

The Wagnerian

Tuesday, February 24, 2015



The search for common understanding in United States history

Over fifty years ago, a spark was ignited to start the Civil Rights Movement, a transitional phase in United States culture which still echoes through the experiences of modern day Americans

by Erik Parshall, co-editor

In February of every year, the United States, and other places abroad, begin to reopen the conversation surrounding equality in today's world.

This is a conversation that does not start on February 1 and end on the last day of the month. This is History. It does not have a time limit.

In 2014, the world watched as our nation was torn apart by the events that took place in Ferguson, MO, Cleveland, OH and Staten Island, NY.

The deaths of Michael Brown, Tamir Rice and Eric Garner woke many people up to the notion that inequality still exists in our so-called "modern" culture.

There is nothing modern about ignorance, although people might argue that with technology at our fingertips at all times, we are aware of events happening now more than we are about events that took place half a century ago.

There is more to understanding history than going to tenth grade U.S. history class. Unfortunately, a lot of today's youth does rely solely

on their high school education to make do when it comes to political discourse. We are told facts and are tested to remember the dates of important events and the birthdays of all members involved.

So when an event such as the killing of Michael Brown occurs it was no surprise to me that a lot of people are unprepared in how to process what is happening.

There was something wholly unique about watching the events transpire on the television and in the papers. News organizations and writers attempted to explore every aspect of the crime and, more importantly, the aftermath.

It was as if history were coming to life from the pages of one of my old textbooks and I was beginning to see why exactly students are taught the events of our country's history.

However, I also saw a problem. After a few weeks of watching the news, I realized, as did many other people my age, that it was becoming a right versus wrong situation more so than a just and legal issue.

Regardless of one's opinion on the matter, the undertone I picked up while spectating these events was that people were, like history has told us before, missing the point.

I thought of the classes I've been

to, the speeches I've read, but nothing could compare to witnessing the turmoil of a world burdened by inequality.

These events did not take place in February, but this year it is on the minds of those who are not sure what to take from celebrating National African American History Month (or Black History Month). Is it a time of remembrance or a time of remorse? Are we commemorating the activists who tried so hard to stand up for a legacy that we ourselves do not fully understand today?

I believe the problem is not our education, but rather our dedication to our history. There is much more to understanding life than reading facts over and over.

Take the last week of this month to start the dialogue of our culture within yourself. Even if you are aware of the events going on, even today, in our country, I urge you to compare it to the experience of our society as a whole.

Oftentimes we separate ourselves from each other with technology and work, and then we wonder why it is so hard to understand the fundamentals of our people, our culture and our freedom. Do not limit yourself to a month of thought, when people have been doing the same, and more, for the past fifty years.

1: Protestors march for the integration of schools.

2: Reverend Martin Luther King, Jr. giving his "I Have A Dream" speech in August 1963.

3: Rosa Parks made waves for the Civil Rights Movement when she sat in the White Section of a public bus in December 1955.

4: Thurgood Marshall was a central asset in court cases such as Brown v. Board of Education (1954).

5: Artists such as singer Nina Simone have been activists for the Civil Rights Movement since the start of their careers.

6: Posters featuring the last words of Eric Garner and Michael Brown, who were both killed by police in 2014.

LUCY CALABRESE RETIREMENT



After 23 years as a Wagner favorite, Lucy is ready to retire, but will always have Wagner in her heart and memories.

A farewell letter from a Wagner favorite

I have always read in this paper: **Wagner Loves Lucy**. Now I'd like to finally say...

Lucy Loved Wagner!

After 23 years of service to Wagner College in the food service area, I have made the decision to retire and spend time with my family and enjoy my retirement years.

I would like to say a heartfelt thank you to President Guarasci and his lovely wife, Carin for all of their respect and kindness that they have shared with me all of these years. I always enjoyed chatting with Dr. Guarasci whenever he came into the dining hall. His warm greeting always made my day. I will surely miss his pleasant conversation.

I would also like to thank David Martin for his thoughtfulness and genuine and sincere friendship. I had the pleasure of watching his children grow over the years. He always made me feel very close to the children and for that I am thankful.

Thank you also to Mr. Robert Soltmann: it has been a pleasure working with you.

To Mike the chef, your heart is as big as you! I will never forget how

you took the time to drive my car to help me during the snowstorm and take me out of danger. May God Bless You.

To my friends in Public Safety who treated me as family: I want to thank every single one of you! May God keep you in his care.

To all the students - I want to especially thank you for your warm feeling towards me and all of the respect that you showed me. Your smiles and hugs made me very happy. It was my pleasure to come to work each day and serve you. To all the hellos and hugs, past and present, I loved them all! Best of luck to all of you. May God Bless your future!

During Homecoming 2007, I was honored by TKE on the football field. I will never forget that day because I can still hear the cheering. The celebration and the honor will live forever in my heart.

To all my friends, co-workers, students, faculty, administration and all the staff of Wagner, and you know who you are! I will surely miss all of you!

Love,
Lucy R. Calabrese

Dear Lucy,

Thank you for all of the fond memories. *The Wagnerian*, on behalf of the student body, would like to wish you luck in retirement and hope that you enjoy spending time with your family. We will all miss your warmth and charm when we go down into the dining hall but we will never forget it.

The Wagnerian

An apology from the editors

The Wagnerian would like to issue a formal apology for an error that was made in our "Special Winter Edition" published on February 2, 2015.

We published a "Thank You" list of staff members who took the time and effort to ensure that our campus was functional during the snowstorm that took place on Sunday, January 25. We neglected to thank an essential group for their efforts during the storm: **The Groundskeeping Staff**.

We apologize for our error and are thankful for the Groundskeeping staff for helping to clear the campus of snow and ice, as well as ensuring the safety of Wagner's students and staff.

We hope that this apology fully suffices for our negligence.

Sincerely,
Erik Parshall and Rea Ulaj
Co-Editors

AN ANNOUCEMENT FROM THE MAIL OFFICE

The mailroom hours have changed as of Wednesday, February 18, 2015.

The new hours are: Mon-Fri 9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

The Wagnerian

Ranked one of the top 20 college newspapers by Princeton Review

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WORLD NEWS

Recapping the Charlie Hebdo attacks

By DOMINIQUE LANDEW
Co-Opinions Editor

On the morning of January 7, 2015, three masked gunmen stormed into the offices of the French satirical Magazine “Charlie Hebdo” killing twelve people. Of these twelve people, ten were journalists and two were police officers. The next day, a terrorist attacked a Kosher supermarket in the east of the city. This attack is believed to be France’s deadliest terrorist attack in more than fifty years. Francois Hollande, the French President, stated that the incident was an act of “extreme barbarity,” with many foreign leaders also condemning the attack. Even though CNN does not know all the details about the attack, they have reported some of the details that were released two days after the event occurred.

What we know about the suspects is that four hostages were killed and fifteen survived in the standoff between an armed terrorist and police. Dr. Gerald Kierzek said that the gunman divided the men from the women before opening fire. One of the gunmen forced female journalist, Corinne Rey, to enter a key code to let them in as he threatened her and her child. Experts said that the way the attack was carried out, the suspects were no amateurs. Many have questioned, why did this happen? What was the motive behind the attack? CNN stated that, “the Charlie Hebdo has a controversial history of depicting Mohammed, often in an unfavorable light, which has angered many Muslims around the world.” CNN also reported that, “earlier cartoons depicting Mohammed spurred protests and the burning of the magazine’s office three years ago.” During the attack witnesses

described hearing the attackers shout “Allahu akbar” and “We have avenged the prophet.” On Wednesday evening, the French joined hands at spontaneous gatherings materialised in public squares across France to condemn the attacks and pay tribute to the victims. Four days after the attacks, France had approximately 3.7 million people march in anti-terrorism rallies. In addition to the anti-terrorism rallies, France has raised its terror alert system to the maximum by having more than 800 extra soldiers to guard media offices, places of worship, transport, and other sensitive areas. “Je suis Charlie,” which translates as “I am Charlie,” started trending as thousands showed solidarity with the victims. This message has also become a symbol of protest, solidarity, and defiance.



A vigil was held at the Place Royale in France on January 7 to honor those killed in the recent attacks. It was reported that over 35,000 citizens were in attendance.



Protests were held to express the opinions on the attacks by people across the globe. **Left:** A young woman in France holds a sign reading “JE SUIS CHARLIE” (trans. “I Am Charlie”), which became the slogan of the movement in support of the hunted publication. **Right:** A young girl stands with other Muslim protestors holding signs such as “YO SOY MUSLUMANA NO SOY TERRORISTA” (trans. I am Muslim. I am not a Terrorist).



The cover of the first issue of “Charlie Hebdo” that was published on January 14, only nine days after the attack. The title, translated, reads, “All Is Forgiven.”

TECHNOLOGY SPECIAL REPORT: WHAT IS INVISIBLE BOYFRIEND?

Tired of trying to fend off creeps at the bar? Want to make an ex jealous? Sick of your parents asking if you have a significant other? Well, there’s a website to help you in any of these situations – and more. For only \$25 a month, users of the newly launched Invisible Boyfriend (or Girlfriend) can give off the appearance of being in a relationship without being in one. The monthly payment covers 100 texts, 10 voicemails and an unspecified amount of postcards in the mail. The site, which went live in January, presents users with a set of questions and preferences. From physical features to personality traits, users are able to customize their imaginary significant other – comparable to picking the genes of a designer baby. Moreover, users can write how they met their partner or have the site write their fictional narrative.

However, the person texting you on the other side isn’t a robot. Instead, Invisible Boyfriend has partnered with companies that allow them to scale its workforce to respond to incoming text messages. In other words, your fake partner isn’t one human — he’s several. So instead of communicating with one singular person, you could be texting with dozens. And, because users input personal details when filling out preliminary information, conversations are convincing. But what if you fall in love with him, like Joaquin Phoenix did in “Her”? “We’re not trying to build something that could fool you,” says founder Matthew Homann. “Our intention has always been to build something that helps you tell a better story about a relationship you’re not in.” And that works well, from where

Homann’s sitting: After all, the point of Invisible Boyfriend is to deceive the user’s meddling friends and relatives, not the user herself. On its website, Invisible Boyfriend calls itself “believable social proof”. The company noted that the service has also seen a surge in interest from people in conservative countries, particularly in South America and Europe, where the stigmas against being single or LGBT remain strong. Three weeks out of beta testing, the company has already been awarded prizes at startup event and has been profiled in major magazines, newspapers and network news shows with nearly 50,000 accounts created. And while it may not be the stuff of fairytales, it may be the stuff of Millennial fantasy.

Reported by Mallory Lee

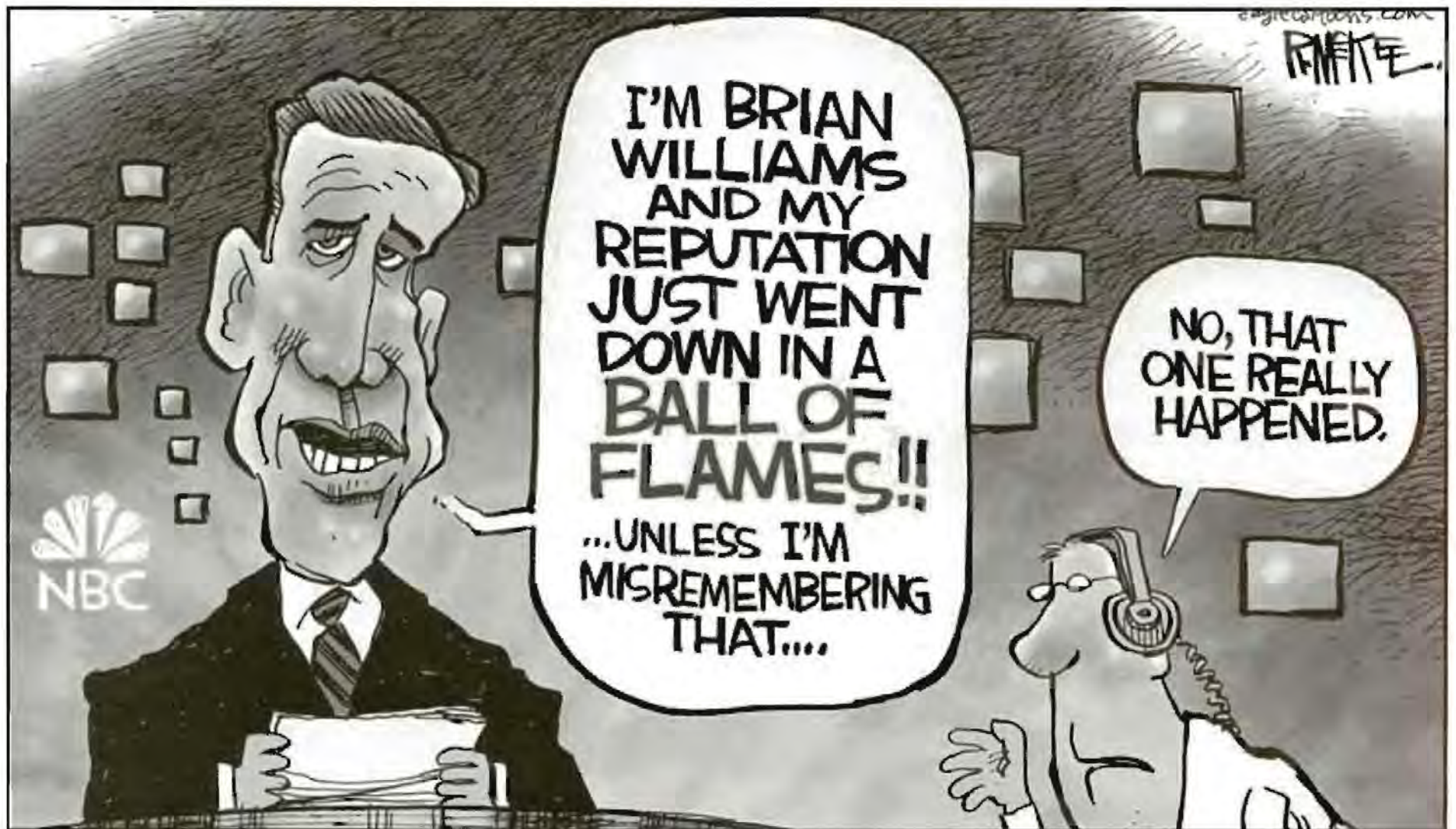
Let’s Take A Look
invisibleboyfriend.com



the OPINIONS

editorials, campus critiques, and more...

section



“NBC Nightly News” is back with Lyin’ Brian

By AMANDA
SUTHERLAND
Co-Opinions Editor

To get the full story, one must know all the facts. In the recent newsbreaking firestorm surrounding “NBC Nightly News” anchor **Brian Williams**, the truth has, understandably, been the one thing on the minds of journalists and readers alike. Here is a report of the facts and an opinion on Williams’ troublesome experience.

THE FACTS

A timeline of how Brian Williams’ Iraq story has changed through the years:

March 2003 - Williams took part in a four helicopter military convoy mission in Iraq. Each helicopter was carrying sections of a steel suspension bridge. One of the helicopters in the convoy was hit by a rocket-propelled grenade, or RPG. Williams’ first report of the attack on March 26, 2003 said that the helicopter ahead of him was hit by the RPG, and additional enemy fire. The original report claims to that Williams’ helicopter was far behind the chopper that was hit.

July 2007 - Williams released a statement with extra details adding that one pilot took a shot to the earlobe from enemy fire. He also

added that his helicopter took on enemy fire as well.

March 2013 - Ten years after the fact. Williams was interviewed on “The Late Show with David Letterman” when he said, “two of our four helicopters were hit by ground fire, including the one I was in . . . by an RPG and AK-47. Our captain [also] took a Purple Heart injury to his ear in the cockpit.”

January 2015 - Williams released another public statement confirming that it was his helicopter that was forced down by the RPG attack.

February 2015 - Williams reported to have misspoke about the events and even apologized in a Facebook message blaming a “fog of memory” for changing his story so many times. He released a statement saying he will temporarily step down as manager and anchor of “NBC News Nightly”

The president of NBC also released a statement suspending Williams for six months without pay.



THE OPINION

News anchors are society’s guide to major events. They obtain the trust of millions of viewers, but one small slip of the facts or conflation of the truth and their credibility is lost, instantly.

Brian Williams can attest to that. Despite his years as managing editor and respected anchor of “NBC Nightly News,” the only title favoring him as of now is “Lyin’ Brian.”

The truth is out. Williams has been on a lying spree for more than 12 years, fabricating the details of a trip he took in Iraq back in 2003, saying he was on a helicopter hit by an RPG, when he really wasn’t.

The webs of this lie have been untangling in the past couple of weeks and Williams is rightfully the spotlight of social media flack. He has offended many soldiers and military veterans, specifically ones who were involved in the actual events of the attack and in response he has tried to cover his tracks with a half-hearted apology in a Facebook message along with the decision to step down from his position, but only temporarily.

This decision to step down can only be a personal attempt to save what is left of his reputation. Many of his critics have called for a full termination of his career saying there is no incentive for viewers to believe any of his reports here on out.

I fully agree with those critics.



You never know when “Lyin’ Brian” will strike again because just like the old saying goes; once a liar, always a liar.

However, NBC network has a different take on the matter. They have found Williams’ apology sincere enough to simply suspend him for six months without pay. If you ask me this is the network’s ploy to diminish Williams’ recent bad publicity in hopes to reestablish their own credibility in the broadcasting network.

There are rumors though that NBC may not take Williams back after his six months are up because his scandal is too large, but I believe that their investment in him is too large for them not to bring him back to the set. My bet is that they will wait it out and see if an equal or lesser scandal will take his’ place.

The real question here is, should he return? This is a question for morality and in my opinion he should not return.

This is why:
When Williams decided to change the accounts of his events over three different times on na-

tional television, he lost his credibility to broadcast news reports. On average he is seen by 9 million viewers a night on “NBC Nightly News” so he knows how much power his words hold. The moment he began to change the facts and apply a more personalized story he became an abuser of his power.

In my opinion the right thing for him to do would be to use this suspension as a time of reflection for what he has done. Even though he is “Brian Williams, the face of NBC Nightly,” he can not be excused from the severity of his fabrication.

The ethical thing to do after six months would be to realize that he should no longer be in front of the camera and then move on to assume a lesser-known role behind the camera.

At this point in time, I would not reward Williams with another chance. While others may disagree and believe everybody deserves a second chance, I feel that the news world has its own exception to that principle. For the foreseeable future his name will remain tainted in the news world for me.

Super Bowl XLIX, why so serious?

By DOMINIQUE LANDEW
Co-Opinion Editor

Commercials during the Super Bowl tend to be a great source of entertainment for millions who tune in to watch. However, in the past few years the commercials have been political, emotional and informative with no comical quality to them.

I thought the Super Bowl commercials were a complete let down

this year as they took an angle trying to impact the people, and make them feel more emotionally connected to serious issues.

I believe that the advertising agencies should stick to what traditionally makes Super Bowl Sunday spots great: ads which are good for making audiences laugh.

Two of the many commercials played that night which actually gave the public a good laugh was: The Brady Bunch commercial advertising the ever popular Snickers ad, and T-Mobile's commercial starring

Kim Kardashian West where she discusses the travesty of not being able to see her selfies due to lost cell phone data. Such commercials offered content which many could familiarize with and even laugh about.

Instead of doing commercials about abortion or commercials about a seven year old child saying "because I died" - as advertised by Nationwide - the Super Bowl should stick to its original ways of running humorous ads like they have done in years past.

To the companies who advertise during the Super Bowl every year, you should know that we, the viewers, mostly want humor.

Many of us want to be entertained and share laughs with friends and family during this popular event.

Granted, many of us can agree the bar is set very high and humor is not always easy to achieve, but settling for the occasional cute commercial like the Budweiser dog ad is an acceptable alternative, too. Perhaps more corporations and advertising agencies should cater their commercials after the sweet and playful energy that Budweiser had this year.

Personally, I am pretty tired of all these controversial advertisements. Speaking for the millions who watch the Super Bowl, a majority of us want the ads to remain more humorous than serious, but we would still like separate time provided for the serious commercials, just at a different time than on Super Bowl Sunday.



Shocking Nationwide advertisement delivering the message, "we can protect our kids, we can make safe happen."



Kim Kardashian West mocks herself in T-Mobile Super Bowl commercial on "serious" issue of lost cell phone data.

This year's Oscars snub diversity

By Amanda Sutherland
Co-Opinions Editor

The Oscars have left me flummoxed this year with their carelessly controversial nomination choices. They had the perfect opportunity to hit a historic cinematic milestone in terms of race and color, but they simply left it on to be conquered another year.

Much of the controversy this year surrounds the movie "Selma" which debuted in early January. This film retells the inspiring and dramatic events of 1965 where the Rev. Martin Luther King Jr. fought for equal voting rights. Ava DuVernay directed the film and did an extraordinary job heading her first major motion-picture. She almost became the first African-American woman nominated by the Academy Awards board in the best director category. But unfortunately the key word here is, *almost*.

This would have been a historical and celebratory moment for both the Academy Awards and DuVernay since a woman of color has never been up for this Oscar. I find the board out of their minds to exclude her of this bid.

This is a missed opportunity to say the least, especially since DuVernay's movie "Selma" has received some of the highest praise in film reviews this year, while simultaneously racking up an Oscar nod for best picture.

I saw "Selma" and was blown away by the performances, story adaption, and rich cinematic experience it offered. Hands down I can say that it is one of the best, if not the best movie of the year; but along

with the best director snub "Selma's" Oscar nomination tally sits at a whopping total of two (for best picture and best original song).

In my opinion, a movie of this caliber and magnitude should have been rolling in the nominations.

"Selma's" other Oscar exclusion involves the film's star, David Oyelowo who played the Rev. Martin Luther King Jr.. Oyelowo delivered an emotionally stunning rendition as King, but just like DuVernay, he will remain unrecognized at this year's award show.

Many people agree with me that overall "Selma" has been cheated by the Academy. Rotten Tomatoes, a credible film critique site, grades each movie as a fresh or rotten tomato and "Selma" was marked as certifiably fresh by its critics. Currently the movie has a near perfect percentage of good reviews with 98% - almost unheard of.

The main problem I have with the

Oscars overlooking specifically both DuVernay and Oyelowo is the type of message it sends to the public. That is, if you are a man or woman of color, your work in the film industry will come second-rate to the white men who continually dominate the franchise. The nominees for best director and best actor this year are proof of just that as they are all male and all white. The Academy had the chance to break that barrier but chose against it. This controversy stands as more than just a snub to "Selma" and its counterparts; it is a snub to diversity.

This year's Oscars have made it clear that there is still a long way to go for racial and gender equality in the movie world. I am greatly disappointed in the lack of diversity but despite it all, it cannot take away from the fact that "Selma" is an incredible movie and one that we should all celebrate, even if the top of the movie industry does not.



"Selma," directed by Ava DuVernay. Nominated for Best Picture and Best Original Song



David Oyelowo as Reverend Martin Luther King, Jr. in "Selma" one of the Oscar's most controversial pictures.

The Opinions Section

is always looking for fresh ideas

If you're interested in voicing your opinion on a certain topic, relating to Wagner or not, don't hesitate to contact the Wagnerian at:

wagneria@wagner.edu

LIFE & STYLE

What is she wearing?

By **TAYLOR WHITE**
Staff Writer

“What is she wearing?”: a common question you’d hear when watching any award show, especially the Grammys. The 2015 Grammys were filled with inspiring music, hopeful talent, and let’s not forget crazy fashion. Stay tuned to hear all about the ‘oohhs’ and ‘aahhs’ as the Wagner College fashion police reminisce on this years Grammy Awards.

BEST DRESSED
What’s the one thing a little girl would say while watching her favorite celebrity on TV? I would imagine it would be something along the lines of ‘I wanna look like her’, and let me tell you that is the exact thought I had when I saw Gwen Stefani walking that red carpet. Stefani, who loves to rock that chic-rocker style, was found wearing a custom made Versace jumpsuit. The all black pants jumper had a mesh like pattern across her chest leading down to her stomach that added a little pop to her classy attire. Similarly, Nicki Minaj rocked an all black outfit and was voted second best dressed by US magazine,

Lastly we have Taylor Swift, who’s newest album ‘1989’ was the best selling album in 2014. Taylor wore a high-low dress designed by Elie Saab that showed off her long, silky legs. The dress intertwined different shades of blue in a ombre pattern and earned her a spot in the best dressed category.

WORST DRESSED
But let’s be frank here, the worst dressed gives us more to talk about. Entering at number one would have to be Joy Villa, who showed up in a bright orange dress made of something similar to a construction fence. The dress was revealing in well, every aspect and did not earn her the praise she had hoped. Not too far behind we have Rihanna, who’s Giambattista Valli dress closely related a giant pink cupcake. The dress was not only big and poofy, but fell into numerous layers which were anything but flattering. Followed by Rihanna. We also have Charli XCX, who’s plain white pants suit left everyone confused. Charli tried to spice up her outfit a bit with a pink bowtie that left her looking a lot like a disoriented

magician. Maybe she thought she could pull a magic trick on our eyes.

UNTIL NEXT YEAR
I’d say this is the last of it, but we all know that next year will only bring even more bizarre attire. Hopefully it won’t be anything too scarring but you never know. This is your Wagner College fashion police signing off, until next year.



Gwen Stefani knows how to mix classy with rocker.



Taylor Swift’s oceanic dress has a magical shimmer.



Rihanna’s figure and shoes are lost behind peptobismal colored poofiness. Hopefully at next year’s grammy awards she won’t hide behind an overinflated cupcake.

Drench Yourself in Self Love

By **GWENDOLYN HERNANDEZ**
Staff Writer

Were you alone on Valentines day? Can’t stand the holiday? That’s totally fine but hey, there’s one thing you should love: yourself. So what if it’s after Valentines day? Give these tips a try and you’ll be loving yourself in no time.

Create a Self Love Ritual
Turn off the TV and unplug from social media for 15 minutes to get centered. Moisturize your skin with intention. As you massage your feet, thank them for getting you to where you need to go; as you moisturize your hands, love them for all the transactions and introductions they’ve helped you with throughout your life. Stop taking your body and life for granted and relish on how blessed you are while showering yourself with gratitude.

Build a Precious Community
As much as we would like to think we can, we can’t do everything ourselves. You need the support and love from people around you to stay motivated and on track. Positive energy is contagious, so whether you’re building a network or planning to go to a fun event, it’s always important to have a community you value around you



- Make a “What’s Working for Me” List**
You always hear that to love someone else you must first learn to love yourself. But In order to really love yourself sometimes you have to recognize all the love you have around you. One of the practices that work when your feeling down is to go within and acknowledge what’s really working, then make a “What’s Working for Me” list. Once you see it on paper and accept all of the positivity in your life, it will make it that much easier to love yourself.
- Clean Out Your Closet**
This may be more therapeutic than you initially think. Cleaning out your closet will help you not only clean your room up a bit, but will positively affect your mind. Getting rid of old things will make room for new things to come in to your life! Cleansing your mind can sometimes work in the form of letting go of clothes, shoes, jewelry, etc. that remind you of a certain time in your life that links to a negative vibration.
- Explore your spirituality.**
Faith is the foundation for self-love, no matter what you believe. Believing in something opens up your soul to the beauty of belief and trust. It will build your intuition and help you make decisions based on your gut. When you explore your spirituality it will also take you on a journey to learning things about yourself and those new thoughts, feelings, and passions, will make you appreciate yourself for being authentically you.
- Find Your Happy Place**
Think of a place that makes it simple to just be. That means being able to sit quietly and embrace the here and now. Not thinking about what’s due at school or what bills need to be paid. You owe this happy place to yourself. Self-love is all about connecting with yourself, and one of the easiest places to do that is your happy place.
- No More Comparisons**
We’ve all browsed through social media only to see our favorite media personalities in the middle of a photo shoot for their new books, or just after they had awesome shopping sprees. I know it’s hard to look at so many positive pictures on the Internet, or even in your own life, and know that everyone has bad days. The next time you want to browse the web remember you’re already perfect. Don’t ever change for anyone but yourself.
- Do Something You’re Good At**
If this isn’t the ultimate self-esteem booster, I don’t know what is! Self-esteem and self-love often go hand in hand, and participating in a hobby you’re good at will not only boost your endorphins, but will bring out the best version of you. If you love to cook, then find new recipes to practice in the kitchen! If you love to run, then grab those sneakers, head outside and run. Do whatever is going to make you smile.
- Know That Your Body is a Loving Vessel**
Treating your body like a loving vessel will not only boost your self-love, but also your energy. Be intentional about what you put into your body, not only because you want to look good but because you want to feel good. Feeding your body nutrient-rich foods will have you oozing love out of every pore.
- Build Your Letting Go Muscle**
We’re constantly holding on to things in our past, and it can tend to weigh heavy on our souls and even give us low self-esteem. The more blocks we clear, the more we can really live big in the area of self-love. Although we may do this as a way to protect ourselves from hurting, it’s really only holding us back from moving forward to reaching optimal self-acceptance and loving who we are.
- Try eating a new fruit or a vegetable to get you started. You never know: you might like it!

So go pamper yourself! You’ve earned it.

Need a little green in your Winter Wonderland?

By ARIANA PALMIERI
Life & Style Editor

Tired of the chill in the air and craving some greenery? There's good news: you don't have to wait until spring! Instead, why not try growing something in your dorm?

Whether it be a flower or a plant, there's something for everyone. Plus, most of the plants on this

list, no matter how small, will help purify the air in your dorm caused by carpeting, paneling, or any unwashed clothes lying on the floor. So let's get planting!

STEP 1: Figure out the lighting conditions in your dorm

If you don't have enough light to read, chances are even low light plants will not thrive well. However, if you have just enough light to read or an abundant amount, you're good to

go.

If you're desperate to have a plant anyway, a good option to invest in would be artificial light. There are many forms of artificial light that could help sustain plant life such as fluorescent lights, LED lights, and horticultural grow lights.

Plants for low-light situations include :

- Snake plant
- Grape ivy:
- Lucky bamboo

•ZZ Plant

For moderate lighting:

- Ferns
- Ivies
- African daisies
- Cacti and other succulents

STEP 2: Decide which plant is best for you.

There are many options and the best way to explore which is truly best for you is to research the plant you're drawn to thoroughly.

Before you make a commitment to any of these plants consider how busy your schedule is and if you would have time to water and nurture them.

If you're new at gardening just remember that a plant tells you a lot by it's body language: if the leaves are turning yellow, it's too warm, and if it needs more sun it will lean closer towards the light. Even if you have a black thumb, these plants are hard to kill so give it a shot!

Happy planting!

Plants for low-light situations:



SNAKE PLANT: You don't have to water these too often. In fact, you can even let it dry out a little, especially during the winter. Make sure it's in a pot with good drainage holes. They are considered one of the easiest plants to care for.



GRAPE IVY: These are the perfect hanging plants. Make sure you have a range of 68-82 °F for this plant to thrive. This plant can be dried out a little before each watering as well. The best potting mixture for this plant is a peat-based one. Trim ¼ inch above the point of the leaf attachment and ¾ to 1 ¼ inch below the node when pruning these plants. They can get quite long if you don't prune them, however they are lovely to look at. If your roommate doesn't mind dangling overflowing leaves, by all means let it grow as long as you like!



LUCKY BAMBOO: Most people grow this plant in water with a base of pebbles. If this is the case, make sure to change the water every 2-4 weeks and watch your bamboo thrive. This will certainly add a little Feng Shui to your dorm!



ZZ PLANT: This plant is very hardy and can survive in bright to low level light effortlessly. Water this plant only when the soil dries out. It can survive months without water but it's best not to let it go that long without it.

Plants for moderate lighting:



FERNS: If your dorm has dry air and temperature extremes, ferns won't thrive well there. Ferns love humidity which can be created through misting them with tepid water and a spray bottle. Most ferns don't like cold but can survive from 50°-70 °F. A soil that is peat-based is best for this plant.



IVIES: There are many different kinds of ivy to choose from. The brighter the lighting conditions, the better. Ivies like to be kept more on the dry side so check their soil before drowning them in water. They also need good drainage so a peat-based soil is best. Some ivies can grow very long so pruning may be a good idea. Washing off the leaves every so often will remove dust and pests from their leaves. Try to include regular fertilizing.



AFRICAN DAISIES: Craving flowers? Look no further: all this flower needs is full light, well-drained soil, and minimal watering. It prefers being a little dry so don't overwater it. South African bulbs thrive best in winter. Osteospermum is an annual and, like most annuals, it enjoys extra fertilizer. But the nice thing about African daisies is that they are one of the few annuals that will still bloom for you if they are planted in poor soil. If you have grown them from seed yourself, they may not start blooming until late summer.



CACTI and other succulents: These plants love sunny window sills so be sure you give them plenty of light. They thrive in 50-55° F during the winter and can handle hotter temperatures during the summer. They should be watered only when their soil becomes dry. There are 50 or more families of plants that can be considered succulents.



{ ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT }

Kanye's Comments Cause Controversy at the Grammys



Kanye catches Beck off-guard by jumping on stage during his acceptance speech

By **GLEN MACDONALD**
Wagnerian Staff Writer

Rapper Kanye West made waves throughout the music industry during the 2015 Grammys. After alternative musician Beck won the Album of the Year, West showed his displeasure in a post awards interview.

"I just know that the Grammys, if they want real artists to keep coming back, they need to stop playing with us," stated West. "Beck needs to respect artistry and he should've given his award to Beyonce."

The 21 grammy winner's rant echoes his actions in 2009, when West crashed singer Taylor Swift's acceptance speech, again voicing his praise for Beyonce. West went on to explain his disapproval of Beck.

"...We as musicians have to inspire people who go to work every day, and they listen to that Beyonce album and they feel like it takes them to another place," said West. Beck responded to Kanye in a surprisingly civil manner.

"You can't please everybody. I still love him and think he's a genius," quoted Beck.

Students voice their opinions

about clashing artists. "I think it is disrespectful for Kanye to say that about Beck because he is not on the committee but the way Beyonce released her album literally changed the music industry," said freshman Brian Wells. "While I personally believe Beyonce should've won, Kanye's comments remain disrespectful, unnecessary and unwanted."

Others believe there is credence in West's comments. "While I don't agree with Kanye's ranting after the show, I do agree relevancy is important when coming to award shows," said freshman Alessandra Varrassi.

2015 Grammys' Highlights



Sam Smith wins four grammys and Beck earns album of the year

Memorable Performances



Kristen Wiig dances to "Chandelier" and Madonna becomes a matador

Influential Quotes



"Like books and black lives, albums still matter." - Prince
"Authentic love does not de-value another human being." -Brooke Axtell

This year's underrated Oscar contenders

Glen Macdonald reports on notable Oscar snubs



Jennifer Aniston



After her ten year run on Friends, Jennifer Aniston spent a decade doing hit or miss comedies such as 2010's "The Bounty Hunter" and 2013's "We're the Millers." Aniston's career looked as if it would always be eclipsed by her earlier work. However, one film this year showcased Aniston's hidden talents as a dramatic actress.

In "Cake," Aniston stars as a divorcee suffering from chronic pain and depression. Aniston at certain points is bitter, sometimes selfish and other times full of self-pity, an accurate portrayal as someone with chronic pain. However, despite her vices, Aniston's character still has the audience rooting for her physical and emotional recovery.

Jake Gyllenhaal



In one of the most thrilling movies of the year, Gyllenhaal gave the most thrilling performance of the year, if not his career.

In "Nightcrawler," Gyllenhaal plays a sinister cameraman who would do anything for the perfect shot. For his performance, Gyllenhaal dropped 30 pounds in order for

his character to achieve a starved and crazed look.

Gyllenhaal's efforts and discipline allows him to transform into one of the most memorable sociopaths in recent years.

The Lego Movie



Last February, parents took their children to see a movie starring the classic toys. Little did the parents know they would be laughing as much as their children..From start to finish, the "Lego Movie" entertains audiences with it's humorous scripts, talented voice cast and remarkable animation.



The Walking Dead: What happened last? (Spoilers)

By **NICHOLAS BOLSTER**
Staff Writer

It's hard to not be too critical of The Walking Dead on occasion, being that it's by far one of the most popular shows on television. On the one hand, the show has proven, rather consistently, that even when it lacks particular substance it is still highly capable of style and flair in its depiction of the zombie apocalypse, and that capability brings it miles considering it posits itself primarily as an action show.

On the other, it's impossible not to see through the veneer of blood, gore and various other technical marvels that bring the show to life to recognize the routine writing and recurring driving elements which have come to dominate it. This, too, becomes double-sided; with the most recent episode (the mid-season premiere) we find a small group of

our survivors heading toward a supposed safe area. When they arrive to find it burned down and overrun, no one is surprised, neither the characters or audience. This sort of repetition is expected but is also simply indicative of the state of the world in which the show takes place; hopelessness becomes the rule, rather than an unfortunate possibility.

The second rule of repetition the show follows is the rule of death, namely that every named character can, and most likely will, die. This episode saw the death of Tyreese (played by Chad Coleman), the beanie wearing protector of the survivors with a marked refusal to kill other human beings - a moral high-ground which put him at odds with much of the rest of his group who have come to recognize the kill or be killed nature of the times.

Tyreese's death was one of sad resignation; he was greeted by illusory visions of all the recently de-

ceased, some of them accusatory but most of them simply encouraging him to let go, a sad resignation to death for someone who could not go on with the new "rules for living."

This follows swiftly on the heels of Beth's death in the midseason finale, a death which many argued was as shocking as it was insulting and pointless. Death is a consistent and real possibility in this show's reality, that is undeniable; however, at some point the deaths in question cease to be affecting and start to simply be numbing.

Ultimately, the mid-season premiere was a welcome, if somber, return. Hopefully the upcoming episodes will prove the continuing struggle of the dwindling band of survivors to be interesting, or at the very least not so depressing.



All you need to know about the latest celebrity gossip!

Bobby Kristina Brown
Comatose



Mother and Daughter, Whitney and Bobby Brown pose together

By **AMANDA HASTINGS**
Staff Writer

We lost a legend when Whitney Houston died from an accidental drowning on Feb. 11, 2012. Almost three years to the day, on Jan. 31, Houston's 21-year-old daughter Bobbi Kristina Brown was found unresponsive in her Georgia home but still breathing and rushed to North Fulton Hospital in Roswell, Georgia.

Besides the time frame of the ordeal that matched her mother's death, the other coincidence was the way she was found with her head faced down in the bathtub. The daughter of Houston and Bobby Brown is in a coma and hanging due to life support and doctors fear she is not going to make it.

The decision of if the family should pull the plug on the young woman will be left up to her father, who turned 46-years-old on Feb. 5, after the tragedy occurred.

The cause of this is still unknown

and there is an open investigation. When the "I will Always Love You" singer's daughter was found in the bathtub she had bruises on her face, which leaves authorities to suspect that her boyfriend Nick Gordon, who at one point was rumored to be married to her, was somehow involved.

Friends of the 21-year-old say that the duo has a rocky relationship and that he was acting strange shortly before she was found.

The family is sadly planning her funeral and asks for prayers while they have a vigil. They are planning to pull the plug on Feb. 11, the same date that her mother passed away.

Bobbi Kristina has been through a lot since her mother died. A few days following Houston's death, she was hospitalized for being overwhelmed and had a hard time dealing with the loss of her mom. Not long after that is when she became more seriously involved with Gordon. Since 2012, she found herself as the center of stories about drug use, weight loss and feuds with family members.

Trivia Crack is an app sensation



A great success, the app is the number one app in both the US and Canada

By **JAMES NAPOLITANO**
Assistant Editor

Whether trying to pass the time on the ferry, train, or just in a dorm room, as college students in 2015, we often turn to our phones for entertainment.

Since smartphones first debuted, their applications have allowed users to play thrilling and addicting games at the tip of their fingers. Every year a new game comes along that sweeps across the country as the new craze. Available for

free on the app stores of Smartphones, Trivia Crack makes for an extremely entertaining way to pass the time during the day.

Whether competing against friends, family, or random opponents, players get the opportunity to outsmart friends while testing their trivial knowledge and expanding it too.

Players spin a wheel with six different category options - science, history, sports, art, entertainment, and geography. The player must either answer the question presented, or use a token to spin again. The

way to win a match is to answer enough questions in each category, obtaining the corresponding crown for all six categories.

An alternative way to win a crown is by landing on the crown space on the wheel, skipping over the three questions usually needed and allowing you to choose a crown to play for. Even if you find yourself stuck on a tricky question, the coins you earn each time you win allow you to strategize by using special PowerUps.

With these coins, you have the chance to buy extra time, knock out

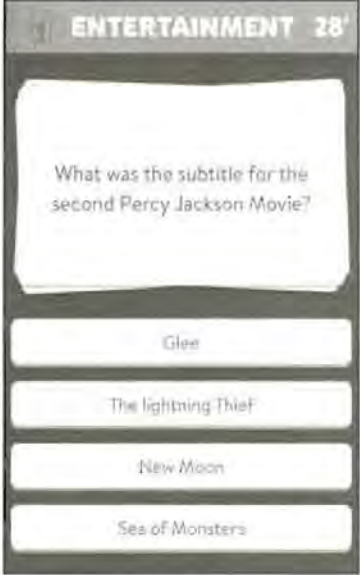
some of the wrong answers, try again if your first guess is wrong, or skip the question entirely. A second gameplay option allows players to challenge multiple friends at once to a round of questions to see who can answer the most questions correctly.

This game is the number one app in both the United States and Canada for its user-friendly interface, addictive gameplay, and its ability to keep players on their toes as they test the power of their brains against friends.

Give it a Go!



Your Spin: Entertainment



Answer: Sea of Monsters

SEAHAWK SPORTS

Nwajei, Burton in Thousand Point Club



Photo: Wagner Athletics

Jasmine Nwajei, sophomore guard, is ranked number 2 in the nation for scoring.

By MEGAN FRITZ
Co-Sports Editor

Two of Wagner’s basketball players have recently become a part of an elite group of Seahawks. Jasmine Nwajei and Marcus Burton have joined the group of Seahawk basketball players to score 1000 points during their career.

Jasmine Nwajei, a sophomore guard from Queens, hit her 1000th point on February 3rd against Sacred Heart University. The first sophomore in Wagners history to make 1000 points, Nwajei becomes the 25th overall person in the club.

Her achievement comes just games before being listed as the number 2 scorer in the nation with 24.3 points per game. She is listed only behind Ohio State guard Kelsey Mitchell. Nwajei is currently the leading womens scorer in the NEC.

Wagner gained Nwajei as a player when she easily bonded with head Coach Lisa Cer-

mignano. She also made her decision with the knowledge that Wagner was close enough to home that her family could come to the games and support her while she plays.

When she hit the 1000th point shot, she had her family there to celebrate with her. “I knew it was coming and when it went in I just said “Finally”” Nwajei states of scoring her 1000th goal.

While she is being so celebrated for her success, there’s a bigger goal that Nwajei is focused on, “These accolades are on the side of my main focus.”

She chose to come to Wagner to be part of a tradition and to be part of a winning team and thats why she is focused on winning a championship. The Women’s team needs to win just two out of there four more games to qualify for playoffs.

Marcus Burton, senior guard from Charlotte, North Carolina, became Wagner Men’s 42nd member of the 1000 point club on January 31st against Central Connecticut. His 1000 point came

when he hit a three point shot in front of a crowd of 1,781 in Spiro Sports Center on ALS awareness day. Burton has continued to lead the Northeast Conference in overall scoring and NEC play scoring at 22.7 points per game.

Burton’s teammates were the motivating factor as he fought to hit the 1000 point mark.

Burton tells Wagner Basketball post game “My teammates and my coaches kept telling me how much I needed throughout the game to hit 1000.”

Burton was anxious to hit that mark and keep moving forward so he could keep his focus with the game.

This honor comes as an award for hard work. Not a starter for his first three years of play, Burton has worked his way to earning those 1000 points, “I just had to wait my turn and I made the most out of every opportunity I was given.”

The Men’s team is 7-7 in conference play as they look forward to their last four games before playoffs.



Photo: Wagner Athletics

Senior, Marcus Burton, recently hit 1000 points.

Upcoming Home Games

Thursday, Feb. 19 at 7 p.m.
Men’s Basketball
vs. Bryant

Saturday, Feb. 21 at 12 p.m.
Women’s Water Polo
vs. Hartwick



The New England Patriots raise their trophy in celebration of their spectacular win over the Seattle Seahawks.

Photo: boston.com

Nail-biting conclusion to Super Bowl XLIX

By AMANDA SUTHERLAND
Co-Opinions Editor

Super Bowl XLIX was the type of nail-biting, edge-of-your-seat performance that everybody hopes for in a super bowl game. The NFC's New England Patriots and the AFC's Seattle Seahawks battled it out for the full 60 minutes of regulated game time as neither teams ever had a lead larger than ten points.

The Patriots won the game with a final score of 28-24 over the Seahawks, making it the AFC champions' first win in over a decade, and the fourth win for the Patriots over the last fourteen years.

Tom Brady was named MVP of the game, the third of his career, as he threw four touchdown passes with 328 total yards for the game. The game winning touchdown was Brady's 3-yard pass to Julian Edelman at 2:02 reaming in the fourth – finally putting them ahead from a ten-point, third-quarter deficit.

The play which sealed the Patriots' fare for the night was uncharacteristically completed by rookie Malcom Butler. A cornerback from Division II University of West Alabama, Butler intercepted a pass from Seattle quarterback Russell Wilson at the 1-yard line with 20 seconds left in the game.

Wilson's pass was originally in-

tended for wide-receiver Ricardo Lockette as the Seahawks where on their second-down, ready to capitalize. Instead Butler steps in front of Lockette in the end zone and intercepts the pass, giving the Patriots possession of the ball for the remainder of the game time.

The Seahawks' last-minute chance to regain the lead was due to a spectacular drive and juggled catch made between Wilson and Jermaine Kearse at the 1:06 mark. The catch covered 33-yards bringing the Seahawks to the 5-yard line, dangerously close to a touchdown which would have wiped away the Patriots' lead. On the first-down All-Pro running back Marshawn Lynch closed the gap even more rushing 4-yards. The

second-down, where they decided against giving Lynch back the ball, provided the game's unfortunate outcome for the Seahawks.

The Patriots fans roared in excitement and disbelief throughout the stadium at the helm of Butler's catch as many had already accepted the fact that the Seahawks were going to be scoring.

The real celebration was delayed because of fighting interference which broke out between both teams after the interception. Seahawks linebacker Bruce Irvin was the instigator of the brawl and was ejected from the game.

The conclusion of Super Bowl XLIX is said to be one of the wildest finishes in super bowl history. The game nearly had a last

minute swing but went unchanged due to a miraculous play from a backup cornerback.

"You know, whatever it takes," said Brady after the game. "I mean, for a rookie to make a play like that in a Super Bowl and win us the game, it was unbelievable."

"I just had a vision that I was going to make a big play and it came true," Butler said. "I'm just blessed. I can't explain it right now. It's crazy."

This win concluded the Fourth NFL championship in the Bill Belichick-Brady era.

Swim & Dive Seniors prepare for last NECs



Seniors from left to right, Samantha Sides, Morgan Stoner, and Mallory Lee at the Swim & Dive Senior meet, their last career home game.

Photo: Wagner Athletics

By GRACE ZHANG
Sports Editor

The Wagner Swim and Dive team has a lot to be proud of, especially the seniors. In their first season as a Seahawk, the now seniors took third place in the conference.

From there, they've only gotten better and better. As sophomores, they suffered a hard and close loss as the runner up to Saint Francis.

However, last year they came back with a fiery determination to become the NEC Champions and they did just that. Now, a week away from their last championships, the seniors are more than ever ready to protect their title.

Wagner currently sits 6-1 in the conference, only dropping to Central Connecticut by 24 points in their recent meet.

Last week, the Green and White honored their senior swimmers Samantha Sides, Morgan Stoner, Michelle Greenough, and diver Mallory Lee.

"Being a senior on this team is such a reward. I've watched this

team grow in leaps and strides that I'm proud to be one of the senior captains of this team," shared Samantha Sides.

Senior co-captain, Mallory Lee added, "It's just crazy to watch an entire life of dedication culminate in one final weekend. There are times when I'm excited to be done, but it's mostly bittersweet."

The Seahawks held a dominating senior meet against St. Francis Brooklyn, winning 139-77.

The Green and White started the meet with a strong first and second finish in the 200-yard Medley Relay. Juniors Amanda Lucia, Maggie Shaw, and freshman Maggie Slocumb then added to the lead with an impressive sweep in the 200-yard free.

The meet continued with a sweep in the 50-yard free by sophomore Anu Nihipal, Sides, and freshman Erin Finn. Other first place finishes include junior Erin Malone in the 100-yard butterfly and sophomore Kristine Sullivan in the 100-yard backstroke.

Though dropping to Central Connecticut 162-138 in their most recent meet. Swimmers, Nihipali

and Lucia came up with big wins in their individual events.

Lucia placed first in 1000-yard free with teammate Shaw in close second. Nihipali clinched the first place spot for both the 100-yard and 200-yard backstroke.

On the diving front, junior Erica Curry came away with a second place finish in the 3-meter followed by sophomore teammate Sam Lavrich. In the 1-meter dives, Lavrich took second while Curry followed in a close third.

With the NEC Championships in a week, the team is preparing to dive into the pool to defend their championship title.

"Everyone has given up so much to be here and I think it'll show this weekend. I've watched our team perform under pressure before and I have no doubt we will do it again," said Lee.

"This team has a lot of talent and heart that when we all together, cheering each other on, there's nothing we can't do!" added Sides.

Bid Day Spring 2015

March to the beat of your own drum

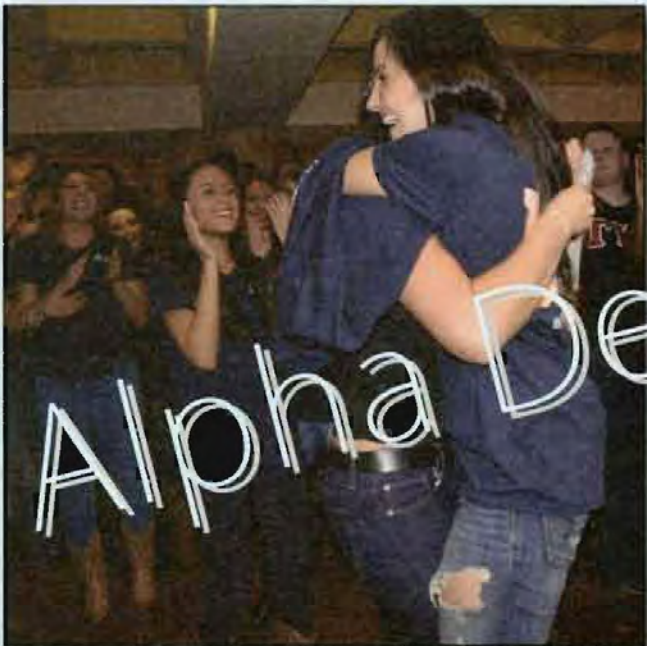


Photo: John Ryan Anderson

Alpha Delta Pi welcomes another new member with great excitement.

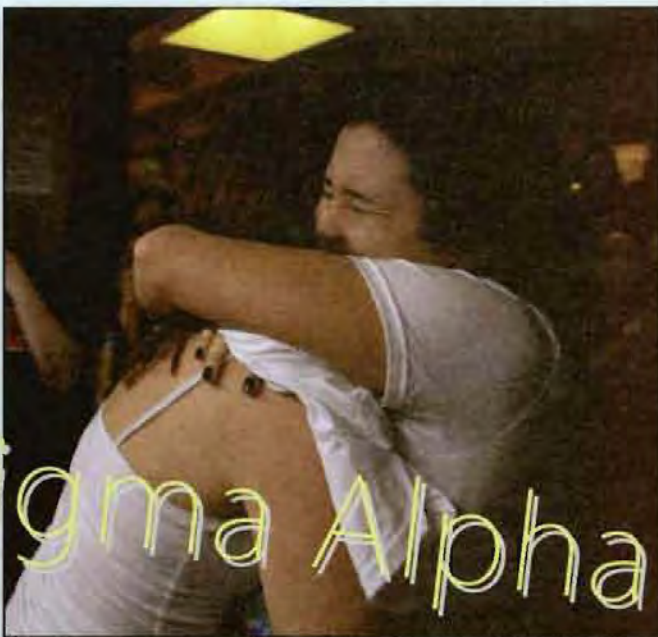
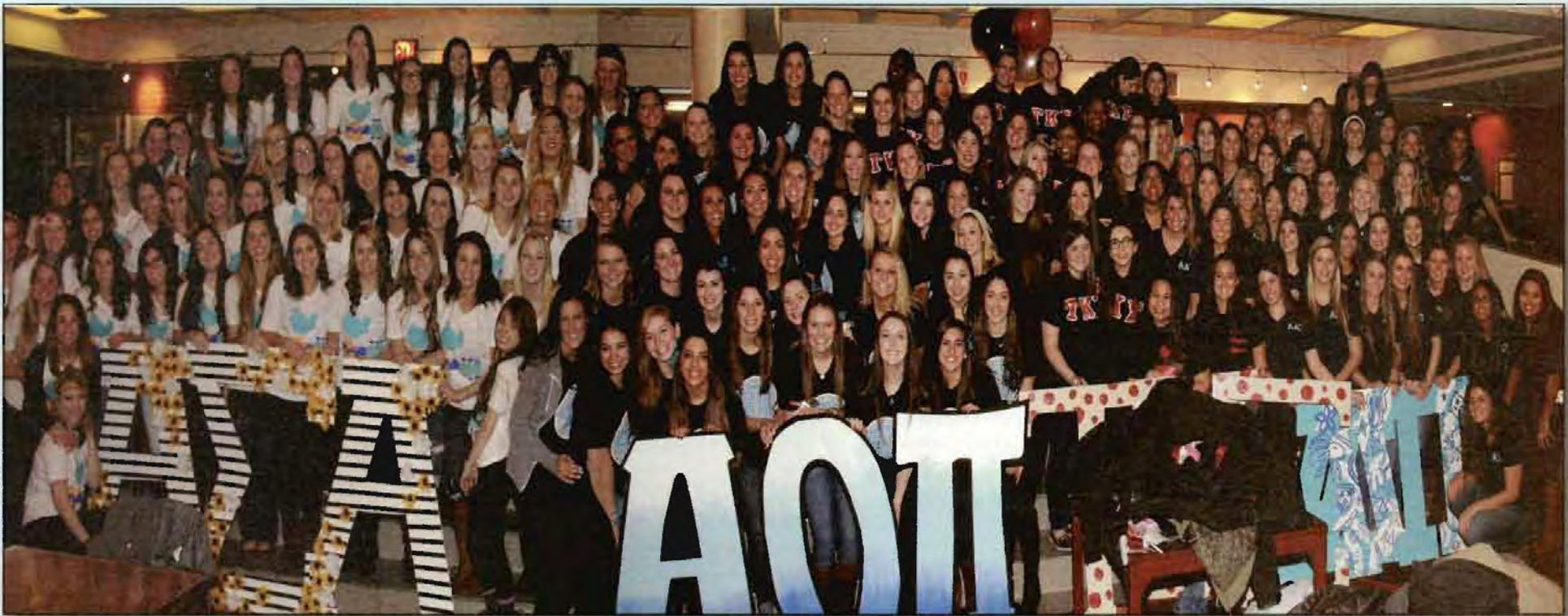


Photo: Kate Dion

Sandra Sisko is welcomed home to Alpha Sigma Alpha.



Photos: Jacqueline Menna

The women of the four organizations are all smiles after welcoming home all their new members on Sunday, February 8.



Photo: Sarah Fischbein

Tau Kappa Sigma cheers on the newest member they recieved.



Photo: John Ryan Anderson

Elizabeth Stirba embraced Annie Fox after deciding to going to Alpha Omicron Pi.