

# The Wagnerian

Wagner College

Thursday, October 9, 2008

Staten Island, N.Y.



Photo: Wagner Athletics

The Seahawk water polo team participated in the annual Tunnel to Towers Stephen Siller Memorial 5K on Sept. 28. The team has participated in the event every year since it began.

## Wagnerians race to remember

By TOM BOERIGTER  
Wagnerian Staff Writer

More than 55 Wagner students joined over 20,000 runners and walkers in the seventh annual Tunnel to Towers Stephen Siller Memorial 5K on Sunday, Sept. 28.

All 15 members of the water polo team, along with their assistant coach, Sadie Abuhoff, and other athletics staff members, participated. The team has taken part in the race every year since it began.

In total, the water polo team raised more than \$800 for the Tunnel to Towers event this year.

According to a Sept. 29 article on the Wagner athletics Web site, water polo Head Coach Pat Boemer said, "The Tunnel to Towers Run is a whole team experience. September 11 affected us all, but we ran side by side with members of the community whose lives were directly impacted by the tragedy. It provides out team a bonding experience while also raising money for an

honorable cause."

Wagner students signed up through the college to participate in this year's race, along with members of ASA, TKE, SGA, the Promising Students Society and the History Club.

The Wagner Cheerleaders set up camp near the finish line of the race to cheer on all of the participants. "I was amazed at the amount of energy that everyone seemed to have at the

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## 'Drunken behavior' angers neighbors

By ABIGAIL ALBAIR  
Wagnerian Co-Editor

Be kind to your neighbor.

Many Wagner students, especially those who make the trek up Grymes Hill after an evening at Bottomley's, seem to have forgotten this golden rule.

On the morning of Thursday, Sept. 25, the Dean's office and Director of Public Safety Tony Martinesi received a letter from a neighbor of the college complaining about students "drunken, belligerent behavior" while coming home from bars on weekend evenings, specifically citing an incident the day prior.

This is not the first time the school has received complaints like this.

In a Sept. 27, 2007 article, the Wagnerian reported that according to Martinesi, neighbors had complained of property damage such as plants and lawns being destroyed and mailboxes being knocked down.

The most recent letter complained of students "cursing, singing and urinating on private property."

According to Martinesi, some neighbors have videotaped students' behavior in the past and captured them, as the letter alleges, doing some "pretty horrendous things."

Dean of Campus Life Ruta Shah-Gordon says that she will put together a letter to students, in collaboration with Public Safety and SGA to address the issue.

"This isn't behavior we condone," she said, "and we want to make sure that if you see something you're saying

something."

Dean Shah-Gordon also doesn't want students to be surprised if they run into not only Wagner security, but the NYPD on their voyage back up the hill.

According to Martinesi, in an effort to curtail students' inappropriate actions the college now employs a paid detail unit, put in place last semester, which consists of regular NYPD officers who the college pays overtime to patrol the Grymes Hill area. They work Thursday through Saturday nights until 4 a.m.

Martinesi is also meeting with the owner of Bottomley's to discuss the problem and look for a solution. He wants to address underage drinking to make sure the bar is closely checking identification. Bottomley's has also placed one of its bouncers on the hill to help student traffic back to the school.

Martinesi says that at one point Bottomley's manager proposed having a van to shuttle Wagner students back and forth from the bar but, "that can't be sanctioned as something from Wagner."

Dean Shah-Gordon says Wagner "wants to be an educational program to stop behavior that shouldn't be happening."

She added, "We are most importantly concerned for our students and this high risk behavior."

At the SGA meeting on Sept. 30, SGA President Harry Jackson, read portions of the letter to students to stress the severity of the complaints and remind them to keep their conduct as Wagner students in check.

## Shooting the breeze with the president



Photo: Andrew Minucci

Wagner College President Dr. Richard Guarasci talked about the pain caused by his beloved Mets, the passing of Paul Newman and many other topics on Sept. 9 on WCBG's "Mondays with Marvelous Mike and Friends."

For complete coverage of this casual look into the life of the leader of Wagner College see Page 4.

For coverage of his recent State of the College address on Oct. 2 in Spiro 2 see Page 5.

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## College Coffeehouse struggles to survive

By SOPHIE TRIPP  
Wagnerian News Assistant

If you have noticed and begun to wonder what has happened to the convenient hours of the Coffeehouse, you are not alone in doing so.

At the beginning of the semester, the managers of the Coffeehouse, sophomore Matt Jasinski and junior Katy Chaffee, were notified that their hours of operation were cut from 39 to 18.5 hours.

After various trial and errors, the managers were able, with the help of Co-Curricular to come up with a schedule to keep the Coffeehouse open every night of the week.

The hours of the Coffeehouse are currently: Monday through Thursday 10 p.m. to 12 a.m., Friday and Saturday 8:30 p.m. to 12 a.m., and Sunday 8 p.m. to 11:30 p.m.

Because of various budget issues, the budget could not handle maintain-

ing the same hours the Coffeehouse had the previous year which allowed it to be open Monday through Thursday 7 p.m. to 12 a.m., Friday and Saturday 7 p.m. to 2 a.m., and Sunday 7 p.m. to 12 a.m.

Cutting hours of operation means not only is the Coffeehouse, with its quaint atmosphere, TV, pool table, games, entertainment opportunities and cheap late night snacks, open to serve the Wagner student population less, but also students employed by the coffeehouse do not have as many hours available to them to work.

Frustrated with the situation, the managers attended the Town Hall meeting on Sept. 15 to find answers and a solution to their problem.

President Dr. Richard Guarasci told the managers to write a budget proposal so that he and Dean Ruta Shah-Gordon could review the budget and see if any changes could be made.

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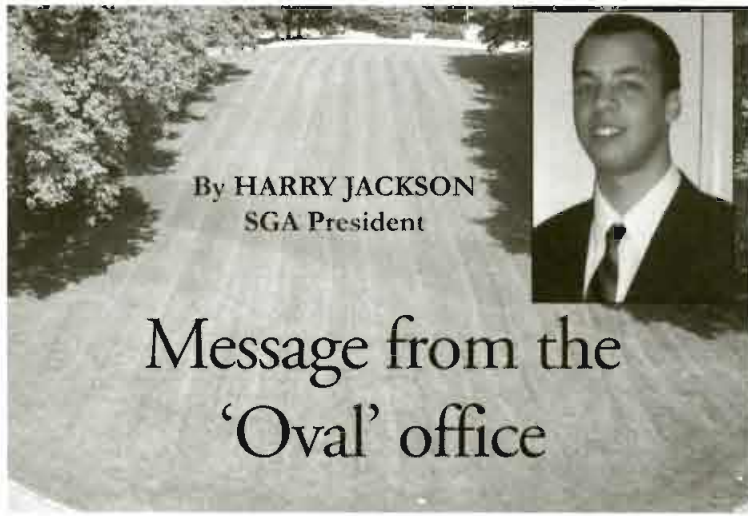
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*Come to our meetings Mondays at 9 p.m. located in Union 204*



By HARRY JACKSON  
SGA President

**Message from the 'Oval' office**

**Vote!**

**But come to Fall Fest first**

The leaves are changing and you know what that means; for most of us, it means postseason baseball...except for the two New York teams. (A little joke to all my regular readers, because we all know Philadelphia football is going nowhere.) I'll take distractions anywhere I can get them at this point, and so I say, Go Wagner Seahawks!

If you've watched any TV over the last few weeks, even postseason baseball, you've seen some reference to Election 2008. From campaign ads, 24/7 news coverage, and even Sarah Palin impersonations, this November promises to be one of the most important in the history of our country. Either an African American or the first female vice president will be elected this fall, and it's time for you to be part of the process! I'm happy to announce that this upcoming week is SGA's Voter Registration Drive, our effort to make sure as many Wagner Students are part of this monumental event as possible. Even if you have already registered, SGA will do everything in our power to make sure you get that vote in! If you need an absentee ballot, PLEASE stop into our office in the Union to get an application form. There's no reason why you should sit on the sidelines while the rest of us make history!

Also on the radar is our new and improved Fall Fest. Melissa Waterbury, vice president of campus events, and her WAGCAB committee have been hard at work to plan a day full of activities on Oct. 25, com-

plete with pumpkin painting, games, give-a-ways, and a live performance from the band My Name is August. That evening, our campus life committee will present the *Autumn Ball* (our new fancy title for the Fall Ball), a formal dance open to all of campus, giving everyone an excuse to get all dressed up. Now, I've gotten a lot of questions about attire, mostly from you ladies out there, and we've decided to set it at "cocktail-dress" level of formality. I originally wanted long ball gowns (isn't it going to be cold in late October?), but I was voted down by the young women on my Senate. We're going to transform the Wagner campus into something you've never seen before, so go out there and find your dates now. (Sorry ladies, I'm already locked up for the night, haha).

Well, I hate to say it, but before we know it midterms will be upon us. How are we doing in SGA so far? This week it's YOUR chance to tell us what you think! If you have any comments, concerns, questions, or suggestions for our Big Name this fall, SGA operations, or how you'd like your Student Activity money spent, please fill this out below, cut out the column, and return it to the SGA Office. This is your space to let me know what you want from your Student Government so we can better serve you.

Keep us posted...

Signing off from the Oval Office,  
Harry Jackson

**Suggestions:**



Cut out this column and bring your suggestions to the SGA office!

**Welcome new SGA freshman and appointed senators!**



Cody Dulock  
Waco, Texas  
International Affairs  
Class of 2012



Christian Carey  
Philadelphia, Pa.  
Political Science  
Class of 2012



Purna Bhatia  
N.J.  
Class of 2012



Melissa Speranza  
Jersey Shore, N.J.  
Class of 2012



Tom Boerigter  
Waverly, Iowa  
History and Spanish  
Class of 2012



Ashlee Redmond  
Hackensack, N.J.  
Business Admin.  
Class of 2011



Carolyn Susino  
Floral Park, N.Y.  
English  
Class of 2010



Cassandra Bray  
Macungie, Pa.  
Biopsychology  
Class of 2010.



Derek Blauser  
Barnegat, N.J.  
Business Admin. and  
Economics  
Class of 2009





Photo: Wagner Athletics

Outside the Battery Tunnel, the street was lined with American flags, decorations and filled with runners and supporters for the Tunnel to Towers event.

## Water polo team highlights student groups at WTC race

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end of the race," said Wagner cheerleader Galia Rodriguez, "it was really great to see so many people coming together for such a great cause, it was really inspiring."

Stephen Siller was a member of the Elite First Company of Firefighters located in Park Slope, Brooklyn, and was one of the 12 members of the First Company along with 343 other firemen that gave their lives in service on September 11, 2001 attempting to save the lives of others.

On September 11, 2001, Firefighter Siller was on his way to a relaxing game of golf when the scanner in his vehicle received a call for assistance at the World Trade Center in Lower Manhattan.

Immediately, Firefighter Siller headed for the Battery Park Tunnel to attempt to drive to Manhattan and assist his fellow public servants. When he found the tunnel to be blocked, he proceeded to ready his equipment and continued through the tunnel on foot wearing over sixty pounds of gear, never to be heard from again.

The Tunnel to Towers 5k traces the last footsteps of Firefighter Siller, beginning in Brooklyn at the mouth of the Battery Park Tunnel and ending at Ground Zero.

After completing a mile and a half running or walking through the sweltering tunnel, participants find their entrance into Lower Manhattan lined with Firefighters and Policemen carrying banners with the images of those service men and women that were lost at the World Trade Centers and the Pentagon. "The cheers from the servicemen and women on the sidelines was what really kept me going, it made the pain I was feeling from the run seem like nothing," said Wagner freshman Cody Dulock, who participated in the 5k as a member of the Wellness Community in Harbor View Hall.

"This was my first 5k, and it was



Photo: Wagner Athletics

Members of the Seahawk Water Polo team pose for a photo with NYPD officers at the Tunnel to Towers run.

an experience unlike what I expected at all. It motivated me to become a runner as well as making me thankful for those who gave their lives in service," added Dulock.

Every year, Tunnel to Towers draws participants from all over the country, as well as firefighters from Toronto and London who participate in memory of the lives of their fellow firefighters.

Siller's wife and children participated in the race for the first time this year since its inception.

All of the money that is raised from Tunnel to Towers is given to a number of charities, including the NYC Firefighter Burn Center, the Children of Hurricane Katrina Foundation and the Stephen Siller "Let Us Do Good" Children's Foundation, which provides scholarships and other financial support to children who lost one or more

parents.

At the end of the race, standing adjacent to Ground Zero, former New York City Mayor, Rudy Giuliani, spoke. He was joined by New York City Fire Commissioner, Nicholas Scoppetta, and friends of the Siller family.

It seems that the overall experience was a positive one for all those who participated. "It was an event that I will never forget, and something that I recommend everyone participates in," said Sam Siegel, who as vice president of community service for the student body organized student participation in the race. "It made me cry, it made me appreciate the firefighters sacrifice more than I already had, it made me thankful to be alive, and it made me remember that everyday should be lived to the fullest."

## Don't 'waste' time

Wagner sustainability committee makes small steps toward big results

By ALLESSIA  
QUINTANA  
Wagnerian Staff Writer

Ten.

This is the number of tactful daily actions one can take to benefit the planet.

For an amount less than this number, the Wagner community can purchase a travel cup to refill beverages and eliminate plastic bottles.

"Education is the first step," said Dave Hammill, student sustainability coordinator, referring to Wagner's potential to adapt a lifestyle that benefits the planet.

Recycling is helpful, "but the objective is to eliminate the waste in the first place," Hammill said. While many college students were frolicking on the beach, Hammill spent his summer organizing the sustainability "action plan."

The action plan discusses issues concerning food, water, energy and solid waste.

The sustainability committee, which consists of supervisors of powerhouse, maintenance, housekeeping, music department faculty member, Dr. Wesby, Director of Campus Operations Dominick Fontano, and Hammill, wants to alert the entire campus community about how its present lifestyle negatively affects the environment and propose discreetly effective steps to yield positive changes.

"We have to educate the campus community about how serious this climate crisis is," said committee member Dr. Wesby. "The future of the planet is in jeopardy and we are all stakeholders."

Hammill recommended, as a possible incentive of the action plan, to invest the money saved by the projects into further environmentally-friendly endeavors for Wagner.

Suggestions for sustainable food choices with the plan include soy and organic products.

A way to reduce food waste is going tray-less at meals, which constitutes a conveyor belt system in the dining hall.

Water is wasted constantly on campus because its usage lacks regulation. The plan states "students consistently fail to completely turn off faucets, they take unnecessarily long showers and

consume bottled water instead of tap." It calls for omitting water in plastic bottles and coffee in non-biodegradable containers. The Hawk's Nest is currently offering a travel cup sold for \$9, with \$1 refills.

Another possibility is faucets that work on motion sensors, so while students brush their teeth or conduct other activities, the water is not wasted.

Energy can be conserved more easily by "installing metering to better understand usage," according to the plan. Sensor lights currently exist in some offices on campus, which demonstrates some progress.

The plan suggests implementing a solid waste audit which will guide the conception of the "type, quantity, and origin of waste produced," in addition to identifying how to curtail its generation.

The President of Wagner College, Dr. Richard Guarasci, signed a commitment over a year ago that stated: "within two years of signing this document, (the college) develop an institutional action plan for becoming climate neutral."

Actions to achieve this include incorporating ways to benefit the environment in the students' curriculum. To this end, Hammill works with two different environmentally educational learning communities.

Dr. Wesby believes that Wagner could be the leader of Staten Island in raising awareness of our consumer-oriented culture and pioneer an environmentally efficient way of life.

- Ten things you can do to reduce the amount of carbon dioxide emitted into the environment:
1. Switch to fluorescent light bulbs
  2. Walk/bike/carpool
  3. Recycle
  4. Drive with tires set at the right pressure
  5. Use less hot water
  6. Avoid products with lots of packaging
  7. Adjust your thermostat
  8. Plant a tree
  9. Unplug electronic devices when not in use
  10. SPREAD THE WORD.

**The Center for Academic and Career Development**  
has some exciting events planned for the  
**Fall Semester!**

**October 12**

**MT. SINAI OPEN HOUSE FOR MEDICAL AND GRADUATE SCHOOL**

MT. Sinai School of Medicine. 9:30 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.

Contact Natalie Johnson at [njohnson@wagner.edu](mailto:njohnson@wagner.edu)

or 718-420-4269

**October 21 and 27**

**MOCK INTERVIEWS**

CACD Office. 7:00 p.m.

Contact Victoria Crispo at [vcrispo@wagner.edu](mailto:vcrispo@wagner.edu)

or 718-420-4016

**November 5**

**STUDENT/ALUMNI NETWORKING RECEPTION**

Faculty Dining Room. 7:30 p.m.

Contact Victoria Crispo at [vcrispo@wagner.edu](mailto:vcrispo@wagner.edu)

or 718-420-4016

**Visit our website - [www.wagner.edu/cacd](http://www.wagner.edu/cacd)**



## WAGCAB to host first 'fall fest'

By JENN INZETTA  
Wagnerian Staff Writer

Thought you had to wait until spring for the excitement of Wagnerstock? Not anymore.

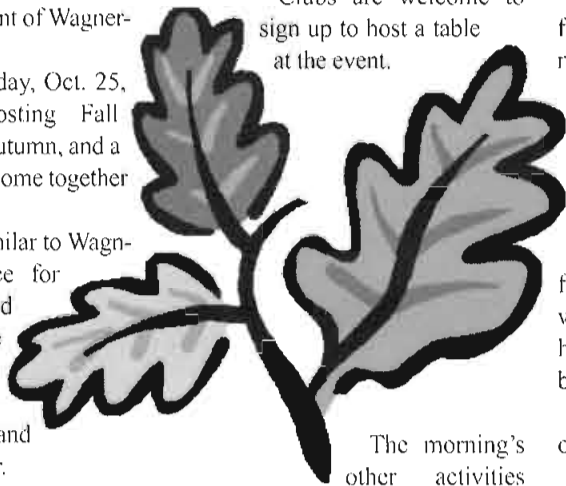
This year, on Saturday, Oct. 25, WAGCAB will be hosting Fall Fest, a celebration of autumn, and a chance for students to come together and enjoy themselves.

"This is an event similar to Wagnerstock and a chance for everyone to relax and enjoy this time of the year," said Melissa Waterbury, vice president of campus events and WAGCAB coordinator.

The event will host a variety of activities Saturday morning from 10:30 a.m. until 1 p.m., as well as live music, a football game, and later in the day, a formal.

Fall Fest's main festivities will take place on the Oval. Fall themed foods will be available including cider, funnel cake and caramel apples.

Clubs are welcome to sign up to host a table at the event.



The morning's other activities will include, tie dying, giveaway activities, and live music, including the band My Name is August.

On My Name is August's Web site, band member Michael August claims

in his biography that he garners inspiration from everyone from the Counting Crows, to U2, to John Mayer to Nick Cave.

August claims "a strong affinity for the classic and intelligent pop music of Billy Joel and Elton John."

The band began recording in December of 2007, creating an album that would become the groundwork for their first official release.

After My Name is August's performance, the Athletics Department will host a pep rally for Wagner's home football game, which will begin at 1 p.m.

However, the game is not the end of the day's festivities.

That evening, Chartwells will sponsor a formal called the Autumn Ball from 6:30 p.m. until 9:30 p.m.

"Everyone start looking for your dates now," joked Waterbury.



Photo: Andrew Minucci

Dr. Guarasci took time to lament over his fallen Metropolitans, discuss the Brooklyn Dodgers and poke fun as SGA President Harry Jackson for his Philly fandom on "Monday Nights with Marvelous Mike and Friends."

## Dr. Guarasci is simply 'Marvelous' on WCBG

By ANDREW MINUCCI  
Wagnerian Co-Editor

Notorious for its opening tune "Take the A Train," WCBG's "Monday Nights with Marvelous Mike and Friends," kicked off its Sept. 29 program with a far different tune. "Hail to the Chief."

College President Dr. Richard Guarasci spent the entire two hour duration of the program talking about all things Grymes Hill, world events, sports and entertainment.

After Dr. Guarasci walked in to the presidential hymn, host, junior Mike Pinto informed his audience that the president would be fielding their calls, which had to be pre-approved first through what the president jokingly called a "Sarah Palin screening device."

After briefly discussing the naming of Foundation Hall, which he said will "be set for move-in during August" and the state of the college, Guarasci and Pinto began a discussion on the economy.

"Students need to understand, this isn't just a Democrat or Republican thing," said Dr. Guarasci, who elaborated on how the nation's financial crisis is affecting them. "In the case of Wagner College, we are about to close a deal on bonds. The interest on those bonds is now double. That means millions of dollars of your tuition are going to pay interest."

The conversation then turned somber as Dr. Guarasci, a self-described "recovering Mets fans" discussed his team's second collapse in many years. He chalked up his team's heart wrenching defeat to "having no bullpen." While, the Metropolitan's collapse was devastating, the duo spent time discussing their favorite moments from Queen's historic Shea Stadium.

Taking a break from his never ending meetings and press conferences, Dr. Guarasci sounded like your average student, sitting in Harbor View Hall, recalling memories of baseball's past.

As Dr. Guarasci tried to "Shea Goodbye" he reminisced of such great events ranging from The Beatles famous 1964 concert, winning World Series moments and even Johan Santana's gutsy complete game on Sept. 27.

Pinto, a Yankee fan, compiled his own list of favorite Shea moments, which included the Yankees winning the 2000 World Series on the field and topped the list with Mookie Wilson's infamous shot that rolled through the Red Sox's first baseman, Bill Buckner's legs during the 1986 World Series.

Despite his pain, Dr Guarasci detailed the history of his baseball fandom which stretches to his youthful days cheering on the Brooklyn Dodgers. In a vain attempt to lift his spirits, Pinto played the old Brooklyn Dodgers fight song.

Giving students a rare glimpse into the sports mind of the man who runs the college, Dr. Guarasci informed students that Jackie Robinson was his boyhood hero, his belief that all-time MLB hits leader Pete Rose should have his lifetime ban upheld for gambling on the game and his agreement with the league's new use of instant replay.

Along with Pinto, Dr. Guarasci took every opportunity available to take shots at diehard Philadelphia Phillies fan, SGA President Harry Jackson.

Pinto and Guarasci also commented on the 57 anniversary of New York Giant's Bobby Thompson's "Shot Heard Round the World." Guarasci, further displaying his appreciation of the game's history set the stage for the dramatic home run, which Pinto played for all his audience to hear.

The conversation quickly turned from baseball to entertainment, as the duo discussed the passing of big-screen legend Paul Newman.

"Look what an incredible human being he was; he started this food business as a joke in his basement, and since then he's given away over \$250 million to charity," said Dr. Guarasci, "This country is better for him being in it."

At the end of the program, Pinto awarded Dr. Guarasci with a certificate of recognition from his own fictional company, Minto Inc. and left his viewers with the following sign-off:

"You are with Marvelous Mike and Dr. Guarasci. In other words, you are with the in crowd."

Wagnerian Opinions Editor Allie Rivera contributed to this report.

## Tough times for Coffeehouse

Continued from Page 1

"I'm a big believer in the Coffeehouse," said Dr. Guarasci. "I think you can't keep it open long enough."

Currently, Jasinski and Chaffee are working with SGA President Harry Jackson on the budget proposal, hoping it will bring them more hours to be open on the weekends.

Chaffee said, "Our biggest problem is not being able to stay open until 2 a.m. on the weekends, it's important to have a place that's non-alcoholic on campus for students to come to when it's late."

The managers did give an initial proposal requesting extra hours to Dean of Campus Life Ruta Shah-Gordon, but it lacked specific numbers for how much being operational these extra hours would cost. Currently they are reworking the proposal with both Jackson and Co-curricular.

"We just need to get the actual numbers," said Dean Shah. Gordon. She explained that once she has an approximate cost, a search can begin for where the money will come from.

Some possible options that will be looked into are the financial aid budget or work study budget, but nothing is certain until the administration is given approximate costs.

Another problem the campus faces with the cut back in hours is the increased difficulty clubs face when they try to hold a fund raiser at the Coffeehouse. Last year, when clubs and organization held fund raisers, students would not show up to events until around 12a.m. Now that the Coffeehouse closes at 12a.m., it is an even greater challenge to fund raise money.

This is not the first time the Coffeehouse has suffered from money issues. For some time, the managers have been trying to make updates and improvements to the Coffeehouse.

Last year, they went through the process of trying to repaint the room, which included getting colors approved by Co-Curricular and going to maintenance to get the swatches of color, but the painting was never



Photo: Jessica Ramsey

The smiles that once greeted Coffeehouse patrons may soon be gone without additional funding.

started.

Chaffee said she offered to do it herself, but because of union reasons this was not allowed. She returned to campus this fall expecting the room to be painted like promised, but it still was not done. She was then told it would be done sometime this semester, but now it has been postponed indefinitely.

The Coffeehouse has been open for 13 years, and the managers suspect no major remodeling has taken place since it opened. They have many goals for the Coffeehouse, but the money is not there. "We are adamant about not raising our prices, it's important to keep our prices low when the other options on campus like the Hawk's Nest and the WAG, are more expensive" says Chaffee.

Jasinski and Chaffee want to get new couches, pool cues, tables and sound system.

They were approved to get a new sound system, but they have yet to see it. "It's fine here, but we know it could be so much better, it's been so long since we renovated, we don't expect money all the time, just to renovate,"

says Jasinski.

Despite all their troubles, the managers have noticed an increase in their business from last year. Two nights in a row last week the Coffeehouse made \$100, as opposed to last year when they made an average \$30 a night.

Jackson feels it is important that SGA gets behind the Coffeehouse and help them in their efforts for change. "We need the hours open like last year," Jackson says.

He sees the importance of their space on a small campus like Wagner, it is vital they stay open late. Many clubs and organizations cannot hold their meetings until later in the evening, the Coffeehouse used to offer the ideal place, but that is not the situation anymore.

"If we are going to highlight the Coffeehouse as the gem of campus, then we need to support it like it is the gem of campus," says Jackson.

As the managers finish up their budget proposal with Jackson, they continue to hope for promised renovations and a continuation of the support of students helping in the increase of business the Coffeehouse has seen.



# Themed floors bring together students, RAs, faculty in halls

By MICHAEL PINTO  
Wagnerian News Assistant

Last semester, the Office of Residential Education introduced a new concept for the residence halls, themed communities. Themed communities are appearing at colleges and universities all over the country. Last year the only one in effect was the Earth Floor, located on the fourth floor of Guild Hall. This year, two other themed floors were instituted, each having its own RA and faculty associate.

The Wellness Floor was born in Harbor View Hall with senior Justina Licata as the RA and Dr. Steve Jenkins as the faculty associate. The Earth Floor was converted to the Green Floor in Guild Hall, with senior Dave Hammill as the RA and Dr. Donald Stearns as the faculty associate. Lastly, the Honors Floor was instituted on the third floor of Guild Hall with senior Meghan Sobel as the RA and Dr. Erica Johnson, coordinator of the Honor's Program, as the faculty associate.

In the winter, Residential Education sent a survey to all students on campus to see if there was an interest in starting themed communities in the residence halls. Of the near 700 students that responded to the survey, an overwhelming two-thirds stated they would be interested in living on a themed floor.

Students wishing to live on these floors had to apply last spring, and students are still calling up to see if there is room on the floors for next semester. The Green Floor is the only themed community that is filled to its capacity, since many of its residents belonged to the Earth Floor last year.

Each of the floors offers various programming and events that matches its community. The residents living on



Photo: Andrew Minucci

Senior Dave Hammill is the RA of the Green Floor, located on the fourth floor of Guild Hall. The floor is currently the only themed community filled to capacity.

the floors are "committed to the exploration of the theme," says Director of Residential Education Sara Klein. In addition, the RA and faculty associate also share the passion along with the students. The faculty associates help in the planning and execution of the events and programs for their respective floors.

Beginning these communities at Wagner was a "great way to encourage students and faculty to interact informally, and to connect classroom learning with educational opportunities in the residence hall," Klein explains.

"I have a community that's already based on something a specific subject. The students are involved and energetic, with a very relaxed and comfortable community," says Licata of her 11 floor in Harbor View Hall. "I love it," states freshman Cody Du-

lock, a Wellness Floor resident. "We have a great R.A. and we get to do extra activities due to a larger budget."

On whether the program has been a success thus far, Klein said, "It's early to say, but I do feel that they have gone quite well to date. The students on those floors have attended events related to their themes and have had productive meetings with their faculty associates to plan events for the year. We will survey the students living in themed communities in a few months to better understand their experiences and to get their suggestions to improve the communities for next year."

Residential Education will produce another survey which will take the mood of those residents on the themed floors now and others wishing to see new themed communities appear over the next few years.

# Dr. Guarasci delivers state of the college

By ABIGAIL ALBAIR  
Wagnerian Co-Editor

Every job lost on Wall Street results in four total jobs lost.

Wagner College is no exception; the school is being hit by the current economic situation in the country just as is every business.

"In recessions some organizations fail. We'll see some institutions of higher education suffer. Wagner College has to come out of this better than we went in. That's my goal," said Dr. Guarasci at the beginning of his state of the college address, given Thursday, Oct. 2.

Budgets have been tight on campus this semester and Dr. Guarasci attributes this not only to the current economic crisis, but also to the school's drop in enrollment and retention.

Last year the college had 512 freshmen, this year it has 480.

Though it doesn't seem like a large difference, 32 students multiplied by the cost of tuition adds up to a lot of dollars the school did not take in this year.

Dr. Guarasci says that where the college lost students from the first year class was in commuters and not resident students.

According to Dr. Guarasci "We're down because the markets are down and we're down in retention. We had to cut expenses rather dramatically moving forward."

The college's enrollment in 2007 was 1,910 in comparison with the 2008 enrollment of 1,878. Retention was 81 percent in 2007 and 80 percent for 2008.

This year \$350,000 worth of administrative positions was cut and a hiring freeze was instituted.

Dr. Guarasci said, "We need reasonable compensation increases going forward. If we can't do that we're going to have less of us here."

He said the only way to avoid the elimination of faculty and staff position is to increase enrollment and retention. "That's going to be difficult in a recession," he said.

"We cannot have an institution that hangs onto our employment base simply because it's our employment base, even though there are less students," he added.

The college is currently talking to energy consultants about ways to save money on energy costs. Dr. Guarasci estimates the college could save millions a year.

"There are a lot of efficiencies we can squeeze out of this organization, I know," he said.

Dr. Guarasci said, "The good news is we are continuing to raise funds."

On Oct. 20, 2007 Wagner launched a capital campaign for \$50 million. As of Oct. 2, 2008 \$45 million had been raised, some in cash and some in pledges to be given over a five year period.

Currently the college is in about \$39 million in debt which comes down about \$1 million a year.

The college is borrowing money to finance the new dorm which will increase the debt by \$24,000 but will also increase our revenue.

Dr. Guarasci is trying to keep a positive outlook right now that we will not have to cut our employment base and that we will be able to increase our student numbers.

He said, "Right now we are the only small, private liberal arts college in New York and we are very unique in that respect."

# WCBG on your PC

By KATIE WEIGL  
Wagnerian Staff Writer

WCBG is back and better than ever! You have probably heard that before, but this time it's serious.

"Wagnerian articles in the past have said 'WCBG is back and better!'," says Wagner College Broadcasting Group station manager, senior Seneca Smith. "And every semester we've been back and better a little bit more, and this semester has really been the high point."

The Wagner College Broadcasting Group, or WCBG, is Wagner's on-campus radio station.

The original station was established more than 20 years ago, but was shut down due to alcohol violations. The station was reactivated three years ago by faculty advisor Blaise Vanden-Heuvel, and until this semester was only available via Wagner's campus cable network on channel 18.

This semester, however, WCBG is utilizing streaming online radio, available 24 hours a day on the station's Web site, [wcbg.wagner.edu](http://wcbg.wagner.edu).



Photo: Jessica Ramsey

"Marvelous Mike" with SGA President Harry Jackson and senior David Norman in the WCBG radio station, located in the basement of Harbor View Hall.

This technology puts Wagner on par with larger universities, such as Drexel, which supplements its FM radio station with streaming online radio.

The station currently has a staff of almost 30 DJ's and features about 20 programs, including Marvelous Mike & Friends, The Allen Koehler Show and The Laundry List. New programming this semester includes:

The Weekly Patriot, a political talk show. Campus Ministry's Faith Matters, and returning sports show Some Normal Guys.

"Probably our biggest initiative this semester is working with clubs and organizations for any DJing they may need for their events," Smith adds.

Anything else?  
"Just tune in!"



WCBG  
Channel 18  
2008 Schedule



## Sunday

Noon-1 p.m. C&T in the City  
6-7 p.m. Sunday Funday  
7-8 p.m. Sex and Music  
8-10 p.m. Hella Good  
10 p.m.-Midnight Maximum R&B

## Monday

6-7 p.m. The No-Help Desk  
7-9 p.m. Some Normal Guys  
9-11 p.m. Marvelous Mike and Friends  
11 p.m.-Midnight HUB Radio Show

## Tuesday

7-8 p.m. The Weekly Patriot  
8-10 p.m. The Laundry List: A Music Show  
10 p.m.-Midnight The Allen Koehler Show

## Wednesday

7-8 p.m. Faith Matters  
8-9 p.m. MishMash(ow)  
9-10 p.m. Nightly Playlist  
10-11 p.m. " \_ "

## Thursday

8-9:30 p.m. Phorever Philly in NYC!  
10:30 - 11:30 p.m. Late Night Altercation



# Writing with a cause, at the beach for a night

By **KELLIANN VOLSARIO**

Wagnerian News Assistant

Who ever thought that writing a simple letter could help so many young cancer patients receive the treatment they need?

Up 'til Dawn will be holding their letter writing event on Nov. 12 at 8 p.m.

This year, the Dining Hall will turn into a beach-themed oasis with raffles, give-a ways, a DJ and free food donated by Staten Island establishments.

Also on the tab for the night are comedians Rich Schultis and Jimmy Q, presented by Soul Joel Productions.

Last week in preparation for the letter writing event, Up 'til Dawn held an awareness week with a candle lit vigil, Alex's Lemonade Stand and team recruitment.

The vigil held Wednesday, Oct. 1, was to remember those who have died from cancer, those who have overcome cancer, and those who are still battling the disease.

Alex's Lemonade Stand, symbolizing a young girl and cancer patient who made her own lemonade stand, was held on Oct. 2 and

St. Jude ABCs have been hung up around campus.

Anyone wishing to sign up a team, for which they recommend four to five people, the sign-up sheets can be dropped in Up 'til Dawn's mailbox outside the Co-Curricular office, or e-mail uptil-dawn@wagner.edu.

The concept is simple. The participants bring the mailing addresses of friends and family and fill out a form letter asking for contributions for St. Jude Children's Research Hospital in Memphis, Tenn.

Last year, Up 'til Dawn's letter writing event raised \$35,000 for St. Jude's.

As a result of this tremendous accomplishment, junior Rachel Delp and senior Stephanie Augello, had the opportunity to travel to Memphis, Tenn. for an Up 'til Dawn conference.

During their time there in June, the girls visited St. Jude's and met some patients currently in the hospital receiving treatment. "It was awesome," Delp said about her trip.

For Delp, seeing what St. Jude's does for children first hand and then bringing that experience back

to Wagner, "it comes full circle."

Describing the hospital, both agreed that it does not even resemble a hospital, with different themes such as underwater and jungle themes on different floors.

Adding to the inspirational experience of meeting peers from other East coast Up 'Til Dawn chapters and the patients, they were also in attendance when a recent high school graduate, who had been treated at St. Jude's and has been in remission for two years, received a basketball scholarship for college.

While in Memphis they also had the opportunity to visit the residence of Elvis Presley.

Augello recalled being most excited when she discovered a little known fact: the King himself was a huge contributor to St. Jude's and there is a wall in his house covered with checks written to the hospital.

In order to put the need for donations in perspective, Delp and Augello explained that St. Jude's is a not-for-profit hospital and it needs approximately \$1 million to operate each day.

All patients at the hospital are treated without regard to the family's financial status.



Photo: Nicole Depergola

The Up 'til Dawn letter writing campaign, which will be held on Nov. 12 at 9 p.m. in the Main Dining Hall, raises money to support the St. Jude Children's Research Hospital. The hospital (pictured above) is located in Memphis, Tenn. Other events leading up to the letter writing campaign include a remembrance vigil and Alex's lemonade stand. Last year Wagner College raised \$35,000 for the hospital.

# Library policy changes allow 24 hours of study time, food

By **VANESSA COTTON**  
Wagnerian Staff Writer

It is not for everyone, but for those who do enjoy spending time at the library, it is important that the environment be as chill and comfortable as possible.

The comfy couches and serene atmosphere of the Hormann Library make it an inviting place to spend quiet time. Recently, some new policies have been made that are attracting more and more students to the library.

The library will now be open Sunday through Wednesday 24 hours a day, and students can now bring food and drinks along with them to study.

Librarian Veronica Knight stated, "Food such as small snacks and covered drinks or coffee or tea with lids is mainly allowed in the library. Food is allowed, just within proportion."

Thought of extending the libraries hours of operation had been circling for a while according to Harry Jackson, president of SGA.

When asked what brought about the final decision for 24-hour library time, Jackson said, "This is an issue, concern, and request that comes up to us every year by students with the desire for a study space to pull all-nighters, or with schedules which require working into the wee hours of the morning. We in the SGA were very surprised at the Town Hall meeting when Kathy Perkins shared the news that the library would soon

be open 24 hours."

While the 24-hour library schedule is a fantastic policy, to get such a schedule was not a simple thing to do according to librarian, Suzanne D'Amato.

"Extending the libraries hours had been on our minds for a while, but it became more a question of funding and staff. Even now, after 12 a.m., the library is locked, but the main floor is available for studying and using computers," D'Amato said.

Although every aspect of the library is not available after 12 a.m., having the library open all night gives students the option of studying somewhere other than the residence halls, which are not always the best "working" environments.

Jackson said, "Wagner's only alternative to the library are the residence hall lounges, which can also get noisy depending on the floor and night of the week."

He added, "By adding another space on campus where students can work, finish papers, or cram for that exam, it creates another common space on campus, so greatly needed."

Sometimes a change is really helpful in order for people to fully take advantage of what is offered to them. Amy Wallisch, a student who likes the new policies at the library said, "I think that both the 24-hour policy and option of having food and drink in the library benefits Wagner's students because people are more likely to spend time in the



Photo: Jesse Hagen

Andrea Balsamo and Raina Sabbia enjoy the privileges of the library's new policy on snacks and drinks.

library if they have a more flexible time schedule. The library is also more comfortable if snacks and beverages are allowed."

Also, some students rely on the library for access to the Internet and extending the hours that the library is available is very helpful to them.

D'Amato brought up a great point regarding why the new 24-hour policy is so helpful to students.

"I think it has been well received. We have some students that are here until at least 3 a.m. This new plan is very helpful to those students without access to computers, because now they have access all night," she

said.

She added, "Also, some students are just not morning people and need the library as a quiet place to study at night. This gives them that opportunity."

Jackson said that most importantly, "We should utilize these new policies."

He added, "There's nothing worse than when a new place or idea is implemented and no one is there to use it. We also must respect the food and drink policy and please throw away all garbage associated to assure the policy remains."

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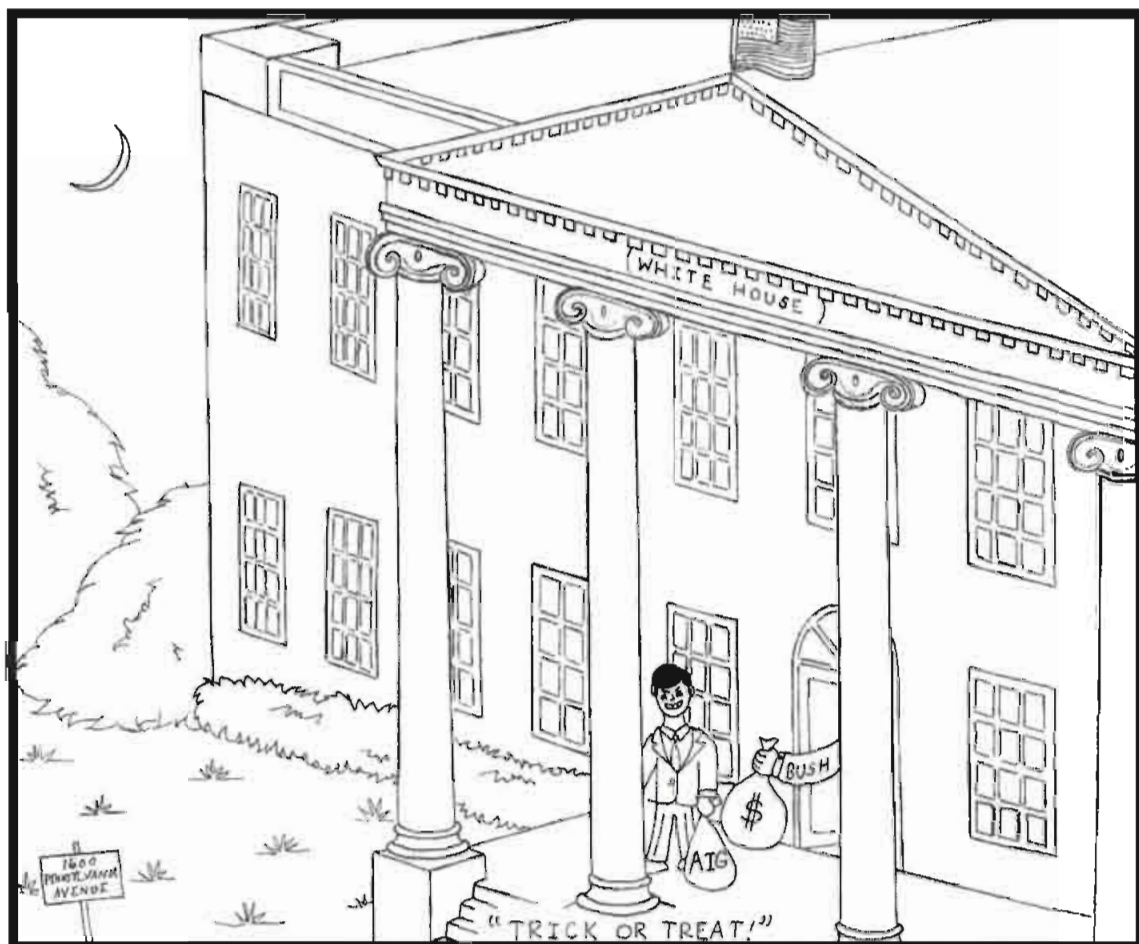
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**(how) waggish** {trans.} adjective:  
 like a wag; roguish in merriment and good humor; jocular:  
*i.e. Fielding and Sterne are waggish writers.*

# Comic corner

Political cartoons by Jack Tambini and Jesse Hagen



## You have been judged

Shia LaBeouf:

Shia, how's it going buddy? Listen, I know you're quite busy with your career and all, but why don't you take a break from churning out forgettable box office fodder and let me say a few things to you.

First of all, I've got to hand it to you. Out of the multitude of things I hated in "Indiana Jones and the Crystal Skull," you and your scene with the monkeys won in a runaway.

Much like how I've now ripped on Indiana Jones in three consecutive issues, you are similarly non-dimensional with your acting. Exhibit A: the indispensable YouTube clip where it splices several minutes worth of footage together from your films in which you do nothing but look confused and mutter "no, no, no, no, nononono" with varying inflection. It's a priceless testament to your lack of skill.

Finally I want to say what everyone else has been thinking since you somehow scored the lead in "Holes." No matter how many roles you do, to me, you'll always be the dumb kid from "Even Stevens."

By: Jesse Hagen

Another Shia LaBeouf movie?  
 No, no, no, no, no, nononononononononono.

Teen pregnancy is no laughing matter. However, this section is, so lighten up and enjoy it.

LAUGH BAKED

## A modest (budget) proposal



By **JESSE HAGEN**  
 Who has \$12 in the bank

Some say you shouldn't take financial advice from a man whose total income last year was in the negatives. I say... they're probably right. But while I've never really been much of an earner in the traditional sense, and while the only "portfolio" I've ever had contained collected drawings of "Glue Man," my self-illustrated fifth grade comic strip, I know a thing or two about the all-mighty dollar.

Hell, at this point, I would probably qualify as a better candidate to handle the finances of Wagner College than whoever's doing the job currently.

As I previously implied, I would call my grasp on fundamental economics pedestrian at best, but I do have a few helpful tips for the College on how to stay in the black with one of the highest tuition rates in the state. I know it can be tricky Wagner financial overseers, but with these helpful tips, you'll be able to exploit every dime we students give you and become a model of economic stability in these troubling financial times.

1. Don't invest in construction projects that serve no purpose. Example: The 2007 addition of the handicap ramp that leads to a campus that is not handicap accessible. It's still unknown whether the brains behind this project saw that there are absolutely no steps to ascend on the path coming out of Tiers. It is also rumored that the brains behind this project thought that "New Coke" was going to be huge.

2. When buying movies to screen early for students, avoid purchasing films that are less interesting than listening to "The Unabridged History of Sawdust" on tape... narrated by John Kerry. Example: I'm sure that "You Don't Mess With the Zohan," will clean up at this year's Academy Awards, but I have yet to meet someone above the age of twelve that took time out of their schedule to see the latest in Adam Sandler crapfests.

3. Don't hire DJ's to play music during meals. Although I sure enjoy shoveling down Rice Pilaf in rhythm to "The Cha Cha Slide," I'm rather puzzled at who benefits

from this. On a related note, seasonal decorations for the cafeteria, while nice, probably are on the unnecessary side as well.

4. Don't hire groundskeepers to keep the place looking pristine at all times. This campus is beautiful, it really is. But the noise pollution caused by the constant vrooming of leaf blowers is enough to negate the visual beauty of the campus. Let nature take its course, and perhaps hire a groundskeeper only for special occasions. Remember, too much makeup is a bad thing, and way too much makeup is Katherine Harris (yep, another outdated cultural reference, don't have a cow man).

5. Speaking of letting nature take its course: uninstall the toilets. Seriously, the accuracy of most male students on this campus is alarmingly poor. Don't believe me? Feel free to come tour the bathrooms in E2. I'll show you the "shaved-off chest hair hall of fame," the stubble speckled sinks and the infamous abomination that we locals cautiously refer to as "stall 1." All anecdotes aside, bathroom upkeep must be pricey, and let's face it: whatever you pay those poor custodians to mop up puke, piss and other unspeakables isn't anywhere near enough. Therefore, cut out the bathrooms entirely. That way you not only save money, but you would no longer have to live knowing that your custodial staff will require years of counseling to get over how indescribably disgusting the bathrooms are after Homecoming. Naturally, you may wonder what we should do in the case that someone has to expel digested food or water from their bodies. It's a simple solution: we have several patches of trees and bushes on this campus, put them to use (I know I have).

Above all Wagner financial guardians, don't get discouraged. There are already some brilliant economic strategies on which you can build. For instance, relabeling Tuesday night's "Cuban Beef" as "Hungarian Chicken" at Thursday lunch was a brilliant financial tactic. Find a way to combine my advice with the few glimmering moments of economic savvy you've displayed in the past 125 years, and you'll be swimming in pools of money and wiping your bums with Benjamins in no time.

And now if you'll excuse me... I'm going to clean the typewriter I used to write this column. Damn these budget cuts!





# Nation and World

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



Photo: Google Images

Wall Street can breathe a sigh of relief after Congress voted on a \$700 billion bailout for the struggling economy. The bill passed on the second vote.

## Congress bails out struggling economy

By CODY DULOCK  
Wagnerian Staff Writer

Bailout—an act of giving financial assistance to a failing business or economy to save it from collapse.

Many Americans are becoming more familiar with the word and its meaning during the current financial crisis and bank failures facing both Wall Street and Main Street.

Many reasons have been thrown out as to why Wall Street and the market is in the shape it is, including Wall Street greed, the free-market system and deregulation. Many specialists also point to the Community Reinforcement Act of 1977 (CRA) and the Associated Community Organizations for Reform Now (ACORN) as major causes for the current situation.

Thomas DiLorenzo, Ph.D., an economics professor at Loyola College said, "I think they [ACORN and the CRA] were very major contributors to the current crisis. For 30 years they compelled banks to make loans to unqualified people." Others say that the bailing out of Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac contributed to the problems as well, being that they were gigantic home mortgage insurers unique to the United States.

The \$700 billion bailout plan is creating tensions between both Republicans and Democrats and to understand it, one must know its main parts.

The bill is composed of several key elements which include: \$700 billion in buying power that will be allocated out by Congress in stages with \$250 billion at first with the president able to request an additional \$100 billion.

The final \$350 billion would then be available by another act of Congress.

The Treasury Department would be required to establish rules that prevent excessive compensation to executives whose companies take part in and benefit from the bailout. Also there would be an establishment of a strong oversight committee that would have the power to halt the program, investigators to monitor it and regular government audits.

Finally, the government would be required to renegotiate mortgages it acquires through the program in the hope of helping borrowers to keep their homes and ease the foreclosure crisis.

The first vote for the \$700 billion bailout proposal failed to pass in the House of Representatives on Monday, Sept. 29, by a vote of 228-205.

Around 60 percent of Democrats voted in favor of the bill compared to the third of Republicans who did.

On Wednesday, Oct. 1, the Senate passed the Bailout bill with a vote of 74-25, filled with "sweeteners."

The sweeteners included increasing the limit insured by the FDIC from \$100,000 to \$250,000 and extending renewable energy tax breaks for individuals and businesses.

As the Senate and many in Washington had hoped, the fact that the bill was passed with the added sweeteners did seem to influence those in the House, with the bailout bill being passed by a vote of 263-171 on Friday, Oct. 3.

Now all that Americans can hope for along with those in Washington is that the bill will help to pull the nation and market from the gloomy financial crisis.

## Oil prices cause some schools to implement three-day weekends

By NIDHI KHANNA  
Wagnerian Staff Writer

Over the past few years, filling up the tank at a local gas station has become almost painful.

The Department of Transportation released new data reports this past August regarding the driving habits of Americans.

According to this latest information, Americans tried to curb their spending on gasoline by driving 53.2 billion fewer miles since last November.

This number should sound alarming because there has not been such a dramatic decrease in driving since the oil crisis in the 1970s.

In order to ease the strain on many Americans' wallets, many school districts and employers have implemented four-day work weeks.

This year alone, approximately 100 school districts have conformed to four-day school weeks in 17 states across the nation. In the latest poll conducted by the American Association of School Administrators, one out of seven schools believe that shortening the school week would sufficiently decrease gas and electricity bills.

According to this same poll, many superintendents were seriously considering reducing a significant amount of field trips due to the extra buses and gasoline required for transportation.

Nevertheless, some school officials and parents question the benefits of a shorter school week.

The American Bus Council suggests that schools purchase more than 800 million gallons of petroleum each year.

With this in mind, 26 million children across the nation ride 480,000 buses every day, and school officials in Florida predict that \$250,000 could be saved every year on gas and electricity.

In addition to saving energy and expenses, many teachers and parents are pleased with the extra day off during the week.

Many teachers believe that four-day weeks have given children more confidence and some students are ex-



Photo: Google Images

Rising fuel prices are causing many school districts to move to a four day school week and cut field trips.

cited to come to class everyday.

Some school districts even noticed an increase in student attendance, which eventually meant that the districts received extra school funding.

Parents find the extra day more convenient because now children do not have to miss school due to doctor's appointments or other scheduling conflicts.

The extra day gives students more work and leisure time.

Wagner senior Jamie O'Donnell transferred from The College of New Jersey during her sophomore year. She stated, "During my freshman year, we had a four day week."

She added, "We had Wednesdays off for clubs and sports to meet without missing classes. I thought it was very beneficial because I was able to catch up on homework and sleep, which is something college students lack. It was also really nice knowing you could relax on Tuesday night because you didn't have class the next day."

It is still heavily debated among school officials and parents if a shorter school week has more advantages than drawbacks.

Many schools have extended the eight-hour school day to ten hours. According to a recent article from

TIME Magazine, Marc Egan, the federal-affairs director for the National School Boards Association, stated, "Some people caution an eight-hour day is already tough for younger kids."

Parents are concerned with the creation of longer school days; students' abilities to participate in extra-curricular activities and finish assignments may be at risk.

Another major concern for districts deals with the amount of days children spend in school each year. As of now, many students attend school 180 days of the year; if the school week is shortened, students will be disadvantaged compared to their counterparts in other nations. In Korea and China, students go to school 220 days in a year.

Consequently, Korean and Chinese students outperform American students in disciplines like mathematics and science.

Lastly, a shortened school week has not produced a dramatic increase in test scores. More research needs to be conducted to determine if this new schedule hinders the progress of students.

The question remains as to which is more valuable: education or weaning an addiction to oil.

Information for the Nation and World  
pages compiled from:

www.CNN.com      www.NBC.com  
TIME Magazine      The Associate Press



## POLITICAL WIRE

News and views from the world of politics

# The strangest debate



By DAVID NORMAN  
Wagnerian Columnist

If you ever wanted to see the matchup between a respected elder statesman and a folksy newcomer spinning anecdotes from her home state of Alaska, Friday Oct. 3 was your kind of night.

Apparently many of you were hungering for this war of words. An astonishing 69.9 million people watched the 90-minute event, making it the highest-watched debate—presidential or vice presidential—since Jimmy Carter faced Ronald Reagan in 1980.

To put this in some recent perspective, ratings for the Biden-Palin contest were:

1.) 33% higher than Friday night's presidential debate between John McCain and Barack Obama

2.) higher than the 2004 vice presidential debate between John Edwards (remember him?) and Dick Cheney

3.) 23% higher than the 1984 vice presidential debate between George Bush and Geraldine Ferraro, previously the highest watched VP debate

Why are so many Americans enthralled with this matchup and what did they think of the outcome?

For McCain supporters, the week before the debate had been train wreck.

Palin's uneasy interview with CBS News' Katie Couric has been a debacle.

Unable to name a single newspaper she reads or a Supreme Court decision she disagreed with, Palin was plastered with a deer-in-the-headlights tentativeness.

The debate showcased a totally different woman. If she still lacked knowledge, she hardly lacked confidence.

In fact, her folksy and whimsical style practically exuded con-

fidence. All she lacks is coherence.

Look, I just don't understand her voice, accent, or presentation. Maybe I'm one of those foreign "East Coast" people she talked of derisively in the debate, but I don't even understand where she gets that accent.

Do people in Alaska talk like that cause it sounds like she walked off the set of "Fargo."

Maybe I'm kind of stodgy (I am), but giving a "shout out" to third graders seems unprofessional, silly, and just strange.

I've watched quite a few debates and I don't think I've ever heard "doggone it" used so much—or even once.

More problematic than her colloquial speaking style, Palin simply didn't answer the questions.

Moderator Gwen Ifill would ask a question and Palin would proceed by talking about something else entirely.

When asked what the Bush administration had done right or wrong in Israel, the Alaska Governor simply professed her "support," "love," and "commitment" to the Jewish state.

She clumsily declared, "I'm so encouraged to know that we both love Israel."

Every response involved a discredited interpretation of Barack Obama's record, a folksy anecdote from Alaska, and a broad triumphant declaration of the American dream.

Yet if you listen to the punditry, you'd think Sarah Palin won the debate.

I'll grant you that she beat expectations. She speaks in complete sentences, is confident in front of a camera, and has a really adorable family.

If those are the qualifications for Vice President, America is in worse shape than I thought.

Up until John McCain's reckless selection of Sarah Palin as his running mate, this election had been an inspiring story of truly remarkable, exceptional people.

John McCain, a prisoner of war who is a true American hero, is an exceptional person.

Barack Obama, who served as the first African-American editor of the Harvard Law Review, is a gifted legislator, writer, and orator.

He's exceptional. Joe Biden, a widely respected statesman, is also exceptional.

However, judging from the Vice-Presidential debate, the jury is still out on Sarah Palin.



## Let the debates begin!

The first presidential debate took place at the University of Mississippi in Oxford on Sept. 26, moderated by Jim Lehrer. The first 40 minutes of the debate was spent discussing the current economy of the country. The remainder of the debate focused on issues of foreign policy.

The vice presidential debate took place on Oct. 2 at Washington University in St. Louis, Mo., moderated by Gwen Ifill. According to CNN polls, 51 percent say Democratic Vice Presidential nominee Sen. Joe Biden won the debate, while 84 percent say Republican Vice Presidential nominee Gov. Sarah Palin exceeded their expectations.

On Oct. 7 the second Presidential Debate took place at Belmont University in Nashville, Tenn., moderated by Tom Brokaw.

By Sophie Tripp

# Got tainted milk?

By STEPHANIE BERRIOS  
Wagnerian Staff Writer

Over 53,000 children in China are suffering from ailments such as kidney stones due to drinking contaminated powder milk.

On Sept. 19, China's General Administration of Quality Supervision, Inspection, and Quarantine stated that milk, particularly baby formula, produced by three of China's leading dairies is tainted with melamine.

A banned industrial chemical, melamine, has been attributed to the sudden deaths and illnesses of Chinese infants and children.

A report conducted on Sept. 12 revealed test results that virtually 10 percent of milk samples taken from the Mengniu Dairy Group Co. and Yili Industrial Group Co., two of China's largest dairy companies, contained 8.4 milligrams of melamine per kilogram. Along with Mengniu and Yili, Chinese Health Ministry authorities said that milk powder supplied by Sanlu Group Co., China's leading dairy giant, was also contaminated by melamine.

In response to the horrifying re-

sults, Starbucks Corp. announced that its 300 cafes located in mainland China have discontinued using milk provided by Mengniu.

According to TIME Magazine, the average annual per capita milk consumption of the Chinese has grown from just 2 kg (4.4 pounds) in 1980 to 22 kg (48.5 pounds) in 2006.

Many experts believe that the rising demand of milk contributed greatly to the crisis. According to an MSNBC report, adding chemicals to watered down milk is considered a widespread practice in China's dairy industry.

Melamine, a nitrogen-rich compound found in plastics and fertilizers, has been illegally utilized to make watered down milk appear to have more protein than it actually does. "Demand was outstripping supply so rapidly in a market that [producers] tried every way to increase supply," said Philippe Chan, who acts as the Asia manager for a beverage company Canadian.

Possessing a 43 percent share in Sanlu, New Zealand dairy group Fonterra informed the Chinese government in August that the milk powder was toxic. However, Chinese officials and the Sanlu Group were

reluctant to issue a public recall. On Sept. 11, Sanlu publicly declared a recall of all its milk powder products (including baby formula) made before Aug. 6.

Shortly after the announcement, thousands of worried parents lined up at hospitals to have their children go through health checkups and examinations.

Chinese parents expressed fury and disgust with the Sanlu Group. "What angers me the most is that Sanlu had known about it for so long," says Zeng, mother from the eastern province of Jiangsu. "Sanlu is a big company and we trusted their products. We never dreamed that they would sell something so poisonous"

On Sept. 12, China's Health Ministry declared an investigation into how the milk powder came to be tainted.

Police in the Hebei province, where Sanlu's headquarters are located, detained 22 people.

In addition, they also arrested four individuals. Among them were two brothers who ran a milk collection station. The brothers have been accused of watering down the milk they purchased and spiking the milk with melamine to mask the dilution.

# Six years later, Iraq 'fragile'

By ASHLEY PIERCE  
Wagnerian Staff Writer

While American face the impending economic crisis here at home, the war in Iraq continues across the ocean.

The war has been raging since 2002, and the commanding General of the U.S. forces in Iraq is still describing the state of Iraq as "fragile."

Although serious security advancements have been made, the Iraqi government is lacking in sufficient electricity and is still facing problems bringing the two main religious sanctions together, and organizing the different political factions in order to provide a functioning government.

General Odierno was asked by USA Today "if the government fails [the people], what would they do?"

Odierno stated his intentions of pulling troops out "slowly and cautiously" so that the progress the United States has made doesn't regress.

The state of Iraq and the placement of troops has been a highly controversial topic between the two presidential candidates.

Republican presidential candidate Sen. John McCain has been a supporter of the government's latest strategy, which deployed smaller troops in spread out neighborhoods to protect the Iraqi civilians.

Democrat Presidential Candidate Barack Obama supports the with-

drawl of United States forces over the next 16 months, while further increasing the number of troops in Afghanistan.

Next year, after the provincial elections take place, the political power shift may give more power to the Sunnis who were more or less uninvolved in the local elections in 2005.

This would be a significant feat because the future elections could transfer power to a new national power.

If and when the power is transferred to the new religious sanction, Odierno will remain cautious by making sure that there are US forces on the ground to prevent any chaos.

Currently, there are 150,000 troops in Iraq.



# Arts & Entertainment



The cast of "As Bees in Honey Drown," in the final pose of the show recently done at Stage One.

## 'As Bees in Honey Drown' well done at Stage One

By ABIGAIL ALBAIR  
Wagnerian Co-Editor

Opening the 2008-2009 Stage One season, a cast of six shines in "As Bees in Honey Drown," Douglas Carter Beane's satire on society's obsession with fame and the risk that comes with "sticky-sweet success."

This show is one of the better pieces of direction seen in either Wagner venue in recent memory. John Saunders' use of the stage space is ingenious, drawing the audience in and clearly illustrating the elevated levels of power and the relationship between the two main characters before even a word is spoken.

Victoria Gillette is perfection as the artificially chic Alexa Vere de Vere, who bewitches the green and vulnerable Evan Wyler, played by Tavis Doucette, with her web of concocted stories of life experiences and promises of fame and fortune.

Gillette flawlessly evokes a glamorous, confident, conjured up persona. She delivers every line with fast paced precision and a sophisticated air reminiscent of a great Hollywood heroine.

Doucette shows strong commitment to his character displaying the sensitive and vulnerable side of Wyler, a writer who has just gotten his first taste of success. Although

there are a few moments when it is difficult to believe Doucette is a gay man struggling with inner turmoil as he falls in love with a woman, on the whole his performance is strong and endearing.

Allison Davi, Caitlin McGee, Patrick David and Kevin Callaghan each play multiple supporting roles.

Davi most certainly steals the spotlight in the role of Carla with her strong stage presence and spot-on delivery of humorous lines. McGee is equally captivating in the role of Illya Mannon. Both women's ability to create several entirely different characters within one show makes their talent undeniable.

Callaghan is strong in all four of his roles. It is at times arresting to think it is the same actor portraying them. He comes into his own as Morris Kaden at the end of Act 1, helping the plot to unfold and revealing the character flaws of the antagonist, Vere de Vere, with ease and devilish charm.

A highlight of the second Act is David's performance as Mike Stabinsky. He and Doucette have great chemistry and David brings a calm feel to the air which is thick with Vere de Vere's manic personality and Wyler's lust for revenge.

Stabinsky, an artist, is the creator of the Alexa Vere de Vere we've come to know throughout the show.

It is during his flashback narration of this creation that Gillette shows her tremendous range as an actress.

Technically the show is also a standout for Wagner theatre.

The concept of the set, black, white and grey walls, honeycomb-styled floor, and chrome chairs used to arrange most settings are complimented nicely by the striking solid colors used to costume Vere de Vere. Designed with the "less is more" theory, the simple set easily brings forth the idea of life in society's upper crust.

Each actor utilizes his/her own door throughout the show, with Wyler and Vere de Vere on far downstage opposite sides. Suander direction of timing for coinciding entrances and exits is precise.

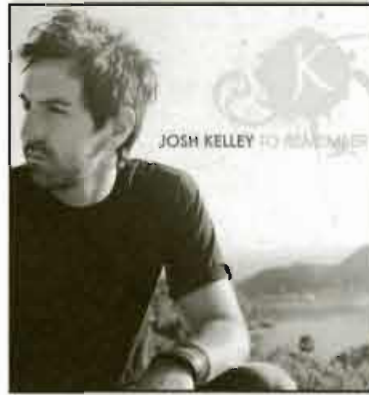
The lighting is exceptional during scenes, enhancing the mood of each moment in a subtle way; but there is a definite overuse of blackouts. The design also helps the believability when characters in the present narrate flashbacks.

The sound design is effective, utilizing clips from classic pop rock to set the tone.

Strong to the end, this cast brilliantly delivers the message that we are a culture easily enticed by success, money, and recognition; the sweeter things in life... as bees in honey drown.

## Listen Up!

Josh Kelley- *To Remember*



It's difficult for an artist to find their own niche in a genre. It's even more difficult to find it in multiple genres, but Josh Kelley has done just that and has exposed his multi-genre music through his past three albums, *Special Company*, *Backwoods*, and his latest, *To Remember*. Kelley displays his talents primarily through alternative, country and vocal ballads that

amaze the listener in this new album. His voice has a rich, deep flavor that glides through the background instrumentals, and is especially showcased in "More Than Love." His vocal talents are also shown through his strong falsetto, which the listener receives a small taste in "It Breaks My Heart." Along with beautiful vocals, comes beautiful instrumental music. The album is filled mainly with piano, soft percussion and acoustic guitars; but other instruments sneak their way in, such as saxophones and electric guitars. However mellow this album may be, Kelley shows his up-tempo side with songs such as "Secret Criminal" and "Kink in the Chain," which are surprisingly as strong as his ballad side. His new album can be found at Target and on iTunes.

By Laura Dellavilla

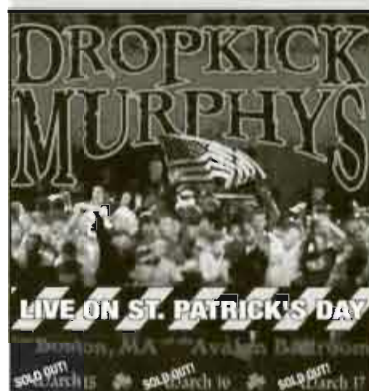


Nick and Norah's Infinite Playlist  
— *Original Motion Picture Soundtrack*  
(Deluxe Edition)

Much like the movie itself, the soundtrack to Nick and Norah's Infinite Playlist is one part quirk, one part genius and one part just plain weird. Some of the album's nineteen tracks are bizarre, better-heard-on-screen soundtrack picks. The album's strangest track is the garage-punk "Screw The Man,"

which was written for the movie's all-gay "queercore" band of which Nick (Michael Cera) is the only straight member. The album's high points, however, far outweigh its lows. Album highlights include the catchy and brilliant "Ottoman" by Vampire Weekend. With a gorgeous string part, a singer whose voice is as versatile as music itself, and a chorus that will be stuck in listeners' heads for days, this track alone is enough of a reason to buy the album, or at least download it.

By Paige Herlthy



Dropkick Murphys - *Live on St. Patrick's Day*

It is never too early to get into the holiday spirit... of St. Patrick's Day that is, and with the Dropkick Murphys' live album, *Live on St. Patrick's Day*. Released in 2002, this is the perfect soundtrack to get you pumped, especially with the half-way mark to St. Patty's Day (Sept. 17) recently passing. The band covered some Irish classics

including "Wild Rover" and "Finnegan's Wake," but they also add in their own taste. The "Spicy McHaggis Jig" features band member, Spicy McHaggis on the bagpipes. Their sound also features the mandolin, whistles and the accordion. Recorded in Boston, Mass. at the Avalon Ballroom, the album mixes the band's sound of Irish/Rock, with the fervor of the crowd in the background. The album also features performances by the Boston Police Gaelic Column Pipes and Drums and the Harney School of Dance Step Dancers.

By Kellianne Valsario



## No business like show business for 'Annie Get Your Gun' on Main Stage

By ASHLEE HILLIER  
Entertainment Assistant

The Wagner College Theatre department captivated Main Stage with Irving Berlin's musical, "Annie Get Your Gun."

Senior Danielle Roth stars as Annie Oakley, a quick witted, sharp shooting young girl. Oakley catches the eye of Frank Butler, played by senior Matt Ban, a skilled marksman who travels and performs with "Buffalo Bill's Wild West Show."

Annie joins the show and falls in love with Butler, who is soon threatened by her success.

Act I opens with "There's No Business Like Show Business," performed by the entire ensemble. The cast showed off powerhouse vocals and professional dancing skills as they took over the stage.

Roth and Ban had great chemistry throughout the show with touching

moments during "They Say it's Wonderful," as well as comical ones during "An Old Fashioned Wedding," and "Anything You Can Do."

Roth was her strongest vocally during, "You Can't Get a Man with a Gun," but showed the most dedication to her character during "I Got Lost in His Arms."

Ban portrayed the suave, charming Butler seemingly with ease. His pure voice resonated throughout the theatre during "The Girl that I Marry," making it easy to believe he was the man girls swooned over.

Other memorable performances included Christopher DeRosa as Buffalo Bill. Senior Jillian Severin was excellent as the sassy and brash Dolly Tate. Tate forbids the marriage of her sister, Winnie Tate, played by Madeline Clemens, and a half Indian, Tommy Keeler, played by senior Michael Dunn. The two are endearing during "I'll Share It All With You," and "Who

do You Love, I Hope?"

Michael Pesoli adds an excellent comedic element to the show as Charlie, as does Billy Cardone as Chief Sitting Bull.

The show has excellent choreography throughout, as well as direction by Karen Babcock. Technically it is also well done. Particularly entertaining is the moment during the end of Act I when Roth is lifted off the stage on a swing from which she shoots balloons off cast members heads.

Especially well designed are the realistic western costumes; a wide array of plaid vests, full skirts, top hats, along with cowboys and Indians. The costumes and wigs, complimented by the on-point western accents truly evoked the lifestyle of the American frontier during the late 1800s.

All together "Annie Get Your Gun" was an enjoyable show and a great opener to the 2008-2009 Main Stage season.



The Starry Night over the Rhine, 1888, currently on display at MoMA.

## Van Gogh Lights up the Sky at MoMA

By JACK TAMBINI  
Wagnerian Staff Writer

"Van Gogh and the Colors of the Night" at the Museum of Modern Art is a truly captivating exhibit, immersing the viewer in a world of colorful sunsets and night skies overwhelmed with stars. The exhibit follows the Impressionist painter Vincent Van Gogh from the start of his career in the Netherlands to Arles in southern France, towards the end of his life in 1889. The show specifically follows the artist's nighttime paintings. Van Gogh seemed to be fascinated by the sky; having painted sunsets, sunrises, dusk scenes, and midnight scenes. The exhibit also includes a few drawings, and an assortment of letters to Van Gogh's brother.

Van Gogh had an excellent sense of light, and when combined with the texture and precision of his brushstrokes, this made for very compelling compositions. He saw not just the light that was shining directly on the subjects he painted, but also the reflected light, the colored light which distorted his subjects, sometimes to wondrous effects. The first eye catching piece in the exhibit is "Lane of Poplars at Sun-

set," an 1884 oil on canvas painting. It is nearly symmetrical, portraying an avenue of skinny, nearly leafless trees which draw the viewer's eye to the vanishing point where a lone figure's silhouette partially covers the bright orange setting sun. The sun is the brightest object in the painting, and it stands out against its muted background, also competing with the trees for directing the viewer's eye to the vanishing point. One is sure to notice "The Parsonage at Nuenen at Dusk, Seen from the Back." The painting, also oil on canvas, is a midnight scene, showing a full moon behind a house. The sky in this piece is enchanting. It is gray, but has very noticeable areas painted in green, blue, beige, and orange.

One room in the exhibit contains a collection of Van Gogh's indoor nighttime scenes. According to the museum plate, "These paintings depicted peasant life. Van Gogh believed these people stood closer to nature than others." These works pale in comparison to the grandeur of his landscapes, but they demonstrate an impeccable sense of light.

Some of the most fascinating works are two paintings; both titled "The

Sower." One is small and one is large, the smaller one seeming like a study for the larger one. Both depict a sower working in a field. The smaller painting is much more interesting to look at. The sky is lime green. It contains a yellow sun and streaky pink clouds. The landscape is like a rainbow, with strokes of blue, green, yellow, purple, pink, and black. The sower is rendered in blue, green, black, and brown, matching the tree that cuts horizontally across the center of the painting.

The exhibit culminates with Van Gogh's masterpiece, "The Starry Night." One cannot erase the image of the lone cypress tree in the foreground, twisting upward toward the emblazoned night. Painted with very free flowing brush strokes, the stars are completely illuminated and surrounded by streaks of white, yellow, and green against a purple-blue sky. Constellations in the center of this painting swoop in and out of each other, creating a fascinating form. There is not a square inch of this canvas that is not interesting to look at.

"Van Gogh and the Colors of the Night" will be running at the Museum of Modern Art through January 5. This is an exhibit that one should not miss.

## LOOK OUT!



On Sept. 23, indie-rock band French Kicks released their new EP, *Covers*. Unlike their first self-produced album, *Swimming*, which encompasses a sense of melodic originality and rawness, *Covers* is strictly, well, covers of other artists' songs. Playing with nostalgia, the band covered such retro hits as The Shirelles' "Will you Still Love Me Tomorrow," Lindsay Buckingham's "Trouble," The Ramones' "Questioningly" and Colin Blunstones' "Carolina Goodbye." Despite there being only four tracks, *Covers* still encompasses a great, alternative-rock take on classic tunes.

The cast of the best show no one watched is hitting the big screen. After months of controversy and speculation about whether the film would actually happen, the show's star, Jason Bateman, informed MTV that filming is finally underway. Although the plot has not been announced, "Arrested Development" fans will surely be able to bask in the antics of their favorite dysfunctional family, the Bluths. The debut date is still in the works. So for all you AD fans out there, sit tight, keep re-watching your favorite episodes and reciting your favorite Gob lines to your friends because it's going to take a while.



On Sept. 18, FX premiered its fourth season of its smash-comedy hit, "It's Always Sunny in Philadelphia," or "Seinfeld on Crack" as critics call it. Much like its previous three seasons, the new season contains the same off-color scenarios. Along with all the jokes about retardation, sex offenders, homosexuality and even the homeless, the loser-ish pub owners of the show poke fun at some extremely touchy issues. From cannibalism to terrorism, to hunting humans as a sport, the boys laugh-up just about everything in the name of college-humor. "It's Always Sunny in Philadelphia" airs Thursdays at 10 p.m. on FX.

This month, Disney announced Johnny Depp to be cast as the Mad Hatter in the new "Alice in Wonderland" film. Based off of Lewis Carroll's classic novel, "Alice's Adventures in Wonderland," director Tim Burton is putting a darker, more mysterious twist on the innocent children's story about a lost girl who wonders about the obscurities of a backwards world. Joining Johnny Depp is Mia Wasikowska as Alice and Matt Lucas as Tweedledee and Tweedlebum. "Alice in Wonderland" is set to hit theatres in March 2010 and will be shot in 3-D.





# IN OUR OPINION...

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

## WHAT'S THAT ABOUT

# The best years of our lives

## Why not enjoy them?



By **ALLIE RIVERA**  
Wagnerian Opinion Editor

Just recently it has started to hit me; it is almost halfway through the first semester of my senior year. In May I have to leave the comforts of Wagner and enter a crashing economy in an attempt to look for a job. Along with beginning to pay back student loans, I'll have to find and pay for an apartment that will hopefully be in a neighborhood where I'm not terrified to leave my bedroom. The homework may end, but the real stress is just about to begin. Frankly, I'm terrified.

On what seemed like a daily basis starting this past June I was asked what I plan on doing with my life upon graduation. It's as if I, having just turned 21, should know exactly what it is that I will eagerly awake to do every day for the rest of my life.

I haven't the slightest idea what I want to do this weekend, let alone years from now.

So until then, I've been trying to do as much as possible in as much as possible to make it through college with some vague idea of what I should do when I start looking for a job. (Then, of course, comes the dilemma of no jobs being available, but that's an entirely different problem.)

Every day from Monday through Friday is dedicated to class, working, an internship, club meetings, homework, eating and, when possible, sleeping. Saturdays and Sundays are for laundry, grocery shopping, cleaning the apartment, general errands and more homework.

So what's my point? (I swear I have one.) We spend our college years, especially our final ones,

preparing so much for the future that we forget about the present. Each action, each decision we make is for our resume, or our GPA, or to prepare us for life in the big, bad world. We rarely get to do anything anymore just for our own sheer enjoyment.

This past weekend I decided that enough was enough. I put aside my homework, chores, and to-do list for an hour and a half one evening. I went out into the courtyard outside of my apartment, and I played two-on-two football with my roommates. Shortly through the game, the two kids who live downstairs came outside and joined in the game.

For that hour and a half, the rest of the world stopped. I didn't think about the crashing economy or the presidential election. I didn't think about my looming midterms or what I have to do at my internship this week. The anxiety of the future didn't even cross my mind. All that mattered in that moment was getting that next touchdown. My only concern was getting the ball to sail through the air into Harry's arms and being able to rub it into the other team's faces.

Unlike the rest of my life, screwing up didn't matter; it was just a game.

I honestly cannot remember the last time I had that much fun, and it was doing something as simple as passing a football around. And even though I knew that I would probably have to stay up a little later to complete everything I had to do, it really didn't matter to me. I had an entire hour and a half free of stress, and it made the rest of my weekend just a little bit better.

Why is it, I ask, that this tiny period of just plain fun was such a huge deal? Why are random acts of childhood games so rare that when they occur it shines a whole new light on, well, everything?

I urge you to be young while you still have the chance. These are supposed to be the best years of our lives, but that won't happen if we are stuck in the library, or too busy stressing about resumes and cover letters. Youth is too precious not to be enjoyed.

I'm going to leave you with wise words from one of the greatest characters in movie history: Ferris Bueller. "Life goes by pretty fast. If you don't stop and look around once in a while, you could miss it."

# To SAT or not to SAT? For colleges, that is the question

By **JACLYN SOKOL**  
Wagnerian Staff Writer

Starting in the eighth grade, the idea of performing well on the SAT is embedded into our heads. The concept of doing well on the SAT serves as a determining factor into college admissions, which universities are going to accept you and which are not, according to their standard of a good score. Is this fair?

According to a recent article from the New York Times, colleges are considering straying away from the idea of using the SAT as a determining factor into college. What a relief! The pressure of sitting in a room for three hours taking a pre-formulated test to compete against everyone around you is off, but one might ask for what reasons.

There are many factors that support the idea of eliminating the SAT as a mandatory prerequisite into college. First and foremost is the obvious: some students do not fare well on standardized testing. The amount of time allotted and the pressure to finish can be extremely overwhelming and nerve racking, not to mention the process one has to remember in deciding which questions to answer and which to leave alone to better their score, in addition to actually fig-

uring out the question at hand. If one does not do well on the SAT, they are looked down upon and summed up to be 'not as smart,' which is an absurd assumption. My high school cumulative GPA was much higher than my SAT scores. Does that mean I should not be at Wagner? Of course not. Some schools consider other factors such as extracurricular activities and involvement, high school grades and a personal essay.

Another factor to consider relates to economics. Some students are not in a financial situation to be taking preparation courses to allow them proper guidance for the test. Although there are several study books, one might not be able to even afford that. Going along with the economical perspective, those brought up in economically underdeveloped areas do not have the same exposure to resources as those who live comfortably. Not only do they not have access to preparation courses, but some walk into the test without basic supplies for the day, whether it be a writing implement or a calculator. These students are also put into a situation where the accumulation of information taught throughout their student career might not be the same as those of more privileged areas. How are they expected to take a test of standard concepts if their exposure

to this information is limited? These scenarios present a tough luck situation and undermines those who are not as privileged.

The SATs present a series of problems that should be taken into account to rid their existence. The pressure of getting accepted into college in terms of academics and athletics is enough in itself; a standardized test is the last thing students need on their mind. Every individual student is unique in various ways, possessing selective strengths and weaknesses due to their capabilities. Measuring their intelligence based on what superiors feel "should" be known is unfair due to the variety found in both the individual and their background.

Measuring how well one performed on the SAT does not determine the contribution they will make to their institution. The institution, its faculty and the determination and willingness of the student are the formula to success.

It is understood that institutions need some sort of competitive system to allow entrance into their schools but this measure is not the SAT. SATs are not a fair or justified measure due to the endless problems they have created. This transformation will not occur overnight, but it is definitely time to start the process.

# Students forget that college is not an expensive party

By **CARA SCARNATI**  
Wagnerian Staff Writer

Freedom, (freedom), freedom (freedom), FREEDOM.

Aretha knows. I could not have put the feeling of finally being on my own at college into better words. I'm away from Lansdale, Penn. and here in New York, my dream city, with a million options for a good time and about a million more things to do than in Lansdale. I wonder, though, how many new students are taking the city by storm and forgetting why they're really here.

Everyone has their own way of adjusting. I mean, mazel tov to me, I am buckling down, studying and managing my time without killing myself; definitely something I had never actually mastered in high school. Sorry, Mom.

But as I sit here typing away, I can

hear the girls down the hall with the cans of their beverage of choice crunching in the background. I guess it's 'too-thirsty-to-wait-until-Thursday' Tuesday night. Maybe they don't have midterms fast approaching the way I do, but somehow I doubt it. Don't get me wrong; in no way am I an over-achiever, but I paid forty thousand plus to do something more than party on a Tuesday night.

I have to say though, something that's always made me curious is the way people make their decisions. It really became apparent to me when I was doing my endless supply of homework on homcoming (yes, yes, I know, why don't you just tattoo 'loser' to my forehead) and kids in my learning community were doing God knows what all weekend and saving the papers and reading assignments until Sunday night. Frankly, I wonder where their logic is. I want to have a good time during what I keep

hearing are "the best years of my life" too, but I don't want to fail out my first semester either. There's a fine line. Who knew?

I've already heard of people deliberately sleeping through class, not studying and thus failing exams and so on and so forth. I'm not one to judge, but really then, why are you here? Forty thousand is a pricey cover charge if all you're going to do is party. Maybe it hasn't hit other students the way that it has hit me. This is college, the starting line to what we will potentially make of ourselves. In my high school, I know more than 50 percent of kids slid by without putting in that much effort. I might have even been there with them, but that won't fly here. Granted, we still have time to really consider what is important, however I can't help but think that I have to start working hard now because I guarantee that an 'A' in partying won't get you anything.

*Views expressed on these pages are solely those of the writer and do not reflect the opinions of the Wagnerian, its editors, or advisors.*



# Simmering since Clinton era, economic woes have hit us all

By AJ BASILE  
Wagnerian Online Editor

While it originally looked as if I would get off scot-free, the current mortgage crisis has now hit my own pocket. My money was in Washington Mutual, now owned by J.P. Morgan Chase, and no, I don't feel any more confident.

Now, I'm sure that I'm not the only Wagner student who has been affected by this. Granted, most WaMu customers got off easy, as the only thing that appears to be changing is the name of the bank. You can still access your money and all accounts.

We are lucky. With youth to our advantage, most of us college students can escape this crisis without much monetary harm, and we take with it a very important lesson for the future; never put all of your money into just one bank. Spreading it out keeps it all FDIC-insured in case something like this ever happens again.

But what we have also learned is that in our haste to play partisan politics, we have yet to find out the true way to make our country tick, even when it stares us in the face. Former president Bill Clinton has said that Democrats from his time in office "resisted efforts by Republicans in Congress" to "tighten up" Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac.

Clinton also tries to claim that he sided with the Republicans on this issue, even though his administration,

as pointed out by the New York Times, pressured the failed agencies into taking on customers below their requirements. The liberal idea that everyone needed to have a home regardless of income crippled not just these companies but an entire market. Think of what happened to real estate recently: there was a huge boom of buyers, and then no movement at all. The product was there, but people couldn't buy it. Why? Because they couldn't get a loan, as their banks were failing.

Don't jump onto the 'blame greedy CEOs' bandwagon too quickly. Presidential candidates Barack Obama, Chris Dodd, and John Kerry have all received over \$100,000 from Fannie Mae. You think any of these guys, or any other politicians receiving money from these organizations, were willing to put tighter regulations on them? It's just as much, if not more so, the fault of the greedy politicians.

Even more sickening than the mess that was created by government intervention is that the best way out of it is the problem. The banks are so important to our, and the world's, economy that allowing these businesses to go under would cripple America's economic standing in the world and possibly cause a global depression. When the banks first started to collapse, the Russian market cut its losses by closing within hours, and stayed closed for a week.

Fortunately, the much sought after bailout bill will not be about a government takeover of companies, but

a government takeover of failed assets to the tune of \$350 million, with another \$350 million waiting in the wings.

But then you have the already damaged economy of New York City. Mayor Michael Bloomberg, a normally brilliant business man, is looking to recoup the city's financial losses by raising taxes on residents. In the midst of a financial crisis, nothing makes less sense. People can't pay for their homes and are in the middle of the worst money crunch they have ever faced, yet Mayor Bloomberg wants to take more money from them so that the city's budget will be OK.

Now isn't the time to raise taxes. Now is the time to lower them, and allow people to feel some sort of comfort with their money. With holidays around the corner, people are going to want some cash in their pockets, even if it's not as much as usual; anything that can give them the slightest peace of mind.

You'd think we would have learned by now to keep the government away from the market and let the invisible hand take it where it must. Government intervention just leads to worse government intervention, and I can't think of anyone who's happy about that right now.

Unfortunately, this is the time that we need someone who understands capitalism more than ever, and none of the four candidates preparing themselves to enter the White House have the slightest idea how it works.

# Obama or McCain to inherit bleak economy

By SENECA SMITH  
Wagnerian Contributor

Change is in the air, but unfortunately for Sen. Barack Obama, it is less about the potential of whoever becomes the next leader of the free world than the direction the free market has moved in the past year. In the last few months, we have seen the U.S. economy, for lack of a more accurate term, take a complete nosedive. The nation was forced to pay attention when just a few weeks ago the U.S. government agreed to loan \$85 billion to AIG to cover their credit obligations due to the credit crunch. This is disturbing for all of us, regardless of political leaning. As I do not claim any skills in economics (intermediate macro ended my tenure in the subject), I think it is interesting to review the situation from a more...sociological perspective.

With the risk of sounding like an 85-year-old woman, I wonder what is with those kids today. We all know the stories of the 11-year-olds with 'mad texting skillz' and entitlement issues. These kids were often the topic of conversation around the water cooler in my office, trying to understand where the future would

end up with such an interesting generation moving into the working world.

Since the "crash" of the market, the conversations have changed. Tomorrow's generation is still unlike any we have seen before, but not because of the prevalence of Prada backpacks. My generation is the future. Though we're told this from our formative years, our entire world has just been shocked. The death of the American economy as we knew it is going to completely change our global outlook.

We are now a generation touched by a large recession and, situation pending, the first depression of the 21<sup>st</sup> century. As commodity prices continue to rise, we will begin to learn the word "no"; we will begin to practice thrift and budget. An attitude of entitlement will get you nothing from a world without excess. As our grandparents did during the war, we too will have to ration our supplies despite the demand.

We'll have less, and with any luck, that will bring us so much more. I'm not sure what we're calling ourselves nowadays, whether it is the "me generation," "now generation," or "youtube generation," but all of those monikers will become outdated or in-

appropriate. En masse, our generation will evolve into an entirely different collection of principles and experiences. Economic change always defines a generation, but in this case, our generation is cast to be re-defined.

We're the future leaders: the businessmen, the caretakers, the lawyers, the florists, and the politicians. But now we are also a generation touched by change. Our perspective has changed. The priorities realigned.

We will come out of the current trough – it is the market cycle. What goes up must go down, and what goes down must come back up again. (Else an entire collection of individuals we call economists have got it seriously wrong, and I really didn't learn much in macro). Even if we haven't hit the bottom yet, and while we climb back up the incline, we "young people" are learning about an entirely different world.

We all knew Wagner College had it right. You can only be taught so many things in the classroom. For the rest, you have to look outward and soak up a little experience learning. It's about time the rest of the kids in the U.S. got to try out the Wagner Plan.

## LETTER TO THE EDITOR Hey! This Coke tastes like Diet Coke

To the editor,

Today, Oct. 4, for the third time since Aug. 2007, the Diet Coke dispenser in the Main Dining Hall has had regular Coke come out of it.

A lot of people would think this is not a big deal, including, it seems, Chartwells, however, there are multiple diabetics on campus. They have to refrain from taking advantage of the wide variety of sodas and other drinks as is because of the possible spike in their blood sugars. The trust needs to be maintained. As a diabetic, you shouldn't have to rely on your taste buds to protect yourself.

This is wrong.

We have had a lot of diabetes awareness events lately. Fundraisers as well as diabetes walks to find a cure have been supported and encouraged by the college. So how can Wagner/Chartwells act with such unawareness? It is more than a slap in the face for all diabetic students.

I do not like to put my well-being on the line or have any harm inflicted on me by the very institution that I entrust with my academic pursuits.

Sincerely,  
Daniel Strid  
Class of 2011

*Love it? Hate it? Write it.  
Send a letter to the editor to  
wagnerian@wagner.edu*

## The Wagner College 'Bucket List'

*A bit of advice on "how to live in it"  
during your college years*

By CARLENE  
KUCHARCZYK  
Opinions Assistant

In his novel, "The Sun Also Rises," Ernest Hemingway writes, "Perhaps as you went along you did learn something. I did not care what it was all about. All I wanted to know was how to live in it. Maybe if you found out how to live in it you learned from that what it was all about." College is all about learning "how to live in it." College prepares us for the future while giving us freedom to make our own choices. We live for four years (possibly longer for those of us reluctant to leave) in an environment where we create our own agenda for the first time, and possibly, the only time in our lives. In future years, work will inevitably take over most of our time with the goal of maintaining financial stability along with a happy disposition, while in and out of serious relationships possibly leading to a family. Before college, our years were spent adhering to our parents' wishes and fitting family parties and chores into our schedules. In this small moment of time, we can truly say we are living for ourselves and if we find we are not for whatever reason, we must make sure to do so. Whether making the most out of life means hooking up with as many people as possible or falling in love, whether it means getting drunk every weekend or devoting ourselves to excelling in our classes, whether it's joining a fraternity or sorority or being on a sports' team, traveling home every weekend to spend time with our families or exploring every block of Manhattan, we must make our lives our own. Each of us is drawn to different interests and dif-

ferent people. It's important to remain faithful to those things that make us happy and to drop those that do not provide us with enjoyment. But most importantly, this is a time to create a lifestyle that is meaningful and enjoyable, a lifestyle that we'll look back on and won't regret. We can achieve brilliance more easily in things we deem worthy than things we are only forcing ourselves to do because they might look good on a resume. It is natural that we put more effort into things that interest us.

With that in mind, I leave you with a mild list of things to do on or around campus before leaving Wagner College, no matter what your interests are, and suggest to you to also create your own list – a 'bucket list' for your college years.

- 1-When you just can't study anymore, make out in Horrman Library or on the roof if you can get up there.
- 2-Roll down Towers' hill. Warning: only attempt if you don't mind being slightly bruised the next day.
- 3-Read one book you don't have to for school; my recommendation if you don't like reading is "I Hope they Serve Beer in Hell" or if you like reading, "East of Eden."
- 4-Walk down to the bottom of the hill, at least once, (for all you haters) on a Wednesday.
- 5-Waste all your flexi (or your friend's) on an ice cream cake from Hawk's Nest.
- 6-Go out to the Oval, bring some friends who play the guitar, improvise a few songs, and then sleep there.
- 7-Invite your friends from home to Wagner for a night, and then don't hang out with them; they'll have interesting stories to tell you the next day.



# SEAHAWK SPORTS

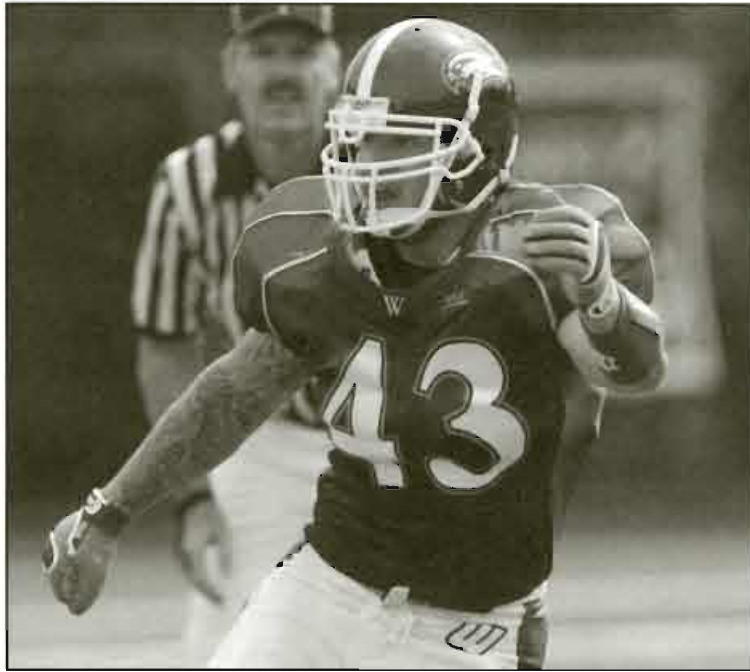


Photo: Wagner Athletics

Senior LB, Jason Haskin was one of the few Seahawks who put up good numbers against the Blue Devils on Oct. 4, recording nine tackles.

## Beginning of the end? Banged up Seahawks drop NEC opener, fall to 2-3

By **CAROLYN SUSINO**  
Wagnerian Sports Editor

Starting the second half, the Seahawks trailed 14-7, and tried to make a comeback with the score 14-10 in the third quarter just before Central Connecticut dominated with 21 points over the final 20 minutes left in the game placing a 35-10 victory in the Northeast Conference opener for both Central Connecticut State (CCSU) and Wagner College.

Due to injuries of both running backs freshman Prince Young and junior Shane Smith, Wagner relied on freshman RB Ryan Middleton, who ran for a game-high 86 yards in seven carries.

An interception from junior QB Adam Farnsworth CCSU on a pass that bounced off of freshman WR David Crawford led to a CCSU 35-yard drive that was capped by an 18-yard TD pass from QB Aubrey Norris to WR Jermaine Roberts.

Middleton fought back with runs of 15 and 11 yards to move the ball inside the CCSU 15-yard line. However, on the first-and-10 from Central Connecticut's 14-yard line, Middleton fumbled the handoff from Farnsworth.

CCSU got their second TD with a fast and striking five-play, 60-yard drive that took 2:18 capped with a score that led the Blue Devils to a 14-0 lead with 2:04 left to spare in the first quarter.

The Seahawk's retaliated, stomping 70-yards before a seven-yard TD pass from Farnsworth to sophomore TE Morgan Mizell that put Wagner on the board with 14-7

In the second quarter Farnsworth was removed from the field and did

not return. Senior Matt Abbey replaced him and led Wagner confidently. With 50 seconds left in the half, Wagner took over at the CCSU 36-yard line, as Abbey hit an amazing four straight passes. The last pass was to Collins that made it second-and-goal from the Blue Devil five-yard line. Collins was tackled inbounds which left the clock running. With no timeouts left, the Seahawks attempted a spike and a field goal but time ran out before the team could snap the ball.

In the second half, Abbey marched 77 yards in nine plays, with the help of a 45-yard run by Middleton that set up a 29-yard field by senior kicker Eric Ortiz. This drew the Seahawks to within 14-10 with 10:09 remaining in the third quarter.

CCSU answered with a 10-play 70 yard TD drive with fullback Josh Vargas taking it over the one on fourth-and-goal to remain in the lead with 21-10.

The Blue Devils finished with a pair of fourth-quarter TDs on a 16-yard reverse by Roberts and 69-yard pass from Norris to WR Nick Colagiovanni.

Although the numbers seem far apart, the statistics were much closer than one would expect.

CCSU out-gained Wagner with 414-331 and led in first down by a close 18-17 margin. Due to senior DT Adrian Adderley and senior LB's Jason Haskins and Jeremy Spinks, they recorded nine tackles apiece which led the Seahawks defensively throughout the game.

The Seahawks can be seen again at home, as they host Monmouth University on Sat Oct 11 at 1:00 p.m.

### 2008 NEC Football Standings

School:	NEC	PCT.	Overall	PCT.	Streak	Home	Away	Neutral
<b>Monmouth</b>	2-0	1.000	3-3	.500	W3	1-2	2-1	0-0
<b>Sacred Heart</b>	1-0	1.000	5-0	1.000	W5	3-0	2-0	0-0
<b>Central Conn. St.</b>	1-0	1.000	4-1	.800	W3	3-0	1-1	0-0
<b>Albany</b>	1-0	1.000	2-3	.400	W1	0-0	2-3	0-0
<b>Duquesne</b>	1-1	.500	2-2	.500	L1	2-1	0-1	0-0
<b>Wagner</b>	0-1	.000	2-3	.400	L2	1-1	1-2	0-0
<b>Robert Morris</b>	0-2	.000	1-4	.200	L4	1-2	0-2	0-0
<b>St. Francis (PA)</b>	0-2	.000	0-5	.000	L5	0-1	0-4	0-0

### Next Up



Monmouth Hawks  
Staten Island, N.Y.  
1:00 p.m.

### NEC Football Wrap-Up

Date	Home	Away	Result
9/27	Wagner	<b>Bryant</b>	24-14
9/27	<b>Morehead State</b>	St. Francis (PA)	36-21
9/27	<b>Delaware</b>	Albany	38-7
9/27	Delaware State	<b>Central Conn. St.</b>	28-10
10/4	<b>Sacred Heart</b>	Robert Morris	31-28
10/4	<b>Monmouth</b>	St. Francis (PA)	42-15
10/4	<b>Central Conn. St.</b>	Wagner	35-10
10/4	<b>Duquesne</b>	Albany	33-23

Winning Team is in **bold**

## Seahawks suffer embarrassing loss to inferior Division II school...again

By **ANDREW MINUCCI**  
Wagnerian Co-Editor

Talk about playing down to your opponent's level.

The Seahawks lost their second game of the season to a Division II team after getting pounded 24-14 by the Bryant Bulldogs, who will become full-fledged members of the NEC in 2012, on Sept. 27.

Green and White had also lost their season opener to the Division II Stonehill Skyhawks.

In the first quarter, junior QB Adam Farnsworth nailed senior TE Pete Zagorski with a pass, which he took down the field for an 80 yard touchdown.

Their next series would not end so triumphantly.

Punting from their own 23 yard line, the Bulldog's Andrew Whyte blocked the kick, allowing his teammate Anthony Castelli to scoop it up for an easy four-yard touchdown.

That was all the momentum the bulldogs would need, to finish of their Division I opponent.

On the Seahawk's next drive, Bulldog DB Bryce Martins picked off a pass from Farnsworth, returning it 15 yard to the Wagner's own four yard line. One play later the Bulldog's led 14-7 after Lindsey Gamble pounded the ball into the end zone.

Before the second half expired, the Seahawks punting unit had another



While the Seahawks defense played well stopping the Bulldog's advances, mistakes by the special team's unit caused another embarrassing defeat by a Division II foe. The team is now 0-2 against lower divisions this year.

devastating gaffe, botching a snap which set up a 20 yard field goal by Bryant's Chris Bird, that sent his team into the locker room with a 17-7 half-time lead.

While the punting unit certainly played sloppy, there was plenty of blame to go around.

During the kickoff to start the second half, a Seahawk facemask penalty gave the Bulldogs prime field position on their own 47 yard line. QB Jay Graber led his team on a nine play- 53 yard drive that resulted in a touchdown, giving them a 24-7 lead.

After a big hit took Farnsworth out of the game, senior QB Matt Abbey

led the Seahawks on a late drive that resulted in a touchdown with 1:27 left in the game. Bryant sealed the victory 24-14 by recovering the ensuing on-side kick attempt.

While bad mistakes are certainly to blame for the Seahawk's misfortunes, devastating injuries have taken a toll on this team with freshman RB Prince Young, junior RB Shane Smith, sophomore LT Zach Johnson and senior G Matt Martin, all watching the game from the sidelines.

Fortunately for the Seahawks there are no remaining Division II teams on their schedule this year.



# Largely unnoticed on campus, hockey shoots for respect

By **ANDREW MINUCCI**  
Wagnerian Co- Editor

Think there is no team at Wagner College capable of winning a championship?

Well, don your sweater, slam the boards and get ready to think again.

The Seahawk ice hockey team has been ranked first in the Mid-Atlantic Collegiate Hockey Association (MACHA), receiving nine out of 10 first place votes for the upcoming season.

This year's team, who play their home games at the W II Veterans War Memorial Ice Skating Rink, located just down the hill in Clove Lakes Park, has a powerful combination of high-octane offense, stifling defense and solid goaltending.

"Our goal this year is to win a national championship," said senior Dayne Gluting, who returns to the squad after spending a year playing for Davenport University, as well as in Austria and Germany.

## CHAMPIONS?

A national championship? At Wagner? Seriously?

When asked about the possibility of winning it all, Head Coach Charlie Crispino didn't hesitate for a moment, stating, "For the first time in years, I really believe we can win the national championship."

"We are really strong at forward, we have talent up front... a lot of offense," he said.

"Our biggest strength is our offense, we have a lot of rookies that are ready to contribute every night," added Gluting.

While the Seahawk's run and gun offense expects to put up high numbers on the scoreboard, the defensive unit is equally prepared to keep the puck out of their own zone.

"We are going to be pretty solid on defense," said senior defenseman Dave Branning, adding, "We are not going to get hurt on the defensive side."

Not overly showy, but staggeringly reliable, senior Jamie Gardner sums of the defense stating, "We will be consistent, not flashy, and not overly physical."

To sum up their goal; keep the puck out of the zone, protect the goaltender and put some points on the board when possible, while allowing the offense to play their game.

"We will simply get the job done," adds Branning.

Then of course there is the ring-leader of any hockey team, the man between the posts; the goaltender.

"In goal I think we are going to be good," said Crispino, "Chris will be our go to guy, but Dan will get his chance," he added, referring to incoming freshman Chris Hausel and sophomore Dan Kelchner.

"I am just going to try to get the job done," said Hausel.

## CHEMISTRY

While new faces surely will add a spark to the club that has won three



Photos: Andrew Minucci

From left to right: Dave Branning, Dayne Gluting, Jamie Gardner and Chris Hausel look to lead the Seahawks to a national championship this season.



The Seahawks play their home games at the W.W. II Veterans War Memorial Ice Skating Rink located in Clove Lake Park off Victory Blvd., only a five minute drive from campus.

straight MACHA championships, after beating top ranked William Patterson on March 3, the players are crediting their newfound chemistry to the high expectations.

"Everyone came back to camp in top shape; we are having a lot more time being on the ice with each other. There is a higher skill level here than ever," said Gluting.

"Everyone's taking everything more serious, our coach is a lot more serious, we are just trying to have a lot more fun," said Branning.

Hausel, who as a goaltender relies on the cooperation of his teammates more than anyone states, "Our team chemistry is going real well."

For Gluting, the respect and admiration for his teammates is what drew him back to Grymes Hill after his year long hiatus.

"My year away made me appreciate what I had here, what I had with my teammates, what I had with Charlie," he said, "All my friends are here."

Gluting continued, "We have some real good players on this team. A lot of guys are here who have the potential to play hockey after college."

Leading the team both on the ice and in the locker room will be letter wearers, Captain Scott Scriffignano and Assistant Captains, Phil Manix, Tim Smith and Craig Cutter.

The team will open its season this weekend at the Grand Valley Invitational tournament in Allendale, Mich. The will open on Oct. 10

against Texas Tech, face Michigan State on Oct. 11 and finish off the road trip against Kennesaw State on Oct. 12.

"At this tournament we are going to see the top three tams in the country," said Gluting, "These first to weeks will set the stage for the rest of our season."

## SUPPORT

The one thing that does dampen the team's spirit is the support it gets from the student body. A common sight at most home games, which take place only a five minute drive from campus, are bleachers scattered with only a few fans. The team's first home game is Thursday, Oct. 23 at 8 p.m. against Seaton Hall University.

"I don't think we get nearly enough respect around school," said Gluting.

The Seahawk men's ice hockey team is not a group prone to putting up co-curricular approved flyers or post a message on the electronic sign outside of the Union. They intend to fill their stands by winning their games and paving their way to a national championship.

"They suggest you come along for the ride."

A complete schedule for the Seahawk's upcoming season can be found on their Web site [www.wagnerhockey.com](http://www.wagnerhockey.com)

## MCHA Pre-Season Hockey Rankings

Number of first place votes in parentheses

1. Wagner 11 (10)
2. Temple 25 (1)
3. UMBC 27
4. St. Joe's 41
5. Rowan 58
6. Rider 61
7. Seton Hall 74
8. TCNJ 75
9. UPENN 84
10. Lafayette 94

Cut this free ticket out to present at any home hockey game.

Admit One



Photo: Dave Saffran

Senior Captain Leslie Reed picked up her first NEC Defensive Player of the Week award.

# Three Seahawks given weekly NEC honors

By **CAROLYN SUSINO**  
Wagnerian Sports Editor

It is only the beginning of the semester and already three Seahawks have soared to new heights, grabbing NEC awards and overall recognition for their athletic achievement. Two cross country stars, senior Brecken Drager and freshman Zachary Spector grabbed the NEC Athlete of the Week, while women's soccer senior captain Leslie Reed was named NEC Defensive Player of the Week.

In Somerset, N.J., senior Brecken Drager (Loomis, Calif./Del Oro) and freshman Zachary Spector (Yaphank, NY./Longwood) have earned the Wagner College Cross Country team its first Northeast Conference (NEC) weekly awards of the year due to their outstanding efforts at the Father Loeber S.J. Invitational on Saturday, Sept. 27.

A passionate athlete, this is not the first time Drager has been given this award.

"This is the fourth time I got athlete of the week," she said.

Drager has been awarded the NEC women's cross country athlete of the week for her success at breaking the tape on the 5,000 meter course in 18:56.92 to capture her first-ever collegiate first-place finish in Fairfield, Conn.

The win marks the first time in nearly five years that a Wagner athlete has won a woman's cross country race. This is Drager's first NEC Athlete of the Week award this year and says, "I'm happy, especially since it's my last year of running."

Spector takes claim of his title NEC rookie of the week award after finishing the 8,000m course in 26:25, good for 15 place. This is his first NEC award. Spector was yet again the first to cross the finish line and helped the Seahawks place fourth place in a field of 11 teams.

Due to an amazing performance in goal last week against Manhattan College, senior Captain Leslie Reed (Indian Harbour Beach, Fla./ Satellite) was honored as the NEC defensive player of the week for women's soccer. With her authoritative manner in goal, she commanded the post for 110 minutes and made 15 saves that helped maintain a 1-1 tie vs. the Jaspers on Friday, Sept. 26.

With the Seahawks going into their seventh week, this honorable player has now compiled a total of 49 saves on the season, putting her in third place in the conference for her 7.00 saves per game.

Reed is the first Seahawk soccer player to be honored with the newly-added NEC Defensive Player of the Week Award.



“I hope that is true that a woman can die and yet not only live in others but give them life, and not only life, but that great consciousness of life.”

JACK KEROUAC



In memoriam, Dr. Kim Worthy

Putting Dr. Worthy's legacy into words is a task I never wished to face. It is impossible to measure in words how much this inspirational woman meant to my writing, my love of cinema, and my academic career. You may love what I write, you may hate what I write. But Dr. Worthy made *me* love my own writing, and anyone who has put pen to paper will tell you that that is the greatest gift of all.

I was privileged enough to be placed in Dr. Worthy's Learning Community as a wide-eyed freshman, fearful of the future. She eased the transition and continuously displayed a friendliness that I have yet to see in another professor, Wagner or otherwise. I also feel blessed that I was able to accompany Dr. Worthy, her daughter and six other Wagner students on a life-changing journey to Vietnam.

Dr. Worthy had a vast knowledge about the country, but her understanding of the culture was absolutely limitless, and that made the experience all the more awe-inspiring.

The Vietnamese have a tradition. When a friendship has progressed to the point that the friend seems like family, they no longer say “thank you,” when a situation calls for it. Instead, the words become pointless, and the silence shared between the two beings imply a bond so strong that the mere utterance of polite words would be unjust. Seeing Dr. Worthy interact with her Vietnamese friends that she had not seen in years was one of the most poignant examples of human interaction I've been fortunate enough to witness.

Dr. Worthy left an undeniable impact on the Wagner campus and community, but she left an even bigger impact on the life she loved so much and has now left behind.

Thanks to her, we don't have to hope that Kerouac's dream is a reality.  
We, the hundreds of Wagner students, staff and faculty that she influenced so greatly, know it to be true.

-Jesse Hagen