

The Wagnerian

Raising awareness at Wagner College since 1934

Wagner College

Thursday, February 27, 2014

Staten Island, N.Y.

Basketball reaches for the top

By GRACE ZHANG
Opinions Assistant Editor

Wagner's men's and women's basketball, with their goals set on the playoffs, have been on a winning streak.

With their game against Bryant University, seniors Naofall Folahan, Kenneth Ortiz, Orlando Parker, and Latif Rivers broke the school record for most wins by a class. They're currently at 71 wins.

Folahan reflected, "Four summers ago, we came here and were expected to win, but we never expected to win as much as we did. I feel great about us."

On a five game winning streak, the Seahawks are currently tied for second with Bryant. Robert Morris University sits in first, narrowly ahead by one game.

Monday, the men's team pulled away with a close upset against Fairleigh Dickinson University. With 24.3 left to play, senior guard, Latif Rivers, gives Wagner a one point. Both teams were on the line with 8 seconds left. FDU missed free throws gave sophomore guard, Dwaun Anderson, the opportunity to pull away with 2 free throws, ending the game at 67-64.

The men return Thursday to play Saint Francis University. With the playoffs in their sights, the men are working harder than ever to end this season with a championship title.

"We're a talented team and we understand it's all about the chemistry.



Photo: Staten Island Advance

Redshirt sophomore Ugo Nwaigwe waits for a pass.

Everybody needs to know what to do. We know we can do it." Folahan added, "We have to work for it every time, so we go to practice and work until we're perfect."

On the women's side, the Seahawks had a three game winning streak before coming short against Long Island University last Saturday. Despite their loss, the women are looking to compete in next month's Northeast Conference tournament, which features the top 10 teams of the league.

Redshirt sophomore center, Ugo Nwaigwe, was named the Choice Hotels and NEC player of the week. She scored a remarkable 12 points, 19 rebounds, and set the NEC single-game record of 13 blocks in the win

against Fairleigh Dickinson.

Nwaigwe's teammate, freshman guard Jasmine Nwajei, was selected as NEC rookie of the week. The powerhouse has had a terrific freshman year campaign, scoring 20-plus points in the last seven consecutive games. In the game against Fairleigh Dickinson, Nwajei scored a career high of 29 points with 10 rebounds and 9 assists.

The women, who currently sit in seventh place, came from behind Monday against Central Connecticut. After a close first half, freshman guard, Jordan Peck, along with Nwajei, and Nwaigwe led the Seahawks to a 75-63 win.

They return Saturday to play against Mount Saint Mary's.



Photo: Olivia Pea

Senior Naofall "Ming" Folahan makes a basket.

Swimming and Diving take home NEC Championship title; Story on page 10



Photo: Collegiate Sports Imaging



Message from the 'Oval' office

Spring Week events will be affordable

It's almost time for commencement. While most seniors are busy planning their next step after college, this year's senior week committee has been working on a week's worth of events for them to celebrate a successful four years.

Committee members are Alex Greco, Tommy Arison, Breanna Byrne, Pat Dutton, Christina Brunetti, and Ellen Huffman.

The team started fundraising and coordinating events starting in September of 2013. Our goal is to make senior week enjoyable for all students, yet affordable at the same time. I am also proud to announce that through various fundraisers we have raised several thousand dollars to help keep the price low for students. The committee decided that we wanted seniors to be able to purchase the entire package for under \$300.

The week will take place from May 15 through May 21.

The Premium Package includes a seven days of different events costing \$300. Tickets will be on sale Feb. 3 through March 24. Package prices will increase to \$375 on March 25. Packages will not be sold after April 30. For each day of events, seniors must have the appropriate wrist band in order to participate. The bands will be available for pick up in the Student Government Association (SGA) Office during finals week.

The Senior Cruise package allows graduates to enjoy the last night of senior week with classmates on a boat touring New York. Tickets will be on sale for \$175 on Feb. 3 through March 24. Package prices will increase to \$200 on March 25. Packages will not be sold after April 30.

If you have any questions regarding senior week or the fundraisers leading up to it please do not hesitate to reach out to myself or anyone else on the committee.

Senior Week Events

Thursday, May 15

Midtown Tour Bar Crawl

Friday, May 16

Rab's Bowling

Saturday, May 17

Wet n' Wild on the
Foundation Lawn

Sunday, May 18

Day at the Jersey Shore

Monday, May 19

MurMur in Atlantic City

Tuesday, May 20

Burrito Bar

Wednesday, May 21

Senior Cruise

Thursday, May 22

Baccalaureate and

Senior Awards Dinner

Friday, May 23

Commencement

A reflection on 'The Homeless Memorial'

By **LESLIE LOPEZ**
Assistant
Entertainment Editor

Wagner College's Union Gallery recently welcomed the installation of artist Ellen Coleman Izzo's "The Homeless Memorial." The exhibit ran from Jan. 21 to Feb. 15, 2014.

Located in the Union Atrium, the eye-opening exhibit championed the voices of the homeless; the often forgotten and ignored. The exhibit illustrated a customary trolley tour in the capital city of Washington D.C. It featured 12 traditional stops consisting of notable monuments and museums such as Capitol Hill and the Natural History Museum. However, as opposed to the customary, Izzo's tour avoids pristine streets and turns our attention to local streets or the "in-betweens." A stark contrast to the pristine, the streets are ravaged by poverty and homelessness.

Izzo notes her inspiration for the memorial as the alarming number of homeless she saw on her trolley tour. "It hit me all of a sudden," Izzo said. "All of the homeless I saw on the journey."

"The Homeless Memorial" serves as a window into the lives of the "in-betweens." Nearly invisible, they make their homes on street corners and worn benches. Forgotten by their nation they are regarded as, "street

people, the bums, the drunks and beggars," said Izzo.

She creates a narrative for the marginalized people, making use of only materials that are readily accessible and, to some, symbolic of a home. Izzo's portraits depict the struggles of many but the attention of few. Cardboard boxes form a canvas for Izzo's "contextual imagery," through a layering of newspapers, paint, photographs, postcards and trolley maps. Plastered newspapers on canvases highlight the homeless epidemic with headlines containing the keywords, 'Slumlords,' 'taxing,' 'budgets' and 'market crisis.'

The culminating point in Izzo's exhibit was the twelfth and final stop at "The Homeless Memorial." Built on wheels, it is a play on the constant travel of the homeless and their lack of permanent residence. Izzo's work is detailed, enlightening, and direct in its purpose to stress a need for concern. Commendable and beautiful it stands a reminder that we are all people, with names and identities all our own. We must remember, "Homeless is not nameless."

Ellen Coleman Izzo is currently a visual artist and teacher at NYCDOE. Her goal as an artist and teacher is to elicit change and provide choices.

For more information on Ellen, visit her website: www.ellencolemanizzo.com



Photo: Erik Parshall

The Homeless Memorial expresses the concern of the homeless epidemic.

Feel like taking action? Visit the Center for Leadership and Engagement.

The Wagnerian

Raising Awareness at Wagner College since 1918

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Associate provost 'pitches in'

By **ALYSSA BROWN**
Co-Editor

Due to Provost Lily McNair's medical absence this semester, Interim Provost Jeffery Kraus and Interim Vice Provost Mary LoRe have teamed up to ensure that everything in Academic Affairs continues to run smoothly.

Normally, Kraus serves as Vice Provost and LoRe is a professor in the Business Administration department. For LoRe, she is honored to have the opportunity to work in Academic Affairs, where she is able to see the bigger picture. She says that this position is "a lot of meetings," but in a place where she is also able to be more creative.

Responsibilities are being divided a little differently for the semester, but Kraus assures that nothing is different.

"If we're doing this well, students won't notice a difference," said Kraus. LoRe agrees, saying she is just "pitching in."

Academic Affairs is continuing to move forward. In addition to normal responsibilities like reviewing faculty recommendations and the college budget, they are focusing on a few bigger projects.

While the team oversees the graduate counsel, they also have new graduate programs and plans to propose a new college for adult learners and increasing access to learning for adult learners. This would give more opportunities for second degrees.

Academic Affairs is the process of conducting interviews for new faculty hires.

Administration is looking forward to McNair's return for the commencement ceremony in May.

Victim opens up about dorm theft

By **ALEXANDRIA GRECO**
Co-Editor

The senior track and field runner whose heirloom necklace was stolen during spring break last year said the sentencing of the thief, a former Wagner football player, does not ease the pain of his loss.

Until it was taken from his dorm room in Towers D504 on March 14, 2013, Michael Baio wore the gold chain with the cross pendant and his deceased father's wedding band every day.

"It was the only thing that I had of my fathers," Baio said sadly. "He passed away when I was eight. I can't even put a price on that."

Torian Phillips, now 23, was sentenced on Feb 20, to three years probation and restitution.

Phillips was ordered to pay Baio \$1,250.

The incident was part of several thefts that took place in Towers Hall within a few days during March 2013.

Phillips, who was charged with burglary and other crimes, pleaded guilty on Dec. 30 in Stapleton Criminal Court to a misdemeanor count of stolen-property possession, according to information from District Attorney Daniel Donovan's office, the Staten Island Advance reported.

Baio mentioned other "replaceable" items taken were an iPhone case, a tablet and a Tootsy Roll piggy bank filled with laundry quarters.

Phillips was also temporarily granted a Certificate Relief from Civil Disabilities, allowing him to vote and hold a city job, according to the Staten Island Advance.

"When it first happened, I didn't want to call the police," confessed

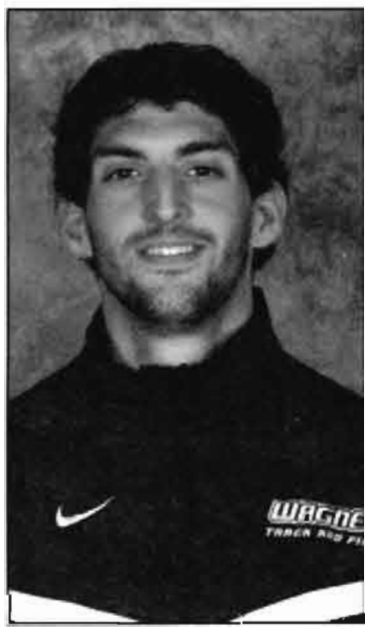


Photo: Wagner Athletics

Senior Michael Baio never got back an irreplaceable stolen wedding band of his deceased father.

Baio. "I go to school with him, I didn't want to see his life get ruined."

Baio explained that Phillips called him frequently apologizing once the police were involved.

But, the runner said he has not heard from Phillips since the former football star was expelled shortly after the incident last year.

Baio expects to get the chain and cross pendant returned now that sentencing has taken place. The wedding band is still missing, said the District Attorney's office.

He wants to put the incident behind him but acknowledges that he will always miss his dad's wedding band, which is irreplaceable.

"I just want my dad's wedding band back, that means the most to me. Everything else that was stolen can be replaced," said Baio.



Photos: Frank Cafasso

LEFT: An Access Point (AP) by Aruba Networks like the ones installed on campus. RIGHT: Information Technology installed many new APs across campus.

Campus is better connected with WiFi improvements

By **ALYSSA BROWN**
Co-Editor

After a four-month long project, Wagner finally has an updated \$600,00 WiFi network that debuted at the start of the spring semester.

The fast, new network consists of 345 access points (APs) in new locations, compared to only 200 APs on the old network. The APs are part of Aruba Networks, who helped Wagner convert to the new network.

Discussions about the WiFi started over three years ago. Wagner needed a faster, more modern network and newer hardware to keep up with changes in technology. The last system was from 2006.

In fall of 2012, Chief Information Office of Information Technology (IT) Frank Cafasso met with Bill Mea, VP of finance and business, to figure out the funding for the project. Next, the duo began research by looking into four to five different vendors and different kinds of test units. It was determined that the best option was to keep our current vendor,

Aruba Networks, which is one of the top three wireless vendors.

Testing the system was next. In February and March of 2013, testing was done to figure out how much signal and coverage was available. A heat map measured signal strength in different areas. It also helped to pinpoint where the APs should be placed. More populated areas needed a larger capacity, and therefore, more APs. The benchmark is four devices per student at any time. In the residence halls, thick walls block the signal and waves, meaning more APs needed to be placed.

The strength signal of a device is based on the distance from the AP and how many devices are using the AP. An AP can't send and receive information at the same time. When a slower, outdated device is using the AP, the other devices have to wait since it can only talk to once device at a time. But, the APs are placed so that there should always be two APs to connect to in a given area.

Of the 345 new APs, only five are in the same location as before.

After wiring each of the new APs

and the installation process was complete, the new network was converted to the wireless network wagner-room and was up and running before the semester started. Cafasso mentioned that the network was running quicker and effectively, but the true test came once all of the students moved back on campus for the spring semester. A few problems arose, but they did not surface immediately.

IT wasn't sure if the problem was with the wireless system or the network system. They replaced switches, but it did not help the problem. The real problem needed to be solved by recoding and updates, which Aruba Networks helped with and their engineers currently still here looking for bugs in the code. Testing is also being run constantly.

He explained his satisfaction in the WiFi project since the timeline of the installation process took long days and weekends to get it finished.

Cafasso and the IT Department welcome all feedback and are continuously making sure there are no problems with the new network.

Program showcases alumnae who are taking a lead in business

By **DANIELLE LUCCHESI**
Co-Copy Editor

Take The Lead, a national empowerment cooperative, was featured in a celebration at Wagner for its official launch on February 19, under the title "Take The Lead Women." The event which was moderated by acting associate provost, Dr. Mary LoRe, featured a panel of Wagner alumnae, who spoke and answered questions about their experiences in the workplace.

According to their website, "Take the Lead prepares, develops, inspires and propels women to take their fair and equal share of leadership positions across all sectors by 2025. It's today's women's movement — a unique catalyst for women to embrace power and reach leadership parity."

"This [getting women involved in leadership roles] has become an essential part of who we are," said President Guarasci, introducing the event and noting that the student body is composed of 63 percent women.

The evening began with a panel of five Wagner alumnae: Joan Arnold '75, Lisa Bennett '85, Mary Caracappa '82, Cynthia DiBartolo '84 and Kathleen Haggerty '80, each of whom have a leadership role at their job.

Currently, Arnold is a partner at Pepper Hamilton LLP. She majored in mathematics while at Wagner.

Bennett is a former theater and speech major and currently holds the position of executive director head of communications for technology and digital business at J.P. Morgan Chase and Company.

Caracappa is the managing director of the firm strategy and execution at Morgan Stanley. She is a former business major.

DiBartolo is the founder of Tigress Financial Partners, a women owned and operated firm. While at Wagner, she majored in political science.

Haggerty is currently the vice president of the Global Credit Bureau at American Express Company. She was a business major as a student at Wagner.

For about two hours, the alumnae spent time answering questions asked by both Dr. LoRe and members of the Wagner community who attended the event. Topics discussed included balancing a career and family, gender equality and qualities that are needed order to succeed in one's career choice.

According to Bennett, in order to figure out solutions, men also need to hear the problems women encounter in the workplace.

Similarly, DiBartolo agreed that both women and men need to work

together to make the opportunities equal. However she also felt that culture is also an essential factor.

"Culture drives behavior. Culture drives results," DiBartolo said.

Additionally, the panelists urged Wagner students that succeeding in their career of choice is not about what they received their degree in. Instead, success comes from being willing to learn, be empathetic and most importantly the willingness to adapt to any situation.

"You need to be willing to step forward and say, 'I could do this,'" Arnold said.

"Additionally, businesses also need to adapt to how technology is making careers more accessible because of devices such as laptops and smartphones which, make working outside the office easier.

"If we [businesses] don't become relevant, then we'll go out of business," Arnold said, noting that balancing work and family are becoming easier for both women and men.

After the panel discussion, everyone was invited to stay for a viewing of the live stream of Facebook COO Sheryl Sandberg discussing her book "Lean In" as part of the national launch of "Take the Lead."

"Women's leadership is not a women's issue, it's a gender issue," Bennett said.

in our opinion...

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

Washing machine woes stain clothes, frustrate students



By NICHOLAS WOODMAN
Opinions Editor

Over President's Day weekend, I ventured down into the Guild laundry rooms to do my weekly load of laundry. I did all of the usual laundry stuff – separated the lights from the darks, threw in an adequate amount of detergent and fabric softener, tossed in some quarters, and ventured back to my room to play video games and watch more *Breaking Bad*. I noticed a tiny bit of water at the bottom of the washing machine, but I didn't think anything of it. These machines are old and prone to leaking, and I've learned to expect certain inconveniences.

Forty minutes later, I walked back down to the laundry room and opened up both washing machines. The darks made it out okay, but when I opened the other machine, I found my clothes sitting in about a foot of blue water. My clothes were soaked, and my white shirts and socks were stained blue. As I pulled them out of the machine, what seemed like gallons of water began to spill out onto the concrete floor. I had to wring out all of my clothes before I put them in the dryer, spilling even more water onto the floor of the room. All in all, it took three cycles in the dryer for all of my lights to dry.

Every time I walk into the Guild laundry room, there is water on the floor in front of the washing ma-

chines. I once had a machine short out midway through washing my clothes because the area around it was flooded. Another time, in Harborview, one of my T-shirts fell out of the washer and got caught in the gap between the drum and the door. When I opened up the machine, there was a giant hole torn in the middle of the shirt.

The dryers often don't dry clothes, forcing students to waste another dollar so that their clothes aren't damp and moldy. And, particularly in Guild, there are not enough machines for the building's residents. Three floors of residents are forced to fight over three washing machines and three dryers, and often one or more of the machines are malfunctioning.

I don't care that I have to pay money to use these machines. I don't care that the change machines are often empty. I don't even particularly care that there are so few machines for so many students. What bothers me is that these machines are ruining clothes. They are old and poorly maintained, and they should be replaced. Yet they still remain our only option, a forgotten relic lost in a sea of Wagner inconveniences.

Foundation has nice washing machines. Foundation is also a new dorm. I think Wagner should update the laundry rooms in Guild, Towers, and Harborview to the standard of the laundry rooms in Foundation. It would greatly relieve hundreds of resident students who have weekly issues with their laundry.

I don't want my clothes to be ruined again. I can't imagine that other Wagner residents want their clothes ruined either. If Wagner kept their facilities up to date, we would no longer have to stress about broken machines and stained clothing. Broken laundry rooms are a minor inconvenience, but fixing even one minor inconvenience can go a long way in the eyes of stressed out students.



Photo: Nicholas Woodman

The Guild laundry room, as shown in this photo, only has three washing machines for three floors of students.

How much should we strive for success?

By AMANDA CHIDEKEL
Wagnerian Staff Writer

A few weeks ago, Amy Chua, otherwise known as Tiger Mom, made her return with a controversial new book called *The Triple Package: How Three Unlikely Traits Explain the Rise and Fall of Cultural Groups in America*. She was invited onto CNN with her husband to discuss the book. While airing, the couple made an interesting remark saying that we do not have standards for each other anymore. Everyone is individualized and all that is expected of us is to be the best that we can be, with no measurement of what that entails.

Every time I walk into an exam my mom says "Do the best you can." As a perfectionist, that means I want to be flawless; however, math and science showed me that was not possible. Despite that, I feel that I have internal hunger for success that I brood on every day. But then I also let myself down with low standards in other aspects of my life. I don't care that a glass of cabernet (don't worry, I'm 22) will wipe out my efforts at the gym. Despite the large number of fitness pages I follow on Instagram and doctors telling me that I have to drop the pounds, I'm not willing to let go of my social life. Am I selling myself short?

Speaking of Instagram, I've seen a bunch of cheesy and supposedly heart-wrenching posts about success. Men and women both claim to hold themselves to supernatural standards but, in my opinion, on a daily basis go about their business with little care and compassion. In fact, they make a good day's work out of being rude to others. In my opinion, they are delusional about how they are perceived in comparison to how they want to be perceived.

So, my question is: are we hard enough on ourselves? Do we expect the best from ourselves, or do we hold the double standard that we should be treated like royalty and others should strive, but we're not to be criticized for our own shortcomings?

In my opinion, Chua is making a strong argument about how standards affect our level of academic success, and I believe that having standards in our career paths, will aid in achieving our goals. I don't believe that grades are an accurate reflection of someone's capabilities. But I do believe that someone who attends class every day, raises their hand, and tries their best without necessarily getting the best grades, shouldn't be considered inferior to people who do get high grades. They are clearly holding themselves to a high standard by trying their best to perform at a high



Photo: Stephen Lovekin/Getty Images

Above: Amy Chua, shown here at the TIME 100 gala, has written several controversial books on parenting and success.

Below: Her new book, *The Triple Package: How Three Unlikely Traits Explain the Rise and Fall of Cultural Groups in America*, premiered in book stores this month.

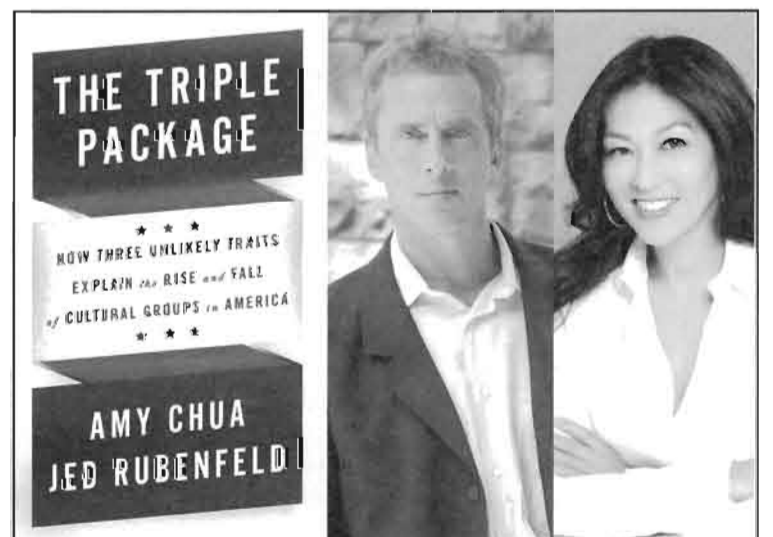


Photo: LA Times

level.

Then, in my opinion, there are people who schmooze their way through school. Because they are considered popular, no one dares to demand anything from them. They set their own rules, but do not follow them. While Chua may strictly be talking about academic standards, I believe that we should also hold high social standards. Her comment about standards hit me hard because I see people who preach religion, God, compassion,

kindness, helping others, and striving for the highest goal, but don't actually listen to their own lessons on how to succeed. They seem to hold their standards to the people around them, but not to themselves. So I advise that the next time you say you believe in kindness, act it out. The next time you say that you're working hard, do it. And the next time that you say you are there for someone you love no matter what, be there. Keep your standards high.

What should Wagner students look forward to this spring?



By **VINCENZO DAMA**
Opinions Staff Writer

As a senior, I am not taking these last few precious months at Wagner for granted. We should all see what we have ahead of us for the spring of 2014. Between Wagner events, theater, and friends, who needs school-work anyway?

The first thing I am excited for this semester is to thaw. I am cold. My winter life at Wagner is best described by this Spongebob quote: "I was born with glass bones and paper skin. Every morning I break my legs, and every afternoon I break my arms. At night, I lie awake in agony until my heart attacks put me to sleep."

In all seriousness, there are actual Wagner events to look forward to this spring. Greek recruitment is totally a thing that's happening and bid day is always something that is exciting for

everyone in Greek life. That day is always a great spectacle in the dining hall. I've seen young ladies turn into packs of wild animals as they scream and feast together as a happy family for the first and last time.

There are some great shows taking place on campus on both the Main Stage and Stage One, and this year's Completely Student Productions (CSP) line up may be the strongest I've seen in my four years at Wagner! I don't often say nice things about anything, so take this endorsement seriously and go see *The Full Monty!*

My favorite things about the spring are Songfest and Wagnerstock. Songfest is a perfect opportunity for me to see some of my least favorite people on campus make absolute fools of themselves in front of a live audience, and too see some people truly rise like a majestic phoenix to accept their moment in the light. I sit there in the bleachers and shout "You go girl!" as my favorite sorority shakes and shimmies their way to the top.

I was so happy when I found out that this year's Wagnerstock big name act is a DJ. I don't remember their name and I honestly won't even know it when I go, but you know I will dance! I will dance. I will dance my way right through this semester and, like the sororities in Songfest, at graduation I will shake and shimmy my way across the stage to my diploma. It will be a great spring.



Photo: ThinkElectro.com

DJ Adrian Lux, shown above, will be performing with DJ Kap Slap, shown below, at Wagnerstock this semester.



Photo: ProtectThaHouse

Wagner-roam improvements are a welcome change

By **LAUREN KLEIN**
L & S ASSISTANT

Hating "Wagner Roam" had been a learned habit while living on campus. Irritated students would rather give up and go get their ethernet cords than stare at a hopeless screen, waiting for their computers to pick up the signal and connect to the network. The first days of my freshman year were held in panic as my computer only sometimes connected to the slow wifi. I found that I had to purchase an ethernet cord if I wanted to get online. While on our laptops, we were immobilized by the cords and the internet became inconvenient to access. The trouble became just another part of our daily lives, and we grew accustomed to the limitations of a slow wireless internet network.

Luckily, Wagner was given a holiday gift. After a long break, we all came back to a working Wi-Fi system that Wagner's IT team installed while we were away. I was surprised by



Photo: Nicholas Woodman

These new adapters have been installed in every building an residence hall across campus. IT installed these adapters over winter break to improve the speed and reliability of wagner-roam.

how easy it was to install on my computer. Just by following the simple directions on screen, I was able to hook up my computer and get online right away. Freshman Katelyn Alcott, living on the sixth floor of Harborview,

commented that what she likes most about the new Wi-Fi is how she "doesn't have to use the ethernet cord in the hallway when my roommate needs the room." I think that we all felt like we were chained to our

rooms because of the necessity of ethernet cords. Our frustration with the slow internet was heightened as finals forced nearly every student to be online at the same time. With the new, reliable Wi-Fi, all the students at

Wagner will have one less thing to stress about.

Personally, I have nothing but good things to say about the new Wi-Fi system, and am happy to be able to talk about it positively rather than complain about it. It was difficult to meet demands of professors in an era where access to the internet is vital to success in college, while dealing with the complications of a slow Wi-Fi network. The contrast between the new and the old Wi-Fi systems proved to me the importance of keeping technology up to date on campus. The world of technology is constantly changing and it affects our lives in countless ways. It has become a necessary evil to simultaneously update and modernize our technology to function with the rest of the world. It's strange to imagine that it wasn't so long ago that wireless internet didn't exist, and how now the quick speed and functionality of our Wi-Fi system has made such an impact on our daily lives as students.

We want to hear your voice!
Email nicholas.woodman@wagner.edu
To see your opinion right on this page!

{ ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT }

'Lego Movie,' full of fun with lessons for all

By **NICHOLAS BOLSTER**
Wagnerian Staff Writer

Hollywood has become more and more obsessed with making films based on pre-existing properties over the past two decades. This obsession seemed to become its strongest with 2007's live action "Transformers" film, signaling that the time had come to cash in on nostalgia for children's toys while also ensuring that Michael Bay, through unholy providence, would continue making films. Several films have come and gone based off of the simple idea of "giant action movie/toy commercial" and there are more on the way. "The Lego Movie" should have been one of these. It should have been a dumb diversion, a completely forgettable film notable only for the branding. Thankfully, however, it isn't. Instead, it manages to be a charming, colorful, clever and surprisingly thoughtful film far above those it will no doubt be compared to.

The film follows Emmett, a generic construction worker (voiced by Chris Pratt) who, through an accident, becomes attached to "the Piece of Resistance" and is identified as "the Special," the single-most-important-person-in-the-universe. He is destined to destroy the



Photo: cinemasalem.com

Kragle, a weapon taken by Lord Business (Will Ferrell), who intends to use it to separate the various Lego worlds and completely freeze them permanently in place.

The set-up may be a standard hero's journey, but the writing is sharp enough to ensure that you'll be laughing far too often to care about the plot's simplicity. The performances by Pratt, Ferrell, Elizabeth Banks (Wyldstyle), Will Arnett (Batman), Liam Neeson (Good Cop/Bad Cop) and Morgan Freeman, who plays a parody of the "wise sage" archetype to which he has become so closely associated, all manage to give their plastic characters an incredible amount of life and humor. The performances and the writing are reason enough to recommend the film.

Specifically referring to the writing, there's a small third act reveal that manages to give the film additional significance that would likely be lost on the younger members of the audience. To avoid spoilers I won't mention what it is specifically, but it manages to insert a musing on the nature of creativity and the role of the generations in keeping old stories alive while allowing the new generations to create their own stories and ideas.

This would again be lost on most of the target demographic who are more likely to latch to the more plainly spelled out lesson of "anyone can be special if they want." It is still interesting to see a film that should have been (and still is, to an extent) a giant toy commercial, deliver honest sentiment and a knock against a Hollywood that is intent on soullessly cashing in on nostalgia with endless remakes and "reimaginings."

Overall, "The Lego Movie" is what a "family movie" should be. It's bright and colorful and loud enough to hold the attention of even the most active child while simultaneously being clever and imaginative and thoughtful enough to bring a smile to even the most cynical of adults. It really is something for all ages, just like the bricks it's based on.

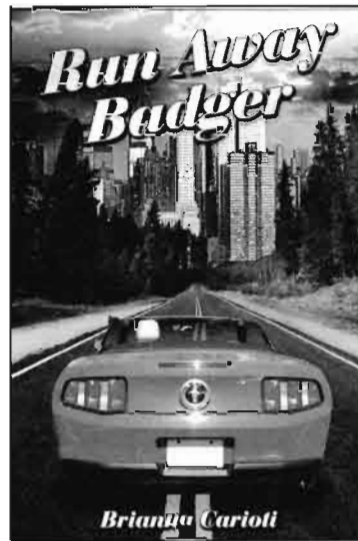


Photo: William Corujo



Photo: Meagan Carioti

Wagner junior publishes first novel, 'Run Away Badger'

By **CRYSTAL RIVERA**
Wagnerian Staff Writer

"Go for your dreams, don't let anyone tell you you can't do it. I'm used to being underestimated and I just like to prove people wrong."

At the age of 20, Brianna Carioti has much to be proud of. With the help of Professor Williams, she is about to successfully publish her first novel, called "Run Away Badger." After writing a speech about her passion for writing, he suggested she take the next step.

A Brooklyn native, she came to Wagner in pursuit of a degree in English and was encouraged to follow her dreams. Her passion for writing led her to finish "Run Away Badger" which she started at the age of 17.

Listening to music and eating chocolate are amongst her favorite things to do and have while writing. When a scene comes to mind, she writes it down in hopes of being able to create something more out of it. The song that inspired "Run Away Badger" was "How Soon is Now" by The Smiths.

The novel tells the story of Margaret, who finds herself wrapped up with a New York City criminal named Lance Glider. Margaret's various past heartbreaks have made her cautious but she still finds herself with Lance Glider and his heist of a sacred amulet. The story focuses on how the characters connect and get through the obstacles they encounter.

Ms. Carioti used a program called Blurb BookSmart to help in the publication of the book.

In addition to writing, she likes to bowl in her spare time. She is currently pursuing a minor in journalism as it is another form of writing she enjoys. When speaking about her work, this Wagner College student lights up with excitement. She is able to use writing as an outlet to best express her feelings and creativity.

Although she is unsure of her career path in the meantime, her ultimate goal is to be a novelist. Fiction is her favorite genre and she already has plans for her future works.

Once final editing of "Run Away Badger" is finished, she hopes to have it published to Amazon in April 2014.

The legacy of film: Golden age classics to modern blockbusters

By **LESLIE LOPEZ**
Assistant
Entertainment Editor

With a date set on March 2, 2014, the 86th Academy Awards will represent a culmination of this year's finest among the film industry. In celebration of the imminent ceremony this article will reflect on the evolution of film from the "Golden Age of Hollywood" to our modern day.

Classic Hollywood existed between the years of 1927 to 1963. The age served to produce many critically acclaimed and award winning films such as "Casablanca," "The Wizard of Oz," and "Gone With the Wind, motion pictures that are still heavily regarded as being among the top 100 films, according to the American Film Institute. There is no denying these films' gleam of gold. Films of this era served to inspire director Quentin Tarantino.

However, the age also reflected a period in which the film industry

was heavily monopolized by top film studios otherwise known as the "Big 5." There was little room for exploration of the unknown, and films remained unchanged.

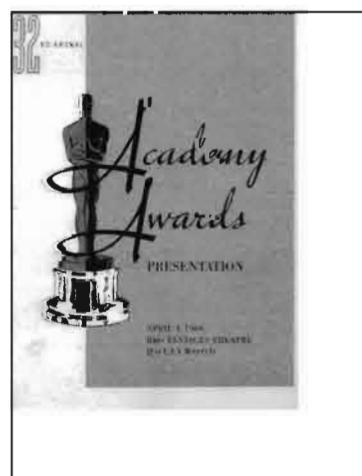


Photo: wcftr.files.wordpress.com

Vintage Oscars program

This would continue until the mid 50's during the collapse of the film industry. The fall gave rise to a surge of creativity and moviegoers began to see a new assortment of

genres, plots, film styles, and the inclusion of international pictures.

Fast forward a few decades, audiences are engrossed and intrigued by Wookies of the planet Kashyyyk, mobsters with a bone to pick, and a loveable yet naive hero known by name of Gump. The trend seemingly continues as we reflect on present nominations. Current films are both daring and unfamiliar and at times highlight wrongs.

"Her" proves that love needs no definition, its female love interest being a smooth voiced computer operating system, while "12 Years of Slave" notes the painful struggles and injustices of the pre-civil war.

Whether you are fond of the Golden Age classics or are a modern day feature film lover be sure to tune into this year's Oscars. Films tell a story and in this case, as do the Oscars by highlighting the film culture and interests of each era. During your free time, various media outlets like Netflix have sections devoted to past Oscar winners.

Join the Comité Nani Migrante for a seminar entitled "Transnational Families: Staten Island & San Jerónimo de Puebla"

Wed. March 5 at 6 p.m.
in Spiro Hall 2

The keynote speaker is Marco Antonio Castillo Martínez, a noted social anthropologist and rural community organizer in Mexico

Also participating is two Port Richmond residents who emigrated from San Jerónimo, and one or two residents of San Jerónimo

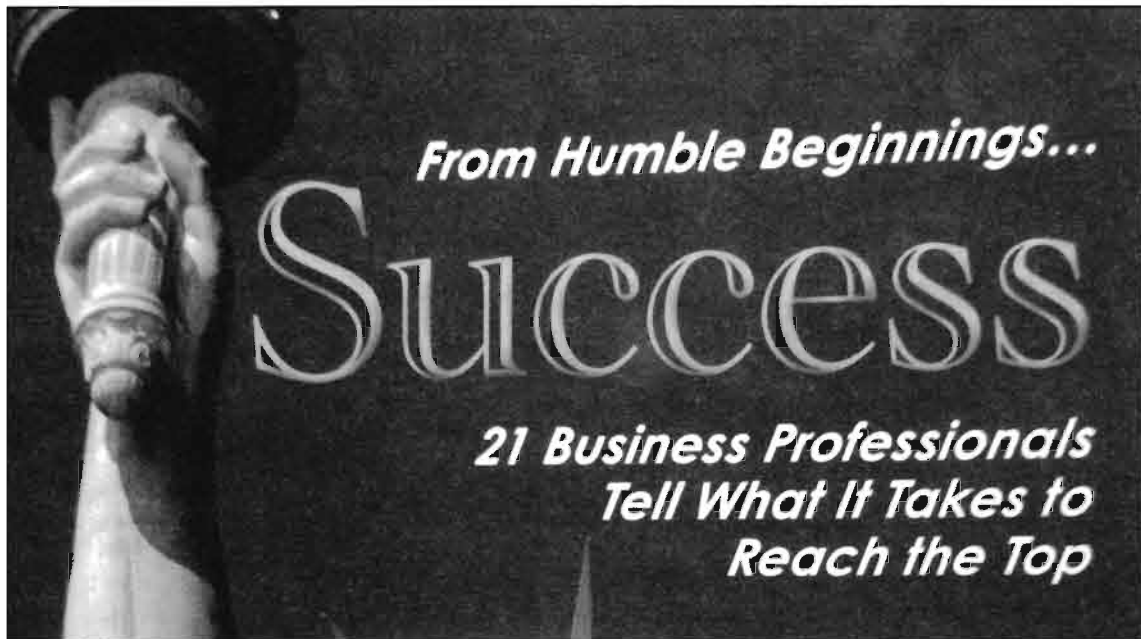


Photo: Lilah Souza

Professor Williams and others honored for inspirational book

By LILAH SOUZA
Wagnerian Staff Writer

On February 11th, at 7p.m., a book signing was held at Barnes and Noble, located by the Staten Island Mall. Wagner College Professor Robert Williams recently published a very inspirational book, "From Humble Beginnings. Success: 21 Business Professionals Tell What it Takes to Reach the Top." The Public Speaking professor's latest work came out in early December 2013, and is currently being sold on Amazon.

The book tells the stories of 21 people who put everything they had into making their dreams come true. Their stories teach that there are many paths to success, and that you should never give up on what you love.

The majority of the book signing was a discussion of what the book was about and the overall atmosphere was very casual and genuine. All of the speakers and business owners were so humble and real.

Whether you are an aspiring writer or publisher, or if you have a dream and you want to make it happen, this is a book you might want to pick up. These people and their stories would be all the inspiration and motivation you'll need to get going. Remember: Don't ever give up!



Photo: silive.com

Williams is joined by Kenneth Schneider, Sonia Golden and Thomas King for their contributions to the project

Tips for achieving your dreams

- Networking is important. "No man is an island. If you don't have relationships, you will not succeed."
- Surround yourself with positive people and cut the negative people out of your life.
- Go to conventions that are specifically for the career you want to get into. Learn from them.
- You won't get that job over night. All you can do is keep doing the best you can do.

CSP's latest, 'Monty' doesn't disappoint

By NICHOLAS WOODMAN
Opinions Editor

What happens when a group of laid-off factory workers are desperate to make ends meet? I'm guessing that your first answer wouldn't be "become strippers". But that's exactly what happens in "The Full Monty," a hilarious comedy performed by CSP as part of their spring season.

The play, directed by Wagner seniors Brendan Stackhouse and Brian Falduto, stars two factory workers – Jerry, played by Noah Bridgestock, and Dave, played by Dean Marino, who have been unemployed for several months. With money running out, their marriages are put under increasing strain. When they see their wives walk out

of a local strip club, they decide to try their luck at the club in order to earn some money and win back the favor of their wives. They assemble a small group of desperate men and, together, work out a routine that wins the hearts of their wives and of all the women in Buffalo.

This play made me laugh out loud for almost every scene. Nearly every character provides ample amounts of comic relief. Jerry and Dave humorously play up their image as "manly men" while their wives, played by Molly Brown and Bianca Vitale, joke about their inflated egos and unimpressive bodies.

The other men in their stripper troupe, played by Nick Barakos, John Thacker, Joe O'Malley, and Storm Pouliot are equally hilarious. Their resident piano player Jeanette,

played by KT Sanders, might be my favorite character in the play, making hilarious quips about the men's antics.

This play, however, is not afraid to show its serious side. There is an ongoing plotline concerning custody of Jerry's son Nathan, played by Kyle Johnson. Other topics touched on by this musical include death, suicide, and homosexuality. This may all seem dark for a comedy, but it works surprisingly well, providing contrast from the musical's rapid-fire jokes.

Overall, I really enjoyed this musical. I think that it was very well acted and well sung. The jokes were hilarious, and the characters were very relatable. Wagner's CSP has put on another outstanding performance, and I can't wait to see what they do later this season.



Selena Gomez's first trip to rehab



Photo: hollywoodlife.com

By AMANDA HASTINGS
Wagnerian Staff Writer

Never say Never! Disney princess Selena Gomez secretly checked herself into rehab on Jan. 5 for a two week stay and she is claiming "exhaustion."

"It has become clear to me and those close to me that after many years putting my work first, I need to spend some time on myself in order to be the best person I can be," the former "Wizard of Waverly Place" actress said in a statement.

TMZ.com, however, tells a different story. The popular site claims that the 21-year-old checked herself in for a combination of issues, including alcohol, pot, and prescription Ambien. TMZ reports that the "Come & Get it" singer blames this all on her rocky romantic relationship with her on-again/off-again boyfriend Justin Bieber.

Many fans don't know what to believe due to Bieber's recent outbursts with drugs and alcohol. To top it all, Dawn at the Meadows, where Gomez received her treatment, specifically focuses on substance dependence, trauma and relapse prevention.

Bieber and Gomez, who secretly became an item in late 2010 and made their first public appearance together at the 2011 Oscars, seemed to be inseparable for two years until they called it quits for the first time in late 2012... but its far from the end for Jelena!

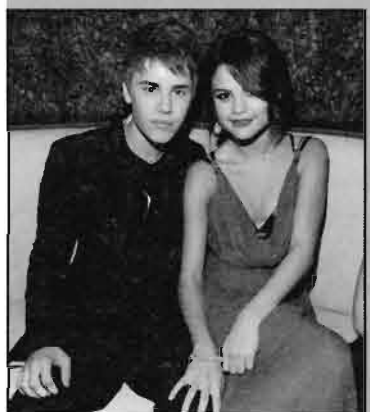


Photo: justjared.com

Bieber and Gomez in 2011

The pair has gotten back together numerous times. Bieber posted pho-

tos of the pair on his social networking sites. However, just a few days after their union, they always end up apart.

Jan. 3 was the last time the two were spotted together. The two young stars were riding around on their scooters in the 19-year-old Bieber's neighborhood of Calabasas, Calif.. The event took place right after she cancelled her world tour just two days before checking into rehab. It is believed that the stress of this relationship has caused the singer/actress to have the downfall that led to rehab.

While her ex has been having his own troubles with the law, Gomez has been living the high-life, post rehab. On Feb. 16, she was spotted out in London arm-in-arm with a blonde guy, but it wasn't Bieber. She was out and about on a date with "One Direction's" Niall Horan and eyewitnesses say they saw the duo making out!



Photo: Instagram

Horan and Gomez spotted together with fan in Feb. 2014

The 20-year-old boy band member has recently broken up with his model girlfriend Barbara Palvin, which leaves room for Gomez to swoop in and Bieber isn't too happy about this.

What do you believe is the cause of Selena's rehab stint and which singer do you think will win her heart?

Stay tuned for more Hastings on Hollywood because Hollywood never sleeps!

LIFE & STYLE



Photo:meltycampus.fr

The packed beaches of Cancun, full of Spring Breakers. If you're looking for a quieter destination, try Myrtle Beach or East Coast beaches.

Affordable destinations for Spring Break

Stressed that you won't be able to get your plans in order? Don't give up, it's not too late.

By **EMILY REKSTIS**
Life & Style Editor

If you fall into the last-minute, procrastinating college student stereotype, then you probably haven't planned your Spring Break yet. You may not even know where you want to go. All you know is you want to have a great time but only have a few saved up paychecks in your account to afford it. No need to worry. There are plenty of affordable Spring Break destinations for you.

Daytona

This Florida city has been a favorite of college students seeking affordable Spring Breaks for years. With 20-miles of beachfront and an average temperature of 80 degrees, what isn't appealing?

Hotel prices start at the low of just \$50 a night. If you're interested in higher scale accommodations for the week, there are even beautiful resorts for around \$150 a night. Filled with college kids from all over the country you're bound to socialize, relax, and simply enjoy your week off.

Myrtle Beach

While this South Carolina beach town could be a hit or miss weather wise it is still incredibly affordably appealing. Unlike other destinations on the list, Myrtle Beach is drivable at about 14 hours giving you a fun road trip to kick off Spring Break.

Like Daytona, hotels start at a low \$48 a night, even for those on beachfront. While this destination may not be as wild as others, there is still the lively Broadway at the Beach filled with places to go out. And since it isn't as wild, you could even get all that homework done. Maybe?

Cancun

Of course this is initially pricier, but in the end you could end up spending the same amount for an all-inclusive Cancun stay. When food and drinks are included, you wouldn't believe the spending money you could actually save.

You can find \$600 all-inclusive deals, which is a shocking start num-

ber, but once you calculate all that food you'll be indulging in on your vacation, it could be worth it for you.

Panama City

This is definitely one of the prime Spring Break spots. If you're looking for a stereotypical Spring Break destination, this is going to be it for you. If you plan on laying out and relaxing with a beach read, look more into Myrtle Beach. Beaches day and night are packed with crazy students letting off a little steam halfway through their semester.

Although they attract huge crowds during the season, prices for rooms aren't unfairly expensive. Hotel rooms can be booked for as low as \$125 a night. If you can get a group together who is ready to blow off a little steam this way, then look in to Panama City.

Ontario

Maybe beaches just aren't your thing and the cold really does not bother you. Then a ski trip might be a good alternative. London Ski Club at Boler Mountain in Ontario is a very affordable ski resort with daily lift tickets for just \$37.

Although there is nowhere to stay in the resort, there are plenty of places in the surrounding city for an average of just \$115 a night. If you're an active group of friends this option is really for you. You don't even have to ski every day. Explore the city. Or take a day off and cozy up to a fire with a cup of tea and a good book.

If you're still trying to book your Spring Break, keep your eye on sites such as Kayak, Hotwire and Travelocity for the best deal. Another great site to sign up for is Groupon. It'll send you seemingly unreal deals that are offered for only limited amount of time. So if you see a great deal, don't hesitate — book it.

This means get a group together and get everyone's budgets before hand so you don't waste time organizing and lose the deal. Otherwise you could end up on your parents couch for Spring Break. And no one really wants that.

How does listening to music while you study affect you?

By **LAUREN KLEIN**
L & S Assistant

Although most college kids rely on their iPods to get them through long bouts of studying, it's probably doing them more harm than good. It's become a habit for most students to put on background music when sitting down for any task, especially now that it's so easy to have all their music on their cell phones. Anyone slip in headphones anywhere without disturbing people around them. Whether it's new songs from a favorite band or some soothing classical pieces, our generation has become averted to silent study time.

Different types of music can have different effects on the way the brain retains information. Music with lyrics is the most distracting while reading or writing. Listening to words in the song while trying to read or write over stimulates the language processing part of the brain, making it difficult to focus fully on either task. Music with lyrics, however, does not cause the same difficulties with math, which is processed through a separate part of the brain. Relating to the way the brain focuses on lyrics, listening to music in a foreign language while studying that same language can be beneficial. In this case, the lyrics are

helping to prime the brain to think in the new language. If that music is too distracting while studying, listening to it beforehand can make performing the task without it, or learning new vocabulary in the language a little easier.

Music can change our moods in profound ways, which can be both constructive and detrimental to completing an assignment or working to learn new information. Music that is somber and melancholy can create a hopeless mood in a student, ruining their motivation for studying at all. On the other hand, music that is too high energy can lead to a lack of focus and patience. Many people turn to extremely relaxing music, believing the calm atmosphere it creates will allow them to focus better. Interestingly enough, music that is too relaxed can also diminish the motivation to continue working, and in that result, become a distraction. The best type of music for studying depends on the individual. A person who is feeling agitated or nervous would benefit from relaxing music, while those who feel uninspired could up their mood by listening to upbeat, positive music.

While music can be distracting for some people, listening to the quiet sound of white noise could help them focus while blocking out distractions

going on around them. White noise can be considered as a continuous, low-frequency sound or mix of sounds. Some people work best with the typical static noise, like what comes out of a disconnected television, or other fabricated ambiance. Others would rather hear natural sounds like falling rain, rushing water, or ocean waves. There are many different types of ambient music or sounds that can be downloaded from the internet for free.

There is no clear answer to whether music is a distraction or aid, and there is no perfect and universal type of music to listen to increase test scores. For many people, the best choice is to find a very quiet area with no distractions to keep focused. Some people are naturally able to multitask better than others, but generally humans do not perform tasks to full ability when they are doing more than one thing at once. Whether listening to music or white noise will be beneficial completely depends on the individual. Although it's hard to admit, most of us would probably benefit from taking off the headphones until after we finished writing an essay, but every brain is different, so it's up to you to decide whether music helps make studying easier or makes studying a waste of time.

Bet on your friends' relationships with the new Forever / Not app

By **ALEXA SMAIL**
Wagnerian Staff Writer

Have you ever had one of those nights where you and your friends sit around gossiping? You make your way through the topics — Hawk's Nest food, your frustrating internship, the bar night this weekend, and finally, whether or not your friends' relationships will last after college. Well, now, instead of just casually mentioning you think they should break-up ASAP or declaring that they will last forever, you and your friends can officially bet on the relationship.

With the Forever|NOT App, you can anonymously view your friends relationships and swipe left to bet they will last "Forever" or swipe right to bet "NOT," meaning you think the relationship will end in 30 days or less.

Intermixed with your friends' relationships are celebrity relationships you can also bet on. Once you've played, you can go and view the "Open Bets" Page, which allows you to see the percentage of people who believe a certain relationship will last. For instance 73 percent of people be-



Photo:Drew Moffitt

lieve Kelly Clarkson and Brandon Blackstock will last forever, while Dylan Penn and Steve McQueen only have a 28 percent chance of surviving.

After a certain amount of time the app also evolves by bringing singles into the mix. For instance, you're single friend could pop up and you can vote if this person will find love within the next 30 days or will remain single. These scores also show up on your "Open Bets" page. And while you're bets on friends remain anonymous, the app gives you the option to tweet your celebrity bet. While this

seems like a fun and carefree way to bet on your friends and celebs, don't get too comfortable.

In the "My Profile" page, users can see the percentage of people who bet on the success (or failure) of their own relationship. Or, if you're single, your datability score. However, the idea that an app could predict a relationship's outcome seemed to rub many Wagner students the wrong way. Senior, Andrew Burt, says "I honestly don't see the point of this app. It makes me feel like we're in middle school again. I don't think this is something that should be taking place on a college campus. We shouldn't be this involved in other people's business."

Senior Samantha Alder agrees, saying, "I can barely control my own relationship let alone weigh in on other people's relationships."

However, there was one somewhat positive thought from Junior Mike McMenanin, who said, "It's pretty cool if people think a relationship is going to work."

Feel free to judge the app yourself, Forever|NOT is available for free in the app store.

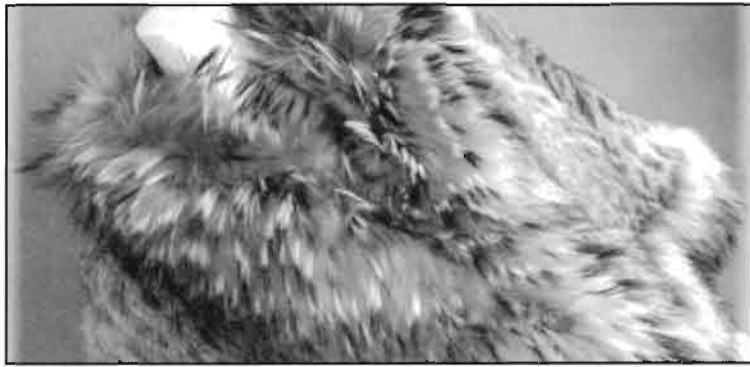


photo: global.rakuten.com

Go bold with a fur coat to keep you warm this winter.

Stay warm this winter with these hot trends

By **ARIANA PALMIERI**
Wagnerian Staff Writer

With all the new and upcoming trends to try this season, the only problem is finding out which can work for practical day-to-day use. Sometimes it feels like designers forget we're not weather-proof. We're here to help you find those trendy pieces that will protect you against all kinds of crazy weather conditions. So you can keep warm and look hot.

Pink

This season you can't go wrong with pink. The best part about color trends is that you aren't confined to just one item; a jacket, scarf, or pair of pants can be found in all the latest color. And the best part, they all keep you warm too. Freshman Theresa Reed wasn't afraid to look pretty in her pink petticoat. Pink coats are a daring choice but can be a fun way to make a statement.

Pastels

Pastels are another big trend this season. All sorts of attire can now be seen in pastel colors. Both pink and pastels are great because they'll stay trendy right into spring. Pastel colors can help brighten up winter, a time when people are craving greenery and spring the most.

Fur

Fur is another major fad this winter. You certainly don't have to sacrifice warmth while wearing fur, and for those who prefer it, faux fur looks just as stylish. The best part about fur is that it comes in varying forms, so

you don't have to compromise your style to fit in your wardrobe. Fur along the trim of hoods will always work well, and both guys and girls can be found sporting the look around campus this time of year. Gianna Izzo, a senior, is a fan of this style and wasn't afraid to say her favorite trend was, "Fur. Hands down."

Leather and knee high boots

Leather and knee high boots go hand in hand this season. Gianna Izzo sported black leather knee high boots in the dining hall. Besides loving fur, she also expressed an interest in leather as well. "Leather, all the way, all the way." Gianna enthused, "I usually do the black leather jacket but today I'm rocking the tan jacket. Since it's cold you might as well hit two birds with one stone."

Just because certain items, colors, or textures are trends doesn't mean that they work for everyone. It's important to remember that trends should be worn only to the extent a person is comfortable with. Denisha Green, a sophomore, had a different opinion than Theresa and Gianna. Denisha said, "I'm not such a fan of fur. I think too much of it is very upscale. It's cute to have as a hoodie or as a hat. As for pastel colors, I'm more of a black, grey and blue person because those colors match with almost everything."

So play around with the trends this season and don't be afraid to show winter whose boss. Who says you can't look good and stay warm at the same time?

Dorm-doable recipes

Tired of the dining hall food? Need something easy to pack for the morning commute? Then here are six recipes that can be made in the comfort of any dorm room and are sure to please taste buds.

By: Antoinette McCarty

For the morning



Photo:coed.com

Warm up on cold mornings with this filling breakfast with a twist on plain oatmeal.

Apple Cinnamon Oatmeal & Eggs

Ingredients:

- 1 egg
- 1/3 cup of milk
- 1 package of apples & cinnamon instant oatmeal
- 1/4 cup of vanilla yogurt

Directions:

Beat egg and milk in a microwave safe bowl until blended. Stir in oatmeal. Microwave on high until liquid is absorbed and then egg is set for 1 1/2 to 2 minutes and then stir. Top with yogurt and enjoy.



Photo:onceuponacuttingboard.com

Take breakfast to go with satisfying home-made bars.

No Bake Granola Bars

Ingredients:

- 2 cups of rolled oats
- 1 1/4 cups of natural crunchy (or plain) peanut butter
- 1 cup of ground flaxseed
- 3/4 cup of honey
- 3/4 cup of dried cranberries
- 1/2 cup of chocolate chips
- 1/4 cup of sliced almonds

Directions:

Stir oats, peanut butter, flaxseed, honey, cranberries, chocolate chips and almonds together in a bowl. Press into a 9x11-inch or 8x8-inch dish, using back of a spatula to press into a flat layer. Refrigerate mixture for at least 1 hour. Cut mixture into 12 bars, wrap individually or store in plastic container together (for maintained freshness keep in refrigerator after cutting them up).

Snack time



Photo:

whatchamakinnow.blogspot.com

These flavorful bite-sized snacks are quick and delicious.

Kickin' Crackers

Ingredients:

- 1 1/2 cup of vegetable oil
- 1 tbs of crushed red pepper flakes
- 1 packet of ranch dressing seasoning
- 2 9oz bags of Oyster Crackers

Directions:

Pour oil, ranch dressing and red pepper flakes in to a bowl and stir. Add crackers to the mix. Cover container securely and shake to coat crackers. Let crackers sit for 30 minutes, shake again let crackers sit again for 30 minutes, finally enjoy.



Photo:gimmiesomeoven.com

These bites are perfect for those mid-day cravings, and are great to grab on the go.

No-Bake, No-Hassle Energy Bites

Ingredients:

- 1 cup of oatmeal (steel cut or quick-cook)
- 2/3 cup of toasted coconut flakes
- 1/2 cup of peanut butter or almond butter
- 1/2 cup of ground flaxseed
- 1/2 cup of chocolate chips or cacao nibs
- 1/3 cup of honey or maple syrup
- 1 tsp. of vanilla extract
- * optional addition: 1/2 cup of dried fruit and/or chopped nuts

Directions:

Stir in all ingredients in a medium bowl until mixed thoroughly. Cover mixture and let chill in refrigerator for 30 minutes. After 30 minutes, remove from refrigerator and roll in to balls of desired size (for maintained freshness keep in refrigerator for up to a week).

Lunch & Dinner



Photo: cheerstohappy.blogspot.com

Enjoy a hearty, delicious meal without ever leaving the comfort of your room.

Three Bean Cowboy Casserole

Ingredients:

- 1 8oz can of kidney beans, drained
- 1 16oz can of Bush's hot and spicy baked beans
- 1 8oz can of butter beans, drained
- 1 small onion, finely chopped
- * optional addition: 8oz of lean ham or Canadian bacon, finely chopped

Directions:

Combine all ingredients in a microwave safe bowl. Cover bowl with a paper towel and microwave on high for 5 minutes. Stir mixture, recover and microwave on high for another 5 minutes, then enjoy.



Photo:chefmom.sheknows.com

One of the more filling dorm recipes, yet just as easy.

Southwest Chicken Casserole

Ingredients:

- 1 can (5oz) of cooked chicken chunks, drained
- 1 can (4oz) of diced green chiles
- 1 can (11oz) of condensed mushroom soup
- 2 cups of shredded Cheddar cheese
- 2 cups of instant rice
- 2 tbs of dried minced onion
- 1 1/4 cups of water
- Jalapenos
- Salt and pepper as desired for taste

Directions:

In a large bowl, combine chicken, chiles, soup, cheese, onions, salt, pepper and water, mix. Pour mixture in to a microwave safe 9x11-inch casserole dish. Add the rice to mixture which should now be the consistency of a soupy pancake batter. Cover dish with lid or paper towel and microwave for 15 minutes on high.

Celeb Instagram of the week



Photo:nydailynews.com

Kim Kardashian and many other celebrities made Jimmy Fallon's first Late Night memorable where she Instagrammed this behind-the-scenes photo. Caption read: "You guys watching Jimmy Fallon tonight? Fun behind the scenes pic with these funny guys, Seth Rogan & Tracy Morgan"

SEAHAWK SPORTS



Photos: Wagner Athletics

Wagner's swim and dive program earned their first Northeast Conference championship on Feb. 22 at the Zesiger Center at M.I.T.

Women's swimming and diving team reign supreme at championship

By MICHAEL MCMENAMIN
Co-Sports Editor

Coming off a near-perfect season, the Wagner women's swimming and diving team were crowned Northeast Conference champions for the first time in program history. Going into the 4-day competition, the squad boasted an 11-1 record in dual meets, having been ranked nationally in the Mid-Majors in November.

On the first night of competition the Seahawks set the tone for the rest of the meet. In an astounding come from behind victory, the relay team, composed of Grace Baird, Alexandra Cooney, Sarah Menendez and Meredith Ketchmark edged out Bryant University.

The hero of the race was their anchor, Ketchmark, who secured their

victory in the final 50 yards.

Anu Nihipali, Katja Claesson, Samantha Sides, and Ketchmark earned silver in the 200-yard medley relay with a time of 1:43.147, crushing the previous school record which had been set at the 2013 NEC Championships.

At the end of the first night, Wagner led the seven-team field with 74 points and never looked back.

The Seahawks continued to dominate in Day 2 as freshman Baird earned gold in the 500-yard freestyle and Sarah Menendez took home the bronze in the 50-yard freestyle, while teammate Sides earned fourth.

Wagner rallied to take silver behind the team of Menendez, Corinne Rondina, Sides and Ketchmark in the 200-yard freestyle.

Divers Erica Curry and Mallory Lee qualified for finals in impressive

performances on the one-meter board. With both divers slated in the latter-half of the diving standings after prelims, the duo's determination led them into top five standings with Curry winning silver and Lee receiving fourth. Senior Cara Walker earned ninth.

Entering Day 3, Wagner continued to expand their lead as Amanda Lucia defended her 400-yard individual medley championship title with Kara Lacoste taking bronze and Kaitlin Murtha earning fourth. Erin Malone earned a seventh place finish in the 100-yard butterfly event.

In the 200-yard freestyle Ketchmark, Menendez, Cooney and Baird finished second, sixth and seventh respectively.

Yet the story of Northeast Conferences was freshman Nihipali who dominated her competition. In the

final event of Day 3, she broke the Massachusetts Institute of Technology pool record that was previously held by Olympian Elizabeth Beisel.

The Hawaii native took gold in all three of her individual events along with swimming an NCAA B-qualifying cut. With five total medals, four of which were gold, Nihipali took both of the conference's individual awards of Rookie of the Meet and Outstanding Swimmer of the Meet. This is the second year in a row that a Wagner swimmer has taken home the awards.

On the final night of competition, Kelsey Thomas finished with the bronze in the 200-yard breaststroke event, while also tabbing the school record with a time of 2:20.42. Freshman Katja Claesson earned fifth overall.

For the final individual event, the

200-yard butterfly, Amanda Lucia took home silver.

Contributing to Wagner's point tally were divers Erica Curry and Mallory Lee, whose performances during the three-meter board final earned them third and sixth-place, respectively.

In the final event of the 2014 NEC championships, the 400-yard freestyle relay, Wagner's Menendez, Sides, Ketchmark, and Nihipali took the gold, finishing the relay with a school record-setting time of 3:26.59.

At the conclusion of the final night, the Seahawks scored 844 team points, the first team to break the 800 barrier since 2003 and only the fourth team since the first championship in 1999.

In addition to the overall title, Wagner head coach Colin Shannahan earned Coach of the Year.

Hockey ends season against ranked team

By TORI SPECTOR
Co-Sports Editor

On Jan. 26, the Wagner Hockey team played their last home game of the season. The team currently 6-9 played a competitive game against Montclair State University at the Prudential Center in Newark, N.J. This also marked the senior game for forwards Mark Eadicicco, Eddie Medina, Dan Reno, and Defense players Luke Matich, and Christian Rautenstrauch.

They lost 4-1 but played aggressive throughout the entire game with some exceptional performances. Many Wagner students and athletes came out to show their support.

Junior Stephen Baldo said, "They played with a lot of heart and you could tell they left everything they had on the ice that night".

The players appreciated the fan support as well. Reno said, "It was pretty cool having our parents out



Photo: Jacqueline Menna

Seniors Mark Eadicicco, Eddie Medina, Dan Reno, and Luke Matich after their senior game at the Prudential Center.

there. It was a good crowd, a lot of people came."

Eadicicco could not let the great defensive plays of their sophomore goalie, James Bodeker go unnoticed.

He said, "James played a really good game, it was one of the best games I've ever seen the kid play." James and recently recruited, junior

Steven Sedlmaier make up the teams two goalies. Sedlmaier shows great potential and is a strong goalie, which will be an asset to the team.

The majority of the team has been playing since they were little. Both Reno and Eadicicco started playing around the age of five and continued on throughout High school.

They are no stranger to how expensive the sport can be. The team is considered a club sport here at Wagner and they receive a budget. However, each player has to contribute about \$1,000 to \$2,000 annually to cover the costs for the season. Travel expenses, ice time on the rink, referees, locker room fees, and equipment

all add up. Ice time for an hour could be as much as a couple hundred dollars.

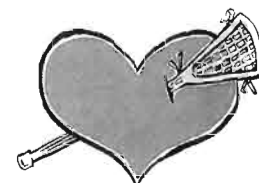
With five seniors graduating this year, the young team will have big skates to fill. However, throughout the course of the season, the team has really come together and united to play as one.

Reno said, "A lot of young kids on team are pretty talented. It was pretty interesting to watch from the beginning of the season to the end. How we trained as a team in the beginning of the season was a little sloppy, but the more experience and more games we played, it definitely came together."

They left for Florida on Feb. 7 for their last two games of the season against the nationally ranked team of Florida Gulf Coast University. They returned from the sunshine state that Sunday with the experience of playing against one of the best teams in the country.



Wagner Athletics' Most Eligible Bachelor and Bachelorettes

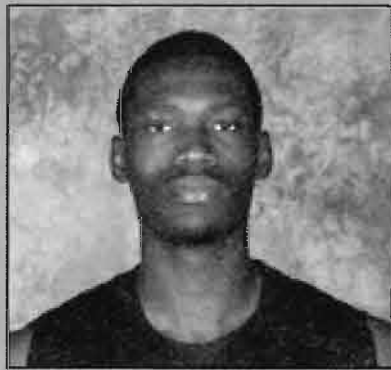


Athletes from each team share interesting facts about their personalities



Dan Wasilick
Baseball

"If I ever make you a salad with 3 types of lettuce, just know you're special to me!"



Naofall Folahan
Basketball

"Being tall is an advantage... if you're in a crowd you will always have some clean air to breathe."



Riley Magner
Football

"They call me Riley, but you can call me tonight."



Conor McKiernan
Golf

"Scientific research has proven that Ohio has the most swag out of all 50 states."



Darius Moulton
Cross Country

"I like long walks on the beach with my kangaroo."



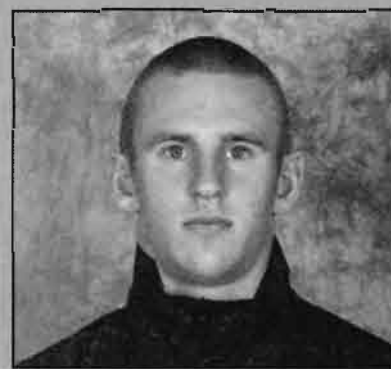
Bill McMenamain
Lacrosse

"I like big butts, I can't lie, my other brother can't deny..."



Pat McMenamain
Lacrosse

"...I can't deny."
**Song By-
Sir-Mix-a-Lot**



TJ Schwannecke
Track and Field

"I believe in fairy tales, if you don't, be apart of mine and you will too!"



Kayleigh Macchirole
Track and Field

"I'll run the track straight to your heart."



Jordyn Peck
Basketball

"I like to watch LeBron James on TV...even on a date."



Kathryn Jimerson
Golf

"Just looking for someone to make me a sandwich."



Rachel Burns
Water Polo

"I like baking and i'll bake you anything you want."



Emily Marsala
Cross Country

"Do you believe in love at first sight, or should I run by again?"



Nicole Thom
Lacrosse

"I can't live without music and chocolate."



Sarah Dionisio
Tennis

"The way to my heart is ice cream and I love the outdoors."



Kristiana Kalibat
Swimming

"I love leisurely bike rides and really enjoy cooking."



Taylor Rauscher
Softball

"I didn't know my first name was Erika until kindergarten."



Gabrielle Davis
Soccer

"I love animal crackers."

Couples on Campus

You don't have to look far to find students who are making connections. We found seven couples who are happy to be together.



Photo: Jacqueline Menna

"What's not to like about Ellen? I like Ellen because she is pretty. She makes pie and golfs so she's a keeper."
— Eric S. Mathias, senior

"Eric's my man because everyday he makes me want to be a better person. He's also really fun, and buys me candy for no reason at all."
— Ellen Huffman, senior

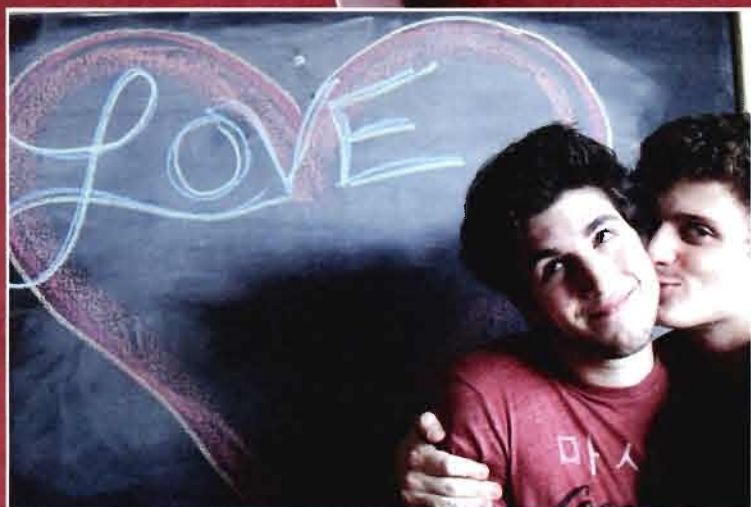


Photo: Julia Tavoraro

"The thing I love most about John is how golden his heart is. Not just to me but toward everyone and everything!"
— Rob Keir, senior

"He may come on strong, but I know it's all out of innocent curiosity. I love that we balance each other out."
— John Alati, senior



Photo: Julia Tavoraro

"He is very calm and he slows me down enough to make me appreciate things more."
— Elise Sacco, senior

"I love how creative and adventurous she is. She brings out the playful side of me that keeps our love exciting."
— Leo Schuchert, junior

"My favorite thing about Phil is the time that we get to spend together at the end of the day."
— John Hinrichs, junior

"I'm dating my best friend; it's great."
— Phil Necaize, sophomore



Photo: John Hinrichs

"I love that I'm never not myself, I always feel like the person that I want to be. Also, we look good in pictures."
— Elle Brigida, senior

"She is the most compatible with me. She always challenges me to take risks and go outside of my comfort zone. I feel my absolute self when I am with her."
— Carrie Holt, senior



Photo: Julia Tavoraro

"She is of course, very beautiful. However, that is not why we've been together so long. She is the most sincere, passionate, and inspiring person I've ever met. She rocks."
— Kevin Farrell, senior

"He's tall, and cool... I guess. He's also the best friend I've ever had and his passion and intensity towards following his dreams inspires me everyday."
— Kate Stewart, junior



Photo: Jacqueline Menna

"He makes even the mundane things fun."
— Kari Rezac, junior

"She likes me for who I am but also pushes me to be a better person."
— Ian Bertschausen, junior



Photo: Julia Tavoraro