

4-30-2012

College Voice Vol. 95 No. 19

Connecticut College

Follow this and additional works at: http://digitalcommons.conncoll.edu/ccnews_2011_2012

Recommended Citation

Connecticut College, "College Voice Vol. 95 No. 19" (2012). *2011-2012*. Paper 1.
http://digitalcommons.conncoll.edu/ccnews_2011_2012/1

This Newspaper is brought to you for free and open access by the Student Newspapers at Digital Commons @ Connecticut College. It has been accepted for inclusion in 2011-2012 by an authorized administrator of Digital Commons @ Connecticut College. For more information, please contact bpancier@conncoll.edu.

The views expressed in this paper are solely those of the author.



Floralia Line-up Announced

JERELL MAYS
OPINIONS EDITOR

I remember walking into Harris the day SAC announced the Floralia line-up. I also remember walking right under the giant, colorful banner in the foyer, missing it completely before somebody in the dining hall tipped me off and I dashed outside again. Blinking in the sunlight as it poured in through the glass windows, I worked my way up the list.

Brotherhood of Thieves — a five-piece indie rock outfit from Hartford, Connecticut. You may already be aware of them if you keep an ear out for local bands of note. I'd never heard of them because most of the music I listen to gets recorded in somebody's living room, but these guys are the real deal. Their music was somewhat annoying to dig up; the MySpace player doesn't work on my computer for some reason, and the only place I could find their collected recordings was MySpace and by the by, who the hell uses MySpace anymore? Luckily, YouTube managed to deliver.

"Compromise Unlikely" is a sunny indie-pop number that bounces along on whatever musical adrenaline remains from the 90s with solos to boot! I can already imagine what this song would look like on Guitar Hero. I have no real qualms with Brotherhood of Thieves; on some of their tracks they even bust out the occasional country-fried riff that would make Mountain jealous. From



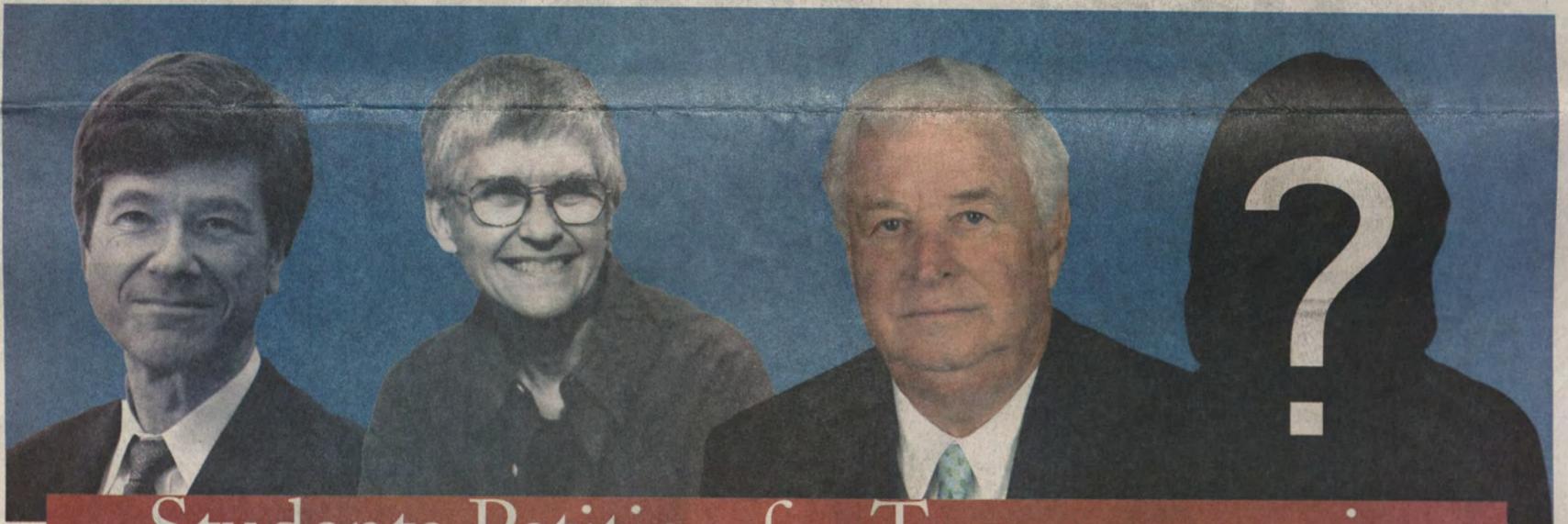
there they oscillate back and forth between indie-pop and indie-folk-and-maybe-bluegrass. Brotherhood of Thieves isn't my particular cup of tea, but they're certainly a band worth checking out.

Bearstronaut! Hey, it *sounds* like a band I would like. Wait, it's dance-pop? No, synth-pop. Dance-synth-pop. According to their Facebook they are "Part New-Wave, part Brit-pop, part Electro, part R&B, but for

the most part Synth-Pop." Whatever. It's four guys with keyboards. No, I don't know if they necessarily all use keyboards. I certainly hope they do, as it would justify the number of tracks I hear on "Birds of Prey." It

sounds kind of like an outer space orgy if all of the aliens had both male and female genitalia. Yes, that was a compliment.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 7



Students Petition for Transparency in Commencement Speaker Selection Process

MEGAN REBACK
STAFF WRITER

In one short week, a petition calling for more student input in choosing Connecticut College's commencement speaker has garnered signatures from over 230 students and alumni of the college. The petition comes after an ongoing dialogue among students concerning the choice of speaker for this year's commencement, Louis B. Susman.

On December 11, 2011, President Lee Higdon sent the campus community an announcement that Sus-

man would be the keynote speaker: "I have known Lou Susman since we were both at Salomon Brothers in the early 1980s, and I have followed his career trajectory with interest. Before becoming an investment banker, he practiced law for 27 years in St. Louis, and he has been active in public service for decades."

Currently, Susman is the United States' ambassador to the United Kingdom, a prestigious position that is typically appointed to diplomats. As a longtime member of the Democratic National Convention (DNC)

who was nicknamed "the vacuum cleaner" for his ability to compel wealthy individuals to donate to the DNC, Susman was appointed to the position after raising funds for President Obama's election campaign.

While proponents of Susman's appointment argue that his background in finance and law would adequately prepare him for the position, are more critical of the decision. Craig Holman, a government affairs lobbyist at a watchdog group called Public Citizen said, "Clearly his appointment has nothing to do with anything but money." Others

describe the appointment as cronyism at its finest.

According to the petition, which was written by Isaac Hancock '12 and edited by Ann Daly '12, "This practice is controversial among those who believe that money continues to be a corrupting influence in our political system."

Prior to bundling close to \$400,000 for Obama's campaign and inauguration celebration, Susman worked on Wall Street as an investment banker with Connecticut College President Lee Higdon for Salomon Brothers, which later became Citi-

group. Susman retired from the position of Vice Chairman of Citigroup Global Markets in 2009. The firm's New York office is currently under investigation by the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission for mortgage fraud, a criminal act that has contributed to the housing crisis in the United States.

"We do not think it is appropriate to invite a former leader of a corporation that is currently under investigation, or a man who has kept silent during the process," states the petition.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 4

IN THIS ISSUE

NEWS



4 Gender-Neutral Bathroom Debate

OPINIONS



6 Reflecting on Being a Prospie

ARTS

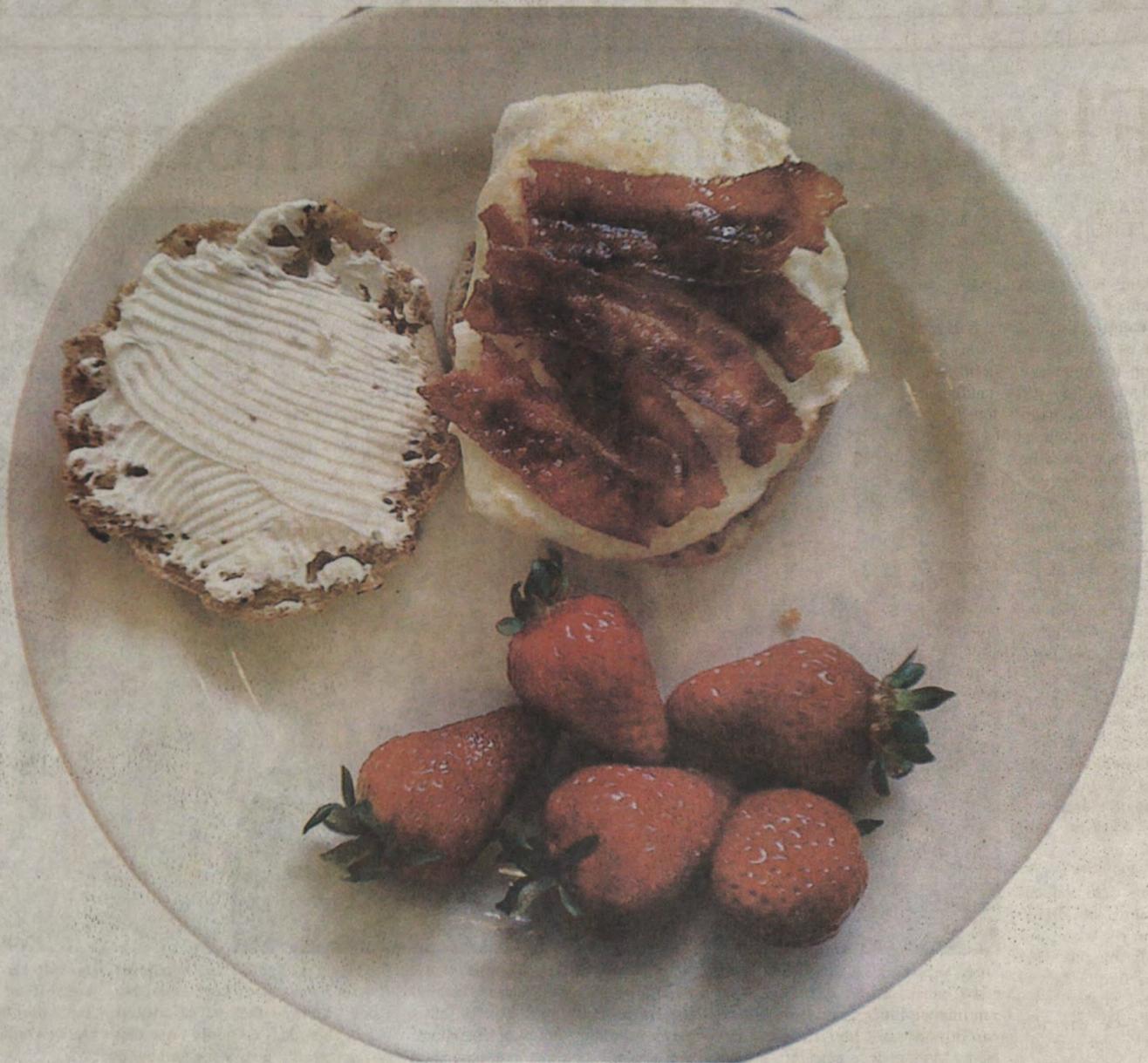


7 Is Tupac Alive?

SPORTS



8 Sports from Abroad

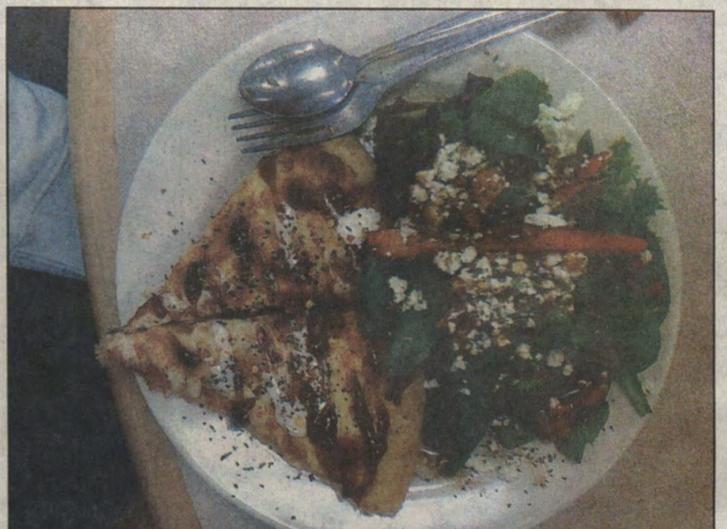


Harris Creations

by **Maia Schoenfelder**



WHOLE WHEAT ENGLISH MUFFIN WITH CHIVE CREAM CHEESE AND A POACHED EGG OVER CORNED BEEF HASH.



CHEESE PIZZA WITH A BARBEQUE AND RANCH DRIZZLE. SALAD WITH RED PEPPERS, FETA CHEESE, MIXED GREENS AND BALSAMIC.



PENNE WITH PESTO AND ARUGALA (TAKEN FROM ATOP A CHICKEN DISH). FAT FRIES WITH SALT AND KETCHUP.



RIGATONI WITH PARMESAN, OLIVE OIL AND BACON THROWN IN THE MICROWAVE. SALAD WITH CHERRY TOMATOS, CUCUMBERS, CROUTONS AND RED WINE VINAIGRETTE.

FOR MORE FOOD PORN, CHECK OUT MAIA'S WEBSITE: FORKSFOTOS.TUMBLR.COM

Editorials

THE COLLEGE VOICE

APRIL 30, 2012

Editorials

The college's open houses over the past two weeks have made me nostalgic for the time when I was a prospie. I guess you can chalk it up to fate, but Jazmine Hughes was my host in 2009 when I first visited Connecticut College. We ate Mexican Monday in Harris, did homework in her dorm room, got breakfast sandwiches in Cro and went to a College Voice writers meeting. Since then, she's been my News Editor, my co-News Editor and finally my Editor in Chief. In the Voice office, for all intents and purposes, I've never stopped being the prospie.

I wrote and copy-edited my way through freshman year, until my future as news editor was decided over a cup of coffee at the New York Times building in April. More specifically, I think Jazmine and I were standing at an intersection in New York City, trying to figure out which direction to take, and she told me that if I got it wrong I wouldn't get the position. I'm pretty sure I got it wrong. Fast forward to two weeks ago, the night of Jazmine's last issue. We stayed in the office longer than we needed to. She didn't want to leave, and I wasn't ready to fill her brightly colored Nike shoes.

It's an honor to be fourth in a line of *femmes fatales* Editors in Chief, but also terrifying because it's hard to reconcile the image of my mentors with that of myself. Claire Gould's legacy, for example, is impossible to attain. I'll never have Lilah's swag or Jazmine's tenacity. Compared to them, I feel woefully unprepared. I've never taken an English class at Conn, and I don't understand

words like "dangling modifier." I can't rock a pair of oversized hipster eyeglasses, but I can sing every word of any Spice Girls song. I'll apologize in advance to my staff for that.

Fears and insecurities aside, I'm excited to add my touch to the paper, the quirk that next year's EIC will reflect on. I have lots of ideas and I bought a Moleskine journal so I can write them all down. I hear that's what all the good journalists do. At least, Jazmine and Brian Stelter have one.

When I reflect on the College Voice, I imagine it as a student forum designed to inform, engage and spark debate in the campus community. Consider this issue, for example, illustrative of a student body-wide identity crisis over our role in "shared governance." Three separate grievances are evident – the downward-spiraling nightlife at Conn, the selection of Floralia bands and the controversial naming of the Commencement speaker. In all three areas, it's clear that students want more input.

The Voice is unique in that we print pretty much what you want us to print. In other words, students can have all the input they want – a rarity even within our shared governance system. We all have passions and opinions; I encourage you to take yours to the newspaper. The Voice is a way to affect real change.

Happy Floralia!
-Meredith

Letters

Your April 9 editorial suggests that the College's policies related to underage drinking are impeding the campus social scene and forcing students to leave the campus in search of "fun."

I find it unfortunate that the authors of this editorial appear to equate fun with drinking, and specifically underage drinking. The legal drinking age in Connecticut is 21, and the College's policies must be in line with the law. The College operates a campus bar to provide students who are 21 with a safe place to drink; we cannot and will not support drinking by underage students.

Conn's sense of community is built on the strong foundation of a residential academic experience in which people live and learn and grow together over four years. It is not – and should not – be dependent on people drinking together. The College provides many opportunities for students to gather socially in an effort to foster a fun and creative campus environment for all students. In addition to regular SAC-planned events and the hun-

dreds of events planned by campus clubs, new initiatives have been launched to increase Thursday night and weekend programming and the College has created new venues for late-night student gatherings, including Ruane's Den, Coffee Grounds and a refurbished Cro's Nest. College-sponsored social events just this year have included acoustic music performances, hypnotists, a magician, indoor laser tag, themed bingo nights, belly dancing lessons, film screenings, game shows, a live Blues concert, a "Battle of the Bands" contest, spoken word performances and much more.

We remain committed to working with students to make the campus social scene as fun as possible, and we are open to all ideas and suggestions that do not involve the support of underage drinking.

Sincerely,
Armando Bengochea
Dean of the College

The Honorable Louis B. Susman will be speaking at this year's Commencement, and I personally am looking forward to his remarks. In my junior year at Connecticut College, I was honored to serve on the Commencement Speaker Selection Committee along with several other members of the Class of 2009 and some faculty and staff. The selection process is structured so that the entire class has several opportunities to suggest and comment on proposed speakers. This unique structure is a prime example of shared governance at its best, where students, faculty and staff truly collaborate to collectively make a set of strategic recommendations to the President. Becoming involved in the selection process by providing input early on is crucial for the committee's success, guaranteeing students a voice – one that is strong, equal and invaluable – at the table. Early input is also necessary because Commencement-caliber speakers

have schedules that are planned far in advance. Serving as Class President my junior year, and representing my peers and classmates on the Selection Committee (as Co-Chair), was without a doubt one of the year's highlights. To be able to communicate with my class and receive a response was both encouraging and rewarding, and led to a more unified class upon graduation.

We are privileged to have a commencement speaker selection process that allows for student involvement and input, so please take advantage of it. For more information, contact your class president or Bonnie Wells, Secretary of the College.

Best,
Harris Rosenheim '09
Young Alumni Trustee

THE COLLEGE VOICE

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

Editor in Chief
Meredith Boyle

Managing Editor
Annie Mitchell

Creative Directors
Ayano Elson
David Shanfield

Senior Editors

Melanie Thibeault

News Editors

Jerell Mays

Opinions Editors

Emily Brouwer

Arts & Entertainment Editors

Amber Villanueva

Sports Editor

Jeff Mays

Photo Editors

Ayla Zuraw-Friedland

Head Copy Editor

Melanie Thibeault

Webmaster

Mark Ferreira

Web Content Editor

Jeff Beling

Multimedia Editor

Cecilia Brown

Advertising Manager

Maia Schoenfelder

Annie Mitchell

Ayano Elson

Fred McNulty

Peter Herron

Liz Charky

Melissa Fopiano

STAFF

Writers

Molly Bangs
Amber Villanueva
Katie Karlson
Gabriel Stein
Fred McNulty
Megan Reback
Calli Stavola
Ben Stepansky
Emmaline Deihl
Allison Cahoon
Gregory Vance
Connor Stephenson
Julian Notano
Kolton Harris
Caeli Smith
Dan Moorin

Illustrators

Catherine Monahon
Alicia Toldi
Caroline Dylag
Sam Mauk
Isabel Ulatowski

Photographers

Hannah Plishtin
Liza Gordon
Megan Costello
Liz Charky
Duncan Spaulding
Savitri Arvey

Copy Editors

Annie Mitchell
Andrea Amulic
Jeramie Orton

Design Staff

Isabel Ulatowski
Paige Miller

Contact Us

contact@thecollegevoice.org
270 Mohegan Avenue
New London, CT 06320
thecollegevoice.org

Monday - 10 PM - CRO 215

Kudos and congratulations to the nine students who organized the college's first TEDx event on April 14, 2012, in Evans Hall. It was hands down one of the best events I have attended in my 13 years at the college, and I was thrilled to see students put together such an intellectually stimulating, wide-reaching discussion. One of my favorite things about this college is that you can realize almost any good idea and bring it to life. I hope that more students and faculty will follow the lead of these students and continue the rich and thoughtful discussion that took place this past Saturday.

With thanks for a great day and an excellent event.
Andrea Lanoux, Associate Professor and
Chair, Department of Slavic Studies

World News

THE AMERICAS



UNITED STATES -- Two students from the University of Washington announced their design for a new bra made to hold an iPhone. It is called the "Joey bra" - named after kangaroos who carry their young in their pouches. As of now, the bra will only be manufactured in leopard print.

AFRICA



SOUTH AFRICA – Inspired by a recent tweet about racism in Cape Town, South Africa, social-media site Twitter has exploded in a debate over whether or not the country has truly recovered from apartheid. A study completed in late 2010 claimed that, especially in the workplace, blacks are far less successful than whites. Certain beaches once closed to blacks are still patronized mainly by whites.

MIDDLE EAST



IRAN -- This weekend, the Iranian Oil Ministry suffered what appeared to be a cyber attack on its online oil terminals. The attack did not affect oil production or exports because a large portion of the system is not yet online. In response, the country has taken the web terminals offline until more is known about the virus.

EUROPE



ITALY -- One of the largest monopolies in Italy ended recently as a new private company called Nuovo Trasporto Viaggiatori introduced an alternative to state-run train travel. The luxury trains will offer free Wi-Fi, satellite television, a cinema carriage and lush leather seats. Many wonder, given the economic difficulties throughout Europe, if the company will survive against the state-run Trenitalia.

News & Features

THE COLLEGE VOICE

Students Petition for Transparency in Commencement Speaker Selection Process

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

One aspect of the petition that has received mixed responses is the point regarding Sally Susman '84, an alumnus of the college and the daughter of Louis Susman. Sally Susman is the Executive Vice President and Policy Overseer at Pfizer, Inc., a corporation that played a key role in the Supreme Court's 2005 decision in *Kelo v. City of New London*, an eminent domain case that sought to enhance Pfizer Inc.'s nearby corporate facility. After taking over private property and effectively displacing many New London residents, the pharmaceutical corporation ultimately announced that it would close its New London headquarters, leaving neighborhoods condemned and vacant, and abandoning the promise of an economic revitalization of the city.

According to a New York Times article from 2009 written after Pfizer Inc. left New London, "[local residents] see Pfizer as a corporate carpetbagger that took public money, in the form of big

tax breaks, and now wants to run."

However the decision to include Sally Susman in the petition is fraught. One signatory stated, "I disagree about the importance of 'family history' in this case." After receiving critique from students and the administration, Hancock wrote an addendum to the petition, stating, "it is important to note that Sally Susman ('84) was not with Pfizer, Inc. at the time of the Supreme Court battle. Her inclusion was meant to show a family history of involvement with highly controversial corporate groups. I understand that the petition implies that Ms. Susman was involved in the conflict. I do not mean to slander her in any way."

Dean Bengochea noted that one of the reasons Susman was chosen was / because/ of the personal connection to the college through his daughter: "No one understands better than Ambassador Susman the value of a Connecticut College education," he said.

Ultimately, however, the students who wrote the petition are not looking to find a different, more fitting speaker

for this year's commencement; instead, they call for more transparency in the process that chooses a speaker in the first place.

So, the question becomes: what is the process?

Dean Bengochea describes the process in five steps. First, there is a Commencement Speaker Selection Committee, made up of two faculty members, two staff, and up to five students. For the class of 2012, the committee was comprised of three students, Psychology Professor Ann Devlin, and Physics Professor Mohamed Diagne.

Second, the committee suggests potential speakers and solicits the class for additional candidates. Then, once a list emerges from that committee process, it is sent to the entire class as an e-mailed survey meant to gauge interest in the various candidates. The class of 2012 received this survey on November 30, 2010 with a list of thirteen possible speakers.

In addition to Susman, other speakers on the initial survey included Malcolm Gladwell, a staff writer with *The New*

Yorker and bestselling author, Paul Farmer, a medical anthropologist who is founding director of an international non-profit that provides direct health care services and undertakes research and advocacy activities on behalf of those who are sick and impoverished, author Dave Eggers, who penned his famous memoir, *A Heartbreaking Work of Staggering Genius*, and Jay Lauf '86, an alumni of the college and the publisher and Vice President of *The Atlantic Monthly*.

Third, after considering the response from the class, the committee submits a final list of speakers to the president. Finally, the president discusses the list of candidates with senior administrators and invites a speaker.

According to Dean Bengochea, Susman was ultimately chosen because "he is very knowledgeable about American politics and world events, and as the parent of a Connecticut College graduate, he knows the college well. He can offer advice on many topics, including the role of educated young people in a global society and the value of a liberal

arts education."

Throughout this process, students can be involved in three ways. They can become part of the committee, can submit the names of potential speakers, and can vote in the survey. Unfortunately, the iteration, "but I voted for Dave Eggers!" is commonplace at Connecticut College right now, leaving many students feeling as though their voices were not heard throughout this process.

In order to change the process for the future, Hancock, Nick Rodricks '12, and Karam Sethi '12, appealed to Connecticut College student government at an open forum with a list of proposals on Thursday. Dean Bengochea stated, "As always, we're open to suggestions about the process." After the upset caused by Susman's impending visit, the disappointingly irrelevant talk given at the 2011 commencement, and the revelation that student speaker Peter St. John's speech was plagiarized in 2009, students agree that Connecticut College could stand to change its process. •

Resolving Safety Issues in Fanning Bathrooms

AMBER VILLANUEVA
NEWS EDITOR

In the fall of 2011, students began to advocate against gender-inclusive bathrooms in public buildings at Connecticut College. After several meetings with students, history professor and director of the LGBTQ Center Jen Manion as well as other members of Connecticut College faculty, Dean Armando Bengochea compiled a list of bathrooms that could easily be converted into gender-inclusive bathrooms.

Dean Bengochea stated that compiling the list and moving forward with the conversion is the "inclusive thing to do on a campus where we recognize that some students might not think of themselves as having a fixed gender."

According to Professor Manion, "Converting the bathrooms has been part of a larger project to make the college more safe and empowering to LGBTQ students." Gender-inclusive bathrooms are important not only for the comfort found in no longer being in the "wrong" bathroom, but also for the safety of transgendered students at Conn.

When people are not easily read as the gender of the bathroom they are using, they can face harassment and intimidation. Furthermore, some individuals, men in particular, also experience threats because of their perceived sexual orientation in single-sex public bathrooms.

The Gender Neutral Bathroom campaign at University of Chicago states: "Assault, insults, and police intervention are frequently part of the reality of sex-segregated bathrooms for butch women, transgender people, and others."

Dean Bengochea said, "It was important to identify where on campus we have single-stall bathrooms in order to install a lock on the inside and make them unisex so there is no crisis about which bathroom to use."

However, some confusion in the process of converting the fourth floor bathrooms in Fanning has led to the suspension of the campus-wide project until the issues in Fanning are resolved.

Dean Bengochea explains that bath-

rooms in Fanning pose a unique problem because there are only bathrooms on the first and fourth floors. Because the bathrooms on the first floor have multiple stalls, the bathrooms on the fourth floor were chosen to be converted. However, because the signs were placed before the locks were installed, some members of the campus community were under the impression they would have to use the bathroom while people of different genders were also in the bathrooms.

A few faculty members in Fanning under this impression began circulating a petition against the bathroom conversion. Professor Manion stated, "I believe the action was irresponsible, inappropriate and damaging to the LGBTQ community. As a result, the college has delayed implementation of gender-inclusive bathrooms across campus, and we are still awaiting resolution."

Two meetings were held in January and February in order to allow faculty and staff to voice their concerns regarding the bathroom conversion. Although Dean Bengochea noticed most of the faculty and staff at the meetings was in support of the conversion, some worried that the bathrooms would become even more congested if multiple people could no longer use the bathroom at once.

Despite the college's response of removing the signs and suspending the project while they resolved the issues, certain members of the community in Fanning have taken upon themselves to print out single sex bathroom signs that read "Men's (at least for now)" and "Women's (at least for now)."

One student, Lily Bartlet '13 stated that she feels "the signs are immature and offensive" to members of the LGBTQ Community at Conn because they are demeaning to the importance of a safety issue for transgendered students.

Carolyn Sunstrom '14 said, "There is no reason for Conn to not have gender variance bathrooms available in every building. Every time I see the signs 'Men's Room' and 'Ladies Room,' I am personally offended and am made to feel uncomfortable as a queer person on this campus. I know others feel the same way."

In fact, some members of the community opposed to these signs have been pulling them down whenever they see them posted, but they consistently reappear.

Dean Bengochea has stated that although the conversion has been temporarily suspended, he remains committed to making the bathrooms gender-inclusive.

The administration has hired a firm of plumbers to determine if it would be cost effective to create a new gender neutral single stall bathroom in order to solve the Fanning conflict. However, he also acknowledged that bathrooms are the most expensive addition to buildings and this may not be possible, but that by the end of the semester a solution regarding the bathrooms will be reached regardless. Bengochea explained that Conn will convert the rest of the single-stall bathrooms around campus once the issues in Fanning have been resolved.

Still, according to Manion, "the college should immediately put the unisex signs up instead of caving to the pressure of some outspoken faculty...It's not about comfort— it's about safety."

On the topic of the opposition, Sunstrom said, "A person cannot oppose having gender variant bathrooms and call themselves an ally. To do so would demonstrate a profound misunderstanding of the ways homophobic, transphobic, and patriarchal structures function in our society."

Students at the college are used to gender-neutral housing, in which the bathrooms in residential halls are mixed. These facilities provide transgendered students with a certain amount of safety that they do not find in most public buildings at Conn.

Although Dean Bengochea has stated his commitment to make the transition from single-sex to gender-inclusive in these public buildings, he is leaving Conn at the end of the semester. Students and faculty within the LGBTQA community at Conn are concerned that without administrative support of this effort, its progress may remain unresolved. •

Historicizing 9/11 A Community-Based Research Documentary

KATIE KARLSON
CONTRIBUTOR

On May 8 at 7pm in Silfen Auditorium, students from History Professor Jim Downs' "Historicizing 9/11" class will be presenting their capstone project, *Historicizing 9/11: New London*.

One of the benefits of Connecticut College's liberal arts education is that permits professors to form creative courses. Professor Downs received a grant from the Holleran Center for Community Action and Public Policy to offer "Historicizing 9/11," a seminar in the History department dedicated to understanding the terrorist attacks in a historical context.

The 30 students enrolled in the course worked with members of the New London community to compile oral histories of the events of September 11, 2001. What began as a simple oral history project has developed into a feature-length documentary.

"To document local reactions to 9/11 gives a whole new context and meaning to the attacks. It shows just how much the terrorist attacks of 9/11 impacted the whole of American society, not just those in New York or those families who were personally affected by the loss of family or friends," said Melanie Thibeault, '14.

Students split themselves into three groups: interviewers, editors, and producers. Interviewers were responsible for selecting interview prospects, developing questions, and conducting interviews, while the editors and producers polished the footage into its final form.

The interviewees portrayed in the documentary include Connecticut College professors, deans, librarians, coaches, a firefighter, a police officer, as well as other citizens of New London. Each person brings a new perspective to the table, creating a dynamic story.

"The prospect of doing oral histories provided a way for students to engage members of the broader New London community on a historical level..."

which will create a stronger bond between the College and the community," said Professor Downs.

Jackson Murphy, an interviewer, found the process to be eye-opening. "I thought the most interesting aspect was the degree to which the New London community's reaction to the attacks was personal, and the initiatives taken by the community to commemorate victims along with building relationships and understanding between people of different faiths."

New London, an old whaling city in southern Connecticut and home to the large pharmaceutical company Pfizer, has been overshadowed on the global scale by more metropolitan areas on the east coast. Historical research on 9/11 has focused on the economic hubs of New York City, Boston, and Washington DC, while industrial cities like New London fell below the radar.

Nicholas Sizer '12 said "It's important to understand how, though 9/11 occurred in NYC, that it has a dramatic physical and emotional effect on people all across the USA. Looking deeper at New London and its people allowed me to realize more intimately that the effects of 9/11 have no borders."

The final product will be stored in the Connecticut College archives and at the New London historical society. This compilation of oral histories has given the people of New London and the surrounding area a voice that would have been lost otherwise.

Professor Downs has thoroughly enjoyed watching his students flourish under the challenge to complete the film. "The classes' dedication and commitment to make this an important documentary has been indeed very rewarding. I also loved watching them to see the students work in various teams and how the team leaders got the ball rolling. This has been an entirely student-centered, student-driven project and that is enormously gratifying as a professor." •

Spirit Gallery Tattoo

207 Bank Street New London
www.spiritgallerytattoo.com
860-443-0484

Tattoos, Coverups
Body Piercing
Dermals



Oh, The Places You'll Go! Interviews with two Fulbright Scholarship Recipients

EMILY BROUWER
NEWS EDITOR

In a proud moment for Connecticut College, on April 19 a public announcement boasted a record-breaking number of Fulbright Scholars for the upcoming year. Nine students, six graduating seniors and three graduates, received the award to teach and research in countries across the globe.

For those unfamiliar with the Fulbright Scholarship, it is a prestigious and competitive award given to roughly 1,600 U.S. students every year. Funded by the U.S. Congress and Department of State with a working annual budget of around \$200 million annually, it provides housing, transportation and living costs for each student going abroad on the program. Initiated after WWII by Senator J. William Fulbright of Arkansas, in his own words, its intention is to promote "mutual understanding between the people of the United States and the people of other countries of the world."

Signed into U.S. law in 1946 by President Truman, the Fulbright Scholarship has developed in to a worldwide phenomenon, calling on students and scholars alike to open their doors and minds to foreign places and cultures.

If this doesn't sound like a Con-

necticut College motto then I don't know what does. After interviewing two Fulbright recipients from this year's graduating class, Lindsay Paiva '12 and Karam Sethi '12, it is clear that the values of knowledge and understanding instilled in every student here at Conn are equally upheld by everything that the Fulbright Scholarship stands for. The intention of this article is not to inquire only about the projects of these two seniors as they have been interviewed and questioned by other sources to discuss their incredible project proposals. As this article developed, what I found myself asking as a writer and a curious peer was how they got through the process, and what aspects of Conn enabled or motivated them to get to where they are today. These are their individual and unique stories, a representation of the sweat and blood, so to speak, that thousands put fourth in applying for the Fulbright Scholarship of 2012-2013.

"I flew home in the middle of my semester abroad for the interview."

Lindsay Pavia '12 found herself in Perugia, Italy for a semester away during her junior year at Conn. After finding depth and connection in the Italian culture and people, Pavia knew that four months in Italy

would not be enough time. Determined to secure herself a post-graduate fellowship, she travelled across the Atlantic mid-semester for interviews, searching for opportunities to further her research and learning of Italian life. After laboring to find a professional in Italy to back her research and crafting a productive project, Pavia is headed back to Italy once again to research the impact and availability of education and how these factors contribute to the quality of Tuscan life.

When asked what she is most excited for, Pavia readily says that she looks forward to her time abroad and eagerly awaits authentic Italian culture, not the disillusioned kind that many think of upon hearing, 'Italy'. In her own words, "sometimes I think that Italy through an American lens, is all pizza and pasta and jovial old men, but it is so much more, and connecting with the people there at a deeper cultural level was something that really shifted my post-grad plans." An impassioned and intelligent woman, Pavia made it through the demanding Fulbright application process, and is set for return to Italy in January of 2013.

"Feeling like I couldn't possibly be more stressed out during the application process made me think, this is the worst part, after this it's

smooth sailing."

Having begun application in June of 2011, Karam Sethi '12 shared with me the incredible pressure that came with the Fulbright application process. What got him through these times of anxiety was the motivation of living in Malaysia, his targeted destination. Wethi will head across the globe in January to teach English in a colorful and very culturally foreign place. In a conversation about personal thoughts on his upcoming journey, Sethi confessed, "what makes me most nervous is going to a pretty culturally conservative country. Parts of Malaysia, like Singapore, are notorious for being strict on dress, the way one carries themselves, etc. I may have a lot of hurdles to overcome since I am a fairly out-there character from a fairly flamboyant country." Truer words have never been spoken, and this honest account is something that many travelers can relate to when leaving home for a long period of time.

There is something in both of these stories that every person on Conn's campus can relate to. We come in as freshman completely unaware of the transformation that awaits us, and then something amazing happens. We form bonds, make connections and find inspiration beyond any-

thing we ever expected, both in our classes, and in one another. As Sethi insists, there is something truly remarkable about passion and the way it emboldens individuals. We are all in our own ways, "fairly out-there characters" and I would argue that Conn embraces and even encourages us to exaggerate our individual differences, in order to make our community, our world, a better place. As Pavia notes, "I think that my academic interests really shaped me in the end. Being an English major has taught me to read in more than one sense, to interpret the traditional texts – those in anthologies, teachers' lectures, the notes I have taken – and the texts of my life – a talk with my grandma, my best friend's life story, the sidewalks and crosswalks and paths I have taken."

These two outstanding individuals, the other seven recipients of the Fulbright Scholarship and all those who worked to receive this award represent the Connecticut College community in the most honorable manner possible. Learning, sharing, understanding and exploring starts here with every individual on campus, and the values instilled in us, and the passions we find, will carry us to any corner of the world and beyond. •

Immigration in the Hot Seat Debate over Arizona's Senatorial Bill 1070

GABRIEL STEIN
CONTRIBUTOR

As campaigns progress and elections occupy the minds of politicians and citizens alike, immigration issues have once again come to the forefront of political discussion. In the hot seat this time is Arizona's controversial legislation Senate Bill 1070. The law, which was signed by Arizona Governor Jan Brewer in 2010, has been under attack since it was first passed. While the supporters of the law maintain that its purpose

is to aid the federal government in the task of enforcing federal immigration laws, the reality of the bill is not so noble. As stated in the bill itself, the goal of the statute is to "make attrition through enforcement the public policy of all state and local government agencies in the state of Arizona," or in simpler terms, it seeks to deter undocumented immigrants from entering and living in Arizona by continuously exerting a sustained attack on undocumented immigrants and their families.

Designated local law enforcement offi-

cers are now able to enforce federal immigration laws through what can only be described as unfair and unprecedented racial profiling. SB 1070 requires officials to check the citizenship status of anybody they stop during their work who they believe is either in the country illegally, or has committed a deportable offense. This is a piece of legislation that speaks for the level of racism the American public and politicians harbor toward those of Hispanic origin. Allowing law enforcement officials to check the immigration status of anyone they "suspect" to be an undocumented immigrant is an obvious violation not only of the Constitution, but of basic human rights as well. Even more appalling is the fact that the officers assigned to this job are not required to have knowledge of federal immigration law, nor have they received training to prepare them for such a task. They are essentially asked to employ their own basic stereotypes in the name of the law to protect us from a threat that can't be proven to actually exist.

It is perhaps useful to identify some of the main proponents of the anti-immigration movement. Jim Gilchrist, the founder of the Minutemen, gives several reasons outlining his belief that undocumented immigrants will harm the American economy and way of life. He brings forth several issues such as crime rate, the stress they put on our educational systems, and his general belief that American taxpayers do not feel as if they should have to pay for people that aren't contributing to their community—in other words, people who aren't paying taxes. However, undocumented immigrants do pay taxes on things like social security, and receive none of the benefits in return. These assumptions about the contributions of undocumented immigrants are an example of the nativism that is rampant in our country. Nativism can be simply defined as the act of favoring native inhabitants over other members of the community. Despite this, proponents such as Gilchrist believe these contributions do not justify the presence of the hundreds of thousands of undocumented immigrants living in the United States. This Bill is merely further proof of nativism. While both citizens and immigrants contribute equally to our economy, preference for care is given to citizens.

Although the state bill was signed in Arizona, it is currently awaiting judicial review. The Su-

preme Court will decide whether or not the bill is in violation of the Constitution and/or federal laws sometime over the summer.

However, even as the fate of the bill is decided, the topic has become popular in the wake of presidential elections as a bargaining chip to gain voters. Former Republican Senator, Russell Pearce, is the main advocator of this bill. His argument is that undocumented immigrants are a danger, citing the case of a rancher that was shot by a man that may have been Hispanic, and even dragging 9/11 into the debate as an example of the problems of illegal immigration to show that every immigrant is a danger. This past week, he was grilled on Capitol Hill by several Democratic senators regarding not the Constitutionality of the Bill, but rather the implications of racial profiling.

As these politicians squabble for more votes, the real heart of the matter is being placed on the back burners. Arizona's SB 1070 is simply a symptom of a much larger problem that has plagued immigration law since its foundations. The reality is that this law is reflective of

flaws present throughout the entire immigration system employed by the United States; utilizing an enforcement-based strategy for an issue that simply cannot and should not be solved by force is counter-intuitive. Furthermore, the existence of the state's bill is only made possible by Section 287(g) of the Immigration and Nationality Act, a much more far-reaching piece of federal legislation. The language used in SB 1070 is further proof of the problems of foundational law and nativism in the United States. Throughout the bill, undocumented immigrants are referred to as "Aliens." This dehumanizing language only serves to encourage this sort of nativism and "us versus them" mentality. When such an important piece of legislature deigns to use this sort of language, it sends a message to the public and those enforcing the law that undocumented immigrants are not to be treated as equals, or even as humans. Thankfully, bills like SB 1070 have helped highlight the critical errors within our immigration system, and to some extent they have alerted the public of their existence. What we need now is for people more actively prevent the passage of these policies in order to help stop similar bills from popping up in the future, ensuring equal treatment not only U.S. citizens, but for all people who call our country home. •

Information Services News and Events

Fearing Finals?
Don't Panic...

Information Services to the rescue!



Extended hours at Shain Library:

- Round-the-clock hours begin Wednesday, May 9th at 8:00 a.m. and end 2 a.m. on Tuesday, May 15th.
- Wednesday May 16: open 8:00am, Thursday and Friday May 17 and 18th open 8:30am and closing all three days at 5:00pm
- Computers, printers, quiet study space
- Books, journals, library databases, films
- Wireless printing from your dorm room
- Leisure DVD, Book & Audiobook collection – for when you need to relax!

Need research help? Ask a librarian!

- Shain Library Reference Desk during daytime hours (x2655)
- Email libref@conncoll.edu or chat with us (ccrefdesk on AIM, Yahoo!, and Google Talk)

Greer Music Library (Cummings Arts Center, lower level)

- Open extra hours, until 11 p.m. on Friday and 10 a.m. - 11 p.m. Saturday, May 11-12
- Sunday, May 13 from 1:00 p.m.-11:00 p.m. ; Monday, May 14 until 10:00 p.m.
- Tuesday, May 15 until 7:00 p.m. ; Wednesday, May 16 - Friday, May 18 until 5:00 p.m.
- Study space, wireless access, laptop printing
- Online audio databases for both research and music listening!

Blue Camel Cafe

- Open regular hours (8:30-midnight) during finals week. Come in and caffeinate!



CONNECTICUT COLLEGE

Hark! They Approach!

Prospective students are welcomed to Conn for open house

AYLA ZURAW-FRIEDLAND
OPINIONS EDITOR

These past few weeks, our campus has been overwhelmed by flocks of prospective students. We see new faces appearing in our classes, and we watch enviously as they casually leave at will. As we walk to class we find ourselves being suddenly engulfed by tour groups on all sides. Without fail, each time we attempt to leave through the front door of Blaustein, we are accosted by groups stopping to see the "money shot" from the highest point on campus, where the glory of all the new fences and the distant, watery line of the sound can be appreciated most fully.

This past Monday was one of the Office of Admission's biggest events of the year: Open House for Accepted Students. Students and parents are given the opportunity not only to ask questions about college life, residential living, classes and study abroad opportunities, but also to appreciate the beauty of our campus. The event takes approximately three to four months to plan and involves a variety of different offices, including the Office of College Relations.

"We start by trying to decide what the 'take home' message of the day should be and what we want to show new families. As we move through the planning process there are a lot of moving parts and perspectives of different offices to take into account," said Liz Noonan '12, the Student Coordinator of the Admissions Office.

My day began with a morning run alongside President Higdon. The rain was starting to come down as I approached the scheduled starting point at Horizon House, and I worried that I had missed the 7:30 AM starting time. Suddenly, I heard "Coming up on your right!" from behind, and a moment later Big Hig was spryly jogging alongside me. When we arrived, he joked with a few members of the cross-country team that would be joining the half-hour run around campus. A few bleary-eyed prospies approached Higdon shyly, unsure of how formally they should address the man who would hopefully be signing their future college diploma, while he was wearing gym shorts and running spandex. It occurred to me that this was a rare experience to have with such an esteemed member of our community. In the university town I grew up in, seeing the President among the masses was a rare occurrence.

Later that morning was the welcome speech in Evans Hall. For the weak of heart whom had opted out of running in the freezing rain, this was the first event of the day. Despite their evident exhaustion, there was a feeling of anticipation as parents began their thread of commentary that would, inevitably, last all day and would concern anything from the coffee they held in that moment, to the quality of the future panels. Students flipped through the agenda for the day with a muted curiosity. Each person in the room seemed to be sizing everyone up, trying to decide who might become a friend in the next few months.

Dean of Admissions Martha Merrill gave the welcoming speech. As she spoke, I was suddenly reminded of the fact that, a year ago, I had been sitting in the same seat listening to an identical speech. Now I was there again, not as a student trying desperately to make a decision while being told my class was "one of the most impressive to date" but as an outside observer who had the distance of having made my choice. The welcome speech was given in part by two students. The first student, freshman Telayah Sturdivant focused on the theme of expected and unexpected change that comes along with the transition to college. I became hyper-aware of how I had grown as I sat amongst peers who had yet to embark on their journey of change.

There were several other seminars and panels wherein parents and students were given the opportunity to ask about different elements of the school. Some of the panels were intended for the general student body, such as "Going Global," a discussion of study abroad options, "Internships: More Than Just a Summer Job", which gave information about CELS, an info session on the various Academic Centers and an Academic Fair where students could learn about our forty-three majors. There were more focused forums as well for more specific interests such as theatre, dance, athletics and the sciences. The trend in each of these was that despite the chatty parents, few of the students dared to ask any questions. Many of them sat completely overwhelmed at all the information being thrown at them.

One of the most interesting panels was "Meet a Student," an event intended only for prospective students. Without their parents around to ask the "responsible" questions about tuition and internships, students were able to ask questions about general life on campus without the risk of giving their poor parents heart attacks.

As of now, approximately half of the incoming class has responded with their intentions of attending Conn in the fall. Though parents often dominated the conversations in the events, each of the prospective students I spoke to felt similarly. "Everyone seems so nice here! I feel like this is really a place to discover what you want to do in life," said Helena, an incoming student from New York who intends to major in theater. This was the exact feeling I had initially about the school as well.

Nearly the end of my first year at Conn, I can honestly say nothing has changed. Through all of the panels, I was reminded of exactly how many opportunities this school has to offer. Yes, it's true that Harris food gets old fast after the first few weeks, class registration can be the most hellish experience of the year and our housing system can be called rocky at best, but despite these minor pitfalls, my excitement for the next three years is renewed. I feel once again like a brand new student. •

Right Said Fred!

Dear Fred,

I have a crush on a guy, whom I will call Steve (not his real name). Steve has a girlfriend, whom I will call Julia. They have been in a monogamous relationship for a relatively short time. I am not friends with Julia; admittedly, I do not really know her too well. I want to go for Steve. Frankly, I am unconcerned with the fact that he is in a relationship, but one of my friends told me that he is off-limits. What do you think?

Sincerely yours,

Adultery-prone Girl

For many people, infidelity is a cut-and-dry situation: cheating is bad in every situation, and abetting this is just as bad. However, I am unconvinced. Is it really your job to be policing someone else's relationship?

Some try to argue that the golden rule should apply: treat others as you wish to be treated. In one sense, they are right. As with most things in life, your actions do affect others. Most people in monogamous relationships would feel pain if their significant other cheated on them. How could causing such pain be justified?

First of all, in your scenario, I assume that Steve is a sentient human being, fully capable of making his own life decisions. Therefore, if he cheats on Julia and subsequently ends their monogamous relationship, I fail to see how or why the blame should entirely rest on you.

The only way to justify entirely blaming you would be if you possess magical seduction powers, that would cause Steve to be physically and literally unable to resist. Considering that there is no scientific or medical evidence to prove that such a power does exist, could exist or has ever existed, we can conclude that such judgment is without basis.

However, being absolved of possessing all blame does not mean that you are not at all culpable. Since

your actions would contribute to the end of a monogamous relationship and would cause pain to Julia, you would still retain some responsibility. You say you do not care about their relationship ending, but do you care about causing pain to her?

If you do care, then do not do anything that might lead to her unhappiness; however, since you neither know her nor have any real connection to her, I am led to believe that you do not care about her.

Allow me to present you with a hypothetical situation. Let us presume that you knew that Julia liked Steve before their relationship began. Since you like Steve, would it have been wrong of you to go for Steve, knowing that a girl-whom you have no connection to—has feelings for him? Most people would answer "no," although your actions would bring pain to Julia.

The old idiom states, "All is fair in love and war." While this is not exactly true—the Geneva Conventions clearly state that not all is fair in war—initiating some form of consensual relationship with Steve isn't actually that bad. Remember that Steve is the one in the relationship, not you.

Imagine if Steve and Julia had a binding contract, and you offered him a better contract. He, not you, would face the legal consequences of breaking the contract with Julia.

Similar logic applies in this situation.

Look, I am not telling you to break up anyone's relationship. In fact, as we discussed, you alone do not possess the ability to do so—that requires Steve's consent. However, you may want to consider the potential problems with affairs. What about the potential drama? What if he does not immediately end things with Julia? What if he ends up getting back together with Julia? These are not deal-breaking questions, but they should be considered.

To my knowledge, the "once a cheater, always a cheater" claim has never actually been proven. People who cheat are not inherently wicked or evil people, bent on destroying lives. Not every cheater turns out to be Tiger Woods. That being said, you should ask yourself what would stop him from doing to you what he did to his ex-girlfriend.

I don't want to be known as "procheating." If you make an agreement to be monogamous, then you should stick with it. If you are in a monogamous relationship, then work to fix it or end it—but there's really no need to cheat. People, however, do make mistakes, and I do not think that those who cheat should be condemned for life. That being said, are you braced for the potential drama? Good luck. •



ALICIA TOLDI



223 Thames Street
Groton, CT

11 AM - 9 PM

Tuesday-Sunday

www.paulspastashop.com

860-445-5276

Tupac Lives! ...Sort Of Hologram of Tupac Shakur performs at Coachella Music Festival

CONNOR STEPHENSON
CONTRIBUTOR

Rising up from the sands of the California desert, the Coachella Valley Music and Arts Annual Festival may appear to be a mirage, but festivalgoers know otherwise. Last year's festival was so well-attended that this year the event was split between two April weekends with entirely identical lineups. Although the festival lineup was relatively light in hip-hop this year when compared to festivals like Pitchfork or Bonnaroo, the rap acts managed to steal almost all of the media attention, and for good reason.

ASAP Rocky's set was a highlight of the festival, as he brought on Master P and his No Limit family onstage to perform Master P's jam, "Make Em Say Uhh!" The duo also dedicated Master P's "I Miss My Homie" to Trayvon Martin, but hyped sets by both hip-hop royalty and breakout talent were far from over. During Childish

Gambino's performance on Saturday, ASAP Rocky and Danny Brown joined him onstage for a re-mastering of his older track, "You Know Me," featuring a new verse by Gambino. The crowd went completely nuts. At Coachella this year, hip-hop was very much alive, although Nas may still disagree with that statement.

While sets by the likes of Death Grips, Araabmuzik, Azealia Banks and The Airplane Boys all garnered praise from critics, Sunday's headlining act featuring Snoop Dogg and Dr. Dre may become the single most-discussed musical performance of the whole year. Before the performance, the Internet was already abuzz over holographic projections of both Tupac Shakur and Nate Dogg — that were supposedly performing alongside the Sunday headliners — after inside sources at Coachella leaked the information. The hologram of recently-deceased rhyming legend Nate Dogg was unfortunately nowhere to be seen at the festival. The greater

tragedy was that Tupac only performed on two tracks: "Hail Mary" and "2 of Americaz Most Wanted." The entire set lasted little over five minutes.

It comes as no surprise that the audience still went wild for the rest of Dre and Snoop's performance, as they traded verses on many of their 90s classics as well as on tracks off their newer releases. Ironically, there has always been uncertainty surrounding the 1996 death of Tupac Shakur in Las Vegas and many question whether he may actually still be alive. Dre maintains that the hologram is strictly a one-off specifically for his performance at Coachella and denies any rumors that the hologram was built in preparation for an upcoming tour with the "ghost" of Tupac, going so far as to release a video online dedicated to his fans explaining the performance. However, he did entertain the possibility of beginning to tour again.

The technology that created this fascinating holographic spectacle was

simultaneously simple and highly complex. The concept behind the projection relies on a trick used in Victorian theater referred to as "Pepper's Ghost," designed by John Henry Pepper. Dating back to the 1800s, the illusion is pulled off by reflecting light off an angled piece of glass from a concealed area below the theater's stage to project the image of a ghost-like man. The technology used to create Coachella's Tupac hologram this year was markedly more advanced, as it integrated design elements from a number of different special effects studios. The final product was essentially a combination of previously recorded concert footage and computer-generated imagery. James Cameron's company, Digital Domain, which famously produced the retro-aging effects used on Brad Pitt in *The Curious Case of Benjamin Button*, designed the CGI component of the hologram.

The actual technology behind the projection onto the stage itself was

conceptualized by AV Concepts, a studio with an impressive portfolio, including Madonna's appearance as a cartoon at the 2005 Grammy Awards with Gorillaz and the Haunted Mansion at Disneyland in Anaheim. Patented by the British company Musion, Musion's innovative Eyeliner 3D Holographic Projection was also incorporated into the performance by Tupac. While representatives from the special effects studios responsible for the hologram have declined to reveal the specific figures for the technology, pricing for similar holograms points to a total cost between \$100,000 and \$400,000, according to MTV. Although the projection supposedly took four months to produce, the relatively low cost for the opportunity to perform with a hologram could mean that America will soon see this awe-inspiring technology at concerts around the nation. Wicked Peach, I'm looking at you. •



DAVID SHANFIELD

Floralia Line-Up Announced

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

The Gurus?! Wait a second — I know this band! They made "Tears on the Wardrobe," a charming little psychedelic number that would smell like the 60s if music could smell like anything. They hail from Barcelona, Spain, but could easily just have stepped out of a time machine; the harmonies on "Big Sea" are more than a little McCartney-Lennon-esque. I'd say the song reminded me of *Revolver*, but somebody already wrote that on a YouTube comment page and now nobody would believe me if I said I had thought of it beforehand.

MOBROC. You already know what this entails.

Wicked Peach. While you're watching the band play during this set, I'll be watching the crowd. Wicked Peach is somewhat of a bi-annual thing at Conn, and those in the audience who appreciate Wicked Peach will cheer and dance. However, Floralia is a long day, and it's plausible that some Camels might not necessarily want to hear Train's "Soul Sister" followed immediately by Ozzy Osbourne's "Crazy Train." Those people will follow an old Conn tradition by booing, throwing things and making general asses of themselves. Regardless, everyone in the audience will have an immensely good time.

Community of Living Things. Jon Markson '12 is a genius and this is his solo project. Did I mention he's a genius? Go forth and listen. Go.

Take Care! Led by Kyle Joseph '12, this band is one of the more pleasant surprises of the year. Take Care blends talented young musicianship with affecting sincerity. Tracks like "Halfway House" sound like it could be featured on *Grey's Anatomy* one of these days, which is essentially a rocket ship to alt-indie stardom. Check out their album "Somewhere Safe" (which *The College Voice* already gave a positive review).

Shake the Baron! This choice surprised no one — and that's just the way we like it. Shake the Baron is one of Conn's most beloved student bands (also featuring Jon

Markson '12 on guitar), with an infectious, uplifting sound that (almost) makes me want to dance. You may remember their cover of "Incinerate" last semester during our centennial celebrations and how awesome it was.

Araabmuzik! Aside from boasting impeccable spelling, beat-smith Abraham Orellana has sold beats to a number of famous artists including Young Jeezy, Ludacris, Fabolous — the list goes on. You may have heard of his unparalleled skill on the MPC — that's a "Music Production Center" or in other words, a drum machine. Orellana's an experienced traditional drummer himself, and his live shows are a sight to behold.

Finally, my eyes reached the top of the list, and what name did I see but... New Boyz? The name was at once familiar but it took me a few moments to recall where I had heard it — back in 2009 when their viral video hit "You're a Jerk" dropped. Aside from being damn near responsible for the "jerk-kin" movement in California,

they're also know for...well, they aren't really known for much else. So I did a little research. Their first album is called *Skinny Jeanz and a Mic*. People at Conn like skinny jeans and some of them probably have microphones. Seems like a solid choice to me, right? They also replace any potential "s" in the spelling of their song names with a "z." That's pretty wacky, huh? They even have a song called "Skinny Jeanz" and they spell that with a "z" too.

Do you see what I'm doing here folks? I am remaining positive. Floralia is for all intents and purposes the best day of the year for a variety of reasons that the class of 2015 will discover for themselves in a short time. The bands are important, but they don't necessarily decide how awesome Floralia will be. Hell, half the time the bands are just providing the background music to whatever adventures students choose to embark on during that glorious day. Just don't wander off and end up missing the music entirely — easier said than done. •

Image Courtesy of SAC



A New Kind of Superhero?

Symposium discusses racial representation in comic books

KOLTON HARRIS
CONTRIBUTOR

On Friday, April 13, English Professor Courtney Baker hosted an event titled "Beyond Art: African American Comic Book Culture," that featured various academic experts with experience studying racial representations in comic books. The panel of experts included John Jennings, Associate Professor of Graphic Design at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign; Qiana Whitted, Professor of English and African American Studies at the University of South Carolina and Rebecca Wanzo, Associate Professor of the Women, Gender and Sexuality Studies program at Washington University in St. Louis. Each panel member had a different story to share and a variety of associations with the comic book industry.

Their discussion opened my eyes to a different side of comics. Jennings is a talented comic book illustrator and curator in the industry, but his expertise reaches far beyond that of many other scholars. His presentation taught me that the comic book industry is more than just colorful pictures and text; it is a way in which individuals can have their voices heard in a different forum. There has been increasing social commentary and racial disparities debated within the narratives of different comics.

Growing up, I always yearned for a black superhero to look up to, but I doubted that there would ever be one. To my surprise, Jennings provided multiple examples of black superheroes that were created long before I was even born. It caused me to wonder why I hadn't been exposed to them, and why the African American comic culture wasn't (and still isn't) a part of mainstream culture. It is evident that the black community needs noble heroes to look up to, but those heroes have been kept under the radar. By the conclusion of his presentation, Jennings had illuminated the harsh reality of inequality.

The film industry has not yet achieved an accurate portrayal of race relations. Through "hand-me-down" superheroes, the black community was given The Green Lantern, but those types of heroes were always in the shadows of their white predecessors. The future of the comic book and film industries is closely linked. Many comic heroes become Hollywood money-

makers. Jennings expressed his own uncertainty regarding when the desired breakthrough for the black heroes on the silver screen would come.

Whitted's primary focus was on the influence of comics in the 1950s. It never occurred to me that comics would be used to make such bold statements in a time when racial tensions in this country were so prominent. Whitted explained how the portrayal of African Americans in comics was comprised of mainly horrifying and dehumanizing images — portraying blacks as inhumane and uncivilized. Stereotypes dominated the industry and overwhelming racism prevailed. Blacks were associated with animals and promiscuity, yet there was a group of strong advocates of escapism. Comics evoked change as well as constructive, vocal criticism. Dr. Fredric Wertham was among these critics. Wertham was pivotal in the movement to change what children were exposed to in comics. He, like many today, understood that racism and violence are learned behaviors. He refused to accept the negative image of blacks in the comic book industry.

Wanzo concluded the presentation by tying together the other speakers' points. She went into great depth about defining the black citizen and genre in comics. Her knowledge of the various types of comic narratives raised new questions and insight. The development of the black character in comics has gone through a series of changes because of the increasing desire to achieve a sense of accuracy. Black characters had been reflective of the stereotypes of the time, but this new move to depict an organic black character is much more difficult. The African American superhero can still, unfortunately, be viewed as entirely fantasy because of what Wanzo said, is the undeniable truth. Jennings both frightened and profoundly impacted me with his comment: "In order to be saved by a black person, you have to genuinely believe that a black person can save you."

The comic book industry is much more diverse than I had ever imagined, and I've learned to appreciate it as an art form, as well as a tool for social criticism. Comic books are no longer geared just towards children, and the immense adult following provides a forum to discuss issues that are often ignored. This symposium provided just one example of such a forum. •

Conn Bids Head Athletic Trainer Cathy Horne Farewell

MOLLY BANGS
STAFF WRITER

At the end of the school year, Connecticut College will say goodbye to Cathy Horne, our head athletic trainer. Since August 1983 when Horne first arrived on campus, her job, as well as the athletic program as a whole, has evolved greatly. Back then, the trainer's room was a small space inside of the health center. She was the only trainer, and there were only about fifteen sports teams. The teams were less competitive as well.

"It was not as big of a deal to only have one trainer back then," Horne said.

Horne witnessed the building of the new athletic center; she, along with colleagues Dale Gervais-Robinson and John Heck still occupy the trainer's room that was built eighteen years ago. It now serves twenty-eight varsity teams, which Horne asserted are now much more competitive. She has seen changes in the field of athletic training.

"Coaches have changed, because back then, they didn't know what to make of me," Horne said, smiling. "Now they are much more depending and are upset if trainers are not there."

Horne attended Ithaca College for her undergraduate years, where she began as a physical education major. "I always thought that gym was fun, and I thought it would be even greater fun to teach how to have fun," Horne explained. "But then when I got to Ithaca, I hated it." So she became a physical education major with a concentration in student trainers.

When I asked Horne her favorite part about her job, she answered sincerely that she really loved learning anatomy; to this day, the puzzle of figuring out what is wrong with someone and how to fix it is still one of the joys of her job as a trainer. "The fun part about the field is that I kept learning. Things have kept evolving, which is what makes it challenging," she said. She added that it was the challenging nature of the job that makes being a trainer fun. On that note, she said the most rewarding part of the job is making those athletes get better, being able to "Put them on the right path, then to see them get back

out there."

However, the job of being head trainer has not come without its struggles and drawbacks. The sheer number of athletes has led to increased hours. In addition, Horne explained, this sort of work is very "emotionally demanding... Because when you can fix [injuries], it feels great. But when you can't - it feels awful."

I asked Horne if there were any memories that really stood out to her from the nearly three full decades that she has been here. She pondered it, and then said, "Well, that's really a weird question to answer, because the people that do this job are a little weird." She went on to describe a few fractured necks of past Conn athletes. Apologizing for first thinking of the most negative memories, she further explained, "[Those sorts of injuries] leave a pit in your stomach. The first neck injury [I encountered] almost made me quit, because it really sticks with you."

We are quite lucky that Horne did not depart Conn after that first serious neck injury she saw on the job. In 1985, Horne, along with three others, founded the Connecticut Athletic Trainers' Association. She served as its first president in two separate two-year terms until 1990. Last June, she was officially inducted into the organization's Hall of Fame. In 1995, Horne was named the Connecticut Athletic Trainer of the Year. She is beyond deserving of these recognitions.

As for the future, Horne said, "I hope that the trainer's room is a place where athletes trust us and will come for help, a place that's safe."

One only needs to step a foot into the trainer's room to know this atmosphere has long since been created by Horne; though it is always bustling with activity, the training staff's arms are likewise always open, ready to help.

"The College has been a great place to be," Horne reflected. "It has provided so many learning opportunities... my one job. A great place to be." Thank you, Cathy Horne, for your many years of making this college a great place to be. You will truly be missed. •



PHOTO BY MIKE WILLIAMSON

Camel Club Lacrosse Making Waves Across the Region

JEFF BELING
SPORTS EDITOR

Connecticut College has had an excellent Varsity Men's Lacrosse team for many years. But there are more students here who play lacrosse that do not play for the varsity team. Those male students make up the Connecticut College Club Lacrosse team. Although the team itself has been around for many years, this year it has become an official SGA-sponsored club. The team has thirty players, comprised mostly of freshmen and sophomores. According to club president Zach Gaucher '14, these thirty players represent a 200 percent increase in membership among the Club Camel athletes. This speaks to the number of talented lacrosse players on this campus. To be able to field a large club team, in addition to a highly competitive varsity program, demonstrates Conn's depth in the sport of Men's Lacrosse. The club players have seen to it that their representative role across Connecticut and New England has been nothing short of domination.

The Club Camels are not a hodge podge group of players. Within the National College Lacrosse League, including club teams from traditional lacrosse powerhouses such

as Duke, Navy and Cornell, the Camels hold a computer ranking of 19th nationwide with an outstanding 8-0 record against teams from all over New England. The Camels started their season in late February and have played consistent, winning lacrosse throughout the spring semester. The team is classified as Division II within New England, but has also defeated the top ranked team in the New England Division I, the UMass Amherst Club team.

The Camels' triumphs this season have truly been a team effort. With a trio of goal scorers in Charlie Dickey '14, Jack Willson '14, and Gaucher, the Camels have pulled away close victories against Rhode Island, with an 8-7 win on overtime, as well as a solid victory against the Brown University Club team, defeating the Bears 8-3. The defense is solidly held by goalie Mark Finnegan '14, defensemen Miles Petricone '14, Graham Miller '15, Chris Dilisio year, and Nick Carluccio '14.

With the conclusion of the semester, the Club Camels will be wrapping up their semester. But as a recognized club as well as regional powerhouse, the CC Men's Club lacrosse team won't be going away any time soon. •

Sport, Among Other Things, a Humbling Experience

DAN MOORIN
STAFF WRITER

Perched at the base of the astounding Table Mountain, looking out from our balcony at the beautiful nighttime scene of the city, my fellow Camel classmate Winslow Murdoch '13 and I sit in our newly acquired apartment in the city bowl area of Cape Town. The two of us are focused on a laptop screen, watching interview and game footage Winslow documented from a day's worth of work at the township. For the past few months the two of us, along with twenty-six other small liberal arts school undergrads, have had the privilege of studying abroad with the School for International Training's (SIT) program in Cape Town, South Africa. As per all SIT programs, the last month of the semester entails conducting an Independent Study Project, or ISP. The ISP period gives each student the opportunity to carry out a mini thesis, a research based project that culminates in a forty-page paper. (Despite this seemingly large task, the ISP period has its perks, most notably the ability to live on your own in the city in which you are studying, hence our apartment neatly tucked into one of Cape Town's most aesthetically impressive areas).

While some of our peers have had research topics in mind since they arrived in South Africa, others, like myself, scrambled to come up with concrete topics to focus on for the ISP period. However, as a member of the men's soccer team at Conn, Winslow had long considered looking into one of his passions, the game of soccer in a South African and Cape-Tonian context throughout our time here. In fact, for his ISP he is currently working with an NGO that organizes homeless soccer tournaments while teaching life skills to some of Cape Town's most destitute and marginalized citizens in the township of Parkwood.

For the past two weeks, Winslow has left the comfy confines of our apartment in Cape Town, and traveled to the township to get footage for his documentary. Each day that he goes to the NGO he brings with him a large backpack filled with all the necessary film equipment and comes back with great interviews and game footage as well as moving encounters with the urban poor. It has become a habit for my housemates to ask him every day about his experience at the NGO as he consistently talks with homeless citizens willing to share their life stories of scavenging around the city, doing their best to stay alive amidst the dangers of life in a South African township.

Thanks to the work being done by this particular NGO, these homeless men have been afforded the support to try and uplift themselves from their former lives of crime and complete poverty. The people Winslow has spoken with are in a constant struggle for survival, dodging starvation and awful forms of township murder. Yet, through watching his film thus far, it is clear that these people welcome his presence, eager to impart him with the knowledge of the harsh realities of life for the urban poor in arguably the world's most unequal city.

Staring at the computer screen, I watch as a group of young boys and men engage in a scrappy game of soccer on a cement soccer field surrounded by tin shacks that are quizzically still standing. These humble abodes are astonishingly lived in by the players and millions of South Africans alike. Every time I see these shacks I am reminded of the predicament of those living in South African townships and even more so of how privileged my own life has been. For much of my life, I have been ignorant to this truth and have considered the "public" and private spaces I inhabit to be a reality for the rest of the world. I can't yet say that spending my semester with SIT Cape Town has made me a better person in the way of being a truly conscious global citizen. But I can say that my experience thus far has been nothing short of eye-opening.

Just last week, Winslow, our apartment mates and I took a day off from our ISP research to enjoy the outdoor splendor of one of Cape Town's beautiful coastline areas, Clifton Beach. We had just started playing a game of 2 on 3 beach soccer when Winslow asked a man watching us off to the side if he would like to join in and make it an even 3 on 3. For the next two hours a group of five American 21-year-olds were on the same level socially as a 30-something-year-old Zimbabwean who had arrived in Cape Town six days earlier with no family, job or place to stay. This playful game of soccer at once made us (the Zimbabwean and I) equal while also reminding me of the context of our lives that makes us so incredibly different.

As is the case with the NGO that Winslow is currently working with, playing sports can be a source of inspiration; a way to teach, mentor and support displaced citizens. That day on the beach, my friends and I, much like the homeless soccer players, were taught an equally important lesson. That game of soccer was humbling. If anything, going abroad has made me realize the value of such activities or experiences, including sports, that bring me down to earth. •

NESCAC POWER RANKING

COMPILED BY THE COLLEGE VOICE

This week's installment of the rankings include the NESCAC Track and Field Championships which took place this Saturday at Bates College in Lewiston, Maine. The lacrosse rankings are solidifying as play heads into the post-season.

Tufts had strong performances from all teams in the poll, leaving the other top schools scrambling for spots. A three-way tie for third in Men's Lacrosse pulls up Colby, Bowdoin, and Connecticut College in the rankings.



SCHOOL	MEN'S LACROSSE	WOMEN'S LACROSSE	MEN'S TRACK + FIELD	WOMEN'S TRACK + FIELD	AVERAGE	RANKING
TUFTS	1	6	2	2	2.75	1
COLBY	3	1	8	5	4.25	2
BOWDOIN	3	5	5	4	4.25	2
MIDDLEBURY	9	3	3	3	4.5	3
TRINITY	2	6	11	—	4.67	4
AMHERST	6	3	7	7	5.75	5
BATES	10	8	1	6	6.25	6
WILLIAMS	11	11	4	1	6.75	7
CONN	3	9	9	9	7.5	8
WESLEYAN	6	11	6	8	7.75	9
HAMILTON	6	7	10	10	8.25	10

The poll was devised as follows: Sports Editor Jeff Beling ranked all NESCAC schools in each sport. These rankings were based on NESCAC standings as well as quality wins and influential losses to NESCAC opponents. These scores were averaged to create a composite overall ranking for each school.

DESIGNED BY STEVEN SMITH/TUFTS DAILY