

The Wagnerian

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Wagner College

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Staten Island, N.Y.



Photos by: Alexander Penn

With blue carnation in hand, junior's Jacqueline Otake, Jessica Wilm, Paige Chladek and Jessica Donnelly celebrate their induction into the national leadership honor society.

They're not just scholars, they're leaders as well

By ALEXANDER PENN
Staff Writer

Thirty-nine students who have achieved strong academic standing and are civically engaged became the newest members of the Wagner College Circle of Omicron Delta Kappa National Leadership Honor Society during a ceremony on Nov. 20 in the Manzulli Board Room.

Each inductee accepted a blue carnation and gold pin as they were individually recognized. As each name was called, parents and guests listened to a brief description of each student's academic accomplishments and community involvement.

ODK strives to recognize students who, according to the society, "have attained a high standard of excellence," and have maintained a cumulative 3.6 GPA throughout the first four semesters of their college career.

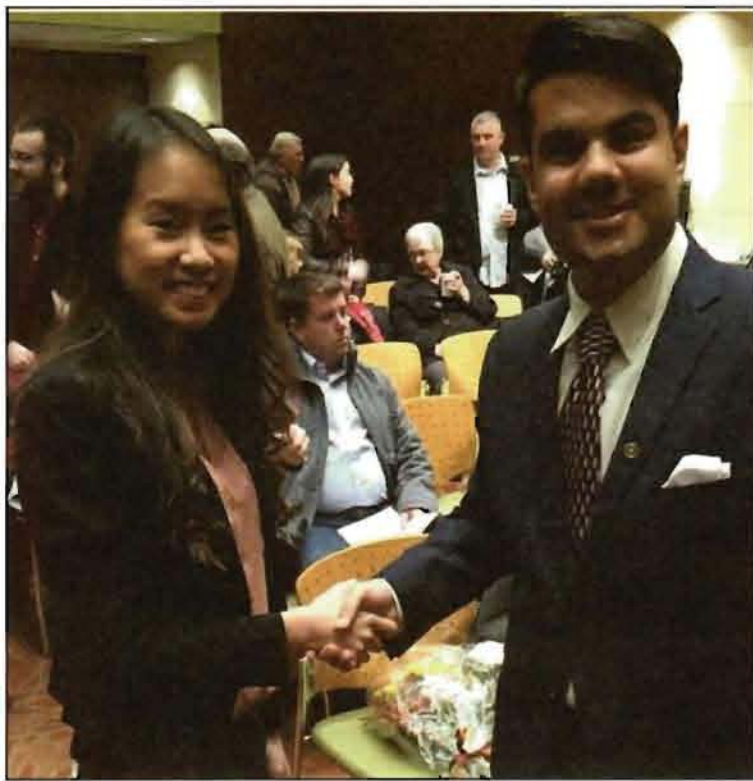
These students "stand out in the classroom and are exemplary leaders," said Professor Claire Regan, ODK faculty secretary, in her welcoming remarks.

Barbara Bellesi, a Wagner graduate and ODK member, was the keynote speaker. She serves as assistant director of the Center for Academic and Career Engagement.

She outlined her definition of a good leader as someone who subscribes to five pillars of leadership.

A good leader, she said:

- 1) Models good behavior
- 2) Learns from mistakes
- 3) Lets their voice be heard
- 4) Is inquisitive
- 5) Is kind.



Inductee Karlina Nguyen shakes ODK President Sourajit Dey's hand during the reception.

Bellesi then explained that the fifth pillar was paramount in the development of a good leader. "There will always be enough leaders, but there will never be enough kindness."

The ODK insignia, circled with the laurel crown, symbolizes the nobility and success of the recipients.

The Wagner College Circle inducts new members each semester. Founded on Dec. 3, 1914, at Washington and Lee University in Virginia, ODK is now on over 300 college campuses.

ODK at Wagner College began on May 28, 1960, and has inducted over 2,000 students over the past 55 years.

NEW MEMBERS: John Acquaviva, Anthony Arpaia, Kaitlyn Barden, Elise Begg, Spencer Beyer, Kaitlyn Bradway, Morgan Brown, Paige Chladek, Vanessa Dailey, Madison Decker, Jazmin Diaz, Jessica Donnelly, Francesca Frasca, Gianna Fiumefreddo, Jordan Gonzalez, Mckaleigh Goodale, Kathryn Grieci, Mary Helen Gustafson, Samantha Hodges, Stephen Kallas, Emma J. MacDonald, Timothy John Maher, Claire Manning, Gina Massaro, Roshan Matthew, James Napolitano, Nicole Nittoli, Karlina Nguyen, Emily O'Regan, Jacqueline Otake, Kathleen Palladino, Taylor Redmond, Ellen Reidy, Ana Santos, Alexandra Shworak, Kathleen Thieme, Jennifer Vicioso, and Jessica Wilm.

New laundry system coming in spring

By KATHLEEN THIEME
World News Editor

For the past year, Wagner College has been working to renovate the laundry system on campus. With a mixture of both new and upgraded laundry machines and a brand new laundry system, the process of doing laundry will hopefully be more convenient both for students and for maintenance.

The new system, WaveRider, will modernize the process of doing laundry due to the system's ability to connect to Wi-Fi.

The online server, mywavevision.com, and the WaveRider app will allow students to see when machines are available and view the status of their wash. The app will even send alerts when a load is finished.

"If you live on the 13th floor of Harborview, and you want to see if a machine is open, you can either use the app, or take the elevator down 14 floors" said Christian Miller, director of Campus Operations.

This new system will also do away with the need for quarters. No longer will students need to scrounge around for them or find a coin machine.

Instead, the new system will allow students to swipe either a credit or debit card to pay for a load, and for those students who need a card, Wagner will provide a "dummy card" that they can put money on.

WaveRider will also streamline maintenance and repairs for all machines. The system will automatically send alerts to maintenance when a machine is offline or in need of repairs.

Although, all current problems with the machines can be attributed to user error—the main issues being overloading the machine, using too much soap, and opening the machine mid-cycle. All of these

issues can cause the machine to stop working, but are easily fixable: only fill the machine 3/4 of the way, use the prescribed amount of soap, or less, and never open the door while the machine is running.

If a machine needs repair, WaveRider will send an automatic alert, but students are also encouraged to use the service repair app to report any issues.

"When students use the repair app not only do they get an email confirming their request, but Campus Operations gets one as well, along with when the repair has been completed," Miller explained. This system allows Campus Operations to keep a record of how frequently a machine needs to be repaired, and consider having more repairs or a newer machine.

The Office of Campus Operations teamed up with the Business Office, IT, and Residential Education to tackle this enormous project.

"This is work between the Business Office: John Carrescia, as well as his staff, the IT department: Frank Cafasso, and his staff who put in the wire and cabling, and obviously all of our folks at Res Ed," said Christian Miller, director of Campus Operations, "Everyone has been a part of our process."

After so much work, they have finally figured out details of installing the new system on campus. The new system will be installed in Harborview Hall, Guild Hall, Foundation Hall, and in the C-Tower of Towers.

Though the endeavor has taken almost a year, and there is no clear date set, the system should be up-and-running by the beginning of the spring 2017 semester.

"I'm so ready to be out of the laundry repair business," Miller joked during an interview.

Of course with any new installation, there will be a definite learning curve and a few hiccups, but eventually the new system should greatly ease the laundry process.

A special view of the Holocaust



Photo by: Theresa Reed

Shelly Schore, president and founder of Second Generation of Staten Island Children of Holocaust Survivors, talks with former New York State Senator Seymour Lachman after viewing the documentary. For a story about the screening, see Page 2.

A look back at some of the events on campus this semester



Photo by: Madeline Courtney

Members from the men's lacrosse team watch the debate.

Presidential debate watch party attracts crowd

By **MADELINE COURTNEY**
Contributing Writer

The students of Wagner College attended the screening of the third presidential debate that was shown in the Manzulli Board Room on Wednesday, Oct. 19.

The slideshow that was shown prior to the debate was a bingo game hosted by Professor Brett Palfreyman. He had two classes of his participate, a freshmen learning community: History in Museums. His second class was a US & World War II history course.

"This election has been so much about sex and emails that I wanted to put the nonsense aside and see where the students actually stand more with the candidate's policies," explains Professor Brett Palfreyman. As he asked questions, Professor Palfreyman kept track of the students points. His focus for this game was to get an idea of where our students heads are at.

Following the survey, the participants were invited to enjoy pizza together. As the students ate pizza, they were able to converse about the upcoming presidential debate. "I'm excited to watch the final debate. One of the candidates is going to be our future president, and I think it is important to hear what they have planned for our country." Said junior Lucy Darlington.

As the clock started to get closer to 9 p.m., the students began finding their seats, eager to watch the upcoming debate. Some of the stu-

dents were there to watch the debate with their class, where as some were there with friends to enjoy.

A lot of the spectators agreed that it is very important to watch the debate in order to make a decision for who will be the next president of the United States. Freshman, Zachary Storm claims, "I think it is very important to watch the debate to understand each candidate's speaking skills as well as spontaneous thoughts. It is very important when choosing who to vote for."

Once the debate began, the room went silent and the lights were dimmed. The room was completely filled, with almost every seat in the room taken. The debate began between Hillary Clinton and Donald Trump.

In the very beginning, the two were civil and eventually the tension became more intense.

During the debate, the atmosphere was mixed with emotions. Some viewers laughed, some gasped, and some were even speechless.

The students of Wagner College had a lot to say about the debate. The used words such as "entertaining" and "reality TV" to describe the broadcasted dispute. Students from of all ages went to this event and enjoyed watching the candidates go back and forth and argue about their political views.

After the final debate, the students chattered and expressed their views and opinions on the two candidates. Storm believes that, "It has been more effective than the other two debates."

Iris Alliance presents "Sodomy, Safety, and Visibility"

By **ARLINDA REYES**
Staff Writer

The Iris Alliance and Professor Cyril Ghosh presented, "Sodomy, Safety, and Visibility: A Modern Global View." Two students from the Iris Alliance, Dan Smith and Pat Zappone, put on an event that was open to the public in Union 201. The interactive presentation focused on the legal history of sodomy.

Smith and Zappone were surprised at the small turn out because they thought the topic was intriguing. A total of four people came to the presentation. Sodomy is typically defined as oral or anal sex with anyone. Sodomy is defined differently in each state. There were two court cases in the United States that put the phrase "government in the bedroom" to the light. Those two cases are Bowers v. Hardwick (1986) and Lawrence v. Texas

(2003). Lawrence v. Texas overturned the ruling in the 1986 case by stating that the government has no place in anyone's bedroom and more privacy laws were enacted. In fourteen states there are still laws against sodomy that are still on the books in America.

119 out of 195 countries across the world allow homosexuality. 76 countries have laws that directly and indirectly affect homosexuality. Russia does not implement sodomy laws, although they do "cleanse" the media of homosexuality. Currently, India is revisiting its anti-sodomy laws and the United Nations now has an expert focused on sexual orientation and gender identity by the Human Rights Council. Although the majority of countries allow homosexuality there still are a group of people that are afraid to "come out."

The Down Low Community is a select community within the gay community. It consists of closeted homosexuals, involving people of

color. This community was especially controversial in relation to the AIDS crisis and police targeting. Some closeted men are so afraid of coming out that they get involved in heterosexual relationships. This community still exists, however, statistics show more people of color are out than caucasians.

Many believed that that sodomy was a mental illness and promoted bestiality and pediphilia. Punishments include fines, probation, imprisonment, hard labor, forced psychiatric help, banishment, whipping and public execution. These penalties tended to specifically target men more than women.

When the Iris Alliance collaborated with Professor Ghosh and discussed the creation of this presentation, Smith said Ghosh thought there was enough information on this topic that they could teach a whole class on the subject. "People tend to hate something when they don't understand something," said Smith.

Bringing Holocaust education to Wagner

By **THERESA REED**
Contributing Writer

Conversations and emotions were abuzz as over 100 Wagner College students, faculty, alumni and Staten Island community members joined together in a chock-full Spiro 2 to attend the Oct. 19 screening and discussion of the theatrical documentary, "My Italian Secret: The Forgotten Heroes," narrated by Oscar-nominated actor and Wagner alumnus, Robert Loggia.

"When people today feel uncomfortable about events they tend to curse the darkness instead of following the light which can ultimately erase the darkness," shared former New York State Senator and Wagner board member, Seymour Lachman, as he discussed the importance of Holocaust education.

Aside from discussing his efforts to launch Holocaust education city-wide for New York City public school students, Lachman also introduced his former student, Vincent Marmorale, president of the Italy and the Holocaust Foundation and the documentary's producer.

"One of his major teachings was not in the classroom, but for the people of the United States in general, and that was Holocaust studies," shared Lachman, as he gave Marmorale a heartfelt introduction.

Marmorale's documentary made the journey to Wagner with the help of Professor Jason Fitzgerald of the college's Education Department, who responded to an appeal by Marmorale to bring the film greater attention. "These people had the courage to care during a time in history that was the world's worst nightmare," expressed a passionate Marmorale. "All these people just get brushed aside."

"My Italian Secret: The Forgotten Heroes" follows the emotional story of Italian athlete Gino Bartali, two time winner of the Tour de France, who saved over 800 Jews during the Holocaust through a Catholic-Jewish rescue network in Florence.

"This film beautifully showcases how doctors, nuns and ordinary citizens throughout the country assisted in the rescue of Jews both foreign-born and native to Italy," shared Dr. Lori Weintrob, history professor and director of Wagner's Holocaust Education and Programming Center. "Italians cared for their fellow desperate human beings, putting others in need before themselves regardless of religion, race or ethnicity."

"Over the years I've seen a lot about the Holocaust," shared Shelly Schore, president and founder of the Second Generation of Staten Island Children of Holocaust Survivors, who lost over 100 family members in the Holocaust. "This was the best I have ever seen."

"It was extraordinary, a very moving experience," expressed Morty Roth, a visitor from Rockland County whose parents are Holocaust survivors. "The film was beautifully shot."

For many in attendance, the part Italians played in helping Jews during the Holocaust was an undiscovered mystery. "I had no idea of the history of Italy," expressed Regina Lerman, a Staten Island resident who was born in a displaced person's camp.

Several students even found themselves perplexed by the heroic nature of Italians. "I had a completely different perception of Italy until tonight," shared Mackenzie Hart, a freshman student who is studying the Holocaust in Professor Theresa McCarthy and Dr. Wein-

trob's learning community. A Holocaust Cabaret: Performance as Resistance. "It makes sense now how Italy was able to be a hero in this situation."

For Marmorale, this story was one he had known for years. "I knew this story 40 years ago about the Italians," stated Marmorale. "The truth is I was inspired to put it on film because I felt such a sense of pride as an Italian American, knowing that the least known story of the Holocaust, of survival and betrayal and especially a happy ending, was in Italy."

Prior to the screening, former Staten Island Borough President and chair of Wagner's prestigious DaVinci Society, Ralph Lamberti, expressed his strong support for Holocaust education and plans to build a Holocaust education center on Staten Island, since it is the only borough without one. "We are starting the first Holocaust center on Staten Island at Wagner College," revealed an eager Dr. Richard Guarasci, president of Wagner College. "We want the Holocaust to be a living sense on the island."

"What we feel at Wagner is that Holocaust education is not just important for Wagner Students, but for the entire community," expressed Weintrob.

Wagner's Holocaust Education and Programming Center sponsored the screening along with several co-sponsors: The National Organization of Italian American Women (NOIAW), Casa Belvedere, the Alan and Joan Berkinow Jewish Community Center of Staten Island (JCC) and the Council of Jewish Organizations of Staten Island (COJO-SI).

"This is an iceberg that will continue to grow," expressed Marmorale. "This story is one for the ages."

The Wagnerian

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WORLD NEWS

Study shows negative effects of Zika virus on male fertility

A new study out of the University of Washington has confirmed that the Zika virus has the ability to cause infertility in men.

This research is the first time that Zika has been shown to result in complications with male fertility, remaining in semen for up to six months.

Using mice as the subject of the study, the research found that mice infected with Zika had shrunken testicles and the internal structures of the testicles of the Zika-infected mice were destroyed. This results in lower sperm counts and testosterone levels.

Typically passed through mosquito bites, Zika has previously been thought to only be dangerous for pregnant women.

Physicians at the Fertility Center of Illinois have gone so far as to advise that women who are pregnant, or considering becoming pregnant, should cancel travel plans to places at high risk.

Areas in the Caribbean, the Oceanic/Pacific islands, as well as a majority of countries in South America all have higher margins for the contractions of Zika.

Men who have travelled to and from these areas are warned to be vigilant about symptoms and potential transmission to partners, especially in cases of pregnancy.

Male symptomatology includes pelvic pain, shrinking in testes, and blood in urine. The effects are similar to that of other sexually transmitted infections.

The Center for Disease Control recommends the use of condoms, nothing atypical for a sexually transmitted infection. It is uncertain how long Zika can remain in the body.

The damage produced in mice infected with Zika is frightening and, when translated to human males, could result in permanent loss or reduction of fertility.

Reported by: Alexander Penn



Coradia iLint, Germany's new hydrogen train, is set to go into service in December 2017.

Germany unveils world's first zero-emission train

Germany has broken ground recently with the invention of a new train that runs purely on hydrogen. Unlike any other in the world, this train produces zero carbon emissions, and emits only steam and condensed water.

The train, dubbed Coradia iLint, was produced by the French com-

pany Alstom, and is set to travel across Lower Saxony, within northern Germany.

The first train in operation is set to travel about 60 miles as a test. Should the test prove a success, several other German states will be ordering hydrogen trains of their own.

This effort may possibly help the German nation reduce its own carbon emissions, and it would begin a movement away from traditional diesel-powered trains.

The Coradia iLint is set to go into service in December of 2017.

Reported by: John Badagliacca



Citizens in New Delhi wear face masks as the pollution levels reach new heights.

New Delhi is declared the most polluted city

New information has ranked New Delhi as the most polluted city in the world, even as some alternative new sources dispute this claim.

According to CNN, measurements taken at the US Embassy in New Delhi state that the Air Quality Index of the city is at 999.

This is off the chart of even "hazardous levels" which is situated at 500. In comparison, China's most polluted city, Baoding, is only at 298. India's second most polluted city is still concerning, sitting at an

824 on their World Air Quality Index.

The extreme levels of pollution have had a great impact on the economy of New Delhi, and one example lies in the Khan Market that now has shops that specialize in anti-pollution masks.

With the increase in levels, more people are visiting these shops to buy some type of protection to fight the smog.

On Sunday, Nov. 6, hundreds of people came together in protest to

voice their anger outside of Parliament. The protest sparked the use of the hashtag #MyRightToBreathe to raise awareness of the toxic situation.

New Delhi has been placed in a state of emergency. This ruling led to the closing of more than 5,000 schools and a halting of construction work.

Without improvement, officials warn that vehicles may be forced off the road.

Reported by: Mahina Taglies



A researcher shows how glasses distort the brain's view of food.

Think yourself thin

The University of Tokyo's Cyber Interface Lab has created new "diet goggles," that are said to be effective in battling obesity. According to researchers the virtual reality headsets can trick our senses into thinking that we have less of an appetite, make low-fat foods taste delicious, and fool our brains into thinking we're eating more than we already are.

Takuji Narumi, a PhD lecturer at the University of Tokyo, has invented a virtual reality system called "Augmented Satiety." This uses interactive computer graphic techniques to virtually increase the size of a food item. Simply wearing

the headset can reduce the amount of food a person consumes by 10%.

Will Ripley, a CNN International correspondent bravely tested the technology himself. The VR headset enlarged the size of the cookie he was ready to consume, which gave the illusion of a larger portion. However, not only did the size of the cookie change, but the angle of his fingers holding the object was altered to convince the brain further. So far, researchers have only successfully increased the size of the food by 50%, because if it's enlarged by too large a ratio, it won't be as convincing.

Reported by: Sabrina Bogen



Australian citizens protest the Parliament's decision.

The vote for same-sex marriage is rejected in Australia

Australia's Parliament rejected the plebiscite, a direct vote by the people of an electorate, for same-sex marriage.

Recent polls show 70 percent of Australians want to see same-sex marriage, but after a "game of politics," as Attorney General George Brandis referred to the rhetoric of the conservative parties, the plebiscite was rejected 33-29. The large majority of members from the

Greens and Labor Parties, as well as smaller parties, banned together in order to block the plebiscite.

The conservative parties denounced the use of a plebiscite, considering it offensive and "divisive."

These parties support legalizing gay marriage, but found the ends did not justify the means in this particular case.

Another issue of concern was the

cost of the bill, coming in at around \$140 million dollars cost.

It is confirmed that two-thirds of Australians support gay marriage. But the 'means' of plebiscite proved ineffective in the throngs of red tape and party disputes.

The 'end', amending the Marriage Act, will have to be met by other 'means' if Australia wants to see change.

Reported by: Alexander Pennise

the OPINIONS

editorials, campus critiques, and more...

section



The Men's Center operates out of Dr. Miles Groth's office in Parker Hall 111.



Outside of the center are bulletin boards with photos and articles detailing the research.

Men's Center acts as research center

By MAHINA TAGLIES
Staff Writer

When I first heard that Wagner College had a Men's Center, I had a very different impression of what that meant. I had assumed that it was a "Men's Safe Space" and a method to push the patriarchal message that men need to be separated from women.

I am the first to admit that I was wholly wrong.

The Men's Center is first and foremost a research center that is active at Wagner College, founded eight years ago and run by Professor Miles Groth. The Center was created as a means to analyze the decreasing involvement of men in extra-curricular activities and leadership positions that excludes sports. Additionally, it was also created to analyze spiritual-

ity and spiritual development in young men.

The Center is completely self-sufficient, relying on grants for meetings, conferences, and retreats. In the eight years it has been active, there has also been two features of the center including a mention in the Staten Island Advance and the New York Times. In 2001, Groth launched a journal called New Male Studies sponsored by Australia's Institute for Male Health and Studies (AIMS).

At the end of the day, the Men's Center is a place of research. Its goal is to analyze decreasing involvement in leadership positions and extra-curricular activities, men's spirituality, and to understand the documented decline of male enrollment in higher education.

Groth also teaches a course at Wagner called the Psychology of Men and Boys which is, ironically, mostly filled with women. Groth fo-

cuses on the psychological well-being of men and also how men deal with body image starting in the beginning years of junior high school. He is also interested in the increasing rate of suicide among men.

I have to admit, I had extreme bias walking into the interview. I believed that such a space would be unnecessary and discriminative. I was wrong.

This is a necessary institute to study the health of the male psychology. As an academic, I cannot help but respect the center for what it does for the study of male health especially on Wagner's campus.

As a feminist, I believe that the male voice is extremely valued, and that unfortunately, the male psyche and male struggles, especially concerning body image, is often overlooked.

There is article upon article about the negative effects of the media on the female psyche and female body

image, but it is easy to forget that these negative stereotypes enforced by the media also affects men. Many men feel anxiety at a young age over being too small or needing to be more manly or muscular. I believe, and Professor Groth believes as well, that this can lead to body dysmorphia in men. There is so much emphasis on forced femininity that we often forget about forced masculinity.

As Emma Watson so gracefully addressed in her HeForShe speech, "I've seen young men suffering from mental illness unable to ask for help for fear it would make them look less 'macho.'" The fact that young men are unable to express themselves as readily as women and forced to suppress their emotions is extremely confining. Watson goes on to state, "in the UK suicide is the biggest killer of men between 20-49 years of age."

This trend needs to be stopped and

I wholeheartedly think that this center is necessary in decreasing this number by working as a center of research in focus groups to discuss masculinity and the male psyche.

I do believe, however, that there should be a Women's Center and Professor Groth agrees. I hope that some time in the coming years that a Women's Center will also emerge to address the equally important issues that plague female psychology.

When asked for a final note, Professor Groth emphasized that the center was necessary because there will always be men in our lives.

Be it brother, father, lover, or friend, men are going to always be there so it is important to continue to try to understand them. I will end with a final quote from Watson, "both men and women should feel free to be sensitive. Both men and women should feel free to be strong".

Late financial aid packages frustrates students

By OLIVIA GEORGE
Staff Writer

Many students do not have their financial aid packages done and the end of the semester is quickly approaching. Some of these students' accounts are on hold which has prevented them from registering for classes on time and some were unable to get orders for on-campus jobs.

Because students rely on the Financial Aid office for on-campus jobs, as well as financial security and transparency, it is important that the office is organized and clear with students.

According to the Director of Financial Aid, Theresa Weimer, it has been an average year in terms of financial aid packaging, almost the same as last year. The office said that the culprit for packaging delays is a process that is out of Wagner's control: federal verification. This is the process by which the Department of

Education selects certain students to submit additional documents (such as tax returns, proof of income, etc.) to their school's financial aid department in order to receive any federal aid.

About one-third of all FAFSAs are selected for verification each year. More Wagner students got selected for verification this semester, according to Weimer.

The verification process seems to be causing a lot of problems for students. If families are unable to provide certain documents on time, they will not receive any federal aid. To make matters worse, the Department of Education does not disclose the model that it uses to select FAFSAs for verification. More transparency from the government combined with better organization in the financial aid office should greatly improve the issues students are having with their financial aid packages.

But it is likely that federal verification selections are not the main



The bursar's office is located on the first floor of Cunard Hall.

cause of the slow packaging. Several students have reported that the financial aid office is slow to respond to emails and is generally unhelpful with the packaging process.

Meg Hasse, a senior Arts Administration major, describes Wagner's financial aid office as "very irresponsible."

She says the office has "lost various forms and documents I've sent them, which has delayed my financial aid package. I've also been asked for information multiple times that they already have and could easily find in my student file or on my submitted forms. It's unfortunate that the semester is almost over and I still

have no idea what my Financial Aid package will look like as a result of their lack of organization."

Paying for college is stressful enough without incompetency from the financial aid office. In the future, the office should improve both its organization and its accessibility to students.

LIFE & STYLE

3 highlights of the fall semester

Our spring schedules are finalized and final exams are just around the corner. Now that the semester is coming to a close, it's time to reflect on some of the best classes Wagner offered this fall. Three students offer their reviews of special topics classes they are now completing.

By **SHAWN WESTCOTT**
Staff Writer

This fall offered many incredible classes that truly have an effect on students. We got the chance to speak to three students and gain their opinion on the best classes that were offered this semester.

One of the most noteworthy classes was "September 11: Tragedy & Memory" taught by Professor Jenny Pachucki. This history course provides an in depth look at the tragedy of the 9/11 terrorist attacks.

Sophomore Sabrina Stewart, says, "it's a very wonderful class. I personally love the class because it's a huge part of our history that many of us were alive for and soon, most of the kids in high school will be learning about it as a history rather than a tragedy that happened when a lot of us were alive."

Stewart likes how different the course is from other history classes since, "most historical events of this magnitude are distant whereas learning about the tragedy in full detail really helps me connect to a big part of American history."

The course also includes an interactive component with multiple survivors speaking to the class. Sabrina recalls one in particular who was "the only man in his fire-fighting unit to survive." The

course also focuses on a side of the story not typically discussed in more general history classes. Stewart enjoyed learning about, "the terrorists and why they did it and who did it and how al Qaeda came about and what they stand for." While not being offered this Spring, be on the lookout for this course or a similar one next fall.

Another class that has garnered lots of praise among students is Professor Alan Hoffner's sociology course entitled, "Popular Music and Social Change in the 1960's."

The course is described as "An exploration of the relationship between the music that was popular in a particular era in American cultural history and the changes occurring in our society during that time."

Sophomore Arlinda Reyes ranks the class as one of her absolute favorites, saying "Professor Hoffner is the perfect example of a liberal arts teacher. He does not teach from a textbook, he welcomes any conversation."

It is a slightly atypical course, as instead of buying a textbook, students are asked to buy a ticket to the hit Broadway musical, 'Kinky Boots.' On seeing the show, Reyes, says, "Seeing 'Kinky Boots' was amazing."

The show is about accepting people for who they are, but in the 1960s, people weren't very accepting of each other. We now know we

have to accept each other to find peace." In addition to the musical, Hoffner has provided students with opportunities throughout the semester to attend concerts, film premieres, and discussions.

One of Reyes's favorite aspects of the course is the way Hoffner "uses his first-hand experience of the 1960s to make students feel like they are experiencing it themselves." While this particular course is not being offered in the spring, Hoffner is teaching a variety of compelling sociology courses.

Stepping outside of the traditional classroom, dance/movement classes are becoming increasingly popular among students of all majors. Such classes include yoga, ballet, stretching, and dance. Trisha Hirano cites Ballet IV with Professor Rusty Crucio as one of her favorite classes, "because it is a scheduled break in the day where I am physically active and not just sitting in class."

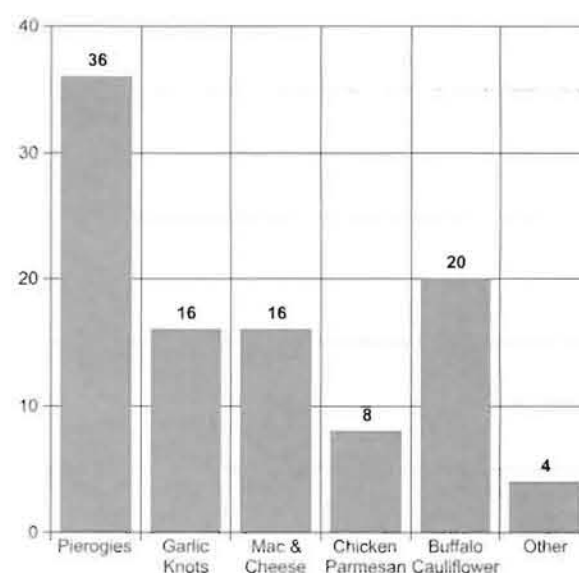
Hirano enjoys being "able to learn about how my muscles and tendons work and how each day they change."

Physical exercise has been linked to a better mood and increased focus. Trisha echoes this, saying, "Due to the amount of focus required to dance I am able to leave additional stress from other classes behind allowing for a better mind-set coming out of the class."



Poll: Favorite food from the dining hall

We asked 50 students to choose their favorite dining hall dishes out of six different options: Pierogies, Mac & Cheese, Garlic Knots, Chicken Parmesan, Buffalo Cauliflower and "Other." Here are the results:



Based on the above results, the favorite dining hall dish of the surveyed students was Pierogies, followed by Buffalo Cauliflower. Garlic Knots and Mac & Cheese came in a tie for the third favorite and Chicken Parmesan followed suit. Two students filled in the option for "other" and results included Turkey Pot Pie and the omelette line. We certainly hope to see all of these dishes for the spring semester.

Reported by Marisa Petrarca



How are students spending winter break?



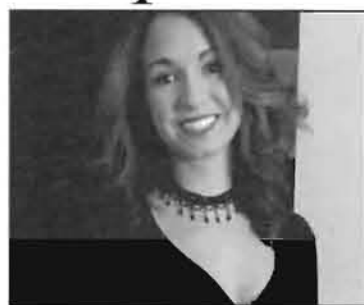
Nada Metwally, Senior

"I've decided this winter break to devote my time to studying for the Comp; an important nursing exam that I must pass to graduate from the nursing program. As a nursing student, my time is limited, and I can't, in good consciousness, waste the whole break without being productive. I want my last semester here at Wagner to be successful so I've decided to be one step ahead. That's not to mean I'm not going to see my friends, or schedule city dates here and there. There's no reason I can't enjoy my break without being productive; but studying for this exam is definitely on top of my list."



Taryn Volpe, Junior

"This winter break I will be attending a 14 day intensive seminar in Washington, D.C., leading up to the Presidential Inauguration. This seminar will focus on the ideas of elevating political discourse among the millennial generation and a peaceful transfer of power. Given the current political climate, these topics are becoming ever so pertinent. This is an exciting opportunity to further my efforts in boosting political education and participation among our generation to eradicate the idea that millennials are apathetic."



Elizabeth Oliver, Junior

"Every year, my family and I take a trip up to my uncle's house in Massachusetts to celebrate the New Year. Every New Year's Day, we wake up early and go down the beach and do our own version of a Polar Plunge. There are about 25-30 of us and we all have to do it, no matter the temperature outside. Everyone looks at us like we're a bunch of crazy people, which we are. After doing this for about five or six years now, we're known on the beach as "those crazy people who jump in the ocean for fun."



Jazmin Diaz, Senior

"I'm so excited to spend this winter break with loved ones who I have not seen in a very long time. My friend Grace goes to the University of Oregon and we have maintained a great friendship since high school. Since she's an artist, I am hoping to bring her to the amazing contemporary art museums in New York throughout the week. After she leaves, my cousin from Mexico is visiting for two weeks and I will be bringing him to New York and Philadelphia. I'm looking forward to our huge family reunions! To end winter break, I will be visiting a friend in Washington D.C and having him show me around!"



Madison Ruff, Senior

"This winter break I am looking forward to splitting my time between California, Connecticut, and New York. I will visit family in the LA area for Christmas, then return to New York to celebrate New Year's with friends, and finally I'll spend a week or so with my parents, who recently moved to Greenwich, CT. I intend to spend a decent amount of time hiking, paddle-boarding, and reading, as well as potentially taking an online math class (it can't all be fun and games), and spending some much-needed quality time with my dog, Lincoln the Labradoodle."

Reported by: Eman Metwally

{ ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT }



'On the street' again

By **MEAGHAN DARWISH**
Entertainment Editor

He's rude, crude and a little bit of a prude, but Billy Eichner is sure to elicit laughter when you tune into his truTV show "Billy on the Street." Set on the streets of NYC, this raucous reality show is a pop culture centric trivia competition where contestants are chosen at random. Essentially, Eichner runs around like a chicken with its head cut off searching for the least aware individuals by shocking them out of their self-absorbed trances. Racing through recognizable locations, it's hard to believe that you wouldn't bump into the mic bearing crazy man during your weekend outings.

Many of the segments involve the comedian asking people pop culture questions most of which require answers based on personal opinion, if the opinion doesn't line up with Eichner's you are pretty much out. Along with many bizarre segments the show often has a celebrity guest star that helps Billy

by running through the streets with him. This season is the show's fifth, and will include guests such as Jon Hamm, Aziz Ansari, Lupita Nyong'o, and the utterly adorable Jacob Tremblay. Past guests include Chris Pratt, Amy Poehler, Tina Fey, Will Ferrell, and Julianne Moore. One of the highlights of the show though is definitely Billy's serial guest Elena, an eccentric older woman who rarely seems to know what's going on.

Eichner is still rather unknown but has a hefty resume. He had a recurring role on the popular NBC show "Parks and Recreation," as Craig Middlebrooks, a man with a taste for wine, and moments of spastic volume. He just reprised his role as the struggling comedian with the same name in a second season of his Hulu original series "Difficult People," with fellow comedian Julie Klausner. Billy is also set to appear in the live airing of "Hairspray Live!" in December. As for his truTV show, the fifth season of "Billy on the Street" will air Nov. 15 at

10:30/9:30c.

So if you are looking for a laugh, or a game show like you've never seen before check it out, and who knows, maybe one day you may just bump into him on the streets of NYC. Until then check out the show, and even some past segments, they'll be sure to brighten your day, Billy wouldn't have it any other way.



Billy strikes his usual pose on the street.

'Tis the season for a tree lighting

The Rockefeller Center Christmas Tree is arguably the most famous Christmas tree in the world. This year's Nordic spruce stands at 94 feet tall and weighs approximately 14 tons. It was donated by Habitat for Humanity, something they have done for ten straight years.

The 84th annual tree lighting ceremony will take place Wednesday, Nov. 30 at 7 p.m. at Rockefeller Center which is where the tree will reside until Jan. 7, 2017. Rockefeller Center is located on 49th St. between Fifth and Sixth Avenues.

The televised broadcast promises to be exciting. It was be the 19th consecutive time the event has been televised and it will be hosted by

Today Show anchors Matt Lauer, Savannah Guthrie, Al Roker, and Natalie Morales. The broadcast will also feature a plethora of holiday-themed performances. Headlining the evening will be Tony Bennett (pre-taped), Garth Brooks, and Dolly Parton. Neil Diamond, Tori Kelly, Sarah McLachlan, Trisha Yearwood, and (who could forget?) the Radio City Rockettes will all be performing. Josh Groban and Jordan Smith will also have performances featured, but theirs will be taped ahead of time.

Admission to the ceremony is free and on a first come first serve basis. Rockefeller Center can be reached by subway via the B, D, F, M, N, Q, R, 1, and 6 trains.

N B C

Reported by Ryan Monaghan



The Radio City Rockettes celebrate the holidays.



COMING SOON! COMING SOON! COMING SOON! COMING SOON! COMING SOON!

Keep an eye out for these films



Disney's "Moana" out 11/23/16



The sequel "Bad Santa 2" out 11/23/16

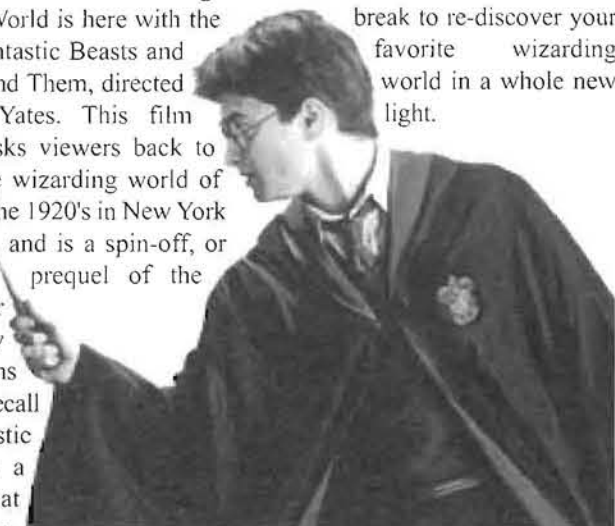
'Fantastic Beasts' welcomes you back to the wizarding world

By **MARISA PETRARCA**
Life & Style Editor

Harry Potter fans, rejoice! The ninth installment of J.K. Rowling's Wizarding World is here with the debut of Fantastic Beasts and Where to Find Them, directed by David Yates. This film whisks viewers back to the wizarding world of the 1920's in New York and is a spin-off, or prequel of the

Harry Potter series. Harry Potter fans most likely recall that Fantastic Beasts was a textbook that wizarding students purchased as a guidebook to

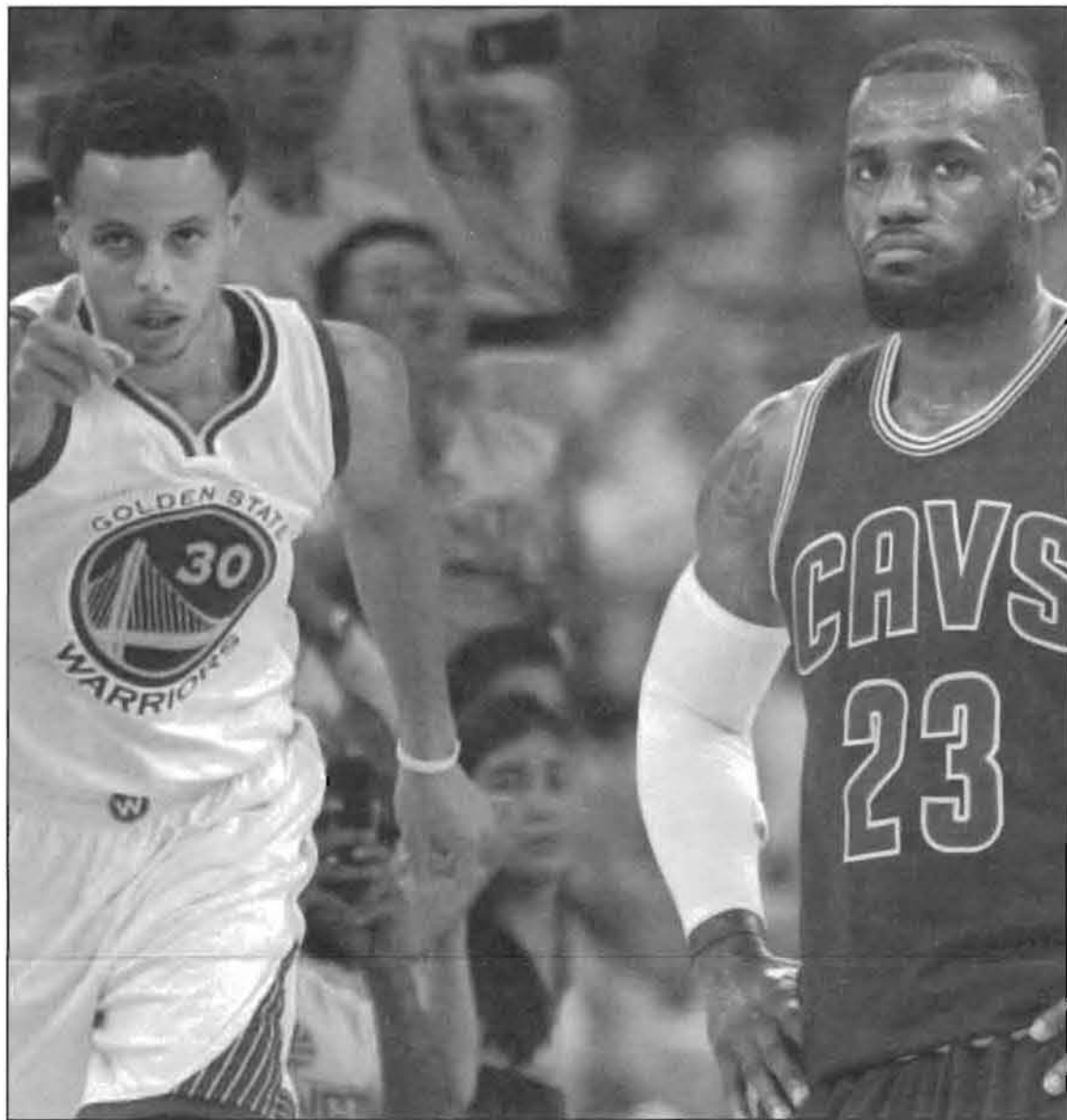
magical creatures. Viewers are introduced to an array of new and unique characters that add a layer of complexity to the Harry Potter films that we know and love. Travel back in time with Fantastic Beasts and Where to Find Them over break to re-discover your favorite wizarding world in a whole new light.



Harry Potter continues to cast a spell on audiences.



SEAHAWK SPORTS



Lebron and Steph Curry will face off on Christmas Day in a rematch of last year's Finals.

Christmas of NBA, NFL games

By **RYAN MONAGHAN**
Sports Editor

Sports fans always have good reason to look forward to Christmas Day. It always features a lot of really competitive basketball games between teams in playoff contention including a rematch of the previous season's NBA Finals. But this year, Christmas Day is on a football Sunday which means sports fans have even more to look forward to before the holiday.

The Celtics and Knicks will kick off the five-game schedule. With big name offseason acquisitions on both sides, these teams came into 2016-17 with higher expectations than last year.

This game will have playoff implications especially in a weak Eastern Conference where these teams could see each other in meaningful games down the road.

The second game of the day will be a rematch of last year's Finals. The Cavs have looked more com-

fortable with each other than they have in years past after their improbable championship title last season. The Warriors acquired Kevin Durant in the offseason after winning 73 games in 2016 but their outlandish expectations have led to subtle disappointment this year. All in all, with that much star power, they are still a Finals contender in 2017.

The Bulls and the Spurs will face off in the third game on the day. Chicago might have lost Derrick Rose, Joakim Noah, and former head coach Tom Thibodeau but they have played well early this season behind new acquisitions Dwyane Wade and Rajon Rondo. San Antonio is without retired superstar Tim Duncan but they have not lost a step this year in the infamous Gregg Popovich system, especially with Kawhi Leonard leading the way on the court.

The fourth game will feature the Timberwolves and the Thunder. Minnesota is a young team with a lot of talent including reigning Rookies of the Year Karl Anthony

Towns (2016) and Andrew Wiggins (2015) while Russell Westbrook has thrived in Oklahoma City early this season without former teammate Kevin Durant.

The final Christmas Day game will be a showdown for LA between the Lakers and Clippers. The Lakers are another young team with a new head coach but they have surprised people this year with their early success. The Clippers are a contender in the Western Conference if they stay healthy which they have failed to do in years past.

The first NFL game on Christmas will feature an AFC North rivalry. The Steelers and the Ravens have both had disappointing seasons in 2016 but whenever these teams meet, the game always tends to have playoff implications, especially late in the season.

The other NFL game that day will be between AFC West rivals Denver and Kansas City. This game will be meaningful for both teams because it will have playoff seeding implications and could be a preview of the AFC Championship.

Welcome back spring sports

Men's Sports

Baseball

Head coach Jim Carone enters his sixth season in 2017 which kicks off at the Mardi Gras Tournament on Feb. 23 when the Seahawks travel to Thibodaux, LA. The team will take on the University of Louisiana-Monroe Warhawks in the opening game.

Women's Sports

Softball

The Seahawks kick off their 2017 season on Mar. 3 in the Elon Tournament against Saint Joseph's University in Elon, North Carolina.

Lacrosse

The Women's Lacrosse team starts their season off on their home territory versus Iona College on Feb. 15, 2017. The 2017 schedule was announced by second year head coach Katie Rowan.

Tennis

After earning their first NEC win in the past the season, this team initiates their Spring journey on Feb. 4, 2017 at Saint Peter's University in Jersey City, New Jersey.

Water Polo

After leading the nation in team GPA for the fifth consecutive year, this Seahawks team approaches the 2017 season optimistically. Their season kicks off on January 28, 2017 at the Arizona State University Invitational in Tempe, Arizona.

Men's & Women's

Track And Field

Indoor

This Seahawks team kicks off the season on Dec. 3, 2016 with Metro Holiday at the Ocean Breeze Park Track & Field Athletic Complex. They will return to this venue in 2017 for the Wagner College Invitational.

Outdoor

The team will start their season on March 18, 2017 at home at Hameline Field. Last season, the team earned an NEC Spring Team Sportsmanship Awards so they approach this upcoming season with excitement and positivity.

Golf

After concluding their Fall season with a semifinal appearance at the La Salle Explorer Match Play Championship, the Seahawks are looking forward to their Spring portion of the season when they will participate in the NCAA Championships on May 16, 2017.

****Teams not mentioned have not yet made their upcoming schedule available.****

Reported by Jenna Zerino

Castles for a cause: ODK Canned Castle

The sound of cans clashing against each other filled Manzulli Board Room on Nov. 15 as 19 organizations filled the room to partake in ODK's annual Canned Castle event. The event collected 471 cans of food for the Staten Island Seaman's Society for Children and Families. Each on campus organization designed a castle using the cans that their members brought with them and the judges of the event were members of the ODK executive board.



The ODK executive board, left to right, senior Vice President Mahmoud Hadhoud, senior Treasurer Avika Sagwal, senior Secretary Rebecca Martin, senior Vice President of Communications Penelope Jungreis and senior President Sourajit Dey.



Sophomore Victoria Babson, junior Jonathan Dontchev, and sophomore Jenna Frisolone are in charge of creating the castle for Habitat for Humanity.



Junior Spencer Byer, senior Jennifer Haug, senior Megan Pulley, senior Amanda Sutherland and sophomore Morgan Kimm represent the Student Professional Association.



Members of the physician assistant program arrange their cans in multi-layered stacks. Pictured above are senior Dardan Bajraktari, junior Jessica Wilm and junior James Napolitano.