

# The Wagnerian

Wagner College

Tuesday, November 13, 2007

Staten Island, NY

## Glitches spoil debut of online registration

By MICHAEL PINTO  
Wagnerian Staff Writer

One of the sure signs that spring registration was near was the formation of lines outside Cunard Hall the night before registration. Students used to line up as early as 5 a.m.; some used to even spend the night on the building's steps hoping to be the first ones to register to guarantee that they would have their choice of classes.

For spring 2008 registration, however, a new online program requires eager students to use an assigned time to sign up for their classes.

For the first time, Wagner students had the chance to register on-line for all their courses for the spring semester. No more waiting on lines that wrapped around Cunard Hall and no more sleeping inside the lobby to ensure the classes of their choice.

It now seemed as simple as waking up, going to the computer and choosing the classes. Or was it that simple? What seemed to be an ideal situation turned into a nightmare for some students.

"Of course there were glitches in the system we couldn't anticipate," explained Registrar Terri Cristofaro. There will "always be something that will pop-up that you didn't expect."

To avoid a mass computer system crash with all the students registering at once, each student was given a cer-

tain two-hour time block to register. As always, registration went by seniority, seniors and honors students registering first and then descending by class standing. On the first day of a grade level's registration period, each student had their allotted time. After the first day, registration was open to all students for the remainder of the groups registration period.

However, this caused problems with some students who had classes during their scheduled times to register. If students missed their time, they had to wait to the following day to try and register again when students then had unlimited access to use WWAM, Wagner's Web-Based Academic Manager.

This caused some students to be closed out of classes that were already at their maximum capacity. All time slots were assigned randomly by Information Technology, keeping it "fair as possible" and could not have been changed.

For students to register, they had to be cleared by their advisor through WWAM. This also caused confusion because it was the first time the faculty used WWAM for registration as well as the students.

Senior Andrew Palladino, a commuter student, could not use WWAM to register because his adviser had trouble "releasing" him to register

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Construction crews digging behind the Union blocked off vehicular traffic onto campus for the entire day and night of Nov. 7.

## Water main burst leaves many campus buildings dry

By ABBY ALBAIR  
Wagnerian Co-Editor

For the second time this semester Wagner College students awoke to find they would have to go without water for the entire day.

Unlike the first incident, the lack of water would not be just in one residence hall but in several buildings all over campus.

On the morning of Nov. 7, a 10 inch water main behind the Union building burst, causing the water to shut-off at 10:20 a.m.

When students checked their e-

mail that morning, they were informed that they would have to go without running water in their residence halls, bathroom facilities in most campus classroom and business buildings and without regular dining services for the day.

During repairs, access to campus through the main gate was not available; all traffic was redirected to the Campus Road entrance.

It was not originally determined how many buildings would be affected but students were told that workers had already begun digging and that the water would be shut off at 10 a.m. Dominick Fonatano, di-

rector of Campus Operation estimated that the pipes would remain dry for 8 to 12 hours.

Fortunately, the heat stayed on, albeit with minimal temperature setting, in buildings that were affected by the water shut-off.

Students filled jugs with water before the shut-off and could be seen carrying large packs of bottled water onto campus, stocking up for a long, dry winter day.

Over the course of the day more than a dozen e-mail updates were sent to students and faculty.

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## Wagner celebrates cultural diversity

Wagner College's Celebrate Diversity Day was held Nov. 4 in the Spiro Sports Center.

The gymnasium was transformed into a fantastic display of cultural diversity by several local Staten Islanders of various ethnicities. Booths were set up in honor of and to display the uniqueness of each country.

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## College educates to prevent MRSA spread

By OLIVIA SANTO &  
ANDREW MINUCCI

The mounting fears due to widespread reports of the staph infection methicillin-resistant Staphylococcus aureus, or MRSA, is attracting major media attention locally and nationally. There have been sudden outbreaks in schools all over the country, including a reported case at Wagner College.

This common bacterium lives on skin at all times and enters the human body through an open cut or break. It can cause infection anywhere in the body and in some cases can be fatal.

There has been one reported case of infection at Wagner College. According to Dean of Campus Life Ruta Shah-Gordan the student has been "treated effectively."

College spokesperson Lee Manchester declined to disclose the stu-

dent's identity. "We do not want to ostracize the student," he said. College administrators refused comment on where or how the student contracted the infection on campus.

Despite the incident, the college is not required to notify the students under either federal or state laws, but regardless chose to send a campus-wide e-mail and hold a seminar on the disease on Oct. 30.

In a letter home to student's parents, President Dr. Richard Guarasci wrote, "The student has responded well, and though the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention do not require or even recommend community notification where there is a single, isolated case of MRSA diagnosed, we believed it prudent to share this information."

According to Dean Shah Gordon

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By MORGAN SCOTT  
SGA President

## Message from the 'Oval' office

# SGA learns leadership in California

Four members of the SGA executive board, including myself, traveled to Anaheim, California for the National Conference on Student Leadership (NCSL) from Oct. 19-23.

The conference took place over a period of four days and gave us not only the opportunity to bond more fully as members of the executive board, but also the chance to evaluate our positions as student leaders and learn new techniques to make us more effective in our positions.

We attended NCSL with two main purposes in mind. The first was to be able to attend as many workshops as possible in order to glean as much information and knowledge as we could. Every day there was a keynote speaker followed by three or four breakout sessions with approximately three workshops in each session. We were able to attend many of these and saw multiple speakers discussing topics that spanned a number of areas including:

Negotiation, the qualities it takes to be a good and effective leader (as well as a good overall human being), finding better ways to manage meetings and money, how to initiate change on campus, promotion and programming.

We were also pleased to enter Wagnerstock in the *Trendsetters Competition* while at NCSL. Colleges had the opportunity to present to conference participants their favorite program on campus to be voted on for a cash prize. While Wagnerstock was not chosen as a winner (it's a little difficult when you are competing against institutions more than quadruple our size with budgets over a million dollars), we were proud of what our program stood for and how it was received by the other schools.

Our second main purpose attending this conference was to network with other student government groups, and to learn about the different things they do on their campuses that might be useful to Wagner. We met a number of executive board members from many different schools including, Fairmont, University of Texas, Houston, SUNY Brockport, and the University of Calgary (Canada)—just to name a few. We were able to ask them questions about their shuttles, programming on campus, budgeting, student activity fees, and more, all which will be helpful as we continue through this school year.

I look forward to applying many of the techniques and ideas we learned at the NCSL conference, both from the presenters and our new friends at other schools, to our SGA and the Wagner campus as a whole.

The presenters that we met were inspirational and extremely knowledgeable about their topics, and I would like to get some of them to Wagner to speak to all of you. We are also looking into putting together a small workshop open to the entire campus, but geared primarily towards our club and organization presidents, discussing the topics we learned about at NCSL so that you too can benefit from this conference.

We found this conference experience to be very beneficial, and are currently looking at ways to budget more money toward leadership and development so some of our clubs and organizations can attend conferences applicable to their interests and needs as well. We will let you know— until then,

*Lets Go Seahawks!*

"Our liberty depends on the freedom of the press, and that cannot be limited without being lost"

-Thomas Jefferson, 1786

# ODK plans service events for holidays

By LAURA DELLAVILLA  
Wagnerian Staff Writer

Can you imagine Thanksgiving without a turkey? How about a child at Christmas with no gifts?

Omicron Delta Kappa (ODK), the national leadership honor society, annually strives to make sure these situations are scarce among families in need. ODK has been hosting their yearly turkey drive for the last decade.

Members have also been working in collaboration with Seaman's, a local society for children and families, for that time.

The drive tradition began when Dr. Joseph Smith, a professor in the college's religion department and ODK advisor, became a trustee on the board for Seaman's.

In its infancy, the drive was small, with only a few dozen turkeys donated every year. Now, 10 years later, ODK has amassed over 100 turkeys to donate.

Many turkeys were donated courtesy of ShopRite. ODK also rose over \$10,000 through grants, fundraising and asking people such as members of ODK, staff, faculty and alumni to

contribute money to their charitable cause.

The turkeys will be brought to Seaman's headquarters on Nov. 17.

ODK is giving students a chance to be involved this year by hosting the Canned Castle Competition.

This event will take place on Nov. 16 from 9 p.m. to 11 p.m. In this event, teams will compete to build structures out of cans that they donate. The winning team will win a prize which has not yet been decided.

Similar to the turkey drive, ODK will also be hosting a toy drive.

President of ODK Steve Tarca, said that ODK raises money and "usually donates about 1,000 toys each year".

The toys will be distributed in the beginning of December and Tarca stated that if any student is interested in "assisting in the donation process" they should contact him for more information.

This process of donating Turkeys and Toys to children and families to help celebrate the holiday season is entirely student run.

Tarca stated that "students donate time, cars, and money to make this happen." And the result is priceless.

# Shower peeper prompts Res Ed response, action

By CLAUDIA GRAMMATICCO  
Wagnerian Staff Writer

Peeping tom or creepy-Tom?

Recently the issue of sexual harassment has unexpectedly surfaced in the Parker Towers residence hall.

A female resident of Parker Towers was taking a shower in one of the bathrooms on her floor when much to her surprise, a male resident who she was acquainted with, shockingly began to watch her.

It didn't take long for the news to circulate campus, leaving many students outraged that such a thing would actually occur here at Wagner.

As a result of the Parker Towers "peeping-Tom," Residential Education is considering instituting a new lock system for the bathrooms in Parker Towers in the hopes of never having an issue such as that occur again.

Until then, the department promises to help keep the residence halls here at the college as safe and peaceful as possible.

What's more, many students began to question their safety inside as well as outside the residence halls and wondered what they are to do if they are placed in a sexual harassment situation.

According to Director of Residential Education Sara Klein, "sexual harassment is not the most prevalent issue on campus, but is something that we take very seriously."

Klein added that the department offers helpful resources to students caught in a sexual harassment situation that will help resolve an issue

and sustain tranquility in the residence halls.

They also urge students to immediately contact a resident assistant or go straight to the Residential Education office located on floor B3 of Towers if confronted with a sexual offense.

It is there so a student can speak to either Sara Klein or another department representative who will help handle the issue.

However, if an issue *cannot* be resolved it will be brought to the Dean of Residential Education, where they will conduct the necessary steps to rectify the situation.

Penalties for a sexual harassment perpetrator vary according to the seriousness of the offense.

All penalties are listed inside the student handbook, along with in depth descriptions of the procedures taken to correct any type of crime in the residence halls.

When asked if the college tries to keep sexual harassment issues "hush-hush" from students or even other colleges, Klein protested that though Wagner College doesn't exactly flaunt their dirty laundry, they do comply with the Clery Act, a federal law requiring all colleges and universities that exercise financial aid programs to publish an annual report disclosing campus security policies and three years worth of selected crime statistics.

This enables prospective as well as current students the option to research alleged sex offenses at any college or university and not keeps sexual crimes in schools a secret.



Left: Brown water flows from a faucet in the women's bathroom of the Union.  
Right: Chartwells provided bagged meals for students on the evening of Nov. 7

## 2nd water main break of year disrupts campus life, food service

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An e-mail sent at 9:56 a.m. listed the buildings that would go without water, including Harbor View, Guild, the Union, Hormann Library, Main Hall, Spiro Hall, Megerle Hall, Pape Admission House, Cunard Hall, Paker Hall, Reynolds House, Kairos House, the Public Safety Building, and Chaplian's Residence.

Lee Manchester, director of media relations, who sent the majority of the e-mail updates during repairs, said, "The Campus Operations team was very efficient in taking care of the leak itself. They knew exactly which portions of the campus would be affected when they shut of the water to repair the leak, so that we were able to let everyone know what to expect."

Only Parker Towers, Spiro Sports Center, Campus Hall, Campus Operations Building, the Stadium, and Stage One had running water for the day.

Students were also informed that portable toilets would be placed in the Guild parking lot and the Harbor View loading dock; the location was

later changed to the president's lot.

Although most classes were able to meet as usual despite the lack of convenient restrooms, all scheduled science labs were cancelled until water service was restored. The postponement was a safety precaution due to temporarily useless safety showers in the labs.

Despite the fact that students were originally told that there would be full lunch and dinner service, in an 11 a.m. update they were made aware that Chartwells would be providing a limited-lunch menu and boxed meals, for pick-up only in the Hawk's Nest, during dinner hours.

Though originally reported to be closed, the Hawk's Nest remained open until 8 p.m. selling only pre-packaged items.

By 1 p.m. workers had located the break in the water main and were beginning repairs. During the next few hours workers removed the broken section of pipe and installed a new one which was then flushed.

A valve was also installed to allow isolation of future breaks in the line to prevent a second stint of a water-

shut off as the one that occurred in September when the water main which services Towers broke.

Repairs were completed and water service was turned on shortly after 4 p.m. However, it took several hours for the tanks to fill up during which time brown water came through faucets and filled toilet bowls.

The Howard Avenue entrance to campus remained closed until the pavement over the break was restored.

At 9 a.m. Thursday, Nov. 8, students received a final e-mail stating that Fontano had issued an "all clear" bulletin.

Water service had worked normally throughout the night and the disturbed piece of road behind the Union was fenced off to allow normal traffic to pass. Repairs to the road itself were completed during the day.

Manchester commented on the ordeal, "I was proud of the flexibility, cooperation and humor exhibited by the entire campus community in the face of a rather large inconvenience."

## Online registration premier met with mixed reviews

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on-line. He was forced to make the journey up to Grymes Hill to visit the Registrar and "fill out the form the old-fashioned way to register."

He was not alone; many other students found their advisors had trouble clearing them for registration. Faculty, however, could still register students through CARS, a computer program used by faculty and administration which keeps track of a student's academic career.

Whichever method faculty and students find easier is acceptable because this process is about "letting people remain in their comfort zones," said Cristofaro.

Another problem that arose during Registration dealt with classes requiring pre-requisites. The computer system could not recognize if students had taken pre-requisites for classes they wanted to register for.

Also many of the pre-requisites re-

quired by the computer system were not listed in the Undergraduate Course Bulletin.

Through some mistake, classes that are not required as pre-requisites were entered into the system as such, thus blocking students from registering for quickly filling classes.

Course descriptions were also not viewable on WWAM, a negative aspect that hurt the premier of the on-line registration.

Although students have faced multiple problems while registering, many students have found it much easier to register on-line than in person. Some felt the new system was less stressful and a positive change. Junior Jenn Perkins said, "It takes 30 seconds; you just type in the course and sections numbers and you're done. I got up to register for my last class at 2 a.m. just because I could."

Cristofaro suggests students that still need to register do so by opening multiple browsers on-line. This way that can see instructions for how to

register on WWAM, the course schedule, and the Course Bulletin.

She is hoping to put course descriptions on WWAM for upcoming registrations. Before registering she suggests students check to see if they have any holds on their account. "There is more responsibility on students," but the outcome will be worth it. Students can also use the Wildcard search to see if any Diversity (D) or International (I) classes are left by simply typing in (D) or (I).

"In two or three years, I want students to say 'This is great!'" says Cristofaro.

This new process could not have been accomplished "without the cooperation of everyone on campus, administration, faculty and students. The whole campus has been fantastic!" she added.

While it did have its glitches, the Registrar's Office is determined to fix all these problems and make the new on-line process the way for years to come.

## 'God Theory' meshes science and religion

By ANDREW MINUCCI  
Wagnerian Co-Editor

In Douglas Adam's science-fiction masterpiece, "The Hitchhikers Guide to the Galaxy," the digitalized encyclopedia is said to be more controversial than Oolon Colluphid's trilogy of philosophical blockbusters, "Where God Went Wrong," "Some More" of God's Greatest Mistakes" and "Who is this God Person Anyway?"

While these extra-terrestrial books searching for God exists only in fiction, the search for an intelligent creator is the focus of astrophysicist and author Bernard Haisch's new read, "The God Theory."

"The universe is amazingly finely tuned," Haisch told an audience in Spiro Hall on Oct. 25, "It would be logical to assume if the universe has finely tuned properties, that is because it is finally tuned by intelligence."

In laymen's terms Haisch attempted to explain that the universe is to complex to have been the result of sporadic and random creation.

Although his controversial theory presses buttons in both the scientific and spiritual communities, Haisch is quick to point out he is not pushing religion.

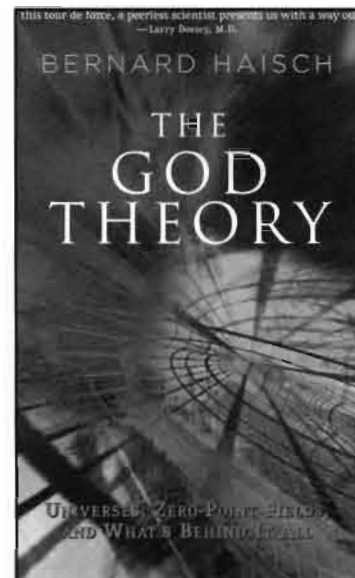
"The big bang, the Earth is 4.6 billion years old, evolution happened; those things all happened," he said.

But why did these things happen? How did we end up as we are today?

"I think mystic is good enough evidence, at least it is evidence for myself," said Haisch, who admits he has very little factual evidence to support his idea, but relies on his faith and beliefs.

When a member of the audience asked which religion was correct, Haisch claimed that religion is simply a means to convey the existence of a God.

"Larry says this, Curly says that, Mo says this. Who are you going to believe?" he said. "One day religion may disappear from the world and



The God Theory

that may be a good thing," Haisch added.

So then, who is this God person anyway?

According to Haisch, the intelligent creator possesses infinite potential, far beyond the imagination of humankind, but due to the way our universe is structured, He (as Haisch states "He" is a general term not necessarily reflecting the gender of God) can only shape his visions with small parts of his infinite resources.

As Haisch puts it "Imagine having a billion dollars in the bank and not being able to use it."

"The purpose of life is experience and God experiences life through each of us," said Haisch, adding, "We all forget that we are God."

Haisch's book, "The God Theory," offers an alternative view on the existence of an intelligent creator while dispelling many common views on worldly religions.

At the end of his lecture Haisch offered the audience a quote to summarize his ideals.

"We are not human beings having a spiritual experience, but spiritual beings having a human experience".

Haisch's book, "The God Theory" is available on his Web site <http://www.thegodtheory.com>.



If there was any doubt to the "hipness" of the staff here at Wagner College, one should only take a moment to study this photograph of the receiving and postal staff on Halloween. Can you imagine how cool this would have been if it was say 1974? Those 'Pink Ladies' were the coolest girls in school. The guy up top absolutely takes the cake for us, we can't decide if its because of his awkward pose, or because he actually looks like he really dresses like that and just inadvertently wandered into the picture, unannounced to the other people being photographed.

We're just teasing, you know we love you guys.



The hallway of the Spiro Sports Center became the children's area with fun games and music during Celebrate Diversity Day.

## Faculty and students plan diversity festivities

By **DIANE GANTENHAMMER**  
Wagnerian Staff Writer

If students took the time to explore Staten Island they would realize that Wagner College is in the midst of one of the most diverse areas in the country.

Walking down the street, an abundance of different accents can be heard and restaurants providing a variety of different cuisines can be seen. Staten Island is the most rapidly diversifying borough, with immigration continuing to increase in recent years.

In an effort to spread diversity throughout the college and the Staten Island community, Wagner College hosts a "Celebrate Diversity" event each year.

On Sunday, Nov. 4, the Education Department, along with other faculty and staff members, hosted the 5th annual "Celebrate Diversity Day" in the Spiro Sports center gymnasium.

On campus clubs such as ODK, Kappa Sigma Alpha and KDPi volunteered their time to help out at the event.

Celebrate Diversity Day is a celebration aimed at educating Staten Islanders about the many different cultures that are familiar to the Island.

Wagner College, the Mosaic Coalition and the New York Center for Interpersonal Development sponsored the event.

According to senior Chris Mustakas, who helped to plan and organize the day, "the event was designed to bring the issue of diversity to light in our community."

Each year we highlight aspects of specific cultures and specific community leaders from those cultures.

The Wagner College community is committed to diversity and works closely with The Mosaic Coalition to

achieve a diverse and accepting society."

The Mosaic Coalition hopes that "familiarity will breed understanding."

Rosenberg, the college's associate coordinator of graduate studies, stated that Celebrate Diversity aims to "change the fact that people are afraid to talk to their neighbors. People are afraid to talk to someone who doesn't look exactly like they do. We want to get over that."

Several Staten Islanders were honored and the cultures of Ghana, Ireland, Egypt, Liberia, Mexico and the Philippines were celebrated.

Wagner students, along with Staten Island residents were invited to travel throughout the gymnasium and learn about each country.

Each culture had their own tent in which cultural artifacts and information were displayed.

Food samples, music and dance performances provided an in depth look into each culture.

Senior Emma Clerihew, who helped organize the event, explained how "a children's area in the corner welcomed children to make puppets and participate in a puppet show, listen to cultural stories, participate in a Reader's Theatre tale, learn Egyptian dancing and make musical instruments."

Towards the end of the afternoon, awards were given out to the honorees from each culture.

Awards were also given out to the winner of an essay contest in which Wagner students participated, and banner contest, in which Wagner clubs took part, that focused on student's cultural roots.

The turnout was large and the event was a success. Wagner College plans to continue Celebrate Diversity in future years with the hopes of opening Staten Islanders up to the cultures that exist around them.

## SGA looks to strengthen clubs after leadership conference

By **ABBY ALBAIR**  
Wagnerian Co-Editor

Every semester all Wagner College organizations are allotted a budget by the Student Government Association to use for their organizations endeavors.

SGA itself is also allotted a leadership development fund which they made good use of this semester.

From Friday, Oct. 19 to Tuesday, Oct. 23 the executive board of SGA consisting of President Morgan Scott, Vice President Kelly Bryd, Vice President of Communications Harry Jackson and Vice President of Communications Kevin Richard attended a 3 day leadership conference which took place at a California hotel on Disneyland property.

The officers were accompanied by two chaperones, grad students and advisors, Virgil Avery, and Nicole

Rubino.

The total cost of the trip, including flight, room, and conference registration fee, was \$4,500.

The cost was covered mostly by SGA's leadership development fund and SGA programming fund, parts of the overall budget, which are set aside for such purposes.

According to Richard, the expenses of the trip "were not taken out of and did not affect the clubs appropriated budget."

Richard is given \$16,500 a semester to distribute to clubs and the entire amount was distributed strictly to Wagner College organizations for their events.

Any club can attend a conference such as the one SGA went to if they submit a request, for funds to cover the cost, in their proposed budget, to SGA at the beginning of the semester. If the cost is reasonable, fair and proportionate to the overall budget

and the number of the clubs requesting money it may be approved.

Richard said of the trip, "I was skeptical at first of what we could get out of the trip. But we learned a lot from talking to other SGA's; we learned things we can bring to clubs here."

Scott, Byrd, and Jackson gave a presentation on Wagnerstock at the conference. The three talked about what it took to plan the event, who was involved, and how they made it work on a limited budget.

"They represented our school very professionally," Richard said.

The SGA officers garnered many ideas about what can be done for leadership development of Wagner club executive boards. Currently they are in the preliminary planning stages of a leadership conference at the college that would encompass all club leaders. They hope to hold the event sometime next semester.

## New fire system complications continue in Harbor View Hall

By **JESSE HAGEN**  
Wagnerian Humor Editor

Residents of Harbor View Hall had a rude awakening in the early hours of Oct. 25 by the wailing squall of the building's new fire alarm system.

Residents have dealt with the new alarm system's bugs throughout the year, but this latest incident, occurring at 3:47 a.m., seemed to cause more grumbles than any alarms previous, temporarily placing a group of Harbor View residents on the lawn in front of Guild Hall.

The crowd was quite a spectacle: a large group of decidedly peeved college students, draped in whatever they could snag on their way out of their rooms that would pass as clothing.

Frowns were prevalent and permanently plastered on faces, as the crowd stood in the early morning mist.

Some students found refuge inside of Guild, while others braved the elements, patiently shivering and tapping their feet until the residence hall was reopened.

The alarm turned out to be fraudulent, but still resulted in the arrival of the New York Fire Department. Residential Education continues the quest in trying to find the culprit.

"We are definitely trying to catch whoever pulled the alarm," said Res. Ed. director Sara Klein, "if anyone has any information, please let us know at once."

What seemed to cause the most disgruntled feelings among students is that this scene was one that the same group of students had been through only two days earlier, in the late hours of Oct. 23, when a bag of burnt microwave popcorn set off the



The new fire alarm report board in Harbor View Hall.

alarm.

Same looks of near contempt on the faces of students, same mismatched clothing, same fire trucks, and same puzzled firefighters looking for signs of an actual fire.

To add to the frustration, the fire alarms were being tested during the week of the two false alarms. Alarms would go off frequently, with students instructed that they did not have to evacuate, as they were merely tests.

The testing (as well as the unnatural time of the occurrence) made confusion rampant among students when the Oct. 25 alarm went off.

Residential Education and particularly the RA staff of Harbor View have positively responded to the frustration, instituting and maintaining a new bulletin board next to the elevators called the "Fire Alarm Report."

This board lets students know the date, time, number of students evacuated,

and cause of alarm for each fire alarm that goes off throughout the year.

"[The board] is something that the Harbor View staff came up with earlier this year," said Klein, "when the fire alarms go off, it's something we have to deal with too, and if we can't control it, we can at least share information as to why [the alarms] went off."

Klein also praised RAs and students who made the evacuations go smoothly, and greatly stressed the importance of complying with the policy of room evacuations during fire drills and alarms, even when they may come at odd hours and inconvenient times.

"I know it has been frustrating," said Klein, "but it is critical that the sound of the alarm is treated with the same amount of importance each time."



Need to procrastinate?

Tune in to WCBG  
Channel 18 7 p.m. to 1 a.m.  
Monday through Wednesday  
to see our awesome DJ's.

If you'd like to get involved next semester  
e-mail [wcbg@wagner.edu](mailto:wcbg@wagner.edu) or check out our  
web site <http://wcbg.wagner.edu>

# College takes quick measures to stop MRSA spread on campus

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"This is a reality, it is in our world, in our community and now we want to tell you how to protect yourself."

Activities associated with athletics and gymnasium activity can increase an individual's chance of contracting the infection. On Nov. 2, Manchester declined to reveal to the Staten Island Advance if the student was an athlete, citing student privacy concerns.

On Tuesday, Oct. 30, Heath Services held an informational seminar in Gatehouse Lounge and Beisler Lounge about this infection, the precautions that would be useful to students, and why it is becoming a massive topic in the media.

The staff from Health Services here on campus explained the current situation and the told students that the media was blowing it out of proportion. 85% of all cases of the infection are hospital acquired which leaves only 15% out in the community. Health Services contacted the Department of Health whom informed them that "with good hand washing this infection is not a threat."

Health Services also spoke with housekeeping and athletic directors about the conditions in the bathrooms and in the locker rooms. Wagner's

cleaning policy is more than adequate by Department of Health requirements.

The college's daily cleaning processes, including restrooms in the residence halls, "exceeds federal expectations and will not be altered because of the infections," said Manchester. "Our college facilities are safer than then the average home," he added.

So is this tiny Grymes Hill campus safe from what the media is referring to as a "super bug?"

"I think Wagner is doing everything it can to keep its students safe," said Joe Romano spokesperson for the college, "Can I say we are 100% safe? No I can't say that, but we are maximizing our efforts to keep it from spreading. We all have to be part of the solution, not the problem," he added.

Staph infections can spread from person to person among those who live in close contact, such as in college residence halls. Usually infection spreads when people with it share things like bed linens, towels or clothing. MRSA outbreaks are appearing increasingly in school communities all over the United States.

A county in southern Virginia closed all of its 21 schools on

Wednesday to clean them to prevent the spread of infection. Southfield Public School in Detroit, Michigan closed MacArthur K-8 University Academy after a report that a student was being treated for MRSA.

Nine athletes and a coach at Iona College also contracted this infection. A number of football players at Carthage College in Kenosha, Wisconsin will have sit out games after being infected. Many other elementary schools, middle schools and colleges are being infected day by day.

Closer to home, The Staten Island Advance reported on Nov. 2 that a case had been reported at St. Joseph's by-the-Sea High School in the Huguenot.

The best way to guard against this infection is to clean your hands by washing thoroughly with soap and water, using hand sanitizer, keep cuts and scrapes clean and covered, avoid contact with other people's wounds and bandages and avoid sharing personal items such as towels or razors.

The presence of this infection in our own community gives Wagner students more of a reason to follow the precautions and adhere to the safety measures in order to protect themselves and fellow students.

## How to stay protected from a Staph (MRSA) Infection:

- Wash your hands frequently with warm water.
- Keep your living area clean, disinfect surfaces.
- Keep yourself clean. Shower often.
- Don't share personal items like razors or water bottles.
- Cover all cuts or abrasions with a clean, dry bandage.
- Don't share topical preparations, like ointments and lotions.

Information from Health Services

# Mr. and Mrs. Wagner reign supreme

By JESSE HAGEN  
Wagnerian Humor Editor

Wagner College is no stranger to the world of pageants (remember this past summer?), a fact that was reflected at the Mr. and Mrs. Wagner competition, hosted by the Alpha Sigma Alpha sorority to raise support for the S. June Smith Center.

The eight contestants, each representing their respective organizations, showed poise and confidence on the Gatehouse Lounge stage, stepping out of their comfort zones in an attempt to win over the crowd and the judges.

The evening began with senior Talia Fraulo, the evening's master of ceremonies, announcing the contestants as they walked across the stage in their snazziest duds. Each contestant was decked out in their best formal wear and escorted by a partner of their choice.

The next round, the night's most exciting, featured each contestant showcasing one (and in some cases more) of their talents. Senior Kelly Byrd, guided the crowd through an interpretive dance set to Natalie Imbruglia's song "Torn," junior Lindsay Hashmall offered a clarinet performance of "Hava Nagila," junior Constantine Economos entertained with his juggling, senior Meredith MacDonald sang her

heart out, sophomore Christian Mercado led a group of her sorority sisters in a choreographed dance, fifth-year student Matt Procaccini ran through an assortment of talents, senior Katharine Ronald taught the crowd how to make bubbles and junior Sara Jahannes flexed her powerful vocals.

To say the round was a spectacle would be an understatement.

Round three offered a costume contest in honor of Halloween. The contestants wooed the lively audience and the judges with an assortment of creative designs and concepts.

After the completion of the three rounds, each contestant put on their formal clothes to answer a final question, "Why do you deserve to be Mr. or Mrs. Wagner?"

The answers ran from contestant to contestant, with many of them attempting (and many succeeding) to use humor in their answer.

The two crowned were Hashmall and Economos, which set off cheering and applause in the crowd, but the real winner was the S. June Smith Center, who ASA raised over \$400 for at the event.

The S. June Smith Center supports children with developmental needs through education, therapeutic services, and family-centered programming. They seek to educate children, support families and strengthen communities.

"I still believe if your aim is to change the world, journalism is a more immediate short-term weapon."

~Tom Stoppard

# Student organizations raise awareness with red ribbons

By COURTNEY DONAHUE  
Wagnerian Staff Writer

The year was 1985, a DEA agent was killed in the line of duty investigating Mexican drug trafficking.

Elementary schools around the country began Red Ribbon week to raise awareness of the dangers of substance abuse.

Red Ribbon Month's Web site, explains that "Red Ribbon Month provides us with an opportunity to renew our commitment to a healthy and drug-free lifestyle and show our dedication to education and prevention efforts in our schools and communities".

The site explains that some schools fit their activities into one week, whereas others need a month for all of their activities.

Wagner College's Alpha Phi Omega National Service Fraternity participated on Sunday Nov. 4, helping with Defy Drug Education for Youth by doing crafts with students and acting as positive role models.

Senior Kristin Woodbury, APO's Vice President of Service, participated in grade school and brought up the issue to APO.

She fondly remembers taking part in the highlight of the awareness week, the talent show.

"I definitely decided I wanted to help".

While red ribbons represents anti-substance abuse to some, it has another very important meaning to others.



Members of APO smile as they sell the red ribbons in support of AIDS awareness.

APO also sold red ribbons in the Union during the week of Nov 5-9. This event was to raise AIDS awareness.

Members of APO also found individuals to sponsor them for 24 hours of fasting to raise money for the organization.

Senior Danielle Dier developed the idea of selling ribbons as a way to do her part since she could not participate in the fast the others members took part in.

The money raised went to Knowledge is the Cure, a non-profit organization started by senior, Nick Mustakas, which strives to help children in Africa orphaned by the AIDS epidemic.

Another group selling red ribbons will be a new group on campus this semester, the Society of Arts Administration Students.

SASS is selling ribbons in the Union Nov 28 and 29 to prepare for a

benefit they are planning in the spring for Broadway Cares Equity Fights AIDS.

Their ribbon sale coincides with World AIDS Day, Dec 1.

The SASS benefit is in preliminary stages of planning, intended to be on campus in March and open to students, faculty, alumni and friends.

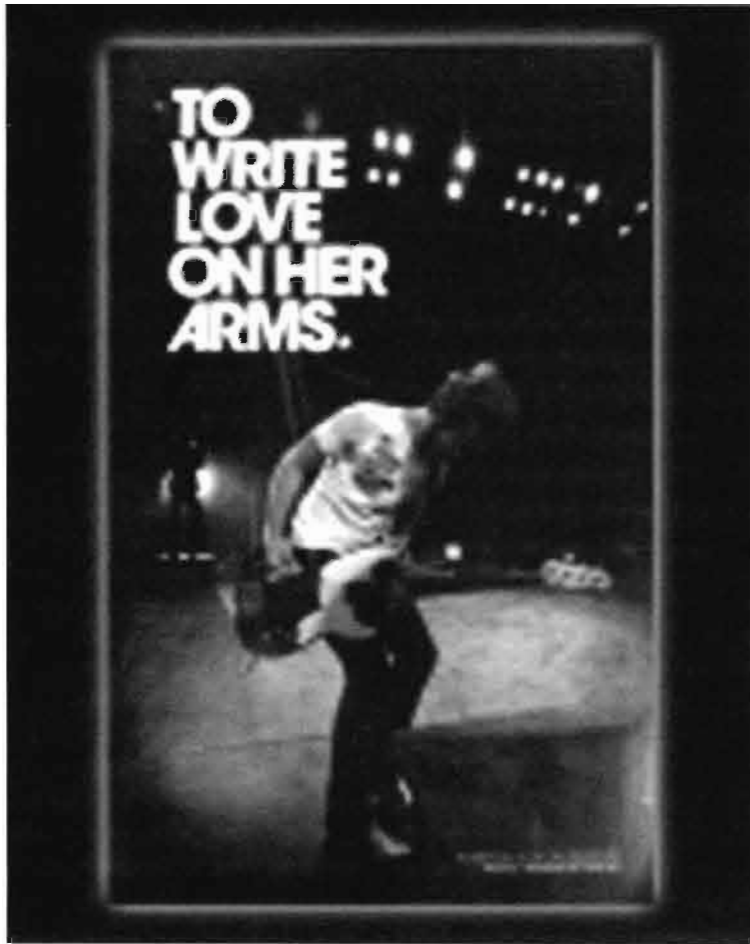
It will be co-sponsored by TAB, the Theatre Advisory Board.

"We thought this was a really nice way to involve the arts community at Wagner and the art community beyond in doing charity" says SASS President, junior David Norman.

The benefit will include an exhibit of student artwork, a silent auction and a student cabaret.

*There is still time to help support the cause.*

*If any students are interested in helping raise AIDS awareness, they can email SASS@wagner.edu.*



Members of Alpha Phi Omega National Service Fraternity will be selling bracelets and buttons in the Union and Paker Towers and Harbor View lobbies Nov. 12 to Nov. 16 in support of "To Write Love on her Arms," an organization which reaches out to those suffering from depression, addiction, and self-injury. APO will also host a "Speak Out" in the coffeehouse on Nov. 17 from 2 to 5 p.m.



Students play guitar-hero during The Hub gaming night

## 'To Write Love on Her Arms' comes to Wagner College

By PAIGE HERLIHY  
Wagnerian Staff Writer

Stop the bleeding. Love is the movement. Rescue is possible.

These are the three founding principles of To Write Love On Her Arms (TWLOHA). TWLOHA is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization which strives to help individuals suffering with depression, addiction, suicidal thoughts and self-injury.

Nov. 17 marks National Survivors of Suicide Day. In honor of this important day and the serious issues it reflects, Wagner's co-ed community service fraternity, Alpha Phi Omega (APO), will be hosting a Speak Out in the coffeehouse on that day from 2-5 p.m., following a weeklong fundraising project for TWLOHA.

TWLOHA began as a story written by the organization's founder, Jaime Tworkowski, about a 19-year-old, Renee Yohe, which sparked a movement.

When Tworkowski first met Yohe the signs of her internal struggle were displayed prominently on her forearms. Self-inflicted wounds left the girl with daily reminders of her past. Using everything from cocaine, to pills, to alcohol to numb her pain, Yohe was in desperate need of help.

Tworkowski chronicled the five days he spent with Yohe before she entered rehab. This was the beginning of TWLOHA.

It was during these difficult days that Tworkowski developed the organization's theory, "love can heal, love is the movement." Tworkowski and

his friends treated Yohe to the best that they could offer, taking her to the concerts of her favorite bands, where she sat in the best seats in the house, talking to her and listening to her, housing her and feeding her. To send Yohe to rehab her friends launched a Myspace site and began selling t-shirts for the cause.

Renee's friends were successful in their attempts and she is now clean and sober. TWLOHA continues to support Yohe and has expanded into a nationally known organization which aids those suffering with depression, addiction, and self-injury, with the help of volunteers and the

*Two-thirds of people suffering with depression never seek treatment.*

*Suicide is the third leading cause of death among young people.*

*535,000 youths are hospitalized every year with self-inflicted injuries.*

music industry.

From the beginning, a number of bands became very involved in the TWLOHA movement. TWLOHA merchandise began gracing the pages of Rolling Stone, Spin and Alternative Press in 2006, worn by members of bands such as Anberlin, Switchfoot and Between the Trees, all of which continue to support the organization by playing tours benefiting TWLOHA.

In Oct. 2007, Eyeball Records got on board with this charity trend and launched their *Eyeball Awareness* series.

The series will include four albums a year, the first of which is titled "Eyeball Awareness Vol. 1: A Benefit For 'To Write Love On Her Arms,'" and was released on October 16. TWLOHA has also spent time touring with Warped Tour, Taste of Chaos, The Almost, Young Elmo, Bayside and many more promoting their cause and sharing Yohe's moving story.

The money raised during Alpha Phi Omega's fundraiser will be donated to To Write Love On Her Arms, helping them to meet their yearly goal of \$100,000. The fundraising project will be held in the Union from 11am to 2pm and 4pm to 7pm from Monday, Nov. 12 to Friday, Nov. 16 and in the Parker Towers and Harbor View Hall lobbies from 10p.m. to 2a.m. on Thursday, Nov. 15 and Friday, Nov. 16.

The project will include a bake sale and make your own cupcake booth. In addition APO will be taking orders for TWLOHA merchandise including t-shirts, sweatshirts, posters and hats and selling TWLOHA pins and wristbands for \$1 during the bake sale and the Speak Out.

To learn more about how to help log onto [www.twloha.com](http://www.twloha.com) where you can read the story, find tour dates and join the street team. Or look for "Eyeball Awareness Vol. 1: A Benefit For 'To Write Love On Her Arms,'" in record stores and on iTunes.

## All you need is Hub

By ABBY ALBAIR  
Wagnerian Co-Editor

You may have seen officers of The Hub, a new club at Wagner College, standing in the Union atrium recently recruiting members. Perhaps you witnessed students battling it out in a game of Guitar Hero during The Hub's gaming night, the club's first official event. What you may not know is that this club is about more than just the gathering of video game nerds.

"You're that new gaming club or nerd club is pretty much what we hear a lot," said The Hub's President Yasemine Alev. Vice President Harry Jackson quickly added with a smile, "But that's not an insult we like it."

"People don't always wear t-shirts that advertise their nerd interest because they'd be made fun of or what ever, we want a club that encompasses these interests," said Jackson. "Ideally down the road we'd want to splinter off, have our Dungeons and Dragons group, video game group, Magic group, and others. People can meet, hang out, play these games and have fun," he added.

While these games can be played alone, the enthusiastic officers make the point that while not too many people gather for these activities; they are fun to take part in together. "We're trying to make it a community," said Alev.

Last Thursday, Nov. 8, The Hub held a Guitar Hero tournament in the Coffeehouse, and Friday Nov. 9 the club organized a showing of 'V for Vendetta.'

"This semester is committed to building membership. The best thing about the game night was that we got our name out there. This is a club we want to see around when we're gone," said Jackson.

"Membership in itself, especially younger members is an essential thing for a club to build and start a legacy," he added.

Currently Alev and Jackson are trying to find times that work for all The Hub members to meet. Aside from gaming ventures, the two hope to organize movie marathons which appeal to participants. "Maybe like DVD seasons, a Heroes marathon for example, which is popular with our members," said Jackson.

"We're trying to get everyone together, maybe help each other make costumes so we can go to the Comic-Con," said Alev.

The New York Comic Book Convention, or the Comic-Con, is usually held in Manhattan in February but will take place this year the last weekend in April. "It's a big thing for comic book nerds but there's also videogames, it will appeal to a lot of our members," said Alev.

"A lot of people go in costume so it would be really fun if we could get our members together and have a costume building night and go to the actual convention in costume. That would be like a last big Horah! for the members," added Jackson.

Jackson and Alev explained that The Hub is really about what members want to make of it. "We're open to all of our member's general interests. We want to know what games are out there that we all haven't heard of that we can try and may really enjoy," said Jackson.

"We're a club that encompasses general interests that aren't covered by others out there specializing in video-games, comics, sci-fi, anime, really whatever their interests are that aren't covered already by Wagner," he added.

Wagner has seen clubs centered around certain video-games and other fads come and go in the past. "Smaller Dungeons and Dragons clubs and things like that have existed but they've never really lasted I think because there is not enough focus on what the members want to do. But [what the members want to do] is what we're all about so we can say, 'alright we'll play video-games this month and board games next month' and things like that," said Jackson.

"We're not just a 'this' club, there are options. So if 'this' is something you want to do that's great but if not there are other things you can get into. It's very dynamic," added Alev.

So why was the name The Hub chosen for this new multi-interest group? Jackson explained, "It's like a computer hub where everyone can plug in."

*Anyone interested in this exciting new club can e-mail the officers at [thehub@wagner.edu](mailto:thehub@wagner.edu) with their interests and availability.*

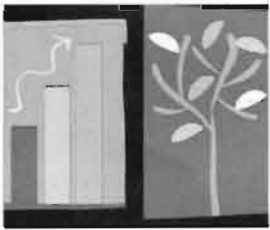
"Journalism is, in fact, history on the run."

-Thomas Griffith

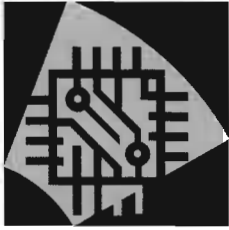
**(how) waggish {trans.} adjective:**

like a wag; roguish in merriment and good humor; jocular:  
*i.e. Fielding and Sterne are waggish writers.*

Clip art, filling in America's need for generic, illogical pictures since 1981



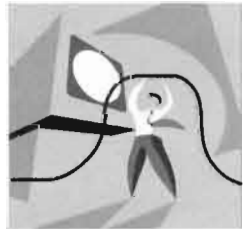
If you're not Al Gore, why would you need a picture of a nonsensical bar graph next to what seems to be the tree from Charlie Brown's Christmas before they wave their arms over it? This makes an atrocious mockery of global warming.



When geometry goes wrong. This is quite possibly the worst pattern I've ever seen. If the Transformers logo got hit in the face with a shovel and then run over by a flaming Mack truck you would have this.



Because nothing says "success" quite like a hazy image of some triumphant schmuck. I feel so inspired. It almost makes me want to get off of this crappy computer and go run a few feet.



Powerpoint calls this one "Business Man," and one can see why fairly easily. From what I've heard, the key to succeeding in business is shrinking down to the size of an ant and hoisting your mouse cord above your head. Do that and you're set.



Clip art demonstrates perfectly why industrial tools always make the worst cartoons. Just ask "Benny the Band Saw" who's show was cancelled after one viewing, due to a hugging mishap that injured nine children.



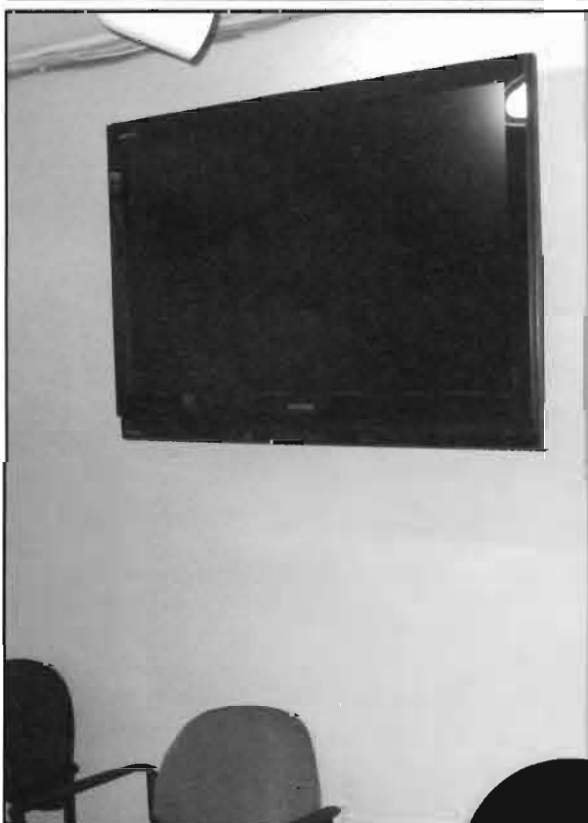
This was on a poster for how to protect yourself from the Staph infection. I understand showering, but WHY IS THIS MAN ON THE PHONE IN THE SHOWER? What was the artist thinking? How is this safe at all? Terrible.

By Jesse Hagen

*Classic Unfinished Quote of the Month:*

"Anyone can catch your eye, but it takes someone truly special to catch your heart... wow... if you'll pardon me I'm hoping the toilet in stall number two can catch the contents of my stomach, I can't believe I just said something so cliché. **BLLEEEEECCCCCHHHH!**"

-Anon.



**What's Up With That?**

Good thing that a TV monitor has mysteriously appeared on the wall next to the Co-Curricular office... it's a long walk from the dining hall to your room... Heaven forbid you miss one second of "Cavemen."

by Jesse Hagen

LAUGH BAKED

Staph baked



By **JESSE HAGEN**  
 Wagnerian Humor Editor

My hands are wet as I'm typing this column (no not because of what you're thinking you sicko! Geez, mention computers and wet hands and people can only think of one thing!), because I just washed my hands for about the 18<sup>th</sup> time today and I'm afraid to use the paper towels in the bathroom.

I don't want to get the MRSA Staph infection. All this buzz about it has scared me into a newfound state of superstition that has my mood teetering somewhere between how I would feel if I walked into my room to find a gloved O.J. Simpson and if I was a pet store clerk selling a puppy to Michael Vick.

Seriously, the following routine has become so standard in my life that I think I'm developing mild Obsessive Compulsive Disorder:

I approach the sink with the quickness of a Wagner College construction project. Then, I put on a pair of surgical gloves to grab two paper towels with which I use to turn on the warm water. I then carefully place my hands under the running water and soak them for one minute. At that point I carefully unwrap a sterilized metal rod (I keep a full stash of them in a holster on my belt at all times) with which I use to press the soap dispenser, then I have a self sterilizing dish that I catch the soap in. I let the soap sit in the dish for 20 seconds while the dish emits a bright UV light, killing any germs that may reside in the soap (you think I trust that the amorphous pink goo in all Wagner bathrooms is actually antibacterial?). After ensured sterilization, I pour the soap from the dish onto my soaked hands. I then scrub vigorously for the amount of times it takes me to sing "Happy Birthday" twice through in my head... in 7 different languages. I then carefully reposition my hands under the running water (turn it off when scrubbing? I can't worry about global warming right now! I MIGHT GET THE EFFING STAPH INFECTION!), and proceed to carefully rinse every sud off of my hands. Finally, I walk like a

zombie towards the door, kicking my leg up to grab the door handle with my foot (I wear four pairs of sterilized clinical socks so I'm not worried about getting the infection through my feet), this step is excruciatingly more difficult if the door is opened by a knob and not a handle.

I do this about 20 times daily and that's in between all the hand baths I take in bowls of Purell. The worst part is, my hands are severely chapped now and most likely more susceptible to bacteria than they were before the scare. Fantastic.

And that's just covering washing my hands; let's not even get into the type of seat cover I construct when I have to take a dump.

As scared as I am every day, knowing that getting a deadly Staph infection is inevitable, I could not have been more terrified than on the day the water main burst. When my roommate shook me awake and told me that there was no running water, I coated my hand in Lysol and punched him in the face. Suffice to say, I stayed in bed for the day and used up the remaining Purell.

I can honestly say I'm terrified. Really, it used to be that sharks were my only fear, but now its sharks, Staph infections, and sharks with Staph infections.

I'm even more paranoid when I hear the symptoms. I convince myself that I'm suffering from each one. For instance, I heard that the symptoms include red pimple-like bumps, so now every time I go to the mirror and see a pimple on my face, I suffer a small heart attack.

This is even worse than the time I was on a plane and they showed a short informational video on diabetes, listing one of the symptoms as constant thirst. I was thirsty at the time and began to panic. The kicker was when a flight attendant had to come and reassure me that she was sure that I didn't have diabetes, as I was an eight year old child.

You know what the real irony in this situation is? Before the Staph infection scare? I had zero health related problems. After the Staph infection scare? Mild OCD, Dry skin on hands from repeated washings, signs of Tourettes (sorry for that kind of cuss earlier, blame it on the health scare), small heart attacks, mild to severe paranoia and to top it all off, a new eye twitch. Funny how the medical system works.

And now if you'll excuse me, I'm going to go wash my hands, be back in an hour.

Please remember that nothing in this section is meant to be taken literally. I would type more but I'm terrified that this keyboard is swimming with germs. -J. Hagen

# Arts & Entertainment



Radiohead's new album, *In Rainbows*, will cost you however much you want to pay, even if that amount happens to be nothing.

## How much is music worth? Radiohead lets their fans decide

By **CHELSEA DUNBAR**  
Wagnerian Staff Writer

Radiohead says, "It's Really Up to You".

This is a question that a lot of record labels, artists and poor college students have had on their minds recently. And they aren't all on the same page.

One of the most out of the ordinary events in the music industry happened on Oct. 10. Radiohead made the decision to bypass a record label and sell their newest album *In Rainbows* themselves. They also sold it without a price tag.

Radiohead, a British alternative rock band, formed in 1986. They have a worldwide fan base and are known for their intricate songs and drastic progression from album to album.

Regarding the material of the new album, many fans are exultant about Radiohead's latest work.

Fans were able to choose the amount they paid and to receive a digital download from Radiohead's website. Their website stated, "it's up to you," and allowed the customer to put in the amount that they desired to pay. The customer could also spend \$80 for the disc box set, for delivery in December.

Donald Rahl, a sophomore at Wagner College, downloaded the album for \$0, and enjoyed it. "I really do like

the material." Dahl said. "'All I Need' is probably my favorite tune, a very relaxed groove until it climaxes into something totally different in the end. This album is a good mix of Kid A, which is my favorite album, and OK Computer."

"I have over \$200 in iTunes purchases," Rahl explained.

"I do not download music for free. I was curious as to what would happen if I did purchase the album with a big \$0 in the 'how much I will pay box', and I did just that. I was really expecting it to a) not even run through the system, or b) some strange introspective image or message would appear and make me feel guilty about paying nothing. Well...it was very [anticlimactic]. They simply sent me an address to download the album on the day that it came out. I was very surprised. I also did not care that I was not paying for the digital download because I planned on purchasing the entire disc box package."

This pay-what-you-want tactic is something that the record labels are not exactly used to. TIME Magazine quoted an Art and Repertoire executive at a major European label. "If the best band in the world doesn't want a part of us, I'm not sure what's left for this business."

Guy Hands, The chairman of the British music group EMI, commented after Radiohead's decision on need for record labels to change.

"The industry, rather than embracing digitalization and the opportunities it brings for promotion of product and distribution through multiple channels has stuck its head in the sand." He said. "Radiohead's actions are a wake-up call which we should all welcome and respond to with creativity and energy."

Professor Todd Alan Price, who teaches several Arts Administration classes feels that Radiohead's decision has "challenged the record companies," Price pointed out. "This is an artist's response to a shoddy model."

It isn't clear how Radiohead's decision will affect the music industry, but it did make a splash.

"I like the people at our record company," said Thom Yorke, the lead singer of Radiohead. "But the time is at hand when you have to ask why anyone needs one. And, yes, it probably would give us some perverse pleasure to say 'F--- you' to this decaying business model."

Perhaps Yorke is right. Maybe the music industry has used a prehistoric model of business. However, it is difficult to say that every band or artist would be able to pull off what Radiohead did. It is certain that the way individuals obtain music is much different than it had been in the past. Artists, like Radiohead appear willing to plough ahead into the unknown and try something new. There is a question of whether or not the record labels will do the same, and adapt.

## Listen Up!



Streetlight Manifesto-*Somewhere In The Between*

After four years of anxious anticipation from the New Jersey ska scene, Streetlight Manifesto's new album *Somewhere In The Between* reminds fans of the phenomenal talent which this group possesses. Lead vocalist Thomas Kalnoky, the mastermind behind the legendary Catch-22 album *Keasby Nights*, has lost none of his tantalizingly unique vocal abilities. The new album mixes the upbeat style and fast tempo lyrics that put Kalnoky and Catch-22 on the map, with the maturity, both in lyrical sense and musical ability heard on the groups debut solo album *Everything Goes Numb*. Despite Streetlight's recent success and rampant touring, murmurings have surfaced of a new studio album for Kalnoky's acoustic version of Streetlight, *Bandits of the Acoustic Revolution*.

-By Andrew Minucci



Hollywood Hangover-*Ridicule My Heart and Feel My Liver*

Hollywood Hangover is a band that originates right here on Staten Island. The up-and-coming alternative rock band's catchy melodies and crazy guitar licks will be sure to get you hooked with song titles like *Empty Promises*, *Waiting by Your Door*, and *Venting*. The album is for sale at all shows and soon to be available on CD Baby and i-Tunes. Hollywood Hangover's MySpace page features a schedule of their upcoming shows, background information about the four members and previews of the band's music. They are also reaching out for fans on MySpace to sign up and vote for them in the Bodog Million Dollar Battle of the Bands, which will win the band a one million dollar recording contract. With a commercial in the production to promote the CD on Time Warner Cable, the guys are ready to kick-start their career. Check out Hollywood Hangover on MySpace ([myspace.com/imhungover](http://myspace.com/imhungover)) to find out when they are playing on Staten Island.

-By Olivia Santo



Lil Wayne-*Tha Carter III leak*

Lil Wayne (Weezy) plans to increase the anticipation for his upcoming album, *Tha Carter III* in style. After many of Weezy's songs have leaked onto mix tapes and the internet, he is giving the fans what they want. Just in time for the holidays, he is releasing *Tha Carter III: The Leak* on December 18, and his album *Tha Carter III LP* will be released on February 12. The Leak will include songs that Weezy fans are already familiar with such as "I Feel Like Dying", "Prostitute Flange" and "Gossip" which was recently debuted at the BET Hip Hop Awards this past month. The collection will also feature four new songs. The Louisiana native knows that there is no stopping his music from being bootlegged, so he is starting a new trend by doing it himself. Weezy is strategically waiting to release *Tha Carter III LP* for several reasons. Besides building up anticipation, he wants to drop his album after the hype created by his artist, Currency, as well as the release of other artist's singles that he will appear on. *On Tha Carter III LP*, expect to hear collaborations with Justin Timberlake, Timbaland and Kanye West. These songs are secure... for now.

-By Ashlee Hillier





The National plays to a sold-out crowd opening night at Terminal 5 in Manhattan.

## Bowery group expands with two new venues

By **MARY GROCH**  
Wagnerian Staff Writer

The smell of dry wall was in the air when a new venue opened its doors this October in Manhattan. The christening of the building took place when Matt Berninger, lead singer of indie band, The National, cracked open a bottle of champagne and handed it to the crowd and the bottle made its rounds through the audience.

Terminal 5, located at 610 W. 56th Street, is the sleek, new venue in The Bowery Presents entertainment group. The sound quality was fantastic opening night, with 40 foot ceilings and wrap around mezzanines, obviously built for optimal viewing and sound quality.

The new venue is the largest of The Bowery Presents group, which also owns the Bowery Ballroom and Mercury Lounge. With a capacity of

3000, intimacy was still not lost on the crowd. The National show opening night was sold-out, but with open atmosphere of the venue, overcrowding was not an issue.

Terminal 5 offers concertgoers access to three floors, each one complete with its own bar and bathrooms. The ground floor embodies the chaotic concert feel with dancing, moshing and the occasional grinding from a complete stranger. For the more reserved concertgoer, the two mezzanines offer plush couches and padded benches; hues of blue and violet create an artsy feel.

The distinct style even extends to the bathrooms. Freestanding stalls are located in a hall-like setting, no restrictions for men or women, just blue doors that lead into single stalls lit by black lights.

If you would like to see this all for yourself, upcoming shows at Terminal 5 include at the venue include The Polyphonic Spree with Rooney,

Against Me! and State Radio.

The Bowery Presents also added a slightly smaller new addition to the family. The Music Hall of Williamsburg opened its doors September 4 with a performance from SIRE Records band, Against Me!

Located at 66th North Street in Brooklyn, the venue has a 550 capacity. The leather couches and dark lighting that now adorn the interior would never give away that the venue was once a mayonnaise plant. Constructed in the style of the Bowery Ballroom, the sloped ceilings provide maximum quality acoustics, which was a key interest in the renovation of the building.

Future concerts at the Music Hall of Williamsburg include Yo La Tengo, The Cribs, Snapcase, Sondre Lerche, Mudhoney, and Ted Leo and the Pharmacists.

Check out bowerypresents.com for details and ticket information regarding both venues.

## Hanson and TOMS Shoes partner to help children in Africa

By **KELLIANN VOLSARIO**  
Wagnerian Staff Writer

The group of brothers that brought the world "MmmBop" are now giving back in a unique way. Isaac, Taylor and Zac Hanson have recently released their new album, *The Walk* and are literally taking walks with their fans in order to raise awareness about the AIDS epidemic in Africa.

While many think Hanson has fallen from success and stardom, they are still writing and releasing their own music from their independent label. The brothers are also looking to make an impact not only on the music industry, but on the kind of world in which people live.

Hanson launched a program in collaboration with a company called TOMS Shoes. Before each concert, the brothers meet their fans outside the venue and guide them on a one-mile walk.

The band is often found walking barefoot with megaphones in hand encouraging everyone along the



Sequined TOMS Shoes, for each pair sold, another is donated to a child in Africa

way. Footage recorded during one of these walks shows the eldest brother, Isaac Hanson removing his own shoes and giving them to a homeless man sitting on the sidewalk.

These walks are their effort to raise awareness for children in Africa affected by AIDS and often living without a simple pair of shoes. This is where TOMS Shoes'

role comes into play.

TOMS Shoes is an organization based in Santa Monica, CA that sells pairs of shoes off their Web site [tomsshoes.com](http://tomsshoes.com) and in stores across the country.

What is so unique about TOMS Shoes? For each pair of shoes purchased, a pair goes to a child in need. The shoes are simply designed, and come in several different colors and patterns, ranging in price from \$38 to \$78.

Hanson's inspiration began when they released the first single, "Great Divide," on iTunes with each download raising money for AIDS research. The song features background vocals provided by a children's choir, recorded during the band's trip to South Africa.

Upon their return, Hanson completed and released the full album, *The Walk*. A tour followed, beginning this past summer, with the special cause attached to it.

Information and videos taken by fans on the walks is available on [hanson.net](http://hanson.net), to buy a pair of TOMS Shoes, visit [tomsshoes.com](http://tomsshoes.com).

# LOOK OUT!



Director Todd Haynes (*Far From Heaven*, *Velvet Goldmine*) brings audiences everywhere an intimate look into one musical legend's life. *I'm Not There* is a film that will follow the life of Bob Dylan including multiple aspects of his musical career. The directorial uniqueness of the film is that the character of Dylan will be played by several different actors such as Christian Bale, Heath Ledger, Richard Gere and Cate Blanchett (and no, that's not a typo). *I'm Not There* will be released at limited theaters around the country on November 21.

On July 7 musicians from around the globe performed the Live Earth concert series as part of the campaign against global warming. Performed in 11 cities throughout the world, on the same day, the concerts featured artists like artists like John Legend, Duran Duran, Joss Stone and Danny K. The Live Earth CD was released on iTunes this month and features songs performed by Madonna, Corinne Bailey Rae and many more. iTunes is donating a portion of the proceeds from the sale of the album to the Live Earth charity campaign to combat the global climate crisis.



Nicole Kidman, Jennifer Jason Leigh, and Jack Black star in writer and director, Noah Baumbach's latest film, *Margot at the Wedding*. Margot (Kidman) takes her son to her sister, Pauline's (Leigh) wedding to Malcolm (Black), who is less than worthy in the eyes of Margot. As the wedding grows near, events begin to unfold and cause the marital union to become more on the edge than ever. This film explores the unique relationships between family members, especially when it seems that the family is about to fall apart. *Margot at the Wedding* opens on November 16.

"I Love You, Beth Cooper" is making its way on the scene as a growing popular novel. Written by one of the writers of "The Simpsons", Larry Doyle's, "I Love You, Beth Cooper" is a story of the high school nerd, Denis, declaring his love for the popular head cheerleader Beth. It may seem as if we have heard this story a million times in almost every John Hughes' 80's brat-pack film, however, as stated in *The New York Times* "[w]hat Doyle's story lacks in originality...it makes up for in laughs." Check out Doyle's timeless tale of 'beauty and the geek.'



By *Laura Dellavilla*



# Nation and World

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



A chemical compound in Aqua Dots converts to the "date-rape" drug when ingested and metabolized in a child's stomach.

## Common children's toy causes "date-rape" drug effects

*The hospitalization of five children has sparked recalls of a popular children's toy on two continents*

By **ABBY ALBAIR**  
Wagnerian Co-Editor

Five children, two in the U.S. and three in Australia, were hospitalized after ingesting a Chinese-made toy.

As a result, millions of the products have been taken off of shelves in both Australia and throughout the United States and Canada.

Scientists have deduced that the toy contains a chemical which converts into a "date-rape" drug when ingested.

In Australia, the toys were ordered off store shelves on Tuesday, Nov. 6 after the hospitalization of a two-year-old boy and a ten-year-old girl. It was later reported that a 19-month-old was also being treated.

The U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission announced the recall Wednesday, Nov. 7, just after the Australian recall went into effect.

It has hit the toy industry hard, especially considering that it follows the series of Mattel recalls last summer.

United States children know the toy as Aqua Dots which is distributed by Toronto-based Spin Master Toys.

The beads are called Bindeez in Australia where they were named toy of the year at an industry function earlier this year.

Whichever name the toy goes by, it is made at the same factory in Shenzhen, China.

The Chinese government recently placed a ban on exported toys from over 700 factories in the region because of poorly manufactured products.

Although Aqua Dots is distributed in more than 40 countries it was up to each individual country to decide whether or not the product would be taken off shelves.

The beads are also sold over the internet as an arts and crafts product. One appealing trait for crafts makers is that the beads can be arranged in various ways and fused together with water.

After the children fell ill, scientists examining the beads found that the chemical coating used on them metabolizes in the stomach into gamma hydroxyl butyrate, commonly called the "date-rape" drug or GHB.

Although it is comprised of common ingredients, the sometimes fatal compound can cause drowsiness, seizures, unconsciousness, coma and sometimes death.

In an interview with an Associated Press reporter, a representative of Australia's Poisons Information Center said that the effect on the children was "quite serious and potentially life-threatening."

Both U.S. children went into non-responsive comas. One child completely recovered and the other is still in the process though he was released from the hospital after a five day stay.

Parents have been encouraged through several commission reports to take the toy away from children immediately to protect their safety.

Until this point, the toy had been a highly advertised, high selling product.

Despite the fact that this toy season had gotten off to a rocky start, Aqua Dots had been listed by many toy experts as a must have holiday toy.

Chris Byrne, a New York-based toy consultant, noted that the incidents could have been isolated, and Spin Master may simply be handling the situation with extreme caution.

After learning of the dangers of the toy, Toys "R" Us Inc., issued a statement that it had issued a "stop sale" on the entire Spin Master Aqua Dots product line in its North American stores and on its Web site.

In the statement, the company said, "We understand that Spin Master and U.S. regulatory authorities are investigating this product and we have asked Spin Master to fully explain what it believes happened."

Aside from the Aqua Dots recall, 405,000 separate children's products made in China were also recalled. Most of them toy cars, the products were recalled due dangerous levels of lead in surface paint.

The recall includes about 380,000 Pull-Back Action Toy Cars imported by Dollar General Merchandising Inc. of Goodlettsville, Tenn., and 7,500 Dragster and Funny Car toys imported by International Sourcing Ltd. of Springfield, Mo.

Other items included the Duck Family Collectable Wind-Up Toy, Dizzy Ducks Music Box, "Robot 2000" collectable tin robot and Winnie-the-Pooh Spinning Top.

The toy car recall was not the result of illnesses, but lead is known to be very dangerous if ingested by children.

Products found to have more than 0.06 percent lead accessible to users are also subject to a recall.

## Iraq war death toll on the decline

By **ASHLEE HILLIER**  
Wagnerian Staff Writer

The month of October marked the second recent decline in U.S. military and Iraqi civilian deaths.

U.S. Commanders attribute this to the increase in U.S. troops and the many Iraqi citizens who have joined in on the fight. Some 20,000 Shiites and Sunnis have signed up in the past four months to fight against Al-Qaida and Shiite extremists.

In the month of October, there were 28 military deaths. The death toll has not been this low since March 2006, when the death toll was 31.

In September 65 U.S. soldiers died in the war.

Iraqis decided to join the fight because they were tired of living in fear. Lt. Col. Val Keavney, 3rd Battalion, 509th Infantry (Airborne) noted in an Oct. 23 NBC report that, "once they hit that tipping point, they're fed up, they come to realize we truly do provide them better hope for the future. What we're seeing now is the beginning of a snowball."

Maj. Gen. Rick Lynch said in an Associated Press interview at a U.S. base in South Baghdad, "I've never been more optimistic than I am right now with the progress we've made in

Iraq. The only people who are going to win this counterinsurgency project are the people of Iraq. We've said that all along. And now they're coming forward in masses."

Many attribute the decline to decreased attacks by Shiite militants. These extremist groups are being apprehended in large numbers as a result of information from the citizens who have almost doubled the body presence of U.S. military.

Success early in the year to make partners with civilians combined with an increase in United States troops in Baghdad has led to the formation of alliances in many areas of Iraq.

According to Associated Press figures generated from hospital and military official reports as well as press coverage, the current pace of civilian deaths was less than 900 in October. In September it was 1,023 and in August, 1,956.

Lynch's mission, however, shows a slow pace in reclaiming areas from militants. His troops and their new local allies must work town by town.

Despite that, the new death toll decline is promising and is boosting morale for U.S. troops and hope for Iraqi citizens who are as a result finding the courage to emerge from silence.

## Oil spill causes state of emergency in California

By **ALLIE RIVERA**  
Wagnerian Opinion Editor

A San Francisco oil spill last week left sixteen local beaches closed and over two dozen water birds dead as Coast Guard and California Department of Fish and Game workers frantically tried to clean up the oil-soaked area.

The 58,000 gallon spill, which occurred after a 900-foot container ship slammed into a tower of the Bay Bridge, has devastated local wildlife and caused California governor Arnold Schwarzenegger to declare the area as a state of emergency.

The initial information given by the Coast Guard stated that they believed the accident had only spilled less than 200 gallons of oil.

It was not for another twelve hours

that the true numbers were reported, leaving many critics to question the Coast Guard's responsiveness.

In a press conference, a representative for the Coast Guard admitted that "mistakes were made," though maintaining that these mistakes were only in miscommunication of information, and not mistakes in response time.

Since the start of the cleanup, roughly 18,000 feet of collection booms have been placed around the bay to skim the water and soak up the oil with over 200 workers continuing their efforts to clean up the spill.

In an interview with an Associated Press reporter, Yvonne Addassi, Wildlife Branch Director with the California Department of Fish and Game, said "We're probably going to see a lot more birds coming in over the next few days; hopefully they will

Information for the Nation and World pages compiled from:  
www.news.bbc.co.uk  
www.CNN.com  
www.MSNBC.com  
The Associated Press

## POLITICAL WIRE

News and views from the world of politics

## America must take a stand against torture



By DAVID NORMAN  
Wagnerian Columnist

Since when does America condone government-sanctioned torture?

Unbelievably, President George W. Bush's nominee for Attorney General, Michael Mukasey, actually refuses to state whether water-boarding is torture.

For those of you new to this latest American embarrassment, this repulsive and inhumane technique involves simulating drowning. A suspect is forced down at an incline with his feet raised and head lowered while water is repeatedly poured upon his face. The face is often covered with cloth.

The method forces water into the lungs and is used to obtain information, force coercions, or just frighten. Although it is usually not physically harmful, the inhalation of water into the lungs causes a person to believe that death is imminent. Basically, their gag reflex kicks in.

Some background for those of you still unconvinced that this is torture: Water-boarding has been around for centuries. Used in the Italian and Spanish Inquisitions, the technique has been the hallmark of many oppressive, tyrannical, and repressive regimes.

The Dutch East India Company used a form of water-boarding during the Amboyna Massacre in 1623. During World War II, the technique was readily employed by Japanese troops, the Gestapo, and the German secret police. Its most famous use was in Cambodian prisons under the rule of the Khmer Rouge.

Who isn't convinced that this is torture? Apparently President George W. Bush and former Attorney General Alberto Gonzales approve. Many reports claim that United States interrogators have used the technique during the War on Terrorism. Former CIA agents told ABC News that water-boarding, along with other "Enhanced Interrogation Techniques," were used on suspected Al Qaeda members.

How can this possibly be legal? Of course, it's not. All signatories (including the United States) to the United Nations Convention Against Torture are held to an explicit prohibition against torture, with no possible exception.

The technique has long been considered inhumane and illegal in this country. In 1947, Japanese military officer Yukio Asano was prosecuted for carrying out water-boarding against a United States civilian.

Still, the United States has been disconcertingly and disturbingly lax in condemning this technique. In 2005, former CIA director Porter J. Goss declared water-boarding a "professional interrogation technique." Not that it matters, but the technique doesn't even work!

Many experts state that the technique leads to false confessions. Because the person believes that they are being killed, they will say anything; the reliability of the information is highly suspect. ABC News quotes John Sifton of Human Rights Watch saying, "The person believes that they are being killed, and as such, it really amounts to a mock execution, which is illegal under international law."

The technique was almost definitely used in the last few years against Khalid Sheikh Mohammed, a United States prisoner for alleged terrorist acts. His claim is substantiated by the reporting of ABC News, showing that in 2002, a presidential finding signed by President George W. Bush, then-National Security Advisor Condoleezza Rice, and then-Attorney General John Ashcroft explicitly approved "Enhanced Interrogation Techniques," including water-boarding.

Fortunately, even the Bush administration seems to have come around to the reality of water-boarding as a method of torture. On July 20th, 2007, President Bush signed a major executive order prohibiting the use of torture in interrogations.

In September, ABC News reported that current CIA Director Michael Hayden requested and received permission to ban water-boarding in all CIA interrogations.

Now comes Attorney General nominee Mukasey. A qualified lawyer with an impressive background, Mukasey would appear to be a strong and bipartisan choice to be our nation's next Attorney General. However, his Senate confirmation hearings revealed one major problem: Mukasey does not know if water-boarding is torture! He's not sure. He doesn't know enough about it, he says.

What a ridiculous folly! Mukasey's feigned ignorance is outrageous. His semantics (torture is illegal, but water-boarding may not be torture) would be laughable if they weren't so disturbing. The Senate should not confirm Michael Mukasey.

We need a firm stand against torture. We must send a clear message: America will be the moral leader in the world.

It's time for an ethical stand against torture that reflects the greatness of our country.

## Illegal cell phone jammers a hot commodity

By JESSE HAGEN  
Wagnerian Humor Editor

The curtains go up, the spotlight buzzes on, illuminating the beautiful face of a young budding actress. Her sparkling face glazed in gold and silver, her lips as delicate as stained glass. Her dress glistens, as ornamented as a wedding cake, as extravagant as the most decadent, expensive item on the menu of a five star restaurant. The audience gasps, their mouths widening in astonishment at the setup of the gorgeous scene. As the actress opens her mouth to deliver the first line, a whining drone emits from the middle of the audience, an aural travesty that turns out to be a blaring, beeping rendition of the "The William Tell Overture," a half-key flat.

Yes, cell phones, despite their status as one of the most widely used technological devices of today, also come with the cumbersome title of being one of the greatest nuisances to our culture. They always seem to go off at the most inconvenient of times, at the movies, during a conference, during class, etcetera.

This continuous annoyance has caused a rise in popularity of an illegal device designed to stop cellular phones from going off in inappropriate situations, a device called a cell phone jammer.

These devices, illegal in the United States, emit a powerful radio signal that can cut off the transmitting



Cell phone jammers, though illegal, are becoming incredibly popular.

power of cellular phones. Models of jammers vary in cost, size and effectiveness, the least powerful having a blast radius of a few feet and marketing for about \$50, while more expensive models, priced up into the hundreds or even thousands of dollars can have radii of 10 feet or greater even.

The most popular model is the pocket-sized jammer, similar in size and shape to most conventional cellular phones, but with bulky antennae protruding from the top. Some versions are even modeled to be disguised as cellular phones, to appear less conspicuous.

These devices have come under

the national media microscope as of late, because recently, jammer sales in the U.S. have risen drastically. Many overseas companies who build jammers have been bombarded with requests from eager U.S. customers.

According to a Nov. 4 article in the New York Times, one London based jammer manufacturer estimates a rise in U.S. orders to 400 per month, compared with 300 a month last year. The company, called PhoneJammer.com, also claims that there are 2,000 holiday orders for jammers this year.

The same New York Times article seems to have kicked off a debate about the devices, with many fearing that jammers could evolve into a criminal's gadget, used to stop the victim of a crime from being able to call for emergency assistance. It's that fear, as well as the cause of illegality in the U.S. that has really made jammers a new hot-button topic of discussion.

According to a statement in the New York Times article, the Federal Communication Commission (FCC) claims that jammers are outlawed because cell phone frequencies are protected just as a television or radio signal is.

The FCC have the most staunch opposition to jammers, as their penalty for using such a device can be higher than \$11,000.

However, despite the stiff penalties, overseas manufacturers like PhoneJammer.com, continue to reap the rewards of rebellious Americans, eager to get a moment of silence.

## North Korean oceanliner attacked by pirates

By MICHELLE VARGA  
Wagnerian Staff Writer

The U.S. Navy came to the aid of the crew of a North Korean cargo ship after it was attacked by pirates in the Indian Ocean on Tuesday.

Immediately after receiving the distress signal from the MV Dai Hong Dan crew, anchored on the coastline off the Mogadishu port in Somalia, the Navy dispatched a helicopter from their ship.

Mogadishu port security officials said the pirates, who only gained control of the ship's command center, were members of a Somali clan who were meant to be guarding the ship to safety.

African Union peacekeepers charged with protecting the port said that the freighter was outside their operation area.

The pirates had asked for \$15,000 to free the freighter, which had already unloaded its cargo days before being attacked.

When the USS James E. Williams approached the North Korean freighter and ordered them to surren-

der, the ship's crew attacked and overpowered the pirates.

All together, according to the Navy, there were 22 crew members and seven pirates involved in the incident.

Two of the pirates were killed and five were captured and remain on the North Korean vessel. Three of the crew members were so seriously injured that they were transported to the American ship for treatment.

The Navy could not provide the nationalities of the crew members or say what cargo the North Korean ship was carrying.

It is likely that the pirates were from Somalia; Somali piracy is an ongoing problem in the region. This marks the 26th reported ship hijacking off the Somali coast this year, and that several ships are still being held for ransom.

It is also the second Somali piracy incident this week. On Sunday, a U.S. Navy ship opened fire on a Japanese-owned chemical tanker that had been taken over by pirates in the Gulf of Aden.

With Somali government permission, the Navy ship pursued the

tanker into Somali waters, and sank the pirates' small boats. The tanker appears to still be under the pirates' control, however.

While it is unusual that a Navy ship would be close enough to help fend off attacks, fighting piracy is part of the mission of U.S.-led coalition naval force in the area. The Navy helps train local navies to fight piracy, and takes direct action itself when appropriate.

The head of the East African Seafarers' Assistance Program said that the incident resulted from a business dispute, and that the men who tried to take over the ship were security guards hired by one of the companies involved.

Rampant piracy off Somalia's vast coastline stopped in the second half of 2006 during six months of strict rule by an Islamist movement, ousted by Ethiopian and Somali government troops at the end of the year.

Somalia lies at the mouth of the Red Sea and has lacked a functional government since the 1991 ouster of dictator Mohamed Siad Barre sparked a bloody power struggle.

"A news sense is really a sense of what is important, what is vital, what has color and life- what people are interested in. That's journalism."

~Burton Rascoe

# IN OUR OPINION...

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

## WHAT'S *THAT* ABOUT

You never really know a person, and sometimes it's too late



By **ALLIE RIVERA**  
Wagnerian Opinion Editor

To people who see me around campus or in classes, I probably give off a very distinct vibe. I'm the nice girl; the responsible, upstanding, courteous girl who's always motivated and energetic. It always humors me when people express these conceived notions about me.

I'm energetic because I'm addicted to coffee. I get distracted easier than a 4 year old. I procrastinate like someone is paying me to do it. I swear like a sailor and have an extreme temper. I have a tendency to give up way too easily. My room is always a mess and I have no idea how anyone lives with me (side note: Seneca Smith is a saint.)

So what's my point? No, it's not just to give a big "You don't know me" speech. My point is that we don't really know anyone, and often times we don't stop to take the chance. We spend a good second or two to size someone up and categorize them, and after that only think of them as however we classified them. We rarely stop and think, 'Hey, maybe there is more to this person

than what they seem.'

Very recently, a boy who I went to high school with killed himself. I was never very close with him, but I knew who he was and I had had some interactions with him throughout the two years in which we were in school together. I'll admit that most of these interactions were negative. After meeting him, I very quickly brushed him off as that annoying skater kid who always talked during band class. Whenever the rare instances when I spoke to him occurred, it was usually to tell him to stop talking or to go away.

When I first found out that he had committed suicide, my immediate reaction was that I didn't even know who this kid was. I spent two years in the same small high school with him seeing him every other day for band, yet all I really knew was his name. I frantically racked my brain for any memory of him other than short spats or completely ignoring one another, and I found nothing.

After this my reaction turned to guilt. Why hadn't I tried to be friends with him? Why had I let my initial judgments affect my view of him for two whole years? Why hadn't I tried to be just a little bit nicer?

I know that asking these questions can't change the past, but I'm hoping that they might be able to change the future. A great friend of mine encouraged me to take this experience and find a way to make it positive.

That is my goal. With a new outlook on the beauty of life, I am making it my mission to stop attempting to label or categorize people into some random classification that they may be nothing like. I hope that by taking the time to truly get to know a person, or maybe even just saying "hi" more often, I can help to make sure this tragedy does not happen to anyone else I know.

*"Free press can, of course, be good or bad, but, most certainly without freedom, the press will never be anything but bad."*

-Albert Camus

French novelist and dramatist



By **EVAN JAGELS**  
Wagnerian Columnist

The other Saturday afternoon, I called my mother for a good recipe for beef stew.

For some reason or another, I had been feeling down and slightly drained and knew that some hearty home-cooked beef stew would nourish both my aching bones and my increasingly melancholic mind.

However, after reminding me not to forget to give the sliced chuck eye's a light toss in flour (may the reader be advised not to use too much flour - be wary, an excessive amount of flour will make a hearty chunk too tough to chew), my mother told me something that lifted my soul far beyond the heavenly, redemptive powers of beef stew.

"Remember to turn your clocks back an hour tonight, it's daylight savings," she said, and a small tear rolled over and down my right cheek,

slightly raised by a gleaming smile. An extra hour...an extra hour.

When I was a young child, I used to think that the clocks had to be set back at a certain time. This information was confirmed with a little research in the Cooperstown Elementary School Library, where I learned that the clocks are changed at 2 a.m.

Also, Daylight-Saving Time is not observed in such exotic places as Hawaii, American Samoa, Guam, Puerto Rico, the Virgin Islands, the Commonwealth of Northern Mariana Islands, and Arizona.

However, as I got older and my thoughts became more and more experimental, I started to wonder whether or not Daylight-Saving Time was really an hour of psychedelic time travel - where the only ones conscious of that hour leap through quantum physics were the ones awake and "ready" at 2 a.m. I learned in high school that this is definitely NOT the case.

As a college student, I have now come to realize that Daylight-Saving Time is really more like having an hour in the bank - a long weekend where the cowboy has in his holster an hour to be drawn when desired.

Now, cut to this past weekend. The beef stew was a major success. My spirits lifted, I decided to go to a social gathering with some friends. I was so happy, that I forgot why I was even upset in the first place.

However, after about half an hour, things started to go downhill. It could have been the music, or the atmosphere, or maybe the beef was under-

cooked and upsetting our stomachs.

Whatever the reason was, I suddenly remembered that I had an extra hour at my discretion. It was only 11 p.m., perhaps if I made it 10 p.m. the situation would improve...

No, no, no, what a mistake that would be; to foolishly use my hour at some party. I would return home, go to sleep, wake up, look at the time and say, "My God, the time! I will set it back an hour and sleep longer!"

Yes, a brilliant deception of an outdated practice. It would be the ultimate snooze alarm, one that defies time and space rather than simply manipulating the groggy-eyed adolescent.

And so I slept, long and hard, and when I woke up I stared into the eyes of my nemesis - that digital radio alarm clock. 11 a.m., go ahead and try, I'll turn you back to 10 a.m.. so fast. But wait, what was that sound in the distance? Could it be Wagner's bells striking noon? Those horrible out of tune reminders of human mortality! This means only one thing...if they think its noon, that means my clock set itself back, denying me the pleasure of such a rare opportunity!

I suppose we are only in control of how we use our time, not the metaphysical ways in which we can manipulate it.

However, I still like the simple pleasure of turning the clock back when I want to. It's just a digital age, where technology robs us of the very tasks that prove our existence.

Oh well, at least I had enough beef stew for a hearty lunch while listening to the warm fuzz of a real LP.

## 'Better safe than sorry' not a joke

By **MARY GROCH**  
Wagnerian Staff Writer

As of late I have heard just about every friend, acquaintance and complete stranger living in Harbor View complain about the onslaught of fire alarms. I agree that it's not the most pleasant noise, not the most perfect timing, or the most convenient hour of day each time the alarm has sounded, but it's better than dying a terrible death.

The fire drill is similar to what I imagine the Peanuts characters' teachers sound like after being castrated, but I listen to it. You may be in the shower, napping, or writing a paper but chances are you'll be back to doing that within the hour. Plus, no

one looks good as charcoal, no matter how clean, well rested or diligent you are with your homework.

You have the right to complain, I'm just asking you to take a step back and think about the alternative to evacuating. Burning alive or a one hundred dollar fine is not worth taking a stand against the fire alarm.

I really think that there is a way to look at this logically. Taking thirty minutes out of your time to wander down the stairs, shuffle outside, and wait for the O.K. isn't exactly a great endeavor. Unfortunately, we tend to forget from time to time that it might not be the jerk on the third floor burning popcorn.

True, every fire alarm thus far has been planned or singed popcorn, but you never know. Safety first isn't a

terrible way to look at things. I won't get sappy, but we all know sad things happen when real fires break out. Being the little sister of a fire protection engineer has taught me one thing: I dislike flames.

I appreciate the humor of the new fire alarm bulletin board posted in the lobby of Harbor View, letting the residents know just what was being burned, what time it was burned, and how many people evacuated. The thing is I only appreciate the humor after the alarm has occurred and I know my iPod, wardrobe, and laptop are not going to suffer a fiery death.

So, next time the fire alarm goes off, and you are in the shower, writing a paper, or napping keep in mind one thing in mind. You may be annoyed, but I'm terrified.

What's your opinion?  
Write a letter to the editor and let us know!  
wagner@wagner.edu

## So Dumbledore is gay, but does it actually matter?

By JENN INZETTA  
Wagnerian Staff Writer

On Friday, Oct. 19, at Carnegie Hall, J.K. Rowling forever changed the lives of Harry Potter lovers and haters alike when she exclaimed, rather off handedly, that Dumbledore, the headmaster of the Hogwarts School of Witchcraft and Wizardry, was, in fact, homosexual.

Since then, Rowling claims to have been bombarded with mail, some praising her decision with claims of "I knew it all along," while others have not been so accepting of this new fact, with responses that range from questioning how Rowling can change characters after her series is over, to other less objective responses. This new revelation has given conservative Christians, who had qualms with the Harry Potter books before, another reason to ban Harry Potter and his magical world from the eyes of impressionable

young minds. Rowling's hate mail, as a result, has increased dramatically since Dumbledore stepped out of the closet.

So now I pose the question, why exactly is it an issue if Rowling chooses to portray one of her characters as a homosexual? They are, after all, her characters, created and developed by her and only her. She can portray these characters in whatever ways she wishes to. It's not as if the sexuality of this fictional character affected the series in any way. Dumbledore was still Dumbledore, his sexual preference never made its way into the series. Why now, after the series is over, after the books have been read objectively, after Harry Potter's story has been finished, does this matter? Why should the sexuality of one character call into question an entire series previously beloved by children and adults alike? Regardless of the fact that Rowling should not have to justify the history of any character or story she has created, why should

one controversial detail change a series?

Sexual orientation does not define a person. When reading about any character I certainly don't pause first to wonder about his or her past love interests. I read the story, considering only what is relevant at the moment. Granted, Harry Potter fans can become rather obsessive. (Yes, I am one of them!) They search for details and beg Rowling for background information on each and every character, searching for the answers to questions they were left to ponder days after finishing the seventh book. That, I'm sure, is what led Rowling to slowly but surely reveal details about each of her favorite characters to the public. So why concentrate on characteristics that have no real relevance to the story? Rowling has a right to shape her characters in any way she wishes. Instead, focus on the heart of story, the plot, and all the other questions left unanswered. (Trust me, there are plenty.)

## Recovering cities need local, not national, government aid

By AJ BASILE  
Wagnerian Staff Writer

It doesn't take much effort to compare the current San Diego wildfires to New Orleans after Hurricane Katrina. Both regions have gone through devastating natural disasters, but both cities deal with it differently.

The difference between the two cities is obvious – the way they reacted has to do with the difference between colors. No, it is not a black and white issue. Southern California is a very diverse region, both racially and culturally. Remember, this is an area with a high Hispanic population.

The color difference I speak of is more ideological. It's about red versus blue, or conservatism versus liberalism.

New Orleans, like many big cities, is a very liberal region, while San Diego, and its surrounding areas, are more conservative. This has led to major differences in the reactions to disaster.

For those who do not know, the core belief of liberalism is a large, more hands on government. Conservatives come from the flip side of the coin where there is minimal government involvement in daily life.

Let's start by looking at San Diego. The people there are doing all that they can to help each other through these terrible times. Qualcomm Stadium was filled with more volunteers

than evacuees. When the National Guard was called in, they had little to do. Why? Because the people of San Diego were busy taking care of the problem. The citizens were doing it all themselves.

We can even take a look in our own backyard for more of an example. Think back to September 11th and the days after. New York City was run by Mayor Rudy Giuliani (who may be socially liberal at times, but would never rely on the government to help) who, along with the mostly conservative NYPD, FDNY, and Port Authority Police Department, handled the entire situation. The city of New York, just like San Diego, took care of itself. How did the Feds respond? They cut funding to New York.

Look back on the aftermath of Hurricane Katrina. The national government was bashed repeatedly. This happened because the people of New Orleans, along with the local and state governments, fully expected the national government to take care of everything. They forgot that the national government can barely help itself.

New Orleans should have saved New Orleans. Local government, like mayor Ray Nagin (D), should have stepped up similarly to Mayor Giuliani. Instead, he was too worried about not getting drivers for those hundreds of idle busses, and keeping

the city as segregated as possible. Out in California, Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger has been very hands on. His Louisiana counterpart, Kathleen Blanco (D), told her police and National Guard to "shoot and kill" rioters. Apparently, that's how she deals with a tough situation.

Don't forget, Louisiana wasn't the only state hit hard by Katrina. Alabama and Mississippi were also struck by the storm. Very little is said about these two states and the damage done there. Why? They are red states. Their local governments took much better care of their citizens.

The people of New Orleans weren't failed by the national government, because the national government had no obligation to them. They were failed by their local and state government, by Nagin and Blanco, and, most importantly, by liberalism.

Now, Louisiana has begun to help itself. With the election of Jindal (the Republican version of Barack Obama and an extremely conservative politician) as the next governor, the state will begin to turn around. Watch Louisiana now, under conservative control. The state, and New Orleans, will rebound and become stronger than ever before.

If only Louisiana didn't have this problem in the first place. Here's hoping Jindal makes the state more like California.

## Times change when you're having fun

By SENECA SMITH  
Wagnerian Contributor

There is a new book on the market titled *The Daring Book for Girls*. Now, as interesting as that particular discussion might be, the *Times* has already covered it. However, I am just amused by the fact that there is a book by this title, especially as a compliment to a book that topped the charts a few months ago called *The Dangerous Book for Boys*. The two life-guides are basically manuals on how to be a kid. I'm not sure which is more interesting...the fact that these books exist at all, or the fact that there is so much attention paid to these skills that every child used to know.

When I was younger, my brother had some books of a similar nature; *Bart Simpson's*

*Guide to Life*, *The Boy Scout Handbook*, and some 18<sup>th</sup> century guide to boy's games. Feminism issues aside (because I read the books anyway), they were just fun references for him to pick up to learn how to make a slingshot, or whittle a toy. They were not manuals on how to act as a child. Rather than the primary coursework, it was more...supplemental material.

But I understand why the books for boys and girls exist today. There

are many children today that don't know the first thing about skipping rocks across a pond, or even throwing them just because it's fun to hear the splash. I have another brother, 12 years younger than me, who is more computer literate than most adults, but doesn't know the first thing about making a fort in the backyard. He doesn't play tag or soccer, or any variety of made-up games with the neighborhood kids. I don't know why, but being a kid as even we remember is a lost art.

How terrible is it to be a kid in today's world? So much reminiscing of the past keeps us from realizing the potential of today's society. Is it really that awful? The answer may be yes...but I'm not sure. We can learn so many things so quickly now; the proper method for building a homemade kite is a point and click away online. It's not exactly how it used to be, with many repetitions of trial and error, but a new way of playing. Kids may not be missing so much as we think.

Time will tell. Twenty years from now these guides for children may still be harking back to the handicrafts of yesteryear, or they may be sadly reliving the lost art of Wikipedia searching for the next cool version of manhunt. Either way, I'll be busy, making a tree-fort by the Oval.

## Habitat gala apathy is heartbreaking

By CARLOYN SUSINO  
Wagnerian Staff Writer

Habitat for Humanity's annual gala helps to raise money so that the members are able to travel to different states and build houses for those in need.

This is one of the biggest community service organizations on campus and this gala is an important asset to the club so they can fund their trips, such as the Alabama retreat planned for the winter break of 2007.

It saddens me that it was postponed due to the lack of interest on and off campus. Although it was scheduled for Nov. 3, the president Kerri Blohm thought it would be best to postpone this crucial event which only about 45 people expressed interest in.

The gala is a night of thanks and awareness which includes dinner, live music, and a silent auction.

The members put a great deal of hard work into the planning.

As a current member of Habitat, I know the gala has been the focus of each meeting.

Although every aspect of the gala was planned thoroughly, grabbing the attention of the public seemed to be a major concern. Although it is hard for every organization to advertise on campus (with the con-

stant restrictions and stamp of approval), there were flyers notifying students about the gala.

It was also posted on the co-curricular calendar. We also made sure that members were sitting at tables in the Union a week before the event so students could buy tickets. Members of the organization worked very hard to promote the event.

Still somehow, this event for such a worthy cause was ignored. That seems like pure ignorance on the students part to me. We are trying to help people, to change peoples lives, and still there was no interest.

Although parents and friends off of campus were invited by members, the enthusiasm from students was the real reason for the postponing of the gala. If we can't give back, what does this say about the attitude of Wagner College as a community?

Why not get involved in an event that encourages students to build homes for those that are less fortunate?

The new date for the gala is Dec. 1. Student rates have dropped to twenty five dollars, so become aware on campus and look for flyers about this important event. Without your support and participation, it will not be possible for these members to build.



# SEAHAWK SPORTS

## HOME OF WAGNER COLLEGE ATHLETICS

### '07- '08 Seahawks set to soar and score

By **BILLY HOELCK**  
Wagnerian Sports Editor

With a solid core of veteran players returning to the hardwood this winter, there is plenty of potential for the Seahawk men to make it well into March. When asked what kind of expectations Head Coach Mike Deane has for the 2007-2008 season, he replied, "I expect to show up to all 29 games."

That may be the only thing Deane knows for certain about how the year will go but you can't help but project a winning season by taking a look at the statistics his guys bring to the table. This is a promising team. It has size, depth and most significantly- experience. There are five 500-point career scorers in the starting lineup, centered with size and athleticism. They are the first team since 2000-2001 to return five double figure scorers.

Their starting group is almost identical to last year's with the exception of one. After a one year hiatus by Durell Vinson in 2006-2007, the ALL-NEC second teamer returns to the post to fill a void that could have made the difference in many close games last year. The Seahawks fell in seven contests last year by the slight margin of six or less. Deane described Vinson's absence as having a big impact negatively; he sees this year's impact as positive.

A consistent double-double threat almost every night, Vinson finished his last season in action averaging almost ten rebounds and 15 points a game. The 6'7", 215 pound power forward had a brilliant comeback



The Seahawks are a tight-knit squad this season, returning four of five starters.

showing this past Friday against Lafayette, scoring 22 points, snatching out 14 rebounds and helping his own cause with solid defense.

The Green and White, who began last year's contest against Lafayette with a 19 point deficit only to come up six points short in the final score, opened up against the Leopards in control with a hefty lead in the first few minutes. Both teams exchanged points consistently throughout the contest until the Seahawks sealed the deal with a comfortable four point cushion in the last minute of play. Wagner's ability to not only come out strong against Lafayette but to also rally back after a few discouraging runs is a good foreshadowing of the season to come.

Coach Deane has scheduled the Seahawks to face a range of talented teams this winter including Loyola Marymount University in Los Ange-

les and AP ranked 25<sup>th</sup> Kansas State in Manhattan, Kansas in late December. Both games will provide as a test of tenacity for the veteran team. Deane noted that the outcome "doesn't matter one way or another, February you have to be playing your best."

This year in the NEC every team is relatively the same. What will put Wagner above the rest, aside from its majority being so experienced at this level, are the team's ability to come up with rebounds and hold steady on defense. The team plays very physically. They will look to their talented younger players for, as Deane puts it, "fresh legs and live bodies" as their roles evolve throughout the season. Deane plans on integrating the rookies slowly in the beginning so they do not trip over the complexity of Division I basketball until they adjust and can hold their own amongst the other eight or nine solid returnees.

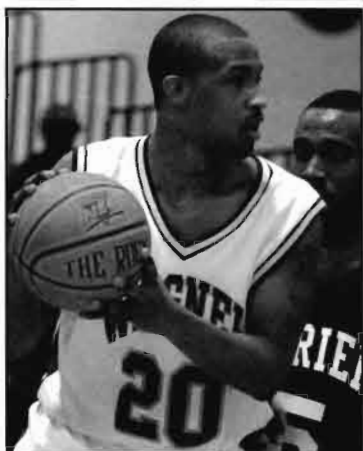
### 2007-2008 Seahawk men's basketball schedule

#### Regular Season

11/09/07	at Lafayette
11/14/07	vs. Manhattan
11/17/07	at St. Peter's
11/20/07	vs. William & Mary
11/24/07	vs. Bucknell
11/28/07	at Brown
12/01/07	at Yale
12/04/07	vs. Columbia
12/08/07	vs. St. Francis (NY)
12/15/07	vs. Maryland Eastern Shore
12/22/07	at Loyola Marymount
12/29/07	at Kansas State
01/03/08	vs. CCSU
01/05/08	at Sacred Heart
01/10/08	at Monmouth
01/12/08	vs. Saint Francis (PA)
01/17/08	at Long Island
01/24/08	vs. Mount St. Mary's
01/27/08	at Fairleigh Dickinson
01/31/08	vs. Long Island
02/02/08	at CCSU
02/07/08	at Mount Saint Mary
02/11/08	at Quinnipiac
02/14/08	vs. Sacred Heart
02/16/08	vs. Monmouth N.J.
02/21/08	at Saint Francis (PA)
02/23/08	at Robert Morris
02/28/08	vs. Fairleigh Dickinson
03/01/08	vs. Quinnipiac

#### NEC Tournament

03/06/08	NEC Tournament Quarterfinals
03/09/08	NEC Tournament Semifinals
03/12/08	NEC Tournament Championship



#### The Starting Five

- 25: Durell Vinson
- 23: Mark Porter
- 5: Joey Mundweiler
- 20: Jamal Smith
- 15: James Ulrich



#### Head Coach Mike Deane

Head Coach Mike Deane has the credentials to lead his team to the "Big Dance" in what might be his best opportunity yet at Wagner College. In his 23rd year as a head coach of Division I basketball Deane has led eight different teams to 20-plus win seasons. Just six wins shy of becoming the 28th active DI coach to win 400 games he is already one of 13 active coaches to have led three programs into the NCAA tourney. Taking four teams would make him part of a handful of guys to do so.

-By Billy Hoelck



Quirky and quick-witted, Deane has what it takes to land in the record books.

# Seahawk athletics gets a 'Fresh Start' with dodge ball

By MARK STEIN  
Wagnerian Staff Writer

A team starts from scratch.

The best teams are built by individuals willing to sacrifice their own personal goals to work together in achieving a common team goal. While the ultimate dream for any athletic team is to hoist a championship trophy, the first step in that process is becoming a team.

On Wednesday, Oct. 24, the 2007 Freshman Kickoff, "Fresh Start" was hosted in the Spiro Sports Center for freshmen student-athletes on different teams to meet with upperclassmen, also on different teams.

The goal of this event was for all student-athletes to get to know each other. They shared team-experiences in playing a game that is not of the NCAA, but commonly seen in elementary and high school gyms nation-wide: the ruthless game of dodge ball.

"Every year we try to do an event to try and branch out to the students," said junior Chris Fourman of the golf team.

The event was hosted by the Student Athletic Advisory Committee, a leadership group that conducts various off-campus activities. Students are chosen by coaches and teammates to be part of the committee for their commendable work. Student-athletes represent each team that participates in the NCAA.

Ten teams featuring either eight or nine student-athletes (the number of people that attended made it hard to balance each team) of all years were selected at random. Each team was identified by a colored sash. They would then face-off against each other in a dodge ball



Freshmen and upperclassmen athletes mingle and head hunt as they play dodgeball in Fresh Start.



Winning team, Powder Blue reigns as the pride of Staten Island dodgeball.

tournament.

Eight teams stretched across the gym to form four games played in the opening round. As the games were played, the number of teams began to fade.

While the competition was exciting for student-athletes, the overall goal was to make sure people got to meet each other.

"It's good to interact with other teams," said Sam Hoerdemann, a freshman wrestler.

Anthony Maurillo liked the idea of it being after a long day of school and football practice.

"It gets everyone together. It's a little bit of fun," said the freshman defensive lineman.

# Yankee woes continue

By MARK STEIN  
Wagnerian Staff Writer

The New York Yankees had the opportunity to watch Jonathon Papelbon (literally) and Boston Red Sox dance and celebrate in Denver, Colo. after the Red Sox slammed the door on the Rockies' spectacular season.

However, before the game officially was over, the Yankees experienced more bad news since their playoff series with the Cleveland Indians ended. Alex "A-Rod" Rodriguez has joined Joe Torre in departing from the Yankees.

Alex Rodriguez, possibly the best all-around player in the Major Leagues, as expected, opted out of his 10-year, 252 million dollar contract.

The former shortstop, now third baseman, signed his record-breaking deal with the Texas Rangers and played for the Rangers between 2001 and 2003, where he won an MVP award.

Instead of the World Series dreams that Yankee fans had when A-Rod was acquired in the winter of 2003, all they received was a heartbreaking loss to the Red Sox in 2004 and three

consecutive first-round exits in 2005, 2006 and 2007 to the Angels, Tigers and Indians, respectively.

And now he's gone, likely for good, after winning his second MVP in 2005, and likely winning his third this year.

Represented by "super agent" Scott Boras, Rodriguez is expecting to receive a contract that could total \$300 million, and the Yankees have repeatedly said they would not resign him if he exercised opted out clause.

While A-Rod's exit may be tough, it is nowhere as bad as 12-year Yankee manager Joe Torre's exit.

For the last two years, Torre has stuck around after reports of him possibly being fired by owner George Steinbrenner. After anticipation of what the Yankees would do upon the playoff series loss to the Indians, they made their move: they offered Torre a one-year deal worth \$5 million with incentives up to \$8 million. Once all the incentives were reached, a guaranteed second year at \$8 million would kick in.

Torre's three-year, \$19.2 million contract expired at the end of the season.

Torre, the only manager to advance to the playoffs for 12 consecutive

years, a four time-World Series winner between in 1996 and 2000 and holder of the most postseason victories, declined, rightfully so.

When asked why, Torre didn't like the idea of the incentives and he didn't want to be managing knowing that he could be fired at any moment's notice. A two-year deal would have likely brought him back. He called the offer an "insult."

The Yankees replaced Torre with former Yankee catcher and bench manager, Joe Girardi. Girardi, a three-time World Series winner with the club between 1996-1999, was a teammate of current Yankees Derek Jeter, Mariano Rivera and Jorge Posada and is immediately in search of a 27th Yankee World Series title. 27 is also the number Girardi chose as his new uniform number.

Torre, who lives in Hawaii, was named the third manager of the Los Angeles Dodgers on Nov. 1 after signing a three-year, \$13 million contract.

It is rumored that Don Mattingly, one of the most popular Yankees ever, will move with Torre to the Dodgers to continue to be his bench coach or hitting coach.

## THE MOJO WIRE

# The death of Ho Chi Minh



By ANDREW MINUCCI  
Wagnerian Co-Editor

*While sports is my foray, my passion and topic of this column, my heart yearns too greatly this week to divulge in athletic conversation.*

Somewhere between the pastoral landscape of the Sutter Oval and the bright city lights of Manhattan lies a rustic dirt trail, blazed by generations of footsteps carrying out their most intimate and exhilarating adventures here at Wagner College.

Unbridled by the sweltering hands of human labor, this pristine natural piece of Earth is known to students by an assortment of names, each with its own story, its own distinction, its own little place in history, embedded only in the minds that perceived them and legs that made the journey.

For some, this place has been referred to as "the walk of shame" (a term humorously uttered by President Dr. Richard Guarasci at the Town Hall meeting on Nov. 6). This campus lifeline has on occasion been referred to as "the walk of fame," "the trail of tears" and "the trail of beers," and "the long road," among other tantalizing references.

For myself however, this "passage to Harbor View" shall always be known as "the Ho Chi Minh trail" a reference to the logistical system used by the Viet Cong to travel from North Vietnam to South Vietnam during that moment in our nation's history when we discovered we were most vulnerable.

Now we find ourselves vulnerable once again.

Returning to my residence hall room in Parker Towers (which is also reminiscent of Vietnam War conditions) a few weeks back, a tear formed in my eye as I saw the new sleek black fences being raised on the building's entrance bridge. As I saw the workers, soldering in the piece of fence that would forever block the Ho Chi Minh, I knew that was the end.

The Ho Chi Minh trail was dead.

This trodden dirt walkway, a vitality for upperclassmen looking to

grab some quick cash or ice in Harbor View is no more, and on that day of our lord, Nov. 1, 2007 one of the most grandiose possessions of the student body vanished into history.

Yet I refused to give up the cause. I figured, like those Viet Cong soldiers I needed to stand up for my small piece of land and try to reclaim what rightfully belongs to our people.

Therefore, I went to the Town Hall meeting, where I voiced my frustrations to panel of college administrators, who I was astonished to find did not even know of the path's existence. My approach was juvenile, but looking back on it, what other way could I stand up for what the administration views as a blemish on our green campus, what effective way you can pitch to the powers-that-be to save the "walk of shame?"

Perhaps had my leadership skills been more effective this travesty would cease to occur. Maybe had I stole the fierce thunder of the President Ronald Regan would the void in my heart be refilled, the pristine state of the Ho Chi Minh restored to its former glory!

I could only imagine myself standing up to President Guarasci with the following mantra:

"President Guarasci, if you seek peace, if you seek prosperity for the student body and Wagner College, if you seek liberalization: Come here to this gate! Dr. Guarasci, open this gate! Dr. Guarasci, tear down this wall!"

In my remaining three semesters at the college, it pains me to think I will have to watch the Ho Chi Minh become a shell of its former self. As each day passes without a student's sometimes stumbling, but always firm, footsteps, keeping the trail clear of brush, grass and greenery, the Ho Chi Minh will disappear in front of our very eyes.

President Guarasci, distinguished members of the Board of Trustees and college administrators;

I beg of you, before this campus shortcut forever becomes banished to memory, take a moment to walk the Ho Chi Minh, take a minute to view our Greek organizations painting the anchor from its high perch, stand between our three residence halls and behold the hidden beauty of its convenience.

I beg of you to take a moment from delaying the construction of the new residence hall, from delaying the construction of a new theatre, from inevitably delaying the construction of the new academic building and take a moment to look into this small matter that means much more to students than a dinky dirt trail.

I beg of you, for the love of God, save the Ho Chi Minh.

# Signs of the times.

**No Water TODAY!**  
**From 10am to 10pm**

Water will be turned off to a portion of the campus due to the break in a 10" water main behind the Union building. The water will be turned off beginning at 10 a.m. and is expected to be off for 8 to 12 hours.

Following buildings will have water and bathrooms for student use:

- Sports Center (showers are available in the gym)
- Chapel
- Union Hall
- Men's Chessroom Building

Portable bathrooms will be available for students at the loading dock of Horvath Hall and the parking lot in front of Guild Hall.

Living will not be affected in the Residence Halls.

Dining Services will have limited service, please see adjacent sign.

If you have any questions regarding the water shut off, please contact your building RD.

Sorry for any inconvenience this may have caused.

**BOXED DINNERS WILL BE HANDED OUT IN THE HAWKS NEST FROM 4:30pm – 7:30pm.**

**PLEASE BRING YOUR WAGNER ID!**

**IF YOU CHOOSE TO DRINK, HERE'S WHAT THE EXPERTS SUGGEST:**

1. No more than one drink per hour.
2. No more than two drinks per day for men, one per day for women. (Because alcohol affects women differently than men, alcohol use recommendations are lower for women.)
3. No drinking alcohol more than four days per week.

Door is Stuck,  
 Please Pull  
 Really Hard

Don't give bacteria a free ride.



WASHING YOUR HANDS WITH SOAP AND WATER IS ONE OF THE BEST WAYS TO PREVENT DISEASES.

**DUE TO MECHANICAL DIFFICULTIES THE GRILL WILL BE CLOSED UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE.**

**WE APOLOGIZE FOR ANY INCONVENIENCE THIS MAY CAUSE.**

**OUT OF ORDER**

**PLEASE**  
 Show the Desk Attendant Your ID

**WEDNESDAY November 7, 2007**

**DUE TO THE WATER MAIN BREAK THE MAIN DINING HALL WILL BE CLOSING AT 1:30PM TODAY.**

**THERE WILL BE NO LATE LUNCH SERVICE THIS AFTERNOON. WE WILL RE-OPEN FOR DINNER AT 4:30PM.**

**ATTENTION!!**

WATER ON CAMPUS WILL BE TURNED OFF TODAY, **NOVEMBER 7<sup>th</sup>** **FROM 10AM UNTIL 10PM**

RESTROOMS WILL REMAIN OPERATIONAL IN:

**SPIRO SPORTS CENTER**  
**CAMPUS HALL**  
**TOWERS**  
**STADIUM**  
**STAGE ONE**  
**MAINTENANCE SHOP**

**YOU WILL NOT BE ABLE TO FLUSH THE TOILET FOR THE NEXT 12 HOURS!**



**DO NOT USE!**

**DINING SERVICES CHANGES!**

**Wednesday, November 07, 2007**

- Hawks Nest CLOSED!
- The WAG Closes at 4pm
- Main Dining Hall
  - Lunch 11am-1:30pm will have a limited menu
  - Dinner Boxed Meal for Pick-Up from 4:30pm-7:30pm

**Thursday, November 08, 2007**

- Main Dining Hall
  - Continental Breakfast Milk and Water
  - Lunch and Dinner To Be Determined Pending Water Main Status.