

# The Wagnerian

Wagner College

Tuesday, March 10, 2009

Staten Island, N.Y.



Photo: Wagner Athletics

Senior Michael Schaeffer has been on the squad for the duration of the 48-game losing streak, which ended with a 12-7 win over the Presbyterian College Blue Hoses.

## Men's lacrosse earns first win since '05

By **ANDREW MINUCCI**  
& **DAVID GERHARDT**  
Wagnerian Staff

Outlined against mounds of snow from the previous day's class-cancelling storm, lacrosse squad seniors Brian Poissant, Jeff Policicchio, Evan Shull and Michael Schaeffer trotted out onto the stadium field, with the weight of a 48-game losing streak on their shoulders.

But the feeling that day was different, as the squad, who hadn't won a contest since an 11-6 win over Robert Morris on May 1, 2005, was facing the lowly Presbyterian College Blue Hoses.

"They were ranked lower than us so we expected to win," said Poissant, the team's captain.

And that's exactly what they did. Downing the Blue Hoses 12-7, the team that didn't know they could win suddenly learned how to.

60 minutes after the face-off, the

scene was almost iconic, the members of the team huddled together over the center-field Seahawk logo, arms around each other, embracing the moment.

The Seahawks were led by strong performances from senior attack Evan Shull, who scored four goals, and midfielders Pete Blackmer and freshman John Hird who each recorded a pair.

"It felt good to get the first win,"

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## Recession forces college to make cuts

By **ABIGAIL ALBAIR**  
& **TOM RANZWEILER**  
Wagnerian Staff

The current economic crisis is taking its toll on Wagner College.

In his State of the College address last October, President Dr. Richard Guarasci stated to the faculty and staff of the school, "We need reasonable compensation increased going forward. If we can't do that we're going to have less of us here."

If Wagner experiences the same shortfall in enrollment that other private colleges are expecting, Dr. Guarasci said, "It seems as though the hope of a reasonable compensation increase will be difficult to honor. In that case, Wagner will always opt to protect the quality of students enrolled and the quality of teaching and learning. We will explore all expense items to reduce the pressure on our core responsibilities. For instance, we may have to explore reducing a percentage

of our adjunct-taught courses. The economy impacts Wagner just as it has so many other institutions."

Reducing the number of adjunct taught courses means laying off a percentage of adjunct professors. The exact number has not yet been determined.

Dr. Guarasci explained in an interview on Feb. 20, that, "in principle, if you have fewer students, then you need fewer administrators, staff and faculty. If we can be more efficient with class scheduling then we will need fewer adjuncts. If we have 40 fewer students than we have in this year's total student enrollment, then we may be able to reduce adjunct courses by an equivalent amount."

He added, "we are not considering radical cuts, but we have to find savings in every area such as purchasing, energy use, etc."

Currently our total undergraduate enrollment is 1,875, only slightly

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Photo: www.streetlightmanifesto.com

The band Streetlight Manifesto is one of the final options for the "big name" for Wagnerstock.

## SGA has trouble booking big name

By **PAIGE HERLIHY**  
Wagnerian  
Entertainment Assistant

After several failed attempts to nail down a headliner for this year's Wagnerstock, SGA is determined to find an act to please the student body.

Usually by this time in the spring SGA announces who will be the "big name" act, but having lost an act in the final contracting stages twice now they have gone back to the drawing board.

In late fall, SGA took an online student survey asking the Wagner community what kind of act they would most like to see at Wagnerstock.

From the results, it was determined

that students were most interested in seeing a band whose sound resembled that of Third Eye Blind.

While SGA, with the help of WAG-CAB and Co-Curricular, attempted to book the popular band, the budget could not cover it as the band asked for \$50,000, almost \$15,000 more than the budget would allow.

Keeping in mind that lights, stage and sound cost \$10,000-\$15,000 in addition to the cost of the actual act, SGA looked toward more affordable acts.

The first act SGA explored was up-and-coming artist, Eric Hutchinson.

Booking was on course until Feb. 15

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## Google.wagner.edu

### Information Technology considers e-mail move

By **ANDREW MINUCCI**  
Wagnerian Co-Editor

Wagner College is looking to relinquish control of its e-mail service, opting to outsource the provider to Google.

Director of Information Technology Pat Schoknecht sent out an e-mail to the campus community on March 3 stating, "We in IT are seriously looking at the possibility of outsourcing our campus e-mail service to Google. We have presented our ideas to the senior staff and the contract has been analyzed from a legal standpoint."

The whole Wagner community would still maintain their @wagner.edu e-mail address and would still log on to the service through the

domain mailport.wagner.edu. The service will still be referred to as Mailport.

"Think of it as Mailport powered by Google," Schoknecht said in the e-mail.

Students would garner access to all the features included on Google's popular e-mail service, G-Mail. These features include the e-mail service, calendar options and shared documents.

Perhaps one of the biggest features of the move will be the ability for alumni to keep their Wagner e-mail address.

Currently alumni only have the option of having their e-mail forwarded to another account.

The Google service will also allow

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The Wagnerian

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By HARRY JACKSON  
SGA President

# Message from the ‘Oval’ office

## What exactly is the real world?

Like last week’s *Message from the Oval Office*, I will present a point, and then an opposing counterpoint on the issue of Foundation Hall and the loss of the Grymes Hill Apartments which has been brought up in my area of the Wagner Community.

I will do my best to keep my personal opinions on this issue out of the article, using opinions and ideas that have been discussed in various meetings.

By presenting these problems to the student body, hopefully my readers will have better insight into some of the tougher choices we have to make in student government.

**Point:**  
**Foundation Hall as a means to introduce seniors to the “real world”**

Foundation Hall is delayed. That is a separate issue unto itself, and I could write five more columns about it.

The benefits of the building, when it is all said and done, will hopefully erase these criticisms, giving students more lounge space, meeting areas, study centers and another kitchen (no more treks to Guild!) to serve up meals.

Moving undergrads who have been displaced in the apartments on Grymes Hill, and thus removed from our community, back over to Wagner will help to unite the campus.

Giving students the opportunity to live in a state-of-the-art residence hall, housed with programs centered around life-after-Wagner will help students prepare for the “Real World.”

Students previously forced to make the trip daily from down the street will be more likely to participate in campus events, especially when they are held in the very same building in which they live!

Rainy or snowy days traveling from the Grymes Hill Apartments to Campus Hall can be a nightmare, but the new residence hall will ensure undergrads are much closer to Main Hall, Spiro, the Library and many other academic buildings.

The apartments only housed 70 undergrads, so in losing the lease, the effects are very minor when compared to the overall student population, or the 200 students that Foundation Hall can accommodate.

When Foundation Hall is finished, students will have a “window to the world,” as programs geared toward job-hunting and resume building will extend the Backpack to Briefcase lecture series all year long.

**Counterpoint:**  
**The Grymes Hill Apartments are the Real World**

Losing the apartments is like losing a part of the Wagner College curriculum. This living arrangement allowed undergrads to directly experience life on their own, without the hand-holding and coddling living in a residence hall would provide. Students are responsible for cleaning their own showers, their own kitchens, their own living rooms...and you don’t have to share these spaces with a floor full of other people.

Undergrads will never have to wake up to wonder what is in the sink of the bathroom, because it can only be either themselves or one of their roommates who put it there. If there are noise complaints, neighbors will call the police, just like in the “real world.”

Students are responsible for commuting to and from the Wagner campus, just as we will be expected to commute to a potential job. Using a personal kitchen not only encourages cooking for oneself, but also managing and budgeting a weekly food supply. If you want the Web or go over the allotted electricity usage, you pay a monthly bill. This experience cannot be duplicated in any type of floor program.

By forcing undergrads back to live in a residence hall, students are taking a step back from learning how to live on their own, and Wagner is taking a step away from its mission statement of helping students “learn by doing.”

**Your take:**

The lease on the Grymes Hill Apartments expires next year, however Foundation Hall will not be completed in time to accommodate the students moving back on campus.

At a time when an on-campus housing crunch has forced triples in the past, where are these students going to live?

When “the Foundie” does open, what extension of Backpack to Briefcase will teach seniors more about living on their own than actually allowing them to experience it?

However, what better way to teach seniors about an experience than bringing their curriculum, internships, and research tutorials together under one roof?

Best of Luck to ALL candidates running for Executive Board Positions! Don’t forget to come out and VOTE!

# Fewer students means fewer staff for ‘09 -‘10

Continued from Page 1

lower than our recent high of 1,910. Although Dr. Guarasci said “though our retention rate has improved from last year to this year, it still does not fully compensate for the dip in investment income as a result of the reduction in the equity value of our endowment.”

The incoming number of freshmen in 2007 was 512 students. In 2008 the college saw the number sink to 480. While the Admissions Office declined to comment on the correlation between incoming students and the financial problems, they did issue this statement: “Although the number of applications that we normally receive have been declining slightly, the quality of the students applying have increased.”

Dr. Guarasci said that “the current fall to spring retention rate is 90%, which could help to bring enrollments closer to desired levels. The fact is we are in a recession, but we should be fine for this current fiscal year, which ends Aug. 31.”

He added, “Thank goodness the stimulus package addresses student loans and unlocking that credit market.”

He also explained that at this point the college does not know what will come of its summer programming and annual giving.

One adjunct professor, who wishes to remain anonymous, told the Wagnerian that adjuncts are paid \$2,000 per class a semester, “which in a full class of 28 kids is only about \$70 a head.”

Surprisingly, this professor was in support of the laying off of adjuncts to help Wagner loosen the strict budget the school has fallen under.

“It’s a good thing. This college uses a lot of adjuncts and they (the administration) do it purely for the money. They don’t pay here. Professors here receive one-fourth of the income we could receive at any other college. I like to think I do a good job but having full time professors teach classes

benefits the students because they are learning from a teacher with a commitment to the subject.”

However, the cutting of adjuncts concerns some students. Senior Emily Visnosky states, “With fewer teachers I would expect the class sizes to rise and the number of courses being offered to drop.”

Dr. Guarasci insisted that the focus of the administration remains “quality of our students and quality of our educational offerings.”

He explained that, “any cuts will not be made across the board, but rather we’ll do it surgically. We’ll look at what can be cut based on the interests of the students.”

Dr. Guarasci said that “Our debt load will be just over \$60 million (after the new residence hall) which is not unusually high for a small college.

Dr. Guarasci said that the debt of the new building was taken on to “enhance the quality of our education.” The new residence hall will feature a series of programming for seniors to help them transition from college to the real world.

Currently, Dr. Guarasci and the administration are talking to energy consultants on ways to save money and talking to different internet providers that will put the school on a cheaper yet more efficient plan.

According to Dr. Guarasci, right now the college is facing a lot of competing needs including fixing Main Hall, finishing the sprinkler systems in the residence hall and putting an elevator in the Union.

In addition to cutting back on adjunct staff, salaries may not be increased for the faculty and staff that remain. Dr. Guarasci said, “There were no salary increases last year and we don’t know if we can increase them this year.”

Despite the economic times Dr. Guarasci is determined to forge ahead, searching for any possible ways to save money.

He said, “The bottom line is we are in a recession and the idea is to come out stronger than we went in.”

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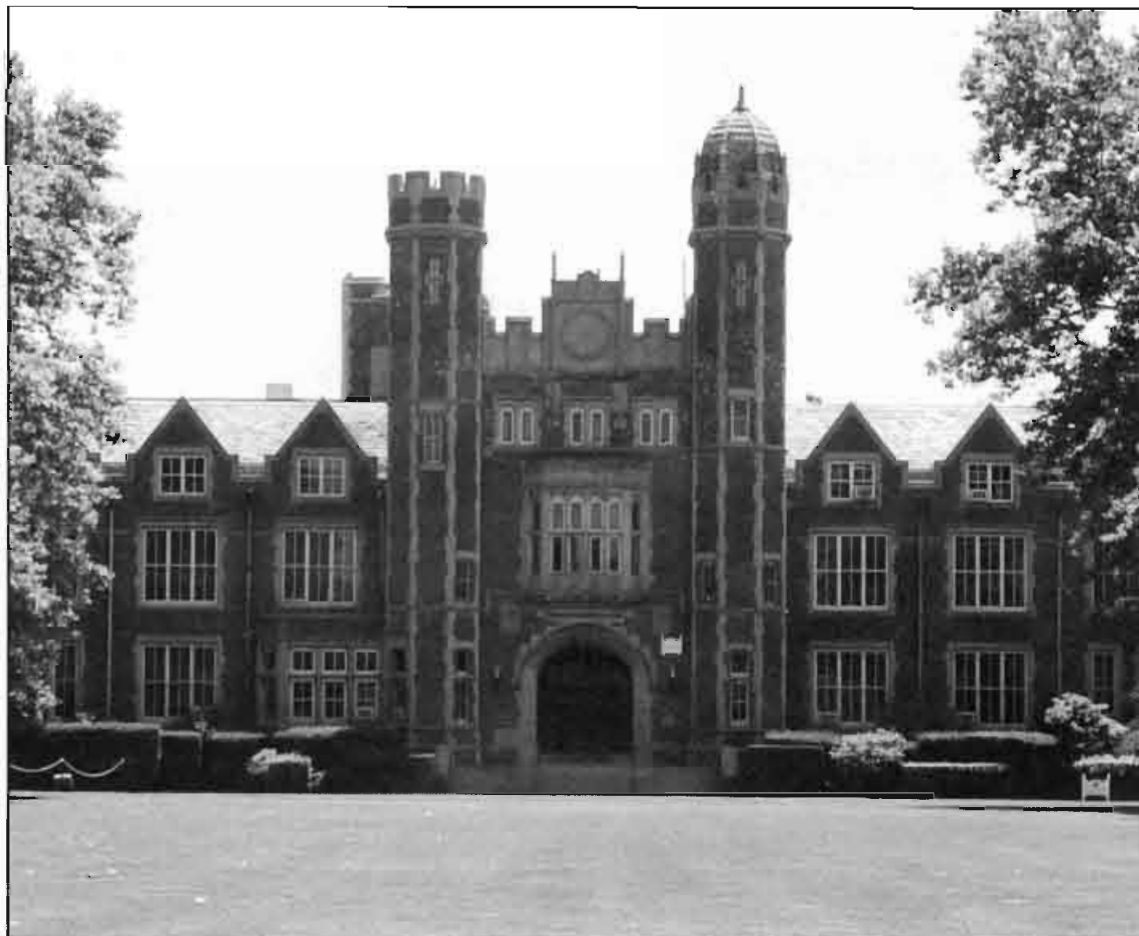


Photo: www.wagner.edu

Main Hall before the addition of the portico at the entrance in the fall of 2006. Weather permitting, commencement takes place in front of the iconic building.

## Main Hall portico will remain for yet another commencement

By **LAURA DELLAVILLA**  
Wagnerian Staff Writer

Wagner has undergone many renovations over the past few years, whether it be a new sprinkler system in the residence halls or installing a handicap-friendly pathway to the Tiers parking lot.

Next on the administration's list of projects is Main Hall.

"It breaks my heart [to see Main Hall in the condition it's in]," said Tom Carroll, vice president of finance and administration, but "[our priority] is making sure the facilities are safe."

Right now there is a plan for Main Hall's renovations, said Carroll, and beyond that plan are some wishes.

The administration's plan is to first fix the outside of the building. This includes replacing the roof and cast stones. This will fix the leaks and heating problems within the building, making it warmer during the winter months. Mortar will be filled into some of the outside bricks to help keep in warmth.

They also plan on installing new windows, which will be energy efficient and aid in trapping the heat.

There is no projected start date at the moment; the renovations are on hold with the Board of Trustees due to funding.

Due to the economy, there was some loss in investments, making it difficult to start such a large project.

"I want to be able to tell you next year," said Carroll. "We have to see how the financial statements end up and enrollment. Will it be next year? I hope."

The project is estimated to cost about three million dollars but there is "a lot of uncertainty of where the money is going to come from," stated Carroll.

He mentioned that if it was going



Photo: Jessica Ramsey

The portico we see today was constructed at the entrance of Main Hall in the fall of 2006 to support the structure and protect those using the entrance during construction.

to cost less than \$1 million, they would try to squeeze the money from other budgets, but because of the large amount, administration is waiting to see where it could come from.

Any renovations to the theater in Main Hall are going to be "strictly based on donations," said Carroll.

Carroll has spoken with donors who have an interest in theater and hopes some will give large gifts to help refurbish it.

The portico in front of the main

entrance will not be removed until the exterior of the building has been renovated.

The school is worried about having a safety issue and their wish to keep it in place has been backed up by engineers who agree.

One of the exterior bricks could get loose and fall, and the portico is holding them in place.

*Wagnerian reporter Michael Pinto contributed to this report.*

## College mourns passing of longtime dean

By **ALLESSIA QUINTANA**  
Wagnerian Staff Writer

"Julia represented all that is good in our world: she effortlessly blended boundless intelligence, thoughtfulness, kindness, empathy, professionalism and patience into one truly fun and interesting person," said Cassia Freedland, Director of the Center for Leadership and Service.

"We all loved her in our office," said Camille Cook, administrative assistant of the Center for Academic and Career Development. "Julia had a special way about her that was warm, welcoming, and full of wisdom."

"Julie represented the best of Wagner: high professional achievement, a welcoming and inclusive personality, and a wonderful sense of humor," said President Dr. Richard Guarasci.

These are just a few of many quotes describing this radiant person who was a prominent part of the Wagner Community for half a century.

Dean Julia Barchitta was the epitome of a Wagner College role model.

She was a student at Wagner in the 1960s and flourished in the college community ever since as a teacher, confidante and most recently as a dean, until she died from cancer on Sunday, Feb. 22 at the age of 65.

She even met the love of her life as a student here, her husband Roy. He passed away of cancer six years ago at 61 years old.

Dean Barchitta was a registered nurse, earning her bachelor's and master's degrees in nursing at Wagner.

She became an instructor for Wagner's nursing department in 1981. About a decade later, she was designated as the Nursing Department's chairwoman.

Just one year after acquiring this title, Dr. Guarasci (then the provost) named her as Wagner's primary Dean of Learning Communities and Experiential Learning, which remained her position until her death.

She received several honors and awards for her work and dedication to the community.

Two additional honors she was chosen to accept will be bestowed



Dean Julia Barchitta died from cancer on Sunday, Feb. 22.

posthumously.

Freedland knew Dean Barchitta for a decade, and embraced the opportunity to work with her the past three years.

"Her warmth and inclusiveness made everyone feel special, and her thoughtful approaches to problems were greatly admired...She was quite simply, spectacular in every way."

Dean Barchitta enjoyed traveling and exploring various cultures, especially those of several European countries, Germany, Austria, Ireland and Czechoslovakia (information on specific countries taken from SI Advance obituary).

She earned the nickname 'Julie Who?' because she was frequently traveling, often at times to speak about the breakthrough life-extending cancer drug she was taking, called Sutent.

Her talks provided fellow cancer patients with strength and inspiration.

"No matter how sick or how busy, she found a way to visit so many countries, both personally and as a Pfizer 'poster child' to endorse and talk to many different schools and companies about the experimental drug she was on for her cancer," said Cook.

She added, "We miss her and have her memory to hold us together as a Wagner family. I can see her dancing with her husband Roy in paradise..."

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# Who will be the next SGA president?

Read their campaign messages here

## Michael Pinto

Leadership, advocacy, service.

These words have long been what SGA has stood for and these words perfectly describe what a Pinto Presidency would stand for.

Saying I wanted this position since I was first accepted to Wagner would be a lie. In fact, the possibility of me running for SGA president did not become a reality until the spring of 2008 when I was appointed to my current E-Board position.

Since becoming a member of SGA in fall 2007, I have seen all the good it has done, and continues to do, for the Wagner community.

If elected president, I would certainly continue all the strides we have made with students and administration and continue to make SGA a strong force and presence on campus.

I know nearly everyone has heard the "I Have a Friend Speech," and is probably sick of it. But I still look to that night as the changing point in my college career.

Since then, my involvement in clubs and organizations has increased more than ten fold. I have tried to make every organization I have become part of a better one, and as president I would do the same with SGA.

### Leadership

How does a good leader start?

For me it started that night being a Peer Leader. Since then I have improved my skills in becoming an effective leader, and gotten better at taking the criticism of others.

It is these skills that I hope will help me as president. I want to present SGA as a strong, confident organization that truly cares for the students' needs and will do their best and hardest to fight for them.

As president, you are the representative of the student body not only to Wagner faculty, staff and administration, but also to Trustees, alumni, and the Staten Island community.

Being as passionate as I am about Wagner College and all it offers, I feel I can be the best representative for the College as a student leader. And at the same time, a good leader realizes that any organization or institution has its faults and problems.

As president I will acknowledge both the successes and failures of the College.

I will be willing to fight for the students' rights with College administration and not back down because they are the superiors, but stand up to them because we are the students and deserve the best experience possible.

### Advocacy

Everyone knows SGA is here to



help students, but how many of them actually use SGA as an outlet for complaints and to vent about their troubles?

I want to become president to increase the advocacy on behalf of SGA to the whole campus. I want students to know we have an open-door policy 24/7.

Any time of day students can come in, tell us what's going on, voice a complaint if they have one, and know we will do the best possible job we can to see that something gets done.

I also hope to reach out to more students, visiting floors and clubs, letting them know we are here to help them.

Each student gives us \$150 for the Student Activity Fee. I want to make sure they know where that money is going, and if they're not happy about it, how we can fix it.

Students should never feel there isn't anywhere to turn; SGA is always there for them.

### Service

As president, you are serving on behalf of the students, and I will never forget that. It's not about what I want to see happen, it's about what the students want to see happen. I will always keep the students' and the College's best interests in mind while serving as president.

They put their faith and trust in me, now it's time to give back to them. For this faith and trust in me, I will be forever indebted to them and will always try to live up to their hopes for my presidency.

In closing, why do I want to be SGA president? To lead, not only in the student's eyes, but in the eyes of the community.

To advocate, let students know we are always here for them and will try our hardest to solve their problems. To serve, we have to give back to the community so much more than they give to us.

Wagner's SGA is a truly unique and gifted organization, an organization that has introduced me to most of my closest friends. To serve as its president, would be an honor.

I'm Michael Pinto, and I'm running for SGA president.

## Alexa Marin

Why do I want to be the next president?

I never thought I would have such a hard time answering that question and yet last night when I sat down to write this statement I found myself struggling to come up with the words I needed.

I quickly realized that I want to be president not only because holding this position would benefit me, but because having this position would benefit the student body.

My past accomplishments exhibit this well. I have dedicated myself to making SGA a better organization for the past two and a half years and have loved every minute of it.

Not only have I contributed to SGA, but my experience with the organization has been one of growth and learning. The presidency would give me a chance to expand on what I have already done with SGA.

### An experienced candidate

I currently serve as vice president for SGA. Assisting the current president has helped me to see what the role requires and has given me a year to learn how to best fulfill the duties of that role.

For example, there have been times when the current president was unavailable and I had to run SGA meetings on my own. Experiences like this will help me if I am elected to be president.

I have experienced success and failure in this organization and I know exactly what kind of balance one must maintain when in an executive board position, and when dealing with students and administration.

I also understand how incredibly time consuming this position can be and am fully prepared to continue to dedicate a large portion of my time to making sure that I uphold this position to what it should be.

More importantly, I want to do it.

I feel as though I represent a great variety of students on this campus, which is why I have always loved being a part of SGA.

I have also come to know so many people on campus through my work as a senator and vice president and I now understand how diverse the student body at our college really is.

### A well-rounded candidate

I am not only part of the Greek community, but I am part of a group of student leaders, student



writers, volunteers, and I have friends in virtually every "group" on campus.

I relate well to people regardless of how different we may be.

I believe that this quality would make me a very approachable president. People will know that they can talk to me and that I will really listen to their problems and concerns.

What I want for this position is simple. As a student, I want a president who is reliable, and someone who won't be afraid to take risks for me or for the rest of my peers.

I truly believe that I can be this person.

I want nothing more than to keep helping this campus and being president will make that possible.

I have worked incredibly hard during my time with SGA to make sure that students' concerns are being heard.

I know that there are still a lot of issues and concerns left to listen to but I also know that I am ready to hear and do something about them.

### A dedicated candidate

I'm not afraid of the risks that a president has to take.

The most important thing to remember is that, at the end of the day, we are not here for the faculty or the administration, we are here for the students.

The students fund us and support us and it is the students who should benefit from the work that we do.

I am not a part of this organization because it looks good on a resume; I am here because I believe that when we do our jobs well the students benefit.

Understanding these things is what will make me a great President.

Knowing all of this has fueled my passion for SGA even more and I would love the opportunity to keep helping my peers next year.

Don't forget  
to vote for  
SGA  
President!

Voting will be  
Wednesday  
March 11  
and  
Thursday  
March 12  
in front of the  
SGA office.

Are you  
interested in  
being on  
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Application  
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Any questions?  
Contact  
SGA President  
Harry Jackson.  
E-mail  
sga@wagner.edu

You can meet Alexa and Mike and discuss their campaign platforms in person  
Tuesday, March 10 immediately following the town hall meeting at 4:30 p.m. in Spiro 4.



Photo: Wagnerian file photo

Ingrid Michaelson performed at Wagner last year as the big name act for Wagnerstock.

## SGA works to book Wagnerstock big name

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when, having not yet signed the contract, Hutchinson pulled out to go on a European tour.

Hutchinson's agent promised SGA a list of other acts and never followed through.

The most recent disappointment in the Wagnerstock-headliner-search was the popular singer/songwriter, Ben Folds.

Folds was in the SGA price range, albeit the high end of the price range, so SGA sent out the contract.

As Folds learned more about Wagner's size and location, he lost interest and his agent began to suggest other band names and eventually pulled out last week.

Frustrated by both failed attempts to sign a big name, SGA began looking for yet another option and discovered what will hopefully be Wagnerstock's saving grace, concertideas.com.

The site, used by Rutgers and the SUNY schools, acts as an agent for the college, and pairs schools with acts in their price range.

The acts generated by the website's database are rapper, Fabulous; hip hop group, Three 6 Mafia; and band, Streetlight Manifesto.

Jackson says other options are Sugarcult and Yung Joc, but they are less likely.

All of the acts are in SGA's price

range, but it has not yet been decided which will be chosen. Ultimately it will depend on which agent responds the quickest and can best accommodate the needs for Wagnerstock, for example if they will be willing to play outside on the oval.

Harry Jackson, SGA president said, "We don't have time to put out a survey. I really regret that. I would like to have one, but we're very excited about all the possibilities and hope students will enjoy whatever we ultimately chose."

When an act is chosen, Jackson hopes it will appeal to a wide demographic, "We don't want people to think it's a one dimensional show," he said, "My main goal is to offer something new from past years. We've had a comedian, we've had an indie-pop type performer, and now we're trying to find something new so students aren't seeing the same thing year after year."

Also in the works for Wagnerstock is an opening act.

Contingent on the headliner's agreement to an opener, former America's Best Dance Crew contestants, Brake Skate, could perform.

Brake Skate would also have to agree to perform outside and with limited stage space.

Jackson said that having Brake Skate is not close to being a definite at this point, but he hopes to nail details down soon.

## Prof. Halley lectures as if there's no tomorrow

By CARLENE KUCHARCZYK  
Wagnerian Staff Writer

What bits of advice would you give to others before you died? What moments of your life would you want to share with the world?

As the first installment of this year's "Last Lecture" series on Feb. 24, Wagner College sociology Professor Jean Halley was asked to share this information given the supposition that this was her absolute last lecture.

Beginning the lecture with humility and a sense of humor, Halley said, "I have almost nothing wise to say and I'm supposed to be wise." But it turned out she did have many words of wisdom to share.

Halley recalled her youth and spoke of the obstacles that faced her coming from an Irish Catholic home with a violent, abusive father. She emphasized the strength of her mother and how she was able to become the person she is because of her influence.

Adoring students and other attentive audience members filled Beisler Lounge, listening to Halley as she read her essay, "Ranch style: A history told in carpets" published in the 2005 Qualitative Inquiry.

The essay is a piece of creative non-fiction exploring her childhood trauma and family history in the context of gender and class. In it Halley writes, "And now you, bird-shaped stain, still for always, never a moment in air since your accidental making...Green, green bird, you leapt from destiny and remade yourself. Whose story do you tell from your perfect resting place?" Through the realm of carpets, a story is told about the remembered experiences of an individual.

An accomplished woman, Halley holds a Ph.D. in sociology and women's studies from the Graduate Center of the City University of New York and a master's degree in theology from Harvard University. She was also awarded the Outstanding Scholar Award by Wagner College



Photo: Wagner College Web site

Prof. Jean Halley delivered the first installment of the "Last Lecture" series on Feb. 24.

this past December.

She has published several essays in the Qualitative Inquiry and has published two books: "Boundaries of Touch" and "The Affective Turn: Theorizing the Social."

Her accomplishments in civil commitment are just as impressive. She spoke of her experiences working to shelter homeless people. Halley worked to find these people apartments without enforcing restraints upon their drug usage, which might discourage them from seeking help.

She described her experiences during this time as, "a little crazy, but wonderful," as she dealt with situations, such as gun shots, sex work and drug dealing.

She has also spent time volunteering in East Africa.

Halley discussed with the audience the importance of giving love, but also acknowledged the difficulty in distinguishing between what is right and wrong in many circumstances.

She compares how we find our

way through life to flowers moving toward the sun saying, "we bump into wisdom and stumble to the next thing."

Before concluding the lecture by answering questions from the audience, Halley read the poem, "The Summer Day," by Mary Oliver.

The poem, thematically similar to Halley's own writing, encompasses the vast expanse of life given to each of us. The last lines read, "Tell me, what else should I have done?/ Doesn't everything die at last, and too soon? / Tell me, what is it you plan to do with your one wild and precious life?"

The "Last Lecture" originated from Carnegie Mellon Professor Randy Paush who gave "The Last Lecture: Really Achieving Your Childhood Dreams" after discovering he was dying of pancreatic cancer. He then co-authored the New York Times best-seller, "The Last Lecture."

Each month this spring, Wagner College will host a "last lecture" given by a Wagner professor.

## Campus e-mail may be outsourced

Continued from Page 1

students to have e-mail forwarded to another address, have access to their account via cell phone, even when the campus network is down, and provide better spam filtering.

Schoknecht acknowledges there are a few cons about outsourcing the campus e-mail to Google.

The college will be forced to give up control of the service, disallowing them from retrieving deleted e-mails and their ability to guarantee confidential personal e-mail.

Students will only have 7 GB of space on their account, which Schoknecht states, "will be sufficient for 99 percent of our users," adding "We presently have no limits on Mailport. We checked present storage and there were only two accounts that surpassed the 7 GB limit."

Currently when the Verizon net-

work goes down on campus, the college is still able to grant access to Mailport and other college Web sites. If the switch to Google is made, students will no longer have access to their e-mail in the event of network failure.

"Our bottom line is that we believe the pros outweigh the cons and that this is something we should pursue," said Schoknecht.

Google is providing the service to colleges for free and will not expose student e-mail accounts to ads. Sponsored links will be evident on alumni accounts.

According to Schoknecht, "Google's business rationale is to provide 'free' service for four years and then start generating revenue from every individual account that is maintained by an alumni after that."

Schoknecht is currently accessing student interest in making the move

and states, "If the campus is positive, then we are a 'go'. If the campus is negative, then I will need to discuss with the senior staff what the concerns are and whether those can be addressed or if we put on the brakes."

SGA President Harry Jackson said, "I think it's a great idea. It allows our alumni to keep their Wagner e-mail, which will strengthen our alumni network plus it allows current students to use the resources google can provide."

He added, "I think this will be a more reliable way to handle our large volume of e-mail accounts because unlike Mailport it would not all be in house. While it's really impressive that IT has run mailport on their own, it crashes a lot."

If the college decides to make the move, it will take place over the summer months.

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# Songfest 2009

## Meet the candidates for king and queen



**Chelsea Dunbar '09**  
Tau Kappa Sigma

Major: Arts Administration

"I just want to represent Wagner College and my TKS sisters to the best of my ability!"



**Kimberly Cantoni '09**  
Alpha Delta Pi

Major: Arts Administration

"I would be honored to be your Songfest Queen because I believe I am the best representation of Songfest due to my active involvement for the past three years as a dancer and choreographer, as well as being a well rounded student on and off campus."



**Ed Haddican '09**  
Kappa Sigma Alpha

Major: Theatre Tech

"Because nothing ever came from a life that was a simple one" --Flogging Molly

"That's what she said....."



**Alison Razzetti '09**  
Alpha Omicron Pi

Major: Psychology

"I have loved my years at Wagner and getting to know the students, faculty and administration on a personal level. I have held numerous positions in AOPi. I would be honored to be Wagner's 2009 Songfest Queen!"



**Robin Feder '09**  
Kappa Sigma Alpha

Major: English

"I want to be Songfest queen to give the fraternities a chance at having a queen."



**Angelo D'Amico '09**  
Delta Nu

Major: Psychology

"I should be Songfest King because we need change...YES WE CAN!"



**Lindsay Canuel '10**  
Alpha Sigma Alpha

Major: Double major in theatre and psychology

"I'm not doing this for myself, I'm doing this for my sisters, and I think it's about time that ASA gets recognized for their dedication and hard work at Wagner."



**Ashlee Redmond '09**  
Nubian Student Union

Major: Business Administration

"I feel that I embody Wagner's expectations of a model student and role model to my peers. As the daughter of two Wagner College Alumni I understand my college's traditions, as well as their values of the past and present."



**Joe Mancuso '09**  
Tau Kappa Epsilon

Major: Arts Admin

"If you can imagine it, you can achieve it; if you can dream it, you can become it."  
-William Arthur Ward



By **ALEXA LYONS**  
Wagnerian Staff Writer

Songfest, a traditional event here at Wagner College, began fifty years ago.

Songfest will be held this year on Saturday, March 28 at 8 p.m. in the Spiro Sports Center gymnasium.

Originally, the event was an entertaining singing competition, where contestants from all four class years would compete for the first place prize.

Today, the event has transformed into something completely different.

The once singing contest has now altered into an intense dance competition.

For several years the competitors were strictly Greek organizations, but according to the co-curricular bylaws which govern Songfest the event is open to all organizations governed by SGA and in recent years more groups have participated, for example the Nubian Student Union.

All participants create a dance routine to perform for the student body.

The event also includes the competition for Songfest king and queen.

Much like homecoming, two students are elected to be the king and queen of Songfest, while the rest of the nominees are placed on the royal court.

Every group that participates is eligible to choose one person from

## Event Preview

their organization to represent them as king or queen nominee.

This year's theme is "The Next Stop Is..." leaving the ambiguity up to the contestants to play around with.

Theclusiveness of the title allows for a variety of themed dances, involving ideas of time periods, locations, and anything else the groups can come up with.

Some organizations wish to keep their theme a secret, while others have no problem sharing.

Themes this year cover a wide range of topics. For example, Theta Chi's theme this year will be "The Next Stop is... Madison Square Garden," while Kappa Sigma Alpha's theme is "The Next Stop Is... That's what she said."

Harry Jackson, president of the SGA, expressed his excitement for the traditional event.

He said, "I look forward to seeing the creativity and sheer determination of the Wagner College Student Body."

Last year's Songfest theme was "Welcome to...."

First place for the annual dance competition went to Alpha Delta Pi sorority.



**Timothy Lawton '09**  
Theta Chi

Major: Theatre Performance

"I, The Most Rev. Timothy Joseph David Lawton, hope to become your Songfest King and show our campus that if you cannot have pride in your Greek letters, you can most certainly be proud of our alma mater."

**Don't forget  
to vote for  
Songfest king  
and queen!**

**Voting will be  
March 25 & 26  
from  
10 a.m. to  
7 p.m. in front  
of the SGA  
office.**

**(how) waggish** {trans.} adjective:  
like a wag; roguish in merriment and good humor; jocular:  
*i.e. Fielding and Sterne are waggish writers.*

## Jesse Hagen's Super Hottie Hall of Fame

It's only fair that after last issue's anonymous staffer got to gush about their favorite guys, that I seized the opportunity to let you in on some of my most thought about celebrity desires. Remember, Jesse Hagen definitely did write these.



**Da Brat-**  
Misappropriated 2Pac style headband... sexy. Da Brat's name... sexier.



**Janet Reno-**  
Makes me get my grown man on and serenade her to take off those glasses and slip into something more comfortable.



**Rosie O'Donnell-**  
I know she hates the Donald, but she gets me fired (up) every time.



**Whoopi Goldberg-**  
You know what they say about hosts on "The View:" you can never stop at just one. Ow! Ow!



**Amy Winehouse-**  
A classy, "modestly-dressed" woman who stays far away from controversy.



**Jessica Alba-**  
Admittedly, she's not as easy on the eyes as the first five. But personality goes a long way, ya know?



## You have been judged

Nicolas Cage

Think you're sneaky, huh? Think you can bury your ties to the Coppola royal film family and try to pass your career along as "real?"

Sorry. I'm no more fooled by your name switch than your decision to grow your hair long in the back despite how far back your hairline recedes.

Yet somehow, the suits in Hollywood still insist on paying you \$8 Million per movie.

It wasn't enough for you to piss all over the Ghost-Rider movie (you looked more like a creepy skeleton without CGI), let's take a look at your next project: a "tense" thriller based on a man chasing down codes to uncrack a final secret.

Wait, what? Isn't that "National Treasure," but without the historical element? You already made a sequel to that! How do your films make money?

Arggh! film goers are stupid.

Verdict: you should be trapped in an inner circle of hell, forced to watch "Wicker Man" for all eternity.

Good God! What are you doing with your hair?!? No, but really, my eyes burn.

LAUGH BAKED

## 'College appropriate' humor



By **JESSE HAGEN**  
Wagnerian Design Editor

Due to the "questionable" content of my regularly scheduled column this week, we'll instead be featuring a list of more "college appropriate" humor.

Hawk's Nest Humor:

Q: What did the Turkey Burger say to the grill?

A: Hey, why does it take three hours for you to cook me?

Q: What did the ketchup say to the chipotle sauce?

A: Nothing, we never have any of either.

Q: Why are the new cups so small?

A: No really, no punchline here. Why are the new cups so small?

Okay, really, I can't do this anymore. Let's get to the question you're probably really wondering.

Q: Can't you be funny without being crude/offensive?

A: Of course I can. But humor doesn't work as well on a restricted level.

Humor is one of the toughest things to be good at because it relies so much on subjectivity. For instance, I don't like Dane Cook, but obviously several people do, he's famous. So, just because I find him untalented, that doesn't demerit his status amongst the millions of people who enjoy his brand of humor.

It works the same with what runs here. Several of you readers come up to me and tell me how much you enjoy the column, or how you read every single one, or how you laughed so hard while sneaking a glance in class that your professor looked at you funny. I appreciate those comments, every single one. They make the effort I put in seem worth it.

Of course, I hear grumbles behind my back about people who don't find my material funny as well. That's okay with me. I need to hear both ends of the spectrum to refine my material to the point that I'm happy, and the general reading public is too.

But, it's not an effective compromise when there's a limit placed on topics that can and can't be explored on this page. This is a college newspaper, and at times the Wagnerian's print standards can be difficult for me to follow. Most of the times, my columns aren't even things that I find to be the most funny (seriously, if

people knew most of the things I find humorous, they would probably just think I'm the weirdest person alive). But that's the thing: as a writer, my goal is to make the readers laugh. So, I have to try and choose a topic that I find funny, and one that I think the readers will enjoy too. Sometimes my interpretation of what would be funny to a college student is a little too extreme for our print standards.

What provoked this rant? Well, my planned column for the week was a recounting of a night at Bottomley's, a popular bar. I'm 21, and although drinking can be a sore subject for college administrators, I never talked about doing anything illegal or upsettingly gross in this column. My intent was to parody the bar-night mentality and I thought I succeeded in my goal. Was it offensive? Maybe to some, but judging by the amount of people I see at Bottomley's on Wednesdays I think it would have been a hit.

And that's the other thing. Even if people don't like it, it fires up an important dialogue about issues that maybe we should be addressing. If you study the great comedians, the best and most successful are funny because they push boundaries while often reflecting funny but revealing truths about the American public. Carlin got famous with his seven words you can't say on television. Richard Pryor swore up a storm, but his comedic impact was monstrous and undeniable. Dave Chappelle gave society a racial awakening with his race-tinged sketch comedy. The best comedy is often at its time considered somewhat offensive. I mean South Park has some of the most offensive jokes on television, but they also have one of the greatest underlying moral messages.

I love, and have given my heart, my soul and a large portion of my precious hours to this publication you have in your hands. If I've ever offended you, I assure you it was never done with malicious intent.

Now, what do I hope to get out of this column? Well, I'd like to start that dialogue I mentioned between the Wagnerian and its readers. Maybe you think I should be allowed to swear on occasion, maybe you think I shouldn't. Maybe this section is the only reason you pick up the paper, or maybe you think that the humor section doesn't belong in the Wagnerian at all, but the point is, if you're reading this, you must have an opinion.

So, please take a moment of your time, and send us an email with your thoughts. I'd love to print some of the responses in the next issue. Wagnerian@wagner.edu

And now if you'll excuse me, I'll be putting the soapbox back where I found it: under Sean Penn's feet.



# Nation and World

... a bi-weekly review of major national and worldwide news



Photo: www.welcomtovancouver.com  
President Obama has overturned Bush’s regulation that allowed development projects to begin without the consultation of environment and wildlife protection agencies.

## Obama administration nullifies Bush’s endangered species policy

By **STEPHANIE BERRIOS**  
Wagnerian Staff Writer

A few weeks before leaving the White House, President George W. Bush issued a regulation that granted permission for federal agencies to launch construction and land development projects without consultations with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and the National Marine Fisheries Service.

A longstanding requirement, Bush’s last minute policy confirmed that federal agencies would no longer have to obtain the advice of wildlife experts before engaging in activities that might harm plants and animals protected under the Endangered Species Act.

Reversing Bush’s policy on endangered species, President Barack Obama issued a memorandum that would suspend Bush’s regulation and reinstate the practice for all U.S. agencies to consult wildlife experts to determine whether particular construction projects might effect the well-being of threatened

species.

Although Obama has not fully overturned this Bush edict, this memorandum will strongly emphasize the consultation option until the Interior and Commerce Departments can review and reconsider changing Bush’s rule.

“The work of scientists and experts in my administration will be respected,” Obama said.

“For more than three decades, the Endangered Species Act has successfully protected our nation’s most threatened wildlife, and we should be looking for ways to improve it, not weaken it.”

Obama’s announcement garnered positive, enthusiastic responses from countless environmentalists and scientists.

According to CNN News, Andrew Wetzler, director of the Natural Resources Defense Council’s Endangered Species Program, mentioned how President Obama’s announcement will greatly benefit endangered species in the US.

He states that the “regulations that President Bush issued were clearly illegal, and they were

bad policy to boot.”

He believes that changing the Bush administration’s last minute policy will successfully preserve and protect the habitats for many endangered species.

Conversely, a number of industry lobbyists sneered at Obama’s decision.

According to an article in the Chicago Tribune, lobbyists felt that enforcing consultations would “add red tape” to road and rail projects currently being funded by the recently approved stimulus plan.

Bill Kovac, who serves as president of environment, technology, and regulatory affairs for the U.S. Chamber of Commerce states that this memorandum would “throw brakes on projects”.

He also mentions that even clean energy plans could potentially be affected by this.

In spite of opposing viewpoints, President Obama maintains that this decision will help our economy to grow and prosper and preserve the environment “for ourselves, our children, and our grandchildren.”

## Obama begins budget plans for 2010 fiscal year

By **CODY DULOCK**  
Wagnerian Staff Writer

Writing and proposing a budget seems like a hard thing to do when a massive stimulus package has just passed and the nation’s debt keeps piling up, but that is exactly what President Obama is doing.

Although the budget is not due to be submitted until next month, President Obama and those on Capitol Hill are already discussing its main components and new initiatives. The budget would run around \$3.5 trillion dollars and begin the 2010 fiscal year on Oct. 1.

This past Tuesday, President Obama sent Treasury Secretary Timothy Geithner, White House Budget Director Peter Orszag, and Federal Reserve Chairman Ben Bernanke to Washington to testify in front of congressional committees on the budget. One major question looming is whether or not President Obama’s budget proposals will in fact be able to reduce the deficit by \$2 trillion over the next 10 years as it estimates.

Peter Orszag has said that the \$2 trillion estimate is based on four factors: economic recovery, bringing the war in Iraq to a close, reduction of corporate tax breaks, and increased tax revenue from high income taxpayers. Being that some of the factors rest on uncertainty, some have cast doubt on the administration’s estimates of the large deficit reduction.

Some assumptions have been made about when economic recovery will begin and the growth in GDP to follow. It is estimated that the economy will begin to re-

cover in 2010 with a 3.2 percent growth in GDP then on to 4.0 percent in 2011 and 4.6 percent in 2012.

In response to skeptics who say the administration is being too optimistic, Orszag told CNN that “As you emerge [from a very deep recession] the economy temporarily grows faster than normal just because your starting point is so low.”

Both Democrats and Republicans on Capitol Hill have brought specific aspects of the budget plan into question. One part is Obama’s plan to reduce high-income earner’s tax deductions for the interest paid on charitable contributions and their home payments.

A proposal to start taxing industries on their greenhouse gas pollution is also drawing fire because it is sure to raise consumers’ electricity rates.

Rep. Dave Camp of Michigan, the top Republican on the Ways and Means Committee stated that, “this massive hidden energy tax is going to work its way through every aspect of American life...how we light our homes, heat our homes and pay for the gas in our cars, in every phase of our daily lives, we will be paying higher costs.”

Orszag has acknowledged that the energy proposal would increase costs for consumers, but he argues that the large majority of consumers will get tax breaks elsewhere in Obama’s budget package.

The final details still need to be hammered out before it is officially proposed in April, but many questions will still be asked about the overall viability of the budget.

Information for the  
Nation and World pages  
provided by:

The Associated Press

The New York Times

www.msnbc.com

www.abcnews.com

# President Obama by the numbers

Days in Office: 50

Oaths of Office Taken: 2  
(One at the Inauguration, and a “do-over” the next day because Chief Justice Roberts misplaced a word.)

Bills signed: 3  
(Lilly Ledbetter Fair Pay Act; Children’s Health Insurance Reauthorization Act, American Recovery and Reinvestment Act more commonly known as the stimulus bill)

States Visited: 7  
(Maryland, Virginia, Indiana, Florida, Illinois, Colorado, Arizona)

Flights on Air Force One: 16

Visits to Camp David: 1

Visits to Schools: 4  
(One of which was Sidwell Friends in Bethesda, Md. where his daughters Sasha and Malia are students.)

Congressional addresses delivered: 1

Information gathered from [www.demconwatch.com](http://www.demconwatch.com)

# Violence breaks out following assassinations in Guinea-Bissau

By NIDHI KHANNA  
Wagnerian Staff Writer

The streets of Guinea-Bissau remain tense and vacant after two days of violent assassinations of prominent leaders in the nation.

On Sunday, March 1 Army Chief General Batista Tagme Na Wai was killed in a bomb attack during the late hours of the evening.

Earlier the very next day, President João Bernardo Vieira was brutally shot in front of his home at around 5:00 a.m.

The New York Times reported that one top diplomat said, “Nobody knows who is in charge and nobody knows what the army will do,” commenting on the chaos in the small African nation.

An isolated group of soldiers have been charged with the assassination of Vieira, and the army has denied speculation of an attempt to overthrow the president in a coup. The stability of this region has been a bit of concern for the international community as tensions grow between top ranking military officials and Vieira.

Vieira had 400 men act as his personal bodyguards, and this group of men were allegedly accused of attacking Wai about a month ago. Guinea-Bissau held presidential elections this past November and Wai accused Vieira of being involved in the drug trade that has been plaguing this African nation.

Columbian drug cartels have been linked to this nation and apparently many Columbian planes have been utilizing Guinea-Bissau’s coastline as a mid-point to transfer narcotics that were intended for several European countries such as Italy, Spain, and France. According to The Christian Science Monitor, African migrants transported drugs such as cocaine to these nations. The Guinea-Bissau government was well aware of the drug trafficking, but the nation lacks a navy to guard open waters to prevent foreign ships from entering the coast. Poorly paid government officials and heavy corruption proved to be apparent obstacles for government intervention.

Despite the nation’s abundant natural resources and export crops such as cashew nuts, Guinea-Bissau remains one of the poorest countries in Africa. The Christian Science Monitor interviewed Dr. David Zounmenou, a senior researcher at the Institute for Security Studies in Tshwane, and he commented on the grave situation that has affected this small nation.

“This recent set of killings can be explained [as] the action of the drug traffickers, who would not allow anything to get in the way or to obstruct their links with Europe,” he said.

Guinea-Bissau received its independence from Portugal in the mid 1970s, and African leaders are still resentful against colonial rule. Zounmenou stated, “Many African countries are still suspicious of Western countries, some of which were colonial rulers less than 50 years ago. But drug trafficking is not a domestic matter anymore. It affects the stability of many countries, it affects systems of governance, and it allows groups to acquire weapons.”

The political stability of Guinea-Bissau remains uncertain, and according to “constitutional order” the head of Parliament will act as the temporary president until the upcoming elections take place in May.

Speculations about whether this recent assassination was conducted in retaliation of the death of General Wai remain, but Mohamed Ibn Chambas, the head of the regional Economic Community of West African States, is more concerned with the future of democracy in this region.

“We want to consolidate democracy, peace and security in this region. The death of a president, of a chief of staff is very grave news,” he explained, according to Agence France-Presse.

He added, “It’s not only the assassination of a president or a chief of staff, it’s the assassination of democracy.”

# Obama delivers congressional address

By SCOTT ALTER  
Wagnerian Staff Writer

It has only been a few months since Barack Obama took the oath of office to become our nation’s forty-fourth president, and he did not waste any time at all addressing our nation before a joint session of Congress on Feb. 24.

The president did not want to officially call it a State of the Union Address. It was merely “frank talk” about his economic agenda, according to msnbc.com.

Now in an economic crisis, people in our nation are losing their jobs, businesses are being shut down, and the economy has now seen a trillion dollars in its deficit. President Obama attempted to help ease some fears with what he felt was a clear plan for success.

His strongest words in his address were, “We will rebuild, we will recover and the United States of America will emerge stronger than before,” and, “The day of reckoning has arrived.”

It seemed to echo Franklin Delano Roosevelt’s, “The only thing we have to fear is fear itself.”

President Obama’s address to Congress focused minimally on foreign policy, merely stating that he would soon announce a plan for ending the war in Iraq.

He spent most of his time at the

podium laying out his plans for education, health care, energy independence, banks and a housing plan.

Then he declared, it would help everyday Americans struggling with rising costs and there would be long term investments toward economic recovery.

The president addressed education by stating that the system produces one of the highest high school dropout rates of any industrialized nation, and half of the students who begin college never finish.

With that said, the budget seeks major increases in funding for incentives to improve teacher performance and pay, programs to help schools meet high standards and expand the nation’s growing network of public-private charter schools.

According to msnbc.com, President Obama made a bold promise that by the year 2020, America will once again have the highest proportion of college graduates in the world.

Continuing his promise towards health care, the president addressed its rising costs. Reforming the health care system has been continually disregarded.

Therefore, Obama said he would call business leaders, doctors and other health care providers to a conference in order to come up

with ideas for a new health care system. With a firm tone, President Obama said, “Let there be no doubt: health care reform cannot wait, it must not wait, and it will not wait another year.”

The president also stated that, after a line by line review of the federal budget for the next ten years, he found two trillion dollars in savings, and it would cut the deficit in half by the end of his first term.

Vice President Joe Biden will lead an oversight effort to make sure this happens.

In addition, President Obama promised a housing plan that will help families lower their monthly payments and refinance their mortgages. Under this plan, the average family would save \$2,000 per year, and interest rates would be lowered.

Naysayers, such as Louisiana Governor Bobby Jindal, think the president’s plan will ultimately expand government spending while concentrating the least amount of time on tax cuts. In addition, they think it will put further debt on future generations.

According to President Obama, “When credit is available again, that young family can finally buy a new home,” he said.

“And then some company will hire workers to build it. And then those workers will have money to

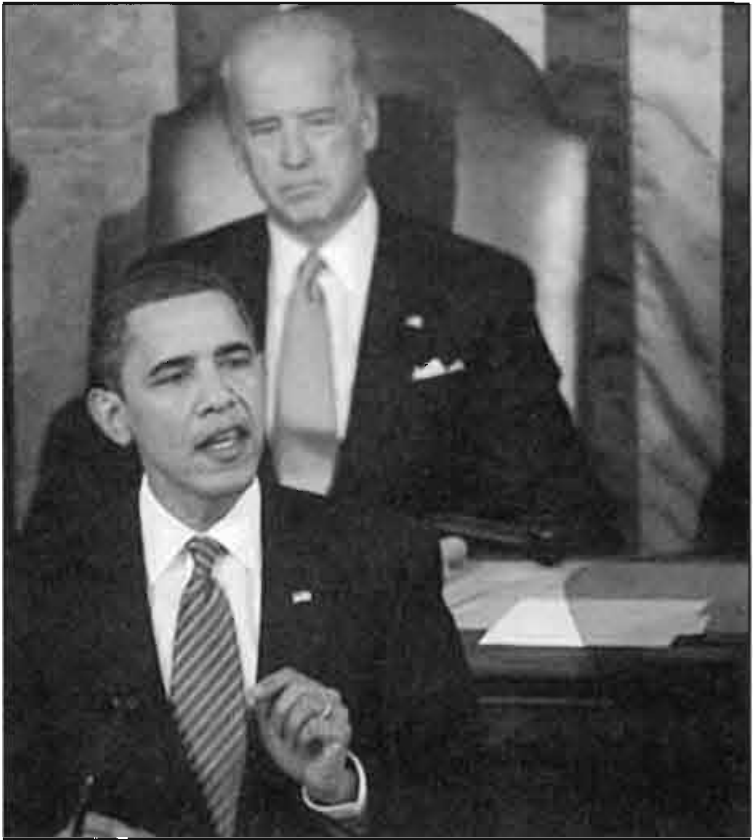


Photo: [www.nytimes.com](http://www.nytimes.com)

President Obama delivered a congressional address on Tuesday, Feb. 24.

spend, and if they can get a loan too, maybe they’ll finally buy that car, or open their own business. Investors will return to the market, and American families will see their retirement secured once more. Slowly, but surely, confidence will return, and our economy will recover.”

This won’t occur overnight as the President has repeatedly stated. It will take an enormous amount of effort and time on the part of the president, his economic team, and Congress to make sure they reach the goal of restoring confidence in the financial markets as well as reducing the deficit of the economy.

# Arts & Entertainment



The real world superheros of Watchmen are now in theatres everywhere.

## Go see 'Watchmen' right now

By **ANDREW MINUCCI**  
Wagnerian Co-Editor

Tonight, a comedian died in New York. Somebody knows why. Somebody knows.

Nerds, like me, have been waiting over two decades to see the Silk Spectre nude on the big screen.

Whoops, excuse me, I mean see the film adaptation of "Watchmen" finally hit theaters.

Fans, who have prayed for this release since its inception in 1986, left the theatre fully satisfied, as the director stayed true to the most celebrated graphic novel of all time.

For the uninitiated, "Watchmen" is roughly about a group of super heroes who have no powers, rarely fight and retired from the trade long ago.

Basically, it is the end of the super hero as we know it.

Much like "300," the film did a fantastic job recreating frame-by-frame scenes from the graphic novel. As I sat in the theatre, I was brought back almost a decade to when I first read Alan Moore's epic.

Like a kid in a candy shop, I was blown away with the amount of material Snyder retained from the book.

My favorite scene, the Comedian killing JFK from the grassy knoll was included and so was the altered history of the nation, such as the United States winning the Vietnam War and making it the fifty-first state and President Nixon being elected to a sixth term.

The film opened with an accurate frame-by-frame murder of the Comedian in his high-rise apartment. The film then went into a stunning history of masked vigilantes to the tune of Bob Dylan's "The Times They are A-Changin'."

Unlike past graphic novel adapta-

tions, such as "V for Vendetta", Snyder did an excellent job staying true to the original story and not including many of his own interpretations.

The story did suffer a bit without the epic pirate comic, "The Black Freighter," an important sub-plot in the novel, but already checking in at a whopping three hours, cuts had to be made somewhere. (Fear not "Watchmen" fans, it is rumored that the comic will appear in the director's cut, which will be an unbelievable four and a half hours long.")

The casting of Jackie Earle Haley as



The Watchmen's powerless vigilante, Rorschach

the mysterious Rorschach was equivalent to Heath Ledger's portrayal of the Joker in last summer's blockbuster "The Dark Knight."

Haley mesmerized as he recited some of the novel's most famous lines, such as "The world will look up and shout 'Save us!' and I will whisper... no," and "None of you understand. I'm not locked up in here with you. You're locked up in here with me."

Equally as entertaining was Jeffrey Dean Morgan's portrayal of the Comedian. With a cigar ever-hanging from his lip he did a fantastic job conveying the troubled character's brashness in the face of violence along with his falling apart prior to his death.

Oh, and how did Nixon escape Watergate prosecution you may ask?

The Comedian offers a hint when

after shooting into an unarmed crowd states, "Goddamn, I love working on American soil. Ain't had this much fun since Woodward and Bernstein."

Poor journalists.

Matthew Goode proves that even a scrawny white boy can be a super hero with his stoic portrayal of the good-turned-bad super hero Ozymandias.

Surprisingly, Snyder included the sex scene between Night Owl II and the Silk Spectre, which was already over the top in the comic book.

With the underlying message that Daniel Dreiberg, portrayed by Patrick Wilson, cannot perform sexually without the guise of his masked persona, the former heroes get their groove on inside the Watchmen's flying vessel.

The movie is filled with nudity from Spectre and Night Owl, to the glowing blue phallus of Dr. Manhattan.

Early fears about the film, was Snyder's own admission he had slightly altered the ending, opting not to include the giant alien squid that destroys New York City.

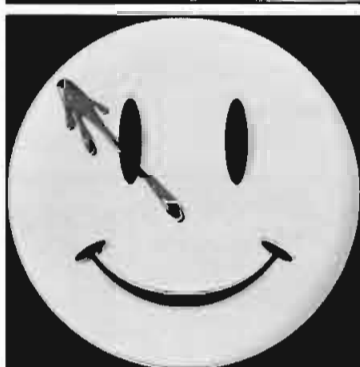
Fear not "Watchmen" faithful as this fan would dare say the ending eclipses the finale of the graphic novel.

The film asks, "Who watches the Watchmen?"

But should you watch them?

My suggestion would be to read the graphic novel before seeing the movie. Fans familiar with the story will be enthralled by the exactness of the scenes while curious onlookers may get lost in the stories intricate plots.

Or as Dr. Manhattan might put it, "Why would you see a movie you have no stake in?"



## Listen Up!

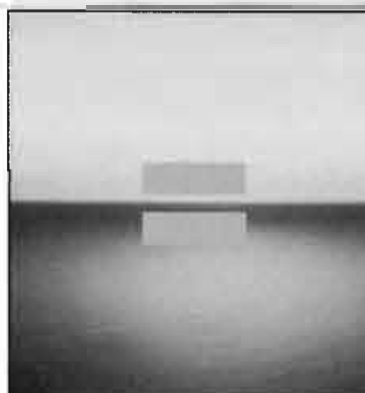
Pink- *Funhouse*



Pink's fifth album, *Funhouse*, exhibits a mixture of pop and rock. "So What" became number one on the Billboard Hot 100. "Sober," her second single, has become number 15. Many songs on this album have to do with Pink's personal life and her separation from husband Carey Hart. "I Don't Believe You" speaks about how she doesn't believe that her lover no longer needs her.

"Mean" is more reminiscent of the good times with her lover and comparing it to how he isn't interested anymore. This empowering album exhibits the realities of relationships and the issues that many experience. Furthermore, the thoughts and questions that relationships entail are expressed through the lyrics. Pink shows her resilience by singing, "So what! I'm still a rock star / I got my rock moves, And I don't need you / And guess what? I'm havin' more fun / And now that we're done, I'm gonna show you. Tonight / I'm alright I'm just fine. And you're a tool." The album exhibits one's liberation from bad relationships and the idea of moving on. By listening to this album, the profound and consuming lyrics elevates one's sense of self-confidence and provides strength to overcome sad and heartbreaking times.

By *Stephanie Buscema*

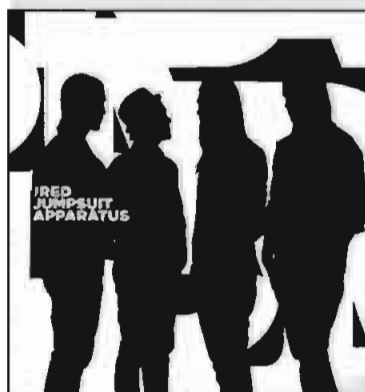


U2 - *No Line on the Horizon*

Bono and his fellow Irishmen released their new album, *No Line on the Horizon*, worldwide this month, the follow-up to their 2004 album, *How to Dismantle an Atomic Bomb*. *No Line on the Horizon* is a new start for U2, a sound different than most U2 fans are accustomed to. This album stems from a variety of cultural influences inspired by the group's travels to Morocco, Ireland

and New York City throughout recording. It is a more natural and innovative album with a "trance like" sound. "Unknown Caller" opens with the sound of an open air raid. Bono expressed that most of the album was written in third person because he was able to act as each of the characters he created in his mind. The group's naturalistic style was exhibited when they performed one of their new songs, "Get on Your Boots," at the 51st Annual Grammy Awards. With a new meditative and spiritual sound, U2 is on its way to a whole new journey across the horizon letting no boundaries or lines come in the way.

By *Jaelyn Sokol*



The Red Jumpsuit Apparatus - *The Lonely Road*

While their last release, *Don't You Fake It*, was slightly under the radar, it went platinum in 2006. *The Lonely Road*, Red Jumpsuit Apparatus's third disc, however, lacks the inspiration of their previous LP. "Pull Me Back" and "You Better Pray" find the Jumpsuits dabbling in their own sedate version of metal, while sticking to

their soaring choruses and emo-pop sound. Their youthful lyrics, sung by frontman Ronnie Winter, are by far the band's greatest strong suit, accessing honest, universal emotions in lines like "I still believe / That there is more love than hate / There's more heart than ache." However, the album on a whole fails to impress the way the band's previous album has and serves better as background music. *Lonely Road* lacks an impressive single like *Don't You Fake It*'s "Face Down," a chill-invoking anti-domestic violence anthem that occupied radio waves for months. Album highlights like "Believe" and "No Spell" come closest to accessing the vulnerability of a Red Jumpsuit classic.

By *Paige Herlihy*

# LOOK OUT!

## *spring break '09*



While news of No Doubt's reunion has been trumped by that of Blink-182's, the band will hit the road before Blink has even hit the studio. "We're not even going to do a record," says Gwen Stefani in a message on the bands' Web site, "We're just going to go right on tour and have fun." Tickets are now on sale, and if you invest in the top tier of tickets, starting at about \$43, you get to download the bands entire catalogue as an added bonus.



If you read the books and saw the movie, the time has come to own the DVD. Twilight hits stores on March 21, and it's packed with extras, including extended scenes. There's no end to the Twilight excitement in sight, as New Moon, the second of the series hits theatres this November. Also, Dakota Fanning has signed on to play Jane in the third movie, Eclipse.



Gossip Girl is back with new episodes on March 16, and there's a lot to be excited about. Vanessa and Nate double-date with Serena and her new boy-toy, the Dan-and-his-teacher saga continues, and a newly reformed Georgina Sparks is back in New York. Plus, No Doubt will appear (and perform) on the season finale May 11. Casting for the Gossip Girl spin-off, centered around Lily and Rufus, is well under way.



Topshop is to Europe what Forever 21 is to the U.S. except it's way better. Topshop provides better quality, and higher fashion. The store features bargain priced lines from high-end designers like Jonathan Saunders and Preen, plus Kate Moss's new line. After multiple delays, the London-based chain retail store is set to make its state-side debut in SoHo on April 2. A big plus? Students get 10% off with valid ID.



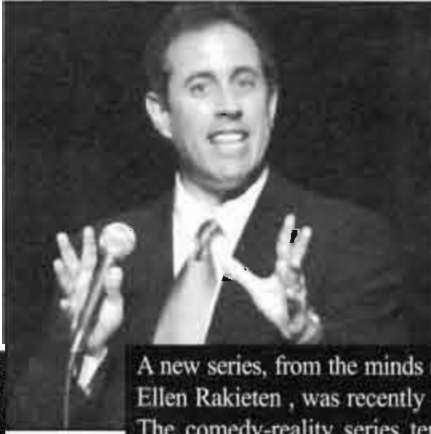
'Never ending' sure seems appropriate in the case of the 1980's classic, "The Never Ending Story." After three original installments, Warner Bros. is in the early stages of remaking the first film with the help of Kennedy/Marshall Co. and Appian Way (owned by Leonardo DiCaprio). The movie, based on a German novel by Michael Ende, is about a young boy who finds himself in a parallel universe driven by a story-book set in the fictional land of Fantasia.



PJ Harvey has announced that her new album, A Woman A Man Walked By, scheduled for a March 30 release on Island Records will be her second collaboration with musician and producer John Parish after their 1996 release of Dance Hall at Louse Point. A British singer/songwriter, Harvey, recorded the album in Dorset and Bristol, England, with guests Eric Drew Feldman (Pixies, Polyphonic Spree), Carla Azar (Autolux) and Italian rock musician Giovanni Ferrario.



If you haven't started watching American Idol yet this season, now is a good time to start. The awful singers have been weeded out, and the true talent remains standing. The top 12 even became the top 13 for this first time ever as judges couldn't make up their minds on who to put through in the "Wild Card" round. There's no clear front-runner at this point, so it's still anyone's game, and it's bound to be a good one.



A new series, from the minds of Jerry Seinfeld and Ellen Rakieten, was recently announced by NBC. The comedy-reality series tentatively titled "The Marriage Ref" will center around real-life marriages in turmoil. The couples will be judged by celebrities, comedians and sports stars. "This is not a therapy show, it's a comedy show. After nine years of marriage I have discovered that the comedic potential of this subject is quite rich," explained Seinfeld.



Although the entire country is now officially in a recession, college students usually always feel like they are in a recession. But there's good news if you're a U2 fan. The band has decided to make their new album, No Line On The Horizon, available for download on Amazon for only \$3.99. The new album is likely to appear at No. 1 on the charts. Check out the review of the bargain priced album in Listen Up!



Mom of three, Julia Roberts is back on the big screen with her new film, Duplicity. Roberts stars alongside Clive Owen in the romantic comedy spy movie. She's no newbie to romantic comedy, but she says she's never done so much kissing on a movie set in her life. "It is awkward, when you're not kissing your true love," she says. Check out Roberts and Owen when Duplicity hits theatres on March 20.



DreamWork's new animated feature, Monsters vs. Aliens, opens in theaters on March 27, voiced by Hollywood heavyweights including, Reese Witherspoon and Seth Rogen. A California girl is turned 49-feet-11-inches tall when a meteor strikes. She befriends a group of Monsters while confined by the government, and they band together to save the earth from aliens. If you liked The Incredibles and Monsters Inc., this is right up your alley.



Jimmy Fallon has taken over Jay Leno's hosting gig on The Tonight Show on NBC, as Leno moves to a coveted prime time spot at 10 p.m. The jury is still out on whether or not Fallon has the chops to fill the shoes of Leno, but he's been booking big guests like Justin Timberlake and former Saturday Night Live castmate, Tina Fey. We know Fallon is hilarious, but how is he at his new gig? Tune in late night to NBC and find out.

By Niven Abdelhamid, Entertainment Editor,  
and Paige Herlihy, Entertainment Assistant

# IN OUR OPINION...

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

## WHAT'S THAT

### Temporary portico: an unsightly structure



By ALLIE RIVERA  
Wagnerian Opinion Editor

To the freshmen, sophomores, and juniors at this school, Main Hall has always looked the way it currently stands.

But to us seniors who remember the days before the "temporary" portico, we look at Main Hall and see a pimple on the face of what is an otherwise beautiful campus.

When the structure initially went up in the summer of 2006, we were told that its purpose was two-fold; the portico was meant to protect students in case any of the eroding façade was to fall from the building, and it was more aesthetically pleasing than scaffolding.

At first, I understood these reasons and realized I'd just have to deal with the structure until the work on Main Hall was finished.

Three years later, I've seen no improvement on the building, and I'm not buying these tired excuses.

If any debris were, in fact, to fall from the building, I highly doubt the portico would offer much protection. In the battle of brick versus nicely-shingled small structure, I'm placing my money on the brick.

Besides most likely not working to that function, the portico is also just flat-out ugly. Often when I walk to my classes in Spiro Hall and see the structure, I flash back

to my days before preschool when I had a little toy to help me learn shapes; fit the square into the square, the circle into the circle, etc. Whoever designed the entryway obviously never had this game as a child, because they tried to fit a triangle into an arch. As my two-year-old self could tell you, it doesn't work.

I miss the days where students would lie out on Main Hall's sunny steps and look out over their friends playing Frisbee on the Oval. Now those steps seem dank and bleak. The few who tried to sit there were constantly in the way of those trying to get into the building through the narrow entryway and have apparently given up.

A big part of me wishes that there had instead been scaffolding put there back in 2006. Scaffolding is incredibly unattractive, but I'm sure that there are members of Wagner's administration who wouldn't want it cluttering up the campus, and would do everything in their power to get those renovations completed as soon as possible.

As a good friend of mine recently said to me, scaffolding says to visitors "We are under construction." The portico says, "We don't know our shapes."

It seems to me that these renovations to Main Hall are just another instance where Wagner's eyes are bigger than its stomach... and wallet.

The exiting class of 2009, a class who never dreamed that the portico would still be there on their graduation day, takes with it the last class who remembers the days before the structure. My fear is that members of this community will become so used to this entryway, and completely forget that it was supposed to be temporary.

Wagner has been my home for the past four years. I don't want to leave it looking worse than when I started here.

## Is the Cold War heating back up?

By AJ BASILE  
Wagnerian Online Editor

If you ask the average American, and probably the average Russian, they would both tell you the same thing. The Cold War ended in 1991, and by all accounts, the U.S. won.

Part of this is due to my belief that socialism, in any form, cannot be forced onto people. If society is to believe in it, it must be born into it, and groomed. Even then, all human nature must be completely stripped away, with no desire to create or earn what one wishes, just what is demanded. What makes capitalism work is that it is so natural, and takes no force to implement.

In the Soviet Union, not only was socialism forced upon a people, but so was government propaganda. Pravda, the main Soviet newspaper, was forced onto citizens until 1991, when it was shut down, and then restarted. Prior to this, the citizens of the Soviet Union knew it was propaganda, and took it with a grain of salt.

But after Boris Yeltsin shut down the Communist Party, everything changed. We thought it was for the better. We thought we gained an ally, one that helped us in the first Gulf War. We just might have thought wrong.

Historically, if you intervene politically in a country, and you don't have full and clean victory, you're not gaining an ally, but an enemy.

It has happened to us in Cuba, Iran, Nicaragua, Venezuela, etc. The Russians are no different. While the Cold War itself may be over, their hatred for America has grown.

If we look at news reports out of Russia in more recent times, we see that Pravda is no longer looked at as propaganda, but as a credible news source.

A credible news source that tells its readers that Don Imus was fired for threatening to reveal the secrets of what really happened on September 11.

There is even the Russian state run English speaking TV station known



An English version of the Russian propaganda paper, Pravda

as Russia Today. Back in October, that station reported that the American military had used nuclear weapons on Iraq in the first Gulf War. Does that sound as much like propaganda to you as it does to me?

One of the worst things President Clinton and former British Prime Minister Tony Blair ever did was allow the Russians to join what became G-8.

This allowed a country still weakened by years of Communist control to feel accepted before it rebuilt itself, with too many former leaders holding onto some form of power. Today, we are feeling the effects of our actions.

Russia's head is grown, and is becoming an international problem for us. Where they align themselves, so does China, Iran, Venezuela, etc.

By giving the Russians a platform on world politics, and pretending they are stronger than they are, we have effectively legitimized governments who deal with them, the same way we legitimize those who deal with us.

Now, President Obama is running into his own difficulties. The Russians are willing to blame us for just about anything they can.

One Russian official said that the recent collision of a U.S. and Russian satellite was no accident, but America trying out a new defense weapon.

There is also a Russian scholar who believes that the United States will

collapse within a year, splitting into six smaller nations (with Alaska coming under Russian control), and the world economy will be saved by, you guessed it, Russia (who is supposed to be working with China).

Now, we all knew that Vladimir Putin was ex-KGB, and it appears Dmitri Medvedev is nothing more than his puppet, but does that make them more dangerous now than anyone from Lenin to Gorbachev?

The Russians are not acting like you would expect a country of their standing to. They are instead acting like they expected this to happen.

Could it be, that with a new generation of Russians, those who did not grow up under "The Terror," have a hatred for America as well?

One that is manufactured by outrageous claims in state run media outlets that drag kids in before they are old enough to understand?

It could conceivably be that the Cold War was never won, because it never ended. It just slowed.

An inexperienced president and a weak economy give the Russians the opportunity to once again flex their muscles and attempt to lead the world down their path, one that emboldens our enemies as well.

Things may just be getting a lot worse internationally before they get any better.

*Something on campus you hate?  
Something on campus you love?  
Let us know!*

*Write a letter to the editor and see your words HERE!*

*wagnerian@wagner.edu*

# Sorority life; not just bar nights and pillow fights

By JACQUELINE BRUNO  
Wagnerian Staff Writer

Beyond the stereotypes of sororities: cat fights, superficiality, and “purchased friends,” lies a world of substantial sisterhood that is truly priceless.

At a college like Wagner it’s hard to really get involved if you’re not a theater major or an athlete. Greek life is an excellent outlet and a way to make long lasting friendships, not to mention the chance to be exposed to the confusing, but exciting world of “bigs” and “littles”!

In sorority life you can find friendship, leadership, service, social events and more!

“You meet people and become friends with girls you would never have even crossed paths with or wanted to know” smiles Nicole Fitzgerald of Alpha Omicron Pi. “If I paid for my friends, I surely didn’t pay enough.”

Want to improve your social schedule? Join a sorority and believe me you will have more social events than you’ll ever be able to attend. When will you ever have a chance in

your life to have this much fun?

“It’s a great way to network, you build truly deep friendships, and you know your sisters will always be there for you through good times and bad times,” replies Liana Gonzalez a sister of Alpha Sigma Alpha.

When asked what she’s learned about being around girls constantly, Alex McGilvery responds, “[Being in a sorority] teaches you to fight with your gloves on.”

Being around girls all the time is not always easy, sometimes you feel like there is an estrogen overload, but you learn patience and compassion very quickly and as Alex said above if you do argue or fight it is with “your gloves on.”

“I like the bonds that I have made with people and I’ve grown up a lot, I’ve learned to stand up for myself,” explains Trina Stec of Tau Kappa Sigma.

Being in a sorority is a home away from home. It is truly a place where you can grow and mature throughout your college experience. Your sisters become your support; you can lean on them for help, and rely on them to get you through anything. You change and grow to become a better person because of them. Being in a



The sorority sisters of (clockwise from top left) Alpha Delta Pi, Alpha Sigma Alpha, Alpha Omicron Pi, and Tau Kappa Sigma show their sisterly love and Greek pride.

sorority is a positive life change that every college woman should make.

Rebecca Broughton of Alpha Delta Pi states that she loves being in a sorority because “we all love and support each other. There is always someone to turn to.”

“Regardless of which sorority you join, we are all connected through

Greek life; we’re all friends, and all in this together,” gushes Mary Catherine JeBran, with emotion in her voice.

Joining a sorority gives you more than just hundreds of new facebook pictures, multiple closets, and perhaps a slight budget decrease; it is the intangible things such as a shoulder

to cry on and a sister to hold your hair back after a long night.

So the verdict is in, as expressed by the sincere words of a member of each sorority here on campus. Any-one would be blessed to be a part of any one of these organizations, all unique women joined together by a common bond of sisterhood.

## Is ‘free thought’ an oxymoron?

By VANESSA COTTON  
Wagnerian Staff Writer

High school, from my own experience at least in part, was raging with people who disregarded intellect and reason and lost themselves in a sea of general ignorance.

If you have ever felt the way I do, or seen people who do this, you too would feel the title of this article is somewhat of an oxymoron.

It seems that only a pinch of people in high school cared about anything other than where the chill spot would be that weekend, which band came out with a new album, who was dating who, or anything outside of their social lives. The world outside of high school came to a swirling halt as soon as the latest piece of gossip was out for public discussion.

The majority of students who thought they spoke of ideas from minds that bore individualistic perspectives were wrong.

They were mostly models of the majority mindset, attempting to break free and separate their thoughts from others, make their opinions different and distinguishable from the thoughts of their peers.

But individual opinion is possible, free thought has to exist. That is what I thought, that is how I feel and that is

why it seemed so important to me to start a group, club, that allows free thought, a philosophy café as I call it here at Wagner College.

There needed to be something to get students to start thinking and caring about the world around them. The interest and care is there, but to be involved in an environment where conversation about such issues is the foundation just facilitates the process.

I did not know that meeting fellow student freethinkers could be so much fun.

For the first time since I’d entered college, I was in an oasis of thought with intelligent discussions taking place all around me.

Not only were there speakers with fascinating subjects, but there was also the opportunity to talk to fellow students who were just as interested as I (far from what I’d experienced in high school).

Though I know that there exists a substantial group of students interested in free thought and its discussion, my club has yet to gain ultimate recognition because I’ve had many problems finding a proper location to hold its meetings.

I imagine that persistence will eventually find me one and then, I can get on board fully making my free thought, philosophy oasis.

## Life is short; take time to smell the roses

By ALLISON SMECK  
Wagnerian Staff Writer

A common thread seems to be running through the lives of the students of Wagner College. Yet, this thread, this common theme, doesn’t affect only students; this common theme impacts everyone.

Doctors, lawyers, professors, chefs, maintenance men, mothers, administrators, all seem to be infected with the same incurable disease. You are undoubtedly asking yourself, “How can she sit down and calmly write about something that is affecting and infecting all of us?” and “What is it?”

For an accurate description of this bizarre and serious phenomena, I turn to the lyrics of a song by the country band Alabama. Directly from their greatest hits album, I present you with the following:

*“I’m in a hurry to get things done. Oh I rush and rush until life’s no fun. All I really gotta do is live and die But I’m in a hurry and don’t know why.”*

That’s it Wagner College. We are all in such a big hurry that we are forgetting to enjoy the ride. Take a moment and reread those lyrics (overlooking the unfortunate but typical usage of “ain’t”).

As midterms loom before us, as careers dangle over our heads, games sit and wait on the calendar, and as the economy sinks low enough that now we have no choice but to look it directly in the eye, we understandably feel the pressure to go faster, to accomplish more, to be better. But I’d ask you to ask yourself the question, “Am I happy?”

If the answer is yes, reconsider for a moment. As per my previous arti-

cle, I’d ask that you examine whether you are truly happy, or whether you feel pressured by societal demands to look like everything is “fine”, or if somewhere below the surface, you are panicking and struggling just to keep your head above the water.

Are you one of the many who is “rushing and rushing until life’s no fun”?

Life is short. We’ve got one chance with this life that we’re currently leading. So why rush through anything? Why do we listen to the voice that drives us to be constantly faster, better, and more efficient?

Of course it is always important to give your best to any situation and to commit fully to anything you choose to be involved with. But this “giving your best” mindset has gone horribly awry over the last few years.

Giving our best to the world and to any given situation does not, I repeat, does not mean running on 100% at all times. Think about it; if we drove our cars as fast and as well as they could be driven each time we went somewhere, how long would the car last?

As we all fight the internal battle between “who I am” versus “who I wish I was,” we find ourselves feeling burned out and unsatisfied. But who are we really racing? Why are we all killing ourselves to take on more than we can handle?

Even though grad schools will be reviewing our resumes and transcripts sometime in the near future, and potential employers will be asking what we did with our time in college, it will not impress anyone, regardless of what we have accomplished, if we are too physically and/or mentally exhausted to be able to stand behind our accomplishments.

What are you missing in order to take on that “one more thing” that

you were asked to help with? What scenery are you failing to take in as you speed through your life?

Again, I raise the point for emphasis: this is it. This is your one chance to live this life that you’re in right now. Slow down and enjoy it! Take a break to make sure that you are enjoying life, and helping the people around you and in the community who may not be enjoying life as much as you are.

Am I advocating that you quit all of your club commitments, stop getting up for early practice, and refuse to do anything but watch movies and cat potato chips?

No, of course not! But I am proposing the idea to students and staff alike that it is just as important to take time to renew and relax, as it is to meet that deadline and add the next impressive commitment to your already impressive resume.

Make the most out of this one chance that you have to live your life. Stop frequently to enjoy the beauty of life around you. Help those who are in need of your valuable skills.

But most of all, make sure that if you’re in a hurry to get things done, that you at least know why. All that we absolutely must do in life is live and die. Everything else is an added bonus on our journey.

Treat your life like the precious gift that it is and make the most out of every experience. Savor your life, as opposed to rushing through it and checking off mindless tasks on your to do list.

As soon as you are able to stop and observe the world outside of the maniacal rush and panic, I truly believe that you’ll rediscover the tremendous beauty that surrounds us everywhere everyday.

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# SEAHAWK SPORTS



Photo: Wagner Athletics

Team Captain Brian Poissant told his team the win was a good star, but they must continue to improve.

## Lacrosse team finally achieves victory

Continued from Page 1

said Poissant, adding, "it's definitely a monkey off our back."

According to Policicchio, who along with Poissant has been at the college for the duration of the losing streak, "We have been waiting a long time for this."

The team's first victory in four grueling years comes under the direction of second year Head Coach Jason Rife.

The Seahawks have been plagued with a thin roster for two years. While most Division I lacrosse teams carry upwards of 40 players, the Seahawks carried just 25.

As a result, in the second half of games, players simply would have no gas left in their tanks, and the opposition would pull away.

After the 2007 season, a coaching change was made, and the college hired Rife, who had been working as an Assistant Coach at Bryant University.

"To be honest I didn't realize the streak was that long," said Rife. "The past was the past as far as I was concerned and we couldn't live in or take anything from it so I figured we might as well just keep moving forward, work hard and see what that brings us."

Rife brought new coaching techniques with him to Grymes Hill, in-

cluding recruiting, scouting and film preparation.

"The team did a nice job of playing our game, knowing the opponent through film and the scout. This attention to detail is a must in order to be successful playing college lacrosse," said Rife.

But was this victory the start of something new or just a onetime fluke against a sub-par team?

"It was good to get the first one, but we feel like we can definitely win some more games," said Policicchio, adding, "We aren't content with just winning one game."

According to Poissant, "We have been building our confidence, and now, it is finally starting to click on the field."

But what does the captain of a sinking ship, which suddenly rights itself, say to his team after their first victory in almost half a decade?

"I told the team now that we see what it takes to win, let's just keep doing it."

Although his team was certainly excited after four years of futility, Rife is already looking forward to their next game.

"While it is nice to break that streak you need to have the mindset that you're expected to win every time you strap on the pads and enter the arena," said the head coach.

"We are certainly not satisfied."

## Former Wagnerian gets a shot with the Oakland Athletics

By ANDREW MINUCCI  
Wagnerian Co-Editor

Avoiding a brisk fall wind, Wagner graduate Andrew Bailey, a pitcher working his way through the Oakland Athletics minor league system, was enjoying a rare night off, kicking back and watching some television with his housemates.

All of a sudden, the power cuts out.

Bailey jumps out of his armchair and runs to toggle with the light switch.

Nothing.

Then, a loud banging on his kitchen window.

There is little that Bailey can remember about the incident, except being "ghost-faced" and hearing his friends shout "Call the police," and "Set off our alarm."

The terror continues for what feels like an eternity, until the motion detector on the house's porch light illuminates the darkness, revealing the culprits.

Two of Bailey's Arizona Fall League teammates laugh hysterically as they drift into the night, culminating, just another day in the journey of a minor leaguer trying to make it to the big leagues.

Bailey, second among Seahawk hurlers in career strikeouts, was drafted by the Oakland Athletics, with the 188 overall pick in the 2006 Major League Baseball amateur draft.

Since then, he has worked his way through the organization's minor league affiliates, pitching for the Vancouver Canadians (A), Stockton Ports (A), Kane County Cougars (A), Midland Rockhounds (AA) and making one start for the teams highest minor league squad, the Sacramento Bees (AAA).

The flamethrower's expedition through the minors was not easy. In fact, it was a struggle just for him to get out of Wagner. After initially being drafted by the Milwaukee Brewers in 2005, Bailey decided to return to Grymes Hill for his senior year, to rehab his elbow from reconstructive Tommy John surgery.

"The rehabilitation process was grueling," said Bailey of his rehab and throwing program.

Since leaving Grymes Hill for the West Coast, trading his view of the Verrazano for a shot at playing in the shadows of the Bay Bridge, Bailey has gone through a transformation as



Photo: Andrew Bailey

Former Seahawks starting pitcher Andrew Bailey invited to Oakland Athletics spring training camp, after pitching in AAA last year.

a pitcher.

Graduating as a hard-throwing starter, who was often compared to Curt Schilling minus the bloody sock, the Athletics organization has developed him in the relief role.

"Now in the bullpen they compare me to Mariano Rivera," said a confident Bailey, emphasizing his work on developing a biting cutter, made famous by the Yankee's closer.

To further hone his skills, Bailey pitched in the AFL for the Phoenix Desert Dogs. The young right hander garnered his first taste of a championship, pitching two scoreless innings in the league's final contest.

"Knowing that the coaching staff had that much trust in me to throw the seven and eight innings in the championship game was incredible," said Bailey.

While pitching in his first championship game was surely a high-point in his young career, Bailey took solace in another aspect of his AFL experience.

He states, "They say that close to 80 percent of AFL players make it to the big leagues."

The big league club has invited Bailey to participate in their spring training program this season.

As the righty, who can hit 95 on the radar gun, sits in the locker room after throwing live batting practice, he reads the names on the lockers

around him, sounding almost star struck: "Jason Giambi, Matt Holliday, Eric Chavez."

As a reliever, Bailey has upgraded his pitching arsenal, developing a cutter, slider, a two-seam fastball, and what he refers to as "a change-up you can actually call a change-up."

While his invitation to camp is surely a sign the Athletics have taken notice of him, it appears as if the Oakland fan base is doing the same.

While stretching near the stands at a recent practice, a young boy reached over and asked Bailey for his autograph. Flattered, the 24 year-old prospect reached for the card the fan held out, and was shocked by what he saw.

"He had a Topps baseball card of me; I didn't even know that Topps had put a card out of me," said Bailey, adding, "That was something special. Something I will never forget."

Despite his success, Bailey realizes his ultimate goal, to play and remain in the big leagues, is not complete.

As he trains in the Athletics camp, his dream seems within reach, even as roster cuts approach.

"My goal is simple" he states, regarding his upcoming spring training. "I want to force them to make a decision, and not let it be easy for them."

## LOOK OUT FOR UPCOMING BASEBALL GAMES

The Wagner College baseball team plays a double header at University of Maryland Baltimore County on Saturday, March 7 at 12 p.m.. They will also play against their rival, Yale University, on Sunday, March 8 at 12 p.m.



Senior Sean Quinn drastically alters his life to make weight for every match.

# Wrestling on a diet

By DAVID GERHARDT  
Wagnerian Contributor

Sean Quinn is on the treadmill. His tongue is hanging down to his sneakers and he is dressed for a blizzard, sweating through the five layers that cover his exhausted body.

He certainly doesn't look like the average gym rat, and that's because he's not. He is a college wrestler trying to make weight.

Wrestling is a sport divided into weight classes, and on the day of a match, the athlete must weigh in accordingly.

There are two main methods wrestlers use to ensure they make weight on the day of a match. The first method is more of a long-term process, stripping fat and muscle over the course of a few weeks and maintaining that weight by working out and dieting.

The other method is much more dramatic, and it involves shedding the body's water weight in the days leading up to a match. This is the most common method.

## Making weight

"During the season I try and watch what I eat, but it can be hard", said Sean Quinn, a senior captain from Beach Haven, N.J. "It's a lot harder than it was in high school when I had my dad watching everything I ate."

For most people, watching what they eat means cutting back on the ice cream after dinner. For Quinn, it's a boring tuna sandwich on wheat bread. If he's lucky, he'll afford himself a few fries for the sake of his sanity.

Quinn, who wrestles in the 165 lb. weight class, naturally weighs closer to 180 lbs.

"It can be hard to eat right all the time during the season," said Quinn, "but it's the couple days before a match that are absolutely brutal."

It's during those days right before a match that Quinn, like most wrestlers, wishes he had been on a stricter diet the whole season.

If he had been, then cutting weight before a match would not have to be as dramatic or as painful.

"You try to be good all season," said sophomore Ryan Cornell, "but it's not realistic."

## Sweat it out

For college wrestlers, there is no grey area. The weight classes are exact.

"If you are wearing a sock," said Quinn, "and you step on the scale at 165.1, you are still over. Take off the sock."

It can be easy to assume that the majority of a person's weight comes from eating, but that is not the case.

"To a certain extent, it's not even the food," said Cornell, who hails from East Islip, N.Y. "It's the water and the Gatorade. Liquids add the most weight to your body."

In the days leading up to a match, Quinn is usually between five and six pounds overweight. Because of this, he can only afford to eat two times before the match: once the day before a match, and then an hour before the match begins.

In addition to the dramatic diet, Quinn suits up in layers of clothes and hops on the treadmill or exercise bike in order to "sweat out" additional pounds. The problem is, he can't replenish his body with the fluids that he lost while sweating, because he'll put weight back on. Because of this, he becomes very dehydrated.

"It's terrible," said Quinn. "The night before a match I sleep [for] maybe two hours. I get headaches and I can't drink or eat anything, and my tongue feels like a rock. Oh, yea, and I am miserable to be around."

## 'Like Christmas morning'

After all the weight loss and dehydration, it may seem impossible to have any energy to compete. However, the athletes are allowed to eat after weighing in on the day of a match.

"It's like Christmas morning every time. It never gets old," said Quinn.

After three Powerades and a bagel, Quinn's version of Christmas dinner, he begins to put some weight back on.

After the pre-match meal, most wrestlers gain back anywhere between five and eight pounds. In addition to the weight, they gain back some energy, and according to Quinn are, "ready to [wrestle] by the time your match comes up."

"It's hard," said Quinn on cutting weight. "But when you win, it's all worth it."

After the match, the wrestlers get to eat like regular people for the next two days, gaining almost all their weight back.

"It's the best, I can eat what I want," said Quinn. "Until I just have to do it all over again."

# Seahawks drop NEC quarterfinals to Mount St. Mary's, 72-62

By CAROLYN SUSINO  
Wagnerian Sports Editor

With less than five minutes left in the second half, Mount St. Mary's sophomore guard, Jean Cajou, scored a final 10 points to clench a 72-62 victory over the Wagner College Seahawks in the Northeast Conference (NEC) on Thursday night.

The loss brought the Seahawks to the end of their season with a 16-14 record while Mount St. Mary's, the number two seed and defending NEC champions, advances to the NEC tournament with an 18-11 record.

The loss also ended the Seahawks' four-game winning streak.

With both teams tied 29-29 with 42 seconds left in the first half, fifth-year senior guard, Joey Mundweiler, makes a three-pointer at the half time buzzer to give Wagner the lead.

In the second half, with a tie of 52-52, the Mount took the lead, 59-52, after seven straight points, including Cajou's deep three-pointer with one second remaining on the shot clock, and 4:31 left to go.

Wagner fought back with a three-pointer and a free throw by Mundweiler, followed by another three-pointer by fifth-year senior guard Justin Drummond, cutting the deficit 61-59.

Cajou was fouled and hit both free throws which made the score, 66-59, with 1:07 remaining. Mount St. Mary's then hit 4-of-6 at the line and sophomore forward, Pierre Brown, added a put-back with eight seconds left, finishing the game, 72-62.

Mundweiler shot 7-of-13 from three-point range, matching the NEC tournament record for three-pointers and scored a total of 22 points in a game. An overall impressive season for Mundweiler, he set the Wagner College single-season record for three-pointers made in a season with 98.



Fifth-year senior Joey Mundweiler shot 7-of-13 from three-point range, matching the NEC Tournament record for three-pointers in a game, against Mount St. Mary's on Thursday, Feb. 5.

He has also finished his career as Wagner's all-time leader in three-pointers made with 312, placing him second on the NEC all-time list.

Smith also showed leadership, ending his career with 1,260 career points, and placed 20 on the Seahawk all-time scoring list.

Mount St. Mary's Cajou scored 18 of his high-game 21 points in the second half, hitting 6-12 from the field in the game and 3-of-6 from three-point range.

The Mount plays third-seed Sacred Heart in a semi-final game at Sacred Heart, while the top-seeded Robert Morris will host fifth-seed Quinnipiac in the other semi-final, both on Sun., March 8.

The NEC Championship game will be held on Wed., Mar. 11, at 8 p.m., at the home court of the highest-seeded team. It will also be televised live on ESPN 2.

## 2009 NEC Men's Basketball Tournament

Games held at campus sites. Higher seed hosts all games. Teams will be reseeded after quarterfinals.

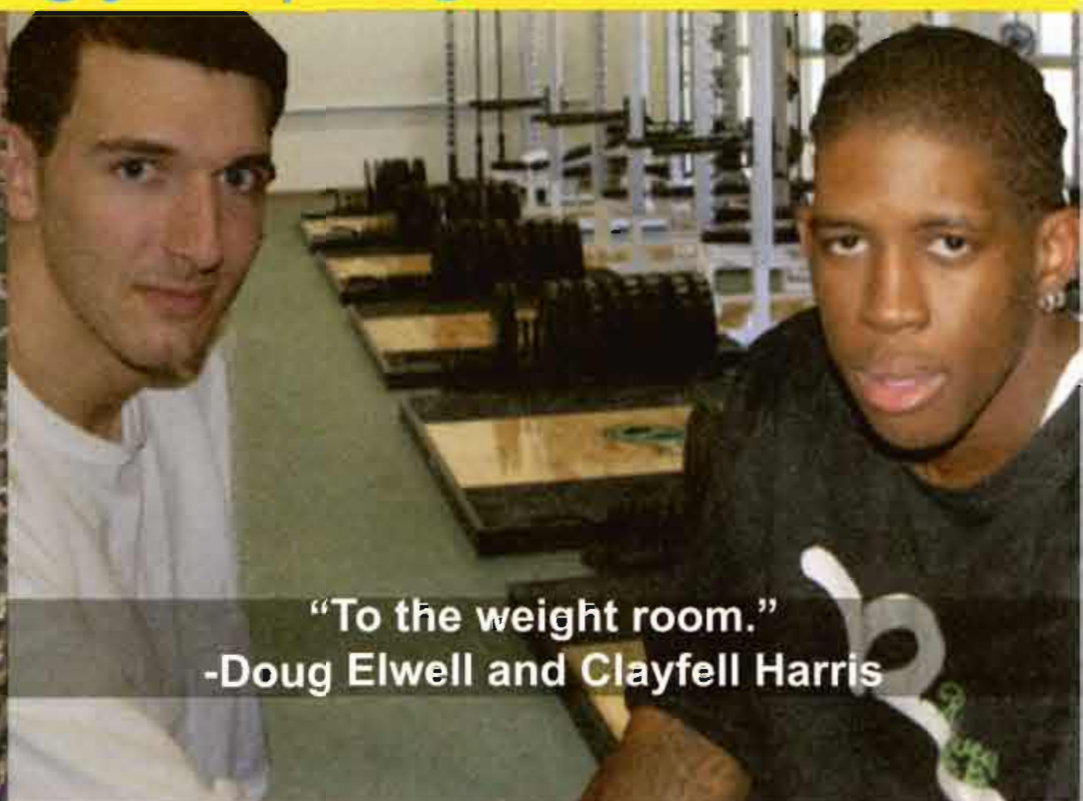
Quarterfinals	Semifinals	Championship
<div>#1 Robert Morris</div> <div>Thursday, March 5 7:00 pm</div>	<div>Robert Morris</div>	
<div>#8 St. Francis (NY)</div>	<div>Sunday, March 8 Time 2 p.m.</div>	<div>Robert Morris</div>
<div>#2 Mount St. Mary's</div> <div>Thursday, March 5 7:00 pm</div>	<div>Quinnipiac</div>	
<div>#7 Wagner</div>		<div>Wednesday, March 11 8:00 pm ESPN2</div>
<div>#3 Sacred Heart</div> <div>Thursday, March 5 7:00 pm</div>	<div>Mount St. Mary's</div>	
<div>#6 CCSU</div>	<div>Sunday, March 8 Time 7 p.m.</div>	<div>Mount St. Mary's</div>
<div>#4 Long Island</div> <div>Thursday, March 5 7:00 pm</div>	<div>Sacred Heart</div>	
<div>#5 Quinnipiac</div>		

# Where are you going for Spring Break?

"Baltimore and Delaware for baseball."  
-Ryan Conrad



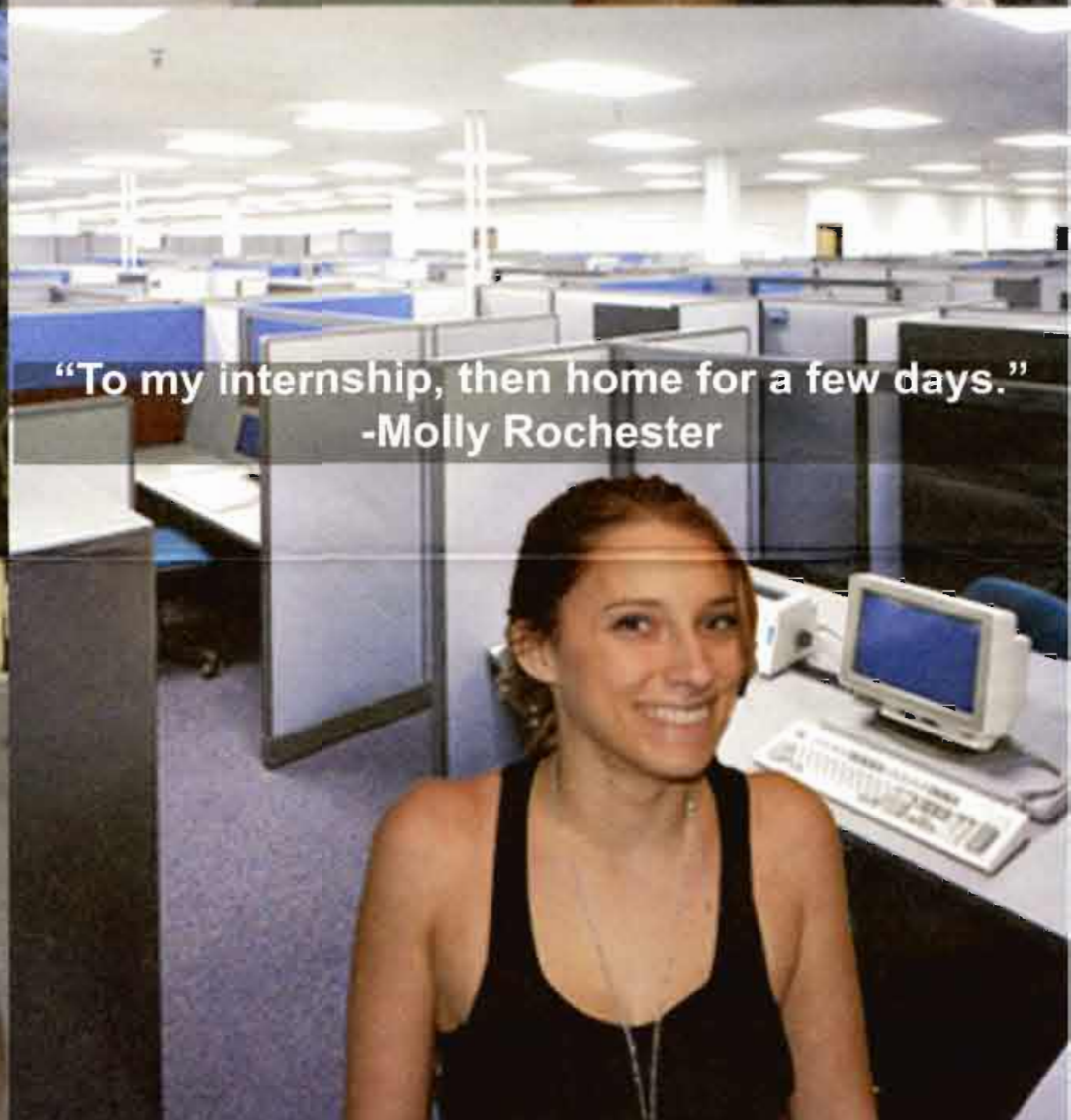
"To the weight room."  
-Doug Elwell and Clayfell Harris



"Back down South."  
-CJ Crowder

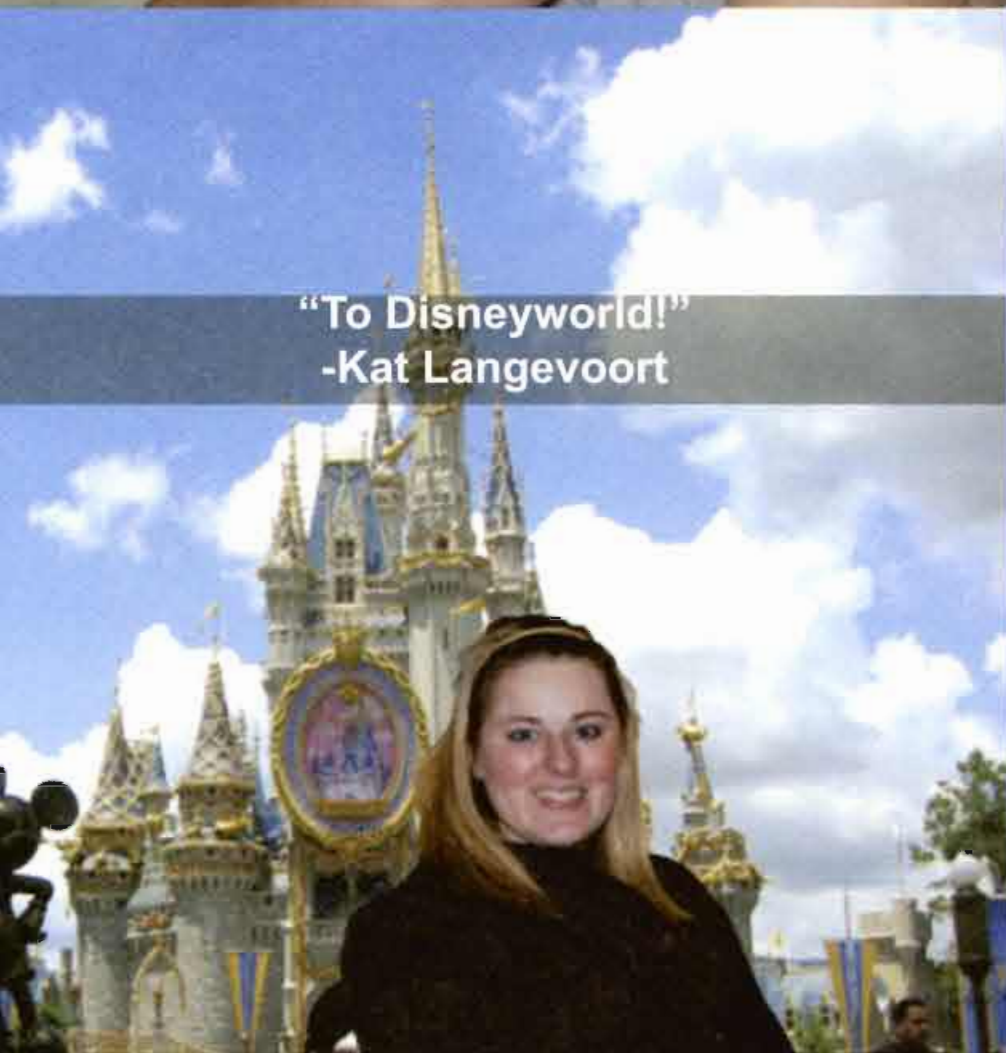


"To my internship, then home for a few days."  
-Molly Rochester



"Home to Massachusetts, to see the family."  
-MacKenzie Halpin

"To Disneyworld!"  
-Kat Langevoort



Page By Jesse Hagen