



**PENROSE
HOSPITAL**

Been Here Lately?

Several CC
freshmen have.

The beginning of the year often marks increased business for Penrose Hospital from CC students. New students, unaccustomed to altitude or college-level drinking, occasionally party themselves into a stupor. But has this year's freshman class, which sent several students to the hospital before the year even began, taken it too far?

NEWS

No news is bad news for CC

CC drops subscription to USA Today's collegiate readership program, citing cost, environmental concerns

RYAN CASPAR CATALYST STAFF

For the past 15 years, CC has participated in the collegiate newspaper readership program sponsored by *USA Today*. Every morning, the *New York Times*, the *Wall Street Journal*, and *USA Today* were delivered to racks in the large dorms on campus.

Although many students enjoyed daily access to these papers, students no longer have that opportunity due to a decision to cancel our subscription. Fortunately, a resolution may be forthcoming.

This initiative to keep students informed and provide us with newspapers was funded by the Economics department and the Student Life Office. According to statistics provided by *USA Today*, an average 64 *New York Times*, 54 *USA Today*s and 19 *Wall Street Journals* were delivered daily; the yearly cost was \$9,000. The only limit to the number of papers received was our funding, and usually every paper put out was taken.

This past August, the school was informed that the *Wall Street Journal* would no longer be available under the *USA Today* program. As a result, the Economics department decided to stop its funding, and CC's subscription to the program was scrapped. The department now encourages their students to read the paper online.

Unfortunately, this meant no newspapers and no explanation for eager readers come September.

While the subscription suspension has caused temporary frustration on campus, some students and faculty are treating this as an opportunity to reevaluate the program and find new options for providing students with current news. Dean of Student Life Mike Edmonds supports a timely resolution to this issue.

"The money from the Student Life Office is here, and we have to figure out how best to use it on the readership program . . . The program will return in some fashion," said Edmonds.

A few solutions have been outlined by various members of the CC community. Edmonds personally supports a subscription to one specific paper, but agrees that a decision can be made only after hearing students' opinions.

New Residential Life Director John Lauer suggested the full range of options, from three papers to one or none. The CCCA Executive Council has discussed creating an alternative online "Resource Page" that would contain links to major newspapers' Web sites.

A number of student voices have risen regarding the newspaper dilemma.

"I think it is a serious blow to the quality of student life that we don't have the opportunity to pick up a newspaper and read about what's going on in the world outside of the Colorado College bubble," junior IPE major Richard Scudder said.

Both Lauer and Edmonds voiced concerns about sustainability. Sierra Fleenor, CCCA president also cited the "great push for environmental sustainability at CC in the past year."

She added, "As part of environmental consciousness on our campus, a move to online newspaper access seemwws logical."

While not denying the environmental impact of newspaper delivery, some students in CC's sustainability organization EnAct suggest that the small contribution newspaper delivery makes to CC's paper waste does not overshadow its benefits to an informed campus.

"The situation with the Collegiate Readership Program at CC is . . . nuanced. The service provided by the Collegiate Readership Program is very important, encouraging political knowledge and civic engagement in a fairly politically apathetic society," said Charles Keller, EnAct President.



Debasement of Baca

The quest for natural resources infiltrates CC's local wildlife refuge

ETHAN AXELROD CATALYST STAFF

A Toronto-based energy exploration company, Lexam, plans to drill two 14,000-foot oil and natural gas wells later this year in the Baca National Wildlife Refuge, less than four miles from Colorado College's Baca campus.

The Baca National Wildlife Refuge, formerly known as the Baca Ranch, is home to one of the largest and most biologically diverse wetlands in the world. The land was acquired by the federal government in 2000 and converted into a federally protected area. Mineral extraction rights, however, which are separate from the land ownership rights, remained with Lexam, which had purchased the rights in 1987.

The Colorado Oil and Gas Conservation Commission granted Lexam the right to construct the two wells in April of this year. Since granted these rights, Lexam has performed expansive testing that has confirmed the potential of the Baca Refuge to produce large amounts of oil and gas. However, Lexam still considers the operation a "high-risk" procedure, because the possibility remains that they will not encounter oil or natural gas.

According to Aurielle Andhara of Crestone, the community surrounding the Baca Refuge is "completely devastated."

"People aren't here on accident," Andhara said. "They come here for the natural beauty and spiritual peace."

Similarly, CC's Baca campus is described on the school's Web site as a place that "allows classes to retreat to a wonderful, natural setting."

The presence of the drilling operation would have serious effects on the natural landscape surrounding the campus. Both of the wells are expected to be visible from the campus lodge, and will run almost constantly. Stadium lights will be constructed to facilitate night drilling. Additionally, Lexam will need to construct roads to transport equipment.

If natural gas is discovered, transporting it will demand the construction of heavy pipeline. Because natural gas can-

not be transported by pipeline in its natural state, an additional plant will need to be built before the gas can be transported.

Lexam's project would also have larger environmental implications. The Baca Wildlife Refuge is home to an estimated 4,000 species of plants and animals currently listed as endangered. Lexam will need to use carcinogenic chemicals to penetrate to 14,000 feet. These chemicals could affect the aquifers that feed the wetlands and help sustain human activities throughout the San Luis valley.

"We were expecting the Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS) to fight for us," said Andhara, who has been active in the effort to stop the drilling.

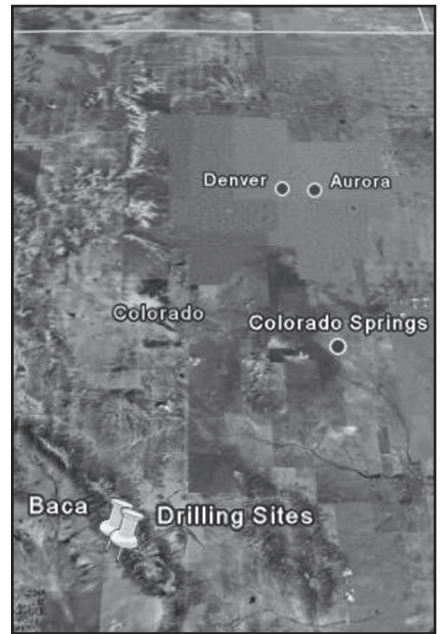
The FWS, which is responsible for maintaining the Baca Refuge, has been unable to prevent Lexam from commencing with the construction. This is due in large part to Executive Order 13212, issued by President Bush in 2001. The order requires federal agencies to "expedite projects that will increase the production, transmission, or conservation of energy."

Accordingly, the FWS determined that Lexam's project did not require them to submit an environmental impact study, as mandated by the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), which requires them to submit a detailed report on the long-term environmental effects of their operation and would give the public a greater voice.

The San Luis Valley Ecosystem Council, an organization based in nearby Alamosa, has since filed a lawsuit against the FWS in an attempt to force them to submit an NEPA report. In a statement released in response to the lawsuit, Lexam claimed to be "in full compliance with all environmental laws and regulations as set out by the state of Colorado."

As it stands now, Lexam only has to file an Environmental Assessment, which is not as detailed or binding as a formal NEPA report.

On August 17, the Fish and Wildlife Service began a scoping process in order to gauge the overall economic impact of the oil and gas exploration. The scoping process is based mainly on public comments,



Top: CC's Baca campus, with the Sange de Cristo Mountains rising behind it. The natural beauty of Baca and the surrounding San Luis Valley faces ruin by planned gas and oil wells in the area, as well as pipelines for transporting the fuel.

Bottom: A map showing the location of the Baca campus, with the proposed drilling sites marked less than four miles away.

and is supposed to serve as a guideline for the Environmental Assessment. The process lasts for one month, and is scheduled to end on September 17.

Locals who oppose the drilling, as well as the San Luis Ecosystem Council, have argued that the scoping process was unfair because the FWS announced the scoping process just nine days before it began, not enough time for the public to prepare their comments.

Several CC professors, particularly Miroslav Kummel of the Environmental Science department, have been active in submitting reports for the scoping process.

While it would seem that Lexam currently has the upper hand in the debate over whether to allow the exploration, local activists like Aurielle Andhara are determined not to allow them to proceed, asserting that, in Andhara's words, "This fight is just beginning."

Underage drinking: Class of 2011 maintains the tradition

Dangers of overenthusiastic alcohol consumption already manifesting in CC's newest students

JOEL MINOR CATALYST STAFF

According to Jeff Cathey, the associate dean of students, four CC freshmen have already been hospitalized for alcohol poisoning and related illnesses this year, a number that is "probably fairly typical," Cathey said.

It is common knowledge that freshmen tend to overindulge in alcoholic consumption in their first few days away from home, and it seems that CC's class of 2011 has been no exception. Rumors of freshmen getting taken to the hospital have abounded among both freshmen and upperclassmen.

"First-year students are naturally going to test their boundaries and new freedoms at college. We hope they choose to do so in a legal and responsible manner, and we hope that they don't hurt themselves or others in this process. We also hope that students keep in mind that their top reason for being at Colorado College is usually to pursue and obtain an academic degree. Consuming alcohol to such a toxic level seems contradictory to that goal," said Laura Bennett, the assistant director of residential life and housing.

Although there is a great deal of talk on the subject of alcohol safety throughout the freshman orientation process, drinking still occurs.

"I think students see it, in many cases, as sort of a rite of passage," Cathey said.

Cathey also said that the most important thing to bear in mind when a freshman—or, indeed, any individual—has had too much to drink and is visibly in need of help is to "look out for your friends."

Cathey also stated that he felt that CC students generally do a good job of just that.

"Our student body embraces bystander intervention. We don't leave our friends just to sleep it off if we're worried about them."

Cathey also hoped to emphasize that in cases when a student is in possible danger, their friends should make it a priority to

make sure the student is given proper attention.

"Obviously, our greatest concern is our students' health and well being. Our greatest fear is that we're going to have a student who makes a mistake they can't take back. There are way too many colleges around the country that have had cases of student death," Cathey said.

In the past five years, three alcohol poisoning deaths occurred at other college campuses in Colorado alone. All of them have been traceable to intoxicated individuals being left alone to 'sleep it off,'

"Our greatest fear is that we're going to have a student who makes a mistake they can't take back."

JEFF CATHEY

possibly because their friends feared repercussions if they turned the intoxicated individuals over to authorities.

At CC, when a student is hospitalized because of dangerous levels of alcohol consumption, the dean's office does have a follow-up conversation with the student about their choices.

If the student is underage, there often are repercussions, which, Cathey was quick to point out, do not include students being sent home, or—as

long as the student is over 18—their parents being notified. Cathey hopes that the possibility of repercussions will not discourage

CC students are no strangers to alcohol, but four students from the class of 2011 have already been hospitalized for alcohol poisoning. This has prompted concerns about students' health and safety, particularly those who may not have previous drinking experience.

students from looking after friends that need help.

"We always want students to take care of each other and their friends," Bennett said. "We hope that students will put each other's safety above the idea of getting in trouble. If a friend isn't responding, is falling asleep, or is vomiting, we hope that students care enough to get the person help, and not try to hide them or try to avoid getting in trouble."



CATALYST

The *Catalyst* is a weekly newspaper produced and managed exclusively by students of The Colorado College. Published for the benefit of the college community and the surrounding local area, the *Catalyst* aims to bring general interest and academic-oriented news, ideas, and opinions into greater collective view -- to act as a catalyst for informed debate. The newspaper is published under the auspices of Cutler Publications, a 501(c)(3) not-for-profit independent of The Colorado College.

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Comments Invited

Colorado College is seeking comments from the public about the college in preparation for its periodic evaluation by its regional accrediting agency. The college will undergo a comprehensive evaluation visit Oct. 29-31, 2007, by a team representing The Higher Learning Commission of the North Central Association of Colleges and Schools. Colorado College has been accredited by the commission since 1915. The team will review the institution's ongoing ability to meet the commission's criteria for accreditation.

The public is invited to submit comments regarding the college:
Public Comment on Colorado College
The Higher Learning Commission
30 North LaSalle Street, Suite 2400
Chicago, IL 60602

Comments must address substantive matters related to the quality of the institution or its academic programs. Comments must be in writing and signed; comments cannot be treated as confidential. All comments must be received by Sept. 29, 2007.

 COLORADO COLLEGE
1 8 7 4



Prof. O. Cramer, Instructor of Classics

PROFESSOR PROFILE

Unlocking Owen Cramer

ERYNN LEFILS-SHAW CATALYST STAFF

We all have professors that we admire. They are the professors that we recommend to our friends, urging them not to miss the pivotal part of the Colorado College experience that one particular person's teaching provides. We tell our colleagues, "Coming to CC and not taking a course with (insert favorite professor here) is like visiting Paris and not seeing the Louvre."

That exact statement was given about the *Reinventing the Greeks* FYE course three years ago, and the professor whose name was inserted there was Owen Cramer, of the Classics and Comparative Literature departments. For those of you who have yet to experience a class with Cramer, it is the equivalent of an intellectual rollercoaster—or perhaps we should say an "intellectual entire day at the carnival," complete with clowns, haunted houses, cotton candy, and the rollercoaster.

If you search the CC course catalogue for classes taught by Owen Cramer during the 2007-2008 school year, no fewer than 24 classes will appear. Ranging from *Athenian Democracy* to *Advanced Reading in Latin*, the list illustrates Cramer's dedication to CC.

"He seems to read every Web site, serve on every committee, attend every meeting, and remember every citizen in this little community of ours," said English professor Dave Mason.

This claim is easily supported by checking out Cramer's biographical homepage, which lists more committees, professional honors, groups, and places of travel then can be retold in one breath. Varying from classes taught in both the Comparative Literature and Classics departments to magazines he has helped edit, from the papers he has published to the email list to which he has contributed, Cramer's list of achievements is quite the self-esteem boost for CC.

As a professor, Cramer is the type who wants—or rather, *needs*—his students to grasp the class's concepts and deliver them back to him with a twist of personal understanding. He craves correct answers from his students so much that his students are often graced with his legendary selective hearing. Perhaps *wishful* hearing is more accurate.

Many of his former students often reminisce about one particular episode of this wishful hearing. Sitting on a desk at the front of the classroom, Cramer asked the class, "Can anyone name a contemporary American philosopher?"

Misunderstanding the question, a student

offered, "The Dalai Lama?"

"Correct! Walt Whitman!" was Cramer's enthusiastic reply.

Cramer walks with a slight stoop forward, not from poor posture but as from an inherent desire to move forward. The language in which he greets acquaintances varies from day to day, calling out *Bonjour! Kalimera! or Guten Morgen!* often as "Good morning."

Even in classes taught in English, he "laces his conversation with threads of German,



Professor Cramer in the Coscitt Amphitheatre.

WHITNEY CONTI

French, Italian, Japanese, and a distinctive dialect I can only refer to as Owenese, spoken by rare characters who have swallowed several encyclopedias with their breakfast cereals," said Mason.

Contrary to his extraverted behavior in the classroom, an air of shyness laces Cramer's personal character. When describing how he got where he is, he skips over questions of a more personal nature and devalues the profundity of his past. Invited to be a part of the Colorado College Classics department at age 22—before even gaining a graduate degree—he became a part of the school in 1965. After serving as instructor to the Professor of Classics for six years, he had the rare chance to go on sabbatical to earn his Ph.D.

Reminiscing about being interviewed for

a professor's job at age 22, Cramer affectionately calls it a "dumb career move."

When asked who he would pick if he could talk with anyone, Cramer said, "I'd like to meet Cleopatra or Aspasia; one of the great female minds." Then he jokes about what would happen if he met Boadicea (he thinks she might split his head open with an ax).

"I could speak Greek with Cleopatra!" The ecstatic comment is followed by one of Cramer's trademark laughs. Then he wonders out loud if a woman of such stature would even stoop to the level of a commoner such as himself. For a moment, it is impossible not to become completely lost in the idea of Owen Cramer as a common Alexandrian, vying for his chance to converse with the Macedonian queen.

He is also a husband, father to four, and grandfather to seven. He was introduced to Greek by his own father, with whom Cramer spent his senior year of high school in Athens. The next year, as a freshman at Oberlin College, he tried both a chemistry major and a German major before settling into the pool of Classical Studies.

Despite all of this, Cramer muses, "I wish I knew more Spanish and Italian. Need more of those Romance languages," following the statement with that famous HA!

Sometimes, when the topic at hand calls for it, Cramer's tenor voice rips through the sleepy classroom air. Voted "most inclined to burst into song during class" by his colleagues, Cramer is never, *ever* still. Everything he does seems to involve movement. With the songs come the dances, with the Iliad verses comes the stomping of the feet to the Dactylic Hexameter beat, and with the revelation of a new idea comes the rocking and the slapping of the desk.

Of course, there are students who don't love the whirlwind atmosphere of Cramer's classroom. One student not-so-fondly remembers a frustrating assignment he gave:

"He once assigned a paper. The directions were, 'Write a paper about something that interests you. Don't make it too long, but also, don't make it too short . . .' What on earth am I supposed to make of that?"

As an illustration of the chaotic, brilliant anomaly that is Cramer comes a quote on the Facebook group dedicated to him:

"Did you know . . . there was a time when, despite the dead tree in the corner of his office, the typewriter on the floor, the stacks of papers covering every spare inch and the tilted certificates on the wall, Owen's books were in impeccable alphabetical order. Impeccable."

FEATURE

What I Wish I Knew as a CC Freshman

LAUREN ACZON CATALYST STAFF

Class of 2011, welcome to Colorado College!

The value of that statement has likely been exhausted over the past few months as you moved from your acceptance letters to orientation week and opening convocation. Now you are here, and you are amazed, overwhelmed, feeling out what "here" really means.

Four years may seem like an eternity as you plod through your FYEs, but they will pass quickly, leaving you to wonder what you missed along the way.

Here, several upperclassmen share the wisdom that they have gained through experience at CC—the secrets they wish they had known when they stood, wide-eyed and wondering, where you stand now.

Remember your home. Grandparents do not live forever. Consider spending your first half-block at home, perhaps to share your first semester of college with the aging members of your family, rather than taking that awesome half-block course on campus.

Write a Venture Grant. It takes a real gut feeling of "It's too late" to urge a freshman to begin conceiving a Venture Grant proposal as early as humanly possible.

Explore the campus. It might be useful to know that the Colorado College Printing Press, secreted beneath Jackson House like a precious gem, exists and awaits a student's inspired direction.

CC junior Hillary Pride said she regrets not taking advantage of the arts and crafts program sooner. "I wish I'd gone to more of the Visiting Writers Series," Pride added.

Matt Baer, a sophomore, strongly urges freshmen to "make sure you order whole eggs when ordering a burrito or sandwich" at Rastall breakfast, and passes along an important warning: "If you're in a time crunch, never eat at Herb 'N Farm. It takes way

Take a moment to understand that this campus is more than an institute of higher learning.

too long, and you could end up missing whatever you need to do."

On a more social note, senior Kirsten Ostergaard wanted to remind freshmen to savor time. "I wish I'd known that I don't have to be everywhere at once to be a part of the social scene."

This senior writer wishes she had believed that the cliché statement, At Colorado College, we can make your dreams a reality, was in fact true.

Take a moment to understand that this campus is more than an institute of higher learning—this campus is unique because of the people around you, and you can learn a lot from them.

Keep a close eye on your laundry. Sign up for as many adjuncts as possible. Venture out on thrilling block break trips. Drink less so that you can remember more.

Take a few moments a day to relax, daydream, and step back from the academic rigor. And make sure to bypass Sodexo's watery fare for B.B. Bean's amazing \$1 cup of coffee, located on Tejon (across Cache from Slocum).

Carpe Diem, and enjoy your next four years!

Fall Sports Preview

What Can We Expect?

COMPILED BY KAREN FRIEFELD CATALYST STAFF

Football



Senior tight end Nolan Swett celebrates the football team's first win of the season on Saturday against the Pomona-Pitzer Colleges.

MEGHAN STEBBINS

Just as football fans across the country are polishing their living rooms and making sure their NFL Sunday Ticket is working perfectly, Colorado College is getting ready for another football season. Last year's freshmen added a solid base to the team, and the turnout of supportive fans grew exponentially. Will the crowd grow even larger this year?

"For the fans, there will be a lot of big plays, a lot of big hits, and a lot of CC victories," said senior Billy Blaustein. "We have a leading group of 19 seniors that are all bigger, faster, and stronger than last year, and we definitely have the strength and tactics to win the SCAC."

What was once a developing team is much more

likely to step out of its shell this year, and with the largest group of seniors ever in CC football history, the Tigers have every reason to play like there's no tomorrow.

"We play with a higher level of confidence—we're a year older, a year stronger, a year more experienced, and when combined with the fact that our maturity has caught up to our experience, I really believe we are at a level where we can win any Saturday we play," said Head Coach Bob Bodor.

As is key to any successful season, football started the year off on the right foot with a 37-21 win against the Pomona-Pitzer Colleges. The Tigers will play Sewanee on September 15.

*We're a year
older, a year
stronger, a
year more
experienced*

HEAD COACH
BOB BODOR

Club Rugby

Once considered a small group of rugby fans, the CC rugby teams have grown exponentially in size and talent. The atmosphere is more and more intense, and this season will showcase new additions of strong football players and experienced freshmen adding to the seasoned veterans of last year's team.

"A weakness last year was numbers, but by getting the new guys more involved and teaching them as a separate group, [we] will keep the numbers higher. We have so many players right now [that] the men's side looks to have two full teams," said senior James Cornelius.

The women's team has also attracted a lot of interested freshmen to the sport, which will inevitably benefit the core of the team. So what can we expect from the CC RFC this season?

"When the fans come out and watch us, they can expect to see more action, more offense, more points, bigger hits, and more overall physicality," Cornelius said. "Colorado College can expect to see the beginnings of a dynasty."

The men's team kicks off the fall season against Regis University on September 21; the women have their first game on September 23.

Cross Country

Cross country has often been overlooked as a spectator sport, but it deserves much more attention—especially this year. The women's team has several leading runners and spontaneous potential to make it to Regionals. The men's team is currently ranked best in the region, with three leading runners being considered for a spot on the All-American roster.

"The women are unpredictable and we are looking toward Jocelyn Jenks to lead the team, but there are always new, talented runners coming in every year," said Head Coach Ted Castaneda. "The men's is one of the strongest teams in CC history, but right now we can't be overconfident. It's not about what is on the paper; it's about running and earning your spot."

An obstacle that these runners often face is easy injury. Several female runners are currently waiting to be cleared for the season, including one

STORY CONTINUED PAGE 6

Athlete of the Week

NAME: Emily Beans

AGE/CLASS YEAR: 19, Class of 2010

CC SPORT: Women's soccer

HOBBIES: I love napping, reading, and playing spider solitaire

FAVORITE FOOD: I like pasta, ice cream, and chocolate cake from Rastall

FAVORITE PUMP-UP SONG: "Shippin' out to Boston" by the Dropkick Murphy's

PRE-GAME RITUAL OR SUPERSTITION: Before Sunday games, I eat biscuits and gravy and a lot of chocolate pancakes. I also write Joshua 19 on my arm for every game.

After winning last year's Freshman of the Year Honors for Conference USA, Emily Beans scored the game-winning goal against Davidson last week, keeping the Tigers undefeated in the opening of their season.

THE SCOREBOARD

Football

Scores:

CC v. Pomona-Pitzer 37-21 W

Upcoming home games:
Sept. 15 v. Sewanee, 1 p.m.

Men's Soccer

Scores:

CC v. Williamette 2-3 L

CC v. Whittier 9-1 W

Upcoming home games:
Sept. 15 v. Kalamazoo, 2 p.m.
Sept. 16 v. CSU East Bay, 11 a.m.

Women's Soccer

Scores:

CC v. McNeese State 1-0 W

CC v. Davidson 2-0 W

Upcoming home games:
Sept. 14 v. U. Rhode Island, 4 p.m.
Sept. 16 v. Loyola College, 1 p.m.

Volleyball

Scores:

CC v. Wisconsin-La Crosse 1-3 L

CC v. Whitman 3-0 W

CC v. Webster 2-3 L

Upcoming home games:
Sept. 14 SCAC Divisional, All Day
Sept. 15 SCAC Divisional, All Day

Men's Rugby

Upcoming home games:
Sept. 21 v. Regis, 7 p.m.

Women's Rugby

Upcoming home games:
September 23 v. Regis, 7p.m.

FALL PREVIEW CONTINUED



Senior frisbee player Zach Kauffman shows off his skills at the club team's tournament in Santa Fe this past weekend.

WHITNEY CONTI

Ultimate Frisbee

"Frisbee" itself is a word of commonplace usage that, spurring nostalgic memories from childhood up to college. Acting on this impulse, Colorado College's co-ed Ultimate Frisbee team is back for the fall and spring to practice and compete—but mainly enjoy—the company of other teammates and the joy of the game.

"It's about having fun with a lot of good people, and everyone on the team gets along really well," sophomore Albert Zug said. "It's causal in mentality, intense in play; so, especially in competition, it is key to dive, sprint, and pass well to score a touchdown."

The team, although fairly new to CC, has gained a larger base of enthusiasts and players as the years go on, and this year is no exception. After recently competing in Santa Fe, the team is scheduled to play against the Air Force Academy next month.

CROSS COUNTRY CONT.

with a broken toe. Stress fractures in the ankles and legs occurred too often last season.

"Last year, we suffered seriously from depth. Our number four and five guys got stress fractures at the end of the season, and that left us scraping to take anyone to the regional meet," said senior Julian Boggs. "This year, we have a great crew of freshman, who will help fill in the ranks so that we're able to get through any late-season injuries."

The Tigers will compete at their first home meet on September 22 at Monument Valley Park.

Women's Soccer

"CC can expect new, exciting freshmen to watch on the field, and an altogether great team effort against good opponents."

JUNIOR GENEVA SILLS

After reaching the NCAA playoffs last year and competing at equal caliber with the winning teams, the Colorado College women's soccer team has continued to prove itself as one of the two Division 1 sports at CC.

Aside from a large returning group of players, the Tigers are anxious for the start of the 2007-2008 season.

"CC can expect new, exciting freshmen to watch on the field, and an altogether great team effort against good opponents," said junior Geneva Sills of her team.

Although the team has a tough schedule early in the season, they have maintained a 2-0 record so far, and the 15th shutout for goalkeeper Sills only boosts team morale. The women have loftier goals in mind, though.

"I just want to make it to the NCAA tournament again and beat whatever teams stand in our way. No matter how good the opponents will be and how many expectations—or lack thereof—are put on us, the opportunity in itself will hopefully be enough of a reason to battle and get to the next level," said Sills, remembering last year's heartbreaking loss early in the NCAA playoffs.

The Tigers go up against University of Rhode Island on September 14 and Loyola College on September 16.

Volleyball

Pass, set, hit can become too simple a sequence for talented college volleyball teams, and the Tigers are no exception. After reaching the playoffs last year for the ninth year running, the Colorado College volleyball team has added a new spin to their game for the upcoming season. To start, the team has joined a conference and will no longer be an Independent.

"We also have a strong returning group of players, a new assistant coach, and very talented freshmen, three of [whom] will be starting this year," said Head Coach Rick Swan. "Last year, we ran a 5-1, but because of a new experienced setter, we can run a 6-2 this year, with two setters in the game at one time."

The development of team strategy and the addition of a new assistant coach, a recent graduate and volleyball player from UCCS, suggests a more successful season and an even further advancement of individual ball handling and passing.

"Last year, we had trouble keeping mental focus, so we started our preseason in July."

SOPHOMORE RACHEL HOLDER

To help integrate the freshmen and to better understand each other not as individual players but as one team, the Tigers started preseason early this year.

"Last year, we had trouble keeping mental focus, so we started our preseason in July, traveled to the Caribbean together, and had much more bonding time," said sophomore Rachel Holder.

As part of the new conference, the women's volleyball team started off the season with SCAC Divisionals, and they will continue that tournament on September 14 and 15.

Men's Soccer

we are a very skilled team, and many of our players are capable of a very visually exciting brand of soccer."

SENIOR CAPTAIN MATTHEW SAMSON

"We have started the year off with a lot of promise," said Head Coach Horst Richardson about his 2007-2008 men's soccer team.

With only one graduating senior last year, the bulk of the team is seasoned and ready to get started with practices and games.

"With the new conference we are in, we have an extremely tough schedule, and I expect to have a lot of close games," said senior Captain Matthew Samson. "However, we are a very skilled team, and many of our players are capable of a very visually exciting brand of soccer."

In addition to the rough game schedule, two key goalkeepers for the team are benched with ankle injuries, changing the original line-up for the season.

On the other hand, to add to the already strong team foundation, the preseason try-outs began in early August and six new players were added to the roster. Aside from integrating the freshmen into the team, there are a few obstacles the team will need to tackle this season to really get ahead.

"We need to narrow down mental focus to the next game, instead of toward the playoffs and the records we want to break in the future," Richardson said. "We also had trouble with corner kicks and scoring from within the penalty box last year, which we have improved so far and will continue doing so throughout the season."

The men's soccer team has completed four games with a 2-2 record, and will play Kal-amazoo College on September 15.

SCENE



In *Superbad*, characters Seth (Jonah Hill) and Evan (Michael Cera) embark on a misadventure that culminates in a night of hilarity.

MOVIE REVIEW

SUPERBAD: A Misleading Headline for a Funny Movie

TENDO KIRONDE CATALYST STAFF

You just can't help but love the awkward duo and hope they come out of high school triumphant—perhaps because we can all relate to their predicament ourselves.

Every so often, a film comes along that reminds us just how immature we all really are. This, ladies and gentlemen, is that film.

Superbad is an unrelenting adventure back into the awkward and desperate time of high school, as characters Seth (Jonah Hill) and Evan (Michael Cera) try to enjoy their last days before graduation. When the two get invited to a party by a girl they have long obsessed over, it soon seems that their entire high school career is riding on this one night. Their ambitions of losing their virginity before college and joining the cool crowd have finally become a possibility.

However simple the premise of the movie may be, the path the characters must take is anything but. Somehow, the main characters promise to bring alcohol to a party when they themselves have no real means of getting it. A few cops and a few hit-and-runs later, they lose their only friend with a fake

I.D. and are no closer to getting liquored up.

Despite this shallow premise, true merit results from their actions when the duo is faced with choices about friendship and hooking up. In fact, this movie exceeds similar coming-of-age films of its class.

Even though the plot of this movie can be summed up in about three seconds, the characters will render you speechless—they more than compensate for the shallow storyline. The actors Jonah Hill and Michael Cera create wonderfully subtle humor, which fills in the gaps between the all-too-real humor about losing their virginities and trying to get drunk. The chemistry is so strong that dialogue isn't necessary for you to be laughing in your seat. You just can't help but love the awkward duo and hope they come out of high school triumphant—perhaps because we can all relate to their predicament ourselves.

It must be said that the humor is crude, simple, and even sometimes tasteless, but there hasn't been a movie like this in years. Think *Wedding Crashers*

in high school. Almost like an R-rated *Napoleon Dynamite*: hilarious, stupid humor. Frankly, it's refreshing.

Other creations from the same director, Greg Mottola, include *40 Year Old Virgin* and *Knocked Up*, comedic feats in themselves but of an entirely different caliber. This film truly diversifies his film repertoire by delivering senseless humor with virtually no plot to ground it. The movie almost sweeps its viewers up as part of the gang for a day—one very funny day.

Overall, the movie is what it is. It doesn't try to tackle complex issues or take dramatic twists, simply because it shouldn't. If you are going to the movies looking for something that will really move and inspire you, this is probably not your best bet—that is, unless you are trying to get laid or buy liquor underage. Really though, it says it all in the title. *Superbad* is SuperGood. Definitely worth the ten bucks.

RESTAURANT REVIEW

The Olive Branch: More Skillets than you can shake a...

ANNA SANGER CATALYST STAFF

Located just south of Chipotle downtown is a charming little restaurant called The Olive Branch. Announced by a cheerful yellow awning, the restaurant welcomes those seeking a diverse and healthy menu.

Offering everything from burritos to Greek salad to chicken potpie, The Olive Branch's wide-ranging menu pairs beautifully with its eclectic interior decorating.

With prices ranging from \$6–15, the restaurant may stretch the average college student's budget. However, considering the variety and quality of the food, the extra money is definitely worth spending.

Upon entering the whimsical dining room, restaurant-goers are greeted by a display case full of scrumptious goodies, including loaves of The Olive Branch's famous lemon bread. Just beyond the tempting dessert display is the bar, fully stocked with fine wines and a wide variety of liquors.

A friendly staff greets customers at the door. Immediately after being seated, diners are served a sizable piece of the rich, iced lemon bread to munch on while making the tough decision of what to order.

Acclaimed originally for its stellar breakfast selection, The Olive Branch now boasts an extensive lunch and dinner menu as well. Those who love to sleep in can also taste The Olive Branch's renowned eggs



benedict, skillet selection, or a delicious breakfast burrito—breakfast is served all day.

Just looking around at the dishes being enjoyed by restaurant-goers around the dining room is enough to make your mouth water. Fresh salads are decorated with healthy, colorful ingredients. Massive pieces of freshly baked quiche make for an appetizing feast

The Olive Branch restaurant, located on Tejon, specializes in both breakfast and dinner delicacies.

CHIP SILVERMAN

for the eyes. Fajitas and breakfast skillets sizzle deliciously, emitting fragrant smoke into the air.

In the back of the restaurant is a party room that can host up to 60 people. The Olive Branch is a perfect place for a large gathering of family, friends, or business partners. Also worth noting is the recent decision of presidential hopeful Rudy Giuliani to use The Olive Branch as a pit stop along his campaign trail.

The walls are littered with an array of framed awards from news publications around Colorado Springs. The Olive Branch has been acclaimed for its breakfast, lunch, dinner, health food, and vegetarian dining.

"Rarely will you find anything deep-fried. Everything is made from scratch," said Mark Maltzer, the owner for over 20 years.

The Olive Branch opened in 1979, just around the corner from its current location. The restaurant was originally a Christian establishment, complete with stained-glass windows and Bibles on display.

These days, The Olive Branch is not religiously affiliated. The restaurant simply offers delicious, nutritious food to customers who always leave singing its praises.

The Olive Branch
23 South Tejon St.
(719) 475-1199

DISPATCHES

The Psychology of Studying Abroad

The emotional stages we go through during a study abroad experience

KRISTINA SHOYLEVA CATALYST STAFF

Many CC students choose to do a study abroad program. This is what your study abroad experience can be like:

You go to study abroad. The first week, you call some friends and can't stop talking about how much fun you are having. The second week, everything around still looks amazing and you don't understand why the word "homesickness" exists. A month later, your parents call and you don't even know which of your problems to start with when they ask, "How are you doing?" And the fact that you have been just lying on your bed, tremendously frustrated by a person from the opposite sex (who has no idea you feel like that about the situation) is probably not what you want to share anyway.

Homesickness? Nah, culture shock.

The four stages of culture shock are euphoria, discontent and hostility, adjustment, and acceptance of the new culture. Lucky tourists stay forever in the first stage. People visiting a country for a week or two have only enough time to gaze in amazement at all the new things and enjoy their vacation. Most students who go to study abroad for a longer time get to the second phase, where problems start.

In the second stage of the culture shock, people experience discontent, irritation, and a sense of incompetence. Problems just seem to mount all the time. Students do not know how to deal with them because they do not have the common knowledge and habits of the country residents. Foreigners wish they could go home—everything seems to be so simple back there!

Any document looks weird—even dating rules are different—and why didn't this university post the academic calendar online so that I could buy a two way plane ticket? The last comment was made by a CC student going abroad last year.)

In the third stage of culture shock, people have already acquired new social skills relevant to their new environment; they now want to fit in better. People become aware of the ethic rules, traditions, and common mentalities within the country. Students become familiar with the expectations local people have in relation to different issues. Problems still come and go, but this time students know how to approach them. Foreigners may discover new ways to enjoy their free time, and even acquire a different sense of humor.

The fourth stage of culture shock is the most rewarding. People in this stage are able to distinguish the positive and negative sides of living in both their country of origin and the country where they are studying abroad. They are able to analyze social differences and base them

on cultural differences. It's now clear for students that many of the problems they faced were due to these cultural differences. The feeling of understanding of the new culture is rewarding and helps foreigners enjoy the experience.

Some psychologists add a fifth stage, known as the reverse cultural shock. Students get it when they come back to their country of origin. Some of the newly acquired social knowledge is not valid in the country to which students return. People may want to act in the way they did while abroad, and find that this behavior does not fit society or cannot be easily accepted by people surrounding them.

Just like in the previous stage, people are able to understand cultural clashes as the product of cultural differences and different viewpoints. At this point, people may be able to better articulate and analyze cultural differences and accept them even more easily. The experience of studying abroad eventually gives students a broader mental horizon and a better understanding of views they were not able to accept and analyze before.

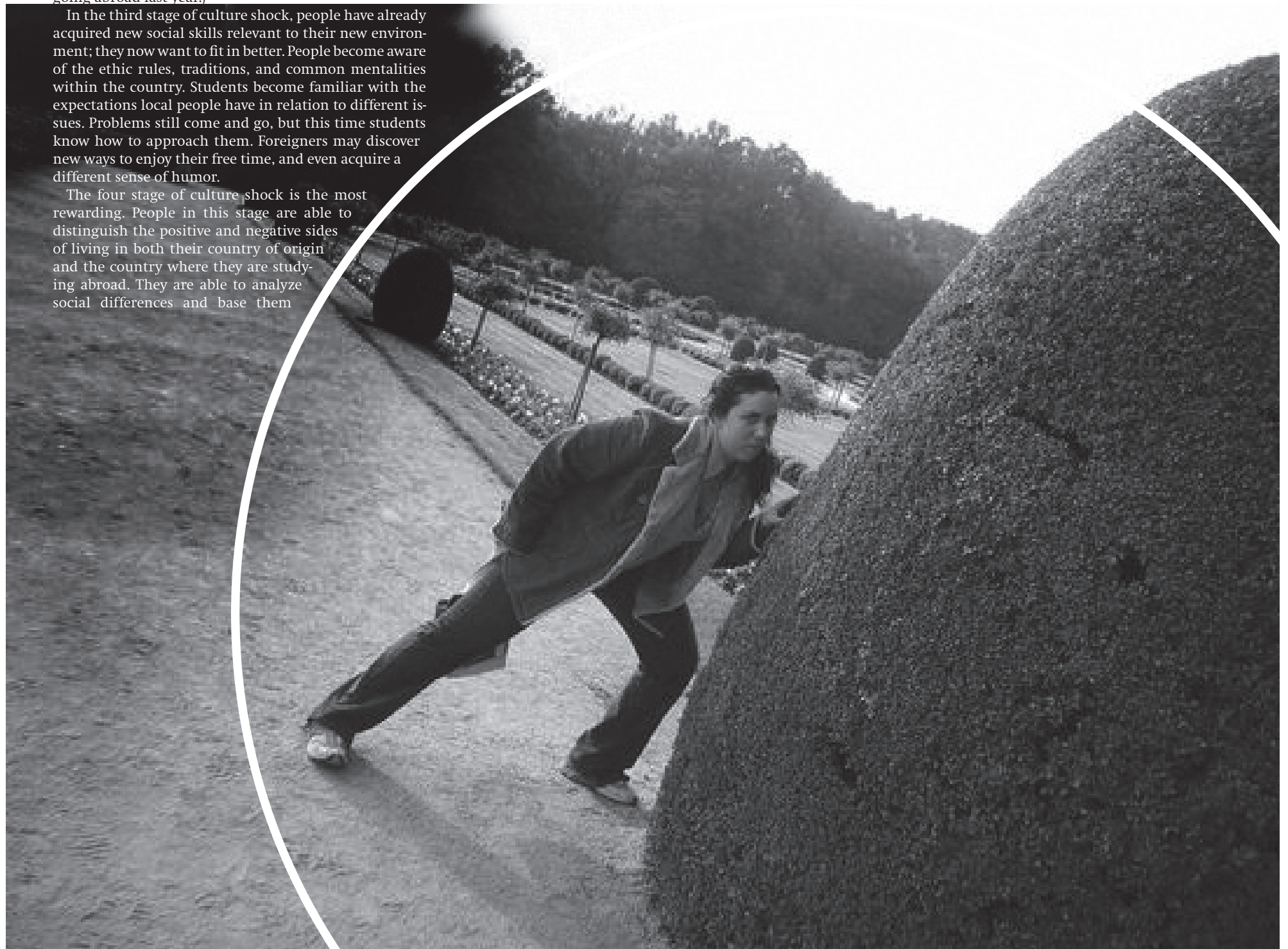
Psychologists think that the way individuals experience culture shock and the time it takes them to get over it depends on many things: knowledge of the local language, research on the country's culture done prior to the visit, the amount of personal advice the student gets on how to act abroad, etc.

Understanding the emotional stages students go through during a study abroad experience can help them overcome depression, enjoy their free time, make friends with people from other cultural backgrounds, and make the most of the program in general. It is important to understand that

The experience of studying abroad eventually gives students a broader mental horizon and a better understanding of views they were not able to accept and analyze before.

what emotions, attitudes, and opinions students express about a stay abroad depends tremendously on which culture shock stage they are in.

If you ever feel bad because of culture shock, just remember that it would have been pretty boring not to have it. Thought Cider Point was fun? Get on a real train . . . anywhere abroad.



COMMENT & DEBATE

One administrator's hopes for the year

JEFF CATHEY
ASSISTANT DEAN OF STUDENTS

It's easy to get excited about a new year at CC once New Student Orientation begins and I see students from the new class beginning all of those first-time CC experiences that have become fond memories for so many returning students on campus. I look forward to a new year both for the familiar things that it brings and for the unknown opportunities that I'm certain lie ahead.

Several changes to our campus and how we do things on campus will contribute to all of our experiences this year. Possibly the most obvious visual change for us all to watch is the completion of the Cornerstone Arts Building. While it may not open until next summer, the next few months will allow us to finally get a firm grasp on what this exciting—yet still puzzling—building will look like. Undoubtedly, it will change how every CC student utilizes this campus once it opens. For some of you, it will likely play a key role in defining your time here.

KRCC is beginning the process of launching a student-run HD radio station. Those of you who have been at CC for some time know that this is an exciting addition. KRCC is our campus-affiliated radio station, but it is very much a professional station and the NPR source for all of Colorado Springs.

Until now, CC students have not had the opportu-

nity to call a radio station their own. Keep your eyes and ears open, as there will be interest meetings for students who want to get involved with the station later in the fall. If you want to be sure not to miss out, e-mail me at jcathey@coloradocollege.edu and I will let you know once a meeting is set.

As most of you know, the Colorado College Outdoor Gear Rental program moved to East Campus last fall. You may not know that this is actually the home or "base camp" for all of CC's outdoor education efforts.

This November, the building at 1024 North Weber Street will be formally dedicated as the Jerry Ahlberg Outdoor Education Center. Accompanying this dedication will be a symposium on outdoor education offerings at CC.

I truly hope that you will check out the new facility and the symposium, as they both represent the types of learning opportunities that make CC special. You'll find there to be many opportunities for beginners as well as the more experienced.

I'm particularly looking forward to hearing your reactions to efforts at making campus judicial policies and procedures more understandable. While you may think this could be the driest topic you've heard yet, it truly does impact our entire campus community. And it's a part of what I do, so it is exciting to me, if not necessarily earning that label for most of you.

What can I say? If you have not already done so, I do hope you will take the time to review the Pathfinder,

as it saw significant revisions this summer following an extensive external review this past spring.

My biggest commitment this year with regard to judicial processes is that I want students to feel comfortable with expectations and processes that could affect them. If you have questions or frustrations at any point with aspects of CC's judicial process, please e-mail me and let's set a time to talk.

A great thing about this place and this community is that the coming academic year will bring many experiences that differ from any prior year. And regardless of how much planning or preparation some of us engage in, I have absolutely no idea what those might look like.

For me, that's absolutely a part of what makes this a great place to work. In so many ways, this place is defined by the ideas, creativity, and challenges generated by students. I hope to learn more from you this year than I have in any year prior.

At the beginning and end of the day, this place is about learning. As I said to the class of 2011 at NSO, you may never again find yourself in a place that offers so many opportunities for new experiences. Whether you have almost four years remaining or only approximately eight months remaining (sorry, seniors, I checked the calendar), I truly hope that you pack in as many opportunities for experiences and learning as possible.

If I can be of assistance to you in any way this year, please stop by my office, call at x6800, or send me an e-mail.

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Thoughts on student life

I don't expect to hear anyone on the Colorado College campus say, "There's nothing to do here," because I simply don't believe that's true!

DEAN EDMONDS
DEAN OF STUDENTS

[A college education never hurt anybody who was willing to learn after he got it.](#)

—Author Unknown

Even though I am no longer a college student in a classroom, I consider myself to be a learner. I believe that learning happens in many contexts and throughout life. I would like to take this opportunity to welcome you to another year of learning at Colorado College!

Now that you have settled into your residences, renewed old friendships or begun new ones, and embarked on your first block classes, it's time for you to explore your campus life outside the classroom. The student life division is here to help you do that. Please take time to explore what student life can offer you by visiting our website: <http://www.coloradocollege.edu/students/studentlife/index.asp>.

I am happy to announce that the student life division is fully staffed! This summer, after an extensive search, our new director of residence life, John Lauer, arrived at CC from Evergreen State College in Washington, and a new director of the Career Center, Geoff Falen, joined us from Bryn Mawr College in Pennsylvania. Please join me in welcoming them to Colorado College.

I'd also like to welcome CC alumnus Scott Weaver back to campus. Scott will be serving this year as our interim director of forensics and debate.

I enjoy personally greeting first-year students and reconnecting with upper-class students, so I will be undertaking a series of open events in student residences, which I hope will encourage informal conversation about student life here at CC. I hope as many of you as possible will be able to join me for "A Slice of Life... and Pizza!" on the following dates:

Loomis: Tuesday, October 16 at 5 p.m.

Matthias: Wednesday, November 7 at 5 p.m.
Western Ridge Apartments (McHugh Commons):
Wednesday, December 12 at 5 p.m.
Small Houses: Wednesday, January 30 at 5 p.m.
Bemis: Tuesday, February 26 at 5 p.m.

Please watch for more information in the student digest and in your residence about these and any future dates. Bring me your questions and concerns, and enjoy some pizza, too!

If you are not able to meet me for "A Slice of Life... and Pizza!" I will continue to hold open hours in Worner Center. Again, watch the student digest for announcements of dates and times. If you have a particular concern that cannot be addressed in an open environment, I am most accessible via e-mail (medmonds@coloradocollege.edu), or you may contact my assistant, Karen Klein, at 389-6684.

I don't expect to hear anyone on the Colorado College campus say, "There's nothing to do here," because I simply don't believe that's true! The campus activities office on the second floor of Worner Center is always hard at work planning or coordinating the next campus-wide or club event. Watch for posters and announcements!

Another wonderful way to stay in touch with what's happening on campus is to become involved in the Colorado College Campus Association (CCCA), your student government association. The CCCA sponsors many diverse clubs and events that enhance the social and cultural life of our campus. Student government had a great year last year, and I again look forward to working with CCCA student leaders and heads of state on programs that enhance Colorado College's quality of life by providing opportunities for learning outside the classroom.

Part of your classroom experience involves receiving a grade or evaluation for your work. As student life professionals, we also undergo periodic evaluations. Last spring, the student life division conducted an external review of the security department,

its policies, and its procedures. This review has produced a visible result: the security bike patrol!

But this will not be the only result. Campus safety is always a priority, and based on our reviewers' recommendations, we will be making several enhancements and upgrades to the security department this year. They might not all be as noticeable as the bike patrol, but rest assured that they are happening and that they will only further protect personal safety and student well being on campus.

Finally, I would like to mention the ongoing work of the Campus Sustainability Council. Several of Colorado College's core values (found on page 4 of your *Pathfinder*) address issues of sustainability, including use of resources and social responsibility, but we could all learn more about this theme. It is vital to our local, national, and global communities.

CC chaplain Bruce Coriell has been appointed to help lead the effort to address sustainability. You will hear more about their initiatives as the year progresses.

Although you will be spending a great deal of your time here in the classroom, I invite you to continue learning after class is over and your assignments are finished. Be an active member of the Colorado College community.

To paraphrase our Opening Convocation speaker, David Malpass, "Innovate! Create! Explore! Whether you're learning from someone who's 81 or someone who's 11, learn something new this year!"

Life lessons found outside of the classroom

LAURA BENNETT
ASSISTANT DIRECTOR OF RES LIFE

During the unchaperoned late hours of the weekends, nearly all faculty and staff are away from the campus, with the exception of a few faculty and staff who live and/or work on campus during those hours. The late hours of the weekend are a time when students control their own time, activities, and destiny.

You can learn a lot about yourself and your friends (and some other random students) in the wee hours of the morning, no matter where you are on or around campus. Hopefully, you are making lifelong friendships, meeting the person you might later want as a partner in life, and having deep conversations and moments that you'll remember for the rest of your life.

We want to ask you to pause and think about the kinds of interactions you are having. What kinds of ideas are you projecting and supporting (whether you intend to or not) by the way you dress, the music you play, the words you say?

Everything can be a learning experience at CC. This is easy to see in classes and leadership opportunities and community service. It's easy to see how having a roommate who is different than you leads you to learn new things. Sometimes you don't think about what you learn late at night on the weekends, when you are away from the direct influence or supervision of staff or faculty.

We all hear discussions in classes and on campus about how important it is to appreciate and celebrate difference on our campus. But do we really live it out when there isn't someone in the room that we can tell by looking at them might be offended by our actions?

This weekend, some of us were put to the test when we saw students who appear to have made decisions out of ignorance, or hate, or a combina-

tion of other factors. While we didn't know exactly what to do in the moment, after reflecting on it, we realized that we all wanted to respond somehow. By doing so, we go out on a limb, because we didn't know exactly how to confront it the "right" way at the time or how to have a difficult conversation in sensitive language.

Rather than be passive members of the conversation (which is so often the easy choice, especially when it comes to challenging another person in the area of diversity and their own experiences), we seek to create conversation and learning. We want to put our opinions out there to be challenged, to be discussed, and to be catalysts for our own learning and the learning of others on our campus.

We are not seeking to provide a history lesson or a lesson for appreciation of diversity, but we do want all of us to think about what it means to be members of a community that supports parties like the one held this past weekend, "Rep'n the Hood," where some students chose to dress in ways that exhibited their stereotyped notions of the hood.

The "hood" is slang for *ghetto*, which is an area that is composed of a specific racial or ethnic background that live in seclusion, voluntarily or involuntarily; these areas are typically poverty stricken (www.urbandictionary.com).

We question how hosting or attending a social event whose very theme seeks to stereotype and make fun of a group of people is in line with our college values or our mission. It is certainly within your First Amendment rights to express yourself through costumes and other things. But is it the best thing for you to do at CC? What does it say about you and how you want to be perceived by others?

Blackface is a style of makeup that was used during comedic theatrical performances, where white actors would use burnt cork and shoe polish to

blacken their faces. These performances perpetuated stereotypes and oppression onto the African American population within the United States (www.britannica.com).

We recognize that not everyone knows the history of this, and that actions stemming from ignorance don't have the same intent as actions motivated by hate. *However, we also realize the impact of these actions can be just as harmful.*

We are concerned that these things happened in our community, but we are most concerned that our community might let these things slip by without much thought. We applaud those students who talked about this on Sunday over dinner or Monday morning on the way to class.

This place is about learning—we don't assume that everyone knows it all before they get here. Our hope is that members of the CC community read this and learn something new, and adapt or confirm what they think about this topic. We hope that you talk to each other about what this means to you, and what it means to us if we let these kinds of messages reflect our community (to ourselves and others) without competing messages.

We expect that we will all make mistakes and that we will learn from them. We don't claim to have all the answers, but we do think it is vital to ask the questions. Thank you for taking the time to read this.

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Yellow is not the "new green"

Why ethanol fuel is a very bad idea

U.S. car manufacturers are promising to produce more flex-fuel models. Even if they did, though, consumers would have trouble finding flex-fuel gas pumps.

BRENNNA SWIFT CATALYST STAFF

Last year, just before class got out for the summer, I saw a new commercial on TV. It showed people dancing around and having fun in yellow T-shirts. "Yellow is the new green," said the announcer. He went on to explain that corn-based ethanol (yellow!) will save the environment. Basically, consumers who buy ethanol are "doing their part."

I knew something was fishy about this from the beginning. First of all, the commercial was just plain irritating. "Yellow is the new green?" Yellow T-shirts? Rows upon gorgeous rows of cornstalks? Gimme a break.

Also, I have to be wary when a company *advertises* that something is good for the environment. Many businesses are starting to use the environment as a marketing strategy. They call their products "green" in hopes that we'll buy more.

But in my humble opinion, overconsumption is one of the *causes* of environmental degradation. Buying a product you don't need is always bad for the environment—even if it's labeled "green." Energy was expended just to manufacture it; you'll throw away the packaging, and you'll eventually end up tossing the item itself. Think of the vast amounts of resources we consume for our own convenience.

For this and other reasons, I think it's unethical to try and lure in customers with pledges of environmental responsibility. That is not a very nice way to lift the bottom line. I was an environmentalist before the cheesy ads, thank you very much.

You might argue that fuel ethanol, a "biofuel," was designed *only* to help the environment. For all I know, you could be right there. But now different motives seem to be entering the picture. Fuel companies have perceived that we're beginning to feel bad about the impact we've had on the environment, so they want to supply us with an "alternative" to fossil fuels. That way they can still dip into our wallets. They sense the potential to wring a lot of money from this trend: the

so-called "green revolution."

If only corn-based ethanol were a bona-fide solution! If only it really was better than pure gasoline. If only it didn't operate on the same faulty premises that the oil industry has always followed.

Can you imagine how nice it would be if the big corporations actually endorsed something that worked—that didn't have more drawbacks than benefits? Even if it wasn't as profitable for them? What if they didn't get subsidies for a change? Then we'd be going somewhere.

But alas, I don't think we're going anywhere just yet. Ethanol is just another combustible fuel with severe environmental impacts. To supply U.S. energy needs, we'd need to dedicate huge swaths of land to the production of corn. This is known as "monoculture," and it obviously goes hand in hand with a reduction in biodiversity. Once the corn is grown, the actual ethanol requires a great deal of energy to produce. That energy comes from fossil fuels. Other methods of production are being discussed, but I don't think they've come to fruition yet. So there's your first big drawback.

The second drawback? Even considering the impacts of production, ethanol isn't being used as a truly alternative fuel source. What with the celebratory advertising, you'd think it could supply most of the energy for any given car. But it doesn't. It's added to standard gasoline as a kind of supplement.

Most cars on the road today can take only a small percentage of ethanol in their gasoline. E85, a fuel that's supposedly 85 percent ethanol, requires a "flex-fuel" vehicle. Right now, very few people own flex-fuel vehicles. U.S. car manufacturers are promising to produce more flex-fuel models. Even if they did, though, consumers would have trouble finding flex-fuel gas pumps. According to [MSNBC.com](http://www.msnbc.msn.com/id/17842304/), E85 is available at only a fraction of U.S. gas stations (<http://www.msnbc.msn.com/id/17842304/>). This means that consumers who buy flex-fuel vehicles ultimately end up consuming standard gasoline.

The problem comes full circle. Just as I suspected, the big companies make money by advertising "green" products that actually consume more fossil fuels than anything else. Businesses gain by advertising themselves as "green"—even though consuming more is *not* "green."

MSNBC.com quotes Dan Becker, director of the Sierra Club's global warming awareness program. "It's a total scam," he says. "The automakers are trying to shield themselves from having to make more efficient vehicles."

It looks like we have both oil companies *and* auto manufacturers working against us here.

The third big drawback? Several reliable sources

have reported that demand for ethanol, as low as it is at the moment, will likely cause food shortages down the line. Ben Tracy, a Minnesota reporter, cites a study that claims 1.2 billion people will be hungry in 2025 (http://wcco.com/topstories/local_story_121223805.html). What a huge number.

"That's 600 million more than predicted, due in part to the loss of crops and increased prices created by biofuels," says Tracy. The prospect that corn can be used for fuel has raised prices for this staple, making it even more difficult for families in developing countries to meet their nutritional needs.

So we're stealing food to gas up our cars, and it's not even a "greener" alternative. That's despicable. For me, it damns the whole ethanol trend. Now our rampant consumption of fuel—our need to own big cars and drive everywhere—will lead to higher rates of starvation for the rest of the world? All by itself, that prospect is enough to keep me away from ethanol-based fuel.

I hope some activist group makes a little bumper sticker that shows a starving child next to an ethanol pump. Or a human skull beside a "flex-fuel" SUV. Nobody in the Third World should have to suffer for an American to drive a car. This applies to our existing oil dependency on the Middle East, too.

No wonder everyone hates us. Do we even have to ask why? I don't feel very good about myself right now.

But really, humanity has the capacity to find more sustainable ways of living. We are an intelligent species. We *can* develop better energy sources for ourselves. In many cases, they're already out there. We just need to put them to use. I know we can do it. I also know that a lot of people have genuine concern for the environment and that they question things judiciously. I have faith in our ability to change things for the better. Many current CC students will go on to do just this.

For now, though, I've learned a lesson that bears repeating. No matter what all these advertisers might say, yellow is *not* the new green! Neither is the increased consumption that results from all this advertising. Green is just ... green. It's common sense. We learned it in kindergarten.

District 11 stands strong

JOHN GUDVANGEN
COLORADO SPRINGS DISTRICT 11 SCHOOL BOARD PRESIDENT

We all must be concerned about the state of our public school system. Until we can say we're providing every student an equal opportunity for a great education, a high school diploma, a high achievement score, or a fair start in kindergarten or even earlier, we cannot rest.

I came to the Colorado Springs District 11 school board in 2005 with significant experience in prior school board service, including statewide leadership on implementing standards and setting new expectations for school boards to focus on academic standards, accountability, and assessment. My long experience as a Colorado College financial aid and admission officer and my personal commitment to family and this community give me the qualifications and the zeal to provide the urgent leadership necessary to unify District 11 around a common vision for higher student performance.

With the recall of two board members in December 2006 and the resignation of a third, the Colorado Springs public has given us a gift and the responsibility to move forward in a climate of civil yet vigorous debate and decision-making. The simple message to our board is this: Govern well. We accept the message, and we are working to provide the best education in Colorado for every one of our students.

We feel the sense of urgency. Disparity in educational opportunity and disparity in educational expectations and social expectations is unacceptable. The school board, the superintendent, and his staff believe in a no-exceptions approach. The board has high expectations for our superintendent; we are asking the tough questions regarding accountability, outcomes, and opportunities, and we expect changes when we reach levels that are below what's possible.

Colorado Springs School District 11 is on the brink of providing the best public education in all of Colorado, and we know that in many instances this already occurs. But we must fulfill the promise for all of our children—we must be the keepers of the dream for every student.

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ers, especially in hard-to-find subject areas like math and science.

We can create a better professional environment through ideas such as learning communities, mentorship programs, career ladders, and targeted professional development. We must place our best professionals in the highest need schools. We can expand access to the teaching profession that improves teacher quality, and we must address the diversity gap in our teaching ranks.

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Second, they allocate resources to needs. We invested 83 percent of new money into instructional budget lines, and we're supporting significant investments in instructional programs.

Third, they watch the return on investment. We receive accountability reporting, and we'll make changes when results differ from expectations.

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Our School District 11 board will pursue a vision of hope, of excellence, of economic success and citizenship success for our graduates, and a vision of community engagement and renewal of the democracy that will carry us forward as the best school district in Colorado. Colorado Springs School District 11 has a passion for public education, public engagement, and performance improvement.

Life lessons found outside of the classroom

LAURA BENNETT
ASSISTANT DIRECTOR OF RES LIFE

During the unchaperoned late hours of the weekends, nearly all faculty and staff are away from the campus, with the exception of a few faculty and staff who live and/or work on campus during those hours. The late hours of the weekend are a time when students control their own time, activities, and destiny.

You can learn a lot about yourself and your friends (and some other random students) in the wee hours of the morning, no matter where you are on or around campus. Hopefully, you are making lifelong friendships, meeting the person you might later want as a partner in life, and having deep conversations and moments that you'll remember for the rest of your life.

We want to ask you to pause and think about the kinds of interactions you are having. What kinds of ideas are you projecting and supporting (whether you intend to or not) by the way you dress, the music you play, the words you say?

Everything can be a learning experience at CC. This is easy to see in classes and leadership opportunities and community service. It's easy to see how having a roommate who is different than you leads you to learn new things. Sometimes you don't think about what you learn late at night on the weekends, when you are away from the direct influence or supervision of staff or faculty.

We all hear discussions in classes and on campus about how important it is to appreciate and celebrate difference on our campus. But do we really live it out when there isn't someone in the room that we can tell by looking at them might be offended by our actions?

This weekend, some of us were put to the test when we saw students who appear to have made decisions out of ignorance, or hate, or a combina-

tion of other factors. While we didn't know exactly what to do in the moment, after reflecting on it, we realized that we all wanted to respond somehow. By doing so, we go out on a limb, because we didn't know exactly how to confront it the "right" way at the time or how to have a difficult conversation in sensitive language.

Rather than be passive members of the conversation (which is so often the easy choice, especially when it comes to challenging another person in the area of diversity and their own experiences), we seek to create conversation and learning. We want to put our opinions out there to be challenged, to be discussed, and to be catalysts for our own learning and the learning of others on our campus.

We are not seeking to provide a history lesson or a lesson for appreciation of diversity, but we do want all of us to think about what it means to be members of a community that supports parties like the one held this past weekend, "Rep'n the Hood," where some students chose to dress in ways that exhibited their stereotyped notions of the hood.

The "hood" is slang for *ghetto*, which is an area that is composed of a specific racial or ethnic background that live in seclusion, voluntarily or involuntarily; these areas are typically poverty stricken (www.urbandictionary.com).

We question how hosting or attending a social event whose very theme seeks to stereotype and make fun of a group of people is in line with our college values or our mission. It is certainly within your First Amendment rights to express yourself through costumes and other things. But is it the best thing for you to do at CC? What does it say about you and how you want to be perceived by others?

Blackface is a style of makeup that was used during comedic theatrical performances, where white actors would use burnt cork and shoe polish to

blacken their faces. These performances perpetuated stereotypes and oppression onto the African American population within the United States (www.britannica.com).

We recognize that not everyone knows the history of this, and that actions stemming from ignorance don't have the same intent as actions motivated by hate. *However, we also realize the impact of these actions can be just as harmful.*

We are concerned that these things happened in our community, but we are most concerned that our community might let these things slip by without much thought. We applaud those students who talked about this on Sunday over dinner or Monday morning on the way to class.

This place is about learning—we don't assume that everyone knows it all before they get here. Our hope is that members of the CC community read this and learn something new, and adapt or confirm what they think about this topic. We hope that you talk to each other about what this means to you, and what it means to us if we let these kinds of messages reflect our community (to ourselves and others) without competing messages.

We expect that we will all make mistakes and that we will learn from them. We don't claim to have all the answers, but we do think it is vital to ask the questions. Thank you for taking the time to read this.

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Yellow is not the "new green"

Why ethanol fuel is a very bad idea

U.S. car manufacturers are promising to produce more flex-fuel models. Even if they did, though, consumers would have trouble finding flex-fuel gas pumps.

BRENNA SWIFT CATALYST STAFF

Last year, just before class got out for the summer, I saw a new commercial on TV. It showed people dancing around and having fun in yellow T-shirts. "Yellow is the new green," said the announcer. He went on to explain that corn-based ethanol (yellow!) will save the environment. Basically, consumers who buy ethanol are "doing their part."

I knew something was fishy about this from the beginning. First of all, the commercial was just plain irritating. "Yellow is the new green?" Yellow T-shirts? Rows upon gorgeous rows of cornstalks? Gimme a break.

Also, I have to be wary when a company *advertises* that something is good for the environment. Many businesses are starting to use the environment as a marketing strategy. They call their products "green" in hopes that we'll buy more.

But in my humble opinion, overconsumption is one of the *causes* of environmental degradation. Buying a product you don't need is always bad for the environment—even if it's labeled "green." Energy was expended just to manufacture it; you'll throw away the packaging, and you'll eventually end up tossing the item itself. Think of the vast amounts of resources we consume for our own convenience.

For this and other reasons, I think it's unethical to try and lure in customers with pledges of environmental responsibility. That is not a very nice way to lift the bottom line. I was an environmentalist before the cheesy ads, thank you very much.

You might argue that fuel ethanol, a "biofuel," was designed *only* to help the environment. For all I know, you could be right there. But now different motives seem to be entering the picture. Fuel companies have perceived that we're beginning to feel bad about the impact we've had on the environment, so they want to supply us with an "alternative" to fossil fuels. That way they can still dip into our wallets. They sense the potential to wring a lot of money from this trend: the

so-called "green revolution."

If only corn-based ethanol were a bona-fide solution! If only it really was better than pure gasoline. If only it didn't operate on the same faulty premises that the oil industry has always followed.

Can you imagine how nice it would be if the big corporations actually endorsed something that worked—that didn't have more drawbacks than benefits? Even if it wasn't as profitable for them? What if they didn't get subsidies for a change? Then we'd be going somewhere.

But alas, I don't think we're going anywhere just yet. Ethanol is just another combustible fuel with severe environmental impacts. To supply U.S. energy needs, we'd need to dedicate huge swaths of land to the production of corn. This is known as "monoculture," and it obviously goes hand in hand with a reduction in biodiversity. Once the corn is grown, the actual ethanol requires a great deal of energy to produce. That energy comes from fossil fuels. Other methods of production are being discussed, but I don't think they've come to fruition yet. So there's your first big drawback.

The second drawback? Even considering the impacts of production, ethanol isn't being used as a truly alternative fuel source. What with the celebratory advertising, you'd think it could supply most of the energy for any given car. But it doesn't. It's added to standard gasoline as a kind of supplement.

Most cars on the road today can take only a small percentage of ethanol in their gasoline. E85, a fuel that's supposedly 85 percent ethanol, requires a "flex-fuel" vehicle. Right now, very few people own flex-fuel vehicles. U.S. car manufacturers are promising to produce more flex-fuel models. Even if they did, though, consumers would have trouble finding flex-fuel gas pumps. According to [MSNBC.com](http://www.msnbc.msn.com/id/17842304/), E85 is available at only a fraction of U.S. gas stations (<http://www.msnbc.msn.com/id/17842304/>). This means that consumers who buy flex-fuel vehicles ultimately end up consuming standard gasoline.

The problem comes full circle. Just as I suspected, the big companies make money by advertising "green" products that actually consume more fossil fuels than anything else. Businesses gain by advertising themselves as "green"—even though consuming more is *not* "green."

MSNBC.com quotes Dan Becker, director of the Sierra Club's global warming awareness program. "It's a total scam," he says. "The automakers are trying to shield themselves from having to make more efficient vehicles."

It looks like we have both oil companies *and* auto manufacturers working against us here.

The third big drawback? Several reliable sources

have reported that demand for ethanol, as low as it is at the moment, will likely cause food shortages down the line. Ben Tracy, a Minnesota reporter, cites a study that claims 1.2 billion people will be hungry in 2025 (http://wcco.com/topstories/local_story_121223805.html). What a huge number.

"That's 600 million more than predicted, due in part to the loss of crops and increased prices created by biofuels," says Tracy. The prospect that corn can be used for fuel has raised prices for this staple, making it even more difficult for families in developing countries to meet their nutritional needs.

So we're stealing food to gas up our cars, and it's not even a "greener" alternative. That's despicable. For me, it damns the whole ethanol trend. Now our rampant consumption of fuel—our need to own big cars and drive everywhere—will lead to higher rates of starvation for the rest of the world? All by itself, that prospect is enough to keep me away from ethanol-based fuel.

I hope some activist group makes a little bumper sticker that shows a starving child next to an ethanol pump. Or a human skull beside a "flex-fuel" SUV. Nobody in the Third World should have to suffer for an American to drive a car. This applies to our existing oil dependency on the Middle East, too.

No wonder everyone hates us. Do we even have to ask why? I don't feel very good about myself right now.

But really, humanity has the capacity to find more sustainable ways of living. We are an intelligent species. We *can* develop better energy sources for ourselves. In many cases, they're already out there. We just need to put them to use. I know we can do it. I also know that a lot of people have genuine concern for the environment and that they question things judiciously. I have faith in our ability to change things for the better. Many current CC students will go on to do just this.

For now, though, I've learned a lesson that bears repeating. No matter what all these advertisers might say, yellow is *not* the new green! Neither is the increased consumption that results from all this advertising. Green is just ... green. It's common sense. We learned it in kindergarten.

District 11 stands strong

JOHN GUDVANGEN
COLORADO SPRINGS DISTRICT 11 SCHOOL BOARD PRESIDENT

We all must be concerned about the state of our public school system. Until we can say we're providing every student an equal opportunity for a great education, a high school diploma, a high achievement score, or a fair start in kindergarten or even earlier, we cannot rest.

I came to the Colorado Springs District 11 school board in 2005 with significant experience in prior school board service, including statewide leadership on implementing standards and setting new expectations for school boards to focus on academic standards, accountability, and assessment. My long experience as a Colorado College financial aid and admission officer and my personal commitment to family and this community give me the qualifications and the zeal to provide the urgent leadership necessary to unify District 11 around a common vision for higher student performance.

With the recall of two board members in December 2006 and the resignation of a third, the Colorado Springs public has given us a gift and the responsibility to move forward in a climate of civil yet vigorous debate and decision-making. The simple message to our board is this: Govern well. We accept the message, and we are working to provide the best education in Colorado for every one of our students.

We feel the sense of urgency. Disparity in educational opportunity and disparity in educational expectations and social expectations is unacceptable. The school board, the superintendent, and his staff believe in a no-exceptions approach. The board has high expectations for our superintendent; we are asking the tough questions regarding accountability, outcomes, and opportunities, and we expect changes when we reach levels that are below what's possible.

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Details: Emily Silver 505.917.6572

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