



15 years and it's still all about that "Connection"

By: Sister Patrice Werner, O.P., Ph.D.

When I became Caldwell College's president in 1994, life for students was very different than it is today and – believe it or not – very much the same as it is today.

In 1994, the World Series was cancelled due to a players strike. This year, we are looking forward to a great full season with the two New York major league baseball teams playing in their new stadiums. In 1994, Forrest Gump won the Oscar for Best Picture. In 2009, Slumdog Millionaire took the prize. In 1994, the Internet was just peaking the interest of people. Today, it is an integral part of our lives. In 1994, students weren't texting each other and Facebooking, and most people still did not even have a cell phone.

But in 1994, Caldwell College students, faculty and staff were definitely connecting with one another. And they are still connecting today. That's how it has always been at Caldwell College. And to me, that is one of the treasures of Caldwell – the ways that students, faculty, staff and administration work together to build up academics, athletics and student life. But, most of all, how they work together to build EACH other up.

I feel blessed to have been chosen to be the leader of such a fine institution...a place where all of us have the opportunity to connect with each other, blending our goals and the mission of Caldwell College to make our College the best place to study and grow.

The tangible signs of Caldwell's strengths can be found in the growth in student enrollment, in our highly credentialed faculty, our dedicated staff, our strong academic programs, our state-of-the-art technology resources and the underlying Dominican values that are the bedrock of our mission.

Today, the College enrolls almost 2,300 students, offers 28 undergraduate degrees, 17 graduate programs, 11 varsity programs and – among endless other opportunities – a campus ministry dedicated to helping those less fortunate. But there is so much more to Caldwell College than academic programs, technology resources and new buildings. We are a college built on a Catholic Dominican tradition that believes our students can and will make a difference in the world and in their communities. How lucky we are to have that foundation!

When I gave my inaugural address in October 1994, I mentioned how fortunate I was to be President of Caldwell College at that moment in our history. Today, I realize just how fortunate I truly was. As I look forward to my new journey in life, I would like to say thank you to all those who have served before me and have paved the way, and to all who have been a part of my life and my time here at Caldwell College.

I can genuinely speak from the heart when I say that Caldwell College has truly been my love, my life, my home. I leave my position as President with satisfaction and joy in the knowledge that so much was accomplished during the past fifteen years. I'm also confident that our Catholic Dominican mission will continue to grow and flourish for years to come. My hope is that you, our students, will continue to reach out and take advantage of all that Caldwell College has to offer and that you will "connect" with the faculty, staff, administration and your fellow students who are so committed to seeing you achieve your dreams and goals. You will continue to have a special place in my prayers.



Interview with Dr. Nancy Blattner:

The NEXT Caldwell College PRESIDENT

Meghan Dunn

Interviewer

1 WHAT WAS IT ABOUT CALDWELL COLLEGE THAT MADE YOU WANT TO APPLY TO BE PRESIDENT?

For me, searching for a presidency was about finding the right 'fit.' That meant that I was looking for a presidency at a Catholic college or university that shared similarities with my current institution, Fontbonne University. Caldwell fit this description as a Catholic college with many similarities to Fontbonne: both offer comparable undergraduate and graduate degrees and provide an opportunity for higher education to a diverse student population. Both Caldwell and Fontbonne value the synthesis of professional and liberal education offered to students in a caring and student-focused environment. Most importantly, both are Catholic institutions in the Judaeo-Christian tradition and sponsored by religious communities of women.

2 WHAT WERE YOUR FIRST IMPRESSIONS OF CALDWELL COLLEGE?

My first impression of Caldwell College was that the students, faculty and staff are all proud of their institution and excited to be part of the campus community. Their enthusiasm was contagious and made me want very much to become part of this group!



Nancy H. Blattner, Ph.D., assumes her duties as Caldwell College's eighth president July 1, 2009.

3 HOW DO YOU PLAN TO CARRY OUT THE PROUD DOMINICAN TRADITION OF CALDWELL COLLEGE?

My first plan of action is to learn more about the Dominican history, heritage and charism. My husband and I are planning to participate in the pilgrimage for Dominican college/university presidents called 'In the Footsteps of St. Dominic' in October. This program will be somewhat similar to the Fanjeaux experience, which I heard so much about when I was at Caldwell in February. I would also like to talk with the Sisters about becoming a lay associate, which involves a formation process that is intended to provide information about the 'proud Dominican tradition' that is the foundation of Caldwell College and the Sisters of St. Dominic.

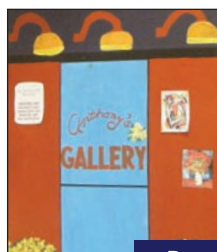
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NATIONAL NEWS

At Last, the Truth About the Columbine Killers

Cristina Sinanan, Staff Writer

"The great masses of people will more easily fall victims to a big lie than to a small one."

– Adolph Hitler

On the fateful morning of Tuesday, April 20, 1999, 15 people were killed and nearly two dozen others were severely injured at the Columbine High School in Littleton, Colorado. The two "student-killers," Eric Harris and Dylan Klebold, aged 18 and 17 respectively, ended the massacre by committing suicide. After this event, parenting roles, the impact of video games, spiritual martyrdom in schools, institutional racism, school security systems and bullying in schools became major issues for criticism throughout the United States. Ten years later, the truth emerged from the killers' journals and it turns out that both boys were "psychopaths" who fooled everyone around them, including their parents, friends and teachers in believing that they were normal kids who led typical adolescent lives (were bullied in school).

While Klebold was forlorn, awkward, reserved at times, miserable and drew hearts, Harris was contemptuous for humanity, egomaniacal, manipulative and drew swastikas. Both boys were significantly different but their differences complemented each other. They were well liked by their peers and were welcomed in their social circle. While Klebold's parents described their relationship with their son as being close-knit and consistent, Harris' parents acknowledged that they knew their son had a problem, and they thought they were dealing with it but they had no clue that their son was capable of "mass murder."

The reality of the Columbine shooting is that two teenagers could have committed one of the most disastrous crimes in United States history by killing thousands of people if their plan had succeeded as meticulously organized. Moreover, the shocking news is that this could have been done by the meager salary of a part-time pizza job. One could only imagine that if both boys had full-time jobs with a steady income, they would have committed one of the largest terrorist attacks in the nation taking thousands of innocent lives

within seconds. Another gruesome reality of this incident is that it could not have been detected beforehand because both boys portrayed themselves as "normal" American high school students. Who could have assumed that these boys who had friends, who earned good grades at school, and who maintained strong relationships with their parents and teachers, were writing about their desire to destroy their peers in their journals? This is the ultimate work of psychopaths, people who possess natural talents such as lying, deceiving and manipulation.

"As college students, our safety is shattered and devastated when we hear about unforeseen incidents such as the Columbine and the Virginia massacres."

You might be wondering, "What exactly is a psychopath?" First of all, psychopaths can be found in every race, culture, profession and class, and they make up about 4% of the population. In a 2005 report entitled, "Antisocial Personality, Sociopathy, and Psychopathy," by Wesleyan College in North Carolina, psychopaths are "morally depraved individuals who represent the 'monsters' in our society. They are unstoppable and untreatable predators whose violence is planned, purposeful and emotionless." When we think about psychopaths, we think about serial killers but the reality is that most psychopaths do not end up in jail. In his book, "The Mask of Sanity," Dr. Cleckley asserted that the difference between psychopaths who continually go to jail or to psychiatric hospitals and those who lead "normal" lives in professional careers is that the latter "keep up a far better and more consistent outward appearance of being normal."

Furthermore, Dr. Cleckley described the typical psychopath

as being "particularly agreeable and making a distinctively positive impression" when he is first encountered. They are alert and friendly, and they are easy to talk with. They seem to have many genuine interests and there is nothing eccentric about them, and according to Dr. Cleckley, they tend to embody the concept of a well-adjusted happy person. Dr. Robert Hare, in his book "Without Conscience," described psychopaths as being articulate and witty. He also described them as being "amusing and entertaining conversationalists, ready with quick and clever comeback, and can tell unlikely but convincing stories that cast themselves in good light. They can be very effective in presenting themselves well and are often very likable and charming."

One of the questions that you might be asking yourself is, "How can we distinguish a psychopath from a normal person?" In one of Harris' journal entries, he described himself as God and wished that everyone could be lower than him, indicating that he felt superior to everyone. Psychopaths yearn to dominate others and they often strive to end up in places, including school boards, charitable organizations, churches or law enforcement agencies, where they could exercise power over others. We all know that a typical human being wants only to enjoy success at his job, enjoy a reasonably high standard of living and provide for his family in sickness and health, and to give his children a great education. A normal human being has no true desire to exercise power over others, to conquer other lands or peoples, or to be a king or even more, to be God.

While reading about this Columbine incident, one can surely recall the Virginia Tech shooting massacre where a college senior, Heung-Sui Cho, killed 32 people and injured many others in April 2007. The difference between these two incidents was that Cho displayed warning signs that he was ready to explode. Cho was a loner with no friends, he

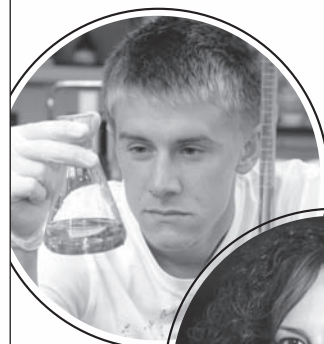
was faced racial prejudice from his classmates, and his teachers were concerned about his writing content. The Columbine killers left no trail that they were capable of murder except in their journals.

As college students, our safety is shattered and devastated when we hear about unforeseen incidents such as the Columbine and the Virginia massacres. We should not feel that there is nothing we could do to prevent such happenings. Even though psychopaths are difficult to detect because they appear to be normal, we need to use our knowledge about them and report any irregular behavior or

activity immediately to Campus Safety and Security or the Student Development Center in order to ensure our security. We also need to report any verbal threats and illegal weaponry on campus because we could also be in danger. We need to remind ourselves that strange things happen in unexpected places at a time when no one knows, except the killers themselves. Therefore, we must use everything in our power to secure the Caldwell College Campus and those in and near it.

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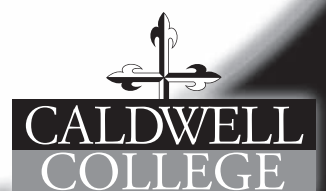


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NATIONAL NEWS

SALE OF THE CENTURY

Karlsun Allen

Staff Writer

The economy is like the human body, emotional, always changing, healthy at times and unhealthy at others. At this time the economy seems a little unhealthy to say the least (officially a recession since December 2007), it appears to be in recovery but we're still being warned that the fun isn't over yet. In such a volatile environment, some businesses are shaky, some are strong, some are starting and others are shutting down. Opportunities for bad things and good things abound. So what are some things that you can do to take advantage of this economic slump? I was able to ask Dr. Bernard O'Rourke, Associate Dean; Dr. Donald Noone; and Dr. Anthony Romano, professors of Caldwell College's Division of Business, this exact question to which they responded with several insightful ideas.



Dr. Noone

According to Dr. Noone, "Since higher inflation is inevitable in my

view (estimated 4% to 6% in the next two years and likely much more in the years following), buy Treasury Inflation Protected Securities (TIPS). TIPS are bonds, issued by the U.S. Department of Treasury, which are indexed to the rate of inflation. Basically, the principle of these bonds get repaid at either an adjusted amount (depending on rate of inflation) or the original amount, whichever is higher, thereby protecting them against inflation. Dr. Noone also suggested investing in "Green Companies" – companies that revolve around clean energy production – "windmill...solar... nuclear..., etc." He also said it is always important to "live beneath your means," meaning, having the money doesn't mean you have to spend it.



Dr. O'Rourke

Dr. O'Rourke also had several interesting ideas for taking advantage of this economy. His first suggestion was to "renegotiate anything that is negotiable, things such as rent, car payments, even things like cable TV. There are

businesses out there right now that may feel it's more important to keep you as a customer than to make more money from you." His second suggestion was to "get back to the basics...evaluate what is really important in life...maybe it's not so important to have the best cable TV or car...maybe you can get your exercise by walking in the park rather than going to the gym. These sorts of things can greatly improve quality of life [and if you think about it, save you money]." Dr. O'Rourke said that it may also be a good time to "make genuine friendships...maybe the people who were always too busy before might not be busy anymore." He went on to say that "this could be a good time to network. Who knows what the relationships you develop now could lead to in the future?"



Dr. Romano

Dr. Romano was able to add several suggestions. "If you're in a position to take advantage of it, real estate is a bargain right now and mortgages are being offered at lower rates." He said that real estate "is a good place to invest [especially] if you can put at least 10 percent down but don't accept a balloon mortgage (one that jumps from a very low rate to a very high one in a short period of time)." However, Dr. Romano advised that

he "doesn't think real estate is a good place for young people, just out of college, to invest because of the risk of not being able to afford the high costs associated with home ownership and maintenance.

These ideas represent just a few of the many different ways this recession can be a doorway to opportunity. A recent article in MSN Money titled, "What to Buy While the Economy is in the Tank,"

“So if you're feeling down or have some down time due to the lagging economy, try to remember all of the potential opportunities it presents. Remember that sometimes blessings are in disguise and you just have to find them.”

He also suggested several ways to make use of down time (if you have it). "Make yourself available for part-time internships, temporary work or consulting type jobs where you may work at a company for 3-4 months, not permanently. Go to graduate school, it can keep you busy for two or three years and provide greater opportunities for the future...also (with a smile) take my course Entrepreneurship and Small Business Management." He added, "In times of economic disruption (if the rug is pulled out from under you) the positive aspect is it may provide the additional motivation to help you make the next step."

went as far as to call this recession "the sale of the century" and listed "10 things to buy when the economy is down." The list included a house, a car, a vacation, toys, high dividend stocks, a laptop, diamonds, women's clothing, a television, and furniture, items sometimes considered "big-ticket," all of which are now greatly reduced in price.

So if you're feeling down or have some down time due to the lagging economy, try to remember all of the potential opportunities it presents. Remember that sometimes blessings are in disguise and you just have to find them.

OPINION AND EDITORIAL

Bankruptcy Isn't a Death Sentence

Jon Cabral

Staff Writer

The "Big Three" – GM, Ford, and Chrysler. These three automotive companies were the source of jobs and pension plans for many. However, as time went on the "Big Three" lagged in adapting to the needs and wants of the American people. As a result, Americans began moving to Asian and Korean automakers to fulfill their needs that were going unanswered, and as a result so began the demise of the American auto industry.

As we all know, this led the "Big Three" to petition Congress for a piece of a bailout pie. However, the "Big Three" have made it clear that the bailout system just isn't working for them. Since receiving Congressional bailout funds, little has been done in terms of restructuring, with a cavalier attitude presented by the CEO's of these companies. I am here to voice the opinion of the average taxpayer, "why can't the 'Big Three' just declare bankruptcy, and end the outrageous spending of American dollars?"

First off I'm not a financial expert in any sense of the word,

but in the viewpoint of the average American, I find bankruptcy to be the best option for the American auto industry. First, it would prevent American tax dollars from being poured into an every growing money pit – little to no improvement has been made in terms of company stability and profitability. Second, bankruptcy would allow the "Big Three" to break contractual agreements with unions, suppliers, etc. – this would allow the "Big Three" to restructure and get on a more level playing field with their Asian counterparts. Third, bankruptcy would finally force these automakers to make decisions they seems to be dragging

on – i.e. the consolidation of brands and models. Finally Bankruptcy isn't always a kiss of death. Other companies to emerge from Chapter 11 include retailer Kmart, whose doors are still open today.

The biggest problem appears to be the notion that the "Big Three" are "too big to fail" and that they will be supplied with endless bailouts. Bankruptcy would indeed force the American auto industry to get serious. If done properly, Bankruptcy can stop the outpouring of taxpayer dollars, and allow the "Big Three" to come back stronger and able to compete in a new market.

Would you like to RESPOND?

Do you have an OPINION?

We'd love to hear from you!

Please email your thoughts to kettle@caldwell.edu

CAMPUS NEWS

REACHING OUT

Lucianne Reyes

Staff Writer



The war still rages overseas, but a glimmer of hope is vibrant in everyone's heart. A new presidency, new year, opportunities come forth in every direction. Caldwell College has become a military friendly institution where with great honor it opens its doors to soldiers to become a part of our community. The Center for Graduate and Continuing Studies offers these students all the necessary means to feel at home and complete their collegiate education.

Members from the National Guard and Army Reserve are

offered tuition assistance at Caldwell along with the use of their G.I.Bill. The Post 9/11 G.I.Bill was signed in 2008 which gives soldiers the chance to study while they are not on active duty. This upcoming June approximately 3,000 soldiers are expected to return from Iraq and Afghanistan back to their homes and start their civilian careers.

Currently there are 26 enrolled soldiers in the Adult Undergraduate Program thanks to the Yellow Ribbon Committee on Returning Combat Veterans (YRC) established

by Governor Jon S. Corzine in 2007. Caldwell College is a proud member of this committee that ensures all the benefits they deserve are transferred without problems. "We are trying to provide academic success for the soldiers out there helping our country, it's one of our missions," said Lisa A. DiBisceglie, Ed.D. Chair of the department.

Caldwell offers transfers of credits, academic advising, standardized exams for college entrance, distance learning program (classes outside of campus), and extends its services

to the immediate family of the soldier. It doesn't get any better than that!

Not many colleges offer this great package and Caldwell was selected by the government as a high qualifying institution that takes risks to offer an environment that is safe, productive, and accessible to everyone. For more information if you have a family member that is interested in forming part of this great cause contact Lisa A. DiBisceglie, Associate Dean of Continuing Education at ext.3280.

To the Editor:

The Student Government elections are now officially over and the results are in. Over 194 students came out the week of March 30 to exercise their right to vote and show their support for the candidates. After a long and involved campaign season that started back in February, the new Executive Board and Class Representatives were announced.

SGA PRESIDENT – Ryan Gleason
SGA VICE-PRESIDENT – Nga Pham
SGA TREASURER – Anij Shrestha
SGA SECRETARY – Pushparaj Aitwal
SGA JUDICIAL CHAIR – Bishrut Thapa
SOPHOMORE CLASS REPRESENTATIVES – Maria Gonzalez & Olga Ndhlovu
JUNIOR CLASS REPRESENTATIVES – Kshitiz Bista & Luzeberte St. Huberte
SENIOR CLASS REPRESENTATIVES – Samaj Neupane & Carisma Tucker

On behalf of the new incoming Executive Board, I want to express gratitude and thanks to all those students who came out to vote. Without involved and interested students like you, the SGA would not be what it is today. As a new Board, we promise not to let you down, and to continue to make SGA the center of student involvement and extra-curricular activity on campus.

Through SGA representation in both the Student Life and Academic Affairs Committees, relationships with clubs and campus organizations, and with input and suggestions from students, we plan to provide a caring and helpful environment in which you can plan and host new and exciting events, create new organizations and clubs, and get involved with Caldwell beyond the classroom. We will not let you down!

The new Executive Board has also created a Facebook group to keep you up to date with important announcements concerning events and meetings. To stay informed, please feel free to join us, and use it as just another means of communicating suggestions, comments, and concerns. You can find it at: **SGA Executive Board 2009-2010 on Facebook.com**

Once again, thank you on behalf of the entire incoming Executive Board. We look forward to serving you with pride and distinction in the coming year.

Signed,
 Ryan Gleason, SGA President-Elect

The Next College President *(continued from page 1)*

4 THERE HAVE BEEN MANY GREAT ADDITIONS AT OUR COLLEGE THE PAST SEVERAL YEARS. WHAT DO YOU HOPE TO ACCOMPLISH DURING YOUR TIME AS PRESIDENT?

I hope to build upon the solid foundation that has been established at Caldwell for the past many years: strengthening the Catholic, Dominican identity of the institution; attracting academically strong undergraduate and graduate students to current programs; developing additional programs where there is a critical need; assisting in final development of the doctoral program in Applied Behavioral Analysis; bolstering the financial standing of the college.

5 WHAT IS YOUR LEVEL OF INTERACTION WITH STUDENTS?

When I became a full-time administrator several years ago, the hardest part of the transition was leaving the classroom where I absolutely loved interacting with students. Now, I find ways to interact with students outside the classroom: I have served as the honorary coach for all the sports at Fontbonne for the 2007-2008 and 2008-2009 academic years. I've been asked or volunteered to make presentations to students in classes, in seminars, during retreats and for other gatherings. I try to eat a few meals a week in the cafeteria and sit with students to find out what is happening with them in their classes, jobs, and co-curricular activities; when my schedule has allowed, I have participated in service activities throughout the St. Louis area with Fontbonne students. Sometimes

my interactions are as informal as stopping to chat with students in the hall or walking across the campus to a meeting. At other times, they are more formal and involve addressing students during their first-year orientation sessions, for example.

6 BEING A NATIVE MIDWESTERNER, HOW DO YOU FEEL ABOUT MOVING TO NEW JERSEY?

Although I've spent the majority of my life in Missouri, with a two-year stint in Virginia, I have worked for a few weeks each year for over 20 years in New Jersey, serving as the chief reader for students' SAT writing exams and working for Educational Testing Service and the College Board. My work in New Jersey took me to Princeton, Eatontown and Parsippany; the latter is located fairly close to Caldwell. Both my husband and I are looking forward to moving to New Jersey and establishing our home in Caldwell. We were impressed by the beautiful campus and the

surrounding communities. Having the opportunity to explore the many cultural and artistic treasures in New York City is also enticing.

7 WHAT ARE YOUR HOBBIES OR INTERESTS?

Whenever I have a few spare minutes, you can find me reading. It's my favorite way to relax and spend my leisure time. On a free evening, I enjoy watching a movie with a 'feel good' plot or sipping a cup of hot tea on the patio and watching the sun set. My husband and I also enjoy traveling and are planning a trip to southern France in June to attend the wedding of a former exchange student who lived with us for a year.

8 WHAT ARE YOU MOST EXCITED ABOUT?

I am passionate about learning, both about my own life-long commitment to learn and about assisting others in becoming excited about their ongoing education.

Caldwell College Student Newspaper

the KETTLE

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Editor in Chief – Meghan Dunn

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CAMPUS NEWS

THE TRIP OF A LIFETIME

Stephanie Zimbaldi

Staff Writer

MARGARET MEAD ONCE WROTE, "NEVER DOUBT THAT A SMALL GROUP OF THOUGHTFUL COMMITTED CITIZENS CAN CHANGE THE WORLD. INDEED, IT IS THE ONLY THING THAT EVER HAS."

I recently saw this quote on the back of a Starbucks cup that contained my \$5.00 Double Chocolate Chip Frappachino, thought it was interesting, and then promptly threw the cup in the trash.

Every Year, Caldwell College offers an alternate spring break trip to the Appalachian Region of Eastern Kentucky through a program called the Christian Appalachian Project, also known as CAP. CAP is a non-profit organization that serves people of this region mainly through physical labor assistance, similar to Habitat for Humanity. Workfest, the program that Caldwell College takes part in, is a three-week program where volunteers from numerous colleges are committed to helping families with all types of home repairs, including rebuilding.

I am sure that many students reading this are saying to themselves, "Kentucky doesn't sound like a location where young adults would save up money to go on vacation and relax," and they would be right. Eastern Kentucky is a poverty-stricken area of the

however, that what I came home with far exceeded whatever expectations I did have.

During the time that I spent with my group leaders from CAP, who were longtime volunteers that truly knew the area, I learned much about the lifestyle and history of the people who live in Eastern Kentucky. Many citizens cannot receive clean city water because the water companies claim the people live too far in the mountains to bring them water lines. Or an elderly couple has to deliver mail in their station wagon, through rocky hills and mud, for minimum wage, because the state says it doesn't have enough mail trucks to send into the region. Poverty is a generational issue, so children need to help around the house or work instead of going to school. This seems to be accepted because the only work available to these young adults is coal mines or factory work, so continuing their education, or even completely high school, seems irrelevant. So whom do we point the finger at? Is it the government? Is it the people of the region themselves? Is it us? That is the problem. We should point the

"There aren't enough words, as cliché as it sounds, to explain what the people I met in Eastern Kentucky mean to me."

United States that seems to go unnoticed. The poverty that I saw in a state within my own country shocked me. Going to Kentucky was my first experience in a service trip and I had no idea what to expect. I can positively say

finger at no one, but instead, lend a helping hand.

On the last day of the trip, a volunteer from another school stood up and said, "When we go back to school, our friends may not understand. They may be



Photo Courtesy of Stephanie Zimbaldi

completely confused as to why we would ever choose to go to Kentucky on spring break instead of Cancun, but that's okay, because we will know. We will know what we did here and we will remember the friends we made and the feelings we felt. We will know." So, students of Caldwell College, I urge you to find out what the many of us who have gone and will continue to go, know. Sure, you can go to Cancun and relax for a week, or you can take part in a service project that will change your life, and positively influence the lives of countless others.

Although I personally played a very small role in these people's lives, I feel better about myself as a person. I have never once regretted my decision to go to Kentucky instead of Mexico. In fact, I fully intend on attending the alternate spring break for the remainder of my time at Caldwell. I received much more than a challenge, an experience and knowledge. There aren't enough words, as cliché as it sounds, to



Photo Courtesy of Stephanie Zimbaldi

explain what the people I met in Eastern Kentucky mean to me. I received an immeasurable positive change in my life and a new outlook on the meaning of something Margaret Mead wrote long ago.

And so, I could have researched the meaning of Margaret Mead's quote and in return received scholars' interpretations of it from

around the world. I could have enjoyed it for many years to come just from its surface meaning. Yet all it took was one week, filled with countless kind, selfless and dedicated people of all ages, to show me the true meaning. Therefore, the next time I come across that quote on a Starbucks cup, rest assured that I will give it more thought before I throw it out.

THE ARTS

Movie Reviews

Lymelife (2009)

Reviewed by Ryan Rolandelli



(AP Photo/Peter Kramer)

From left, actors Alec Baldwin, Jill Hennessy, Rory Culkin and Kieran Culkin attend the Gen Art film festival premiere of "Lymelife", in New York, on Wednesday, April 1, 2009.

A movie with Alec Baldwin, Jill Hennessy and Timothy Hutton that you've never heard of? I was a late bloomer to this film as well. Don't let the fact that this film is very independent turn you away from seeing it. *Lymelife* might be the best independent film and have the best screenplay so far this year. Set in the late 1970s, *Lymelife* is a

different look on achieving the "American Dream" and the two dysfunctional families that are not sure whether they want it or not.

The families are linked together in numerous ways. High school friends Scott Bartlett (Rory Culkin) and Adrianna Bragg (Emma Roberts) have their own love story, while Scott's father,

Mickey (Alec Baldwin) and Adrianna's mother (Cynthia Nixon) are having an affair... which everyone in the town knows about. Already this "American Dream" begins to sound like a nightmare. Throw in Scott's over-protective mother (Jill Hennessy) and Adrianna's father Charlie (Timothy Hutton), who has just been diagnosed with Lyme disease, and you have *Lymelife*. Still following?

The most enjoyable part of the film is studying and seeing the growth of the stories protagonist, Scott Bartlett. Rory Culkin does an exceptional job carrying this film and keeping up with actors such as Baldwin and Hutton. There is no one for him to turn to since his brother is in the military, his parents are constantly fighting, and he's in love with his only friend. You can literally see the internal struggle on Culkin's face.

Alec Baldwin also brings a lot to the screen as the "Alpha Male" father. One minute he's in command when fighting with his wife, the next he's vulnerable to the truth when he is confronted by Charlie about the affair.

Maybe the best scene in the film is a conversation between Scott and Mickey about how bad a father he's been and how he doesn't want to lose the only son he has left because of it. On the other hand, Timothy Hutton's character had me scratching my head. He didn't serve much purpose early on, but in the last 20 minutes of the film, he'll have you on the edge of your seat. Up until those last few scenes, every time he came on screen, I just felt confused about his purpose. I think he should have had more scenes and character development early on.

What separates this movie from the countless other dysfunctional

family films is its originality. Based on personal stories from writers/brothers Derick and Steven Martini, the story is solid throughout the film. For example, Scott's obsession with *Star Wars*. When you think you've seen the last Han Solo action figure or heard the last movie reference, they always pop up at the right times for comic relief. Any film made for \$1.5 million (most of which probably going to actors' salary) has to have a great script to keep the audience interested.

I highly suggest you see *Lymelife*, even if it means going into the city or waiting for the DVD release. Before screening this film, someone told me that, "*Lymelife* was like *American Beauty*, but better." I thought that person was crazy...but they might be right.

Adventureland (2009)

Reviewed by Ryan Rolandelli

Everybody has that summer where they worked at a job they hated just to make some cash. Some people remember a better summer; a summer where they found someone special to spend the warm nights with. *Adventureland* has the perfect touch of both. Watching this film gives you the same great feeling as reminiscing about good times you had with your own friends.

A period piece set in the summer of 1987, James Brennan, played by Jesse Eisenberg, must get a summer job right out of college in order to pay for graduate school. Reluctantly accepting a job as a games worker at the local amusement park, Adventureland, James soon learns that beyond the redundant music and lame prizes, he might learn a lot more about himself in one summer

than he did in four years of college.

Eisenberg does a good job playing the young man who, though very much caught up in his own problems, falls for fellow games worker, Em, portrayed by *Twilight* star Kristen Stewart. The two young actors play off each other well, even though the "loser guy" and "experienced girl" duo isn't the newest love story brought to the screen. Acting kudos must go to Ryan Reynolds who is seen in a semi-different role here as Connell, the maintenance guy. He is married, but uses the amusement park (as well as the girls who work there) and his music to escape the troubles of his married life. All of the employees look up to him. However, when behind closed doors, they probably shouldn't. Familiar faces

in Bill Hader and Kristen Wiig play the owners of Adventureland. With one-liners that are fast and jokes that keep us smiling, the two are the spotlight of each scene in which they appear. If nothing else, the mustache Hader sports will surely get some laughs.

The actors are only a small part of this film. Writer/Director Greg Motolla (*Superbad*) is the real brains behind *Adventureland*. The story of lovers James and Em is nothing we haven't seen before, but he has us caring for them a lot more than we thought we would going into a "coming-of-age comedy." The dialogue between them is so natural and real that we never feel trapped or bored as we see their relationship unfold. Motolla gives us such a wide range of characters that, as the audience, we're laughing at the



(AP Photo/Matt Sayles)

From left, cast members Matt Bush, Martin Starr, Ryan Reynolds, Bill Hader, Kristen Stewart, and Kristen Wiig pose together at the premiere of "Adventureland" in Los Angeles on Monday, March 16, 2009.

situations, as well as the reflection of our own friends in the actors on screen.

Adventureland offers a lot more than just a coming-of-age story. The tale of love and friendship should not be overlooked due to the "teen comedy" stamp it has on

itself. This film will make you want to take that bad job if it means better times with your friends. And the way the economy is, it's not so bad to see people having fun and falling in love while making minimum wage.

THE ARTS

A Taste of the Caldwell

Roseanna Scimone

Staff Writer

“Wow, the cafeteria looks different. I like the murals. Who painted them?” These are some of the questions that students and passersby have been asking when walking through the cafeteria.

The murals definitely add an artistic touch to the walls and brighten up the room, but do these paintings serve more purpose than to decorate the cafeteria? Yes, these beautifully painted scenes were for the annual event entitled, “A Taste of the Caldwell.” It was a fundraising event to benefit local schools in the area to raise support for the organization, Caldwell West Caldwell Education Foundation (CWCEF). The event was a dinner in which all attendees could sample different cuisine from local restaurants from Caldwell and neighboring towns. This committee collaborated with Caldwell College’s Art Club president, Anthony Castellano, and brainstormed together some ideas on how they could make the event more enjoyable for the attendees. Castellano and committee members from CWCEF decided that painted murals would be the best way to enhance the theme of community among local restaurants. What better way than to display the towns’



Photo Courtesy of Roseanna Scimone

various restaurants than through life-size murals?

When asked about the inspiration behind the murals, Castellano said that he and the committee wanted to “reflect the

town and its restaurants.” From there, it was decided that the best way to do so would be through a “food-friendly street scene with colorful shop-front panels.” The contributing restaurants served

their food in front of these panels and the atmosphere of the event came together with this artistic representation of the town. Castellano says that having the murals behind the buffet “made it seem real, but at the same time cartoon-like and family friendly.” With so much color and liveliness of the backdrops, the food that was being served most definitely had some competition for pleasing the senses!

The event was hosted by CWCEF, which is an organization that contributes much of its time, money and efforts to better education programs in local public schools. “A Taste of the Caldwell” had a goal in mind when planning this event; money raised would be used to add educational programs and provide grants to several of the neighboring public schools. As Castellano described it, “It was a great

people-doing-great-things-type of event.” To make the community aware of the need to keep adding to schools and provide children with the best education possible is one of the goals of the Caldwell West Caldwell Education Foundation. Hosting various events like “A Taste of the Caldwell” certainly is a great way to raise money for these schools.

“A Taste of the Caldwell” dinner event was a stunning success. The Caldwell West Caldwell Education Foundation was able to raise more than \$20,000. Not only did the event conclude with an overwhelmingly pleasing monetary success, but it was an evening that made an impact on the education for children, and as Castellano says, provided “fun and friendship.”



Photo Courtesy of Roseanna Scimone

the **S**PORTS

Caldwell College Student Newspaper



Spring Sports **Wrap-ups**

Steve Lepore, *Contributing Sports Editor*



With a new coaching regime, there were bound to be those who expected Caldwell's baseball team to have a rebuilding year, after winning the CACC Tournament Championship in 2008. While a 5-10 CACC record as of this writing (11-17 overall) might confirm some of those beliefs, many Caldwell players have been outstanding and earned conference honors for their play.

Junior Adric Saxon was the CACC Player of the Week for the period ending April 12th, after going 5-for-12 with two homers, a double and seven RBIs. Saxon's award was his fourth in his three year-career at Caldwell College. Matt Cook was named CACC Rookie of the Week for the week ending March 15th, after a doubleheader sweep during early-season play at the

Palm Beach Challenge in Palm Beach, Florida. Junior Raymond Keelan had a solid year, leading or co-leading the team in many key offensive statistics, including hits, runs batted in and slugging percentage.

So while this may go down as a rebuilding year for the Cougars, there are certainly some key figures to look at that suggests they'll be a contender down the road.

TEAM LEADERS: Batting Average: Jorge Ynoa, .373; **Hits:** Raymond Keelan, 35; **HR:** Keelan and Saxon, 4; **RBI:** Keelan, 24, **Wins (Pitching):** Buddy Riggs, 4; **ERA (Earned Run Average):** Cook, 2.25; **Innings Pitched:** Riggs, 44.2, **Strikeouts:** Riggs, 53.



The reigning CACC Tournament champion Cougars continue to excel on the field and represent Caldwell well. They have an outstanding 18-2 CACC record (29-11-2 overall) and lead the conference standing by a game and a half as of this writing. They no doubt look to contend for yet another Conference title this year, and a mix of veteran leadership and incoming freshman have made another title run seem within reach.

The Cougars, picked by the CACC Coaches poll to win the conference at the start of the season, have been regionally ranked this season as high as number five in the East Region. Individual recognition hasn't escaped the Cougars, either. Sophomore Brittany Pulido took home CACC Pitcher of the Week for the week ending April 12th, after going 3-0 that week with a microscopic ERA of 0.61. That

very same week, freshman Marisa Tamez took home conference Player of the Week honors. She batted an elephantine .643 with 9 RBIs.

These two players, along with junior Kyrie Timbrook who leads Caldwell in every major offensive statistic, signify both the freshman emergence and veteran leadership that exemplifies who the Cougars softball team is. It should come as no surprise to anyone that they'll

be favored to win the CACC tournament, from Apr. 30 – May 2 at Georgian Court University in Lakewood, New Jersey.

TEAM LEADERS: Batting Average: Kyrie Timbrook, .402; **Hits:** Timbrook, 49; **HR:** Timbrook, 3; **RBI:** Timbrook, 34; **Wins (Pitching):** Pulido, 11; **ERA (Earned Run Average):** Pulido, 1.17; **Innings Pitched:** Pulido, 107.2; **Strikeouts:** Pulido, 70.



After an inauspicious 17th-place finish to start the season at the ECAC Tournament, the Cougar golfers – led by coach Mike Andrusin in his third season – had an improved year on the links, winning the Caldwell invitational at Essex Fells County Club in Essex Fells, New Jersey. The team also won the tournaments at Holy

Family University as well as the University of the Sciences at Philadelphia. The Cougars also played well at the Philadelphia invitational, Nyack invitational and the CACC Tournament.

The conference championship was particularly successful because the Cougars did well both in the individual and team

categories. Freshmen Daniel Garcia and Randy Kurzinsky both finished in the Top-10, with the former shooting a 74-73-147 two-round total and a tie for seventh place, while Kurzinsky shot a 74-75-149 and finished tied for 10th.

Buoyed by a solid recruiting class, along with returning

sophomores Rob Arena and Brian Luyster, as well as exiting senior Chris Parker, it's safe to say that this year's Caldwell golf team was fairly successful. That said, you can bet that the golfers coming back next year will be hungry for more.



This season was a struggle for the Cougars Men's Tennis players, as they started off the year losing seven consecutive matches. However, Caldwell improved with a 3-4 record down the stretch, and heading into the CACC Team and Individual tournaments, they have some positive results to hang their heads on. The

Cougars finished 3-7 in the CACC (3-11 overall).

A possible positive the Cougars can look at is their dominance in their three victories. A 9-0 win on the road at Post University in Connecticut can be looked upon as a major turning point. The Cougars also defeated Bloomfield College (6-3) and another

victory against Post with home court advantage.

With their finish, Caldwell finished 4th in the CACC. They were tied with Bloomfield College, but Bloomfield won a tie-breaker, so the Cougars will not compete in the first ever CACC men's tournament in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania on

April 21-23. The individual tournament will be held the subsequent three days, however, where the Cougars will be represented by seniors Mike Manna and Thane McKenzie.