Strong foundations are essential in life – education being no loophole. Without a solidified educational base, and basic skills, progression of learning will be greatly hindered, tougher and likely to yield poor academic performance. Luckily an agglomeration of students has been able to avoid running into this problem because developmental courses enables a successful academic future. As of summer, that luck has died. The majority of students at Gateway Community College, as well as the rest of Connecticut’s sister colleges and universities, are in severe jeopardy.

The Connecticut General Assembly ignorantly decided to push SB 40, which was passed this summer, now known as PA 12-40. This bill evokes more confusion than offering a solution. PA 12-40 was designed as renovation of the developmental curriculum in college. It is intended to move students through pre-college courses more swiftly, allowing only one semester of remedial education. The bill is cutting funding for remedial education by about 7 million dollars, leaving only...
$750,000 for every remedial student in the entire state. It also leaves the option for students to enter an “Intensive College Readiness” program in hopes of accelerating students to a college level, or to take a semester of remedial courses. The idea sounds revolutionary, and promising, but that is its extent into reality, it just “sounds” good. After removing the sugar-coating intentions of the bill, it is clear that it is going to encourage students to jump straight into college ready courses without developing proper skills to build on. The connotation of entering an “Intensive College Readiness” program is not only detouring to students, but it’s also inadvertently an extra step. According to Institutional Research at Gateway, over 40 percent of our students place into the lowest levels of writing, and 89 percent of our student populace are in development math courses. Dr. Matthew Long, Director of Student Development, stated that, “It [PA 12-40] essentially doesn’t allow us to provide credit bars courses for the lowest level of developmental classes.” If over two fifths of our students need the lowest level of writing courses, but are only allowed one semester to catch up, then it is not a feasible idea. In fact 21 percent of our entering students place into both the lowest remedial math and English classes. A lot of necessary time is required to polish set skills; however, since these classes will no longer be available, students are going to be forced into situations where they will not be prepared.

In addition to the chaos of losing precious learning time, college entry courses will also be impacted. Anne Williams, MBA, CPCU, CEBS, and business professor at Gateway questioned, “If someone has done a remedial college course with the lowest grade possible to pass, are they really college ready? [PA 12-40] will cause altering entrance classes to include pre-college material with college material. This is known as embedding.” PA 12-40 has the potential to throw off students who are not ready into college courses, while taking time away from students who do not require pre-college material. Embedding causes an entirely new and unanticipated stream of problems. Williams continued to illustrate that, “a large problem that embedding will not solve is the heterogeneous nature of the classroom.” How are teachers supposed to help students who are ready for college at the higher end of the spectrum, while also attempting to transition students that were not prepared? Either way, both sides of students are at a significant loss rendering students at the higher end not properly prepared for higher levels of education, and students at the lower level desperately trying to catch up and ultimately undermining self-esteem and confidence in the classroom. “We owe a huge amount to our students. You came through these doors saying you’re a Gate-
When students were asked: “What do you like about Downtown New Haven? What do you like to do in DT New Haven area when you are NOT at Gateway?” They responded:

“I like to go to the concerts on the green.” –John

“I like Downtown. There is a lot to do and I like the atmosphere.” –Anonymous

“I am too busy with work to hang out Downtown.” –Karen

“It’s hard to find a parking space and it’s a bit too congested.” –Anonymous

“There are lots of art galleries and the public transportation system is excellent.” –Leigh

“I like to sight-see and window shop.” –Rhohon

There is a lot of shopping. The Educated Burgher on Broadway had good food and the local night clubs such as Empire –Haley

“I just go out to eat.” –Annie

“I don’t like it” –David

“Window-shopping and Walking DT green area with friends.” –Michelle
Macy’s/Malley’s Dept. Stores Were Retail Ancestors to Gateway Location

By Gregory Feeley, Adjunct Professor – Humanities

Students who enter the beautiful new Gateway campus, occupying two large downtown blocks, with its striking second-, third-, and fourth-story bridge connecting them, may be too busy to wonder what occupied this space before it opened in late August. But urban buildings are built upon the foundations of earlier structures, which sometimes leave traces behind and sometimes have vanished entirely.

New Haveners who are in their fifties or older will remember Malley’s, the enormous department store run by the Edward Malley Col., which had operated in New Haven for more than a hundred years. Until 1962 it occupied the site where the Chapel Square Mall now stands.

The nine-story Beaux-Arts style building was demolished when the Chapel Square Mall was built, and Malley’s originally planned to occupy the building one block to the south. But Mayor Richard Lee had ambitious plans for downtown New Haven, and wanted to lure Macy’s into town. Macy’s agreed to build a department store only if it got the coveted space adjoining the Mall, and after much arm-twisting, Malley’s agreed to relocate one further block south, with all three structures to be connected by overhead walkways.

This was the way things stood when I came to New Haven as a student in 1973. Chapel Square Mall was a bustling place, full of customers, as hectic as any suburban mall is today. The upper level connected to Macy’s, a conventional department store. You could keep walking in a straight line through the store and come to a second bridge, running over George Street, which connected with Malley’s.

Back then, department stores sold everything. I remember that Macy’s had a book department and a restaurant, as well as furniture, sporting goods, clothing and most other consumer items. Malley’s, as I recall, seemed pretty similar. According to Wikipedia, the Malley’s store boasted “branch post office and a fix-it shop, a gourmet shop, baker, 300-seat restaurant, beauty salon, photographic studio, jewelry and watch repair service, and shoe repair.” It must have been trying to distinguish itself from Macy’s, because two large stores offering the same services could not both be in service.

Alas, the effort was not successful: The store closed in 1982 after having changed hands several times. It stood empty for fifteen years, a steadily deteriorating eyesore and symbol of New Haven’s decaying downtown, before being demolished in 1997.

Macy’s, which had been brought into New Haven at a great cost to a century-old local business, closed in 1993. The expansion of a Connecticut Post Mall in the 1980s put an end to New Haven’s ability to draw retail customers from surrounding towns. The Chapel Square Mall itself was closed for a time, and while it has been restored to a degree in recent years (with stores only on the outside), it remains a shadow of what it once was.

To walk from Gateway North to Gateway South, with a view of George Street traffic to either side and the Mill River to the southeast, is an exercise in nostalgia for many professors. Are any Gateway students old enough to remember crossing this walkway as a child, moving from one enormous department store to another, in the long-ago 1970s?
ODE TO A ROTTING BARN

BY

TOM O’NEIL

There’s a bright burgundy Barn,
In North Guilford
Above
A Lake
Whose Barn Door sports a big green bough
Of pine—knotted with a
Scarlet bow,
Yet it shows graying and
Peeling sides
And has a Skeleton of roof’s ribs
For its
back.

LION’S PRIDE by Meaghan Seltzer

Winter is already here and the squirrel is late in gathering his food.

Now, he must quickly scavenge the nearby forest for what he needs.

Snow begins to fall and he panics, packing in all that he can find.

NO! NO! FIVE MORE MINUTES!

HAPPY FINALS WEEK!
...AND GOOD LUCK
Specialist (SPC) Rafael Sanchez is an Environmental Science major at Gateway Community College; his college career is currently on hold while he is deployed overseas with the United States Army.

SPC Sanchez graduated from Wilbur Cross High School in 2008. In 2007 he joined the U.S. Army as a Preventive Medicine Specialist in the 405th Combat Support Hospital. His experiences and training in the military sparked his interest in science and the environment. After returning home SPC Sanchez plans to graduate from Gateway and further his education at Yale.

As a Preventive Medicine Specialist, his job is to ensure the environment is safe, particularly the food and drinking water. He is responsible for inspections and safe sanitation for thousands of troops. His team will conduct laboratory tests, survey the environment and monitor diseases and illnesses that could affect the health of the entire military and local community.

The Gateway Gazette would like to apologize to Tamara J. Vasquez for the mix-up. This story was intended to be run in the previous issue. We are thankful for her hard work and we are pleased to be able to place it into the paper at this time. We believe veteran’s issues are critical.
Stars, Dinosaurs, and Spider, Oh My!
By Bonnie Fahy, Co-editor

On November 18th the Science Club enjoyed a trip to the American Museum of Natural History in New York City. They took a comfortable coach bus and disembarked at 10 AM just in time for the Museum to open. For only $10, a student could enjoy four fantastic exhibits and an entire museum!

First up was the Planetarium and Journey to the Stars, narrated by Whoopi Goldberg. Our Journey to the Stars spans billions of years, beginning on Earth and extending beyond our galaxy into the future before returning home. More than 13 billion years ago there was only an invisible substance called dark matter, along with hydrogen and helium gas. The stars that formed quickly exploded in supernovas, blasting out new elements, the raw materials for building new stars and planets.

Next the group ran off to see Flying Monsters, a National Geographic IMAX film narrated by Sir David Attenborough. He told the story of a group of reptiles that ruled the skies about 220 million years ago. The audience was immersed in the awe-inspiring world of the pterosaur and experienced the enormous challenges these creatures faced to survive, let alone flourish, in prehistoric skies.

Immediately following the movie everyone got in line for Spiders Alive! Here visitors encountered live spiders including the Goliath bird-eating spider and the Western Black Widow, one of the few North American spiders truly harmful to people. The exhibit also had a live demonstration and lecture which included more information than anyone ever wanted to know about spiders.

The next ticket that was given to each student was Creatures of Light. This exhibit explored the diversity of organisms that glow and learn how scientists study this amazing natural phenomenon.

Plus there was a whole museum to explore with many exhibits that included larger-than-life models, a herd of elephants, videos, interactive exhibits and fossils. And if all of this wasn’t enough, there was a museum gift shop with wonderful mementos and presents to buy. The bus left at 3 PM, not leaving enough time to do or enjoy everything. It was a wonderful day of fun and learning that this reporter would gladly repeat anytime.

SMITE: A New Kind of MOBA
By Isaiah Paul - Gazette Correspondent

If one is familiar with games such as League of Legends, Heroes of Newerth, or the legendary Warcraft 3 mod Defense of the Ancients (or DoA), then you may not be a stranger to SMITE. For those that may not know, a MOBA (or Multiplayer Online Battle Arena) is a RTS (Real Time Strategy) subgenre that combines Action RTS elements with RPG elements. As with most MOBAs, you and four other players are against a team of 5 players in order to destroy the other team’s minotaur. On your way, you will have to fight against minions, destroy towers and phoenixes in order to reach your goal. However, unlike most MOBAs, the game is played in 3rd Person Perspective and all of your skills are skillshots, meaning that all of your moves require aim and timing. The theme of the game is comprised of gods in ancient mythology. Gods such as Ra and Sobek of Egyptian lore, Bacchus and Loki of Roman and Norse lore respectively are featured in this game. Currently, there are 26 characters released in this game.

As mentioned before, Gods from several folklores are featured in this game. These gods fulfill several different roles. Each god will play differently and will have different priorities. For example, Ra, the Sun God fulfills the Mage role and has a balanced assortment of beam projectiles and AOE (area of effect) attacks and Artemis, Goddess of the Hunt, acts as an archer with some skills that can stun or slow down an enemy. There is no recipe system, so anyone can freely upgrade their items as long as they have the gold for it. For the greenhorns out there, there is an automated allocation system for items and skills, so you can enjoy your game with a pre-determined build to get used to the game’s play-style. Of course, you can take off the option when you feel more comfortable making your own build. The game does have an item shop where you can buy characters and costumes, but there is no game-breaking item there, so everyone will have fun without having to deal with broken items. And finally, the area is split up to three lanes; left, middle and right lane. Depending on your character, you will have a certain strategic advantage in different lanes.

Playing the game is like playing League of Legends, but almost feels like every other RPG in a sense that it will feel slow at first mostly because everyone will start at Level 1. Chances are, everyone is going to start off with boots to raise their movement speed. But as you level up, you can literally see the progression in your characters. Usually, the excitement doesn’t start until you actually be able to get your ultimate move and start killing minions in one hit. The characters are somewhat balanced for the most part. However, this is still closed beta, and more characters are yet to be released. What is also a great benefit is that you can get currency when you level up to buy new characters and skins. However, there’s not much to do as you rise in ranks. You just get more currency to spend. Finally, the game is tournament-ready, now that players are able to set up their own teams and fight for the trophy. However, there is no guild system implemented, and there isn’t much that one can do after they level up. Sure, they get more Favor, which is their currency used to buy characters, but nothing more than that. There is also no TV feature implemented yet, which will allow many people to spectate and watch the matches. There is no other way to improve your character yet, such as Passive system which allows you to have different skill/stat boosts according to what characters you are going to use. Finally, you can’t get access to the game without having a beta key. You can get one easily by paying for the premium currency to get yourself started, or you can go for their current closed beta deal. Get 30 characters for $30. However, this will only last in the closed beta phase.

This is a very great game with awesome potential. It stands out from the other MOBAs out there and is quite fun. Anyone looking for an experience away from LoL or HoN should look at this game.
More of Gateway’s Second Chance Club

By Bonnie Fahy, Co-editor

During this holiday time we all thinking of how to spread the joy of the season. One place Gateway Community College has been doing this is through The Fresh Start Program. It was initiated three years ago by Dr. Kerin Lee, with the purpose is to assist young women on parole as they pursue a certificate or degree so that they will be able to find employment.

The program was funded by an anonymous donor during the first year. Then Gateway worked in concert with New Haven’s Work Force Alliance and Dean Mary Ellen Cody to keep things still running. Since its inception many women have been part of the process and one woman plans to graduate this year. Still another participant plans to graduate shortly thereafter.

It may take a village to raise a child but it doesn’t stop there. In order to help these ladies become successful and take control of their life again, it take many resources.

Mr. James Cousins has been an outstanding support system for these women as has been Dr. James Roger, Ms. Ava Marie Trimachi, Ms. Cathy Surface, and the entire faculty who have assisted the team in the process of advisement.

Members of the Humanities Advisory Council have also given freely of their time and expertise. Seminars were provided by such members as Dr. John Saksa, a psychologist, Ms. Georgette Word, a counselor, Ms. Sandy Kooregian, a social worker and grant writer. However, every single person in this project wishes to extend a note of thanks to the President of Gateway Community College. To quote Dr. Lee, “Without Dr. Kendrick’s continued support, none of this could have happened.” Dr. Randall Horton and Dr. Vivian Shipley, a renowned poet and Professor at SCSU, also serve as mentors and support systems to the project.

As this semester draws to a close, the Gateway family wishes to extend its best wishes to all of the women involved. “Young ladies, you should be proud of yourselves. We are!”

Quote - Dr. Kerin Lee

If someone’s physical stature is any indication of one’s mental, ethical and spiritual character, then that parallel is competently conveyed in the new film by Steven Spielberg, “Lincoln”.

Daniel Day-Lewis portrays President Abraham Lincoln struggling to have Congress pass the Thirteenth Amendment, freeing the slaves, and thereby breaking the economic foundation of the Confederacy and, hopefully, ending the Civil War and reuniting the nation.

Physically, Abraham Lincoln stood six feet, four inches tall, wore a size fourteen shoe with a high heel and with his top hat on, towered at a near seven feet. Daniel Day-Lewis, at six feet, one and one half inches, is made to look taller by way of strategic camera angles, or just sitting and having viewers “imagine” Lincoln’s prodigious height. These camera angles are not always consistent, but the modesty of Daniel Day-Lewis’ height is eclipsed by a powerful portrayal that integrates sensitivity, humor, philosophical reflection, frustration, anger, and super-human self-control.

The film utilizes a talking-head emphasis, whereby the primary “action” is expressed through the dramatic dialogue, requiring viewers to focus and concentrate on the content and facial demeanors of the characters. Amid this sea of puffy, petulant faces in Congress, Lincoln looms like a towering, laid-back lighthouse above this congressional sea of chaos.

The cinematography is done in “dark-deco” style, inaugurated by earlier films such as “Bladerunner” and “Batman”. This dark, shadowy style thus inspires the viewer to listen more carefully when discussion or debate is expressed.

Everyone turns in historically and psychologically believable performances. “Lincoln”, long, lanky, and learned, features the force of a folk philosopher and a towering titan of human rights.