

# The Wagnerian

Wagner College

April 27, 1994

Staten Island N.Y. 10301

## Christel Backe elected SG president

By CHRISTINA E. FITZGERALD  
Wagnerian Editor

Christel Backe, editor of the Student Government newsletter, The Gavel, will soon be passed the gavel of leadership as Student Government Association (SGA) president.

Also being inaugurated into offices are:

Jason Pace, a sophomore speech and theater major, as vice president;

Tommy O'Donnell, also a sophomore speech/theater major, as vice president for activities;

Stacey Cannon, junior special education major, as student senator;

### Hickey reflects on his experience

Liz Asplin, a junior political science major, as treasurer;

Scott Lewers, a freshman, in a new position as assistant treasurer;

Lisa Jiannetto, a sophomore, who retains her position as secretary.

Approximately 400 students voted in the election, which was held April 18 and 19 on the Union Terrace. The votes were tallied by a committee

consisting of Jennifer Bersin, vice president for student activities; Susan Hudec, director of student activities; Deidre Shaffer, dean of students; and James Hickey, current Student Government president who is graduating next month.

With just 37 days remaining in his reign as SGA president, Hickey reflected on his two years in office. He remembered the first semester he took over, when "I sat in my office all alone doing what I had to do, and nobody ever came in. My goal was to make the office the bustle of activity it is today."

He said that the toughest job he had was to resurrect Student Government, and make it respectable in the eyes of the administration, faculty, and most importantly, the students.

Hickey said that he would like to thank those who opposed him, his views, thoughts and ideas, for making him think about what he was doing and if it was really the right thing. He also thanked Susan Hudec, who has been a great deal of help.

"Christel has excellent leadership, is first quality, I have great trust in her," said Hickey, who is sad to give up his position, but happy to move on.

## Choir members enjoy 5-day tour

By ALISON BOYD  
Wagnerian Staff Writer

The Wagner College Choir, headed by Dr. Jeffrey Unger, toured New Jersey, Philadelphia and Baltimore during a five-day tour which began on March 17.

Although sounding like a trip full of sightseeing, the choir had their work cut out for them.

After a short ride to Middletown, N.J., the choir began practicing for their concert that night. They were then met by their host families, anxious to see what kind of people would be providing them with their "home away from home." Quite surprisingly, some host families cooked elaborate meals, while other families took their choir members out to dinner.

Then it was back to the church to perform their first of many concerts. The concert was definitely well received, and the choir members were on their way to generating many standing ovations.

Philadelphia was the next stop. There were two performances for high schools, and another concert at night. Although sounding like too much work for one day, the choir was able to pull it off successfully.

But the choir didn't work the whole time during the tour. The truth is that Friday was the first day they had some free time, and although it was snowing, there was one place they were able to go -- the mall!

It was time to try some of those famous Philadelphia cheesesteaks, and no one was disappointed.

The Franklin Institute was visited on Saturday, and all the exhibits kept the choir there for hours. Before arriving at the third concert site, the choir was able to start one of their many visits to the Inner Harbor in Baltimore. Being a bright, sunny day, it was just the right weather for indulging in a delicious ice cream cone.

With the tour almost to a close, the choir performed their last concert, and during two church masses. Then they enjoyed a free day at the Inner Harbor.

Sunday was a beautiful day, and choir members spent it looking in shops, visiting the aquarium and, of course, eating. Everyone agreed it was a successful tour.



The Wagner College Choir

## Construction to begin

By ALEXANDRA ANASTASIO  
Wagnerian Staff Writer

"A healthy body leads to a healthy mind!"

Fitness is an important part of a person's lifestyle. It allows them to keep in shape, relieve stress and interact socially with other people.

Dr. Norman Smith has set a goal to create a recreational center geared toward the non-athletic student. He wants to have a recreational facility available to students who live on campus.

"Many times the residents feel confined to the campus and with this new

complex it will open up the grounds," said Dr. Smith.

Commuter students are also encouraged to use the center which will be open year-round. Dr. Smith said, "I have wanted this ever since I've been here."

For him, fitness is important and a recreational facility is an essential part of a college.

Construction for this new complex, which will be located behind the west parking lot, near Fischer Field, is scheduled to begin after commencement. It will include an indoor swimming pool, racquetball courts, a track, three courts which can be used

for a variety of events such as basketball, volleyball and tennis, and a fitness center with showers and locker rooms.

With this new complex, a few changes will take place on the campus. The Parise Fitness Center will be moving over into the complex, which will allow the expansion of the Hawk's Nest. This will also create more jobs for the college work-study students. And eventually, Dr. Smith would like to convert the Sutter Gym into a performance center.

If all goes well, this new complex should be complete in May 1995.



# Spiro Center is state-of-the-art

By SEAN McMILLAN  
Wagnerian Staff Writer

The Donald and Evelyn Spiro Computer Technology Center is committed to offering every Wagner College student the opportunity to excel in today's competitive world. The center provides a high quality environment to achieve computer literacy and serves as a computer laboratory for all disciplines. The center's fifty IBM PS/2, 25 IBM compatible and eight Macintosh computers are con-

nected to the mainframe computer, VAX/VMS.

Computer student assistants and tutors are available for those who desire personal instruction.

The center was donated in 1989 by Dr. Donald W. Spiro — a 1949 graduate of Wagner, chairman of Wagner's Board of Trustees and chairman emeritus and president of Oppenheimer Management Corporation — and his wife Evelyn, also a 1949 graduate of Wagner with a bachelor of science degree nursing.

The donation of the Computer Center demonstrated Dr. Spiro's commitment to ensuring that all Wagner students are computer literate. As Dr. Spiro observed, "It doesn't matter what field you pursue, whether it's business or nursing or art, you must know how to use a computer to meet the competition."

Donta D. Bell, a graduate of Wagner's graduate business program, is director of the Spiro Computer Technology Center. With the high-quality equipment in the center, he feels he

is able to offer all students who come to the center a top rate environment for learning.

To use the center you must have a valid Wagner I.D. and computer disk (3½ inches, available at the Wagner bookstore). The operating hours of the center are: Monday through Thursday, 9 a.m. to 10 p.m.; Friday, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.; and Saturday and Sunday, 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. During midterms and finals, hours will be extended.

## It's financial aid time!

By SAMANTHA CARRAI  
Wagnerian Staff Writer

It's financial aid time again, and that means we all must be sure we have the exact papers in order and they are sent out before their deadlines. Here are some helpful hints to follow when filling out your forms:

10. Students should have already received their FAF or FAFSA renewal applications in the mail.

9. Students who are applying for New York State Aid must pick up their state applications in the Financial Aid Office (located on the second floor of Cunard Hall).

8. When filling out these forms, make sure that you have your parents' tax returns (as well as your own, if you've filed).

7. Make sure you complete the forms with a No. 2 pencil only.

6. Read all the directions.

5. Tell the truth, the whole truth and nothing but the truth.

4. Photocopy all the papers for future reference

3. Get signatures from your parents

2. Properly seal, address and stamp the envelope (and don't forget the check if you are required to pay a fee)

1. Call the Financial Aid Office with any questions.

## Signboard spreads the word at Wagner

By ABDOU-KARIM DIA  
Wagnerian Staff Writer

The Wagner community has quickly become accustomed to its new illuminated display signboard.

The once-familiar scene of students and staff climbing to the old board is now forgotten. Freshman Jeanne Catanese remembered when "the wind was blowing the letter off the board."

She and fellow Union managers do not have to worry about it anymore.

The Wagner SpiroBoard, yet another gift from Dr. Donald Spiro, is larger, brighter and can display a lot more information than the previous one, including original graphics.

Susan Hudec, director of Student Activities, said she appreciates the fact the SpiroBoard allows Student Activities to easily communicate events to the campus community.

"Now, there's no excuse for not attending events," she added.

Anyone interested in advertising an event or in submitting an inspiring quote should fill out an "Illuminated Display Signboard Request Form," available in Wagner Union 227.

# Congresswoman shares her visions

By JENNIFER McHENRY  
Wagnerian Staff Writer

In honor of Women in History Month, Rep. Susan Molinari delivered a highly enthusiastic lecture encouraging the battle against the concept of the "glass ceiling."

She delivered the address on March 7 in Spiro Hall.

The "glass ceiling" is a condition which restricts women from entering upper management positions in corporate America. Most women, however, do not realize that this restriction is purely sexist, and concede that they are either underqualified or unable to handle the job because of their obligations to the home.

An advocate for equality in the workplace, Congresswoman Molinari believes the only reason this condition exists is because women fail to aggressively challenge these restrictions.

Her work extends far beyond the callings of a congresswoman. A strong supporter of stricter penalties against sexual assaulters, she frequently visits rape victims and battered women in shelters.

Although statistics concerning the rise in domestic violence against women look bleak, Congresswoman Molinari's programs are a guiding light in combatting these problems. It is here where her true leadership qualities shine, and through fundamental changes in attitude, such as gender equality training in school (training teachers to encourage both sexes in the pursuit of academic goals), changes are being made.

The congresswoman, who delivered her address March 7 in Spiro Hall, admits she is a conservative. But her values are purely a matter of choice, and this has caused some controversy. Although personally against abortion, she realized the dangerous repercussions if the government had the right to control a woman's body.



Congresswoman Molinari speaks in Spiro Hall.



# A week of fun and festivity

By ABDOU-KARIM DIA  
Wagnerian Staff Writer

Songfest, held April 17 in Sutter Gym, opened a week of fun and festivity on campus that concluded with the Spring Fling Carnival this past Saturday.

Al Leisegang of Tau Kappa Epsilon and Katie McGee of Alpha Omicron Pi were crowned king and queen. Other members of the court included Gary Capaldo, Vincent Fyfe, Annmarie Petrizzo, Collene Schilling.

As Songfest chairman, Stacey Cannon organized the event, the theme of which was "Time Warp." Each group presented a program highlighting a different decade.

The winners were:

Mixed -- Kappa Sigma Alpha fraternity ("Bop into the '50s")

Women's -- Alpha Omicron Pi sorority ("Vietnam War Era"); Alpha Delta Pi sorority took second place with "Grease")

Men's -- Tau Kappa Epsilon fraternity ("Motown Medley")

Originality -- Tau Kappa Epsilon fraternity

Best Overall Performance -- Alpha Omicron Pi sorority

Other participants included Alpha Sigma Alpha sorority ("Tribute to the '40s"), Theta Chi fraternity ("Sounds of the '80s"), Sigma Gamma Rho sorority (a medley of the Supremes, Aretha Franklin and Sister Sledge), and Tau Kappa Sigma sorority ("Sounds of the '60s").

Greek Week, chaired by Jen Bersin, kicked off Sunday, April 17, with a step show in Gatehouse Lounge presented by the sisters of Sigma Gamma Rho.

On Monday, sororities faced off in Power Puff Football on the football field.

On Tuesday, fraternities competed in a game of football on the Oval.

The Olympics were held on Wednesday. Hypnotist Ronnie Romm did not show up for his performance scheduled for that evening.

On Thursday, Rob Walker of Omega Phi Alpha was crowned Mr. Wagner College during a special ceremony in Sutter gym. Chris Eskinazi was first runner-up, and Stephen Sharpe came in second.

Students enjoyed hot dogs and

hamburgers during a barbecue on the Union Terrace on Friday afternoon, followed by the community photo.

The Spring Fling Carnival and Wagner Stock Festival brought Greek Week to a close on Saturday.

Student groups sponsored booths that offered a variety of games and activities, including a human bowling, Sumo wrestling, a Velcro wall and card reading.

The Wagner Stock Festival featured performances by Michael Massimo, Snarling Wood Dogs, No Discipline and Soft Parade.

Profits from the two events will be forwarded to a Staten Island organization called On York Mark, which helps the developmentally disabled.

## Security to increase at Harbor View, Towers

By ADAM CARR  
Wagnerian Staff Writer

Fall 1994 will be the beginning of a new trek in security at Wagner College. Both Harbor View Hall and Towers will be equipped with a phone system to help the "key access card systems" to be more effective.

With the phone system operating, individuals who are visiting the dorms without identification will have to call the number of the stu-

dent they are visiting, so that the student can come down and open the door.

excellent. We are just waiting for a clearance from the budget department." The new system will make it easier for receptionists to identify individuals who are not Wagner students. A setback may be for the students themselves, because when they are expecting guests, they must walk downstairs and let them in. Also, when ordering food, students will have to open the doors for the deliverers.

dent they are visiting, so that the student can come down and open the door.

This process may seem burdensome, but the idea behind it is to secure the safety of the students living in the dorms.

In explaining the reasoning behind the new system, Director of Residence Life George Sherman said, "We put in an expensive system that would identify everyone who was going into the dorms but nobody would

use their ID. Now everyone will have to carry their ID to get into the buildings."

Sherman is able to make this assumption because the new phone system has been in use in the Guild dormitory for a semester.

"Outstanding," was the response he gave when asked how the test went. "The system worked so well in Guild that we wanted them in the other dorms also. The chances are

## 20 are inducted into ODK

By MELISSA ALCOCK  
Wagnerian Staff Writer

Comparing membership in Omicron Delta Kappa to "Top Gun," ODK president Dawn Hugo urged new members to be the best they could be.

The Wagner Circle of the national leadership honor society inducted 20 new students on April 8, during the annual awards, initiation and installation ceremonies — held on April 8 in the Gatehouse Lounge of Harborview Hall.

"When I came in, Ahmar [Shakir, 1991 ODK graduate] said, 'You are the best of the best, you are the elite,'" said Ms. Hugo. "It felt like the Top Gun movie."

She also said that she wanted the members to remember — wherever their lives take them — that "this was a group that mixed men and women, all disciplines, working together for a common goal."

Also encouraging the members was keynote speaker Brian J. Laline, editor of the Staten Island Advance, who urged them to make try and make a difference as the future leaders.

After reading excerpts from letters he received from Staten Island readers, Laline admitted that there must be something wrong with a society, and the media, when people are more interested in stories like that of Joey Buttafuoco and Amy Fisher or Tonya Harding and Nancy Kerrigan than that of a two-year-old boy getting shot or a man being murdered.

He called recently-deceased firefighter Christopher Siedenburgh — brother of inductee Charles Siedenburgh, who was not present — an example of "what is right about this city," and charged the inductees to take his memory with them and "fight for what's right. Tell people that this society does have a future, that good people outnumber the bad."

A 1972 graduate of Wagner College with a master's degree, Laline was

### Society honors academic skills and leadership

also the alumnus inductee. Honorary membership was given to Joseph Conti, president of the Board of Managers for the Society for Seamen's Children. Dr. Annmarie Sortino was faculty inductee, Susan Hudac was administrator inductee and Judy McBride was staff member inductee.

Each of the new members was given a pin, while graduating seniors received the ODK key, while others read biography information on each — including GPA, major, activities, employment and future goals.

All ODK student members are juniors or seniors who have a cumulative GPA of 3.3 or higher and distinguish themselves in various areas of leadership — scholarship, athletics, campus and community services, journalism and speech, and the creative and performing arts. The 1994 inductees had a cumulative average of 3.688.

Past ODK president Ahmar Shakir praised the parents for "a great job" and told the members that they were being recognized as being the best of Wagner College.

"You need to be proud of that and we are proud of you," he said.

Dr. Joedy Smith, faculty secretary of ODK, and members of the group, also presented 12 different awards to students, staff and faculty. Outgoing president Dawn Hugo presented her gavel to new president Stacey Cannon.

Other new officers for 1994-95 include: Linda Carrelli, first vice-president; Deborah Kessler, secretary; Mrs. Cherie Caccese, treasurer; Mrs. Rosemary Anarumo, assistant treasurer; Maridanielle DiChiaro, historian; Paul Rossi, community service coordinator; Dr. Norbert H.

Leeseberg and Dr. Eleanor M. Rogg, faculty advisors; and Dr. Joedy Smith, faculty secretary.

The inductees were: Bernard Avitabile, a junior English major; Heather Bagnall, a junior theater major; Gracemarie DiBenedetto, a junior accounting major; Maridanielle DiChiaro, a junior in the physician's assistant program; AnnMarie Fulco, a junior sociology major; Alice Giovaniello, a junior elementary education major; Jennifer Horan, a senior business administration major; Heather Klein, a junior vocal music performance major; Valerie Kreda, a junior math and education major; Cheryl Martinez, a junior political

science major.

Also, Cheryl Merolo, a junior English and education major; Doreen Murphy, a junior elementary education major; Erica Riccardi, a junior elementary education and psychology major; Dawn Savage, a senior elementary education and Spanish major; Jennifer Schaefer, a junior English major; Aurora Seminara, a junior biology and psychology major; Charles Siedenburgh, a junior arts administration major; Sabrina Timperman, a senior biology major; David Tshudy, a junior political science major; and Regina Weimer, a junior accounting major.

## Step shows are steeped in history

By AMANDA FRUITT  
Wagnerian Staff Writer

When Sigma Gamma Rho sorority holds a step show, they fill up the house and bring it down. Everytime they throw a party and advertise that they are stepping, an air of excitement seems to float around through certain circles on campus.

The reason for the draw is very obvious ... it's fun to watch and hear. But "that cool stomping and clapping stuff," as so many Wagner students refer to it, is actually very historically based.

There are many translations of how it became a trademark of black fraternities and sororities. One of the most common is that which describes members of tribes in Africa who used this type of dancing in ceremonies. Stepping may have evolved from these movement rituals and perhaps may have been used as a type of prayer.

Another explanation is that it evolved from the days of slavery. When slaves were forced to travel in chain gangs often they would link themselves together closely, or "lock-up," and march. This served as a form of protection, and it also gave physical support to those who were a bit weaker and having difficulties keeping up.

As they marched, it was known that they would sing and chant to the beat, encouraging them to continue on.

Very likely, it is the combination of both African tribal dancing and marching on chain gangs that sparked the creation of what is known today as stepping. So when you see a step show, especially those put on by Sigma Gamma Rho, you can appreciate it as more than just "that awesome beats and chanting thing." It is also an historical artistic movement symbolizing freedom.

# Opinion

## Mission impossible

By ROBERT EVANILA  
Wagnerian Staff Writer

Good morning, Mr. Phelps. Your mission, should you choose to accept it, is to seek out and acquire a rare commodity at Wagner College -- change, for the laundry machines.

Yes, sire, the ramifications have reached an all-time high. Students are begging one another for their last quarters. Kids are making life-threatening, nightly trips to the local bagel shop for coins. Business majors are down to wearing bathing suits as underwear. Gargantuan blobs of filthy linens are beating down the doors of every closet on campus.

It's madness, I tell you. Sheer madness.

The truth of the matter is, laundry has become more than a chore at Wagner. It has become an inconvenience. Many students feel strongly that the change machine in the Hawk's Nest is a far too difficult trek amid their daily routines.

It seems to me that between a heavy course load, extracurricular events such as sports and theater, and the normal 10 o'clock closing time at the Union, the change machine is too far out of the way.

Few students have the time to make a dash back across campus for silver only to return to their dorms, throw in a load of laundry, attend class and come back to find their clothing swiped or strewn out across the confines of the building.

As it stands, most students are forced to plan ahead toward a block of time so they can be present to oversee their washing and drying needs. I dare deem this a nightly affair. So, if you're attending a night class or involved with a theater production, you'd better have the foresight to pick up your change in advance. It's only a small inconvenience, but an unnecessary one.

The question comes to mind: Why aren't there change machines in the laundry rooms? Simply put, there have been problems with theft in the past. But a solution would be to place the machines in full view of desk personnel. It would be easier to deter crime as well as identify offenders. And it would make life easier for residents all around.

What's more, if change machines were tried and dismissed already, it appears that we are being punished for the actions of a few that aren't even students any longer.

Many students feel washing and drying laundry should be free, or included in room and board.

Some are even militant about the issue. Looking at it with a broader perspective, they feel the cost of doing laundry filters out the rich from the poor.

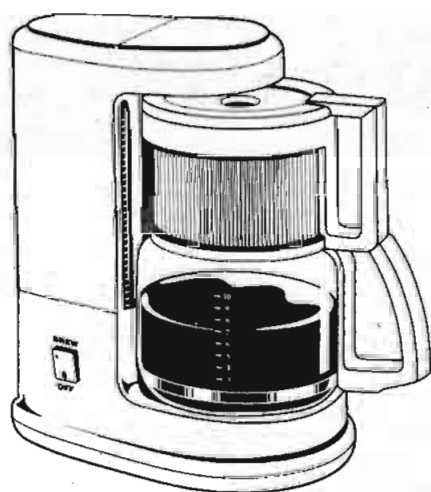
Others feel they would be willing to pay more if the machines were larger, or if they could easily make change.

It's not a question of the facility or stress involved with going to the Hawk's Nest. It's a matter of simple human dignity, common sense. You'd expect a restroom in a restaurant. You'd expect a change machine in an arcade or a public laundromat.

I hope these ideas don't self-destruct at the end of this editorial.

**Coins for  
the laundry  
are as rare  
as dinosaurs**

**Ideas  
are brewing  
at the  
Wagnerian**



**Meetings are held  
every Tuesday  
at 4 p.m.  
in the Wag office**

## Legalize gambling in New York State

By VERONICA SCHRON  
Wagnerian Staff Writer

If gambling was legalized in New York, it would help attract conventions, and the state's ailing tourism industry. It would also provide jobs, encouraging people to continue living in the Empire State.

According to an Albany newspaper, the lawmakers -- Republicans and Democrats alike -- have secretly agreed to pass an historic constitutional amendment legalizing casino gambling in New York for the first time in this century.

This approval is expected to come sometime in June, shortly before the Legislature adjourns for the summer recess.

This action does not require Governor Cuomo's approval. It will give the Legislature an option to keep the idea open. The constitution allows this, requiring proposed amendments to be approved by two separately elected Legislatures before being submitted to the people for a vote.

In September, there will be elections for the two-term Legislatures. The failure to act this year would prohibit legalization of casino gambling.

Senator Nicholas Spano, a Republican from Westchester, has outlined a plan that would permit casino gambling. This would exclude the use of slot machines, in the Rockaways at Catskill resorts, in Niagara Falls, at racetracks and OTB teletheaters.

All is not bright for this idea. State comptroller Carl McCall issued in a report warning New York about legalizing gambling. He believes it will not answer the state's money problems. He predicts the state would lose over \$200 million in horse racing and lottery revenues. It will also offset an estimated \$400 million in new tax revenues, he points out.

Would this new amendment solve New York's problem?

If you consider the commute to Atlantic City from anywhere in New York, you would agree gambling should be legalized. The trip takes about 2½ hours from Staten Island alone. If you choose to stay overnight, you have to make reservations weeks before. A spontaneous vacation only turns sour.

If the casinos were closer, it would be easier to have a good time. The longterm advantages of legalizing gambling are creation of jobs and state revenues.

I would vote for it. Wouldn't you?

## The Wagnerian

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to join the staff, please stop by Union 204



# Entertainment

## A new 'Perspective' from Michael Massimo

By MICHAEL I. HOFFMAN  
Wagnerian Staff Writer

Don't you just hate it when you get all set to say something and your words just fail you? I know I do, and those who know me know words don't fail me often.

But this time they almost did, as I sat down to write about Michael Massimo's new EP, "Perspective."

It's not easy for most people to convey their thoughts and emotions adequately through words. It's probably 10 times more difficult for a songwriter to express himself, to truly make you feel what he felt when he put pen to paper. Michael Massimo accomplishes just that on his new album.

"Perspective" is a five-song independent album released just two weeks ago. All the songs were written and performed by Massimo, from the full-band sound in "Restless" and "Free" to the beautiful two- and three-part harmonies on "Everything," "My Own Reality" and "Come Back New."

The album was produced by Ernie Jackson and he has done a superb job bringing across Massimo's passion for music and life.

Massimo's sound, although definitely rooted in the folk sounds of people like James Taylor, has a unique and easily identifiable quality. From voice to guitar, Massimo is himself, to his full credit. The songs themselves are equally individualis-

tic, even though there is no mistaking that they all came from the same source.

Massimo does a very good job at writing five different songs with five different identities -- and none sound the same.

Perhaps the only detracting comments I could offer about this album is Massimo's performance of all the instruments. Even though he does an excellent job on guitar, his forte, and a competent job as well on bass and percussion, I can't help but wonder if the use of extra musicians to handle those jobs might have added just a slightly stronger dimension to the accompanying arrangements.

But the fact of the matter is that Michael Massimo has created nothing

short of a truly beautiful music product. The only thing lacking is the support of a record label with the resources to afford him the studio time and personnel to perfect the album.

From the looks -- and sounds -- of it, he shouldn't have that long to wait. Michael Massimo is going places, and "Perspective" is step one.

"Perspective" is available for sale directly from Massimo at the cost of \$5, plus \$1 for shipping and handling. At \$1.20 per song, it's a steal.

Michael Massimo  
37 Karen Place  
Edison, N.J. 08817

## Seagal shines in 'On Deadly Ground'

By ROBERT PACE  
Wagnerian Staff Writer

"On Deadly Ground" stars Steven Seagal, a former Staten Island resident who has starred in many action films. But this one tops them all.

The movie is set in Alaska, and has lots of beautiful scenery. "On Deadly Ground" is about an oil tycoon

(played by Michael Caine), who has acquired the rights to an oil reserve from the natives of the land.

The Eskimos don't realize the corruption involved. The tycoon uses faulty equipment, causing leaks and a fire.

Seagal plays Forest Taft, a man who works for Aegis, the oil company. Taft is sent to check out the

incident.

It's pressure from a friend that leads Forest to investigate the matter and realize what's going on. That's when the action begins.

Although this movie is partly fictitious, it does deal with two serious issues -- greed and the destruction of our environment. Millions of gallons of oil get dumped into our oceans

each year by careless oil companies.

Somehow, the oil tycoons manage to get away with a slap on the wrist or a very light fine.

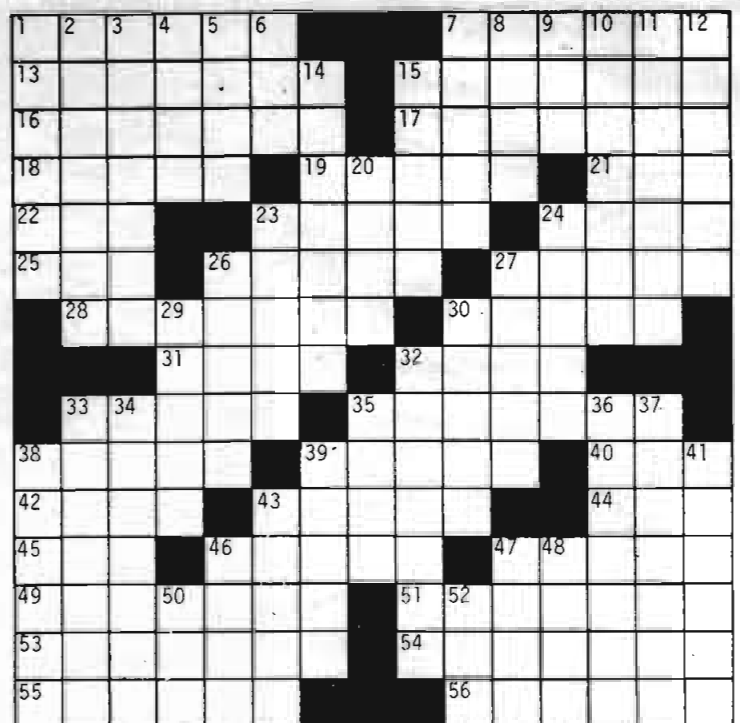
It seems Seagal, who also directed "On Deadly Ground," wanted to entertain his fans and get a message across at the same time. He accomplished both.

Don't miss this film.



Jim Reilly, Brian Kroll, Marcos Rivera, Tony Correnti, Chris Heath and Sean O'Hara.

## collegiate crossword



© Edward Julius Collegiate CW8708

### ACROSS

- 1 Roller-coaster ride sound
- 7 Fundamentals
- 13 Feeling of failure
- 15 Pickering or Hogan
- 16 Resort or car
- 17 Straighten again
- 18 Wrong
- 19 — in one's side
- 21 Lao —
- 22 State —
- 23 Well-known club
- 24 Public disturbance
- 25 Before
- 26 "Stompin' at the —"
- 27 Bartlett's
- 28 Was ambitious
- 30 Gives out cards
- 31 Breakfast dish
- 32 Henry, John, or Glenn
- 33 Treeless plain
- 35 Revives (2 wds.)
- 38 Roger or Dudley
- 39 Openings
- 40 World War II agency

### DOWN

- 42 "It's —!"
- 43 Stuck in mud
- 44 Tease
- 45 Part of NNP
- 46 Wrestling holds
- 47 Pertaining to birth
- 49 Hydrogen, for one
- 51 Testimonial
- 53 Vehement speeches
- 54 Obtains
- 55 Proceed in a gliding manner
- 56 Hate
- 1 Predicament or fight
- 2 Imaginary monster
- 3 Gorges
- 4 Sponsorship (var.)
- 5 Greek Mars
- 6 "Bei — Bist Du Schoen"
- 7 Dutch Africans
- 8 Astronaut Shepard
- 9 Spanish for sun
- 10 First
- 11 Bleeps

- 12 Rains frozen raindrops
- 14 Original inhabitants
- 15 Chum
- 20 Juvenile delinquent
- 23 "Key —"
- 24 Studies
- 26 Actress — Hasso
- 27 Fathers, in France
- 29 Arctic explorer
- 30 Like St. Peter's
- 32 Wooded areas
- 33 Flowering plant
- 34 Pillagers
- 35 Irish city
- 36 Severe pain
- 37 Pain relievers
- 38 Valuable French paintings
- 39 Ancient Britishers
- 41 Most competent
- 43 Bank inventory
- 46 Mother of Clytemnestra
- 47 French resort
- 48 Touch on
- 50 —-jongg
- 52 Buttons or Barber



# It was the best of times, it was the worst of times

By RICHARD BANDANZA  
Wagnerian Staff Writer

Wagner College didn't miss the boat in the late 1960s. Campuses around the country were figuratively, if not literally, on fire.

There was a war in Vietnam and a war against the war at home. Martin Luther King and Bobby Kennedy were still warm in their graves. Students began growing their hair, burning their bras and questioning the integrity of a nation they dubbed Amerika.

While the world watched as the Ohio National Guard managed to kill four students at Kent State University, the local channels were reporting on the strike at Wagner College.

"It came as a great surprise to most people," said Dr. Robert Anderson, who's been teaching history at Wagner since 1964. "It all started back in 1964 with the Berkeley Free Speech Movement. I got the impression that Wagner was a small, pretty conservative school with conservative students, and it will probably never come here."

"Actually there were two strikes," noted Richard Benz (Wagner Class of 1973). "The first strike was in the spring of 1969. It was more of a lifestyle strike and people took the opportunity to go home early."

Linda Stratigos '70 agreed. "The first strike was about the right of women to wear pants to class and the right to smoke on campus and curfew hours," she said.

Emily Youssof '73 remembered, "When I started, you still had to wear a skirt to dinner on Sundays."

Students camped out on the oval. A miniature tent city was erected. The first strike at Wagner ended with the early cessation of classes. Final exams were canceled and students agreed to accept their standing grade as final.

Although campus issues were at the center of the first strike, broader social issues were also brought to the table. The anti-war movement was well underway in the spring of 1969, and their rank and file was compromised of college-aged men and women. The leader of the student movement at Wagner was student government president Tom Gibbons. They called for Wagner to divest itself of financial holdings in companies that held defense contracts. Students also supported anti-war activities going on at other schools.

At the same time, the issue of minority representation on campus was brought to the fore by a group labeling itself Black Concern and was led by a student who was also a star football player named Alonzo Brandon. An article that appeared in the Wagnerian by this group asked that the administration of the school establish a forum to discuss and resolve the issues of importance to the African-American students at Wagner.

Another group, Alma, representing Puerto Rican students, and led by Edward Cortez, also emerged at that time.

These group's issues, of greater complexity and gravity than those concerning the dress code and curfew, were ignored by the school's administration during the first strike.

Benz observed, "The first strike set up an organization of people who realized they were involved in some of the same things, some of the same ideas. Black Concern and Alma grew out of that first strike."

Summer break failed to diminish

## One student recalls Wagner's revolutionary days



STATEN ISLAND ADVANCE PHOTO

*"We were challenging the values of the whole society. There was a lot going on in the country that led up to the takeover of Cunard Hall."*

— Emily Youssof '73

the fervor of the various activist elements that were spawned during the strike of 1969. The anti-war movement grew on campus. Black Concern and Alma spent the fall semester of 1969-70 attempting to, as Dr. Anderson put it, "... go through the proper channels, to get the administration to listen to them." Meanwhile, equal rights for women became fighting words for an emerging women's movement.

"There were several movements and they overlapped," Dr. Anderson noted. "The SDS (Students for a Democratic Society) had a chapter at

this campus. And there was the anti-war movement. The invasion of Cambodia was in the spring of 1969. We held teach-ins. Then a women's group was formed and an Asian students' group as well."

Ms. Stratigos remarked, "In 1969-70, Vietnam was just becoming an issue at Wagner and I recall several of us getting pretty pissed off about the way women were being treated on campus. Actually, I felt the problems that women were having would eventually get resolved in an evolutionary way. Whereas, I felt the war in Vietnam required a more revolutionary approach."

Ms. Youssof remembered that "this was a whole subculture on campus. I was very involved in leaflet printing and trying to get people to sign anti-war petitions and getting people to take buses to Washington (D.C.) for demonstrations. I remember going to Columbia University as Wagner's representative for the Students for a Democratic Society at the national SDS convention."

Dr. Anderson said that the African-American and Puerto Rican groups tended to stay out of the other activist groups' affairs. "Separatism was

dominant among the African-American students, so there were sympathetic whites, they they were told 'You know, you want to do something on your own to support us, that's fine, but you're not coming into our organization.'"

"The black students were somewhat resentful of the white radicals. They felt the white radicals didn't really understand, and couldn't appreciate and truly empathize with their plight. And they were right," said Ms. Youssof.

"I supported Alma and Black Concern, but I was white. I didn't know any of the leaders. I wasn't that closely involved with the group because I was a white guy," said Benz.

By spring semester, tensions on all sides were building. On March 19, 1970, Black Concern presented a list of demands to the college administration. They called for an increase in African-American enrollment, more scholarships and black faculty representation, as well as an increase in the black studies courses.

Two weeks later, Alma issued its own proposals, echoing many of the demands made by Black Concern. They asked for a Puerto Rican instructor in every department and an increase in Puerto Rican recruitment, as well as an extension of the school's College Achievement Program. This program was viewed as a weak and token attempt by the college to appease minority students.

That same week, the administration responded to the demands of Black Concern. The response emphasized the fact that Wagner was basically a run-for-profit business. They maintained that any African-American, or Puerto Rican, student who passed academic muster and could afford to pay tuition was welcome at Wagner. Each demand of Black Concern was followed by a promise to investigate the possibility of change.

Black Concern responded to the administration by stating in the April 9, 1970 edition of the Wagnerian, "... The wording 'further possibilities of curriculum development' has to be changed to 'further curriculum development.' They also remarked that "... Wagner has shown very little in the form of progress toward any goal."

The events that followed culminated in a second student strike at Wagner. Approximately 60 students from Black Concern and Alma massed together on a Wednesday night and occupied the administrative offices in Cunard Hall. The group claimed they would remain there "... until the wall rot around us." They remained inside for three days, before agreeing to peacefully vacate the premises.

Dr. Anderson recalled, "One night during the occupation, we heard that there were carloads of whites coming up the campus road with bicycle chains and baseball bats to get the black and Puerto Rican students out of Cunard Hall ... so, a few of us sympathetic to the students' cause — and I was one of them — decided we would place ourselves between these people coming on campus and the students in the hall."

"These white students — and many of them weren't students at Wagner at all, but were recruited from the outside — came up and demanded the Black and Puerto Ri-



can students come out, but they didn't try to break in. In the meantime, the Board of Trustees met and got a court injunction requiring the students to come out, or they would be arrested ... and they did come out."

"Dean Marr and the local police were prepared to storm the building and all the supporting students joined hands around the building to, in essence, block the police. Cop cars lined the campus road from the back entrance to the dorms all the way to Howard Avenue," remembered Benz.

A few days following this event, another building was occupied, this time the office of the dean of students, Dean Haas. The dean was in his office at the time and claimed to be held hostage by members of Black Concern.

The radical group denied ever taking the dean hostage, claiming they were holding a discussion with him and that he was free to leave at any time. The siege of North Hall lasted an entire day and ended when the students inside released Dean Haas and were allowed to meet with their lawyer in the dean's office.

Dr. Anderson, who as on the Board of Trustees at the time, remembered speaking by phone to the leader of Black Concern during the occupation.

"Lonnie was a very intelligent, even-headed guy, and he knew what he wanted, but he was politically smart and knew when to back off. The Board of Trustees and the president of the college wouldn't meet on campus. They were afraid of being taken hostage. So we met in a bank in West Brighton, and while we were there they decided to call the dean's office and speak to Alonzo," he recalled.

He refused to tell the students what to do. "When people are engaged in a struggle for their rights, they have to decide what to do," Dr. Anderson said. He reasoned with Alonzo Brandon, who in turn, persuaded his followers to leave the building.

"Of course they were tried anyway," Dr. Anderson noted. "But it was better than if the police came in and started breaking heads."

The result of the second occupation was the expulsion of 27 African-American students. A furor developed and posters of an African-American male nailed to a crucifix were plastered all over campus. A third occupation, this time of the president's office in the student union, was organized by the white radical students, in sympathy with the expelled members of Black Concern. The president, Arthur O. Davidsen, wasn't there at the time.

"I went into the president's office, but didn't stay. Then I remember we were sending food up on a rope, because there was a waiting room/balcony that looked over the main floor of the Union from the president's office," said Ms. Youssof.

Ms. Stratigos remembered, "The administration brought an injunction stating that students couldn't gather in groups larger than three while on campus."



STATEN ISLAND ADVANCE PHOTO

**"It was an era. It's not just the Cunard Hall thing or the occupation of Davidson's office, it was an era. You really can't look at it in today's context, because it won't make much sense."**

**— Linda Stratigos '70**

For the second year in a row, a strike was called by the student body. Classes ended early and mid-year grades became final grades. Most students left the campus after finals were canceled.

None of the white students were penalized for their actions. This became a further bone of contention among the minority students who'd received much harsher punishment from the administration.

Those involved believe that students' actions were not in vain. "It was a great experiment in de-

mocracy," said Ms. Stratigos.

"I think we were the first generation to have the luxury of being able to really examine the society around us and the social mores. Because, prior to that, there was poverty, the depression, World War II. And suddenly, here's these kids in college with the leisure time to consider the world and what's going on in society. Let's determine if all these things we've been taught makes sense, or not," opined Ms. Youssof.

Dr. Anderson noted, "Most of their demands, it appears to me, would not seem so radical today. From that point on, Wagner became more active in recruiting minority students and faculty. New administrators were hired and new courses in African-American studies were introduced. The ability to disrupt the normal course of things did force people to pay attention and to respond more positively. I think the overall outcome was beneficial to the school."

He added: "Most of the students I knew who were involved with this were some of our best students. Intelligent students are generally more aware of what's going on in the world."

"It was an era. It's not just the Cunard Hall thing or the occupation of Davidson's office, it was an era. You really can't look at it in today's

context, because it won't make much sense," remarked Ms. Stratigos.

Ms. Youssof added: "We were challenging the values of the whole society. There was a lot going on in the country that led up to the takeover of Cunard Hall."

"It was intense, and there was more than a little fun involved. A lot of it was, it made you feel part of the big picture. Here we were at stupid little Wagner College participating in something that was happening all around the country," said Benz.

Dr. Anderson concluded: "I felt if I didn't take the position I did, I could no longer teach with integrity. I had to take the risk ... It was the most exciting time of my 30 years at Wagner."

He continued, "The Chinese have an expression: 'May you live in interesting times,' but what it really means is, may you have a hell of a life, or, may you have a terrible life. Interesting times often have a terrifying character ... I spent many sleepless nights worrying then, but I knew I was alive."

Editor's note: Richard Bandanza, currently attending Wagner as an English major, was also a Wagner student during the early '70s.

## Answers to puzzle

S	C	R	E	A	M		B	A	S	I	C	S			
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P	E	N				L	I	O	N	S		R	I	O	T
E	R	E		S	A	V	O	Y		P	E	A	R	S	
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# JOIN THE WAGNERIAN

**Letters  
to the editor  
are welcome  
in Union 204**

# A star on the court — and off

By SEAN McMILLAN  
Wagnerian Staff Writer

Lamont Street is a senior, and one of two captains of the Wagner basketball team.

He is also a viable member of Omega Phi Alpha fraternity. He regards his membership in the fraternity as one of the best things to ever happen in his life. "My fraternity is special. Most people say that. But we truly feel it in everything we do," he said.

Wagner basketball fans are accus-

tomed to watching No. 24 doing his thing on the court, and it's clear that basketball plays an important role in Lamont's life plans.

"I am sure that basketball will always be a part of my life," he said. "But as of now, my main concern is graduation ... and life after that."

He reflected on what the team will be like after he leaves Wagner.

"It will be real young, but very exciting to watch. I'm sure a lot of good things will happen for them. My career here was fun, and a great experience for me. My only regret is

that we never made it to the NCAA tournament."

Wagner came just 4 seconds within reach of that title last year.

Lamont, who hails from Newark, N.J., is one of 25 players in the history of Wagner College to score 1,000 points. He made the first team All Conference this year, and he is third over all in three-point field goals made.

But this computer science major is more than a good basketball player. He is a good student, maintaining a 3.0 cumulative grade point average,

and a good friend to many fellow students.

Donte Bell, director of the Spiro Computer Center, praised Lamont's character. "He is a straightforward young man who has grown every year I have known him. I am sure he will do whatever he wants. That's the kind of man he is."

Like many Wagner seniors, Lamont is still uncertain about his employment plans after graduation. But his teammates and fans are rooting for his success and happiness.

## TOP TEN SCARIEST PEOPLE ON EARTH

10. Prune-eating Sumo wrestler.
9. High-rise window cleaner with bladder problem.
8. Near sighted knife juggler.
7. Megalomaniac Third World Dictators.
6. Grown men named "Biff."
5. Heavily armed hot dog vendors.
4. Carsick brother in the seat next to you.
3. Brain surgeon with hiccups.
2. Anyone with a cranky disposition and a chainsaw.
1. People who offer you drugs.

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