In This Issue:

Going Green: Sustainability and Environmental Awareness at Dartmouth

LEARN HOW YOU CAN HELP!

* The Big Green Bus Goes On Tour
* The Dartmouth Organic Farm
* DHMC Calculates Carbon Footprint

And much more!

Photo by Jessica Carvalho
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Alumni Notes is still in need of an editor!
Please let us know if you are interested!

MALs Quarterly Writing Staff

Jessica Carvalho, Editor-In-Chief, Photographer
Amanda Silva, Events Editor
Mikel Runnion, Creative Writing Editor
Nate Berger, Feature Writer
Jordan Burke, Contributor

Interested in writing for The Quarterly? E-mail us to join our staff for our next issue! Have something to say? Write a letter to the editor or an opinion article and send it in. Got a suggestion for an article or want to contribute creative work? Drop us a line!

MALs.Quarterly@dartmouth.edu
LETTER FROM THE EDITOR:

As the warm, sticky heat of summer descended upon us, the campus breathed a sigh of relief; most undergraduate and grad students were headed off for break, while sophomores settled in for a relaxed term at “Camp Dartmouth.” Over at MALS, students remained busy with their summer classes and symposia sessions, but still found time to enjoy one of the benefits of living in the Upper Valley - the abundance of outdoor activities! However, while the balmy weather encouraged many students to sit back and enjoy the great outdoors, others used the summer term to dedicate themselves to its preservation. Working both on and off campus, Dartmouth students have become role models across the country as champions of environmental conservation and sustainability.

In this issue, we’ve taken a look at just a small sampling of projects Dartmouth students have become involved in, and how MALSers can contribute to the common goal of improving our planet. Whether it be traveling cross-country promoting alternative fuels, growing organic foods, or working to minimize one’s carbon footprint, there are many opportunities for the MALS community to lend an important hand. Join us as we celebrate the work being done, and we hope these programs inspire you to get involved yourselves!

As always, if you would like to contribute a letter to the editor or an opinion article for our next issue, please send it our way! We are receptive to ideas, suggestions, and submissions of creative work.

That said, we hope you enjoy our latest issue. Happy reading!

Jessica Carvalho
MALS Quarterly Editor-In-Chief

“I actually look forward to reading this magazine now. Keep up the good work!”

“I would love to see more responses to the opeds - students should step up and really start a discussion.”

Have something to say? We want to hear it! E-Mail all comments and/or criticism to MALS.Quarterly@dartmouth.edu
Subject line: Letters
Ah, summer: the season of sunshine. The season where some lucky few spend their days laying out by the dock and reading a book or enjoying the many shades of green that color the tree tops on a long hike. Of course, I can’t say I know many of these people. Although most MALS students do their best to fulfill their dream of spending a lazy day on the Connecticut River; most of us are regrettably stuck indoors reading books, not under the trees on the Green, but in the library stacks on the third floor of Baker-Berry. Of course, some could say that this too, is a dream.

One class that dominates MALS student schedules during this time is Summer Symposium, a class structured around the need for free thought and an open discussion of ideas in a classroom setting. Melissa Melendez, a second year Globalization track student, noted that the structure of the class, which involves one group of four to six students presenting on a given text each week, “really encouraged the participation of the class and allowed many people to engage in discussions on a variety of topics.”

This year, the theme for Symposium discussions centered on the idea of political prisoners and the “prison houses of democracy” that exist within the American judicial system. The texts for the class came from a variety of authors who had been imprisoned by the American courts, texts which Melissa says were quite “enjoyable,” and which, “challenged my perception of political prisoners.”

The free-flowing discussion the Symposium offers its students is quite a rarity and a welcome addition to the often overly bureaucratic world of academia. This type of class both welcomes and encourages students to “think outside the box.” Luckily for us, this type of thinking, like Symposium, is a requisite for the MALS program.
MEET OUR NEWEST MALS STUDENTS!

Eleven new MALS degree candidates arrived on campus this summer, diving head-first into Dartmouth life. Representing a diverse array of backgrounds, interests, and goals, their contributions will be a benefit to our program. Join us in welcoming them to MALS!

NICOLE BOUCHER

A New Hampshire native, Nicole grew up only forty minutes north of Hanover. She graduated from Plymouth State University with a BA in Psychology after taking an eight-year hiatus from academics to live in Denver, Colorado. Nicole recently built her current home in Bath, NH, and works as an adolescent addiction therapist in Bradford, VT. While in MALS, she hopes to pursue a cognitive studies concentration and eventually go on to earn her doctorate in Psychology.

ANTHONY GARCIA

Anthony hails from Boston, having graduated from Boston College in 2006 with a degree in Accounting and Information Technology. While at MALS, Anthony hopes to explore international development and healthcare while investigating the social and economic issues that concern communities in developing countries. He also looks forward to winter; as an avid skier, he enjoys being able to click into his skis and ride the slopes in New Hampshire.

JOSH KIM

Josh grew up enjoying the New Hampshire outdoors before spending a year in Taiwan studying Mandarin Chinese after high school. He earned his BA in East Asian Studies at Wesleyan University, where he also met his wife. The couple currently live in NH with their three-year-old daughter. Josh currently works as a teacher, dormitory parent, and coach at the Tilton School. While at MALS, Josh is particularly interested in studying the apparent contradiction between the Golden Rule and religious violence and fundamentalism.
KIMBERLY LIBBY

Kim grew up outside of Portland, Maine, and received her BA in English and Sociology from Brandeis University, where she also played on the women’s basketball team. During college, she spent a year studying in Dublin, Ireland at Trinity College. Kim is currently an English teacher at Deerfield Academy in Massachusetts, and coaches basketball and lacrosse. A summer-term only MALS student, Kim plans to follow the creative writing track in the MALS program.

ELIZABETH MURRAY

Liz grew up in good old New Hampshire and just couldn’t stay away; she returned to the Upper Valley after completing her undergraduate studies at Syracuse University, where her claim to fame was tutoring athletes, including Carmelo Anthony. She currently teaches social studies at Hanover High School, and spends her free time working out, exploring the outdoors and spending time with family and friends. While in MALS, Liz plans to pursue the Globalization track, and looks forward to being a student again.
MATILDA WEST

Matilda joins the MALS program after graduating from Boston College with a history major and art history minor. Born in Florence, Italy, Matilda spent most of her youth in NH, but returned to Italy after college to pursue her love of traveling and living abroad with an internship at the Peggy Guggenheim Collection in Venice. Planning to focus her graduate studies on art theft and the illicit antiquities trade, Matilda is a part-time student while fulfilling her role as Program Assistant in the Off-Campus Programs Office at Dartmouth.

MARCUS WINTERS

Marcus comes to MALS from Houston, Texas, where he worked in real estate development and business planning for three years. He earned his BA in Sociology from Texas A&M University-Commerce, and also completed undergraduate coursework at North Carolina A&T State University. While in MALS, Marcus plans to focus on cultural studies and screenwriting. He hopes to eventually attend film school and become a TV and film producer.

ADDITIONAL NEW STUDENTS:

Bios were unavailable for these students at press time, but let’s take a moment to welcome them as well!

ELIZABETH BAKER
GEORGE BRIGGS
KATIE SERVISS
CLINT WATTS
CHAD’s *Run For The Sun*

*Jordan Burke*

August 25th marked the running of the 2nd Annual Children’s Hospital at Dartmouth’s (CHAD) *Run For the Sun* Half Marathon Relay and Race. The 2007 race will likely go down in history as being one of the most potentially fun and catastrophic endurance events in the Upper Valley. Beginning in the center of Etna and finishing on the Dartmouth Green, the event raised money for the Children’s Hospital at Dartmouth.

This year, race participants included both individual competitors completing the entire half-marathon, and three-person-relay teams which completed the marathon in three legs, each runner completing approximately three to five miles.

The 13.1 mile course was a “point to point” route, in that it began in one place and ended in another rather than circling around. However, it did contain several smaller loops through Hanover developments, allowing plenty of room for spectators to gather. The route itself was picturesque, winding through beautiful farmland, rolling hills, and roads abutting the Appalachian Trail. As the course approached Hanover, it meandered around many historic Dartmouth buildings and residential neighborhoods for the last few miles. Although the race was somewhat hilly compared to many other popular half marathons, it did finish at a
lower elevation from where it began.

The theme of the race, “Run for the Sun,” referred to the runners’ goal of completing the race before sunset. To add to the challenge, the CHAD race had a 4 P.M. starting time, which is later than usual for a road race. Upon finishing the race, participants enjoyed a block party along South Main Street in Hanover, with activities for adults and children of all ages as well as a massage tent for the runners.

This year, the weather played a major role in the event. Even at 4 P.M., the temperature in Etna was a hazy and humid 90 degrees Farenheit - a stark contrast to last year’s pristine weather. As the race continued, runners bravely endured the heat and humidity as the unstable atmosphere began to attract thunderheads. By the time some of the first runners crossed the finish line, several large gusts of wind began to blow through the tents, and it began to downpour. Before long, a full-blown thunderstorm erupted in Hanover. As the runners pushed on, race directors advised spectators to take cover in various campus buildings.

Despite the poor weather, over five hundred runners, including relay teams, completed this year’s race. Richard Smith of Enfield, New Hampshire won the men’s division with a time of 1 hour, 19 minutes, averaging 6.05 minutes per mile. Tracey Joslin of Waitsfield, New Hampshire won the women’s division with a time of 1 hour, 32 minutes, averaging 7.02 minutes per mile.

On the whole, the event was a success. Several Dartmouth undergraduate and graduate students completed the event; perhaps next year MALS students will put a team together or a few brave individual athletes will step forward to run for a good cause.

**Harry Potter Is Ancient History in Norwich**

*Jessica Carvalho*

I was on hand Friday, September 7th, at the Marion Cross School in Norwich, Vermont, to witness the hometown premiere of *The Jaguar Stones, Book One: Middleworld*. The young adult novel showcases the adventures of Max Murphy, a Harry Potteresque teenage boy from Boston who finds himself mixed up in the world of the Ancient Maya. I had been working closely with the Norwich-based authors, Jon and Pamela Voelkel, since spring preparing for the book’s release.

The book is the first for both the Voelkels and their publisher, Smith and Kraus of Lyme, New Hampshire. Smith and Kraus generally specializes in producing theatre books and scripts. Based upon Jon’s experiences growing up in the South American rainforest, the book is highly researched in respect to Maya culture.

By Friday evening, the Norwich school’s auditorium had been transformed into a tropical rainforest, complete with leafy trees and the sound continued on page 13

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*Have an event you’d like covered? Have you attended an event and would like to submit a review? Maybe you’d just like your event listed on our calendar?*

**E-mail our Events Editor, Amanda Silva, or the MALS Quarterly today!**
A Vehicle For Change
Dartmouth’s Big Green Bus Takes To The Road Promoting Sustainability

by Jessica Carvalho

Photo courtesy of The Big Green Bus.org
It's big. It's green. And it never fails to attract attention whenever it pulls into town. "It" of course, is Dartmouth's Big Green Bus, a 1996 school bus converted to run completely on waste vegetable oil (WVO). First developed by Dartmouth undergraduates in 2005, the Big Green Bus travels across the country each summer, making stops and giving talks about alternative fuels and sustainable living. Recently I spoke with Frances Vernon '10, who just completed the 2007 summer tour with the Big Green Bus.

Despite the motto, "Change the World," which appears on the front of the bus, the group who developed The Big Green Bus did not originally intend to begin an environmental movement. Rather, their motive was more practical than philosophical; as the cost of gasoline soared across the country, Dartmouth's 2005 Ultimate Frisbee Team was desperate to come up with a cheap way of traveling cross-country to their summer tournaments. "The goal really was just transportation," Vernon explains. Several engineering-inclined team members came up with what was, at the time, an unusual plan: convert the school bus' diesel engine to run on waste vegetable oil, such as that produced by fryolators.

Unlike (bio)diesel, popular fuel source of late which dilutes regular diesel with natural oils, most often corn, the Big Green Bus' engine uses straight WVO. Since WVO is thicker than regular diesel, it needs to be heated to 70 degrees Celsius before passing through the engine in order to prevent damage. On the Big Green Bus, this is done by four solar battery-operated, high-power electric heaters. Many similarly converted vehicles require using a small amount of plain diesel fuel in order to fire the engine, but as long as the heaters are engaged for a few minutes before the engine is started, the Big Green Bus can start up without using any diesel fuel.

Much like regular engines, the Big Green Bus uses coolant lines to prevent the engine from overheating. However, rather than allowing the excess heat to escape out of a radiator (which wastes its potential for use as an energy source), the coolant lines recycle the heat by routing it back to the WVO fuel tank, helping to maintain the high temperature necessary to keep the WVO running smoothly. To extend engine life, the WVO is also filtered before entering the engine, as it inevitably contains contaminants acquired when it continued on page 17
Naturally Green
by Jessica Carvalho

Discovering Organic Farming... at Dartmouth

Photo by Sarah Hackney ’06, courtesy The Dartmouth Outing Club
Rows of green leaves reach up towards the warm glow of the sun as their roots reach deep into the soil. They rustle lethargically as one student reaches a hand towards the base of two plants, grasps her fingers around a jumble of stems, and pulls the offending weed out from the soil with a satisfying ripping sound. The young woman then moves to the next plant, repeating the action, until the row is clear of offending weeds. Nearby, another student plucks a ripe tomato from its stalk and adds it to his collection. They are not alone; all across the farm, students can be found hard at work in the afternoon heat. But despite their hard labor, many find this task one of the most rewarding endeavors at Dartmouth.

Summer is a busy season for Dartmouth’s Organic Farm, as the farm volunteers go into high gear seeding, transplanting, and weeding crops, as well as beginning the annual harvest which runs from June to November. The farm, currently in its 11th season of operation, is directed by a professional manager and run almost entirely on student volunteer labor. Its goal, beyond producing delicious organically-grown food, is to educate the community about sustainable agriculture and promote an understanding of the human impact on natural ecosystems.

The idea for the farm first arose, surprisingly enough, as part of a college policy report in 1988. Students in the Environmental Studies 50 class put together a proposal for a new solid waste management program at Dartmouth, and, as part of their solution to maintain a more sustainable food supply, included the founding of an organic farm on campus. Students also believed the farm would provide the Dartmouth community with an important outlet for cross-disciplinary education and further encourage students to explore Dartmouth's natural environment.

“[The farm’s] goal, beyond producing delicious organically-grown food, is to educate the community about sustainable agriculture and promote an understanding of the human impact on natural ecosystems.”

Although the college did employ several of the policy report’s suggestions, including a large-scale recycling program, the organic farm remained on the drawing board. In an attempt to prod the administration into action on the farm, the 1991 Environmental Studies class explored much of the groundwork involved in implementing the plan, including potential locations, budgetary concerns, methods of funding, and management structure. Although the farm idea was largely supported by both Dartmouth students and faculty, the College did not, for whatever reason, see fit to make the farm a reality.

Finally, in the winter of 1994, a group of students from the Dartmouth Outing Club decided to create the organic farm themselves. With support from the club and the Environmental Studies

continued on page 19
of howler monkeys screeching in the distance. Over two hundred people packed into the auditorium to experience “J & P’s Jungle Tour.” For an hour, the Voelkels lead the audience in an interactive presentation which guided them through the basics of Maya culture. The “tourists” munched on dried worms, banana chips, and cocoa cookies while braving a rainforest deluge, insects, and various jungle creatures. Audience members learned to imitate the sounds of several native monkeys, and became well versed in several Maya phrases, including “How are you,” “I’m okay,” and the critically important “I’ve been bitten by a snake!”

The Voelkels also discussed Max Murphy’s story thus far. Max is ready to disown his parents, archeologists specializing in the Ancient Maya, after they dump him at “Brat Camp” in Maine for the summer while they travel to the fictional South American country of San Xavier on an important dig. However, when his parents mysteriously disappear in the jungle, Max is sent to San Xavier, where he learns about the legend of the Jaguar Stones - five sacred carvings said to grant Maya kings the powers of the Gods. The audience, many already clutching copies of

“Audience members learned. . . Maya phrases, including ‘How are you,’ ‘I’m okay,’ and the critically important, ‘I’ve been bitten by a snake!’”

Lord Six-Rabbit signs autographs at the premiere of the Jaguar Stones in Norwich. Photo by Jessica Carvalho.

followed along as Jon Voelkel read a passage from the story.

Before evening’s end, the Maya King Lord Six-Rabbit had even made an appearance, in a costume designed and crafted by the Voelkel’s niece. Although he was meant to be menacing, the children in attendance flocked to the King, many asking for his autograph. The authors were also on hand to sign books and answer questions about the story and their own experiences visiting with the Maya in South America.

As the event drew to a close, an excitement remained in the air as children and adults alike
filed out with their noses planted firmly in their books. For this MALSer, it was satisfying to finally see this fantastic story released to the public.

However, my evening was not complete before ingesting one small, bumpy, dried worm. I wasn’t going to eat one, but the Voelkel’s oldest daughter double-dared me. What self-respecting graduate student could walk away from that?

Dartmouth’s Fieldstock

Jessica Carvalho

This August, MALS students were able to participate in Dartmouth’s second annual Fieldstock celebration, which lasted for the better part of a week. Parties, cookouts, Summer Olympic events, team sports, races, dances, and other activities were constantly going on all over campus.

Fieldstock was developed in 2006 to replace the College’s former summer festival, Tubestock. Tubestock, which centered its events on and around the Connecticut River, ran into serious problems in 2005 when an ordinance was passed banning groups from congregating on the river without a permit. Since obtaining a permit would have been nearly impossible for the College given the insurance costs and security staff which would have been required, Dartmouth was forced to modify the event. As a result, Fieldstock was born.

Given Tubestock’s popularity among students, the concept of Fieldstock was difficult to accept at first, but participation climbed steadily this year. Especially successful was the development of the Summer Olympics this year, where teams of students could challenge each other in an array of events such as greased melon tossing and chariot racing. Other events included beer-goggle golf cart driving, a Kool-Aid boat race, an obstacle course, and a watermelon-eating contest.

If competition wasn’t your style, there were plenty more social events to attend. The smell of grilled food permeated the landscape as the days wore on, and music, including performances by the Barbary Coast Jazz Ensemble, filled the air around campus. Festivities continued late into the nights as several houses on campus hosted dance parties.

On the whole, 2007’s Fieldstock was a campus-wide success, and seemed to be finally on its way to creeping out from under Tubestock’s long shadow and holding its own as a college celebration.

Teams of students race their chariots across the Green as part of Fieldstock activities.

Photo courtesy The Dartmouth.
Enviromental Legacy
The Dartmouth-Hitchcock Medical Center
Becomes the first in the nation to
calculate its carbon footprint

by Jessica Carvalho

Photo courtesy of The DHMC, copyright Gilbert Fox.
The Dartmouth-Hitchcock Medical Center has always been a pioneer in the field of green medical practice. When the installation was built in 1991, it was designed with an unusual eye towards energy conservation and sustainability. Not only was the 1.2 million square foot structure built from environmentally friendly materials, but plans were set in place for a large-scale recycling program and a ventilation system which drastically reduced the building’s need for air conditioning during the warmer months. In addition, a Coordinator for Waste and Recycling was appointed before the hospital even opened; a staff position which does not even exist at most medical facilities.

However, the hospital’s green practices did not stop evolving once the building was complete. Almost a decade after Dartmouth-Hitchcock Medical Center opened, the hospital had all but eliminated mercury on its premises, and the carcinogenic chemical ethylene oxide (used by many hospitals to sterilize instruments) has been banned. Custodial staff use green cleaning materials, and a committee oversees the purchase of eco-friendly supplies. An expansion of the facilities in 2006 also took environmental impact into consideration, utilizing locally grown wood for interior décor and building a parking garage to minimize paved parking areas spreading out into the surrounding forest. The addition included the practical positioning of windows to maximize natural lighting while minimizing energy inefficiency. On the whole, Dartmouth-Hitchcock has set a standard of sustainability which most medical centers can only reach for. Considering that the American medical industry accounts for over two million tons of waste each year, any reduction has the potential to substantially lower the United States’ annual waste production.

“Considering that the American medical industry accounts for over two million tons of waste each year, any reduction has the potential to substantially lower the United States’ annual waste production.”

Now, Dartmouth-Hitchcock has recently announced that they are going to take their plans one step further - by being the first hospital in the nation to calculate their carbon footprint. A carbon footprint - essentially a calculation of one’s impact on the planet’s natural resources - is a project most often undertaken to determine the impact of a single individual or small family home; it has never before been done by an entire medical facility. Beginning this summer, the DHMC is going to conduct a thorough investigation into every aspect of the facility’s operation and assess the hospital’s sustainability. The result will allow the hospital to take a practical look at areas in which it is succeeding in its environmentally-minded efforts, and find opportunities to do more. The project will also create a baseline upon which successive reviews can plot DHMC’s progress over time.
was used in restaurant cooking. Finally, the Big Green Bus has a traditional (bio)diesel fuel system onboard which is engaged for several minutes before the bus is shut down in order to clean out any remaining WVO from the engine that would harden and clog when the engine cools.

Using an old yellow school bus, the innovative plan was put into action, and the Frisbee team headed off on their 2005 summer tour. However, wherever they went, people seemed less interested in the team and more in how they had gotten to the tournament. The team was constantly being bombarded with questions and requests to see the bus. It did not take long before the team realized they had stumbled onto something bigger than a way for poor college students to stretch their travel money.

Upon returning to campus that fall, the group decided to separate the bus project from the Ultimate Frisbee team, and use the vehicle instead to promote awareness about alternative fuels. Together they formed the entirely student-run Big Green Bus project, using commercial outreach and grants to raise a $40,000 annual budget rather than depend on an administrative advisor or College-directed program. “The College has been tremendously helpful with support and funding,” Vernon says, “but one of the best aspects of this is that we’ve been allowed to really do this on our own. We don’t report to a faculty member or advisor. We basically run our own company.”

In 2006, the Big Green Bus crew purchased a new bus, a 1996 international school bus which they converted to WVO and painted green. The interior of the bus was furnished with couches, tables, and bunks, and the group selected a crew for a cross-country tour, promoting alternative fuels along the way. The 2006 tour was such a success that it was repeated in 2007, when the Big Green Bus’ platform was expanded to include sustainable living. In accordance, other alternative energy sources were added to the vehicle. Vernon explained that the bus included “a wind turbine and a small solar panel on the roof that powered our laptops.”

One of the advantages of touring is that the crew can appear at a variety of venues, and speak...
with a range of people from all walks of life. “Every day is so different,” Vernon explains. “One day you’re meeting with the South Carolina legislature, and next you’re talking with people at a seafood festival in Louisiana.” As a result, the audience for the bus crew can vary greatly in prior knowledge of the bus’ message. “We meet people from 8 years old to 80, some who know a lot about alternative fuels, who want to know every detail about the bus, the engine, and some who are coming to it for the first time. At some stops the majority of the people there are very receptive to what we have to say, and at others, people are more resistant.” To prepare, the group outlines a different game plan for each stop on the tour. “Before the event, we try to identify who our audience is, and how best to deliver our message.” However, the overall idea is the same. “We are really trying to talk to the consumer of tomorrow. We all have the ability to change the way we consume products, including fuel.”

This year, the bus crew maintained an online blog of their travels. “It was amazing how many people kept track of us online,” Vernon relates. “Many of them knew us by name. We were at a stop in one of the national parks, and one person came up to us and said they were so excited to finally meet us, and that they had followed our blog all summer!” When asked if graduate students, specifically MALSers, would be welcome in a program dominated by undergrads, Vernon’s response was “We’re very open to including more graduate students in the program.”

So how can MALS students get involved? If any MALSers are interested in touring next summer with the 2008 Big Green Bus, “The selection process for the Big Green Bus begins in February,” Vernon explains. “Last year we had about 75 applicants from all across the campus disciplines.” Interested students fill out a written application, and then are called in for an interview by members of last year’s bus crew. “What we’re interested in discovering is what applicants can bring to the project, what skills and what new ideas they may have to allow the project to expand and develop.” From there, the applicant pool is whittled down to the final 11 crew members who will tour with the Big Green Bus, maintain the vehicle, and help promote the ideas it represents at stops on the tour.

However, if that sounds like too large a commitment for busy MALS students, there are also alternative ways to become involved in the project. As a completely student-run group, they are always looking for help with logistics (determining tour locations, events, dates, etc.), administration, fund-raising, and the engineering/mechanical work which goes into the bus itself. “We are also very open to new ideas or suggestions,” Vernon adds. The tour group is also very dependant on college connections, especially alumni, to volunteer their homes for the crew to rest and shower in along the trip.

Regardless of how MALS students choose to participate, involvement with the Big Green Bus is certain to be a worthwhile and life-changing experience.

For more information, you can check out their website: http://thebiggreenbus.org
department, a small organic garden was set up three miles north of Dartmouth, on the College-owned Fullington Farm. The Fullington Farm had once been an operating dairy farm, but had been acquired by Dartmouth and was determined to be the most appropriate place to locate the garden. The garden plot was a success, and the students put together a proposal for a full-fledged organic farm program at Fullington Farm. The College agreed to sponsor a three-year trial period for the program, and hired Betsy Garaties to serve as a full-time professional manager for the farm. The first full season of growing began for the farm in 1996 and, after three successful years, became a permanent program at Dartmouth.

Planning for each growing season begins in January, as students determine the seeding order of crops and a rotation plan for planting. By March, farm workers set up shop inside the organic farm’s greenhouses where transplants are grown. In April the labor moves outdoors to prepare the fields and growing beds for planting, which begins at the end of the month and continues through May and early June. Summer is an intensive period, as volunteers work hard to transplant, weed, and harvest crops. Harvest continues through the fall, coupled with compost making and preparation of the fields for the winter, while December is spent evaluating the past season and beginning rudimentary planning for the coming year.

In addition to farming projects, many classes include the farm as part of their term coursework. Classes from a range of disciplines have been involved with the organic farm, including the Education, Religion, Engineering, Geography, Biology, and Environmental Science departments. Students associated with the farm also have access to research grants, and often participate in workshops and lectures about organic farming. They also may opt to travel to local farms to study their operations and to participate in regional conferences. Many farm volunteers regularly attend the Northern Organic Farmers’ Association Conference, or NOFA.

MALS students interested in becoming involved with the farm should start by visiting the farmstand held outside of Collis Center every Thursday from 11 A.M. to 3 P.M. throughout both summer and winter term. There, MALSers can browse the farm’s produce and speak with students who are currently working in the program. They may also attend
weekly meetings held by the farm on campus, in which attendees discuss and plan the business and operation of the farm. However, the best way to become involved is to visit the farm in person. New visitors should e-mail the farm at organic.farm@dartmouth.edu or call to see what is currently going on and how they can help out. Interested students also have the opportunity to conduct independent study projects with the farm or apply for part-time internships.

For more information, you can contact the organic farm at organic.farm@dartmouth.edu, or the Outdoor Programs Office.

*Photos by Sarah Sarah Hackney ’06, courtesy Dartmouth Outing Club.*
Welcome to the Writers’ Corner!

Old Milk

by Jessica Carvalho

there's a bomb in the refrigerator sweating
idling alone under an interrogation bulb
sit here and press your ear up
metallic humming can’t you hear it
it’s gonna go off yeah
blow apart in a white plastic explosion
outpouring noxious compounds
asphyxiate me in my sleep

they put it in there when I was dreaming
they have a key that I know they use
little shadows dressed in white pajamas
with needles warming up pearly fluid in a pan
they’re trying to poison me slowly
but I’m smarter than that yeah
don’t sleep just sit and listen
to the humming sweating

the red seal ain’t broken but that means nothing
they’re tricky those tiny shades smiling
steal your undies when you’re not looking
I wrote my name on every pair
and on the contorted canister
bottom expanded rolling happily
a bomb labeled Hood
its milk but I won’t drink it nah

granddaughter thinks she’s so smart grabbing
she’s got my breasts taking rotten vitamin D
in her hands
doesn’t listen rolls pretty eyes dumping
curdled globs slide down the sink
tries to discard the empty in the trash hah!
they’ll find out if we throw it away
if that smell hasn’t called them already
then they’ll put a new bomb in there bigger

Mikel Runnion
Creative Writing Editor
I’m smart, you see
she’ll learn someday
they’ll poison her milk too

**Maria (Excerpt)**

by Jessica Carvalho

**INT. DAVID’S LIVING ROOM - NIGHT**

DAVID CONNOR, 40, sits in his chair, staring at the front door, dressed in pajamas, an unopened *Bible* in his lap and an untouched Jell-O cup in his hand. The clock ticks. A key turns in the door and Carolyne stumbles in.

CAROLYNE
Aw man, are you gonna give me shit? ‘Cause if you are-

DAVID
I’m not.

CAROLYNE
‘Cause it’s no business of yours what I do on my own time-

DAVID
That’s debatable but-

CAROLYNE
I’m freaking 17 years old, I can make my own-

DAVID
You’re right.

CAROLYNE
Yeah, you bet I’m - what? You’re not pissed?

DAVID
Nope.

CAROLYNE
You’re not gonna ream me out?

David shakes his head.

CAROLYNE
Then why’d you bother waiting up?

DAVID
I wasn’t waiting.

He holds up the book.

DAVID
I was reading.

David puts down the book, hands her his Jell-O, and gives her a kiss on the cheek.

DAVID
And now I’m sleeping. Good night.

He heads up the stairs.

CAROLYNE
What the fuck is that? Don’t you even want to know where I’ve been?

DAVID (O.S.)
No.

She moves to the bottom of the stairs.

CAROLYNE
What about who I was with, huh? Wanna know that? Dad!

Nothing. After a pause, Carolyne eyes the Jell-O in her hand and eats a giant spoonful.

CAROLYNE
(to herself)
Fuck.

*Have a piece of creative writing you would like to share?*

**E-mail our Creative Writing Editor, Mikel Runnion, or the MALS Quarterly - subject line: Writer’s Corner**
Guilty Before Proven Innocent?  

Nathaniel Berger

It’s a shame PETA (People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals) does not practice the ethical treatment of humans. The animal rights organization pressured the National Football League and Michael Vick sponsors to “sack Vick” in July immediately after he was charged with sponsoring a dog fighting ring. The details of the indictment the Federal Grand Jury handed down to the Atlanta Falcons quarterback were horrifying. In addition to organizing dog fights and gambling on those fights, Vick was accused of hanging, drowning and shooting dogs. Such actions would certainly deserve prompt condemnation. But Vick had *allegedly* hanged dogs and *allegedly* bankrolled dog fights when PETA picketed NFL headquarters and threatened a national “day of action” against Nike in an effort to get Vick suspended from Nike advertisements and professional football. At that time, Vick was not legally guilty of anything.

There was a time when American newspapers did not report criminal charges, only convictions. There was a time when the presumption of innocence was not only an American legal right, but also an American cultural standard. We do not live in that time. In response to PETA’s pressure, the NFL barred Vick from Falcons training camp and Nike suspended his shoe contract. PETA claimed victory. PETA Director Daphna Nachminovitch said "We commend Nike for this decision. This is a victory for all dogs beaten and killed in illegal dog fighting rings across the country." It was not a victory for presumption of innocence. Vick had lost millions of dollars in endorsements; he was not known to be guilty of anything.

Certainly, PETA was not alone in its assault on the presumption of innocence and premature drowning of Michael Vick. Reverend Al Sharpton, who rallied the public against the Duke Lacrosse players *charged* with rape and kicked out of school, proved his equal-opportunity irresponsibility when he teamed with PETA to denounce Vick. Countless others joined Sharpton on the presumption of Michael-Vick-guilt...
bandwagon built by PETA.

The fact that Vick pled guilty to organizing dog fighting in August does not justify PETA’s actions.

Actually, it shows PETA needed to just wait a little over a month to discover the truth. Had PETA exercised patience and waited to see the truth, their actions would have been one hundred percent justified and I would not be attacking them right now. Instead, I would be attacking Michael Vick.

I am not alone in criticizing PETA’s attack on the presumption of innocence. Yahoo! Sports columnist Michael Silver, Atlanta radio hosts Doug and Ryan Stewart and many others who’ve condemned dog fighting have used their pens and voices to attack PETA instead of Michael Vick. Like me, the Stewarts and Silver defended presumption of innocence. Presumably, they could have spent more time denouncing dog fighting had PETA not interjected and turned the conversation from a slam-dunk case against dog fighting into a strange moral battle pitting the presumption of innocence’s value against the horror of dog fighting. ESPN recently held a town hall-style meeting in Atlanta where the crowd appeared more upset with the public treatment of Vick than his treatment of dogs.

Good work, PETA.

The people of Atlanta have a right to be concerned with Vick’s treatment, as it sets a terrible precedent. If presumption of innocence is lost, then anybody could lose their job based on any allegation. If somebody were to falsely claim that I have mistreated one of the many dogs I have had since I was a child, I could get kicked out of Dartmouth or booted from the MALS Quarterly. Better yet, I could charge Daphna Nachminovitch with dog fighting and I suppose she would demand her own resignation before investigating the charges.

“There was a time when American newspapers did not report criminal charges, only convictions. There was a time when the presumption of innocence was not only an American legal right, but also an American cultural standard.”

Agree?

Disagree?

Write a response to this article, or any other op-eds in our previous issues, and we will print it!

The discussion begins with you!

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Subject Line: Editorial
In Our Next Issue:

This fall, as the Presidential primaries draw closer, the eye of the nation turns towards New Hampshire, and by extension, Dartmouth College. With the College playing host to a Democratic Presidential debate and near constant visits from major candidates across the political spectrum, what do MALs students and faculty think of the hubbub? Find out how your fellow MALSers response to the current political climate, and see how they are taking an active role in the seemingly perpetual election season.

Photo by Jessica Carvalho.