

The Wagnerian

Raising awareness at Wagner College since 1934

Wagner College

Thursday, February 14, 2013

Staten Island, N.Y.

Wagner prepares for the snow, students prepare to have fun

By **ALYSSA BROWN**
Co-Editor

The East Coast overprepared for the approaching blizzard last Friday, including Wagner, when forecasters predicted between three to 30 inches of snow. Wagner shut down its campus at 1:00 p.m. Friday, although the blizzard did not live up to its expectations.

The snowstorm, which later became known as Storm Nemo, arrived in New York City at approximately 3:00 p.m. on Friday afternoon, following a day of ice and sleet. Millions across the region rushed to gas stations and grocery stores to stock up before the storm, causing long lines and delays. Many stores and businesses also closed their doors early on Friday.

Wagner reacts

Cancelled activities didn't hinder student's spirits.

Sports teams including men's and women's basketball, track and water polo left campus early to avoid the storm. The swim meet Saturday afternoon was changed to an intersquad meet since their opponent, St. Francis of Pa., couldn't make it here safely. Rehearsals for the Main Stage production of *Rent* were also cancelled for two days due to the snow.



Photo: Wagner College

The Wagner Seahawk mascot makes a snow angel early Saturday morning.

"We were more proactive with preparations for this snowstorm than any other, at least during my time at the college," said Lee Manchester in an email. "With staffing two hurricane evacuations in the last 2 years, and the campus cleanup after Hurricane Sandy last fall, we've gotten our emergency response procedures

down pretty good, and Wagner College staff members responded last weekend to the blizzard warning like the well-coordinated team they are."

Wagner students woke up to a white, snow-covered campus. Streets, stairs, and pathways were shoveled and salted early Saturday to ensure safe walks to the dining hall and

around campus. And, of course, the snow didn't stop students from having a good time, who played in the snow and went sledding during the weekend. Students organized a snowball fight at midnight Friday.

"There were so many people there,

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Salting is hard to keep up with on 105 acre campus

By **DANIELLE LUCCHESI**
Co-Copy Chief

Students fear for their safety when walking around the campus with dangerous and dicey winter conditions. Their question: where's the salt?

According to groundskeeping foreman, Mario Abbatiello, there are five staff members on campus for a majority of the day. But as the weather can sometimes be unpredictable, the staff is called in accordingly.

Senior Heather Siegel comments, "They should definitely have more people in charge of the groundskeeping, more salt could easily decrease the amount of ice on the paths."

Junior Rebecca Siegel agrees, "Clear up snow more regularly; also salt the pathways more often to de-

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Changes spark controversy in the Writing Center



Photo: Justin Astafanous

A new layout is one of the changes implemented in the Writing Center this semester. For story see Page 3.

Wagner and students prepare for the snow

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and Sutter Oval was covered with so much snow that everyone had a good time" said junior Adriana Peri.

While Wagner's campus saw less than a foot of snow, other areas dealt with even more. Boston was slammed with nearly three feet of snow, and other areas in New York and New England saw even higher accumulations.

"My parents back at home in Boston lost power for a few days," said junior Boston native, Cody Morgan. "They were using the kitchen fireplace to make coffee in the mornings."

What's in a name?

Although the name Nemo may remind many of the little clown fish in the Disney film *Finding Nemo*, the name is actually Latin meaning "no one" or "no man." Both humor and controversy followed in the naming of the storm. Social media sites, such as Twitter, made fun of the name with posts like "Fish are friends, not blizzards." Hashtags including #nemo and #wefoundnemo were also very common.

Despite the name, Storm Nemo came and conquered. Luckily, warmer temperatures are ahead, and we may see an early spring according to this year's tradition of Groundhog Day.



Photo: Alexandria Greco

A Wagner groundskeeper salts the pathways around campus after Storm Nemo on Saturday morning.

Salting is hard to keep up with on 105 acre campus

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crease ice build up."

Abbatiello assures the campus that precautions are being taken to make pathways less dangerous.

"We do it [salt] as fast as we can. There is a lot of area to cover in a short time," said Abbatiello noting that they salt the 105-acre campus as soon as possible and re-salt if the ice starts to freeze up again.

Where to begin salting first?

The first priority is for the staff to

salt all campus steps and ramps. Next, they move onto paths and roadways.

On the contrary, some students feel that there are particular areas that need to be focused on.

Rebecca opines that the pathway starting at Spiro Hall heading towards Horrman Library needs to be the first area salted.

Heather has a more general strategy in mind by not focusing on any specific buildings. "I don't think any particular area is more affected than any others," Heather said. "The ice

does tend to build up more on the concrete paths rather than on the grass."

Always take precaution

Abbatiello advises for both students and faculty to exercise extreme caution during "inclement weather."

Heather shares her caution tips, "students could walk in groups and help each other over the dangerous spots. They could also wear shoes that are meant for snowy and icy weather."

Black History Month Events

Thursday, February 21 - Annual Black History Month Read-A-Loud - Noon to 2:00 p.m. - Wagner Union Atrium - To participate in the Read-A-Loud, contact Marissa Hill at marissa.hill@wagner.edu - Sponsored by the Horrman Library and Coterie Book Club

Saturday, February 23 - MLK Youth Empowerment Summit - Noon to 4 p.m. - Spiro 2 - Collaboration between Wagner College and Island Voice

Sunday, February 24 - Celebrate! Soul Food Dinner and Worship Service - 5 p.m. - Gatehouse Lounge - Take part in a tasty soul food dinner and empowering worship service to celebrate Black History Month - Sponsored by Nubian Student Union

Tuesday, February 26 - A Tribute to Black Music - 9 p.m. - Campus Hall Music Performance Center - Sponsored by the Wagner College Music Department

Wednesday, February 27 - Open Mic Night: Education, Celebrate and Action - 9:30 p.m. - Coffeehouse - Perform a Black History Month themed poem, song, rap, dance, etc. Don't enjoy the limelight? Be a supportive audience member! - Sponsored by Nubian Student Union

The Wagnerian

Raising Awareness at Wagner College since 1918

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Photo: Wagner Athletics

Senior Josephine Ieraci



Photo: Josephine Ieraci

Josephine Ieraci diving at Rutgers in 2012.



Photo: Wagner Athletics

Senior Kelly Edmonds

Senior divers make history in Wagner Athletics Department

By ALEXANDRIA GRECO
Co-Editor

Three years in the making, founders Josephine Ieraci and Kelly Edmonds continue to establish the Dive Team with a number one rank in the North Eastern Conference (NEC).

For both seniors, determination and persistence were key in paving the road to a successful program. Wagner Athletics had never featured this sport before Ieraci and Edmonds. "Being the first ones to start this program at Wagner, it's great to look back at the obstacles we've overcome," said Ieraci, "and to continue to watch the program grow."

Everything has a starting point

Wagner alumna Breanne Sweeney had taken part in summer Interclub Swimming and Diving on Staten Island along with Ieraci. Due to the lack of diving points earned by other teams, Wagner's swim team was always set back in the NEC Swimming and Diving Conference.

In the fall of 2009, sophomore Breanne Sweeney spoke to the former swim coach Mark Sowa to organize a dive team, assuring him Ieraci would be the first to commit.

By spring of 2009, Ieraci underwent the process of filling out National Collegiate Athletic

Association (NCAA) paperwork. The athletic department set out to find a graduate assistant coach. First to acquire the two-year position was coach Kelly Mohr.

Meanwhile, an e-mail blast was also sent out in search of students with a gymnast or diving background.

Edmonds, with gymnast training, answered the e-mail securing the second position on the team.

Making it work

Edmonds and Ieraci began practicing as members of the team in September of 2010. Wagner Athletics was unable to secure a pool with diving boards, so the duo stuck to lengthy cardio workouts, despite the meets being just days away.

"Sophomore year we didn't actually get on a diving board till mid October," said Edmonds. "It was hard."

Wagner Athletics eventually paid for the boards at the College of Staten Island (CSI), three days a week: Monday, Wednesday and Friday. They were rotating between a one-meter board and a three-meter board within the time frame of an hour.

As perfecting and "prepping" certain dives requires the availability of both boards for at least two hours, the girls were set at a disadvantage from other schools. Ieraci and Edmonds were the third team to bring divers to the entire NEC in the 2010-

2011 year.

After Ieraci and Edmonds, the dive team began recruiting divers and searching for additional walk-ons.

More structure, more momentum

Head swim coach Collin and graduate assistant dive coach Megan Marco have currently taken over the program.

The team has grown to a solid group of five divers with a more structured workout schedule.

Practices are six days a week for more than an hour a day. The girls still use the boards to practice at CSI.

On the weekends, they travel to St. Francis College, Brooklyn, where they can use the one-meter board and three-meter board at the same time.

Six dives are required by all of the girls: forward, backward, inward, reverse, twist and in and out.

"Diving is more of a mental sport," said Ieraci. Each dive must be perfected and then taken to a higher degree of difficulty, aiming to boost the total earned points in competition.

The dive team has reached its third year as a program and are now ranked number one in the NEC.

"There's always room for improvement, there's always something we can change," said Edmonds. "We look to our coach. I love to see how much it has grown and the potential it has to go even further."

Change sparks controversy in the Writing Center

By ARIJETA LAJKA
Managing Editor

Recent changes implemented in the Writing Center has left Writing Intensive Tutors (WITs) concerned about their work hours.

A new director

Assistant Director of CACE (Center for Academic and Career Engagement) Kath Sanders has replaced the former director of the Writing Center, Mary Zanfini. Administering a writing center is not uncommon to Sanders, as she formerly managed the Writing Center at the University of Maryland, and prior to being hired at Wagner, she was the master tutor at the College of Staten Island Learning Assistance Resource Center.

At Wagner, Sanders dedicates a vast amount of her time to the Writing Center. "My job at the Writing Center is my number one priority," said Sanders.

With years of experience working with writers to improve their skills, Sanders strives to alter the old system that existed at the Writing Center. At the University of Maryland, Sanders made 7,000 writing appointments for students yearly. While Wagner has less than a fraction of those students on campus, Sanders is attempting to incorporate some of those practices.

Sanders has already rearranged the Writing Center, which is located in the Horrmann Library. She also hopes to make it more organized and efficient by having students making appointments. The Writing Center will predominantly be appointment only with only a few "drop-in" hours.

How does this affect the current WITs?

The distinct system has caused discontent among the WITs.

"It's rare for most students to make appointments," noted WIT sophomore Leo Schuchert.

Due to economic reasons, the Writing Center is currently closing

its doors to students at 8 p.m.

A senior WIT wishing to remain anonymous said, "students come in during late nights in the library after 8 p.m., and now will not be able to utilize the Writing Center as a walk-in service."

WITs who worked previous semesters had grown accustomed to working 25-30 hours a month. WITs are now constrained to 20 hours a month. The maximum five hours a week was their minimum last semester.

WIT Katilin Newlin-Wagner said, "I took this job because I was able to take on more hours when I needed to."

Schuchert opines that all WITs should be compensated for the hours they are losing by receiving higher wages.

Tutors also worry that this will cause them to put in additional hours outside of the Writing Center, which they believe may go unaccounted for.

Sanders has a plan

Sanders seeks to satisfy these unused hours. "We are going to be working to fulfill those hours," said Sanders. "I feel confident that everyone will have worked their hours and that the students on Wagner's campus will have received wonderful tutoring services."

Sanders also recently expanded drop-in hours in order to meet the needs of both tutors and students, increasing drop-in hours from two to three hours per week for the WITs.

Although appointments are required, some WITs refuse to deny students in need. "If a student comes to me for my help and doesn't have an appointment, of course I am still going to help him/her," said WIT sophomore Audriana Mekula.

By modifying the structure of the Writing Center, Sanders hopes to benefit tutors in the long run by preparing them for careers outside of the Writing Center. "I want our tutors to professionally advance themselves, students can augment their income by working with the community, there's a need for tutors out there."



Photo: Bryan Grandisier

Did you know?

The Kairos House bells are set to a standard system used by bell towers around the world. The bells ring on the quarter-hour (one ring), half-hour (two rings), three-quarter-hour (three rings) and the hour (one "dong" for the hour it is).

in our opinion...

(where you'll find columns, editorials, letters to the editor, and more.)

notes from a novice

Mandolin Brothers: A music business and true gem on Staten Island



By **STEPHANIE
HINKES**
Opinions Editor

When we come to Wagner, we think about being on the doorstep of one of America's greatest cities. With Manhattan only a ferry ride away, we try to maximize our time seeing all that we can in the Big Apple. However, there are places right here on Staten Island that we often overlook. In my opinion, before boarding the ferry and heading into the city, we should seek out some of the wonders Staten Island keeps hidden.

Whether required to go out to a location on the island for a class trip, or simply looking for something to do, Staten Island might surprise you. When I went out for a class field trip, I was certainly surprised with what I found.

Concealed on a corner along Staten Island's Forest Avenue sits a business that is a true gem. Mandolin Brothers, a for profit music business specializing in vintage and American fretted instruments, has been building a worldwide reputation since 1971.

Owner and president, Stan Jay, has created a business like no other with his company philosophy and pure love for what he does. Although his demographic is not necessarily the neighborhood in which he resides, particularly college students, Stan reaches out to all; whether assisting or selling to higher profile musicians or educating the average Joe, Stan gives every individual that enters the store his undivided attention.

His ability and love for sharing knowledge stems from his foundation as an English professor, teaching on Staten Island. Having a strong background in English and being an educator for a number of years allows Stan to have the perfect set of skills for running a business. He cares more about what he can teach people than what he can sell them and that is what makes him the best in the business.

Stan's desire to share his knowledge and passion for music and vintage instruments allowed him to build a worldwide reputation. Using

internet forums, magazines that focus on guitars, and ads on foreign websites, Stan has clientele reaching from New York to Singapore. He has helped some of the highest profiles in the music industry, including fixing Paul McCartney's base.

It is obvious that Stan adores his job. With the sign above his door carrying over to the motto for his business, Mandolin Brothers is truly a "Dream Fulfillment Center." Stan has created a business that is like no other; it is an engaging, hands-on, educational trip that is entirely worth your time. He wants every person to ask him a million questions because he is ready with a million and one answers.

His devotion is to share his knowledge with his customers, and if they buy, that is great, but if they don't, he is happy with knowing they had a good experience there. He truly believes in the mission he has created: "I make people happy," says Stan, and he certainly seems to do just that.

The combination of Stan's background as an educator, his passion for music, and his company philosophy and mission to make people happy, has created a business that will only continue to bring joy to all its customers.



Photo: Alison Jay

Stan Jay, owner and president of Mandolin Brothers, was happy to educate and engage Wagner students.

From my experience, Stan is an educator first and a businessman second and that has allowed him to create such a successful business. When people walk into the store they do not feel ignored in any way. Stan is sitting there at the door waiting for you to walk in so he can show you around, share his knowledge and help you "fulfill" your dreams.

Although I had to attend Mandolin Brothers for my Not-for-Profit Management course, I challenge you to go out into Staten Island and explore what it has to offer. Sure, the city has thousands of businesses, including music stores, but Mandolin Brothers is special and I am certain Staten Island has more hidden gems just like it.

A critique of Wagner's Learning Community system

Is it time to revise the system that makes Wagner unique?

By **NICHOLAS
WOODMAN**
Wagnerian Staff Writer

As a disclaimer, I just completed my first semester at Wagner. The criticisms presented here are based off of the experiences of my friends and me. I had two wonderful professors who I dearly respect, and as such, I will not identify them by name, nor will I directly reference any specific experiences within these communities. In my opinion, the LC system that Wagner offers needs to be reevaluated and revised.

Wagner has a lot of selling points. We're a small liberal arts college that's close to the city. Our campus is gorgeous, and we sit at the foot of one of Staten Island's wealthiest neighborhoods. We have incredible programs in theater, education, and nursing. Our Division I football team advanced past the first round of the playoffs. And, to top it all off, we offer a unique system of "learning communities" that guide freshmen through their first semester at Wagner.

On paper, these LCs are nicely organized. They are a block of three classes that a group of freshmen (together since Orientation) will take. Two of these classes are from different disciplines. The third class, a reflective tutorial (RFT), ties these two courses together into a multidisciplinary study while focusing on a writing intensive component. This reflective tutorial also has twenty required hours of outside "experiential

learning." This aspect involves field and community service that relate to the reflective tutorial.

The two "single discipline" classes are typical college fare – your experience will depend on the skill of the professor. As such, this aspect of the LC system is perfectly fine. However, things begin to fall apart at the RFT. Although its principles sound great on paper, they are not necessarily effective in practice.

The RFT tries to function as both a multidisciplinary study and a writing intensive course. However, neither of these components are done particularly well. Of the two, the multidisciplinary component is handled better. The courses offered are a fantastic introduction to collegiate research; unfortunately, the subject matter presented is rarely explored to its fullest potential.

The writing intensive component, however, is a mess. Because a significant portion of the RFT is spent on multidisciplinary study, not enough attention is given to the fundamentals of collegiate writing. There is a standard requirement of three papers, but little time is spent preparing for them. Citation guidelines, research databases, and proper grammar are given little class time. As such, many students are thrown off guard by the 8-12 page research paper that finishes the course.

The experiential learning component also looks great on paper, but in reality it is quite disastrous. The community service trips are well-intentioned, but they are often ineffective. Students gain little knowledge or ex-

perience from these trips, and they often leave frustrated and upset. Additionally, many of the learning communities cannot find major-relevant community service. Therefore, they are forced to go on field trips instead. These trips are generally informative; however, Wagner's limited shuttle service and limited budget makes them a logistical pain. For some trips, Wagner students have to find their own transportation to and from the allotted site.

It is easy to discount my argument. After all, I have given no evidence to support my claims. However, as I stated earlier, I have a great deal of respect for the professors within this institution, and I will not slander them. I believe that they are doing their best to adapt to a system that, in many ways, is broken.

Additionally, I am not the only one complaining. Ask any freshmen about their LCs, and more than half of them will restate these flaws. I cannot speak for everyone, as there were many freshmen who, for the most part, enjoyed their LCs; however, a large number were left unsatisfied with their experience.

I am not suggesting that the whole system is broken; rather, I am raising awareness of its flaws in hopes that, one day, they will be fixed. Wagner's LC system is a wonderful idea. I would hate to see so many aspiring young intellectuals left frustrated by its shortcomings. On the contrary, I would love to see a system that better prepares its freshmen for the rigors of their college experience.

Volunteer for the MLK Youth Empowerment Summit

Sat. February 23

Noon to 4 p.m.

Wagner College, Spiro 2

For more information, e-mail History
professor Dr. Lori Weintrob at
lrweintro@wagner.edu

meditations
of a
loquacious
nerd

Raising awareness about Post Traumatic Stress Disorder

By **MISTY ROSSO**
Co-Copy Chief

In the wake of Hurricane Sandy, and now, after Iraq War veteran Eddie Ray Routh allegedly killed Chris Kyle, a Navy Seal, it is essential, in my opinion, to raise awareness for Post Traumatic Stress Disorder. Ex-Marine Routh was suspected of suffering from PTSD and with the tragedies happening all over the country, this mental illness needs to be addressed.

According to the National Institute of Mental Health (NIMH), Post Traumatic Stress Disorder is “an anxiety disorder that some people get after seeing or living through a dangerous event.” It is natural to experience fear in dangerous or threatening situations.

In these situations, the body changes to prepare itself for defense either through what is known as “fight or flight.” This is generally a healthy reaction. However, when you suffer from PTSD, this reaction is altered or damaged. These individuals may feel anxious or scared when they are not in any danger.

Many think about soldiers or veterans upon hearing PTSD, but many others also suffer. People who have survived physical and sexual assault, abuse, accidents, disasters, as well as other serious incidents, suffer from PTSD as well. Death of a loved one or harm inflicted upon a friend or family member can also trigger PTSD.

NIMH states that there are three types of symptoms PTSD can cause. The first type is re-experiencing symptoms via flashbacks,

bad dreams or frightening thoughts. Words, objects and situations can also trigger re-experiencing.

The second type of symptoms someone might experience center around avoidance. An individual might stay away from places, events or objects that remind him of the inciting incident. He might feel emotionally numb or strong guilt, depression or anxiety. Some people suffering from PTSD lose interest in activities they once loved. Some experience difficulty remembering the event.

The third symptom type is hyper arousal symptoms. Essentially, this means the individual is on edge, and can easily be startled or worked up. A person may also have difficulty sleeping, eating or engaging in everyday activities. Hyper arousal symptoms differ from the other two because they are usually constant. They are not brought on by reminders of the traumatic event.

PTSD can be treated via psychotherapy, medications or a combination of the two.

One of my majors is psychology and I interned at a mental health organization last semester that worked with people who suffer from anxiety and depression. Many patients and staff at my internship experienced loss and trauma due to Hurricane Sandy. One patient's house was just demolished. The patient had lived there for 33 years.

I believe that the best way to deal with the mental health issue is to talk about it. If people hear about it and learn about its symptoms, I think more people will seek professional help. If people seek help, situations like the recent sniper could

decrease in frequency.

The Routh-Kyle shooting, in my opinion, also is cause for raising awareness about PTSD. By the time police caught up with Routh he was shirtless, shoeless, crying and smelled of alcohol. He told them, “I’m hurting.”



Photo: huffingtonpost

Eddie Ray Routh claimed he had Post Traumatic Stress Disorder when he was questioned about killing Kyle.

Individuals like Routh need help. He had actually been seeking treatment for his disorder at a psychiatric center, but was released days before he gunned down Kyle and his friend, Chad Littlefield. I don't want to see anyone suffer because of this illness being ignored or untreated. My heart goes out to individuals with the disorder and those who are subject to the effects it has on its victims.

PTSD is an unavoidable mental health disorder, however, there is treatment, and I believe we can improve this issue by raising awareness about it. If you know anyone or think you know someone who suffers from PTSD, try to convince them to seek treatment. Go to www.nimh.nih.gov for more information on PTSD and other mental health issues.

Club attendance falling: Could Skype be the answer?

By **LILAH SOUZA**
Wagnerian Staff Writer

In the three years, that I have been at Wagner College, I have noticed that there are a large number of clubs around the campus for students to get involved with. However, another thing I have noticed is that not too many students have the time or motivation to join any of the clubs.

“All of the school's clubs start at night. I'm a commuter, and so are a lot of my friends. We don't really want to be coming home from Wagner at late hours of the night”, said freshman Jennifer Weile.

In my opinion, as a fellow commuter, I must say that I agree with these statements myself. I remember looking for clubs during my freshman year, but almost all of them either conflicted with my schedule or started at night.

“Some improvements that could be made would be to create more club fairs to keep the newer students informed,” Weile added, “Not everyone knows about all of the clubs.”

The clubs at Wagner should also try to create multiple times for meetings, such as holding them more often than just once a week. That way, even those who can't make it to all of the meetings can get involved.

Another option would be to use Skype to the advantage of the members who can't make all of the meetings, such as using some of the budget to pay for Skype-held meetings.

For instance, the conference call option provides all club members with an opportunity to get caught up

on what's going on if there happens to be a meeting they can't make. More and more students are joining Skype than ever before. There are many students who live in dorms who need Skype to contact friends and family that live far away from Wagner. What if the club leaders used Skype as a means of passing on important information? With Skype, it might be easier for more students to get involved.

So, if the Student Government Association were to find a way to include the use of Skype into the budget, it would be more helpful and convenient for all of the members, even the ones who can't make all of the meetings, but still want to be involved.

A lot of students would also be more interested in a technologically innovative club or organization that communicated through Skype, and would be taken as a sign of progress by some. I, being a Skype user, would openly welcome these types of innovations.

Personally, as a commuter, I believe that the clubs and organizations here at Wagner are not putting themselves out there enough. They need to find more ways to keep the student body informed.

Some suggestions to this have been to hold more club fairs, make use of Skype to keep members informed, and having meetings more than once a week. If we as a student body join together and put all of our efforts into improving the communication style and scheduling of our clubs and organizations, more students will want to join them.

To commute or not to commute: Are commuter students receiving the full college experience?

By **BRIANNA CARIOTI**
Wagnerian Staff Writer

Wagner College enables students the opportunity to experience college life with its many programs and activities. However, some students feel that they are not getting the full college experience as a result of commuting to Wagner.

“I do feel like there are some disadvantages and advantages to being a commuter,” Alexandra Roca says. “As a commuter, I travel every day from my house in Brooklyn to campus by bus. I take the S53 and then I either walk up the hill (it's a great leg workout) or I take the S66 up.”

Wagner College has tried numerous ways of making these students feel at home. Commuters have tried to get more involved on campus by signing up for a few school activities.

However, these clubs and activities are held later on in the evening, which Abeer Mishal says is, “Too late. Most

of them don't start until 9 or 9:30.”

Alexandra says, “I have tried to get involved. I have signed up for some clubs, but was unable to attend the meetings or events because the meetings would occur so late at night and it's not easy for me, as a commuter, to travel back and forth that late.”

Unlike resident students who have the leisure of walking back to their room and going to sleep, commuters still have to travel home every night. Whether they are taking public transportation or driving by car, these students have to commute. Having to leave campus this late in the day limits commuters' options as well as their safety. Mishal's father picks her up from school so he knows that she is safe.

She says, “I would like it if they would e-mail me and say, we did this today,” so she could still be up to date with the activities, even if she missed a meeting one day.

“For now, I just attend classes,” says Roca, “I do want to try to join a

club, maybe in my junior year of college.”

Other than having to attend class, some commuters are not obligated to make the trip out to Wagner for any other reason. But that does not mean that they don't want to be a part of the college and campus experience. Some students adjust their schedules despite their limitations and make it work for them.

Julianne Tszuska gets herself involved by working on campus. In between her classes she works for the IT department. For much of the same reason as Mishal and Roca, Tszuska does not join any of the school's clubs because of the time. She tries to stay on campus for most of the day to avoid making trips back and forth from school and home.

To pass the time during those large gaps in between classes, Wagner has provided commuters with a lounge in the Union, room 227. More freshmen are showing up in the lounge this year compared to last year, yet local soph-

omores still have their interest in the lounge.

“I think it is a great little place,” Roca says. “I haven't been to any of the Commuter Student Association events or meetings because I have been busy with my schoolwork, but during some of my breaks in the previous semesters when there were no seats in the Union, my friend and I would go to the commuter lounge because it is usually empty, and we would sit, talk and catch up. We even watched T.V. once. We felt really awkward, but it was such a nice place to relax before classes.”

Mishal also comes to the lounge to relax and get her work done. She finds the atmosphere to be quiet most of the time. “Being one out of five, I find it easier to concentrate here if I need to get work done.”

Are commuters missing out on more than the after school activities and clubs? Would they prefer to live on campus rather than commute to get to classes? Mishal says, “No. It

would be distracting with friends coming in and out of my room and I wouldn't be able to concentrate on my work.” She doesn't mind getting a ride home or being dropped off at school. “I like being a commuter because at the end of the day I get to go home and eat a home cooked meal, as well as being able to sleep in my own bed every night,” says Roca, Alexandra “Also I love that I don't have to wash my own clothes!”

Tszuska says “the only difference from a resident is not being away from home and not having the chance to be missed.” Otherwise, she does not mind driving home every night.

Many commuters have learned to embrace the college life that being a commuter allows. Although they wish that they could be more involved, their decision to commute has hindered their college experience. However, they seem content with commuting and do not see a reason to change.

LIFE & STYLE



Places to go on Valentine's Day despite your relationship status

be mine, valentine

By KRISTINE FITZPATRICK
Wagnerian Staff Writer

Valentine's Day is the one day of the year that singles hate being single and couples love each other. Being in New York City, there are an array of activities for couples and singles alike to take part in.

For starters, couples can choose any activity they want. One idea is the Valentine's Day Dinner hosted by Hornblower Cruises & Events in the city. It is a romantic dinner cruise and is centered on viewing the city.

For a more adventurous couple, Ripley's Believe it or Not in the Times Square is offering a deal called "BeLOVE It or Not." Tickets are

being sold as buy one get one free for V-day. There is also a Chelsea Piers Valentine's Day. The night begins with bowling while sipping on unlimited beer, wine and soft drinks. There will be hors d'oeuvres as well. After bowling enjoy champagne and dessert aboard an NYC cruise.

Another couples idea is the Make Meaning UES, they will be hosting a heart candle making event on Feb. 13. People of all ages can attend and create their own candles. Each individual chooses decorations, scent, and colors. The cost is \$28 per person. For more information go to heartcandlemakemeaning.eventbrite.com.

For singles there are a variety of fun activities to take your mind off

spending the evening alone. For starters 49 Grove is hosting an "Anti-Valentine's Day Party." This lounge offers everything from bottle service to VIP to regular bar and drinks. Doors open at 6:30 p.m.

Another idea for singles is the NYC Valentine's Day Single Mingle at Mustang Harry's, which starts at 7:30 p.m. The night will consist of ice-breakers, food and drink specials and also prizes all night long! Cover price is \$15. For more information go to weekenddating.com/mustang.

In addition McFadden's Saloon will be hosting a bar crawl. Tickets are \$10 a piece and include entry to 10 bars. For registration details go to barcrawls.com/events/NYCs-Valentines-Day-Bar-Crawl.

Romanistas

A column dedicated to student life abroad



By EMILY REKSTIS & ALEXA SMAIL

In lieu of fashion week, we decided to cover the fabulous everyday style of the Romans.

Just to provide a basic understanding, they are always dressed to the nines. We have not once encountered a pair of Uggs or sweatpants on any of the Italian women. They step out onto the streets like it's their own personal runway.

A common outerwear for people of any age are fur coats. Even younger women love to wear their shorter furs. If not fur, then a classic black peacoat keeps them warm and chic. The younger women typically favor coats in a military style while older women like to have the coat reach down to their knees.

The difficult crooked cobblestone streets don't stop these women from wearing their best heels. Some women just wear a small, thick heel or a pair of casual everyday boots. But a favorite seems to be the simple black stiletto boot. Somehow though, they never seem overdressed. They

pull it all together with oversized sunglasses and bags carried in the utmost sophisticated manner.

As for the men, the fashion here is very different. Although New York men do dress a bit nicer than other typical American men, they stand no chance against the Italians. One of the things we are obsessed with is the men's shoes. They wear these suede-laced shoes in mostly black or grey. They are a perfect combination between dressy and casual without looking too metro. They aren't bulky like a lot of the shoes American men choose.



Photo: Alexa Smail

Via dei Condotti is known for beautiful high-end window displays.

Another common trend among the men are scarfs. Not just scarfs to keep warm, but as an accessory to their



Photo: Alexa Smail

A street view of Via dei Condotti with the Spanish Steps in the background.

outfit. While some do wear the Burberry-type scarfs wrapped tightly around their neck to keep warm, a lot of them wear flowy light scarves to add to a simple shirt and jeans.

What we have taken away from them in the fashion area is that our sweatpants are to remain in the rooms.

Via dei Condotti

Walking down the majestic Spanish Steps is an experience all on its own; however, after exiting this famous site tourists and fashionistas converge onto Via dei Condotti, the most legendary high-end shopping district in Rome. This one street contains some of the world's most renowned designers including Hermès, Armani, Fendi, Gucci and Prada. This street, being one of the oldest in Italy, is just as beautiful as the fashion it surrounds. So, whether you are a window shopping or out to spend some serious cash, a walk through this charming and serene district is a must.

Campus Do's

For students around campus who have an impeccable sense of style.

Marie-Laurence Archambault Senior

Greg Balaes Senior



Striped sweater: Gap \$22.
Utility jacket: France \$30.
Black pants: H&M \$15.
Black boots: Enzo Angiolini \$60. Red scarf: Market-Free-Trade \$16. Black bag: DKNY \$150. Brown leather watch: Fossil \$100.



Hooded long sleeve t-shirt: Buffalo \$40.
Dark jeans: Calvin Klein \$125.
High top shoes: Adidas \$69.
Watch: Movado, gift.

Reported by Arijeta Lajka

Best Front Row Attendee



Photo: fabsugar.com

Reported by Antoinette McCarty

Olivia Palermo looked fabulous while attending the Noon By Noor Show at Mercedes Benz Fashion Week on Feb. 8. Palermo, who is a well-known fashion 'It Girl' did not disappoint in this chic, weather appropriate ensemble. Sitting front row, Palermo paired a soft orange maxi skirt with a sparkly multi-colored sweater and warm fur vest. Her accessories included a smart, boxy black purse with neon pink side panels, black patent leather heeled boots and a skinny black and gold belt. While her outfit and accessories played with textures and colors, she kept her hair and makeup simple and clean, finishing up this outfit effortlessly.

Mercedes-Benz Fashion Week Fall 2013

Top 5 editor's picks from MBFW

Reported by Antoinette McCarty & Alyssa Ahern

DVF



Photo: wwd.com

Diane Von Furstenberg debuted her ready-to-wear collection for Fall 2013 by staying with a color pallet of mostly prints, browns and reds. She also integrated bursts of blues, metallic and stark white and black combos. Her use of textures such as suede, fur, leather and silk gave the show just the right amount of glitz, but also still oozed ease, something Furstenberg has become known for. Keeping hair and makeup simple, save a pop of color for the lip, DVF perfectly captured the glam rock of the 70s.

Jason Wu



Photo: wwd.com

Jason Wu prefers to call his Fall collection "Extreme Femininity" although many will say this translates to extreme sex appeal. Jason Wu had many looks of sheer, sexy cut-out tops and dresses, such as the sheer striped crewneck with marbled bonded wool pants shown above. He showed a bountiful of daywear made up of sophisticated and confident pieces of black, white, red and caramel hues. The finale highlighted a draped peplum look with stovepipe tuxedo pants and several red-carpet gowns.

Zac Posen



Photo: wwd.com

Zac Posen, who is an industry favorite, did not disappoint with his newest RTW collection. Using the grandeur and old world glamour of The Plaza Hotel, in combination with his dramatic and romantic style, Posen created a collection that intrigued the feminine mystique. Posen centered the collection on rich dark tones of burgundy, brown, burnt orange and sapphire blue. All the models sported a dark lip, lightly shadowed eyes and a sultry stare to finish out the look.

Jill Stuart



Photo: ryot.org

Jill Stuart's RTW collection is a charismatic display of fun party frocks. A favorite print and fabric from the collection was an elaborate ribbed raffia used in the creation of skirts and dresses. The use of laser-cut lace and eyelet fabrics falls into the category of the fun, frilly looks. This collection contains many simple and flattering silhouettes that will appeal to a variety of female shapes.

Monique Lhuillier



Photo: wwd.com

Monique Lhuillier's Fall 2013 runway collection was full of future red-carpet pieces made of lace, embellished tulle, and a deco-like embroidery. Jewel tones saturated the runway creating an old romantic ambience. Her inspiration for her exquisite gowns, "... malachite rock..." Don't be fooled by the number of beaded gowns in her collection, each piece took anywhere from 200 to 600 hours of intricate hand work. One look to take away from her collection is the new ankle length, which provides for a clear showing of the shoes.

Seven products to achieve a glowing look this winter

By **ARIJETA LAJKA**
Managing Editor

The Arctic-like conditions outside have students layering on clothing, but are students layering on the moisturizer as well? These past few weeks of harsh winds and freezing temperatures are leaving our skin unusually rough and dry. It is vital that we do not neglect our skin. Moisturizer is an absolute must regardless of your skin type.

CeraVe Moisturizing Lotion

CeraVe moisturizing lotion is one of the best hidden drugstore secret. The hydration is intense and it is suitable for all skin types. Unlike most moisturizers, CeraVe has a matte finish and doesn't leave a shiny, sticky residue. This moisturizer absorbs completely into your skin and flaky or patchy skin disappears immediately. Your skin will stay hydrated so you don't have to keep reapplying throughout the day. It is also safe for acne prone and sensitive skin. Not to mention how reasonable the price is, a 16 oz container will cost you \$15.79. This container will last you well into the summer, which is perfect because this moisturizer doesn't slide off.

Blistex Lip Medex

Heal chapped, blistered lips with



Photo: becomegorgeous.com

Too Faced Perfect Lips Lip Liner lasts all day and all night.

Blistex Lip Medex. Lip Medex instantly provides a cool, tingling sensation to relieve chapped lips. Just one application and lips feel smooth and nourished.

Your lips won't feel sticky nor will it dry out your lips even further. Lip Medex actually heals your lips. You can find this at a local drugstore.

MAKE UP FOR EVER:

HD Invisible Cover Foundation
MAKE UP FOR EVER: HD Invisible Cover Foundation covers all imperfections but still remains natural looking. The formula is rather light and blends well into skin. The formula is perfect for all skin types, it's not too drying, nor is it too oily. It will not cause breakouts and the product

will work well with sensitive skin types. Also a little goes along way, use about one to two pumps and skin looks perfect. Not much product is needed to achieve that full coverage. This product is pricey; however it is well worth the price. If you're going to splurge on a cosmetic product, foundation is the product to spend on; especially if you are prone to breakouts because most foundations tend to clog pores. This product can be found at Sephora.

Bobbi Brown Creamy Concealer

Evidence of late night studying in the library has been showing through our tired eyes. Not anymore, fake a goodnight's sleep with Bobbi Brown's creamy concealer kit. The concealer will make eyes appear brighter and well rested. It is creamy, and glides right onto skin. Most under eye concealers cake up and are severely drying, causing them to crease.



Photo: theglossette.com



Photo: bombayrose.co.uk

Get this before and after look with Benefit's They're Real Mascara, Birchbox beauty professionals swear by it!

However, that is not Bobbi Brown's problem due to the creamy texture. It also comes with a loose powder to set the concealer for hours.

Benefit They're Real Mascara

Achieve doll-like lashes with this precise mascara. The distinct bristles will lengthen lashes and provide intense volume. Lashes are never clumpy and this mascara does not flake. It also comes off easily with water. You can easily layer this mascara in order to achieve a more dramatic look. Perfect from day-to-night. This product can be found at Sephora.

Too Faced Perfect Lips Lip Liner

Enhance the shape of your lips without surgery or those stinging plumping glosses. Too Faced Perfect

Lips Lip Liner lives up to its name. The long lasting, natural looking lip liner can be applied over the lines of your lips in order to make them appear fuller. The liner never appears cakey nor does it feather. Lipstick stays in place all day. The best part is it comes in a variety of colors to compliment all of your different shades of lipstick. This product can be found at Sephora.

Benefit The Poreprofessional

Conceal imperfections and pores with Benefit's Poreprofessional. The formula instantly absorbs into skin making pores disappear. Poreprofessional has a light texture; it can be applied over foundation or bare skin. Just dab a tiny amount on pores and skin will appear flawless. This product can be found at Sephora.



ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT



CSP and SRMT's Spring Semester Line-up

Student-run clubs, CSP and SRMT, announce their first shows of the semester

By **ROSE CAMPBELL**
Wagnerian Staff Writer

This semester holds the opportunity to see a variety of performances. We have the Main Stage and Stage One, but students are contributing to the options this semester. CSP and SRMT come back with another interesting and fun filled year as well.

Senior Cassandra White is directing *Cabaret* for Student-Run Musical Theatre (SRMT). *Cabaret* is set in Berlin in 1931, and focuses on English performer and star of the Kit Kat Klub, Sally Bowles. The Kit Kat Klub is hosted by the enigmatic Emcee. The musical tells the story of Sally's relationship with writer Cliff Bradshaw during the Nazis' rise to power. *Cabaret* boasts

music and lyrics by Kander and Ebb, who also wrote *Chicago*. Audiences will hear famous tunes such as "Maybe This Time," and "Cabaret." These songs were originally performed by the legendary Liza Minnelli, daughter of Judy Garland.

White is excited for the upcoming performance. "I hope to create a very entertaining and moving atmosphere for the audience," she says. "The cast this year is beyond talented—each and every one of them has bright futures in the theatre world. I really want to be able to showcase them and their strengths. *Cabaret* is a fun filled mysterious musical with lots of dancing; it's really like a party on stage. I know that anyone who comes to see it will be amazed!" Tickets are free with a suggested

donation. *Cabaret* will take place on March 21st and 22nd in the Performance Center in Campus Hall.

There is also the chance on campus to see *The Vagina Monologues*, directed by Junior Lisa Tinglum. *The Vagina Monologues* consists of a series of speeches recited by women, for women. The performances cover a range of topics, such as sex, love, menstruation, masturbation, birth, and rape, among others. The play will be collecting donations and raffling off scarves for charity. All proceeds from the show go to Safe Horizon on Staten Island, an organization that helps victims of abuse. Tickets are free with a suggested donation of two dollars. *The Vagina Monologues* will take place in Gatehouse on March 2 and 3 at 9pm.

New form of art advances with the modern times

By **SHELBY RAY**
MARTINO
Wagnerian Staff Writer

When we generally think of art, we envision Da Vinci's *Mona Lisa* or Picasso's *Starry Night*. However, due to advances in technology, art has taken over an entirely new form which would have seemed unfathomable no more than a decade ago. Growing adjacent to technological advances, we are now able to distort, diminish, and enhance reality as an art form. How is that possible? The movement is classified as Augmented Reality. Just as it says, that is what it does; it augments reality. Works of art that have fallen to ruins are now made possible to be seen in the 3rd dimension. Although, AR does not rest with art; there are many different forms of this manipulation.

AR allows time sensitive elements to be reenacted; events such as the chiming of the Glockenspiel, the changing of guards in London, or the illumination of the Eiffel Tower. Holding a Smart Phone up to the monument completes the effort required for the reenactment. The final ability of the App seems to be the grandest. It is able to project a 3rd dimensional image of what the surrounding area appeared like at any point in history. Due to the antiquity of New York, horses hauling carriages would not be an unlikely image. AR has been described as "walking in a history book".

Art works from museums such as the Louvre or the Met occupy



Photo: art21.org

Augmented reality allows a person to see art through the use of modern technology.

nearly 2,000,000 square feet. That seems to be an unrealistic amount of ground to cover, and most are not able to complete the entire museum in one day. However, now AR is able to make this unrealistic task a bit more reasonable with its navigation. AR can direct and show what art pieces are where based on the direction being faced, making it easier for a person to see everything that they want to in any museum that uses AR. It is also capable of giving additional information for the art pieces.

AR goes a step further in its accomplishments as it also takes shopping online to an entirely new level. The creator of AR popup shop for Airwalk, Rosenthal of Goldrun, claims that, "Augmented Reality is going to radically change the shape of commerce." With the help of AR, magazines are now going to contain a recognizable bar code that will catalyze a virtual pop up store. People are going to be able to shop virtually in any environment, which proves to be quite economical for com-

mercial real estate. This specific aspect of AR seeks a quick growth once it reaches the masses.

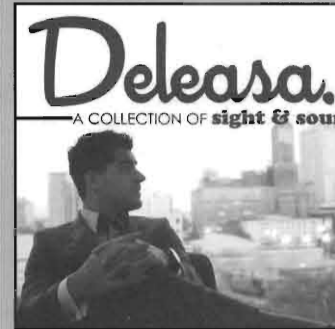
Many can only travel as far as their dreams take them; however, with AR that can dream can come to life, virtually speaking of course. AR strives to recreate the Leaning Tower of Pisa or the Great Wall of China as near as in your backyard, although, nothing can truly compare to the tangibility of such icons. There has been nothing like this and it proves to be very helpful in the classroom. The virtual exploration is even picture friendly!

AR is even useful in safety related situations, in that it is able to give first responders a preface of the scene they are about to arrive at which will make their job easier and quicker.

Another use of AR will consist of item arrangement in your home, in which you will be able to create a scenario where you can see how a possible purchase will look and fit in a home. That way it is not a shock it won't fit through the door after it is already paid for.

It is very exciting to see the direction technology is taking us in. As the technology in our environment continues to advance, now so does our art. AR appears to be a very momentous movement that will be beneficial to many. The MOMA recently had an augmented art exhibit in October, which featured a preview to what we will all be seeing in art galleries in the near future. To find out more about augmented art, go to thecreatorsproject.com.

Listen Up!



Deleasa- *A Collection of Sight and Sound- Vol. 1- EP*
Label: Deleasa
Release Date: December 2012

Featuring Mikey Deleasa, brother-in-law of Kevin Jonas of famous boy band the Jonas Brothers, Deleasa is sure to impress those looking for that album with a catchy style. "A Collection of Sight and

Sound" is just a hint of what's to come for this upcoming pop group. Hits like "Discount Paradise" and "Alright With Me" have a rhythm and beat that is sure to get you in the mood for summer. "Private Place" and "It's Too Late" prove that Deleasa can sing at any tempo whether it is slow or upbeat. This upcoming March Deleasa will be opening for pop band Honor Society during their Serendipity Tour at a number of locations across the east coast including New Jersey and Massachusetts. You can also watch Mikey Deleasa this spring on the second season of "Married to Jonas" on E! as he experiences what it's like being related to a teen pop sensation.

You'll love it if you like: Jonas Brothers, One Direction, and Parachute

-Hayley Semo

Don't Forget!

Remember to support your fellow students in these great upcoming performances this semester:

Main Stage

RENT Feb. 27 - March 10

Guys & Dolls April 24 - May 5

Stage One

Five Women Wearing the Same Dress
March 5 - 10

The Dance Project April 30 -May 5

CSP

The Vagina Monologues will take place in Gatehouse on March 2nd and 3rd at 9pm.

SRMT

Cabaret will take place on March 21 and 22 in the MPC of Campus Hall.

Choir Performances

8th annual "Tribute to Black Music" Concert
— Feb. 26 at 9 p.m. in the Campus Hall Performance Center.

Choir Home Concert — March 24 at 4 p.m.
Trinity Lutheran Church, 309 St. Paul's Avenue, Stapleton, Staten Island.

'Fiorello!' makes its comeback debut in NYC

Encore! revives "Fiorello" for a New York City performance

By **JORDAN BUNSHAFT**
Wagnerian Staff Writer

Since the first presenting of the award in 1949, there has only ever been one tie for the Tony Award for Best Musical. In 1960, *Fiorello!* tied with *The Sound of Music* and beat what is considered by many the greatest musical ever written, *Gypsy*. All three were bi-musicals of sorts; one about a mayor, one about a nun and one about a stripper. Most theatre lovers have an opinion on the quality of *The Sound of Music* and *Gypsy* but *Fiorello!* is not nearly as well known or as frequently performed. Yet, at the time, it was so well received that in addition to the unprecedented Tony win, it was also named the third musical, (out of only eight ever) to win the Pulitzer Prize for Drama. So why has *Fiorello!* fallen out of the general audience consciousness and is it worth another look? City Centers' Encores! program attempts to answer these questions with their recent week long concert revival.

Fiorello! is based on the early political career of famed New York mayor, Fiorello H. LaGuardia. The score, written by Jerry Bock and Sheldon Harnick (*Fiddler on the Roof*, *She Loves Me*), is tuneful, varied and clever. Perhaps the show's strongest asset. The book, by the legendary director George Abbott and Jerome Weidman (at least a presented in adapted concert form), in contrast does not hold up well. Many attain this failure to how the title character is portrayed. The audience knows

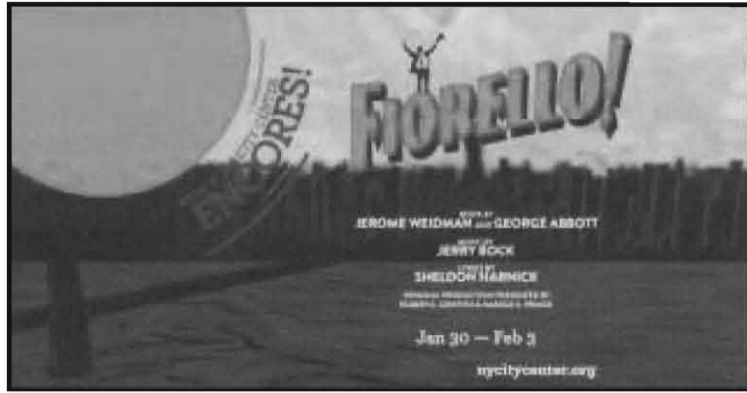


Photo: yting.com

Fiorello! entertains fans with its amazing new rendition performed by *Encore!* programs.

merely that he is a noble, hard-working, honest man from being told this repeatedly by the other characters. He is shown doing some positive if unspecific things occasionally to back up these claims but he still remains a one dimensional hero. The audience never gets to know the real LaGuardia, leaving a fractional error in the story line.

Tom Bosley of *Happy Days* fame, won a Tony for originating the role, and his charisma is apparent on the cast recording and in a filmed Tony performance. Danny Rutigliano, in contrast, does his best, but is not a terribly magnetic presence and in the precious few moments of honest emotion afforded to the character by the authors fails to connect. Another fault of the material is that it relies too much on the audience knowing the history, an assumption not unreasonable when it was written, but frustrating today. The show spans a number of years, yet doesn't especially tackle one event with great definition or tie the events together with a consistent theme. Due to this the intentions of the

plot get muddy. In contrast, *Gypsy* does a much better job of picking just the right events over a span of decades to tell the story.

Qualms with some of the writing aside, the play is highly enjoyable. The rest of the cast was strong, with standout performances coming from Erin Dilly, Shuler Hensely, Adam Heller and the adorable Jenn Gambatese. The concert was well staged by Gary Griffin, and a number of period-flavored dances by Alex Sanchez were great fun. The highlight was hearing the terrific score played by a full orchestra, just one of the many gifts given to New York musical theatre lovers by the *Encores!* program.

Encores!'s dedication to the preservation of musical theatre history is a truly special thing. By presenting three yearly concert versions of shows which have fallen out of popularity or are no longer commercially viable entities, they are helping to keep the shows alive. Be sure to check out their productions of *It's A Bird...It's A Plane...It's Superman* and *On Your Toes* later this year.

The Academy announces the Oscar nominees

By **LILAH SOUZA**
Wagnerian Staff Writer

It's almost that time of the year again! Time for what, you ask? The Oscars! The 85th annual Oscar Academy Awards nominees have been announced! It's certainly no surprise that the nominees for "Best Picture" were big-screen hits. At this year's awards, director Steven Spielberg's historical drama *Lincoln* earned a leading 12 nominations, followed by Ang Lee's dream-like fantasy adventure story, *Life of Pi* with 11; while the age-old musical classic, *Les Misérables*, directed by Tom Hooper, and David O. Russell's *Silver Linings Playbook* tied with 8 nods each.

Silver Linings Playbook star Bradley Cooper, Denzel Washington for his performance in *Flight*, and Hugh Jackman from *Les Misérables* were all nominated for "Best Actor in a Leading Role". In

a controversial turn of events, Ben Affleck, who had a hefty winning streak at the Golden Globes, did not get a Best Actor nomination, nor was he nominated in the Director's category.

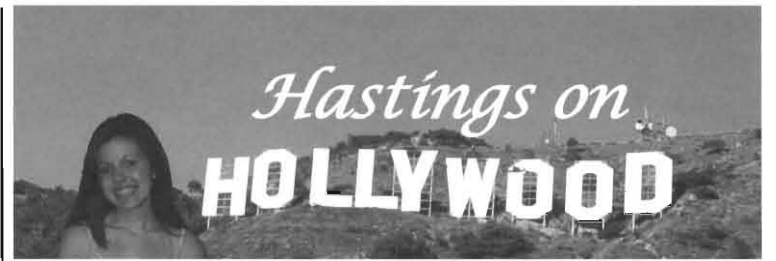
For Best Actress in a Leading Role, those nominated were Jessica Chastain in *Zero Dark Thirty*, Jennifer Lawrence in *Silver Linings Playbook*, Emmanuelle Riva in *Amour*, and Naomi Watts in *The Impossible*.

There was also the nomination of Best Actor in a Supporting Role for Robert De Niro for his performance in *Silver Linings Playbook*. The other nominees in that category include Alan Arkin in *Argo*, Philip Seymour Hoffman in *The Master*, Tommy Lee Jones in *Lincoln*, and Christopher Waltz in *Django Unchained*.

The Oscars is the ultimate recognition not just for those great names on the big screen, but for the countless other artists, writers, directors, designers working be-

hind-the-scenes, who put their lives, families, even their privacy on the line for this shiny golden statue. This award show, for them, for the art industry, is a big step in making themselves and their hard work recognized and appreciated. Although there is a specific system to these nominations, taste should be left to the viewers. From someone in the art industry, it's always a pleasure to celebrate the people who create these films, the great names of our generation, who had to wait very long for the chance at recognition, the chance to make their families and friends proud with their amazing talent.

It may not be your cup of tea, but if the whim ever strikes you, the Oscars starts Sunday, February 24th, starting at 7pm on the ABC channel. Grab a friend or two! Let's get ready to celebrate another year of artistic greatness!



All you need to know about the latest celebrity gossip!

Beyonce amazes fans at the Super Bowl; Bieber and Gomez reunite

By **AMANDA HASTINGS**
Wagnerian Staff Writer

Beyonce Knowles knows how to make a comeback! Back in January, the singer performed live at the 2013 Presidential inauguration of **Barack Obama**. It was later rumored that she was lip-syncing during this significant performance. Many fans don't understand why because she is very talented and didn't need any help. While **Jay Z**'s wife later confirmed the accusations, she feels that there was no harm done and wanted to prove she could do it au-natural... and she did!

At the 2013 Super Bowl on Feb. 3, Beyonce took the stage during the Halftime show and rocked it! Performing live in front of over 75,000 people and with millions watching on the TV, **Ivy Blue's** mom stole the show. Beyonce sang a number of songs including *Crazy in Love*, which she was originally supposed to sing with her husband. The plans were changed last minute because Jay Z wanted B to have her special night solo. Finally, the moment that fans have been waiting for finally arrived. Beyonce was reunited onstage for the first time since 2007 with her *Destiny's Child* band mates **Michelle Williams** and **Kelly Rowland**. Beyonce's performance received many positive reviews and was said to be so good, she blew the lights out... literally!

Are **Justin Bieber** and **Selena Gomez** back on?! On Feb. 2, Gomez was seen leaving Bieber's L.A. home after an overnight stay. This is the first time that the duo has been publicly linked in over a month. The last time the on-again, off-again couple was spotted together was back in January when they got in a heated argument in Puerto Vallarta, Mexico, which ultimately ended the relationship.

Rumor has it that it was happy visit due to the fact that she was escorted to and from the *Boyfriend* singer's home by one of his bodyguards! A source says that she was given extra special treatment, as Bieber has been trying to win her back for quite some time. While the pop star has girls around the world throwing themselves at him, he only has eyes for the actress.

Throughout the young Hollywood couple's time apart, the two have been handling their personal lives differently. After the split, the Disney star has been living the life with her friends and having a good time, while the 18 year old singer has been hard at work trying to win back his love. He released his newest album *Believe Acoustic*, which many confirm is a way to



Photo: billboard.com

Destiny's Child joins this year's Super Bowl show.

talk to Selena in hopes that she will want to reunite with him.

It seems that the two connect with their music, as The Spring Breakers singer/actress sung Justin Timberlake's song *Cry me a River* shortly after the breakup. A source close to Selena explains those are her feelings towards Bieber.

The one time couple has been a fan favorite since 2011, when they finally confirmed to the world that they were dating. Do you think that if in fact they do reunite, their relationship will survive?

Last year ended leaving actress **Amanda Bynes** with two DUIs and two separate hit and run charges. While paying off the victims of the car crashes has gotten her off the hook, she is still faced with the DUI charges that could land her in jail. With all the drama, the former child star now has eviction to add to the list of her sudden spiral out control.

On Feb. 1, Bynes, who has recently been compared to troubled starlet **Lindsay Lohan**, moved out of her New York City apartment after being shown the door. Manager of the 26 year old's previous home claims that the star, who recently retired from acting after filming 2010's *Easy A*, was continuously asked not to smoke marijuana in the non-smoking environment. Disobeying the constant requests and smoking on daily basis has left the apartment to reek of pot, which infuriated the owners, leaving her with no home.

Instead of fighting off the eviction charges, the *She's the Man* star moved out and is now living in an uptown hotel in Manhattan. Once noting that she is a "retired actress, millionaire," sources say she thinks she is entitled to special treatment. Bynes' parents are so scared for what is in store for their daughter that they have moved into the room next door to her to ensure that she stays out of trouble.

Can the *What I Like About You* star receive a clean slate like actress **Drew Barrymore** or is she another Lindsay Lohan in the making? Stay tuned for more Hastings on Hollywood because Hollywood never sleeps!

SEAHAWK SPORTS

What happened to The Nest?

By MALLORY LEE
Wagnerian Staff Writer

Think of every successful team, collegiate or professional, and you will realize they had a passionate following. Roaring, chanting, cheering, these fans could never get enough of the players they loved. Sometimes love came in the form of an entire stadium waving rally towels or the sound of thousands of thundersticks, yet the basis for their adoration was always rooted in allegiance and loyalty for their team.

Yet, how do you explain that a team, who beat nationally ranked Pitt last year, has their student attendance plummeting? The Wagner Seahawk Men's Basketball team averages 162 students per game, a significant drop from the 203 averaged students who attended games in last year's 2011-2012 season.

Perhaps the reason for the decline of student involvement is due to Wagner's record. In a thrilling season that captivated a school and a community, the Seahawks were 15-3 in conference play last year, concluding their season in second place. This year, they have battled, ultimately landing them a 7-4 conference record, while clinging onto third place.

But if the Seahawk's record was the determining factor behind a decline in attendance, then why has the total number of people present at Spiro Sports Center on game nights increased from last year? While last year's general admission averaged



Photo: Amanda Chidekel

Rivers goes for a dunk as only an average of 162 students watch, down from an average of 203 students last season.

808 people a night, it has since spiked to 877 this year.

Senior cheerleading captain, Laura Tetley, has noticed that there has been a decline in support from the students: "Our job is to pump up the crowd and it's hard to get students engaged when families, especially with young children, are intermixed with rowdy students. It's a buzz kill."

Voiced by Tetley but echoed by many is the complaint that there is no longer a section designated specifically for students. Often, families with young children intermingle with students, particularly in the bleachers closest to the entrance. While families with children are often upset by

the heckling that takes place here, students too feel the need to tame themselves in order to appease frustrated adults, thus creating an uncomfortable situation for both parties.

The energy that consumed last year's season seems to have diminished and the players have noticed. Sophomore guard, Marcus Burton, admitted he plays better when the students are engaged: "I feed off the crowd, we all do. Last year there was more energy; there was a lot more from the student section."

Senior Jonathon Williams agreed that he misses things about last year and when asked if he misses the Dan Hurley head, he grinned and nodded, even dancing a little.

Ticket Manager and Marketing Coordinator, Whitney Jones, noted that many students, if they come, are arriving late to the game, therefore giving away their zone: "We want you to have a student section, come early and it's guaranteed, but we can't turn down paying customers who need seats".

Assistant Athletic Director for Marketing and Promotions, Mike Miller, reverberated Jones, "You're not going to have a student section if you show up late. That's all there is to it."

So, it's simple. Come a few minutes earlier, bring your friends along and get into the game. Maybe then Williams will dance for all of us.

Runner breaks record twice in two years

By GRACE ZHANG
Wagnerian Staff Writer

Sophomore Kelly Pereira, from Howell, NJ, already has an impressive resume for her Wagner track career. She broke the 800 meter school record of 2:17.48 at the Metropolitan Championships in New York City on January 25 with a time of 2:17.41. What's even more impressive is Pereira actually broke the 800meter record last year at the NEC Championships with a time of 2:15.97, but it was never put in the record books.

Pereira first started her track career in high school as a 400 meter runner. It wasn't until her junior year when her high school track coach recognized her potential and tried her out in the 800. In high school, she earned four varsity letters in track & field at Freehold Township High. While there, she helped the Patriots to the Monmouth County and A North Division Championship. Individually, Pereira won the District, Monmouth County, Shore Conference and State Sectional Championships as a high school student, as well as the Freehold Township High School Athlete of the Year as a senior.

She has come a long way since then, shaving off more than 14 seconds off her personal record. "I came in and was so determined to do well, but I didn't realize that I would do as



Photo: Charlie Covell

Pereira broke the school record at the NEC Championship last year, where she was also named to the all-NEC second team.

good as that," said Pereira. On her record performance last February, she shared, "I wasn't really paying attention to that, and was more happy that I placed third."

Pereira holds both the indoor and outdoor school records and the indoor 600 meter record, all of which she had broken in her freshman year. In the future, she wants to major in psychology and work for children hospitals. However, running will always be part of her life, "I'll definitely weave myself into running," said Pereira, who hopes to run a half marathon after graduation.

Athletes set new goal to collect 50 tons of food

By AUDRIANA MEKULA
Sports Editor

On Wednesday Jan. 30, a Wagner Athletics press conference announced that the college, along with partners Shop Rite Markets of Staten Island and the Staten Island Advance, had collected 25 tons of non-perishable food to stock the shelves of Project Hospitality's food pantry, a goal announced last summer.

Also at this press conference, the partners announced a new goal for 2013: to collect 50 tons of food for Project Hospitality, JCC Food Bank, Stapleton UAME Church, Stapleton Salvation Army, and Meals on Wheels.

At the press conference, Kevin Mannix, the owner and operator of the Shoprites on Staten Island, thanked the Wagner community for their generosity, especially in the wake of Hurricane Sandy. "Fighting



Photo: Staten Island Advance

Athletes pose with cans of corn in their hands in honor of the setting of a new goal: 50 tons of food by 2014.

the battle of hunger did not go away on December 31st." He also congratulated the football team on a successful season and demanded that they rise again to the new challenge, leaving the crowd with, "what can we do for the community of Staten Island that we so greatly cherish?"

President Richard Guarasci also spoke at the press conference, con-

gratulating all the students involved. "The students showed here that they have a commitment to something larger than themselves." Coach Walt Hameline also spoke, saying that he cannot remember the number of students he talked to about what they did to help the community around them and how good it felt. He ended enthusiastically by saying, "let's keep it going and let's finish."

Many Wagner athletes also attended the press conference. Redshirt freshman DaeVonte Barnett commented that it, "feels good to give back to this community." Sophomore Phil Faccione stated that the challenge is, "helping me grow as a person on and off the field." Sophomore Kevin Mess also agreed with Faccione, saying that, "helping people in need becomes a school-wide effort."

Donation boxes will be located in the Spiro Sports Center, ShopRites on the Staten Island, and the main office of the Staten Island Advance.

Crowd Seats is the new StubHub

By AUDRIANA MEKULA
Sports Editor

Move over, Groupon. Crowd Seats is here to stay and has slowly gained popularity among sports fans everywhere.

Crowd Seats is a daily deals website that focuses solely on advertising and promoting sports tickets through social media and email. The website's founder Justin Cener modeled the site after both Groupon and Living Social, but instead of promoting random activities, his site focuses on sports. The site currently operates in Los Angeles, New York, Boston, Chicago, Philadelphia, Denver, Washington DC, Miami, Phoenix, Minnesota and San Francisco.

The discounts on the tickets are similar to what one would see when rushing Broadway tickets. The dis-

counts can reach up to 90 percent off, but usually hover around 40 or 50 percent discounts. For example, currently a mid-section ticket for the Twins at Yankees game in April runs at 96 dollars. Very few, if any, of the seats are located in the nosebleed sections.

Ticket offers can be found for the MLB, as well as the NFL, NHL, MLS, and NCAA.

Cener is a graduate from Rutgers who began his small business in LA last June. He receives tickets on consignments from brokers and takes 25 percent of the incoming sales, as well as from a few of the teams. He advertises his business through social media campaigns on Facebook, as well as word of mouth.

As we reach the middle of the basketball season as well as the beginning of both hockey and baseball, visit www.crowdseats.com to purchase tickets.

Seahawks continue five-game win streak



Photo: Amanda Chidekel

Seahawk player goes up for a layup surrounded by four Mountaineers in a 74-65 victory on Wednesday night.

By **COURTNEY DUNN**
Wagnerian Staff Writer

The Seahawks won their fifth-straight game against Mt. St. Mary's on Feb. 6 with a final score of 74-65. This victory brings Wagner to 13-9 and 7-4 in the NEC while the Mount falls behind to 9-13 and 4-7.

Rashad Whack opened the game with a swift three pointer, but Wagner retaliated with six consecutive points, putting them in a lead that did not falter for the rest of the game.

Only five short minutes into the first half, the Seahawks were at an impressive 8-7 lead. Junior Latif Rivers is to thank for the first 11 points scored, including one off-balance layup. After a faulty play from the Mount, Rivers hit a pair from the line, which junior, Kenneth Ortiz followed with a layup. Sophomore, Dwaun Anderson, scored a three-pointer right before Ortiz capped the

run with a layup, bringing the score to 19-7 with 10:43 left until halftime.

The Mountaineers cut the deficit to six on five different occasions, but Green and White refused to give up their lead. At 30-24, the visitors had the defensive opportunity to score, but senior Seahawk, Josh Thompson intercepted Josh Castellanos' pass, bringing it in the opposite direction for a strong-willed dunk.

Sophomore Mario Moody never fails to add some excitement to the game, and this was no exception. He came in to block a shot and finished up on the offensive with an unstoppable dunk off of a pass from teammate Ortiz. With a fast break layup, Anderson extended the lead back out to 12. The Mountaineers scored a pair from the line, but was upstaged by Moody's second big dunk of the game, which brought the score to a 38-26 halftime lead.

"The team played with tremendous

energy. The last game, we needed some lift from the players on the bench because there wasn't that much of a spark. But this game there was a great contribution from every player that played," says Moody after the win. With such a big contribution the impressive final score, Moody certainly should be proud of the team effort.

The Mount opened up the second half with a 9-3 run, minimizing the gap in the score to 41-35 with 16:24 left to play. However, they couldn't keep it up for long, as Moody brought the lead back out to nine with a three-point play. Through some failed attempts at pair or triple tries and layups, Wagner's bar remained high. The Mountaineers would trim the Seahawk lead to five at 70-65 with a late triple, but it was no great gain, as Williams and Thompson each hit a pair from the line to provide the final 74-65 score.

NBA All-Star Game

Keep your eyes open for the February 17th game.



West Starters:

- Kevin Durant
- Dwight Howard
- Blake Griffin
- Kobe Bryant
- Chris Paul

East Starters:

- LeBron James
- Carmelo Anthony
- Kevin Garnett
- Dwayne Wade
- Rajon Rondo

A day in the life of Latif Rivers

By **AMANDA CHIDEKEL**
Wagnerian Staff Writer

If you plan on asking Wagner basketball player Latif Rivers on a date, you had better be patient and timely. The man is quite the challenge when it comes to getting a hold of him. But it's worth the wait.

When I finally meet Rivers, it's Saturday night after the team's loss to Quinnipiac. Admittedly, their loss leaves me anxious that he'll be in a bad mood. I expect to be met by a 6'1" mountain of sass and diva behavior, but I couldn't have been more wrong. Rivers is the cliché: a gentle giant. Not once does he swear and his voice never rises above a calm tone. He's soft-spoken, well-mannered and despite hating to lose, he doesn't let me in on it. When I ask him to describe himself in three words, he shyly contemplates his answer before saying, "determined, humble and charismatic." He lives up to every word. Latif plans on graduating early saying, "it's always just been a goal" and unfortunately for fans it looks like the junior will be able to achieve this goal.

I ask if he plans on going pro, "yeah definitely, that's the ultimate goal." With such a passion for the sport comes a lot of labor, "on a daily basis, with school and everything, I probably do like six hours training." It's a hefty amount of time but Latif puts in extra time on court to stay in tip-top condition. He explains to me that nerves don't really taunt him "I practice so much that when it's time for a game I'm more anxious than nervous."

If you've been to a basketball game, you have seen the avid Seahawk fans with their ridiculing posters and slogans for the other team. Rivers tells me he doesn't take notice and surprisingly he prefers away games, "I like away games. The crowd talks to us and find out things about us...it's motivation" and when faced with slick comments from the opposing team's fans he says, "I channel my anger in the game." Latif diplomatically replies, "that's their job." Although he is focused during the game, he does notice the enthusiastic Seahawk fans, "The past few games they've been really into it. We need more of that."

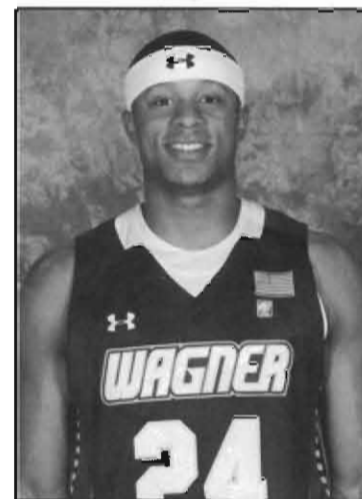


Photo: Wagner Athletics

Number 24 is a hardworking guard from New Jersey.

Rivers' schedule is anything but lazy. Just hearing about all the training is exhausting. You'd assume that with so much on his plate he would love to get rid of certain drills, but there is no mention of sweat stimulating regimes.

Rarely do you see a basketball player wandering about without a fellow basketball player. "We are like brothers" he tells me. Like any systematic family, you have certain roles to be filled, "we got a few goof balls on the team. Eric Fanning is one of the funniest people I have ever met. Then we have Mario Moody, he's a jokester, too."

When asked if there is ever any tension between them, he says, "like any siblings would, we have our fall outs, but at the end of the day we are family."

It is rare to see an athlete without sweatpants on. However, fashion is an interest to him, and he enjoys dressing up. "Yeah, when I go out I like to dress nicely." He hesitates before adding, "I've been told I dress nicely."

Despite his hectic schedule, Latif finds time for fun. "I'm pretty laid back to be honest. I like hanging out with my family." Latif's family only lives a 15-minute drive from the college. Although close by he says, "I don't go home a lot but when I do it is always good." Other than that, you can find him in the city or relaxing with his friend's on campus on a Saturday night. If to prove even more his devotion to basketball, when questioned more about his social life, Latif replies, "basketball is my girlfriend."

Athletes of the Month



TRACK AND FIELD
JAMES NAGLIERI

BASKETBALL
JORDYN PECK



WAGNER FOUND NEMO



Photo: Brandon Catapane

Juniors Brandon Catapane and Alexandria Magriples say "playing in the snow is still cool in college."



Photo: Allison Cooper

Sophmores Allison Cooper and Heather Wolf tell Storm Nemo to "Bring it" as they face the storm to snap a photo.



Photo: Lauren Russell

Freshman Alyssa Jenkins throws her arms in the air as Nemo hits campus Friday night.



Photo: Alyssa Willard

Freshman Alyssa Willard and Emma Konieczny "work with what they got" so clean the car off to get out of the parking lot.



Photo: Katelyn Leyva

Freshman Allie Lopiccolo, Jenny Loh, Katherine Bran, Anne-Marie Studzinski, Katelyn Leyva, and Kelly Cooleen take a break from sledding down the Harbor View hill to get a group picture.