



Administration Revamps Drug and Alcohol Policy

ALEX EMMONS : Staff Writer

This year, the Colorado College administration decided to abandon the widely criticized practice of automatically considering suspension for students with acute alcohol poisoning, adopting instead an intensive multiple step program hoped to better suit the needs of the individual students involved.

The old practice, which had been routinely optioned in the two years of its existence, was founded in reaction to severe nationwide alcohol-related drinking accidents. The new policy attempts to retain a hardline approach to dealing with alcohol, while simultaneously integrating a more organized and guidance based method.

The new practice was adopted from a program currently in operation at Colorado State University in Fort Collins. Assistant Dean of Students Jeff Cathey attended the conference, "Alcohol in College Towns," held at the same school this past summer. The conference presented upon the school's new and effective disciplinary program, which is a step-by-step, heavily-monitored option for students with substantial record of alcohol and other drug abuse.

The students in this program face an intensive regiment. The program requires them to meet regularly with a representative of the municipal judicial system, a psychiatrist or therapist, and, commonly, to submit themselves to random breathalyzer tests and/or urine analyses.

Cathey hopes to mimic CSU's program as closely as possible at Colorado College. So far, 72 percent of CSU students successfully completed the program, though this statistic only reflects the percentage of students who satisfied the conditions of the program without further record of infraction. About one in four students are dismissed or choose to withdraw from the program.

Every case of acute alcohol-poisoning and drug overdose will now be individually scrutinized, and every student medically treated for drinking sickness will be assessed by a professional. This does not mean that students cannot receive suspensions for drinking-related violations. Students with accumulated records of disciplinary problems may still be recommended for suspension. With the new program, however, students facing suspension may also be offered the option—a plea bargain of sorts—to submit themselves to the said effective



JACKSON SOLWAY : Catalyst

The not so hidden remains of underage drinking in campus dorms finds itself on full display in the homes of students now living off campus. In its entirety, the 'Beer Wall,' [Top], made of recycled six-packs, contains over 170 microbrews from around the world. The surface of a Beirut table, [Bottom], proves a better testament to the cheap, voluminous brews that flows freely in most dorms. Both pieces were begun during their owner's freshmen years.



ZACH ROSEN : Catalyst

program.

Based on the health condition and level of dependency of each student who enters the program, supervisors will tailor an individualized approach. Focus on the individual, care, love, and mutual respect are key elements of the program. Extraordinary cases that also involve sexual misconduct, sale of drugs, or any other behavior that presents a direct and immediate threat to the community will still receive the typical punishment of expulsion.

Policy violation need not precede entrance into the program. Self-concerned students with various levels of chemical dependency are invited to

commit to it, as well.

The new practice appears to be more lenient than the last, but Cathey said "the college still takes incidents of alcohol abuse very seriously. Our shift is that we're going to assess, on a case by case basis, what the best response will be for the individual." Each case has different attached circumstances, and the program will not be the appropriate response for everyone.

The program itself will never be mandatory; it is not a policy. If suggested, it will always remain an option for the student to choose or reject. Cathey also noted that students must pay for the various extraneous fees incurred by the program,

butmost insurance policies cover these costs; if a student's insurance plan does not cover the fees, financial aid will likely be made available through the school.

"Our fear is still the same fear," Cathey stressed. "The message is not that suddenly, 'It's okay to drink more.'" Rather, the school has declared its dedication to the individual, insisting that its primary goal is guidance for even the most afflicted students through to graduation. "We want your degree to have the Colorado College emblem on it," Cathey concluded. "Know your limits and take care of your friends."

City Council Observes "National Preparedness Week"

NICK WILSON : Staff Writer

The Colorado Springs City Council passed eight pieces of legislation last Tuesday, Sept. 12 during what has now been dubbed "National Preparedness Month," bolstering the funding of the Office of Emergency Management programs. The legislation allocated funds to pre-existing emergency response tools such as the Citizen Corps Program, State Homeland Security Program, and the Law Enforcement Terrorism Prevention Program.

The Colorado Springs Office of Emergency Management's primary objective is the "mitigation of and planning for large-scale man-made or natural hazards, emergencies, and disasters." Natural disaster preparedness is a top priority of the Office of Emergency Management, but in a post Sept. 11-world, the OEM also necessarily aims to effectively prepare Colorado Springs for any potential terrorist threats.

"Year to year, the federal allocation has gone down," reported Director of Office of Emergency Management Brett Waters.

According to Waters, the annual funding cuts were less a reflection of an overall decreased threat level than a testament to a greater capability of Colorado Springs to deal with potential threats. Regardless, he stated, "I think we've got a long way to go."

Colorado Springs is home to several landmarks, such as NORCOM and the Air Force Academy, that could be high-profile targets for terrorists. When questioned about current threats to Colorado Springs, Waters said, "I don't know if we can discuss specific threats. . . . Our police department works closely with the FBI [Federal Bureau of Investigation] on any specific threats we have. Right now, there are no specific threats that I am aware of directed towards the city or colleges."

In recent months, high-profile incidents, such as the detaining of 11 Egyptian exchange students who failed to appear at their designated universities, have highlighted the fact that students themselves may be potential security threats. When asked if Colorado Springs is threatened by a similar occurrence, Lt. Ralph Sintron of the CSPD said, "We have no information that would indicate [such threats] whatsoever."

When further pressed how the CSPD was able to obtain

opinions

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scene

CC alumni bring sensational climbing videos to campus, share extreme adventures

Calmly and methodically, Didier Berthoud place his hands into the chalk-caked crack as he worked his way towards the crux of Cobra Crack, an unclimbed wall near Squamish, British Columbia. As he ascended, the wall grew steeper and the crack thinner until he reached a small section of the crack, battered with the white dust from several other attempted sends. Here the Swiss crack master was forced to jam a taped and calloused middle finger into the narrow opening. "Allez Didier," he muttered to himself as he reached for the next hold. His middle finger slipped out and Didier "whipped" out a huge distance to his last cam placement—until the rope finally caught.



Jerry Schilling, childhood friend of the late Elvis Presley, hosted a book signing in Worner last Wednesday, Sept. 13. 4



Men's soccer team returns from summer Germany trip victorious, cultured, and ready for fall season. 7

Cornerstone Arts Center in the Works

JOHANNA BARRY
KRISTIN OLLER : Staff Writers

The gaping crater that sits across from Armstrong Building on Cache la Poudre St. is the foundation for the new 75,000 square foot Cornerstone Arts Center (CAC), to open fall of 2006. Designed by world-renowned architect Antoine Predock, the building is destined to become one of the most innovative arts facilities in the country.

The groundbreaking ceremonies for the \$30 million project commenced at noon on May 19, 2006, marking the genesis of what will be an interdisciplinary space where students from all artistic venues can collaborate and share ideas.

Noah Furman, paraprofessional to the dean of the college, said, "Since collaboration is a huge part of the contemporary art scene, the mission of the new art center is to create a new and different space for people to share their ideas, in ways that go beyond the stiff 'museum' setting."

In other words, the art center will be a place that incorporates the "everyday artist" as well as the art majors.

According to Furman, "The center will encourage the average student to get involved and make art more substantial. This art center will be a multimedia space for everyone to enjoy."

One of the fundamental principals that the Art Center Planning Committee took into account was that the works on display should be student initiated, encouraging students to work together outside of their own departments. In keeping with this idea, the success of the art center will depend largely on student involvement and willingness to experiment with new uses of technology, as well as melding many art disciplines including film, painting, sculpture, dance, and theater.

In addition to placing contemporary artists' works on display and hosting various theater performances, the center will feature classrooms to enhance the artistic learning and development of CC students.

Senior art major Sam Cotton feels that "the new performing and studio arts building is another part of Dick Celeste's plan to put [CC] on the map." CC hopes to revamp its art programs, and in order to do so, the school is prepared to jump to the forefront of college arts programs.

Aside from a first-rate arts center, Cornerstone will also be an environmentally friendly building.



Bulldozers work to clear space for the new Cornerstone Arts Center.

KRISTIN OLLER : Catalyst



Chainlink and warning signs keep students away from the construction site.

KRISTIN OLLER : Catalyst



The depression across from the Armstrong Building waits for development.

KRISTIN OLLER : Catalyst

The Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED), a Green Building Rating System, has certified CAC as a Green Building. The strategies used for sustainable site development, such as water savings, energy efficiency, materials selection, and indoor environmental quality all indicate that this facility is

environmentally sound. The entire CC community be an integral part of making this project a success. "This is a facility that belongs to the students; I would encourage any ideas or suggestions for any projects you want to see," Furman said.

Water Wars Rage in Platte River Basin

HAILEY ECK : Staff Writer

United States Senator Ken Salazar sent a letter to the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) risk management agency on Wednesday, Sept. 6, urging them to respond with aid to the water crisis in northeastern Colorado that has threatened hundreds of farmers and their families.

Salazar (Colo. D) wrote, "Many hardworking farmers and ranchers are fast running out of options that will allow them to continue operating their land . . . over 200 farmers had their irrigation wells shut off by government officials after they had planted their fields. Their crops

"Every season, a call is made on the stream, and that call will shut off junior rights until there is enough water to meet senior rights' needs. The fact is that the junior well withdrawals affect the senior well-owners' needs," McMahon said.

Since Senator Salazar's letter last week to the Risk Management Agency Administrator, members of the Central Colorado Water Conservancy District (CCWCD), the United States Department of Agriculture, the Colorado Agriculture Commissioner Don Ament, and local farmers met in Denver to address Colorado's devastating situation.

At the meeting, the CCWCD

"Many hardworking farmers and ranchers are fast running out of options that will allow them to continue operating their land . . . over 200 farmers had their irrigation wells shut off by government officials after they had planted their fields. Their crops have died, and now it appears that they will have little federal crop insurance to cover these overwhelming losses."

have died, and now it appears that they will have little federal crop insurance to cover these overwhelming losses."

This spring, Colorado State Engineer Hal Simpson opted to shut off farmers' water wells when local rivers were predicted to have lower-than-average flows.

"It's fair in the sense that [the farmers] knew that could happen. The system has been in place for a long time," said local water expert and CC senior Tyler McMahon in response to Simpson's decision.

But many Coloradoans do not agree with McMahon. Prior to 1969, a lacking connection between surface water and ground water led to conflict over water rights.

When the Water Rights Determination and Administration Act was enacted in 1969, water administrators and water users were given the tools necessary to integrate surface and ground water administration.

With goals of maximum utilization and prevention of injury to senior water users, the 1969 Act laid the foundation for allocation of water supply and inevitable struggle.

The 1969 Act also officially recognized the connection between ground and surface water, and established three types of groundwater.

Today, almost all groundwater in Colorado is recognized as tributary groundwater, meaning it is pumped out of a section of the ground that ultimately feeds a service stream.

proposed a Water Augmentation Sub-district (WAS) plan, which aims at settling water disputes between northern Colorado farmers and front range cities such as Boulder. The WAS is an actual district that resides under CCWCD. Their plan would aid farmers who had their water wells shut off, by limiting farmers to one well a piece.

President of the CCWCD board Jim Reasoner stated that even if the WAS plan is put into effect, "the 1969 Act still sets precedent, so there is no guarantee here for all farmers." His hope is simply that more farmers will receive water next year than this year.

Over the past three years, the WAS started buying senior water rights and building storage for them. Then 400 water wells in just his district were shut off this year. This is the first year WAS has been completely throttled. No wells in the entire district were supposed to be pumping, whereas last year 40 percent of district wells were still pumping.

Having farmed for 27 years, Reasoner is very familiar with the northern Colorado counties of Morgan, Weld, and Adams—three of the counties that have been hit hardest by the drought this season.

Currently, Reasoner and CCWCD are scheduled for a February trial at the Water Court in Greeley, Colorado, Judge Klein presiding. At that time, CCWCD will present their case to implement the WAS plan. It has been estimated that the case could cost upwards of half a million dollars.

City Council Passes Security Bills

Such information, Lt. Sintron declined to comment, saying that such information-gathering techniques were the responsibility of the Joint Terrorism Task Force, an

internal branch operating under the auspices of the FBI.

While no terrorists have yet been revealed in Colorado Springs since the inception of the programs, Waters

attested to their necessity. "These [programs] are mostly prevention/response, not intelligence gathering."

To criticisms that states may exaggerate threat levels to insure a greater level of aid, Waters responded that the formula the Department of Homeland Security uses to allocate money is highly secretive, perhaps in part to curb such abuses. However, there are no public watchdogs to guarantee that abuses of grant money allocation do not occur.

Lt. Sintron gave advice as to what students and all citizens can do to keep themselves and others safe. "It really falls upon all of us to protect the nation—and what we ask folks [to do] is to be aware. Be aware of what's taking place around you. If you see anything suspicious or if you suspect anyone



ZACH ROSEN : Catalyst

Bret Waters, a distinguished member of the Colorado Springs Office of Emergency Management, discusses possible changes to the strategy the city has implemented to reduce the threat of and prepare for possible terrorist attacks. Colorado Springs has been cited as a hotbed for considerable targets due to its deep connection to the military.

of engaging in anything illegal, or anything that would threaten national security, call the police department—

call the FBI. Make somebody aware."

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Dick Celeste Shares 2010 Plan

MATT BAER : Staff Writer

CC President Dick Celeste has a new action plan for 2010. The acceptance rate for Colorado College has gone from 57 percent in 2002 to 34 percent this year. In this same time frame, there has been an increase in Riley Scholars, venture grant opportunities, and the number of tenure track positions for faculty. Additionally, the number of block visiting professors has decreased. The wireless capabilities of CC have increased significantly, and there are 40 additional technologically enabled classrooms.

This is Vision 2010.

Vision 2010 is the action agenda that resulted from President Celeste's charge to students, faculty, staff, alumni and trustees to find a long-term plan for the college.

President Celeste referred to the plan as, "An effort by the community to agree upon a common vision for the college."

At the end of the 2002-2003 academic year, a group known as the "mappers"—consisting of students, faculty, staff, alumni, and trustees—presented a new mission statement and key themes to adhere to this "vision."

The new mission statement, according to the Colorado College website, "captures the college's distinguishing characteristics." These characteristics—the block plan and the location in the West—aim to help the college "provide the finest liberal arts education in the country."

President Celeste used the mappers' conclusions to create what is now referred to as Vision 2010. He proposes his action agenda in three key themes: a rigorous intellectual experience, a diverse and respectful community, and a next-generation campus.

"It is not a question of whether we forge ahead on this new course—we



DANIKA CONOLLY : Catalyst

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must, if we aspire to offer the best liberal arts and sciences education in the country," said President Celeste in reference to Vision 2010.

According to junior Corrine Johnson, "A lot of schools of the same caliber as CC are attractive to students because of the amenities they have. So in order for CC to attract more students, this plan is necessary."

The three key themes of Vision 2010 have already been implemented heavily—evidence of this execution include a declining acceptance rate, an increase in devoted faculty, an increase in minority scholars, and an abundance of up-to-date technological improvements.

In addition to the current improvements, President Celeste

believes the future is full of promise. He noted the future plans for the Cornerstone Arts Center, as well as the possibility of a new health and fitness center and library as important pieces of this continuing enhancement.

Despite all of these improvements and plans for enhancing CC, many view the plan as simply an improvement on an already fine institution. Associate Dean of Students Jeff Cathey said, "I don't think it [Vision 2010] is a result of problems."

According to Cathey, "Most people are excited for the plan." At the same time, however, freshman students who have seen some of the plan's objectives, such as increasing diversity while increasing selectivity, consider the reconciliation of these aims to

potentially be "very difficult."

"A good question is, 'Are we going to be able to make it happen?'" Cathey acknowledged.

In answer to that question, President Celeste responded, "[Vision 2010] should stretch us. It should challenge us. Around 2008, we should start thinking about 2020."

"It does take a while to change, but [Vision 2010] is a good goal. . . . It is just unfortunate that I won't be around to see all of the changes," Johnson said.

As a final reflection on Vision 2010, President Celeste offered this quote from James Russell Lowell: "Failure is not a crime. Low aim is a crime."

While Reasoner asserted, "We [the CCWCD] are against the world," he also believes that "there is a lot of cooperation, especially from the cities, even though they object to our plan. They are just great to deal with—they understand these farms have a big economic impact."

Former member of the Colorado Springs Water Conservation Advisory Committee and CC Economics Professor Mark Smith asked vital questions regarding the farmers and their lack of water. "So do you want to rescue those people? If you don't want the farms to go out of business, do you want to stop development? . . . I mean, we haven't even talked about [whether] we want more water in the stream so birds can have nesting habitats down in Nebraska, which brings in a whole other dimension. There's simply not enough water in the South Platte River Basin, so who's going to give it up. . . . It will be the farmers because they cannot simply pay what cities pay."

When asked whether or not the WAS plan has potential, Smith said, "That remains to be seen. I think the planning process is good."

Smith describes the water situation in Colorado as extremely dynamic. "Water is being moved from agriculture to urban areas. People are concerned about water for the environment—these considerations weren't included in the Historic Water Law."

Write for
the Catalyst

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CC Alumni Showcase Their Latest Rock Climbing Films in the Reel Rock Film Tour

TURNER RESOR : Staff Writer

Calmly and methodically, Didier Berthoud place his hands into the chalk-caked crack as he worked his way towards the crux of Cobra Crack, an unclimbed wall near Squamish, British Columbia. As he ascended, the wall grew steeper and the crack thinner until he reached a small section of the crack, battered with the white dust from several other attempted sends. Here the Swiss crack master was forced to jam a taped and calloused middle finger into the narrow opening. "Allez Didier," he muttered to himself as he reached for the next hold. His middle finger slipped out and Didier "whipped" out a huge distance to his last cam placement—until the rope finally caught.

Didier and his quest to make the first ascent on this unbelievable crack climb is one of many amazing climbing feats documented in last Wednesday's presentation of the Reel Rock Film Tour in Armstrong Theatre. The two films shown, *First Ascent* and *Dosage IV*, were presented by and CC alumni Peter Mortimer ('97) and Nick Rosen ('96), the producers of *First Ascent*. The second film was also produced by a CC alumnus Josh Lowell ('94), who could not attend due to a thrown out back.

All three of these CC alumni are among the best producers in the climbing film industry. They hope to take their tour "nationwide and international," according to Mortimer, and to one day make it the "Banff Film Festival of rock climbing."

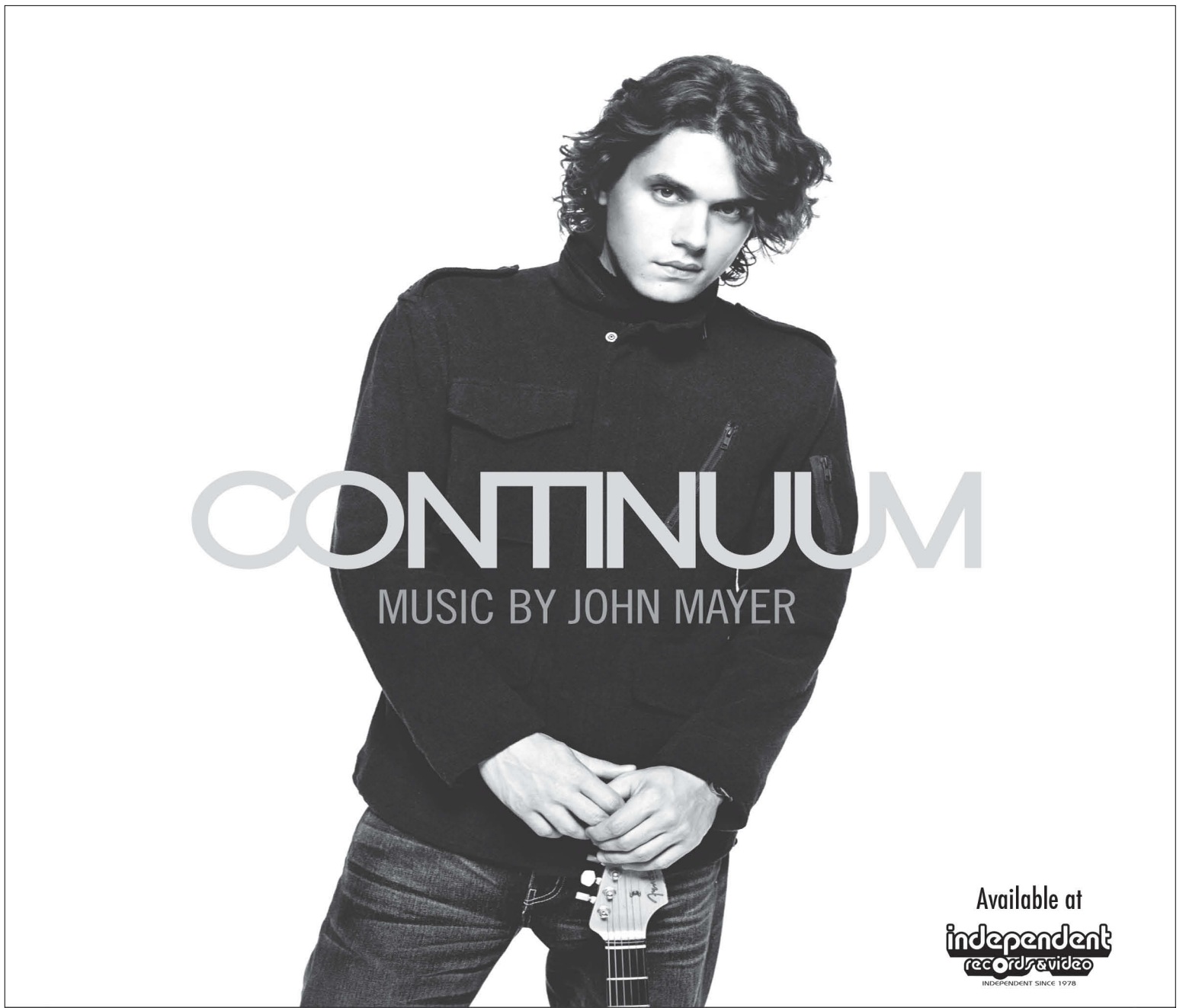
First Ascent featured groundbreaking climbing stunts from all over the world. "We wanted to blend cool, crazy footage with 'big whippers' (a fall taken while lead climbing) and storytelling," said Mortimer said. "We try to get inside the characters and create drama."

First Ascent also included an abridged climbing history identifying the drive behind first ascent seekers of the 60s and 70s, as well as the overuse of spandex in the 80s. "Climbing is an intergenerational thing," Rosen explained. "We try in *First Ascent* to give homage to the earlier generations; they were the ones who started it."

Included in the film was an amazing alpine first ascent of Thalay Sagar, a peak in the Himalayas; a first free ascent of Epitaph, on Tombstone Wall, by Dean Potter; the dangers of new routes in Black Canyon; insights on the motives for sending first ascents with Didier; and deep water free climbing in Thailand with the likes of David Lama, who, according to CC climber Chris Burwell, "has been on a sending spree all over Europe for the last year."

The second film, *Dosage IV*, began with legendary climber Chris Sharma working on a route called "Dreamcatcher" in British Columbia. Sharma slaps on and clings to rock that appears to have no holds, then spiders his way up an overhang, leaving audience members skeptical about being victims to the tricks of film.

Dosage IV explores other mind-boggling climbs and ends with the documentation of one of time's most remarkable climbing feats: Tommy Caldwell's double free ascent of El Capitan in the span of a single day. Caldwell is supported by his



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Me and a Guy Named Elvis Author Brings His Book to CC

MATTHIAS BARKER : Staff Writer

If you happened to be in Worner this past Wednesday afternoon, you might remember a table of peanut butter-banana sandwiches and milk. Perhaps

you caught a glimpse of the movie projection displaying a certain hip-swinging rock icon. In all likelihood, you were probably more impressed by the goat ploy advertising CC's farmers' market. However, the person behind

the snack table with the big Southern smile—the guy you missed—was Jerry Schilling.

"Who is Jerry Schilling," you ask?

He was a member of the "Memphis Mafia," a lifelong friend, bodyguard,

photo double, and film editor for the one and only Elvis Presley. "The Mafia was 'the original entourage,'"

chuckled Schilling, who was on campus to sign copies of his newly published book, *Me And A Guy Named Elvis*, in which he details his twenty-three-year friendship with the King of Rock and Roll.

Schilling was only twelve when he met the nineteen-year-old Elvis Presley. At the time, Elvis was barely a week

into his recording career. Nonetheless, their friendship blossomed. "I was out till three or four in the morning at amusement parks and going to high school the next day," he recalled. A self-described "poor, shy, orphan kid growing up in the segregated South," Schilling was turned on by Elvis's music. "I saw the power of what music could do," Schilling said. "It was about breaking down barriers of segregation."

As a senior in college, Schilling was overjoyed when Elvis invited him to come and work alongside The King in Los Angeles. "We drove cross-country in a bus that Elvis was driving at that time. When we arrived in L.A., it must have been three in the morning. Everyone went to sleep—they had been doing it for a few years—but I couldn't sleep. I was living in a mansion with colored lights and a swimming pool in the backyard."

Dreams morphed into reality at a staggering rate for Schilling; but even in such an exciting situation, his friendship with Elvis was always more important than the job. "I really got to know him during our late night talks. We might start out talking about a girl we saw earlier that day," but the conversation usually adapted a more spiritual nature. "[Elvis] was



ALISON KELMAN : Catalyst

Jerry Schilling, an ex-member of the Memphis Mafia and long-time friend of Elvis Presley, discusses his recently published biography, *Me and a Guy Named Elvis*, in the Worner Center last Wednesday.

5



Organizer Phil Armstrong greets festival-goers.

MIKE BEST: Catalyst

4 CLIMBING wife, Beth Rodden, and the famous aid climber Chris McNamara during this enormous task. Not only does Caldwell complete his objective, but he chooses "The Nose" as his first route, considered to be the hardest free climb in the world. Caldwell's enormous accomplishment leaves one wondering if there is anything even remotely comparable.

will make, CC is one of only a few that these producers have chosen to attend. Mortimer said that in his time at CC, it was "climbing that brought [the producers] together. Mountain people are friends that you make for a lifetime." To Mortimer, it seemed as though things had changed very little since his time here. "There are still a lot of CC dirt bags, or lifers, out there," he said with a smile.

Of the 50 stops this film tour

4 ELVIS VISITS C.C.

a very bright guy—an international and esoteric soul."

Several ex-Memphis Mafia members have written books depicting Elvis as a hard partier and fierce drug abuser, but what sets Schilling's book apart are the human qualities he adds to the icon. He watched the King's legacy turn into peanut butter-banana sandwiches and drug abuse. "The human side and the struggle were being lost. I feel like we lost Elvis when we didn't have to. I look to the cause instead of the effect."

Schilling believes that Elvis succumbed to a series of "creative

"People say to me, 'He was Elvis Presley, he could do anything he wanted,' but it wasn't like that at the time. The drugs were band-aids that helped him ease the pain."

Jerry Schilling

disappointments." His movie career proved extremely frustrating, especially when "producers and movie executives would come to the house telling Elvis what character he was going to play." Elvis was constantly typecast as the "pretty-boy," a role he detested. Schilling explained, "People say to me, 'He was Elvis Presley, he could do anything he wanted,' but it wasn't like that at that time. The drugs were band-aids that helped him ease the pain."

When asked if he has any regrets, Schilling smiles and his pale blue eyes look slightly sad. "I wish he could have stayed longer." Elvis died in 1976 due to a heart attack, presumably caused by a prescription drug overdose. He was forty-two years old. Although this stigma is often responsible for tainting The King's integrity, Schilling adds a different and novel perspective to his lifelong friend's legacy.

"The way Elvis put it once, 'Jerry, you might do things a little better with success, but it comes down to family, friends to share it with, and something to look forward to.'" This personal message, from a guy named Elvis to his friend Jerry, is the lasting impression of Schilling's book.

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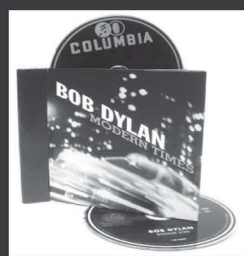
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Hopelessly Devoted to Facebook

CHARLIE MEREDITH : Features Editor

At 12:03 p.m., sophomore Alison Kelman rushes out of class to her dorm room in Mathias Hall. She turns on her laptop, opens Internet Explorer, and types no more than the letter “f” into the address bar before her computer fills out the rest—facebook.com.

For those out of touch since 2004, Facebook is the wildly popular online social network that has captivated students across the world since its creation slightly over two years ago. Facebook boasts almost half of American colleges and universities as support schools, including all of the nation’s community colleges. According to TechCrunch.com, “An average of 80 percent of each school’s student body has a profile “and” 60 percent log in daily.”

Facebook users share myriad information with each other, such as contact information; personal stats like gender, birthdate, and academic focus; and interests including movies, music, relationships, and political affiliation. Users may fill in as much information as they like and update it according to their own preferences. A Carnegie-Mellon University study showed that “. . . over 65 percent of Facebook members fill out all options.”

“Cyber-life” obsession has raised Facebook’s membership to almost five million people, and this attention has generated interest from a number of companies wishing to purchase Facebook and expand it even further. Founder Mark Zuckerberg has rejected “big money” offers as large as \$500 million for the rights.

As a sophomore at Harvard University, Zuckerberg created Facebook in February 2004. Only weeks after its inception, over half the undergraduate students at Harvard had registered. In its first year, Facebook gained over one million members.

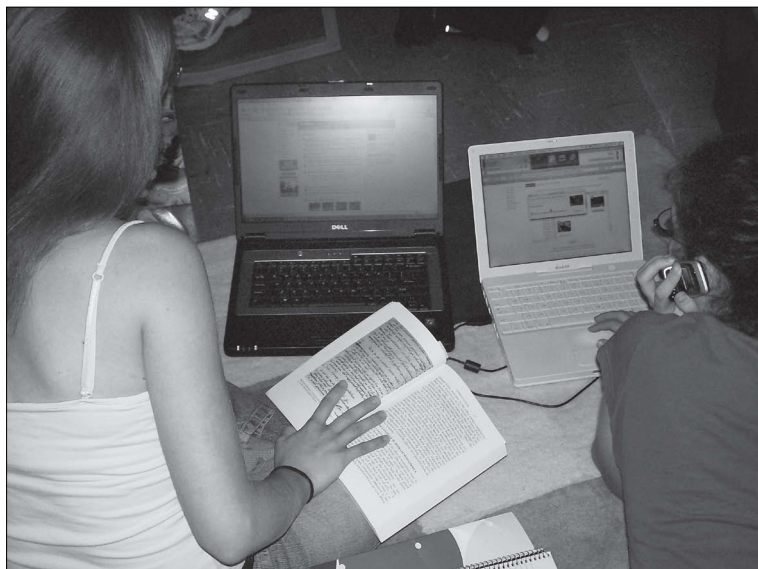
Part of Facebook’s success is Zuckerberg’s effective tapping of a target audience in college students, the group most likely to follow top technology trends and dedicate time to creating online profiles. “I wanted to create an environment where people could share whatever information they wanted, but also have control over whom they shared that information with,” Zuckerberg said in an open letter posted on Facebook on Friday, September 8.

Facebook also allows members to reunite with old friends from elementary, middle, or high school. “It’s great; I get to speak with kids that I’ve forgotten about, and we [can] catch up on good times,” senior Rip Empson said.

A Carnegie-Mellon University study cites that many students join Facebook because of “friend recommendations and peer pressure.”

“I was not strong enough to resist the majority [of students joining Facebook],” said senior Jocelyn Hallstein.

The famed website is now reaching out to high school students. According



KRISTIN OLLER : Catalyst

Facebook, a popular online community, interferes with students’ studies.

to co-founder Chris Hughes, “Within the first week, we [had] almost 100,000 high school members.” Letting students join Facebook early increases Zuckerberg and Hughes’s target market, ensuring a long lifespan for the overnight success.

Some high school students gain a better sense of self by joining Facebook, a website first designed for college students. Evan Uhlmann, a junior at Francis W. Parker High School in Chicago, said, “I would log onto my brother’s profile in order to search, because I wasn’t allowed to have one—but now, I am my own man.”

Facebook also facilitates dating by allowing the display of members’ sexual preference, relationship status and what he or she is currently looking for. This feature makes it easy, with a little research, to contact other members who seem like promising candidates.

Facebook continuously increases its impressive number of members by updating the website with features providing additional ways to reveal personal information. Vacation plans, jobs and even a current status window are available for viewers’ perusal.

One of Facebook’s biggest problems is its increasing lack of insured member privacy. As Facebook adds new features every few weeks, the members’ privacy protection has worsened. Police and government agencies are now connected to a breadth of information that people feel is somehow safe and secure within the confines of Facebook.

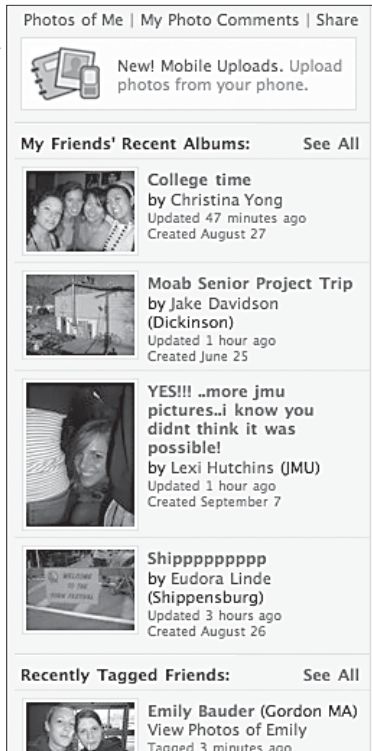
A story from the *Vermont Cynic* chronicles one college student who “wrote candidly in a Facebook chat room that he wanted to kill George W. Bush, resulting in the creation of a friend group called ‘I Hate George W. Bush.’ The next morning, Secret Service agents busted down his front door, claiming that he was an international

assassin.”

Many blog sites have become increasingly critical of the website’s motives, claiming Facebook is just another method of deceiving the public and gathering private information. The blog propaganda site matrix.com calls Facebook “the leading vanguard of the consumer-friendly Big Brother targeting young people . . . where the cryptocracy wants to know every detail of your life and track your location at every moment.”

Government agencies are not the only outside group accessing Facebook. Potential employers can find information such as political affiliation, sexual orientation, and other details illegal to require but accessible in Facebook profiles. According to *The Stanford Daily*, “Dredging up private information on Facebook is unethical but not illegal and is freely available to all, including nosy corporate recruiters.”

To save readers the time of researching the writer’s profile, I will simply state my relationship status. I am single, interested in women, and looking for random play. I will now log on and await any friend requests.



A typical view of facebook photo albums. The site highlights recently updated albums.

News Feed Update: Users Protest

LAURA DUDNICK : Editor in Chief

Two new Facebook features, called News Feed and Mini-Feed, were added to the website Sept. 4, spurring livid responses from thousands of Facebook members.

The purpose of News Feed and Mini-Feed is to show how a member’s profile, and the profiles of said member’s friends, have changed recently. These features introduce no new material to the website; the pages simply make information more blatant and accessible. Zuckerberg described News Feed and Mini-Feed as “information people used to dig for on a daily basis, nicely reorganized and summarized so people can learn about the people they care about.”

According to *The Wall Street Journal*, students were “outraged”

by News Feed and Mini-Feed. More than 700,000 members—10 percent of Facebook’s entire membership—joined an anti-News Feed group on Facebook in just three days.

In response to the massive quantities of negative feedback, Zuckerberg posted a series of open letters on Sept. 5 attempting to calm furious members. “This was a big mistake on our part, and I’m sorry for it,” said Zuckerberg. “We really messed this one up.”

In order to fix Facebook’s disastrous feature, Zuckerberg announced on Sept. 8 that a newly added privacy page had been added, allowing members “to choose which types of stories go into your Mini-Feed and your friends’ News Feeds,” Zuckerberg said.



KRISTIN OLLER : Catalyst

Many students spend their free time outside of class checking Facebook profiles. Some users log onto the website several times each day.

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Lieben the World's Game

JASON STEIERT : Staff Writer

Have you ever truly pursued your passions? People dream of finding the perfect powder day, watching a beautiful sunrise atop a pristine peak, or watching the creation of their favorite music. This summer, the Colorado College men's varsity soccer team was lucky enough to be given the opportunity to pursue our passion for soccer. On June 6, we left for Germany to immerse ourselves in the

“We gained an understanding of what it takes to win . . . and left Germany with a winning record of 5-4-1.”

Weltmeisterschaft (World Cup) 2006.

Coach Horst Richardson takes his Tiger squad on a trip every three years in the name of soccer, traveling to places as far distant as Costa Rica.

As always, Coach Richardson planned an excellent adventure for the team in Germany. Our days were filled with cultural activities, historical sites, bratwurst, beer, and—of course—soccer.

We visited over ten cities throughout the three weeks we were overseas. Most memorable were Freiburg, where we watched Germany's opening match against Ecuador in a local park that was jammed with people; Munich, where we watched the United States' first match against the Czech Republic in Olympic Park; and the underground medieval dungeons of Nuremberg and Berlin, home of the “fan mile” where 900,000 Germans cheer their team on during matches.

We visited historical sites as well, such as the Berlin wall and the new Holocaust memorial. The most beautiful part of the trip was Horst's return to his hometown of Rosstal,

where we were greeted like celebrities and got a peek at his childhood.

The highlight for the team as a whole was watching the Italy v. Czech Republic match in Hamburg. This was serious; full-body pat downs were required for every fan and computer chips in the tickets were connected to our passport numbers. Inside the stadium, however, the party atmosphere came alive with face paint, flag capes, beer, team-colored Mohawks, drums, horns, music, tears, laughter—and the songs!

I have never been to an American sporting event as loud and jovial as a World Cup match. All over the world, fans were focused on every movement of the athletes before us, scrutinizing their play and making judgments. This was the height of our passion. So rarely do we get to share our love of this game with others—for three hours this summer, our passion resonated with that of 60,000 chanting fans.

Of course, soccer was the lifeblood of our trip. We played ten games in our twenty-day visit, which tested our physical, mental, beer-drinking and meat-eating stamina. We loved it. As dedicated students of the game, this was an excellent chance for us to learn through experience. The teams we faced were technically, tactically, and physically superior to us, forcing us to play at a higher level.

We left Germany with a solid winning record of 5-4-1. We found the balance between having fun—trying new beers, for instance—and fighting for victory. We have gained an understanding of what it takes to win, and we will be bringing that knowledge to the field every game this year.

Come see the men's soccer team this year—wear that face paint or tiger suit, and experience the passion.

Outlook Optimistic For Women's Soccer

TURNER RESOR : Staff Writer

Each pair tried to keep calm, but they knew that speed counted. Lace-lace, lace-lace, head, head, and catch—the girls juggled the soccer ball before moving to the next grid, the only reward for performing the proper succession to complete the stunt again. “Sugar,” one player cursed very politely upon fumbling the ball as her teammates shouted encouragement. For a sport characterized by hard work, the atmosphere was of playful excitement.

The women's soccer team has many good reasons to be excited as they enter this season. A few changes this year in the team's schedule and the team itself could combine with persisting strengths to generate a prosperous season for the women's team.

The Tigers will no longer be an independent team—instead, they will be joining the Conference USA. This change will increase the likelihood of the team playing in the NCAA Tournament. “In theory it doubles our chances,” explained Head Coach Bennett. The team now has two ways of entering the tournament: either by maintaining a solid record or by winning their conference, the Tigers get an automatic qualification bid.

The team will also have the opportunity to polish their game before facing opponents in their league. Their first Conference USA game is on September 29 against University of Tulsa, and nine games before that time should help prepare them for the conference competition. On October 6, the Tigers play their first league game at home against Rice University.



Senior Kaitlin Okamoto exerts herself during practice, demonstrating one of the techniques the women's soccer team uses to stay in shape.

The team's season also looks promising due to “a good mix of new and old players,” according to team captain Stevie Kernan. Twelve of last year's players have returned this year, and of those twelve, seven were starting players and five were chosen as All-Independent selections, an honor awarded to those players from independent conferences who are considered at the top of their league. They also “have some awesome newcomers,” Kernan explained.

“We've gelled very early on,” Bennett said. “It's important to get on the same page quickly.” Unfortunately, the team will be without the talent of Kernan, who has a stress fracture in her knee and a partially torn MCL.

Further supporting the Tigers' chances is a strong presence in the net. Sophomore Geneva Sills has started every game since she arrived at CC, and has never allowed more than two goals in a first half. She is also responsible for eight shutouts, and

was voted onto the All-Independent team last year.

The Tigers also hope to continue their remarkable use of home field advantage this year. Throughout the history of women's soccer at CC, the team has a .821 record at Stewart Field.

“When we travel, we play far away,” Bennett said. “So when we play at home, we get more excited than the normal team.” Bennett also attributed their success at home to the altitude, the wonderful support from fans, and to the players being “very comfortable here on our field.”

Thus far, the Tiger's optimism has proved warranted. They are currently 3-1 for the season. Their next game will be against Ohio University at 4 p.m. on September 15, followed by a game against Iowa State University at 1:30 p.m. on September 17. Both of these games will be played on CC's own Stewart Field, so come out this weekend and watch the Tigers work their magic.

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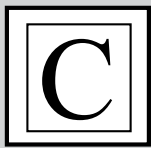
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The Price of Israel's Aggression and its Historical Ignorance

SCOTT PETIYA : Staff Writer

No one really saw it coming. On July 12, Hezbollah militants crossed the border from Lebanon to Israel, capturing two Israeli soldiers while three others were killed in the battle. Everything from that point on made progressively less and less sense.

Israel inexplicably held the Lebanese government responsible for the attack, calling it an "act of war." Although two members of Hezbollah serve in the Lebanese cabinet, the country's government is a moderate one, having come to power last year in the first democratic elections free of Syrian domination after widespread popular protests and international pressure forced the withdrawal of Syrian troops. The government insisted it had no prior knowledge of Hezbollah's attack and did not condone it. International demands that the Lebanese government disarm Hezbollah were not realistic—the militants are far stronger than the Lebanese army and have strong popular support, particularly among Shi'ite Muslims.

Israel's prime minister, Ehud Olmert, and defense minister, Amir Peretz—who have been in office only since April and are probably caving to pressure from military commanders—followed Israel's long-standing defense policy: respond with overwhelming force to even the slightest provocation. Israel began bombing not only Hezbollah targets in southern Lebanon but civilian infrastructure as well, such as roads, bridges, and the runways of Beirut's international airport. Military Chief of Staff Dan Halutz told reporters that the purpose of the attack on the airport was "to show the Lebanese government that nothing is safe" after an attack on Israel. In other words, an act of pure intimidation.

After Israel's wildly disproportionate military action against Lebanon, Hezbollah's response was entirely predictable—they responded in kind to Israel's challenge for "open war" and

began firing hundreds of rockets per day at cities in northern Israel. When a UN sponsored cease-fire finally took effect on August 14, 118 Israeli soldiers had been killed in the fighting, along with 44 civilians killed by Hezbollah rockets. But Lebanon's losses were dramatically worse: over 1,000 civilian deaths and 1 million forced to leave their homes, double the number of Israelis displaced and nearly one third of the entire population of Lebanon.

So what was achieved? Olmert and George W. Bush insist that this was a victory for Israel. Hezbollah has indeed suffered some setbacks. Under the UN Security Council resolution passed to end the fighting, the Lebanese government agreed to deploy its army to the south of the country, there joining an international peacekeeping force. Hezbollah's ability to control the area as its own "state-within-a-state" will be much diminished, as will its ability to have arms there or conduct any military operations. However, Israel hasn't gotten its soldiers back, and Hezbollah still claims the right to attack as long as Israeli troops remain in Lebanon.

Full disarmament of Hezbollah is probably impossible in the near future, because the group presents itself as a resistance movement against Israeli occupation. In 2000, Israel withdrew from the Lebanese territory it had occupied since 1982, but it still controls the Shebaa Farms, a small area bordering and sometimes considered part of the Syrian Golan Heights, which Israel took over in the 1967 Six-Day War.

In a month of heavy bombardment that left the infrastructure of Lebanon in ruins, Israel's military, which previously had no trouble crushing its Arab rivals—and was even backed by American supplies and money—could not destroy Hezbollah, could not take out its leadership or weapons, and could not stop the daily rocket bombardment of northern Israel. This unprecedented development, and the heavy civilian death toll in Lebanon,

was a major PR victory for Hezbollah. During the fighting, most of Lebanon's often fractious religious groups were united in support of the resistance, and Hezbollah's popularity across the Arab world has increased dramatically.

So can the war be said to have improved Israel's security? Not in the least. Israel has only made more enemies, and extremists throughout the Muslim world will probably be strengthened, while moderates are forced to tread more carefully, unable to afford the risk of being seen as opposing resistance to Israeli aggression. Israel's security, and America's, is probably worse.

While the capture of the two Israeli soldiers on July 12 was the immediate cause of the war, the origins of that action really go back to June 9 during Israeli air strikes on militant targets in the Gaza strip. One shell landed on a public beach, killing eight members of a Palestinian family and wounding at least thirty other civilians. Public outcry prompted the military wing of Hamas to abandon a unilateral ceasefire which it had maintained for more than a year. On June 25, militants tunneled under a Gaza border crossing and captured an Israeli soldier, with the aim of exchanging him for Palestinian prisoners held by Israel. It was this sequence of events which led to the Hezbollah attack, when it tried to get Lebanese prisoners released the same way.

An Israeli military investigation concluded that the Gaza beach explosion was not the result of their bombing, but instead came from an explosive buried in the sand by Palestinian militants. However, investigations by Human Rights Watch, the British newspaper Guardian, and Israel's Channel 10 television cast doubt on that conclusion, and Human Rights Watch said that the military investigation had been hasty and ignored all evidence from outside sources.

Israel's version of events is all the more difficult to believe in light of

their actions in Lebanon. Israeli air strikes killed four UN personnel at an observation post and over fifty civilians hiding in a basement in the town of Qana, making it painfully clear how careless Israel has been about where its bombs land.

The events of this summer have only underlined what should have been learned a long time ago: There are no military solutions for Israel. Forty years of increasingly brutal occupation of the Palestinian territories; its unwillingness to negotiate seriously with Palestinian president Mahmoud Abbas or even talk to the democratically elected cabinet led by Hamas; and the suffering of civilians in the West Bank, Gaza, and Lebanon from Israeli military actions have only inflamed hatred among Muslims in the Middle East and elsewhere, giving terrorist groups an endless supply of potential recruits.

The war in Lebanon has proven that military might is no longer sufficient to keep Israel safe. The only way to end the violence and give Israel any measure of security from terrorism is to end the occupation of Arab lands, including the Golan Heights and the Shebaa Farms. If this is not done, Israel will not survive.

Now that it's become clear that their forces are not invincible, Israel will not retain its military advantage for very long. The growing Palestinian population, together with Arab residents of Israel, is within a few years of outnumbering Israeli Jews. Israel will have no advantages when it is a minority-dominated state keeping the majority of geographic Palestine's inhabitants under occupation. Furthermore, if America continues to stand by and defend Israel in that situation, it will continue to anger the Muslim world and fan the flames of terrorism exponentially.

Time is not on the Israelis' side. If they do not return to serious negotiations and end their occupation soon, they will be the losers for a long time to come.

Write for *The Catalyst*
 E-mail: catalyst@coloradocollege.edu

Letter from the Editor

Dear Reader,

Putting together *The Catalyst* is a time-consuming endeavor for the staff during the first three weeks of each block. The work begins and ends every Thursday, until the third issue is released and the editors go to sleep. What happens during the time in between our first meeting Thursday night, when editors discuss story ideas for the upcoming issue, to our final crunch the following Thursday evening when we print each section, shine a light on the pages, and attempt to catch every possible mistake, includes the work of writers, editors, and photographers. Our staff has grown immensely this year, and the paper is the product of everyone working together.

The Catalyst staff members are still getting situated in our respective roles, and we have made mistakes these past two weeks for which we express regret. Specifically, a recent incident sparked the concern of senior Joanna Bradley, who wrote the "Little Miss Sunshine Sparkles" article, published on page 3 of the Sept. 8 issue. Ms. Bradley felt the voice in her article had been elim-

inated instead of edited. Additionally, grammar mistakes appeared in the article, which were not present when she wrote the original draft. I would like to apologize to Ms. Bradley, and to the other writers who contributed to our Sept. 8 issue who felt their work had been changed significantly without their permission.

I urge writers to continue contributing their work to *The Catalyst*, with the understanding that if they turn their stories in on time, the section editors will work as best they can with the writers when editing the stories. However, if a writer does not meet the deadline, he or she forfeits the guarantee of editing his or her story along with the editors. Obviously, it is most beneficial to the writer and the editor to work together, and I hope writers will observe the deadlines in order to make this possible.

The entire newspaper staff appreciates your support, and we thank you for reading *The Catalyst*.

Sincerely,
 Laura Dudnick
 Editor in Chief

Alienating the Political Blank Slates

MAT ELMORE : Opinions Editor

Everything changes in college. Or at least, that's what they say. You make new friends, your personality may change, you acquire new interests, and above all, your mind goes through the most important transformation of your life: you begin to realize, if you haven't already, that complexity is not an error and that the world cannot be explained by a facade of dualism wrapped in an obedience to "facts." You begin to see multiplicity not as an evil but as a certainty. You realize that ambiguity is inevitable and common to most questions. And most importantly, you realize the need to consider answers in the context of their circumstances; you discover that there is no overarching truth to the universe, but that there are many small truths around us every day, everywhere.

In my first year at CC, I took mostly political science and philosophy courses. In every single one of those courses, the professor made, in the first couple of days of class, a comment about the illegitimacy or wrongness of the war in Iraq. Sometimes it was related to the class material, sometimes not. Sometimes it was an offhand comment, but more likely it was directed toward the whole class. I don't have a problem with a professor expressing his or her opinion—I think it helps invigorate the dialogue of the class no matter how biased it is. All of that is under one condition, however:

that the professor explains to the class why he or she believes what they do.

All of this seems to be good and well. But there are some problems involved with my example. Nothing can escape the reaches of bias, especially not the classroom. And as I have said, I have no problem when professors make their own beliefs apparent to

"I don't have a problem with a professor expressing his or her opinion . . . under one condition: that the professor explains to the class why he or she believes what they do."

the class. At a liberal arts institution like Colorado College, there will be an obvious slant toward most ideas that are socially, culturally, and politically liberal. We will most likely graduate with a sound liberal education. We will likely be missing something, however, and that is a perceptive knowledge of the views that are contrary to our own. Liberal arts colleges pride themselves on tolerance, multi-culturalism, and hands-on experience, but many times they fall short politically.

None of my friends know anything about conservatism. They don't know much about anything other than the standard, boring liberal views. They don't know counterpoints to their arguments. God help them if they came in contact with a well-

educated conservative, or even a smart libertarian for that matter. Too often, students who have no experience in a political or philosophical subject are alienated by those who don't explain their reasons for believing the way they do. When we criticize the war in Iraq, or any other issue, without substance, we give these "political blank slates" either nothing to defend themselves with or a reason to claim our arguments as simplistic and irrelevant. When we are critical like that, not only are we misleading others, we are not giving the other side of the view—that of conservatism—a chance. If we emphasize pragmatism in our education, we have to teach both sides for the sake of understanding. It will not only benefit character, but it will give a much more well-rounded and educated view of the political world.

In a time when public discourse has been considerably dumbed down and simplified to the likes of a cartoon plot, it is clear that we need informed citizenry and constructive dialogue more than ever. Basing political beliefs on brief comments is no different than defending your beliefs about an article solely on its title. Don't make political comments without firm footing and think about the comments you hear before you repeat them. And for God's sake, discuss why you have the beliefs you do with other people. You never know what will happen. You might even find out you are a conservative. Scary, huh?