said. "That has been our goal since giddy-up. We just have to get ready for the next game. Just be great for the next 40 minutes, be as good as we can be."

"I would say that this is one of the great learning experiences for a young coach like myself," Cooley added.



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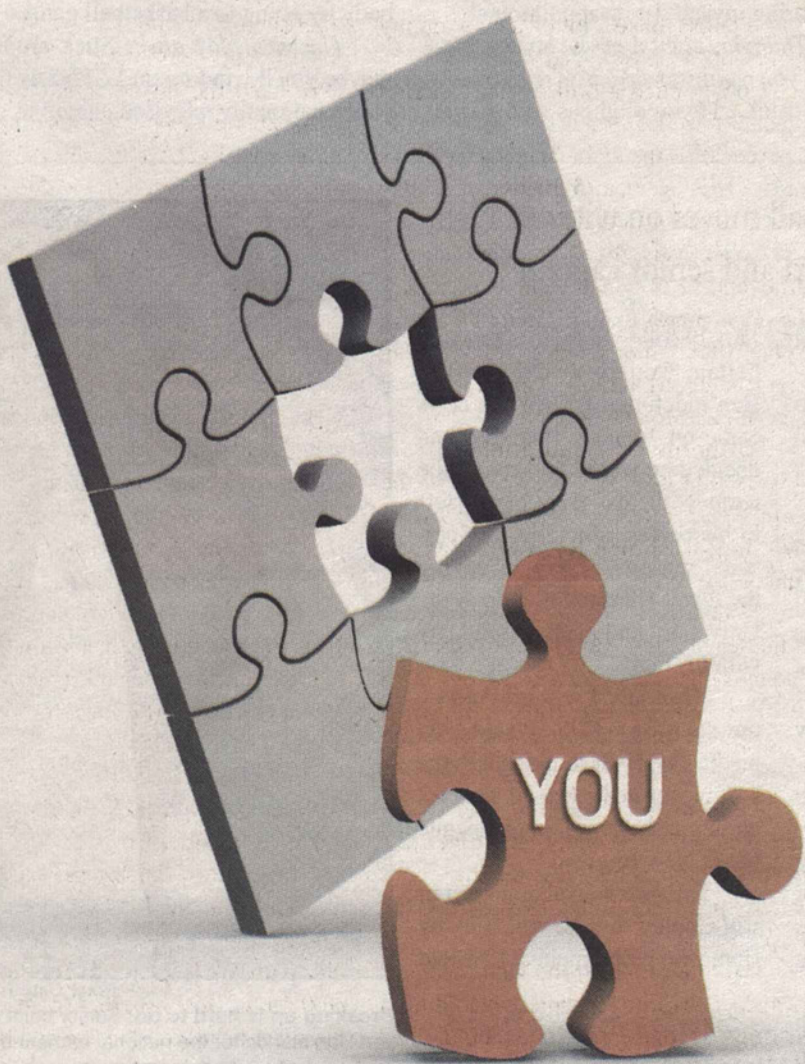
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Thursday, February 12, 2009

11 a.m. – 3 p.m.

The Leslie C. Quick Jr. Recreation Complex
(adjacent to Alumni Hall)

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- Bring lots of résumés and your StagCard

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For more information, call the Career Planning Center at (203) 254-4081



FAIRFIELD UNIVERSITY

Stags to fans: Pack our house!

Frager, women's basketball need 'A-game,' fan turnout for Alumni Hall showdown with Marist



CHRIS SIMMONS
NEWS EDITOR

While the women's basketball team won its eighth-straight game on Sunday, the student section sat empty. The band played while a few small children raced up the wooden steps. A few Sodexo workers sat in the corner during a break from the snack bar.

This is nothing new for the women's team. While the men's team plays to a packed house on campus, the women typically only fill the side bleachers. Even during Thanksgiving break, the men drew 1,743 fans. The largest crowd for the women this season at Alumni was 532 fans.

"We're doing everything we can to take care of our business," said head coach Joe Frager. "We've won eight games in a row. And sure, we'd love to have some more students to come out."

"It would mean a lot to us. I know the girls would appreciate it."

This weekend, students will have a chance to show their support. Marist comes to Alumni Hall on Thursday night with a 21-3 overall record and a 12-2 record in the MAAC. Fairfield enters with a 16-8 overall record and an 11-2 record in the MAAC. The winner will hold the inside track for the top seed in the conference tournament.

The Stags already handed the Red Foxes a loss at Marist in front of 2,205



Peter Caty/The Mirror

Owner of a lonely home: A few stray fans, Nick Lombardi '10 (left) and John Canavan '12 observe as the women's basketball team defeats Niagara in a thrilling, double-overtime victory on Sunday afternoon, the team's eighth straight conference win. The Stags face Marist this Thursday night with first-place on the line.

hostile fans. Marist was ranked No. 20 in the nation at the time.

Then on Saturday, seniors Baendu Lowenthal, Lauren Groom, Shireyll Moore and Megan Caskin will be honored before the game against Canisius (18-6 overall, 10-3 MAAC).

If Fairfield emerges from the weekend unscathed, it has a shot at running the table and winning the regular season title. Then the Stags would at least be assured a WNIT bid. Of course, earning the top seed also makes the NCAAs seem within reach.

But first, the Stags need to take care of business in what is probably the biggest regular season game in the MAAC. A vocal student section would give the Stags a home-court advantage which they haven't enjoyed this season.

"It's nice to play in Alumni," said senior forward Lowenthal. "It's easier for the students to come and we hope they come out on Thursday for Pack the House. You can put that in bold."

If supporting the team isn't reason enough, here are several others:

Thursday against Marist

Get money: All students are eligible to win a \$500 American Express gift card. That's like 30 thirties of Keystone.

Free T-shirts: The first 200 students will receive a "Frager Fanatic" T-shirt. Not quite "Wacko for Flacco" but close enough. I only hope that it features a giant picture of Frager. But after the "Cooley and the Gang" T-shirt, I'm preparing myself for disappointment.

It's Thursday night: Let's be honest, what else are you going to do? You're probably going to drink and you might as well go yell

at the refs.

Saturday against Canisius

Pink Zone: Fans who wear pink will receive a discount of \$2 and receive a voucher for a free ticket to a later game. Frager has also named breast cancer survivor Andrea Borgognone, the aunt of assistant coach Laura Scinto, as an honorary coach for the game. A silent auction will also be held to raise money. So, if you don't go to this game, you're supporting cancer. Way to go.

Senior Day: Say farewell to seniors Lowenthal, Caskin, Moore and Groom, all of whom are significant contributors to the team.

It's Friday night: Get drunk and be somebody by going to a basketball game.

The men play after: Stick around and maybe you'll wind up on ESPN2 as the men play a nationally televised game.

WHAT TO WATCH FOR



Thursday
Feb. 12, 7:00 p.m.
vs. Marist
Alumni Hall

The winner of Thursday night's matchup will be in prime position to win the MAAC regular season title.

With or without you



TOM CLEARY
MANAGING EDITOR

Ed Cooley sat in his office in the Walsh Athletic Center with his head in his hands, nursing a headache that has lasted 12, long, grueling days. A bottle of Tums sits in front of the men's head basketball coach on his desk and he pops one into his mouth as he begins to talk.

"You can't write this, you can't make this up," Cooley said on Tuesday afternoon as he pondered the past few weeks of the season, a stretch that culminated with senior point guard Jon Han's decision to leave the team for good.

"This has been an unbelievable learning experience for me,"

said Cooley. The headache may have started way back in December, when sophomore forward Warren Edney, who was looking like an All-MAAC caliber player, went down with an injured ankle and Achilles.

Or, was it when junior forward Greg Nero's back begin to act up, making him the equivalent of an extremely talented retiree, grimacing at every shot he took in the paint and forcing him out of action for an extended period of time.

Perhaps it was when Yorel Hawkins clutched his hamstring and said it was "so tight he couldn't move," or when Herbie Allen collided with a Siena player and injured his wrist, or Anthony Johnson

Cooley, men's basketball moves on without Han, their point guard and senior captain

found himself in the hospital with a circulatory problem.

But the biggest blow had to have come when Cooley watched his senior point guard, Han, a pre-season first-team All-MAAC pick, crumble to pieces before his eyes. He watched as Han's shoulders dropped at every missed shot or call that went against his team. He watched as Han yelled at teammates on the court instead of supporting them, when he threw his shoulder into Robert Goldsberry's chest and knocked him to the ground for playing to close.

Cooley was forced to sit Han down for the first 10 minutes of his last game at Alumni Hall, against Rider on Jan. 23, snapping a 69 game starting streak.

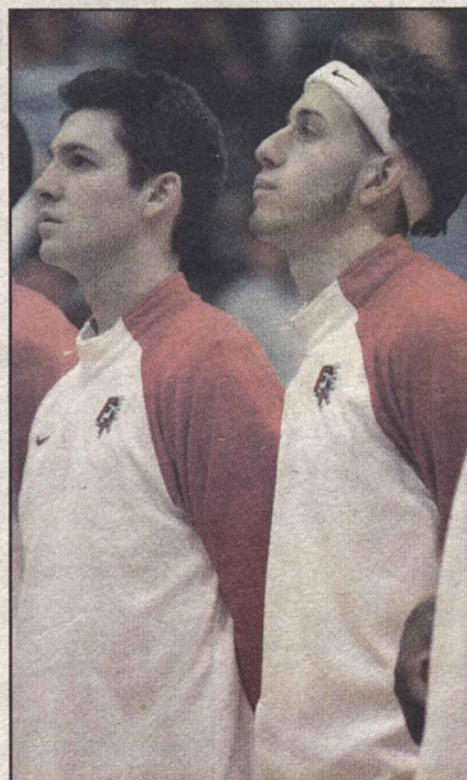
After a public blow-up with assistant coach Brian Blaney on

Jan. 29 following a loss to Manhattan, Cooley would suspend Han indefinitely. Then the news came on Monday that Han had decided he would be leaving the team with just five games left in his career, officially for "personal reasons." Despite leaving the team, Han will remain at the University and plans to graduate with his class.

"Honestly I was crushed by the decision," Cooley said. "At media day, I was thinking he's the best player in the league, the best point guard not just in the league but in New England."

Things changed quickly, but still Cooley says he will stick by Han, who will remain at Fairfield

SEE "SENIOR" ON P. 18



Peter Caty/The Mirror

Breaking up is hard to do: Senior point guard Jon Han stands for the national anthem before his final game with the Stags.