

# The Wagnerian

Wagner College

Staten Island N.Y.

Nov. 30, 1993

## New minor under consideration

By SAMANTHA CARRAI  
Wagnerian Staff Writer

A new minor concerning women's issues is currently under proposal by administration and faculty. If implemented, it will be the first of its kind at Wagner.

The minor involves courses dealing with the progression of women and society's attitude toward this progression. The classes are offered by several academic departments, such as history and political science, and humanities.

Dr. Robert Mazzola, one of the faculty members responsible for the program, thinks this minor will be helpful in disproving myths and misconceptions dealing with the role of women.

"Most of the courses entail practical implications of general philosophy," said Dr. Mazzola.

Another goal of this minor is to rightfully correct the portrayal through the media of the stereotypical subordinate woman, Dr. Mazzola explained.

It is needed in a "world where

**For an editorial  
on the proposal,  
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women are taking their place," he concluded.

There was, however, controversy over what the new minor should be called and it was the topic of discussion at a recent student/faculty forum. The two possible titles were "Women's Studies" and "Gender

Studies." The controversy stemmed from the idea that the title "Woman's Studies" alone would disinterest the male population of students. Therefore, the alternative title of "Gender Studies" was introduced. As a result of this forum, a compromise was reached. The minor will be entitled "Women's/Gender Studies."

In order for this minor to get approval, it must be accepted by both administration and faculty. If approved, the new "Women's/Gender Studies" minor can be instituted as early as the fall semester of 1994.

## 21 inducted into ODK Honor Society

By JACKIE GOLDBERG  
Wagnerian Staff Writer

The Greek letters ODK are not the letters of a new sorority or fraternity on campus. They stand for Omicron Delta Kappa, a national leadership honor society with a circle at Wagner.

The Greek words Omicron Delta Kappa translate to "The Laurel Crown Circle," which is the organization's symbol.

Twenty-one students were inducted into the prestigious organization during a traditional ceremony held Nov. 5 in Gatehouse Lounge.

They are Alissa Brooks, David Buddensick, Stacey Cannon, Linda Carrelli, Michele Chicola, Steven DeCrescenzo, Mary Leah Dellavalle, Nicole DeVito, Michele DiSalvo, Richard Donato, Carolyn Ernst, Christine Fiorito, Bridget Kelley, Debra Kessler, Lisa Pallotta, Leslie Posten, Muzammil Qaisar, Brian Schneider, Diane Seaholm, Tracey Sorrentino and Francine Spinowitz.

Twice a year, ODK accepts not only new student members but an administration member, a faculty member, a staff member and an alumnus member. These members do not apply; they are nominated by their peers.

This year's inductees are Dominick Fontano Jr., director of maintenance; Lewis Hardee, associate professor of performing and visual arts; Lilli Landstrom, secretary of the computer center, and Edward Burke '80,

confidential assistant and director of public information to Borough President Guy V. Molinari.

Dawn Hugo, ODK president, and Dr. Joseph D. Smith, faculty secretary for the organization, presided over the ceremonies.

This year's induction ceremony was different from prior years. ODK invited the Student Government Association president, James Hickey, to participate. Hickey extended his "congratulations to the initiates of Omicron Delta Kappa," and went on to say that he was glad he was asked to be part of the evening.

John Fraser, president from 1987 to 1988, also expressed thanks for the invitation to be part of the ceremonies. He told initiates that their induction was only the first step and added, "The substance of leadership is the deeds."

Several scheduled speakers were not able to make the ceremony due to illness. The keynote speaker and alumnus inductee, Edward Burke, was among the missing. Jerry Cammarata substituted for him and stated repeatedly, "It is a humbling experience to be here before you." He noted not only the initiates' academic credentials and extracurricular activities, but their strong leadership qualities.

Also a new addition to the ODK program was a congratulatory speech from the dean of students, Deidre



WAGNERIAN PHOTO BY JACKIE GOLDBERG

**James Hickey, Dawn Hugo and Dean Deidre Shaffer.**

Shaffer. Dean Shaffer's speech was short and to the point. She said, "I'd like to congratulate you and your families for your initiative and dedication."

Dawn Hugo presented the gift from the Class of '93 because Tabitha Stefankiewicz was unable to attend.

During the ceremony, the initiates signed into the register of members

and received a certificate of membership and an ODK pin while their biographies were read aloud.

The average cumulative grades of the inductees was 3.6.

A short reception with food and desserts followed the ceremony.

"I am looking forward to working with you all," Dawn Hugo told the newest members.

## Classroom walls come tumbling down

By MELISSA ALCOCK  
Wagnerian Staff Writer

Wagner College has a new way to help make learning fun.

Through a grant of \$10,000 from the Aid Association for Lutherans, the college is able to offer teachers money to expand educational experiences outside the classroom. It is called the Faculty Masters Program.

"The objective of the program is to provide opportunities and contacts for faculty and students to participate together in cultural and intellectual activities linked to New York City," explained Dr. Linda Basch, provost.

Earlier in the year, professors were asked to submit applications for the

### \$10,000 grant brings Faculty Masters Program to Wagner

funds. The criteria said that activities should include at least three meetings with students, take place out of class and not during class hours and involve a minimum of 20 people.

Dr. Basch met with her committee — Dr. Susan Bernardo, Dr. Constance Schuyler, Dean Deidre Shaffer and student Sean McMillan — to decide how the funds would be allocated.

"I was enormously impressed and gratified by the imaginative projects that the faculty proposed for the pro-

gram," Dr. Basch said. She explained that the idea came from president Norman Smith, and it was up to her to disperse the funds for tickets, transportation costs, entrance fees, film rentals and food.

Involved this year are teachers from various departments. Although many arranged events within the topics that they teach, still others pursued outside interests.

Dr. Geoffrey Coward, a professor in the education and psychology depart-

ment, has organized a program called "Urban Shakespeare." He explained that his original training was in theater and he "wanted to share that with students."

"It's sort of a passion of mine," he said, adding that his group will meet once beforehand, then travel to the National Actors Theater in Manhattan to see "Timons of Athens," on Dec. 5.

"We want to show how text can be moved from page to stage," said Dr. Coward.

The viewing of the play will be followed by another seminar on campus. Interested students should con-

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# Masters

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tact Dr. Coward at 464 or Trish Doherty at 261.

Also in the drama area of interest, Gary Sullivan hosted "Freshman Follies '93," a cabaret night, on Nov. 12 and 13 in the Gatehouse Lounge.

More than 25 students participated in the 1½ hour show, which included comedy routines, songs, drama performances and dancing.

"It was a grab-bag," said Sullivan, who added that he was very happy with the turnout — about 250 people in total.

"I was very pleased with the audience response and very impressed with the kids," he said. If there is enough interest, there will be another cabaret performance soon, he added.

Dr. Yolanda White's program is also underway. Presentations on the Israeli-Palestinian Peace Accord by William Quandt of the Brookings Institution and a lecture on women and the Middle East at the Teachers College at Columbia University, were attended by students earlier in November.

On Nov. 19, Dr. White will lead a group to a lecture on the oil monarchies of the Middle East, given by Gregory Gause of the Council on Foreign Relations. On Dec. 2, they will travel to the 92nd Street Y to hear a presentation Jeane Kirkpatrick on the United States foreign policy and the United Nations' role. For more information, call Dr. White at 256.

Also last week, Dr. Marilyn Kiss escorted a group to Irving Plaza, to see Los Lobos in concert. Her part of the Faculty Masters Program is called "Exploring Hispanic New York," and will include trips to Museo del Barrio, Repertorio Espanol. Other activities will be a trip to a Spanish restaurant.

"New York is a multi-lingual, multi-cultural city and one aspect of the mosaic is certainly the Hispanic presence," explained Dr. Kiss. "The influence of Hispanic culture in the area of the arts is not to be missed."

Her activities are open to all Wagner students, with priority given to those studying Spanish or honors students. For the dates, call Dr. Kiss at 256.

Coming up next will be dinner and discussion, hosted by Dr. Joedy Smith, on Nov. 22 at 6 p.m. The topic will be "Splitting Cells and Cloning." A subsequent gathering will take place on Dec. 7.

His number is 256, for more information.

Also occurring in December is Dr. Walter Rohr's "Christmas on Fifth Avenue" trip.

Scheduled for Dec. 3, the adventure will begin at 9 a.m. when students board a Wagner bus, which will take them to the Metropolitan Museum of Art to view the traditional tree and possibly have lunch.

The group will proceed to 59th Street and Fifth Avenue, where students will be free to check out the window displays of stores such as FAO Schwarz, Tiffany's, Saks and Cartier.

"They're really something to see," said Dr. Rohrs, who added that, in his opinion, they were comparable to big-name stores around the world.

There is no cost, except for lunch, and the bus will return to campus mid-afternoon.

"It could be interesting," added Dr. Rohrs. "It's maybe a little different than other trips that have been scheduled."

To sign up, call Dr. Rohrs at 122.

The Faculty Masters Program is also planning for next semester, with events organized by Dennis Anderson and Dr. Richard Ferguson, Richard Gaffney, Dr. Robert Mazzola, Dr. Alison Smith and Dr. Anita Volland. Anderson and Dr. Ferguson have

arranged some astronomical observing, scheduled to take place on Feb. 5 at Great Kills Park, on March 12 in Colts Neck, N.J. and on April 16 in Cranford, N.J. Vans will be available for transportation. Call Dr. Ferguson at 127.

Professor Gaffney, in an effort to expose students to "art in progress," has begun to schedule trips to artists' studios in the city. No real dates have been set, but he believes the excursions will take place some time in February or March.

"We're trying to expose kids to the underside of art in New York City," Prof. Gaffney said. "I can take them to see the finished project anytime. [I want] to have them meet the people who make the art — to realize they are real people who have to get up in the morning, who have to brush their teeth."

Before each trip, Prof. Gaffney will explain to the students what kind of art they will be seeing and give them additional background.

"The idea behind the program was that if we take them there, they will go on their own more frequently," he said.

Interested students should call his secretary, Maureen Bonacki, at 192.

Dr. Robert Mazzola has planned trips to Manhattan museums and galleries — including the Guggenheim in SoHo and the Metropolitan Museum of Art and the Cloisters — with guided visits of selected collections.

He also wants to show videos and film in the Union — classical and new horror, and science fiction and fantasy tales.

In conjunction with her spring semester class in women's history, Dr. Smith will lead trips to the Costume Institute of the Metropolitan Museum of Art, the Women and Technology in the 20th Century Exhibit at the Cooper Hewitt Museum and the Alice Austen House, in Rosebank on Staten Island.

She urges students to take advantage of the city.

"It's extraordinarily worthwhile and exciting for a student here to be so close to New York City," Dr. Smith said.

"I love doing it, I don't mind the extra time, she continued. "The general idea is to get students who haven't had the time or the wherewith all to go — a chance to experience."

For more information, call her at 253.

"Hindu Goddesses and Indian Women" is the subject of a series of events organized by Dr. Volland.

Involved herself in the study of Indian dance for many years, Dr. Volland will present Padma Sampath, a woman from Mysore, India, in a performance on March 13.

Ms. Sampath, who divides her time between the United States and her native country, will dance "classical South Indian dances on the theme of Hindu Goddesses," said Dr. Volland.

Other parts of her program will involve a trip to a Hindu temple in Flushing, Queens, and a series of videos and explanations about Hindu marriage and ritual ceremonies.

"I'm very, very interested in Indian things," she explained. Other students who want to attend any of her events should contact Dr. Volland at the beginning of the spring semester.

Dr. Basch said she believes the project is "already a success."

She explained that the teachers are not getting paid for their extra time and said she believes the projects will enrich the curriculum.

"It creates an opportunity for the faculty to gain better relationships with their students," she said.

# Freshmen give Wagner experience a thumbs-up

By DENISE RODRIGUEZ  
Wagnerian Staff Writer

Just as the freshmen students are becoming accustomed to the Wagner way of life, it was interesting to see their feelings and opinions about the new stage in their life, and about their initial response to Wagner as a school. While there is the occasional disappointed student, who for some reason felt that his or her needs were not being met, most students interviewed were enjoying their first taste of college life.

It seems that an overwhelming number of students are particularly happy with Wagner's hilltop location. Billy Kennedy, who is a commuter, said that he "enjoys the out of the city atmosphere," while Rosalia Tierno said, "It's small and you get to know everybody, and you become close. It also has good resources like the city, the atmosphere is fantastic."

Thus Wagner seems to offer students the best of both worlds, the hustle and bustle of a great city like New York, and the peace and serenity of a quiet campus life.

Other students really like Wagner's size, and the student-teacher ratio. Lisa Quitea stated, "I had fears that college would be big, and that I would feel pretty much alone, but Wagner has proved to me that college isn't always like that."

"Coming from Crown Heights Brooklyn, Wagner is just like the a teenage duplex, in other words, yeah, yeah, I love it," said Janice McLean.

Jodie Culver stated, "I've learned a lot about what a small college is and what goes on here compared to elsewhere."

On a more ambiguous note, Tracy Gehrig said that Wagner is "everything that I expected a small college to be." And Julianna Becggren, a commuter, said, "I love the idea that the school is small because the teach-

ers get to know my name; I enjoy all my classes; except for one."

"Even though the courses match or excel those in other colleges, I also enjoy the smaller classes and teachers knowing you by name," said Daniel Viegas.

There were also some complaints. Jennifer Liebel, who is a resident, said, "I am dissatisfied with the fact that the computer center closes early on Sunday nights."

Karina Wollner said, "It stinks because I live at home and I don't get to meet as many people; they seem to be having a good time and I'm only here for my classes."

Another student, Paul Hackett said, "Wagner has one of the best locations of any college. The campus is very nice; but lacking a pool."

Yet perhaps Alycia Sepso best summed up college life for us when she defined it as "many people living together and going to classes, pretty much what I expected."

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# S.G.A. minutes

Minutes of the Student Government Association meeting, held on Nov. 9, 1993:

- I. Meeting called to order at 4:30 p.m.
- II. Roll call
- III. Approval of minutes — 10/12/93 minutes approved
- IV. Officer reports:
  - A) V.P. activities:
    - Blood Drive 11/17/93 — Volunteers needed
    - S.A.C. meeting 11/10/93 at 5:00 PM
    - S.A.C. brainstorm meeting (program spring semester) 11/11/93 at 5:00 PM
  - B) Treasurer and Student Senator — Activities Budget Request Allocation Form is due two week prior to event
    - Forms must be more descriptive
    - General Contract Forms are in the Dean of Students office and need the Dean of Students' approval
  - V. Committee Reports
    - A) Songfest 04/16/94
    - B) Homecoming Evaluation Meeting 11/10/93 at 4:30 PM in Union Room 202
  - VI. Old Business
    - A) Songfest 04/16/94
    - B) Attendance for all organizations is mandatory at S.G.A. meetings
  - VII. New Business
    - A) Blood drive — 11/17/93 noon-5:00 p.m. in Fitness Center
      - Registration 11/12/93/, 11/15/93, 11/16/93 on Union Terrace
      - Any organization with the most pledges will receive a party sponsored by S.G.A.
      - Any organization that works at registration counts toward its total people
      - If interested, contact James Hickey
  - VIII. Announcements
    - A) An officers meeting will be soon
    - B) Office hours — for every two times missed equals one missed S.G.A. meeting, three unexcused absences of S.G.A. meetings means expulsion
    - C) Lobbyist Adonis Hoffman speaking on Haiti, 11/18/93 at 2:00 p.m. in Spiro Hall Room 4
    - D) Speaker James Guinn — 11/16/93 at 7:00 p.m. in the Union
    - E) In February, S.G.A. will be working on speakers for Greeks, contact James Hickey if interested
    - F) Food drive — during lunch and dinner
      - Table on Union Terrace 11/22/93 and a box in the TKE lounge
      - Food or money acceptable
    - G) Coat drive — end of November, table in the Union
    - H) Guest speaker at next S.G.A. meeting 11/23/93 at 4:30 PM
- Meeting closed

S.G.A./S.A.C. events for November and December:  
 Wednesday, November 24: Thanksgiving break begins  
 Thursday, December 2: Radio City Music Hall Christmas Show  
 Wednesday, December 8: Christmas Formal, Snug Harbor

Other Announcements:  
 RHC meets every Wednesday night at 10 p.m. in Gatehouse Lounge  
 The Accounting and Business Society is meeting on Tuesday, November 23 at 5 p.m. in Union Room 202  
 Student Activities meets every Wednesday at 5 p.m. in Union Room 227

## New club rides in on S.E.A. of optimism

By JASON BORELLI  
 Wagnerian Staff Writer

Among the larger issues rampant in the larger world today (Russia's chaotic state, the war in Bosnia, the effect of NAFTA in the United States, etc.) one that is getting less and less attention is the environment. For a group of students, the environment is a very relevant issue.

The Student Environmental Association (S.E.A.), is a relatively new organization on campus. Headed by their president, sophomore Christa Smith, the S.E.A. focuses on exposing students to new ways to heal the planet.

When asked if the S.E.A. would function as an "environmental police," vice-president Jennifer Hehner responded, "It's more along the lines of promoting environmental consciousness and making people aware so that then they are more concerned about it."

The S.E.A. hopes to have an Earth Day festival and a recycling contest in the near future. Plans are already underway to plant trees at Ibes Pond in the spring.

Members of the group see other

problems besides non-disposable cans and landfills.

"As far as energy (is concerned), energy waste is a thing to work on," says Smith. "I'd like to see something as far as that. Like Main Hall, they don't have a heating system where it's controlled by thermostat in each room, and most of the time during the winter, they keep the windows open because it's too hot. They keep the temperature at a bad level and that's the same way with the Towers and dorms."

Adds Hehner, "The heat and air-conditioning is always on and you can't change the temperature. In my room, I have to keep all the windows open all the time because it boils."

Anyone interested in joining the S.E.A. can go to Room 421 in Megerle Science Building at 6 PM on any Tuesday. Besides Smith and Hehner, the S.E.A.'s executives are advisor Dr. Dale Yarns, Secretary Angela Fiduccia, and Treasurer Jolene Hopke. (Elections for S.E.A. officers will take place in February).

When asked why students should join the organization, Smith answered, "It's their planet. It's their environment. They have to live in it."

## Horrible Scopes for Nov. 22 to 29

By LISA DESIDERO  
 Wagnerian Staff Writer

Capricorn (Dec. 22-Jan. 20) — You may have some private ambitions, which require you to pursue them in a cheerful way. Also, keep out of the way of an upset friend or acquaintance who is looking to blow some steam off on you.

Aquarius (Jan. 1-Feb. 19) — Watch every move that you make carefully, and make sure that you do nothing that is unpatriotic. Be wise! Make sure that you get in touch with your friends and arrange to see them.

Pices (Feb. 20-March 20) — The outside world is your oyster, so make sure you follow career interests. You may also feel pressured to engage in some activities, it would be unwise to commit yourself.

Aries (March 21-April 19) — Some previous obligations may require you to think them over with some consideration. Be tact and put forethought in your approach. Also, extend your activities beyond their present scope, and you may be able make some new associations.

Taurus (April 20-May 20) — Let people know what you wish from them, and make sure that you are taken seriously. Also, you may find that an associate is stubborn, so try to postpone a meeting, or be tactful!

Gemini (May 21-June 21) — Think over carefully anything that you are considering to pursuing. Make sure you are patient at your job, and have a little self-control. You may want to do something unusual, so that people may appreciate your best.

Cancer/Moon Children (June 22-July 21) — Add some charm to your

style so that whatever you do, there will be more comfort around you. How you feel about an issue is most definite, and it is evident of what you want. There may be some opposition around you.

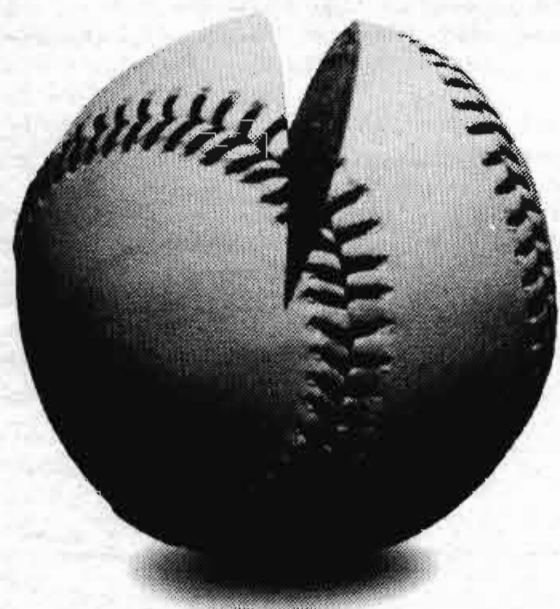
Leo (July 22-Aug. 21) — You may find yourself involved in a family matter, and a battle royal has the ability to break out. Happier times are for you in the future, so go after pleasures that appeal to you after your affairs are cleared up.

Virgo (Aug. 22-Sept. 22) — Things around the home may need some attending to. Your judgment is in good taste and you have the ability to create harmonious situations. Also, you may consider what you say before you say it, and surely so not be sarcastic!

Libra (Sept. 23-Oct. 22) — Be careful when making financial commitments, because later events can cause you some unhappy loss. Now may be the best time to make a move outside the family circle. So show some appreciation to those who have been loyal to you.

Scorpio (Oct. 23-Nov. 21) — You can do those things now which have the ability to improve your appearance. Go after a raise in pay for any work that you have performed. This is a good time to make demands, so go after what you want.

Sagittarius (Nov. 22-Dec. 21) — Avoid fussing over a secret condition because for the moment you can do nothing about it. You also have the power now to go after your personal goals. Keep it at, and your dreams are bound to be yours real soon.



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# Opinion

## On politics

### What in the world are we doing?

By RYAN VAARSI  
Wagnerian Staff Writer

A recent issue of Time Magazine asked the question, "What in the World Are We Doing," with reference to the muddled foreign policy agenda of the Clinton administration, but with an obvious emphasis on the continuing debacle in Somalia.

It seemed like such a relatively simple affair initially; a humanitarian mission to feed the famine-stricken Somalis. There had been similar efforts undertaken in countries like Ethiopia, with a fair amount of success. So how did this simple act of international altruism turn into such a costly, bloody, embarrassing mess?

It has been blamed alternately on distorted priorities, personal vendettas and the confused politics of the post-Cold War global power structure. It seems as though the United States has bitten off more than it can (or should attempt to) chew.

No one would deny the validity of the effort to feed Somalia. We live in a culture that is dominated by a news media in which sound bites and photo ops take the place of substantive news. We saw pictures of men, women and children in a horrifying state of hunger and we heard how many thousands were dying a day, and we yearned to help them. A very philanthropic, very noble idea that has, in the course of a year, been turned into a pitched battle against warring factions, and now Americans and Somalis alike agree that philanthropy has turned into combativeness.

The United Nations and the Americans have overstayed their welcome in Somalia, that much seems perfectly clear. The televised gore has switched from hunger-ravaged Somalis to dead, or wounded Americans. The corpse of an American soldier seen dragged naked through the dust by Somalis who pelt it with stones and the heroism of captured helicopter pilot Michael Durant, have forced us to ask ourselves, "What In the World Are We Doing?"

Acting from our hearts, we fed the Somali people without stopping to wonder why it was that they were starving in the first place. We did not look past the televised anguish to find that, beneath the starvation there was a bloody civil war, whose battle lines were ill-defined. In purely selfish terms, America has nothing to be gained by a continued presence in Somalia, that nation is of no vital interest to us.

We are warned that any substantial withdrawal of troops from Somalia would guarantee a new beginning to the starvation that we fought to stave off, and yet what is the solution? Who do you side with in another country's civil war? The same question has been posed with reference to the Bosnian situation, though no one seems to be able to answer it in that context either.

The time has come for Americans to turn their sights inward. Not to ignore the suffering of another nation's people, but to realize that the role of global policeman is not one that we are presently capable of assuming. The American economy needs to be strengthened before we can realistically think about spending billions of dollars on international good samaritan missions.

Health care reform for this nation ought to take precedent over the internal struggles of the third world. This is not a diatribe against the precepts of humanitarianism. Simply, the Clinton administration must know when to say when. The Somali people have told us that we are unwelcome, and we should listen to them.

### What's the story on Capitol Hill?

By CHRISTOPHER MILITO  
Wagnerian Staff Writer

Since 1989, various omnibus anti-crime bills have appeared before Congress, and each and every one of them has been blocked due to partisan disagreements over the relative importances of crime prevention and punishment.

President Clinton has called for Congress to once again consider a similar bill, and unfortunately it has encountered resistance from both Democrats and Republicans. Both the Senate and the House have been considering their own crime package, but inaction and filibuster have stalled their progress.

The key points of dispute in both bills are appeals of habeas corpus, which gives death row inmates the opportunity to challenge the constitutionality of their sentence, and the ban on all semiautomatic assault weapons. Conservatives wish to narrow down the right appeal to only the death sentence and fight the assault weapon restrictions, while the liberals are doing just the opposite.

Amidst the controversy, House Judiciary Chairman Jack Brooks (D-Texas) has opted to present six initiatives from the House's anti-crime bill (HR 3131). Mr. Brooks obviously has the insight that the House's protracted debate on the more controversial initiatives will more than likely produce a watered down version of the original bill, with the more mainstream measures becoming fodder for partisan concessions.

The initiatives that Brooks has separated from HR 3131 are the authorization of programs for more community police officers, drug treatment for prisoners, school programs to decrease crime, support of state efforts to combat gangs and drug trafficking, and federal grants for alternative sentencing of youthful offenders. These initiatives were the backbone of HR 3131, whereas gun control and the death penalty were headline measures.

Brooks' plan will most likely make it possible for these initiatives to pass, but it does not address a topic that the Committee Republicans want to deal with: tougher sentencing and more money for new prisons. These issues are truly the important ones, not appeals of habeas corpus or even gun control; most criminals do not purchase weapons from reputable gun stores, and the death penalty is an ineffective deterrent.

If Brooks' measure will increase policing, more prisons must be built to house them, and tougher sentences must be handed down to keep them off the streets. Brooks' plan does support the combat of certain social conditions under which crime flourishes, and this is also of vital importance.

What no one on the Hill seems to realize is that a balance of penal and preventive measures must be struck. Most crime occurs because of poverty, drug addiction, and the gang mentality. Jobs must be made in the inner-cities, where poverty abounds, drug treatment must be made available to anyone who needs it, and children must be taught that it is not cool to be in a violent gang.

Kids need upstanding role models who are successful not because of crime, but due to education and hard work. Drug-dealers in expensive cars are the successes that most inner-city children see; their parents are unemployed and abusive, and there seems to be no way out of the ghetto. Government needs to play an active role in ameliorating these social conditions in order to prevent crime.

Most partisans are too blind to see the other side's argument, and therefore do not realize that law-and-order tactics must be implemented also. The improvement of social conditions is complementary to justice. Drug dealers must be taken off the streets, and out of kid's eyes. Tougher sentences will teach them that crime doesn't pay. More cops with better funding, and the permission to do their jobs will deter potential criminals, and make law-abiding citizens feel safe on their own sidewalks.

Chairman Brooks is to be congratulated on his decision to break up the bill and get at least something passed, but the entire Hill is to be admonished on their inability to work together on an important issue. Until Congress is willing to realize that squabbling accomplishes nothing, and that cooperation will produce the desired result, criminals will continue to threaten the safety of the citizenry.



#### Mental illness has warning signs, too.

Withdrawal from social activities. Excessive anger. These could be the first warning signs of a mental illness. Unfortunately, most of us don't recognize the signs. Which is tragic. Because mental illness can be treated. In fact, 2 out of 3 people who get help, get better.

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more information call 390-9319.



# Opinion

## The real meaning of pledging

By MICHAEL I. HOFFMAN  
Wagnerian Staff Writer

"Oh, you're in a Fraternity. Did you have to eat raw liver and run around naked? Were you paddled? What did you have to do?"

The number of times I have heard those exact words would blow your mind. If half of what I and other "Greeks" have been suspected of having to accomplish were true, we would all be either dead or institutionalized! The general (i.e. non-Greek) public has a strange fascination with the initiation process known as pledging.

The fact that most, if not all Greek organizations are secretive about their initiation rites, compounded by the admittedly escalated number of "hazing" incidents over the last 5-10 years, has created a somewhat macabre aura around what it takes to become a "Brother" or "Sister."

It has also fostered a fairly common belief that "pledging" is nothing more than an opportunity for "Brothers" or "Sisters" to humiliate, degrade, enslave and/or dehumanize naive underclassmen. That, for the most part, is not true.

The problem is that many people don't understand what fraternities (and when I say "Fraternities," I mean Sororities inclusive) are supposed to be. Thus, they cannot understand why these organizations make initiation such an "ordeal." Ladies and gentlemen of the non-Greek persuasion, fraternities are not, let me repeat, not, just clubs with funny names! For the rest of this editorial, I want to address some of the apparently more popular misconceptions about Greek organizations.

First of all, "Why Greek letters?" Good question. Fraternities and Sororities seem to have evolved from what are/ were called "Supper Clubs." These clubs were small groups, mostly men, who came together for various purposes; to study "forbidden" literature (remember "Dead Poets Society?"), as clandestine political clubs, or out of the simple desire to socialize away from the general public. These clubs date back to the beginning of formalized higher education.

The use of Greek letters may have evolved either from acronyms for favorite phrases, or as code words for members to inform other members of meetings. Remember, this is going back hundreds of years, when Greek and Latin weren't considered "dead" languages. This practice has carried on into the age of "formal" Greek Letter Organizations.

Next question: Why all the secrecy? Part of this answer again goes back historically. Many of these aforementioned clubs were secret associations, probably because they were convened for reasons or topics which were prohibited or forbidden. Thus, for obvious reasons members could not be open about the club, for chance of being discovered and punished. (Remember, hanging was quite popular not too long ago).

Another reason for secrecy is the bond of brotherhood/ sisterhood. As part of the intimacy and unity of the organization, many fraternities and sororities have developed "rituals." Rituals are formal ceremonies per-

formed by the organizations, which are designed to remind the members of the intimacy of their "bond," and to strengthen that bond through a shared experience. It would kind of defeat the point if everybody knew those rituals.

One final reason for secrecy is not nearly as archaic or mysterious. One of the most important aspects of fraternity life is the emphasis on familial relations, i.e. "brothers" and "sisters." The members of a fraternity or sorority, ideally at least, regard each other as family. As family, the members depend on each other when the going gets tough. This includes supporting each other through tough times, and sharing thoughts and fears they wouldn't share with just anybody.

I think the need for secrecy here is obvious. Ask any fraternity man or sorority woman, and I'll bet any thing they can think of at least one time when their brothers/ sisters helped them through a rough time. Personally, I can think of a dozen.

This brings us to the BIG question: Why pledging? Personally, I think everything you've read up to now should for the most part, explain that; but if not, I will continue.

As we stated before, fraternities and sororities are meant to be very intimate, familial organizations, where all the members can unquestioningly depend, rely and confide in, all of his or her brothers and sisters. I can only speak personally, but I'm sure many will agree that I don't want to talk about my deepest feelings (assuming I had any) with someone who I didn't know well. The pledge period is a time for the pledge to get to know the brothers/sisters, and for them to get to know him/her.

Also, as I said before, Greek organizations are secret societies which are wholly self-sufficient, and have only it's members to rely on. Pledging, and the various activities it encompasses is a test. A test to see if the would-be brother/sister has the ingenuity, the creativity, and the perseverance to take on the responsibilities that brotherhood/sisterhood involves.

The third, and perhaps most important point of pledging is the bond that pledging itself creates. Most organizations will not pledge a singular person; there must be a group of at least two or three. A good pledge program focuses the pledges on working together to accomplish tasks, and to get things done.

Working together under duress creates a bond of "shared iniquity," shared memories and situations that only the pledges and brothers or sisters can truly understand. There is a saying, "The best friendships come out of times of shared joys and times of shared troubles." (No, I don't remember who said it!)

Which reminds of one additional point, regarding the use of the titles "Brother" and "Sister." Fraternity and sorority members are very proud of what their organizations stand for, and what they accomplish within them. Initiation itself is considered an achievement, probably the highest achievement these organizations recognize.

The same way many of our teachers at Wagner College want to be called "Doctor" or "Professor" in recognition of their scholastic achievements, we want our fraternal achievements recognized by people entering onto our bond. The achievements may be different, but not any less important to us than them.

On a final note, let me say that there is a difference between pledging and "hazing." Inflicting physical and/or emotional pain on a person with no reason is not pledging, it's criminal. However, asking a person to prove their worth, their character, and their mettle, if you will, is not in my mind wrong in any way.

Not if that person is expecting you to take him or her into your utmost confidence, and somewhat blindly trust him or her as your equal, And that's what a fraternity is all about.

## Women's studies vs. gender studies

By CHRISTINA E. FITZGERALD  
Wagnerian Editor

Finally, somebody has had the sense to try to educate the Wagner students about diversity, freedom, and equality; the proposed women's studies minor is supposed to do just that.

While I agree with the teaching of cultural diversity and diversity between the sexes, I do not agree with the "women's studies" minor. Separating women from the rest of a society is not teaching equality, but isolating women from the rest of society which is not equal. We have learned from American history that there cannot be not separate but equal — only just plain equal.

I am not opposed to a gender studies minor that would include women in their relationship to men, time and history, and also including homoeroticism, women's roles in Hispanic culture, and in African/ African-American culture. Instead of having classes that only involve women, why not weave the achievements of women into current curriculum, or the roles of women in the society that is being studied?

There may also be a need to create new courses that explore different places and time periods in which there are famous women. There are a few famous women that I can think of who would be interesting to study (interesting for me anyway) who just don't fit into the time and place of any courses; for instance, Marie Currie, Anne Frank, Cleopatra, Marie Antoinette, Eleanor Roosevelt and Margaret Thatcher.

The debate on whether to call the new minor "Women's Studies" or "Gender Studies" — I say gender studies and include the suggestions I have offered. As the planned curriculum stands for this minor is could be called women's studies, because each of the courses, for the most part, has the word women in it.

By calling the minor "Gender Studies" we can hope in the future for it to be more the embodiment of other important issues, and issues of interest, including homosexuality in literature in the humanities section, and matriarchal societies in the history and anthropology sector. The term "Gender Studies" with subheadings would be the best way to go as far as I'm concerned.

Though I am not opposed to the compromise of a "Women's/Gender Studies" title, I think that is not a resolution to the problem, but weakness to take a stand and fight for what you want, to play politics and try to make everyone happy, is always a recipe for failure.

## Lecture by Jeanne Kirkpatrick

A presentation on the U.S. foreign policy and the U.N. role, by Jeanne Kirkpatrick at the 92nd street Y at 1365 Lexington Avenue, on Thursday, December 2, at 8 p.m. The van will leave at 6 p.m. and return at 11 p.m. Please contact Yolanda White at extension 253 or stop by Parker Hall 201 to find out where to get the van for this meeting.

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# Entertainment

## Crown Palace: Food fit for royalty

By LISA DESIDERIO  
Wagnerian Staff Writer

The Crown Palace tradition was created 12 years ago on Staten Island with the opening of the first location on Amboy Road. Since then, they have established themselves with the opening of three more locations, one on Hylan Boulevard, one on Forest Avenue, and one in Marlboro, N.J. The restaurant that we sampled was the original on Amboy Road.

Set back away from the street, Crown Palace in Bay Terrace was spacious, stylish, and delicious! The menu seemed to contain a great deal of variety, and when it came down to ordering ever thing looked good.

The Crown Palace restaurant has the best Chinese food that I ever

### Restaurant review

tasted! However, not only was the food delicious, but the atmosphere was pleasant and delightful. The dining room was spacious, and the touch of soft lighting added elegance. Large plant, and the absence of large murals also mad it feel cozy.

The menu is expansive and contains arrange of standard dishes, along with many chef specialties to choose from. When ordering, we concentrated on may of the specials and were very satisfied with the end re-

sult.

We started with the house special soup for two, which contained large wontons with pieces of pork, chicken and vegetables. What added its flavor was the large shrimp and flavorful broth.

The appetizers that are available all seemed delicious, but we chose the pan-fried dumplings and beef sate. The dumplings were a bit under fried, but the beef sate was a juicy piece of filet mignon with absolutely no fat on it.

When it came to ordering the entrees we decided to choose from the chef's specialties. Again we picked the Chef's Special chicken, which consisted of chunks of white meat in a tangy brown sauce, and the vegetables that were added were a nice

touch. Then, we ordered the Steak Kew, which was chunks of filet mignon with assorted Chinese vegetables in a House Special sauce.

The pieces of meat were like butter, and it seem as if the y melted in your mouth. To put the final touches on our meal we also ordered the pieces of roast pork, chicken, baby shrimp, mixed vegetables, and pieces of tender beef. It was quite heavenly!

The portions were very filling and left us no room for dessert. The service was exceptional. However, on the weekends they tend to be a bit rushed. Then prices were also a bit high, but the food was worth it. Dinner for two with two soups, two appetizers, two entrees and rice came to \$45.60 with tax and without tip.

## Trivia from TKE

By AL LEISENGANG  
Wagnerian Staff Writer

Kilts originated in France, not Scotland.

A termite can live 30 years.

Most snakes can go without eating for a whole year.

Most monkeys are near-sighted.

Forty million Ritz crackers are bought every day.

Baboons cannot throw overhand.

The state flower of Alaska is, appropriately, the forget-me-not.

According to an old English time unit, one moment is 1½ minutes.

Your lungs use about 12,500 quarts of air each day.

As postmaster of New Salem, Indiana, Abraham Lincoln's salary was \$55.70 a year.

## Book review

### 'Dreaming in Cuban'

By DENISE RODRIGUEZ  
Wagnerian Staff Writer

Christina Garcia's first novel, "Dreaming in Cuban," is a definite must read. It is a whimsical, magical novel set in Cuba and New York.

"Dreaming in Cuban" is the story of a family separated and torn apart by politics. It is not an artistic masterpiece; it deals with real political and social issues. Garcia brings to life the kind of situation that has become all too familiar to us; yet, through her novel we see the pain of separation up close, and we can almost feel its painful impact. The things that we watch on the news and read in the paper become clearer, more vivid and are certainly much more poignant and effective.

Not only are we able to escape our own world and enter one of the salty seas and sunny beaches, we are also allowed to experience a vital part of history and the tragedies of political corruption.



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## SO WAS THIS ONE.



Photo by Ken Nahoum

National Institute on Drug Abuse, U.S. Department of Health & Human Services, Council

Ad Council

# Entertainment

## Billy Joel dreams on

By MELISSA ALCOCK  
Wagnerian Staff Writer

It's been a while since we've heard from Billy Joel. Now, with a new album, a hit single and sold-out concert appearances, it's obvious that his fans are still around — in large numbers.

What is everyone so excited about? Well, "River of Dreams" is Joel's first release since "Storm Front" in 1989. At age 44, it seems he's mellowing out a little. Most of the songs on this album are serious and/or ballads, and are quite introspective and personal.

There are ten tunes, including the oft-played title track, which seems to be the most upbeat one. "Lullaby (Goodnight, My Angel)" is to answer the questions his seven-year-old daughter, Alexa Ray, has about death; "The Great Wall of China" is aimed at a former associate who Joel accuses of misappropriating money; "No Man's Land" appears to take a negative view on urbanization and industrial development; and Billy gets the blues in "A Minor Variation," something he himself compared to the Memphis soul sound.

"I'm supposed to have this phenomenal life," said Joel during an interview with a local newspaper.

### Album review

"But I had the blues, and it felt good to actually say, 'Some days I have to give right into the blues.'" (Line One from "A Minor Variation.")

In the same song, Joel goes on to write (he wrote all of the songs and is also given production credit) — "Ain't no way to fight 'em darling/Ain't no way around 'em baby/Ain't no way to take 'em honey/Nowhere to hide and/Believe me I've tried/to shake 'em" — more than likely talking about the same blues.

Most of the songs are open to interpretation, which just shows what a good song-writer Joel is. He also plays the piano and organ during most of the tunes. To help out, he recruited Color Me Badd, to sing background vocals during "All About Soul;" and wife Christie Brinkley to design the cover — something that art experts are calling primitivist — but whatever that means, it looks a lot like Joel and includes images from most of the songs.

Personally, it's a little more serious



Billy Joel

than I like to hear from Joel. However, as a die-hard Billy Joel fan, I just consider it a measure of his ability that he can vary so much in his work. Most of the songs are open to interpretation. It's not an album I'd put on at a party, but for my more serious moods, or those special moments, it's perfect.

What do we have to look forward to from Joel? It's hard to say at this point, after so many years of success and so many different moods. He has been calling his latest concert tour

his last, and by his own admission, can no longer sing as well as he did at age 20.

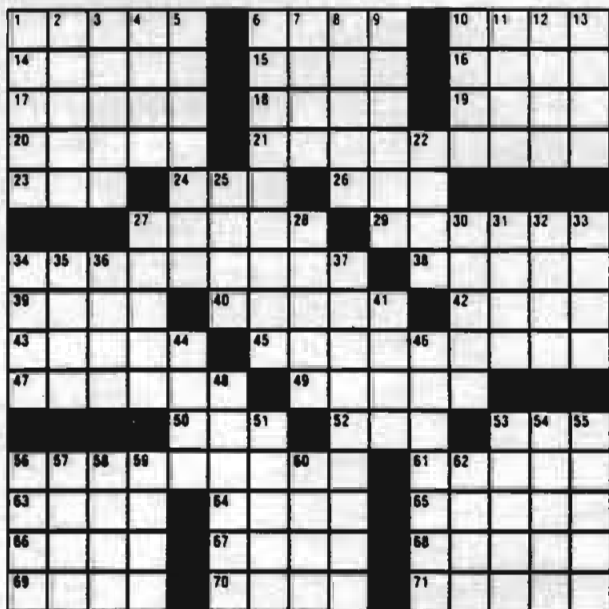
Joel said that he wrote most of the songs on "River of Dreams" in the order that they appear. Perhaps he gives us a hint that he's ready to close the book on this chapter in his life with the final words of the final song.

He writes and sings, "And these are the last words I have to say/It's always hard to say goodbye/But now it's time to put this book away/Ain't that the story of my life."

### THE Crossword

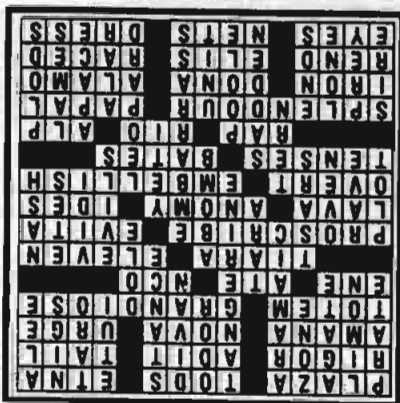
by H. Kermit Jackson

- ACROSS**
- 1 Public square
  - 6 Wool measures
  - 10 Alcohol burner
  - 14 Severity
  - 15 Mine shaft
  - 16 Follow closely
  - 17 Religious town
  - 18 Exploding star
  - 19 Exhort
  - 20 Clan emblem
  - 21 Overblown
  - 23 Chemical ending
  - 24 Consumed
  - 26 Sgt.
  - 27 Royal headwear
  - 29 Grid group
  - 34 Outlaw
  - 36 Broadway smash
  - 39 Scorla
  - 40 Miracle
  - 42 Bad March days
  - 43 Manifest
  - 45 Ornament
  - 47 Past and future
  - 49 Actor Alan
  - 50 Knuckle strike
  - 52 — Grande
  - 53 Rugged peak
  - 56 Br. brilliance
  - 61 Pontiff's
  - 63 Press
  - 64 Sp. lady
  - 65 Tex. mission
  - 66 Tear apart
  - 67 Site of ancient Olympic games
  - 68 Dashed
  - 69 Inspects
  - 70 Ensnares
  - 71 Lady's garb
- DOWN**
- 1 Babble
  - 2 Costa Rican port
  - 3 Marble
  - 4 "Twilight —"
  - 5 Old Semitic tongue
  - 6 Orange cousin
  - 7 Scent
  - 8 Couch
  - 9 Posture
  - 10 Fancy case
  - 11 Poi source
  - 12 Dresses stone
  - 13 Nautical word
  - 22 Give sparingly
  - 25 O'Hara home
  - 27 Romanovs
  - 28 Nuclear device
  - 30 Plagues
  - 31 "Veni, —, vici"
  - 32 Summers: Fr.
  - 33 Poet Ogden
  - 34 Story line
  - 35 Great review
  - 36 Baking chamber
  - 37 Cause to blush
  - 41 Tibetan giant
  - 44 Small gull
  - 46 Spotted cat
  - 48 Depress
  - 51 Author Ernest
  - 53 Quickly
  - 54 Fancy fabrics
  - 55 Trudges



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### ANSWERS



- |                   |                   |
|-------------------|-------------------|
| 56 Kingly title   | 59 Concludes      |
| 57 Hunted animals | 60 Military group |
| 58 Solitary       | 62 Winged         |

## Poetry corner

### Maria's Poem

The morning hung  
foggy and low,  
like a grey linen.  
and somehow  
I felt alone and  
abandoned,  
as if god  
had packed up his things  
wrapped up his blues  
and clouds,  
the sun itself,  
and left —  
leaving no note,  
no explanation  
just an empty apartment Sky.

We had breakfast  
in a tight cafe  
and even the runny eggs  
reminded me of our loss.  
I felt that you had noticed too  
while others chatted  
over cups of coffee.

There was some comfort  
in the sound of  
your voice  
and the sugary toast  
somehow distilled my fears.

When we walked out  
I was happy and amazed  
to see that all  
had been returned;  
the clouds were in their place  
and I could almost see  
his face  
smiling at us from behind the blue.  
We drove home satiated  
and content,  
but squinting a little  
from all that sunny new light.

ANONYMOUS



# Sports

## Hopson leaves nothing in the locker room

By DAN CORBETT  
Wagnerian Staff Writer

The Wagner College backcourt returns 5-foot, 10-inch senior Bobby Hopson, a player who prides himself in never backing down from any opponent or challenge.

Robert F. Hopson, born May 30, 1971, in Bridgehampton, N.Y., was only one of ten students in his graduating class. He earned McDonald's All America Honorable Mention as a senior. He became the Killerbees' all-time leading scorer, with 1,776 points, and also set the Killerbee single season scoring record with 744 points as a senior.

Hopson was recruited by a number of big Division I schools — Siena, St.

Peters, Ohio U. and Hawaii (where his cousin Troy Bowe played). But he opted to come to Wagner because it was close to home, he was very comfortable with the coaching staff and was going to play a lot. He started 13 games during his freshman year, averaging 10.8 points per game, before being sidelined with a stress fracture in his right foot.

"Watching the game I love was very hard, I worked so hard to get here and how to have to sit and watch was murder," Hopson said.

He bounced back — during his sophomore campaign he started 25 games and averaged 17.9 points to earn First Team All-Northeast Conference and Third Team All-Metropolitan N.Y.-N.J.

Last season, Hopson was named Honorable Mention All-American and First Team All-Northeast and All-Metropolitan N.Y.-N.J. for the second straight year. He averaged 16.0 points per game. His career high of 32 points came in the championship game against Rider, in which Wagner lost 65-64 during a nationally televised game on ESPN.

During the summer, getting ready for the season, Hopson played for Lou Carnesecca in the NIT/Foot Locker Summer All-Star team in Italy. When asked about the experience, he said that "the game over there was very physical, and best suited my game."

He added that it's every player's dream to play in the NBA, but he's looking at the more realistic view of playing overseas.

When asked about being named Sporting News Preseason Player of the Year, he said, "There will be some pressure, but I never back down. You have to do what's best for the team, and I play the game at 100 miles per hour and with all my heart."

One of the biggest challenges for Hopson and Wagner this year is Dec. 27, when Seton Hall comes to Sutter Gym to play the Seahawks.

"It will be a great thrill, but I have to treat it just like any other challenge," said Hopson, when asked about this game.

You can bet that Hopson will do whatever it takes to win, and won't be backing down from anything real soon. Come Dec. 27, he won't leave anything in the locker room.

## Women's cross country

By MAUREEN HORN  
Wagnerian Staff Writer

A year ago, the women's cross country team won their first NEC championship. This year's NEC championship would take place at the Princeton Battleground Park on Oct. 30. Wagner would try to defend their title, but they knew it would be a war.

As dawn arrived, the battlefield was wet and muddy, with a light rain falling. Although there were ten teams competing, it would be a slightly favored Mount St. Mary's fighting Wagner, with other teams chasing. The two teams started at opposite ends of the starting line. As the gun roared to start the race, Mount St. Mary's went out fast as Wagner settled into their own pace, keeping their emotions in check.

Through the middle of the race, Wagner's runners slowly moved up as they knew the last mile would be what decided the race. The team with the most heart at the end would be able to reach the deepest to finish the strongest.

When the smoke cleared, it was Wagner victorious again. Senior Jennifer Livingston was 2nd in 18:34, senior Marta Santiago was 5th in 18:59, and senior Maureen Horn was 7th in 19:08. All three made First Team All-Northeast Conference.

They were followed by sophomore Jessica Machanska in 11th at 19:30 and junior Nicole Brown was 15th on 19:48. Machanska and Brown made Second Team All-Northeast Conference.

The point total of 40 was the lowest in NEC history (lowest point total wins), as Mount finished second with 52 and Marist, third, with 95.

Sophomore Amy Felci was 28th in 20:46 and freshman Megan Hudson was 33rd in 20:51.

The women's cross country team became the first women's sport at Wagner to win two NEC titles and the first Wagner sport to win consecutive titles.

Will 1994 three-peat? Only time will tell.

Whaddya Say To A Guy Who's  
Had The Same Job For 50 Years,  
Has Never Called In Sick Or Showed  
Up Late, Never Taken A Vacation  
Or A Holiday, Never Asked For  
A Raise Or Gripped About His Bonus  
And, Believe It Or Not, Has No  
Plans For Retirement?



Thanks.

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