



Photos courtesy of SGA

Left: First years mingle on the Guild porch, middle: peer leaders help move in supplies, right: President Guarasci welcomes a new student.

## Class of 2013 settles in at Wagner

### 527 new first-year students bring variety, diversity to campus

By **KELLIANN VOLSARIO**  
Managing Editor

When members of the Wagner community returned for the fall semester, there was a buzz about the incoming Class of 2013, mainly about its size. However, the number of first years this year is not too much more than Wagner's typical average.

There are 527 first year students, 80 transfers, and coupled with last year's numbers, the average of incoming students remains balanced.

With last year's unstable economy, the incoming class for the fall of 2008

rounded out at 480 students. However, the class of 2009 was the largest graduating class Wagner has ever seen, with 580 graduates.

This school year, the admissions staff was unsure if the incoming class would even reach the previous year's number. "This shows there is still a great interest in Wagner," said Angelo Araimo, vice president for enrollment and planning.

Araimo said, "We averaged between 530 and 550 [students] between 2004 and 2007," making this year's rate right on target.

Originally, the number of freshmen capped at 534, but that number was expected to drop in the first few

weeks, a common occurrence at many colleges.

On average, the college budgets for 510 new students, however according to Araimo Wagner is still in "growth mode."

Overall, the number of transfers is growing among colleges, and this is true here as well. "The idea of changing colleges isn't as traumatic as it used to be," said Araimo. "It's a place where I think we can even do better."

Approximately 80% of the new students are residents and because the new residence hall isn't scheduled to open until the spring semester, several freshmen were again tripled in Harbor View Hall. This is the fourth

year in a row that about 120 students have been placed in triple rooms. However, that number has dropped by thirty students since the summer months.

Araimo says that the only area where space is tight is in the first year learning communities.

Currently, admissions has seen an 82% return rate after the first year. The average among other private colleges is between 70 -75%, making Wagner above average.

"We did a better job of finding the right students who applied, who we felt academically also knew what it was to make a commitment to Wagner," Araimo said.

The Class of 2013 represents 34 states, with 43 states represented among the entire undergraduate population. "We are becoming much more geographically diverse."

This freshman class also represents six countries including Canada, South Africa, Bahamas, China and United Kingdom.

This year, Wagner can still boast an increasing diversity rate. For this class, 19% are students of color.

"Historically we were around 13%, this is the second year in row we have been around 19% percent," Araimo explained. For colleges Wagner's size, the average is around 11 or 12%.

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## Wagner recognized on U.S. News college list

By **MICHAEL PINTO**  
Wagnerian Staff Writer

Wagner College pulled in top rankings in this year's "U.S. News & World Report's Best College's Guide" having its Master Program place twice at No. 1 rankings. Wagner was the only New York City school to place in the report.

Among the rankings Wagner received was No. 1 in the Up-and-Coming Universities granting Master's Degrees in the North.

"This year's recognition is especially gratifying," stated Wagner College President Dr. Richard Guarasci in a press release. "All that we do here is focused on ensuring that our students have the best experience possible, and that's our most important and most rewarding job."

According to the magazine, schools selected in this category "have recently made the most promising and innovative changes in academics, faculty, students, campus or facilities."

Wagner again placed No.1 in Northern Master's school that showed a "strong commitment to teaching."

The magazine stated that Wagner College and the other universities listed were "singled out most often when experts were asked to identify schools where the faculty has an unusual commitment to undergraduate teaching."

"It's very nice to see Wagner leading the way when it comes to its Master's Program," said Dana Helyer, who is currently going for her master's degree in Early Childhood Education. "It makes employers look at the diploma with a little more value."

In the magazine's "Programs to Look For," Wagner also received recognition for its First Year Program, which features the nationally recognized Wagner Plan.

The college also ranked twenty-fourth in Universities granting Master's Degrees in the North.

Continued on Page 3



Photo by: Michael Brillante

Patient students were fortunate enough to snap a photo with Al Pacino outside of his trailer in West Lot.

## You can call him 'Al'

Al Pacino paid our campus a surprise visit, and the Wagnerian was on the scene to get the scoop on what the film star was working on. For the full story, see page 5.

the wagnerian

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## Advocacy now!

Well here we are, back for another school year and another installment of Messages from the Oval Office!

Before I begin, I would like to thank the editors of the Wagnerian for allowing me this column to let you, the students, know what is going on around campus and SGA's projects and other developments. While this may not be a controversial space each issue, I do hope it is an informative one and pushes students to become more involved in clubs, organizations, and even SGA.

For those of you at the first SGA meeting of the year, you know we took club attendance by passing out cards asking for the club info and what changes you wanted to see at Wagner this year. After looking over the cards, I am both confident that we can fix many of these issues, but disappointed that many clubs did not fill in anything. I can take this in two ways: first being that we are doing a super-fantastic job and nothing at Wagner needs fixing (which I would one day love to believe), the second would be that many of you are apathetic and feel nothing can be fixed.

If you fall into the second category, I urge you to please reconsider and use this opportunity to tell us what you want SGA to do this semester, whether it is try to solve a problem or hold an event; we really want to know. Some have commented that we have started to shy away from our commitment to advocacy and focused more of campus events. I cannot argue against this enough; while we have increased the events on cam-

pus, I believe we have still been a supportive and accurate voice for the student body.

At the end of last semester, we installed a suggestion box outside our office; I urge all of you to use it and make valid, appropriate suggestions for SGA to tackle this semester. At the next SGA meeting I will explain in detail the suggestions made and what the plans are to solve them during the course of the semester.

Some of you may be wondering why I am starting off my column asking you to complain about something. Well, you are then half right. I asking you not to complain, but rather use your student voice. Being an accurate voice for the student body is a cause I strongly believe, which is why I am making it a focal point of this column, as well as my presidency. Nothing upsets me more than students who come to speak about an issue after it's too late. Our door is always open, and we are always trying to increase the student experience at Wagner. I truly hope you will take advantage of our advocacy initiative for this year.

Finally, as I promised back in the spring, a Marvelous Mike Fun Fact for the issue: September 18, 1927—The Columbia Broadcasting System (CBS) begins operation with 16 radio stations. It later becomes the standard of television, earning the nickname the Tiffany Network.

Signing off,  
Michael J. Pinto  
SGA President

# Campus Symposium introduces 'Wagner Plan 2.0'

By STEPHANIE  
BUSCEMA and  
STEPHANIE BERRIOS

Wagner College held its first Campus Symposium. Faculty, staff, administration and selected students were among those who were invited to participate in the Sept. 18 events. Wagner's President, Richard Guarasci, personally invited a select group of students to attend the event. In his letter, he states, "With the generous gift from the Engelhard Foundation given to the President, the provost and I are working with a faculty-administrative planning committee in planning a day and a half symposium where we learn from each other about many innovative initiatives and programs created by the faculty and staff in the last several years. Together we can integrate, these interesting educational learning experiences and write them into the next stage of our successful undergraduate learning narrative: The Wagner Plan 2.0."

"With its inception in 1998, the Wagner Plan is a comprehensive, undergraduate program that strives to provide each student with "integrative learning, reflective practice, experiential learning, communication skills, critical inquiry, and knowledge attainment in a discipline." Under the Wagner Plan, students take a variety of courses ranging from the natural sciences to the humanities. These courses provide students the opportunity to gain knowledge of scientific inquiry and stimulate one's knowledge of "the nature of the individual and society." In addition, students learn to be tolerant and open-minded along with a yearning to attain knowledge about a wide range of cultures and their customs.

A core component of the Wagner Plan is experiential learning or "field-based learning." Throughout four years at Wagner, students participate in three learning communities, two of which typically involve fieldwork and research linked to an organization in New York City. In the First Year Program, students partake in field-based experiences that are linked to two introductory liberal arts courses and a Reflective Tutorial. With experiential learning, students are afforded the opportunity to experience class content firsthand, learn and reflect upon their experiences in the field, and apply what they have learned.

Starting with hours d'oeuvres in the VIP Room of Spiro Sports Center, the symposium commenced on Thursday with an address by Carol Schneider, president of the Association of American Colleges and Universities. Professor Walter Kaelber provided a response to Schneider's plenary address. An open discussion and a question and answer session en-

sued shortly after Kaelber's speech. Dinner and coffee closed Thursday night's events. Emily Burkhardt, a junior and resident assistant on the Earth Floor at Wagner, attended the symposium on Thursday night.

"I thought it was a very eye-opening experience for how much staff, administration and faculty wanted to see happen on campus but I really wish that more students had come, listened and been involved."

September 18th served as the primary day for events surrounding the symposium. Breakfast was provided in the gymnasium, followed by an introduction by Dr. Guarasci and Wagner's Provost, Dr. Deborah Lieberman. Campus initiatives were presented through a milieu of stations, each centered on specific programs such as Civic Engagement, Expanding Your Horizons, First Year Program, Honors Program and Merit Awards. Each workshop was 15 minutes long with Dr. Jean Halley, Associate Professor of Sociology, ringing a triangle bell to signify the end of each workshop. Guest speaker, Dr. Ashley Finley, director of assessment for learning at the Association for American Colleges and Universities, provided a welcoming speech to facilitate an open discussion. Lunch along with round table discussions was later provided in the VIP room of the Spiro Sports Center. Each table possessed a specific sign highlighting the program that would be discussed. Following lunch, students and faculty continued to travel from station to station, acquiring more knowledge about such campus initiatives such as assessment and curricular adjustment, faculty development, and teaching and learning with technology.

The events of the Symposium impacted both faculty and students alike. It provided an opportunity for those who were unfamiliar with programs Wagner offers to learn firsthand just how beneficial they are to students.

Catharine McGlade, assistant dean of campus life provided her reflection on the events spanning the two day event. "The Campus Symposium presented many wonderful opportunities as we launch a new academic year: to reflect on who we are as an educational community, to learn about the history and future of the Wagner Plan and to connect with faculty, administration, staff and students. It was especially energizing to hear how Wagner has been a trail blazer within liberal education in many ways; the fact that the symposium was offered displays a certain dedication to the community...it provided the opportunity for everyone to have a voice, reminding us that everyone plays an integral role in shaping the Wagner Plan: both in and out of the classroom"

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Photo: Alexa Conrad

A new handrail was installed at the top of the stairs that are accessible from the mail room exit in the Union.

## Handrail installed for student safety

By **DESIREE BRAITHWAITE**  
Wagnerian Staff Writer

If you have exited the Union Building using the steps coming up from the mailboxes, as you make the turn from the steps you may have noticed a new addition to the campus (or if you didn't notice, you walked right into it). Recently, Wagner had what seems to be a handrail installed coming out of the brick wall. Now the question is, why was it put there?

According to Dominic Fontano, director of campus operations, the handrail was installed in that location to prevent accidents. Since the mailboxes were moved two years ago to the second floor in the Union, that exit has become very popular, even used by staff of the college.

The safety issue was that people exiting the stairway would make a

sharp left turn to walk down the hill away from the building. At the same time, a golf cart could be driving up the walkway. There were a couple of incidents where a pedestrian could have been seriously hurt if hit by the golf cart. To prevent this, the railing was installed so that the pedestrian can walk out about three feet before they make the turn. This will help the golf cart drivers and pedestrians to see each other and, hopefully, prevent any more accidents from occurring.

Sophomore Kaitlyn Freire thinks the railing is "beneficial to keep the flow of traffic moving," but also thinks it is an "eyesore." Junior student-worker Alex Smith believes the handrail "is a good thing, it will prevent accidents." Staff member, Jay Fontanarosa agrees saying, "there was a blind spot before that is now prevented with the placement of the railing."

# Spiro Sports Center to add new gym in basement

By **ALEXA LYONS**  
Wagnerian Staff Writer

A new gym is going to be built in the basement of the Spiro Sports Center, although the start and finish of the project has yet to be officially announced.

Walt Hameline, director of athletics, explains that the elimination of both the volleyball and wrestling teams provides space in the basement, an area which both teams used for practice.

"The sports center is the most utilized facility on campus," says Hameline, also head coach of the football team. "It's going to free up the fitness center for the entire student body."

The sports center is open from 6:30 a.m. until 11 p.m., and is often crowded with the school's 20 sports teams and their dedicated players as well as the rest of the student body.

There was initial talk about having the basement turned into extra locker space, but that idea was quickly dismissed when the fitness issue was brought to the association's attention.

All profits will result from fundraising and the project will be receiving no money from the school. Due to the fundraising necessities, it is undetermined as to when the new workout room will be finished.



Photos: Jessica Ramsey

After the axing of the wrestling and volleyball programs, the Spiro Sports Center now has some extra space in the basement, a space that is slated to become another gym.



Photo: Jessica Ramsey

This space in the Anna H. Parker Towers residence hall is a possible location for a new campus-wide common room.

## Towers basement looked at as potential lounge area

By **COURTNEY KRAIZA**  
Wagnerian Staff Writer

The Student Government Association is currently in the process of putting together a new basement lounge in the Anna H. Parker Towers residence hall.

Currently, Towers does not have a student lounge on each floor, which limits the possibility of social gatherings. Most of the lounges available in Towers for student use are only in-

tended for the Greek organizations located on designated floors.

"The only common spaces have recently been furnished by [Residential Education] to make them more comfortable and usable," says Sara Klein, Director of Res Ed. She goes on to say that "Towers' TV Lounge on D3, and the main lobby on C3 [have been furnished for social student uses.] Other than that, there are no building-wide common spaces in Towers available for student use. This is why SGA (and Res Ed) want to create an-

other space for student use in this building."

The space is intended to be a 24-hour game room, conveniently utilizing the space that up until now was only necessary for storage purposes.

The basement has the only readily available spaces for student use, and Res Ed has considered this and a building-wide lounge is in the process and set to be finished for the start of the spring semester in January, when students are back and rejuvenated from winter break.

# U.S. News and World Report recognizes Wagner



U.S. News and World Report selected Wagner's masters program for two separate first-place awards.

**Continued from Page 1**

Among the most significant rankings were the ones that recognized the First Year Program and the commitment to teaching. "For these particular sections one must look up (on paper) and record a multi-digit code for each desired school. That means it takes much more time participate in

this section of the survey, but it also tells me that our work, our reputation is beginning to make a distinct impression on our peers. That impression is strong enough that they wish to recognize Wagner."

*Information for this article was taken from the Wagner College Web site at [wagner.edu](http://wagner.edu).*

# Memorial for Chris Catt a touching celebration of his life

By **KELLIANN VOLSARIO**  
Managing Editor

Members of Wagner's theatre department, students, alumni and administrators gathered on Sept. 13 for a memorial honoring Associate Professor Christopher Catt.

Catt, who also served as the theatre department's chair for six years, died on June 30, at the age of 59.

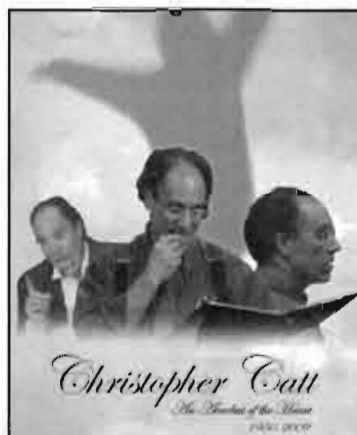
A professor at Wagner for 14 years, Catt taught movement, directing, as well as other courses for performers.

During this time the California native directed over 23 Main Stage productions, including some of the programs most acclaimed shows, such as "Jekyll and Hyde," "Jesus Christ Superstar," "Sweeney Todd," and "Tommy," which is set to open Oct. 7.

The memorial was held on the Main Stage in Main Hall's theatre. A



Left: Catt standing with graduating Theatre students, middle: the memorial program cover, right: Catt on stage



musical performance, including current students

and alumni included solos and duets from his large body of work. Songs and scenes from shows Catt directed, as well as the finale number of "Tommy," titled "Listening to You," were performed.

According to sophomore, Michael D'Amico, there was a full house, so full that a live feed of the event was

placed in classrooms in Main Hall to accommodate more people.

D'Amico said the memorial was a celebration of Catt's life and "his love for the art of acting and ultimately his students."

"I'm glad I got to know him, even a little bit," he added.

Catt worked professionally for 25 years in New York with notable Off-Broadway credits and served as pro-

ducer and director for the St. Bart's Players for eight years.

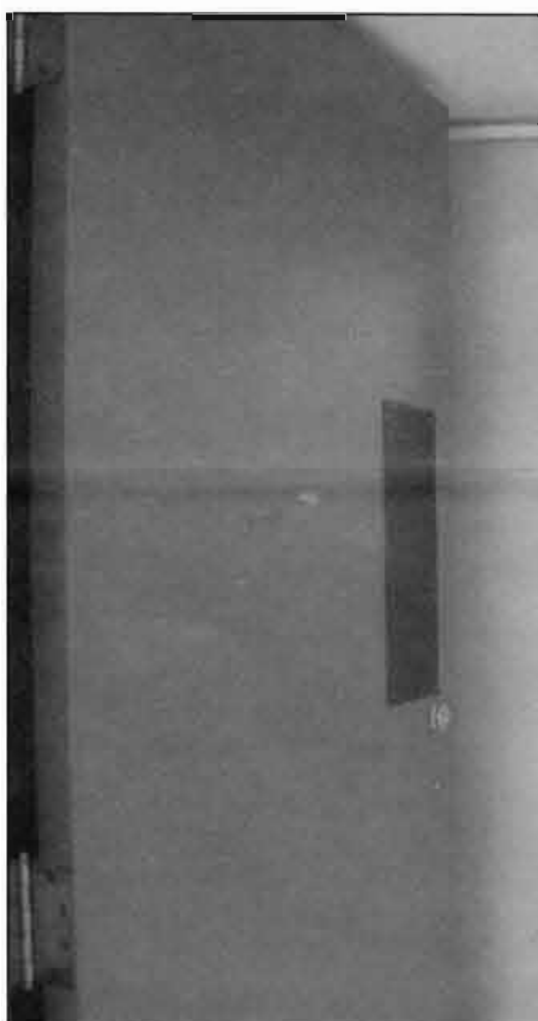
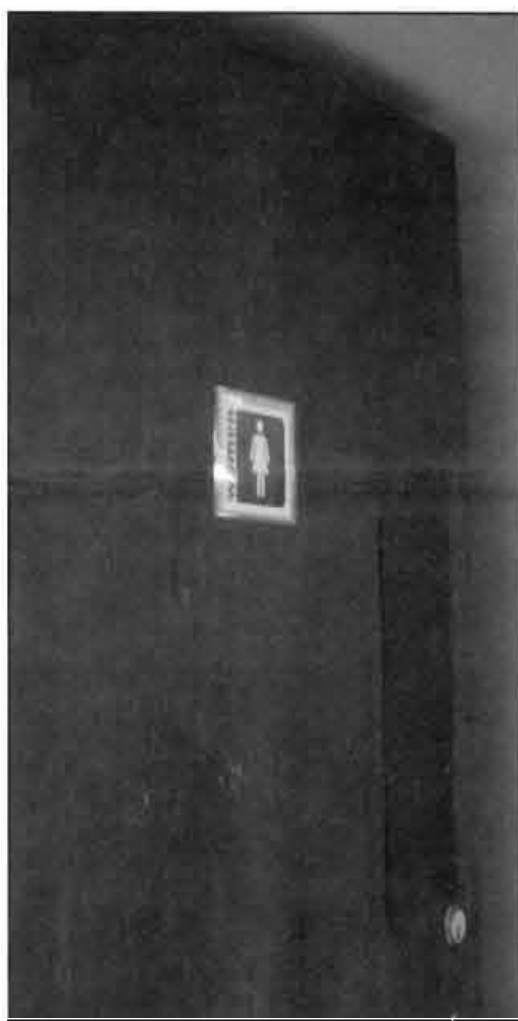
Having received an MFA from UCLA, he directed over 175 plays and musicals. For five years, Catt was artistic director of the Performing Arts program at Snug Harbor Cultural Center.

His production of "Wait Until Dark" was voted Best Production in the Staten Island Advance's 2008

readers poll in its Advance Entertainment Weekly (AWE) section.

The same poll voted him Best Director for Snug Harbor's productions of "Wait Until Dark" and "My Fair Lady."

*Information from wagner.edu was used in this story.*



Photos: Jessica Ramsey

These bathroom doors in Harbor View are unclear. One has a "women" sign, the other has no sign at all.

## Concerns raised over co-ed wings in Harbor View Hall

By **MARISSA DIBARTOLO**  
Wagnerian Staff Writer

During the housing selection process of spring 2009, many soon-to-be sophomores, juniors, and seniors were forced to spend at least one more semester in Harbor View Hall.

Due to the delays in the construction of Foundation Hall, upper classmen were placed on the top three floors of Harbor View.

However, many of the returning residents were surprised when they noticed a few changes to the building, including the cohabitation of males and females on the upper floors.

This year, men and women will not only be sharing the hallways and lounges but the bathrooms as well.

Sara Klein, director of residential education said, "If we had kept the wings in Harbor View single-sex for those living there as they wait to move into Foundation in the Spring, then the wings in Foundation would also become single-sex, which is not the intention."

Diana Papa, a sophomore and twelfth floor resident is not terribly bothered by the situation, but would prefer the traditional manner of males on one side, females on the other. "It isn't as awkward as I would have thought, but I would feel more comfortable with just girls using the bathroom," says Papa.

Other students were caught off guard by the situation. Ally Argust, a thirteenth floor resident, states "I was very surprised when I was brushing

my teeth and I saw a guy in the bathroom with me, it will certainly take some getting used to."

Although the co-ed bathroom situation is not ideal, it does allow for every student on campus to have the housing they need.

"A few parents mentioned concern over a co-ed wing, but no specific concerns related to this set-up have arisen," Klein said.

It may take some adjusting for both men and women on the upper floors of Harbor View, but overall the condition does not seem to be problematic.

Klein added, "Overall, we have received few complaints about the co-ed wings on the top floors of Harbor View."

## For first two weeks, first years banned from Towers, Guild

By **CARLENE KUCHARCZYK**  
Wagnerian Staff Writer

Wagner implemented a policy prohibiting freshmen students from entering the Parker Towers or Guild residence halls during the first two weekends of the semester.

Tope Ayeni, assistant resident director in Towers said, "The reason that this rule was implemented because upperclassmen are over 21

Several freshmen students were interviewed to see whether they found this rule to be effective or an unnecessary divider from the rest of the student body.

Freshman Stephanie Baez, comments that, "It was good for the first week because I had a chance to get to know people on my floor and other freshmen, but after the first week, I thought we should be allowed to go

into the other dorms. The upperclassmen are going to be here too."

Freshmen Mark Gilbert and Gerald Clum were in agreement

and have access to beer."

Some would say this is an opportunity for freshmen assimilation. Other unifying programs offered include freshmen learning communities, orientation, and activities designed solely so that the freshmen can become acquainted with one another.

"This was their first time away from home and we did not want them to go haywire, we wanted them to ease into the process of making good decisions," Ayeni added. Simply, the residential education staff did not want freshmen to be in any proximity to alcohol.

The amount of time freshmen students spend with each other is already far more than the time they spend with upperclassmen. "Initially in the first week it went smoothly and it was 100% effective. However in the second week it did start to wane," Ayeni said.

Students feel that socializing with upperclassmen could make them feel more welcomed into a new place, as well as a greater feeling of unity between grades.

that this policy did not affect them very much, yet had they wanted to enter the buildings during these two weekends they felt it would not be difficult to enter these buildings.

Resident assistants, James Messina of Towers and Kristie Scherrer of Guild were in accordance about the two-weekend rule. They found it to be unnecessary, especially with the lack of enforcement.

Despite this rule, the freshmen Wagner identification cards can still be used to open the doors of Guild and Towers.

John Atti, the assistant RD in Guild said, "I have not heard from the desk attendants that there were any issues during the first two weeks. But I am trying to make the desk attendant program more efficient."

He added, "The policies are not what I created but I am the one implementing. I am open to taking any constructive criticism and to meet with the student body and listen to their concerns."



# Pacino visit causes excited splash on campus

By **STEPHANIE BUSCEMA** and **SHANNON ELDRIDGE**

The Wagner College campus, equipped with a lush habitat has been a recent favorite for spontaneous filming. What students know as "our" home has also been home to productions including an episode of "Law and Order: Special Victims Unit," "School of Rock" and "An Invisible Sign of Their Own." Most recently, campus was rattled when HBO cast and crew arrived to film an upcoming production entitled "You Don't Know Jack." The film is a portrayal of Dr. Jack Kevorkian, the infamous doctor of death.

Acting icon Al Pacino, who was casted as Kevorkian, spent eleven hours on campus filming select scenes from the film. Along with Pacino, actress Susan Sarandon and actor John Goodman graced the set as well.

The Union's atrium was completely transformed to create a sophisticated atmosphere. Artisans, all formerly dressed, were scattered throughout the atrium. Additions to the atrium included nice black leather furniture with no embellishments and stainless steel framework as well as ginger ale disguised in classic champagne bottles.

In addition to the quick and efficient set-up and breakdown of the production filmed here Friday Sep-



Photos by: Stephanie Buscema

Left: Pacino is tended to while waiting to shoot a scene. Right: Pacino getting into character as Dr. Jack Kevorkian.

tember 18th, HBO also found efficiency in their own perspective of the 'going green' epidemic. In an effort to distinctly decrease on wasteful set habits, the green production assistant, Jeremy Albuher managed initiatives that enhanced the environment by "keeping it clean." Efforts made by the cast and crew included generators that ran on biodiesel fuel, made from low sulfur diesel and recycled cooking oil as well as recycling batteries, using recycled cardboard and providing metal water bottles to cast and crew members to reduce the waste that plastic bottles produce and decrease the amount of plastic added to landfills. Albuher added, "The entertainment industry, while glamorous in the limelight, is not so glamorous when you look at our waste output

and energy efficiency. We're excited to be working with HBO Films on promoting environmentally sustainable practices within the business, while lessening our impact on the environment as a production."

Students shuffled around on the patio outside, waiting to get lucky. While inside cast and crew worked diligently to efficiently capture the captivating moments between Susan Sarandon, John Goodman and Al Pacino. The environment reflected a very fast-paced professional setting. Equipment was shifted frequently and film changes referred to as 'checking the gate' were normal functions for cast and crew, who moved like pawns while on set. Armed with his walkie talkie, headgear and Cubs hat, Joe Salters acted as liaison for Wagner students pro-

viding coverage on the inside. He was a key player in communication with all members of the set by screaming words like 'pictures up', 'last looks' and 'checking the gate' which emphasized important instructions for participants and viewers while the camera was 'rolling.'

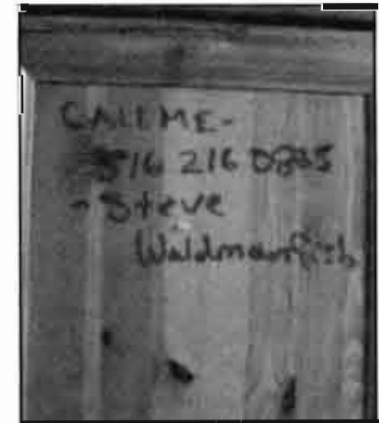
Ten very fortunate students were asked to join the cast of gallery goers and Pacino in the Union atrium. Among the students asked to join the cast was senior Amanda Tancredi.

When asked how she felt about joining the production, she replied, "I'm very excited and feel privileged to be working so closely to amazing actors like Al Pacino." Wagner's own Mike Brillante, director of media, found himself in a similar situation when his mother,

Louise, was also asked to join the cast of gallery goers; a proposition she gladly accepted with haste. She has loved Pacino since she was 17 years old and the first film she ever saw him in was "Panic in Needle Park" in 1971.

Overall, the filming on campus of selected scenes from "You Don't Know Jack" initiated universal excitement for staff and students. Investigation of the set and interviews with select cast and crew members helped guide the events of the evening.

When asked what was the meaning behind the film, one cast member responded, "There is this idea that he [Kevorkian] was a real humanist and the film is about the darkness of the humanity."



Photos by: Alexa Conrad, Toni Lynn Martinez

ASA found a broken paddle, an overturned couch and vandalism on their outside wall, while AOII's lounge was also left with inappropriate vandalism and a broken lamp.

## For second straight year, Greeks return to vandalized lounges

By **JESSE HAGEN**  
Wagnerian Co-Editor

If the state of the Greek lounges at the beginning of the school year was any indication, someone made themselves feel at home in Towers this summer.

For the second consecutive summer, Greek organizations have come back to their lounges to find vandalism, disarray and signs of someone tampering with their possessions. The initial occurrence was covered by the Wagnerian in the September 10, 2008 issue, which made mention of the fact that the installation of the new sprinkler system was a project that Wagner had planned on spreading over two summers.

For Greeks, this meant that workers would be inside the lounges for

a second straight summer- which was obviously a cause for concern considering the first occurrence.

To attempt to curtail the uneasiness that many organizations felt about leaving certain valuables in their lounge, Co-Curricular and Residential Education offered to buy storage units for the Greek organizations, provided that the organizations moved the items they wanted stored themselves. This offer was accepted by some organizations, while others turned it down due to the difficulty of moving some select items.

Regardless, the lounges were left untidy and in certain instances vandalized for the second straight summer. Alpha Sigma Alpha Chairwoman Samantha Siegel noticed the damage after moving in early for RA training:

"I was the last one in and out of

the lounge before and after the summer," said Siegel, "I'd covered all the furniture in plastic and our items were taped up and boxed." She was not greeted with the same image upon return. Instead, Siegel arrived to find the lounge messy, with the couch flipped over, one of the paddles broken and the boxes open and seemingly rummaged through.

When asked why they as a sorority decided against storage Siegel explained: "we understood we were taking a risk. We thought that maybe people would be sitting on our couches or eating in the lounge, but obviously not for our things to be opened or broken." Siegel also noted the logistical difficulty in moving out all of the items from towers, especially the cumbersome ones, without the aid of an elevator or moving tools.

The ASA wall, which is painted

with the names and family trees of the sorority, also had profanity written on it in several places, but it is currently undetermined whether the vandalism was by those who were also responsible for the damage in the lounge.

ASA was not the only organization with damage in their lounge, but their case was arguably the most severe. Delta Nu found a hole in one of their walls, while TKS found cigarette butts on the floor. Alpha Omicron Pi also reported damage: finding a broken lamp, as well as juvenile vandalism on their walls.

Not all the Greek organizations were affected by the matter. In fact, the sisters of Alpha Delta Pi gave the sisters of ASA \$100 to help them remedy the situation. Co-Curricular and Residential Education have elected not to reimburse the organizations for the damages, but

have not been entirely unresponsive.

"Residential Education, Co-Curricular and the Dean of Campus Life have all worked collaboratively to listen to the concerns, to help organizations file appropriate documentation and reporting, and to determine if anyone besides the appropriate parties had access to the lounges this summer," said Sara Klein, the director of Residential Education.

Klein also confirmed that despite the damage in the Greek lounges last year, Wagner decided to allow the same company to complete the project that worked on it last summer, though she also noted that while the residence hall was uninhabited over the summer months, it was technically uncertain whether the damage was conclusively the responsibility of the contractors.



# Nation and World

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



The wreckage of the 1988 PanAm flight 103.

## Release of Lockerbie bomber remains contentious

By **SCOTT ALTER**  
Wagnerian Staff Writer

In 1988, Pan Am flight 103 exploded over Lockerbie, Scotland. Two-hundred-seventy people were killed. Abdelbeset Ali Mohamed al Megrahi, nicknamed the Lockerbie Bomber, was tried and sentenced to life in prison for taking part in the horrendous act. Recently, he was released, and he returned to his home in Libya. This comes eight years after his sentencing. Scottish Justice Secretary MacAskill, according to CNN.com, cited compassionate grounds for the release. He was quoted by saying that al Megrahi was, "going home to die." Abdelbeset Ali Mohamed al Megrahi is suffering from terminal prostate cancer.

The release of the so-called Lockerbie Bomber has produced mixed reactions with most being positive from the people of Libya.

Al Megrahi was greeted with a hero's welcome in his homeland. The Tripoli Post, a state-endorsed newspaper, quoted an anonymous source. It was obtained by the guardian.co.uk, and the source said, "It is a victory for the Libyan people as a result of the efforts of the Leader of the Revolution and other Libyan officials."

The United States and Britain do not share this view. Those that were killed in the 1988 bombing were mostly American citizens.

Kathleen Flynn, whose son died in the 1988 flight explosion, was quoted by BBC saying that she was

horrified that the "terrorist" could be released. Furthermore, he showed no mercy as he planted his bomb and should never qualify for anything compassionate.

Kara Weipz, whose brother was on board during the explosion, said, "I don't understand how the Scots can show compassion. I don't show compassion for someone who showed no remorse."

David Miliband, Britain's Foreign Secretary described the hero welcome scenes as deeply distressing. He told the BBC, "Obviously the sight of a mass murderer getting a hero's welcome in Tripoli is deeply upsetting, deeply distressing." Gordon Brown, Britain's Prime Minister, was outraged by Megrahi's release and homecoming celebration.

CNN European News obtained a quote from Prime Minister Brown as saying, "I have to tell you that I was both angry and I was repulsed by the reception that a convicted bomber, guilty of a huge terrorist crime, received on his return to Libya."

Furthermore, "Because it was a quasi-judicial matter, because it was a matter legislated for by the Scottish Parliament and not by us, it was a matter over which we could not interfere and had no control over the final outcome."

Meanwhile, President Barack Obama said that Megrahi's release, eight years into his life sentence, was a mistake.

His administration told the Libyan government that Megrahi should not receive a hero's welcome

and should just be placed on house arrest.

Wagner College students had their opinions about this important news story. Michael Potter, a graduate student, said, "Well, I actually graduated undergrad from Syracuse and thirty-five Syracuse students died in that crash. There is a big memorial on the campus, a week dedicated to the anniversary, and annual scholarships in name of each person who passed away. Two Scottish students study there in an exchange program, so I was very upset and sympathetic to the families to hear what had happened." Joe Eurrell, another graduate student, said, "He [Al Megrahi] should rot in jail."

The BBC obtained a statement from Al Megrahi which his attorney Tony Kelly read to reporters. He said, "Many people...I know are upset that my appeal has come to the end, but nothing more can be done about the circumstances of the Lockerbie bombing. I share their frustration. I had most to gain and nothing to lose about the whole truth coming out, until my diagnosis of cancer. To those victims' relatives who can bear to hear me say this, they continue to have my sincere sympathy for the unimaginable loss that they have suffered."

Al Megrahi continues to maintain his innocence, insisting that he was put in prison for something he did not do. "The remaining days of my life will have to be spent under the shadow of the wrongness of my conviction."

## Mixed reactions to health care debate

By **MELANIE VELENCIA**  
Wagnerian Staff Writer

In 2000, the World Health Organization released a report about the quality of health care systems worldwide. According to the WHO, France led the world for the best health care system. Developing nations like Costa Rica ranked 36<sup>th</sup>, while the United States, one of the most industrialized nations in the world, placed 37<sup>th</sup> in the 2000 report.

The United States Census Bureau reported that 18% of the American population remains uninsured. During the presidential election, President Obama campaigned for government reform.

However, millions of Americans are debating whether a change in the health care system is necessary. Obama believes change in the system is imperative because it will respond to the plight of millions of Americans who remain uninsured.

In recent interviews, Obama continues to stress the importance of three principles in his health care policy, including decreasing cost, quality care, and the ability to keep their current health care plan and doctor or choose a new one.

Many Americans believe that Obama's new policy for a public option for health insurance infringes with their civil liberties.

Opponents fear that a public option will mean that they will not have the right to choose the type of health insurance they want.

One prominent group involved in this discussion is the American Association of Retired People (AARP). The AARP has created a website that allows the public to read about the myths and facts about health care reform. The

AARP reported, "One in every three Americans say that someone in their family has skipped pills, postponed, or cut back on needed medical care due to the rising cost of health care. When the number of uninsured Americans approaches 50 million, the fact is, we can't afford not to fix health care."

Republicans and Democrats in Congress remain divided, and even 23 Democrats have declared they will vote 'no' to Obama's health care overhaul.

Some Democrats feel that health care reform is necessary, but are not satisfied with the way the health care bill is written.

Some congressmen warn that the increase in taxes and the total cost for health care reform is extremely high.

Sophomore Cody Dulock expressed his opinion on the issue. He stated, "We [the U.S. government] cannot run Medicare, Medicaid or welfare correctly, so how are we supposed to run an entire public option for health care correctly?"

Wagner student John Augello worries that the money used to finance a public option will consequently mean that less money will be allocated towards medical research.

According to the ABC-Washington Post poll, the country is split on the health care issue. The poll shows that 46% of Americans feel that there needs to be reform in the current health care system, and 48% are satisfied with the current health care system.

Wagner sophomore Matt Favetta stated, "The American people need to realize that they are being misled by special interest groups that are intentionally trying to confuse people for the sake of their own interests."

## Amnesty insists Obama end Cuban embargo

By **STEPHANIE BERRIOS**  
Wagnerian Staff Writer

Amnesty International has strongly urged President Barack Obama to lift sanctions on Cuba this month as a precursor towards eradicating the U.S. trade embargo against the island.

The London-based human rights organization issued the appeal several days prior to a September 14 deadline for President Obama to renew the provisions of the decades-long embargo against Cuba under the Trading With the Enemy Act. According to BBC News, Obama has "the power" to extend the sanctions for another year or stop them.

Amnesty International's Secretary General Irene Khan stated that for President Obama, "this is the perfect opportunity to distance himself from the failed policies of the past." Khan also made reference to how this situation could provide the President with the chance to "send a

strong message to the U.S. Congress on the need to end the embargo."

Protesting against Cuban human rights abuses, the US imposed the Trading with the Enemy Act in 1962. According to a Reuter's article, this act forbids "any type of trade or financial transaction, including those related to travel, transportation, or business in times of war or when a national emergency has been declared in relation to a certain country."

Amnesty International is calling on the president to take the first step towards dismantling the US embargo against Cuba by not extending the sanctions. The organization is concerned that the embargo is preventing Cubans from accessing medicine and medical equipment necessary for treating life-threatening diseases.

"It's preventing millions of Cubans from benefiting from vital medicines and medical equipment essential for their health," said Ms. Khan.

In its report, "The U.S. embargo against Cuba: its impact on economic and social rights," Amnesty stated that the embargo has stifled Cuba's ability to import nutritional products from the U.S., leading to a dramatic increase in the number of cases of iron deficiency, also called anemia. Citing data from the United Nations, Amnesty's report also indicated that approximately 37.5 percent of Cuban children under the age of three have been affected by the ban on nutritional products. The embargo has also limited the renovation of hospitals and care centers for the elderly.

Since entering the White House in January, President Obama has willingly taken the steps towards softening US-Cuban relations by permitting Cuban-Americans to visit and send money to relatives living on the island. Despite lifting restrictions, Obama insists that the embargo will stay in effect until Cuba releases political prisoners and improves human rights.

# in our opinion...

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

SEVEN CLASSES, THREE JOBS, ONE COLUMN

## Little things



By CHARISSE WILLIS  
Opinion Editor

When I was younger, I had trouble sleeping. After everyone else had gone to bed, I would get out of bed and walk back and forth in the hallway hoping that the creaking of floor boards would somehow lull me to sleep. Some nights this process worked and others it did not.

On the nights where the constant pitter patter of my feet lasted for more than 30 minutes my aunt would get out of bed, walk past me without a word and head to the kitchen. Fighting to hide my smile, I would follow.

As I sat playing with the salt and pepper shakers or whatever else I could find on the kitchen table, my aunt would make me apple sauce.

I remember talking to her about my day and watching her nod her head, at all the right moments, all the while her hands never stopped moving.

Eventually, after what seemed like hours, she would place a hot bowl of apple sauce in front of me. I never ate it right away; instead I inhaled the sweet cinnamon flavor, allowing

my nose to have the first taste.

Then I would take my spoon and stir it around so that my tongue would not be injured in my haste to eat. Finally, I would allow myself to taste the apple sauce.

As I savored the delicious flavor I experienced a feeling of comfort. I would forget about the problems of the day and whatever had been keeping me awake.

After a few spoonfuls of delight I was ready for bed.

My aunt would walk me back down the hall and tuck me into bed and I would be asleep before she made it back to the kitchen.

My aunt has passed on since then and every so often I think about our clandestine apple sauce meetings.

I realize that I never asked her for the recipe for her applesauce and I never took the time to pay attention to what she was doing while I rambled on about my day.

She lost out on sleep to listen to my problems and make me feel better, which very few people would do in this day and age.

In our world of text messaging, Facebook, and e-mail, we very rarely take the time to sit face to face with a person and listen to them.

Instead, we send them a quick instant message or sneak them a text message while we are in class.

We are losing out on precious time with our loved ones because today's world does not value quality time with others.

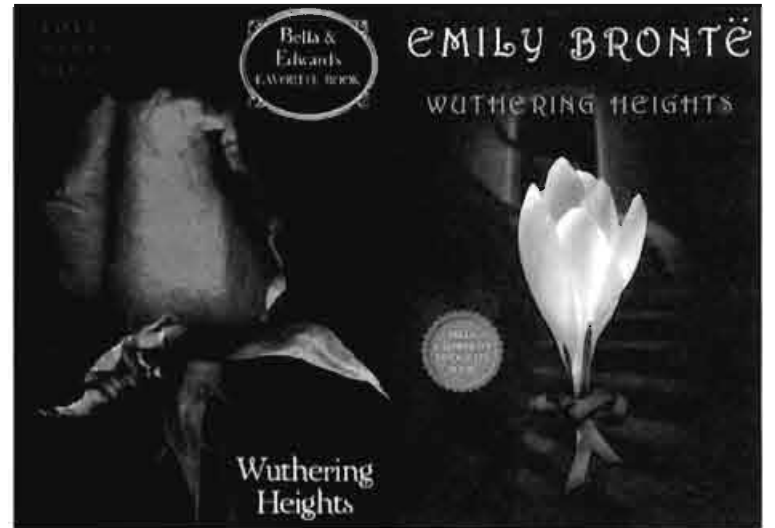
So today, make it your goal to sit and talk to someone and really listen to what they have to say because time is fleeting.

## Classic literature with a twist

By JENN INZETTA  
Wagnerian Staff Writer

"It is a truth universally acknowledged that a zombie in possession of brains must be in want of more brains" (Grahame-Smith 7). Sound familiar? The above quote is a line from the newest edition of Jane Austen's classic "Pride and Prejudice," republished as "Pride and Prejudice and Zombies". This novel rewrites the original "Pride and Prejudice" so that not only is Elizabeth Bennet an outspoken and spirited heroine but an expert zombie killer as well. Ironic and intelligent, I could not help but enjoy this latest twist on a classic tale. In fact, I have even recommended it to some of my classics weary friends in an attempt to slowly but steadily draw them into the world of Jane Austen, a tactic I am sure the publishers at Quirk Classics had in mind when setting out to create not only "Pride and Prejudice and Zombies," but also the soon to be released "Sense and Sensibility and Sea Monsters."

Quirk Classics is not the only publishing house to use the supernatural craze in an attempt to boost the sales of classical literature. HarperTeen is in the process of releasing a new edition of "Wuthering Heights." The cover of the book has a black backdrop with a single red rose adorning



The new cover for the novel, "Wuthering Heights"

the cover, a Twilight-esque twist intended to draw in readers of the famed "Twilight Saga." In fact, HarperTeen goes one step further, declaring that "Wuthering Heights" is Edward and Bella's favorite book, a fact based on Twilight author Stephanie Meyer's many references to Brontë's novel throughout her own.

However, while I was open-minded about the zombies crashing dinner with the Darceys, I was overcome with English major indignation when I first saw the new "Wuthering Heights" cover. Why should they need to reference Twilight to get people to read a classic novel? Edward and Bella could not possibly compare to Catherine and Heathcliff. Is nothing

sacred? Then I stopped, took a breath and reexamined my initial disgust. Is it an insult to Brontë to use sparkling vampires and obsessive teenage girls to promote her novel? Is it an insult to Austen to rearrange, edit and rewrite her work to add zombies, blood and gore?

Finally, I decided that no, it is not. The ironic and sarcastic tone of Austen's novel is made only more apparent with the addition of zombies. Similarly, "Wuthering Heights" itself remains the same, only the cover will change. So if it is the zombies and vampires that draw new readers in, then so be it. It is Austen and Brontë that will have them coming back for more.

## An emerging butterfly

By STEPHANIE  
BUSCEMA  
Wagneria Co-Editor

Fall 2009 marks the start of my junior year; my second to last year as a student at Wagner College. As August approached, the realities of my responsibilities started to hit home. Junior year is crunch time, the year to figure out the path I will take towards my future. Sitting in the Wagnerian office during the early weeks of August, organizing and designing the campus guide with my co-editors, I thought "Where did the time go?" I remember when I was a freshman, lost, overwhelmed and stressed.

Before I joined the Wagnerian and various other organizations on campus, I was worried about my academics and giving in to the social pressures of the environment around me. I spent my freshman year in the library and in my room, reading and doing homework. While others ventured to their favorite place, the bar, I went to my favorite place, the library. I sat on the first floor at a back table. I thought of it as my little cocoon, a place where I could avoid distraction and still be able to look out and observe from time to time.

As the first semester progressed, I

realized I was not allowing myself to enjoy Wagner as much as I should. I decided to take an Expanding Your Horizon trip to Hawaii. I knew it was a risk to travel almost 17 hours with my professor and 40 plus students that I hardly knew, but I did it anyway. Do I regret the excursion? Absolutely not.

When I returned from Hawaii, I was a new person. I realized that having fun is not only acceptable, but it is vital. A balance is needed between fun and academics. An adventurous side of me began to unravel. I had always been the spontaneous type in high school, but after dealing with a sick parent my senior year of high school and the summer before college, I became very serious. Finally, I escaped from my cocoon, realizing that time is precious. This is my youth and I own it. I have the power to make decisions and make the best of my life. I want to experience everything. I want to travel the world, attend the events on campus, explore Manhattan, the city in which I was raised, and most of all enjoy my time at Wagner while I have it.

It would have been easy to sink back into my cocoon this year, but I decided that, with my two remaining years at Wagner, I want to move for-

ward and continue my quest for knowledge and exploration. Most importantly, I am making a promise to myself that I will not take my time here for granted because before I know it I will be an adult in the real world with a real job.

While I am still at Wagner I plan to take advantage of the opportunities available to me. I will be attending another EYH trip, but this time I am going to England. This will be my first time out of the country and overseas, an addition to my life experiences. My time is precious to me and I do not plan to waste any of it.

A quote that has really impacted me and my perception of time is, "Your time is limited, so don't waste it living someone else's life. Don't be trapped by dogma - which is living with the results of other people's thinking. Don't let the noise of other's opinions drown out your own inner voice. And most important, have the courage to follow your heart and intuition. They somehow already know what you truly want to become. Everything else is secondary." These words are very truthful and most of all encouraging. They open my heart and give me a sense of appreciation; I will them during my journey of life.

Agree? Disagree?

Write a letter to the editor and see your words here!

wagnerian@wagner.edu

All opinions expressed on this page are strictly that of the writer and do not reflect the views of the Wagnerian, its editors, or its advisors.

# arts and entertainment



Clockwise from top left: Portugal. the Man, The Get Up Kids, Passion Pit, and Phoenix round out this fall's entertainment line-up in New York City

## Fall 2009 brings inexpensive entertainment to NYC

By **NANCY ARAVECZ**  
Wagnerian Staff Writer

Yet another school year is underway and for many students, especially upperclassmen, a feeling of restlessness is running rampant as the novelty of hanging around in Harbor View and Towers is quickly wearing off.

At a school so close to Manhattan, where at any given moment a multitude of exciting things are happening, there is absolutely no excuse for boredom—not even a thin wallet.

This especially applies to music fans because fall 2009 has some really fantastic things going on in and around the city, no matter what your jam is.

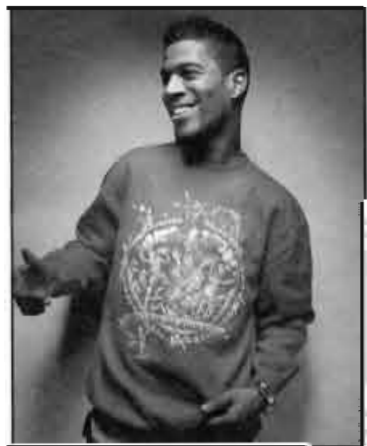
Fans of pop rock and the outdoors can catch Phoenix and Passion Pit perform at Central Park's Rumsey Playfield on Sept. 25 and 26, while hip-hop lovers can attend "This is 50 Fest" at Governor's Island on Oct. 3.



Rap mogul 50 Cent will headline fall hip-hop festival, "This is 50 Fest."

"This is 50 Fest" is a must-see fes-

tival headlined by 50 cent. Also performing are Kid Cudi, Wale, and Mike Posner. Tickets for this are a



Kid Cudi, featured artist at "This is 50 Fest."

bit pricier at \$45, but completely worth the investment.

Cheaper tickets include folk-act Kevin Devine and The Get Up Kids at Gramercy Theater on Oct. 30 (\$24).

Up and coming band The Static Jacks, known for their eclectic and organic rock sound are having an album release party that is open to the public on Oct. 7 at Webster Hall's The Studio (\$8).

For the student willing to venture into New Jersey, Maxwell's in Hoboken is a quaint venue that can always be depended on for a great, inexpensive show. Singer-songwriter Jack Penate and Swedish electronic outfit Miike Snow are playing there on Sept. 19 for \$13, and it's sure to be one hell of a dance party.

Also at Maxwell's are psyche-

delic-indie-rockers Portugal. the Man on Oct. 16 for \$14.

Looking for something fun to do for free? Check out the Metropolitan Museum of Art on Sept. 30, a Wednesday night when The College Group is throwing a Great Gatsby themed party in The New American Wing. A great way to meet other college students in NYC while looking fabulous in a flapper costume.

On a more athletic note, Governors Island offers "Free Bike Friday" where anyone can rent a bicycle free of charge for one hour and explore the island's rich history and interesting buildings and landscape.

### Venue locations and directions

**Central Park's Rumsey Playfield:** enter the park at 69th Street and 5th Avenue on the east side or at 72nd Street and Central Park West

**Governor's Island:** 10 South Street; about a one minute walk from South Ferry

**Gramercy Theater:** 127 East 23rd Street; Take the R to 23rd Street

**Webster Hall:** 125 East 11th Street; Take the R to 14th Street

**Maxwell's:** 1039 Washington Street, Hoboken, NJ

**The Metropolitan Museum of Art:** 1000 Fifth Avenue at 82nd Street, Take the 4 to 86th Street

## Listen Up!



**Keep On Loving You** – Reba McEntire (Starstruck/Valory)

The country legend is back with her 31st album entitled *Keep On Loving You*. Her debut single "Strange," is an upbeat, in-your-face, girl-power-promoting anthem about getting over a break up. It is one of the many songs on this album that is relatable to almost everyone. The title song, "I Keep

On Loving You," is one of them. It is a powerful ballad that pertains to couples everywhere about the hardships that one endures in a relationship and the struggle to move past them. The album also consists of upbeat dance worthy songs like "Pink Guitar" and "I Want a Cowboy." If those aren't fun enough, the album includes a dance mix version of "I Want a Cowboy" that will get listeners off their seats and on their feet. Pain and heartbreak are also revealed in this album in such songs as "Consider Me Gone," "Over You," and "Maggie Creek Road." Whether the listeners are hardcore country fans or just open minded music junkies, this album has something for everyone.

**You'll love it if you like:** The Dixie Chicks, Carrie Underwood, Martina McBride  
~ By *Amanda Frechette*



**Gold Country** – Chuck Ragan (SideOneDummy)

After recording an album with country musician Austin Lucas, it seems that former Hot Water Music vocalist Chuck Ragan has been inspired for the better. From the first note of his new album, *Gold Country*, Ragan will have you completely converted to his country-infused rock. The man who once appeared in one of the most hardcore bands of the late 90's has put his brilliantly raspy vocals to good use on his third solo disc, bringing his always anthemic tracks to a new height. Album highlights include "For Goodness Sake," "The French," and "Done and Done," though none of the tracks fail to impress. The singer has truly reached new songwriting heights, bringing in more instruments than ever before and steering his songs towards the more upbeat. Ragan still includes many of his signature ballads but keeps the album fresh and fun with some truly addictive choruses and foot-taping melodies. Complete with mandolin, a string section, a slew of backup vocals and even a full chorus, this really could be the best new album of 2009.

**You'll love it if you like:** La Rocca, Hot Water Music, Iron and Wine  
~ By *Paige Herlihy*



**The Script** – The Script

If you have been watching "VH1's Top 20 Countdown," for the past few weeks, then you have heard of The Script. Known for their hit song, "Man Who Can't Be Moved", this three-piece band from Dublin, Ireland has a unique sound that's crossing the Atlantic. Already chart toppers in both Ireland and Great Britain, the Script

has opened sold-out shows for U2 and Paul McCartney. Making their United States debut this past year, the Script has already made a name for themselves headlining a sold out tour. Influenced by Van Morrison, the Police and Timbaland, this album offers something for everyone's musical taste. With catchy verses and hip swaying beats like "Rusty Halo" and "Fall for Anything," most of the album's lyrics narrate the lives of characters trying to find love or in some cases even forgetting it ever existed at all. With previous experience as producers and session musicians, singer Danny O'Donoghue, guitarist Mark Sheehan and drummer Glen Power, are a force to be reckoned with and will be around for years to come.

**You'll love it if you like:** One Republic, The Fray, Matt Nathanson  
~ By *Chelsea Fodero*



# T THE WHO'S ommay

## Rehearsals in full swing for The Who's "Tommy"

By JACK TAMBINI  
Wagnerian Staff Writer

The Wagner College theatre department has officially begun its production of "Tommy," a musical written in 1992 by the Who's Pete Townshend and based on the band's 1969 album, "Tommy."

The play, a story about a psychologically disturbed boy living in mid-twentieth century England, is being directed by Scott Barnhardt and is being performed on the Main Stage.

Fans of the Who will enjoy the show's intricate weaving of the

band's songs into a fascinating story.

The play's stage manager, Emma Acciani is excited about the production saying, "The rehearsals are going really smoothly and the cast is really enthusiastic about it. We've got really great people working on it. The choreography, done by Michael Blackmon, is one of the coolest things I've ever seen."

The show's cast is mostly seniors and juniors with Jason Garrison as Tommy, Stefanie Gaertner as Mrs. Walker, Chris DeRosa as the Lover, Patrick Hefferman as Ghost Dad, and Joe Donnelly as Uncle Ernie.

The show's plot focuses on

themes including discrimination, idolization, and individuality.

Tommy, who has had a difficult childhood, finds solace in playing pinball. His skill at the game causes his whole world to change. Acciani added, "It sounds like there's going to be crazy lighting (done by Vicki Neal), they're bringing in an extra light-board and everything," which might suggest lighting and effects to reflect the pinball motif.

"Tommy" will be running from Wednesday, Oct. 7 through Saturday, Oct. 10 for the first week and Wednesday, Oct. 14 until Sunday, Oct. 18 for the second week.



### Summer's five best albums

not dwell in it. The presence of light, airy piano and touching lyrics replace the band's usually guitar-centric sound. On "Hope Dies Last," while lead singer Jason Molina croons "hope dies last of all," the band's sadness truly resonates but is lined with a hope that makes the album soar. Released: July 21, 2009

**3. Portugal. The Man - The Satanic Satanist (Equal Vision)**

Bringing together classic rock sounds from across the generations, Portugal. The Man, has created something both nostalgic and new. Their fourth studio album features 60s-era rock, 70s-style funk and a sprinkling of folk and soul, to create what is certainly their best album to date. And the cover art is so amazing it will have even the biggest technophile picking up a CD instead of an MP3 (or at least it should). Released: July 21, 2009

**4. Fun. - Aim and Ignite (Unsigned)**

Led by ex-Format frontman, Nate Ruess, Fun. seems to throw conven-



tional songwriting rules out the window in favor of well, fun. Despite the title of the album's first track, "Be Calm," the disc is almost schizophrenic in its delivery, and it works. Ruess uses everything from gospel choirs to strings, from pop elements to swing style, sometimes all in one song, to throw together one of the most non-traditional and non-radio-friendly albums ever, and it's so much fun. Released: Aug. 25, 2009

**5. Mos Def - The Ecstatic (Downtown)**

Over two years after the 2006 release, *True Magic*, a notorious flop, Mos Def is back with his fifth disc. *The Ecstatic* follows the progressive trends of *The New Danger* and *True Magic*, but does it much better, with smooth transitions and experimental beats. Album highlights include "Life In Marvelous Times," "Pistola," and "Auditorium." Released: June 9, 2009

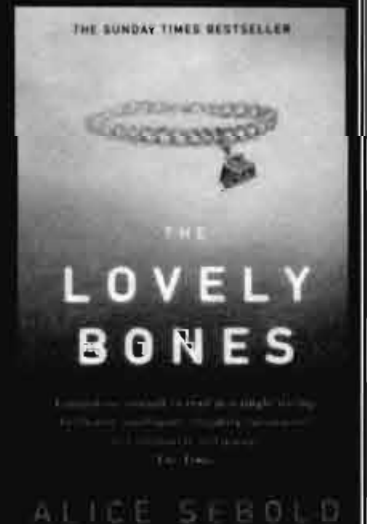
## LOOK OUT!

### Fall television premiere dates

- Sunday, Sept. 20**  
Curb Your Enthusiasm, 9p.m. (HBO)  
Ghost Whisperer, 8 p.m. (CBS)  
Law & Order, 8 p.m. (NBC)  
Smallville, 8 p.m. (CW)  
Dollhouse, 9 p.m. (Fox)  
Medium, 9 p.m. (CBS)  
Numb3rs, 10 p.m. (CBS)
- Monday, Sept. 21**  
Heroes, 8 p.m. (NBC)  
House, 8 p.m. (Fox)  
How I Met Your Mother, 8 p.m. (CBS)  
Accidentally on Purpose, 8:30 p.m. (CBS)  
Two and a Half Men, 9 p.m. (CBS)  
The Big Bang Theory, 9:30 p.m. (CBS)  
CSI: Miami, 10 p.m. (CBS)
- Tuesday, Sept. 22**  
NCIS, 8 p.m. (CBS)  
NCIS: Los Angeles, 9 p.m. (CBS)  
The Forgotten, 10 p.m. (ABC)  
The Good Wife, 10 p.m. (CBS)
- Wednesday, Sept. 23**  
The New Adventures of Old Christine, 8 p.m. (CBS)  
Mercy, 8 p.m. (NBC)  
Criminal Minds, 9 p.m. (CBS)  
Law & Order: Special Victims Unit, 9 p.m. (NBC)  
Modern Family, 9 p.m. (ABC)  
Cougar Town, 9:30 p.m. (ABC)  
CSI: NY, 10 p.m. (CBS)  
Eastwick, 10 p.m. (ABC)
- Thursday, Sept. 24**  
Flash Forward, 8 p.m. (ABC)  
CSI: Crime Scene Investigation, 9 p.m. (CBS)  
Grey's Anatomy, 9 p.m. (ABC)  
The Mentalist, 10 p.m. (CBS)
- Friday, Sept. 25**  
Brothers, 8 p.m. (Fox)
- Sunday, Sept. 27**  
The Simpsons, 8 p.m. (Fox)  
The Cleveland Show, 8:30 p.m. (Fox)  
Desperate Housewives, 9 p.m. (ABC)  
Dexter, 9 p.m. (Showtime)  
Family Guy, 9 p.m. (Fox)  
Brothers & Sisters, 10 p.m. (ABC)  
Californication, 10 p.m. (Showtime)  
Cold Case, 10 p.m. (CBS)
- Monday, Sept. 28**  
Lie to Me, 9 p.m. (Fox)  
Trauma, 9 p.m. (NBC)
- Wednesday, Sept. 30**  
Hank, 8 p.m. (ABC)  
Middle, 8:30 pm. (ABC)
- Thursday, Oct. 1**  
Private Practice, 10 p.m. (ABC)
- Sunday, Oct. 4**  
Three Rivers, 9 p.m. (CBS)
- Friday, Oct. 9**  
Ugly Betty, 8 p.m. (ABC)
- Thursday, Oct. 15**  
30 Rock, 9:30 p.m. (NBC)
- Friday, Oct. 23**  
Southland, 9 p.m. (NBC)

### "The Lovely Bones"

Directed by Peter Jackson, the *Lovely Bones*, based on the best selling book by Alice Sebold, is the story of a young girl's murder. The story, told from heaven by the girl, Susie Salmon (Saoirse Ronan), follows the lives of Susie's friends and family as she attempts to lead them to her remains. The movie is set to be released on Dec 11 and features an all-star cast including Mark Wahlberg, Rachel Weisz, Stanley Tucci, Susan Sarandon and Michael Imperioli.



### Tegan and Sara

Following their Oct. 27 debut of their new album, *Sainthood*, dynamic-duo Tegan and Sara will begin touring, hitting New York City's Town Hall on Oct. 30 and 31. The album will be produced by longtime Tegan and Sara friends Howard Redekopp and Death Cab for Cutie's Chris Walla. "I think the fan favorites in terms of records have been our last two. So we brought in the production teams from both and made a hybrid of sound," Tegan Quin told Prefixmag.com. Tickets for Town Hall are priced between \$34 and \$44 and can be purchased at ticketmaster.com. Town Hall is located at 123 West 43rd Street.

By Paige Herlihy, Entertainment Editor

# SEAHAWK SPORTS

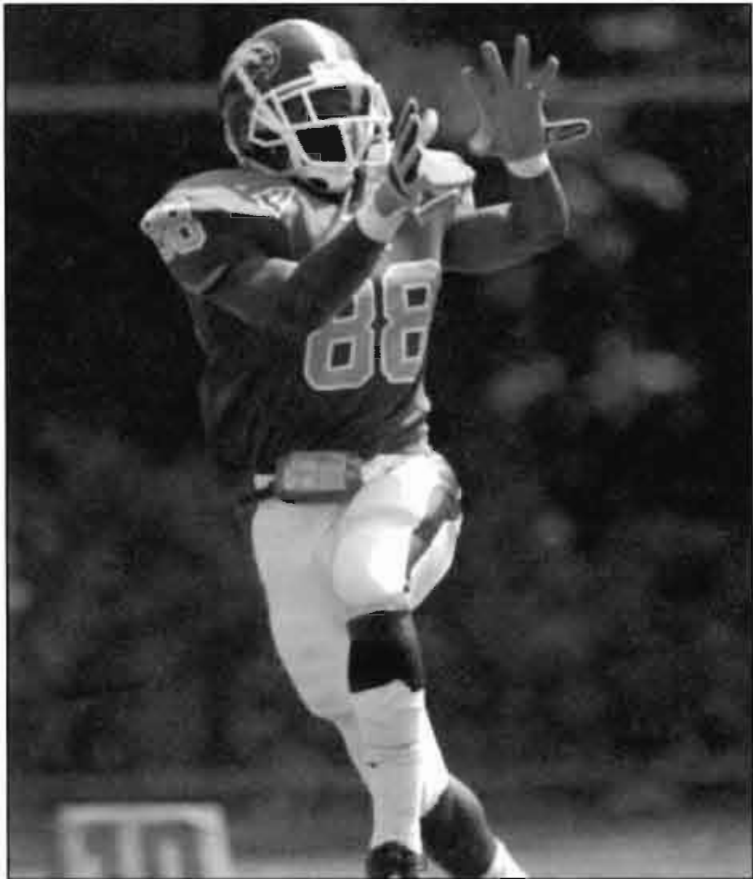


Photo courtesy of Wagner Athletics  
Speedy freshman wide receiver, Kadeem Miller, cuts open for a pass against Stone Hill on Sept. 5, 2009.

## 2009 football season preview

By **ALYSSA AHERN**  
Wagnerian Staff Writer

This year's football season is kicking off with 120 student athletes, 60 freshmen and three new coaches. There is much anticipation for the Seahawks 2009 season, as the athletes have been on campus working hard in preseason, two weeks prior to the fall semester.

From the Director of Athletics and head coach of the football team, Walt Hameline, preseason was a success for it enabled the staff "to see who was ready to compete." Coach Hameline hopes to "build on that success throughout the rest of the season."

Key student-athletes such as junior wide receiver Tyrone Collins, junior safety Stefen Gage and senior cornerback Tavares Lee, were unable to play for the first game due to preseason injuries. Hopefully these student-athletes are healthy and ready to play, as these are major impact players for the Seahawks.

The Wagner Seahawks kicked off the season to Stonehill, losing 45-42. Despite the loss on Saturday the squad will turn right around and face SUNY-Maritime on Thursday Sept. 10 for their second game of the season.

Three new coaches joined the already power house staff. New Tight End Coach, Rync Nutt previously went to Central Connecticut State. Wide Receiver Coach Marcus Edwards is also new to the football staff graduating from the University

of South Florida. Coach Bobby Abare comes from Yale University and is coaching the linebackers.

After speaking with Coach Abare about key players and their roles on the team, he reported that he hopes "the offensive line will be one of our [the teams'] strong points." On the defensive side, Joe Harkins and Jorel Joseph have "emerged as starters and are expected to make an impact."

Lastly, when asked about freshman players to lookout for, Abare replied, "running back by the name of Dominique Williams, whom had an excellent preseason."

Wagner was picked to finish eight out of nine teams in the Northeast Conference. These rankings will not keep the squad down. They hope to show these doubters otherwise and pick up victories game after game.

The 2009 football home schedule includes Sept. 26 vs Saint Francis (PA) at noon during Family Weekend.

The homecoming game will take place on Oct. 24 vs. Sacred Heart at 1 p.m. Other games include Nov. 7 vs. CCSU and the 21st vs. Albany (Senior Day) both at 1 p.m.

Check out all the spectacular deals such as season ticket benefits, fan bus transportation, birthday bash package, touchdown club, and the much talked about charter flight to North Dakota State University.

More information can be found by contacting the Athletic Marketing Office at 718-420-4008, the Ticket Office at 718-420-4039.

By **CAROLYN SUSINO**  
Wagnerian Sports Editor

Seasonal captains are no longer a part of the game plan.

Director of Athletics and Head Coach of the Wagner College Football Team, Walt Hameline, aims to instill a new tradition for this upcoming season. Coach Hameline has decided to set weekly captains for the football team, instead of the traditional seasonal captains.

Conventionally the football team has had one or two captains (in some cases up to four) in the past. However in the last two years, the football team has been under instruction of only one captain. The idea of one solid role model came from the tradition at Yale University, according to Coach Hameline.

Now influenced by the sports program at South Florida State, Coach Hameline has set weekly captains for the 2009-2010 season.

"It ties into our leadership program," added Hameline.

The Football Leadership Program, added to Wagner College about six years ago, contains about ten to twelve athletes. The football staff looked at the leadership program at South Florida State and noticed that they use weekly captains. Coach Hameline, along with the other football coaches, believe that using this model will improve Wagner College's approach to leadership and encourage the team overall.

The staff talked about the approach throughout the summer and started to use it this fall.

Coach Hameline trusts that weekly captains will give everyone on the team a chance to obtain the position.

"It is a combination of doing everything right on campus. You want those people to be well respected by their teammates and looked upon as doing things the right way while still having all those leadership qualities on and off the field," said Coach Hameline.

In order to maintain the position, the athletes must show leadership in practice throughout the week, as well as in the game. The coaches will then pick no more than four captains in the beginning of the week.

When asking if the approach as

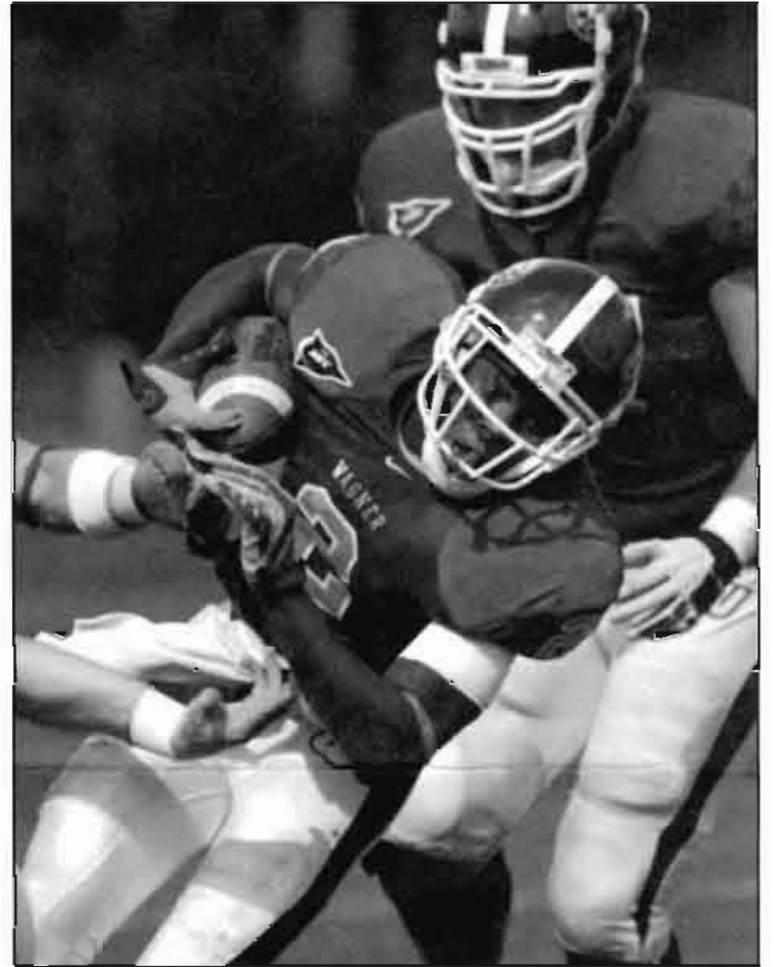


Photo courtesy of Wagner Athletics  
Senior, Lon Woods, returning wide receiver enters the 2009 season with 90 career receptions for 1,146 yards. Woods Needs just seven receptions to enter the Wagner all-time top 10.

been successful so far, Coach Hameline replied, "Yes, I think so. The people you have picked so far have been leaders and done well."

Week One captain, senior football offensive lineman Chazz Gonzalez said, "I think it's a good idea because it gives everyone a chance to take a lead role by motivating their fellow teammates especially in practice. They are just trying a new system, a new approach. I think they did it to make us work hard and find leaders within the upperclassmen on the team."

On the other hand, Matt Martins, a freshman linebacker from Long Island, is used to the idea of weekly captains. He said, "My high school team had the same thing, so I am pretty used to it. I think it was successful in regards to our last win against SUNY Maritime. It's more of a change when you switch captains."

However, there have been some concerns by other athletes in regards

to Hameline's decision. Junior catcher Emily Pierce says, "I interpret it more as a 'player of the week,' not as a traditional captains role because I see that as a seasonal responsibility." Freshman basketball guard Danny Mundweiler believes, "I think it's a good idea but I don't agree with the idea. The team needs to look up to some leader, and if they are picking new captains to lead them each week then they don't know who the leader of the team is. I think you need to set it in stone who the leader of the team is so the young guys, including the freshman and sophomores, know who to go to and know who they can follow and look up to."

The new captains for Week 2 are senior Matt Martin, junior Tyler Newberry, junior Sean O'Reilly, senior Joe Harkins and junior Ryan Pentz.

Hopefully these weekly captains will lead their team successfully against St. Francis on Sept. 26.

### SPORTS WRITERS NEEDED!

Interested in writing or designing for the Wagnerian sports section? If so, come to our meeting on Mondays at 8:30 p.m. If you cannot make the meeting, e-mail the sports editor at [wagnerian@wagner.edu](mailto:wagnerian@wagner.edu)

# Man on the field

“As long as you play hard and with enthusiasm, something good is going to come out of it.”

By **STEPHANIE BUSCEMA**  
Wagnerian Co-Editor

On a brisk Tuesday evening in March, wearing a green athletic suit, bundled up with, over-sized gloves and a green hat, covering his whole head to fend off the cold winds, Coach Walt Hameline prowls the football field of the Seahawk stadium, looking with watchful eyes on his players and their performance during practice.

Observing tackle practice, Hameline walks right up to one of his athletes put his hands on his chest and says, “remember don’t kill the guy.” Groups of statuesque, stout football players and trainers are looking and cheering on the two players pushing each other to the ground, calling their names and yelling “go!”

Hameline starts yelling and fist pumping to cheer on the athletes, an indication of an involved and supportive coach.

Grunting, yelling, cheering, whistles blowing, those are the sounds heard on the field. Defensive linemen are running drills, and Hameline starts yelling. If a player makes a mistake he will make the athlete aware of this error and he will also praise a player if their performance is exceptional.

While the athletes are running another drill, one makes a faux pas. Hameline yells, “look at the damn football!” He is a firm believer in letting people do their jobs, making mistakes and learning from those mistakes.

Through organization, Hameline manages the athletes and a number of coaches who work in the athletic department. He states, “If you are good, boy oh boy, I’ll let you do what you want.” He allows for those people to do their jobs and holds them accountable.

Like any good coach, Hameline seems intimidating and often mean when running a practice. His intentions are not to make his team feel inadequate but to motivate his athletes to be successful on the field and improve their abilities.

His coaching style is what has made him so successful as Wagner College’s head football coach, giving Wagner a record of 150 wins on October 20, 2001.

## Becoming athletic director

After the passing of his father at age 12, Hameline continued on with his athletic childhood.

He remembers, “My coaches took me by the hand and led me the right way, in the right direction.” With 30 years of experience in intercollegiate athletics, Walter C. Hameline is the director of athletics and head football coach for Wagner College.

In 1975, he served as an Assistant Football Coach at Brockport State University and graduated with a bachelor of science degree in physical education. Hameline’s involvement with student athletes began immediately after graduating.

He then continued to Plattsburgh



Photo courtesy of Wagner Athletics  
Coach Walt Hameline motivates his players during their first home game against Stone Hill on September 5.

where he coached baseball, football and basketball.

Next, at Albany State University, he coached football and worked diligently to receive his master’s in education. Moving on, he was the assistant coach at Brown University and eventually moved on to Wagner to become assistant athletic director and assistant football coach.

At the time, P.J. Carlesimo held the title of athletic director and after leaving the position Hameline moved into his place. Meanwhile, during this period of time, Wagner was a division III athletics institution and on December 12, 1987, won the national football championship with Walt Hameline as head football coach and athletic director.

## Devoted to his athletes

Many ask him, “Why haven’t you left your position?” He states, “You’re dealing with kids, student athletes. The people who are working with you who love what they are doing.” Hameline is a big believer in his athletes getting an education on and off the field.

During practice, the players are filmed while running the plays and then the coaches reviews and grades the films. The coaches then evaluate and explain to the players what they did right and what they did wrong. Learning tools are all implemented during this process. Hameline looks upon coaching as teaching; coaches coach, teachers teach, they know what they are doing.

Although as a coach, Hameline faces many challenges such as the economy and trying to find the right facilities and making decisions for the student athletic welfare, his strengths of organization, enthusiasm and talking persona allows for him to make changes and adjustments for the best interests of the student athletes.

One student athlete, Senior, Jorel Joseph, describes his experience working and learning under Coach Hamline.

Joseph says, “He is committed to winning and you don’t have to worry about politics but you must hold your performance on the field. It’s good to play in that kind of environment.” He recalls, as a freshmen being called into Hameline’s office and being told

to switch positions and move over to defense.

The following year, he started as a sophomore and the hard work paid off and he earned respect. He believes, “it was definitely a time worthy process.”

Joseph was not on a full scholarship and his father is a mortgage banker, with the economy and financial issues of the world affecting many, he needed more money to stay at Wagner and Coach Hameline found a way to make that happen.

Joseph recalls, “Although you may not always agree with him, Hameline pushes you to display your highest potential and be the best you can.”

## Encouraging words

While making decisions for the best interest of the athletes, Hameline also has to make tough choices in order to look out for the welfare of the athletic program. A recent decision to discontinue the volleyball and athletic programs made Hameline face many criticisms.

The students were allowed to keep their scholarships and get their releases. “They came here to play a sport and we took that away from them. I feel for them, it’s hard.” Unfortunately, he had to make this decision because Wagner does not have the funding to support 22 collegiate teams.

However, when Hameline began at Wagner there were only 13 athletic teams. Nonetheless, Hameline’s attitude as a coach helps motivate his players. He believes that leadership is a combination of things. Passion is first and most important. He states, “I told my kids, it’s important to like what you are doing. You must be happy even if you are not making as much money as you want.”

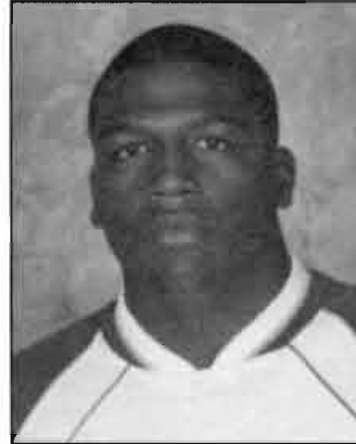
Next he feels that you must believe in what you are doing. Lastly, one must understand mission, evaluate it and finish.

With a sign hanging in his office saying, “Follow Your Dreams,” from an antique shop in Old Forge, N.Y., Hameline exhibits an inspiring attitude to his student athletes. He feels, “As long as you play hard and with enthusiasm, something good is going to come out of it.”

# The athletes’ opinions

Wagner athletes comment on the change from seasonal to weekly captains.

Llew Radford, Grad Student Basketball



“I feel that Hameline’s decision to elect the weekly captain as opposed to a year long one might drive the players and motivate them to work hard in practice, but the lack of consistency in a weekly captain, I believe isn’t a rarity. I think it might fault the team because, a captain is someone who you look up to on and off the field. Having a different person each week is having to deal with a lot of different personalities.”

Melanie Garces, Sophomore Women’s Lacrosse



“I feel like there is no sense of consistency on the team. I feel like there shouldn’t be weekly captains because people on the team should go to up to a person they could aspire to. It shouldn’t be someone who just works hard that week.”

Jamie El-Azami, Junior Women’s Softball Team



“A captain should be someone who motivates your team and stepping up week by week isn’t stepping up for the whole year. It has a lot to do with heart and motivation. You should be able to depend on a captain for the year round.”

Jared Guccio, Junior Baseball



“Weekly captains is fine if it motivates the players, but there still needs to be vocal leaders every week, someone like our old captain, Chris Dreeschel, that players can look up to and go to at all times. So, there still needs to be those outspoken leaders like the seniors.”

# Habitat for Humanity's Bring Your Own Box: A first person account about being homeless for a night

By MELANIE VALENCIA  
Wagnerian Staff Writer

It had been long since the last time I had slept outside. I had been trying to remember all the great memories I have from camping during my school years so I could get them all out of my mind.

Sleeping outside that Sunday evening was not about the great night to spend with friends late into the evening and listening to scary tales. It was a commitment to raise awareness about an issue that we try to ignore while walking in the streets or during our pleasant trips to the city and tak-

ing the subway: homelessness.

I had been trying to picture how this experience was going to be all week. I had been waiting anxiously to get into my warmest clothes and be able to stand the fall wind that is slowly arriving to take all the leaves away.

I was in some way excited about wrapping a scarf around my head and covering myself with the sleeping bag I borrowed.

While actually doing this I thought of how many people do not really plan to sleep outside, they simply have no choice. No time to go get the warm boots or the really comfy sweater, nothing like this.

While walking towards the Oval

holding my box, my sleeping bag and my backpack (yes, I had an early class), I struggled to keep all my things together and without dropping them. I wondered if homeless people carry their things around like I did or just cover themselves with whatever they can find (I think I remember seeing them using shopping carts). I thought it is unfair that I get to choose.

I know there might be a lot of homeless people in the streets just because of vice and addictions, however, they are no guiltier than a society that allows them to stay this way. Nevertheless, my concern was not about those who have a place to call home and do not get there for dif-

ferent reasons. No.

It was about those whose only home is the street or the first place where they can take shelter.

While waking up with a back pain, a headache and freezing, wishing to take a shower as soon as possible, I am thankful for having that place called home.

I am thankful for not having to be aware of the animals that could be looking for food, or may be able to bite or attack me (there was a possum behind the bushes of Main Hall coming after our food).

I am thankful for not having to be afraid of my surroundings and being able to feel safe.

I think to myself how happy I am

about being part of Habitat for Humanity and the incredible cause they work for everyday, worldwide. There is nothing more valuable than having a home.

Through sleeping in that box, I and all the people who slept there with me scream to the world: Please stop and look around you! There are people who need you! Do not pass by the homeless person in the subway and try to ignore them.

There is a problem in our society that we have to face, that needs to be fixed soon! Do not expect the authorities to do something. Do something yourself! Raising awareness is one step. Help us in the next one.



Photos by: Jessica Ramsey and Brianna Samson  
Page by: Kelliann Volsario and Jesse Hagen