

The Wagnerian

WAGNER COLLEGE

TUESDAY, MAY 1, 2001

The Torch is Passed

New Editorial Staff Takes The Reigns For Fall 2001

By Eddie D'Anna
Co-Editor

With the Wagnerian's current co-editors Eddie D'Anna and Carla Barletto planning to walk to the sad strains of "Pomp and Circumstance" come May 18, the time has come for the pair to pass the paper's reigns of power over to some new blood for the Fall 2001 semester.

With a new year comes new issues, new stories and new headaches. Basically new news.



Eric Cohen

Recently, Wagnerian advisors Dr. Peter Sharpe and Prof. Claire Regan announced who will be assuming the responsibility of dealing with these issues, serving as the commanders-in-chief of the student voice at Wagner College.

Ladies and gentlemen introducing your new co-editors for the 2001-2002 school year: Eric Cohen and Jacqueline Nguyen.

Cohen, 20, currently a junior and the paper's Assistant Editor, has earned the promotion the hard way. He has paid his dues with three years of service, beginning as a Staff Writer in his freshman year. Cohen was named Entertainment Editor at the beginning of the school year, when the new staff, lead by D'Anna and Ms. Barletto, took on the task of resurrecting a paper that had been disappointing for so long.

Through his column "Political MishMosh," Cohen has assumed the responsibility of keeping the Wagner College

student body up to speed on the current political scene.

Due to his work ethic and excellence, Cohen was promoted to Assistant Editor at the beginning of the spring semester.

He seems ready for next year.

"The paper improved dramatically this year but there still is work to be done," Cohen said. "I'm excited for this opportunity."

The ultra-competent Ms. Nguyen, currently a junior, has been working as a Staff Writer for the past year. Her profiles on Dr. Harold (Hal) McCulloch and Dr. Ammini Moorthy both graced the Wagnerian's front page this past year. She has also written articles on the library and the Greenhouse.

As always, some skeptical people out there may be asking if Cohen and Ms. Nguyen will be able to work together as co-editors to achieve a common goal: To put out an interesting product on a bi-weekly basis.

Well, fear not.

The pair has already laid the ground work for that. Ms. Nguyen, currently the Promotions Director of WCBG, and Cohen, currently a disc jockey, have spent the last semester working together to achieve common goals.

According to D'Anna, the Wagnerian will only be going onward from here.

"Eric and Jackie have been doing excellent work as long as they've been on the staff," he said. "There is no doubt in my mind that they will build on the success the staff has established this year."



Jackie Nguyen

Shaffer Sets the Record Straight

Dean Shaffer Says Word Of Her Departure Is Premature

By Kristin Bartell
Staff Writer

Rumors have recently surfaced regarding Dean of Students Deidre Shaffer's plans to step down from her office. But is it true — is Deidre Shaffer leaving Wagner College?

"Leaving?" she repeats in shock, as if blown away by the unexpected question. She can say only what is at the core of her sense of purpose as the Dean. "But I love the students!"

A beaming smile is splashed across the face of Deidre Shaffer, the Dean of Students for the past eight years, as she reflects on the state of student affairs at the school. She brightens when mentioning the solid partnership forged between the students and administration, especially at the present, which has been responsible for an abundance of success at the College.

Such a partnership has allowed for the bettering of established organizations at Wagner, and the birth of new organizations — such as Everyone Firmly For One Respectable Task (EFFORT), the Nubian Student Union, The Speech and Debate Caucus, and the Wagner College Broadcasting Group (WCBG).

"It is important to continually assess and work on relations between students and administration," Ms. Shaffer admits. "There is definitely a focus in leadership and development."

Perhaps a most notable product of the healthy relationship between the students and administration is the "new face" of the student newspaper, The Wagnerian.

The financial and moral support poured into a revamping of the publication, thanks to administrative officers, coupled with the talent and dedication of students and faculty advisors Dr. Peter Sharpe and Prof. Claire Regan, has resulted in the complete transforma-



Dean of Students, Deidre Shaffer

tion of a project once in danger of folding due to lack of interest, despite the efforts of many.

"The upper administration was helpful in getting the Wagnerian going," commented Shaffer. "Things were moved around, and the financial support was given."

Also noteworthy is the success of the Greek organizations on Wagner's campus. Their dedication to reaching goals set in completing various community services is in high gear — much contrary to rumors that the administration was anxious to get rid of Greek life at Wagner.

"There are absolutely no objectives working to get

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Letter From the Editors

It's that time of year.

Classes are starting to wind down, final papers are starting to build up and it's just about time to leave those jackets inside your cars and dorm rooms. The 2000-2001 school year is just about over.

As Co-Editors of the Wagnerian, we would like to take this opportunity to thank a few people who have helped us do what we set out to do at the beginning of the school year: Resurrect the college paper.

First and foremost, we would like to thank our staff, past and present, including Eric Cohen, Assistant Editor; Eric Skiff, Managing Editor; Jessica Manger, Design, Layout and Photo Editor; Jason Bock, Sports Editor; Jon Muller, Chief of Acquisitions; DJ Costantino, Business Manager; Mike Southern, Assistant Sports Editor; and our columnists and Staff Writers.

We would also like to thank our advisors, Dr. Peter Sharpe and Prof. Claire Regan, for their support and guidance throughout the year. Not to be left out, we must thank Provost Dr. Richard Guarasci, Vice-Provost Dr. Harold (Hal) McCulloch and Dean of Students Deidre Shaffer, for paying our exorbitant bills. Without their financial support, the Wagnerian may have never been.

We would also like to acknowledge the cooperation of Wagner College President Dr. Norman Smith, who, in all honesty, has never denied us an interview or "no commented" our questions, no matter how controversial they may have been.

Our successors have been named and the Wagnerian is on its way to continue its success for the next school year.

For those seniors who are graduating, good luck in the future. For all others, enjoy your summer.

Over and out.

Sincerely,
Eddie D'Anna
Carla Barletto
Co-Editors

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Wagner Students Stand & Deliver During Eastern Colleges Science Conference

By Jillien Soranno
Staff Writer

Picture this:
You're standing at the front of the classroom. There is a projector to your side and a screen to your back. In your clammy hand is a stack of numbered index cards. It's silent and everyone is looking at you.

What do you do?
If you are one of the Wagner College students who presented their projects during the Eastern Colleges Science Conference (ECSC), on March 31, at Wilkes University in Wilkes-Barre, Pa., then what you do is simple.

You stand and deliver.

Led by nine members of the Wagner College faculty, including Dr. Donald Stearns of the Science Department, and Dr. Laurence Nolan of the Psychology Department, 30 students made a three-hour drive to the forum to present their independent studies and group projects. That number is the largest group to ever attend the conference from Wagner since it began attending in 1996.



Ms. Soranno presents at the conference.

According to those in attendance, Wagner had nothing to be ashamed of as it came head to head with colleges from across the east coast.

"I think we proved that Wagner is a force to be reckoned with," said Mike Rotondo, a senior biology major who helped present a poster for a group project.

Nolan agreed.
"We had a talented group of students from several different disciplines at Wagner, which shows our research programs are strong and diverse," he commented.

Said Stearns: "I've been to all the ECSC meetings of the past six years. This one was the best in terms of Wagner College involvement — even compared with last spring, when Wagner College hosted the event. I never before had to request a bus to take Wagner students to this conference. I had to this year. I hope that trend continues."

Wagner students presented 15 papers during the conference.

Tom Hopkins, a senior biology major, received an award for best poster presentation in molecular biology and genetics. His work was titled "Analyses of the Structure of pp32R1." Other presenters included Jillien Soranno, a psychology major, presented her independent study, entitled "Food Preferences in Different Social Settings," and Susan Spalluto and Georgia Koutsovasilis presented "Correlation between Respiratory Rate and Galvanic Skin Response Changes during Elicitation of Relaxation Response."

Cerissa Creeden presented a poster called "Body Mass Index in Medicated Schizophrenic Patients" and Amy Siegel presented a poster entitled "Will Messages about Failed Diets Re-inhibit Disinhibited Restrained Eaters?"

Now in its 55th year, the purpose of the ECSC is to

stimulate interest in undergraduate research in the sciences and related fields, and to provide a forum for the presentation of research papers.

Through the years, the subject matter has expanded, and now covers computer science and behavioral sciences, as well as the original area of biology, chemistry, mathematics, physics and engineering.



Cerissa Creeden displays her work.

According to Wagner College faculty, presenting at the ECSC is a great experience for Wagner students.

"It gives science students an opportunity to do what scientists do: Present their research findings to their fellow scientists and to the public," Nolan said. "Practically, it helps prepare students further for graduate study and careers in science."

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the Greeks out of Wagner," Ms. Shaffer fervently affirmed. "We're proud of the positive philanthropic and service goals that the Greek organizations have set."

"The Wagner community is alive with a direct vision for future success, coupled with partnership in growth," declared Ms. Shaffer. "That's what it's all about — teamwork."

So, to clear up any confusion — no, Dean Shaffer is not leaving Wagner College.

"I am here," Ms. Shaffer vehemently commands. Judging from the health and prosperity of student affairs, it is a truth that has never been more glaringly obvious.

Wagnerian Staff

Carla Barletto, Co-editor-in-chief

Eddie D'Anna, Co-editor-in-chief

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Prof. Claire Regan, Faculty Advisor

Dr. Peter Sharpe, Faculty Advisor

Are Students at Wagner Eating Healthy?

There are many consequences to eating poorly

By Danielle Bongiorno
Staff Writer

For many reasons, a considerable number of students, and non-students, around the world eat poorly. One important factor is the food provided to them. I have polled various students at Wagner who claim that the food on campus is "poor."

Students have said that the meats provided for sandwiches are "nasty" and inedible. Meats including turkey and chopped meats are not very appetizing. The grilled chicken, among others, is often burnt. Although the fried foods are usually good, as well as the snacks, healthy eating does not include eating these foods on a daily basis. So is it impossible to get a good meal on campus? Many would agree with this statement.

There has been a trend among the freshmen, to skip meals. Possible reasoning for this is a scared mentality of gaining the "freshmen fifteen." Not having enough time between classes to get to the cafeteria is another issue. Those who work out and are on sports teams often enjoy meal replacement bars that provide much needed nutrition and fat to fill them up, but which are not available on campus. Many students who were polled would appreciate some protein bars at the Hawk's Nest.

Eating disorders can be linked with unhealthy eating habits. If you enter college at 130 pounds and by mid-year gain up to 20 pounds, a quick solution may be cutting foods out completely, or purging food from your system. I spoke with Dr. Laurence Nolan, who disagrees with this statement and believes that, from his knowledge, eating disorders arise during the stress of puberty, and not because of the food at Wagner.

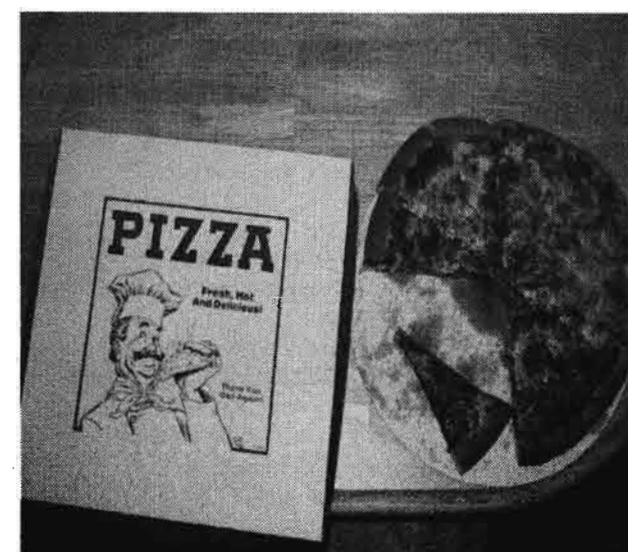
Nolan has worked with many people who have such disorders as anorexia and bulimia. These are very frightening disorders a friend can go through.

Anorexia is defined as "no eating." It's actually a group of disorders that evolve around not eating. Anorexia, as Nolan describes it, is progressive. Those with this disorder start out restricting their food intake, eventually cutting out food completely. Anorexics actually have control over themselves, and control of their food intake, whereas bulimics do not.

Bulimia, which is defined as "eating like a bull,"

includes binge eating followed by purging. Bulimics start out restricting their food, and they become so hungry that heavy eating is triggered.

Many who try to diet are not satisfied and go beyond the norm, ending up with a serious disorder. Often anti-depressants are given to cure eating disorders, because depression is linked with these disorders. Bulimics, especially,



Good old pizza: A tasty alternative to Chartwells, but not a healthy one.

cially, become depressed when they eat, and therefore purge the food to rid themselves of the depression and frightening thoughts of gaining weight.

Many studies have shown that the media, peer pressure and the "ideal" body types shown in magazines cause young girls all over the world to become obsessed with their weight. Unfortunately, there is nothing that can be done about this. Girls must learn that all body types are beautiful and acceptable in society and one specific scale weight does not define beauty.

There are many ways to cure or help these disorders. Two effective ways are counseling and anti-depressants, which, when combined, can have a very positive outcome.

Vocal Town Meeting Addresses Campus Concerns

Two-Hour-Plus Event Features Small Audience, But Big Issues

By Eric Cohen
Assistant Editor

Is Wagner College truly enjoying a renaissance?

Maybe so, with burgeoning enrollment and a flourishing of student activities – but at the Student Government Association's second annual Town Meeting, it became clear that there are still many miles left on the road to perfection.

Approximately 40 students attended the Town Meeting, which took place on Tuesday evening, April 3, in Spiro Hall 2. An eight-member student and administrative panel took concerns from the audience: Dr. Richard Guarasci, provost; Dr. Harold McCulloch, vice provost of academic affairs; Deidre Shaffer, dean of students; Susan Hudec, director of student activities; Chris Clarke, director of housing; Richard Vitaliano, director of campus safety; Mitchell Shenker, director of dining services; and Cindy Sforza, a student senator. The moderator was Robert (Bobby) Hamm, a sophomore member of SGA and chairman of the Constitutional Committee.

Though the discussion was relatively sparsely attended, those who did show up voiced more than two hours and 10 minutes worth of concerns about academic and campus life.

Academic Affairs

Dr. Guarasci first addressed the issue of senior learning communities, which is a pressing issue, as registration began last week. Each program will include some form of senior seminar and a reflective tutorial (RFT), which will involve an external job experience with approximately 100 hours of fieldwork. The work will be tailored to the major with whom it is tied; "each program will have its own beat to it," Dr. Guarasci said.

The primary goal of the senior program, he stated, is to "launch you into the professional world."

There were concerns voiced over intermediate learning communities requiring unnecessary classes, and several complaints about the unit system. "I want to graduate on time!" one audience member yelled.

The administration is looking into the possibility of extending the so-called "37th Unit" program, according to Dr. Guarasci. Currently, a very limited number of students receive the opportunity to take an extra unit – the guidelines state that you must have a 3.9 GPA after freshman year and a 3.75 GPA after sophomore year to be eligible for it.

"I'm thrilled that people want to take more classes," Dr. Guarasci said. "The concern is that we don't want to flood the system with enrollments."

Housing

Two strong voices were raised against the new housing system, announced in March, which forbade resi-

dents on floors 1 through 9 of Harbor View Hall from squatting their rooms. All residents on those floors, including those who live in single rooms, were forced out to make room for the incoming freshmen. Clarke stated that the affected residents can put their names on a waiting list if they cannot secure a different single room in the housing lottery, and tried his best to acknowledge the unpopularity of the plan.

"People on 10 through 14 are laughing at the people who live on 1 through 9," Clarke said. "That's pretty bad."

The decrepit Harbor View elevators were the second topic of discussion. One speaker voiced concern that despite two years of constant repairs both elevators have been breaking down almost daily in recent months. Another complained that one of the elevators "suddenly dropped a floor" during a recent ride.

"We have no record of these things happening," Campus Operations director Dominic Fontana said incredulously.

A complaint was voiced about the ceilings on the even side of Harbor View leaking after every rainfall. "This is a serious safety concern," the speaker said, claiming that the water can short out electrical wires and start a fire. "It's a big dollar item to change every window in Harbor View," a panelist responded.

The topic of free room and board for resident advisers (RAs) was discussed at length. Although Clarke acknowledged that he's "very proud of the RAs," the payment of their room and board would result in an additional \$100,000 expenditure that has not been budgeted. Currently, RAs get paid between \$3,200 and \$3,600 a year.

Other complaints ranged from out-of-control heat in Towers, to a serious shortage of working laundry machines in Harbor View, to appalling bathroom conditions in all three dorms. "The buildings are just shot," summarized one audience member.

Although the administration is considering the construction of an additional dormitory, there are no plans for any major renovations to the three existing dorms at this time.

Chartwells

Concerns were voiced over the unfairness of the current meal plans. With dining hall hours not conducive to the lifestyles of some busier students, even with extended hours this year, more than one student brought up the topic of reimbursing Flexi-Cash for unused meals at the end of every week.

Not happening.

The Hawk's Nest was a sore point to some of the speakers. One was curious about the consistent absence of popular items like hot pretzels, mozzarella sticks, and chicken wings. Another complained about the appearance of only one cashier during the busiest hours, usual-

ly between classes and during transfer hours. Shenker promised to station one of the main dining hall employees behind the second register at the Nest during peak times.

A brave audience member questioned Shenker about the inclusion of laxatives in the food. Shenker tried in vain not to laugh, stating that he didn't share the same, uh, after-dinner problems that many students suffer after eating Chartwells. "I eat the food twice a day," he said.

Parking

Virtually the entire room applauded when the first complaint was raised about the difficulty of parking on campus.

"I never take my car out because I don't want to lose my spot!" was a familiar cry.

Several audience members suggested that the ban on freshmen having cars on campus, which was relaxed a few years ago, be reinstated. According to Vitaliano, that is not a viable option, as many students need access to off-campus jobs in order to pay their tuition.

"You can't tell students that they can't work," Vitaliano said.

A proposal to allow incoming freshmen to park only in the West Lot, or somehow graduate parking privileges based on class, received a positive response from the administration members on the panel and could be considered.

A major concern that was unearthed at the Town Meeting was that Wagner students do not have a consistent place to voice their concerns. One Town Meeting a year—or even a semester—clearly isn't enough to deal with all the questions students have.

In the meantime, anyone with a concern is urged to be proactive and pick up the phone. If there are problems with the residence halls, call the Residence Life office at extension 3420. If you get stuck in the Harbor View elevators (rest assured, it will happen), call Campus Operations at 3163 and let them know.

Every student is also invited to attend Residence Hall Association meetings every Tuesday night at 10 p.m. in the Gatehouse Lounge, or e-mail them at RHA@wagner.edu. If you have a problem with the dining service, Food Service meetings are held every other Tuesday at 12:30 p.m.

And yes, those who did attend the Town Meeting, your comments will be taken seriously.

"There were a lot of good points brought up here," commented Dr. Guarasci after the meeting. "A lot of these things are already being discussed. And we're always glad to hear new ideas."

"The criticism was not abusive. It was all constructive," added Dr. McCulloch. "I'd be worried if people weren't bringing up any concerns."



Chris Clarke, Deidre Shaffer, Cindy Sforza and Susan Hudec (left to right) take questions from the audience at the Town Meeting

And the Countdown Has Begun

Class of 2001 Looks to Leave its Mark on Wagner With Senior Gift

By Anne Marie Daiuto
Staff Writer

With just weeks remaining until the day seniors walk across the stage to receive their diploma, the Wagner College National Alumni Association threw a Senior Class kick-off reception on Friday, March 30. It was the first chance to mingle with fellow seniors and share plans for future events.

Key speakers at this reception were Kenneth Nilsen, second vice president of Wagner College national association of board of directors; Stan Kula, director of annual giving, and Mike Poole, senior class gift committee representative. They discussed issues about the senior class gift program, senior week activities, and the importance of leaving our legacy behind.

The Senior Class Gift Committee has been meeting since the beginning of the semester. The goal of the committee is to raise money toward leaving a positive gift for the campus. Depending on the amount raised, the committee will either be able to purchase a jukebox or furniture for the Coffeehouse, a sign-board that will replace all the easels that stand in the Union, or a bronze statue of a Seahawk. This is an opportunity to leave something for the students in the future to enjoy and add to their Wagner experience.

You can donate money to the Gift Committee by filling out the donation card here or you can stop by the second floor of the Reynolds House and see Aleccia Braithwaite, assistant director of annual giving and alumni relations. Nobody should worry if they can not donate \$20, because even the smallest of donations will be helping in making Wagner a better place for future students.

"During the past decade Wagner College has grown tremendously," said senior Mike Poole. "In the future, Wagner will be known through its traditional practices and its belief in holding a rich excellence in education. As the class of 2001, it is our chance to restart the senior class gift and to leave our own mark on this up and coming campus."

Meetings for the Senior Class Gift Committee, headed by Ms. Braithwaite, are held every Thursday evening at 8 p.m. in Reynolds House. Ms. Braithwaite has been working closely with five senior class representatives in discussing various plans of action and organizing the senior kick-off party. She has dedicated herself to helping the class of 2001 leave an important mark in Wagner history.

The amount of money raised will be matched, up to \$2000, by the Wagner College National Alumni Association, and for each percentage of the senior class that donates, Stan Kula will give us \$1 out of his own pocket for their participation. Finally, local companies have also extended an offer to match or donate the total number of dollars raised.

Another tradition that the committee hopes to create is a senior class time capsule. It will hold memories and tokens of the students' four years here. The time capsule will be placed in a glass covering and displayed in the library so that the seniors of '01 can come back in five years and look back on their days

at the Wag. The loading of the time capsule will be held on Thursday, May 17.

Also on this day we will present our class gift to the school at a reception that the National Alumni Association will host free of charge to the senior class.

One other highlight of senior year is Senior Week. This is a week of events for everyone to participate in and make the final days at Wagner memorable. The Senior Class Executive Board has been working long and hard on developing a schedule that will accommodate everyone's interests. If you have not already received it in your mailbox, the schedule is available in the senior class mailbox in the Student Government Association office. Sign-ups will begin in early April and some events are available on a first-come, first-serve basis. Watch for more signs and letters to follow.

"Come out and participate because it will be the last time you can party with the seniors of 2001!" said Michelle Forkin, senior class president and Senior Class Gift Committee representative.

Senior week begins May 11 and carries through to the night before graduation. The agenda is as follows:

Friday May 11
Happy Hour at the Burrito Bar, 3-7 p.m

Saturday May 12
Trip to Atlantic City

Sunday May 13
Yankees Game, 1 p.m.; Down the Hatch, 9 p.m. - 1 a.m.

Monday May 14
Trip to Great Adventure

Tuesday May 15
Paintball 10 a.m. - 3 p.m.; Dinner Cruise 5 p.m

Wednesday May 16
Party at Jeremy's, 8 p.m. - midnight

Thursday May 17
BBQ in west lot featuring Jimsons Lyric 1-4 p.m.; senior reception at night

Friday May 18
Graduation!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

Here to Stay: At Least for Now

*Bookstore Manager Decides to Stick Around
a Few More Years*

By Jillien Soranno
Staff Writer

Good news, Wagner College.

Pete Maranzano, the interim manager of the Wagner College bookstore and a Wagner graduate of the Class of 2000, will be sticking around longer than expected.

According to Maranzano, who turns 23 in June, he will be staying in the bookstore a few more years, as he furthers his education. The impression most had was that he would be leaving after the year.

"Initially I was just an interim manager so I didn't think I would be here too long," he said. "But my plan now is to stay here at least until I get a master's degree, which should take two to four years."

An English major, with a double minor in religion and philosophy, Maranzano began his career in the bookstore midway through his junior year, after he quit a job he held in Pergament in the New Dorp section of Staten Island. His first title was "bookseller."

"Basically I did anything and everything. I was a cashier. I worked on the loading dock. I did a lot of lifting boxes, receiving books and sending them out."



Pete Maranzano, Bookstore Manager.

Maranzano recalls that his boss at the bookstore was much more understanding of his school schedule than previous employers.

"They were always willing to work around my schedule, which made life a lot easier," he said. "My grades went up, my social life resurfaced, it was great."

After graduation, Maranzano intended to go to graduate school, but his plans fell through. Coincidentally, the bookstore needed someone to work full-time in the summer of 2000.

They helped each other out.

"All along I meant to find a job and re-apply to grad school," he said.

Then the bookstore's old manager found a job in Pittsburgh, Pa., and left the store without a leader.

They turned to Maranzano.

"One thing led to another and here I am," he said.

While at first Maranzano was named interim manager and thought his tenure would be short, he now plans to stay here until he gets his master's degree.

"The people I work with are great, and being at Wagner is great," he said. "I really like the idea of contributing to this school, even if it's in a small way."

2001 Senior Class Gift Donation Card

I would like to pledge: ☐ \$5 ☐ \$10 ☐ \$20.01 ☐ other \$ _____
to the 2001 Senior Class Gift Program.

Name: _____	ID #: _____
Permanent Address: _____	Permanent Phone: _____
City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____	Email: _____
<input type="checkbox"/> I authorize Wagner College to collect my gift through my:	
<input type="checkbox"/> Visa <input type="checkbox"/> MasterCard <input type="checkbox"/> Discover <input type="checkbox"/> AMEX	
CARD NUMBER: _____	EXP. DATE: _____
SIGNATURE: _____	

Please return this form with your credit card information, check or cash payable to "Wagner College",
2001 Senior Class Gift, Wagner College, One Campus Road, Staten Island, NY 10310 (718) 390-3225

ALL GIFTS ARE TAX DEDUCTIBLE AS ALLOWABLE BY LAW

ODK Members, Induction Ceremony a Success

Honor Society Inducts New Members and Recognizes Old Ones

By Kristin Bartell
Staff Writer

With a combined collective GPA of 3.67, the newest members were inducted into the Omicron Delta Kappa (ODK) National Leadership Honor Society on Friday, April 6, 2001, during a ceremony in the Gatehouse Lounge in Harbor View Hall.

New ODK officers for 2001-2002 were installed and 24 were the recipients of awards and plaques, funded or endowed in the name of outstanding academia and leadership.

Dr. Joedy Smith, ODK Faculty Secretary, praised the ODK members for their leadership roles, commenting, "These students excel in academics, athletics, and leadership."

2000-2001 ODK President, Joseph Manzo, and former ODK President, Ann Marie Menna, Esq., '92, jointly lead the ceremony.

"The two ran the show very well," complimented Smith. "I've been very impressed by the cooperation between the old and new officers."

The Keynote Speaker was Robert Agnello, '97, a former ODK Community Service Coordinator and upcoming recipient of a degree in Osteopathic Medicine from NYCOM in May.

"Agnello really spoke to the students," praised Smith. "He encouraged total involvement, not only on campus, but in careers after graduation."

Dr. Ahmar Shakir, '91, former ODK President, who received the Dr. Norman H. Leeseberg Alumni Award, spoke of themes similar to Agnello, highlighting the importance of ODK and the experience of leadership.

Faculty recipients for the 2000-2001 year were Dr. Walter Rohrs (ODK Faculty Award) and Shirley Bock (Staff Award).

In addition, Dr. Eleanor Rogg, 10-year ODK Faculty Advisor, was honored with a certificate from the ODK National President and National Executive Director.

A new award in physical science was funded, The Jesse M. Weiss Physical Science Award, and the recipient was

Schuyler Rogg.

Senior Kristina Fischer, recipient of the Jeffrey L. DeLutis Business Administration Award, and former Alethea Women's Honor Society President, was grateful for her award, claiming it was "a real privilege, and an honor."

"It [the ceremony] went very well, on a number of levels," commented Smith.

A reception in the Faculty Dining Room of the Wagner Union followed the ceremony.

The following students were inducted into the ODK Honor Society:

Angelina Bombardier, Eric Cohen, Danielle Flanagan, April Guillerme, ChristineMarie Gutierrez, Robert Hamm, Robert Khouri, Joelle Kozik, Christina Morello, Kimberly Moskowitz, Jacqueline Nguyen, Silvestre Padron-Garcia, Marlo Priore, Erika Robinson, Cathia Saint Jean and Vanessa Vaccaro.

The following is a list of Annual Awards and Recipients:

Joseph Manzo—Dr. Joseph D. Smith Jr. Outstanding ODK Leader Award, Circle Leader of the Year Certificate, President's Gavel; Diane Weisheit—Cheryl M. Hogle National President Award; Neal LaRoia—John C. Fraser Outstanding College Service Award; Michael Brady—Edith and Alfred Susskind Outstanding Community Service Award; Michael Rotondo—1990-1991 Officers Award; Georgia Koutsovasilis—Dr. Eleanor M. Rogg Outstanding Academic Leader Award, David G. Buddensick Mathematics Award; Silvestre Padron-Garcia—Reina Pisano-Shuman Performing and Visual Arts Award; Simone McBride—Mildred and George Olsen Education Major Award; Jennifer D'Amato—Dr. Charles J. Mistretta Biological Sciences Award; Kristina Fischer—Jeffrey L. DeLutis Business Administration Award; Allison O'Connor—Mystica M. Alexander Accounting Award; Vanessa Vaccaro—

George F. Loesche English Award; David Korzatkowski—Barbara E. Bellesi Theatre Award; Schuyler Rogg—Jesse M. Weiss Physical Sciences Award; Civic Award, Dr. Ahmar Shakir—Dr. Norbert H. Leeseberg Alumni Award; Dr. Walter Rohrs—Faculty Award; Dr. Eleanor Rogg—National Citation; Mrs. Shirley Bock—Faculty Award; Jennifer Merschoff and Thomas Hopkins—Exceptional Service Award; Dominic Costantino—Campus Service Award.



The key of ODK worn by seniors at graduation.

Wagner Organizations Come Together for Songfest

By Anne Marie Daiuto
Staff Writer

A huge crowd came to the Spiro Sports Center to scream and cheer on the seven organizations that participated in Songfest 2001 on April 21. Songfest was a time for any Wagner organization to come together and work as one. It required hard work and dedication but all enjoyed having their ten minutes of fame on stage.

This year's theme was television and movie titles. Each organization participating had to pick an eight-to-ten-minute soundtrack of their choice, and work a dance routine around it.

Judging was based upon the usage of props, costumes, musical mechanics, effort, originality of songs, and dances. Judges usually include faculty and/or administrative members. Five awards were presented to outstanding groups, including Best Overall, Honorable Mention, Most Entertaining, Best Representation of Theme, and Most Original. In order to win Best Overall, you must have received one of the four other rewards. Judges included Prof. Janice Buddensick, Dr. Geoffrey Church, Lisa Niniavaggio, Christina Rosensteel, and Prof. Jennifer Toth. Due to an illness Prof. Michael Chattalas was unable to make it and Ms. Rosensteel took his place.

The Songfest Royal Court, as elected by the students in March, consisted of Julieanne Monaco, Queen (Kappa Sigma Alpha); Kam Chang, King (Delta Nu); Toni Marie Sorrentino, First Princess (Alpha Delta Pi); Lance LoConti, First Prince (Tau Kappa Epsilon); Lori "Spaz" Speelhofer, 2nd Princess (Delta Nu Little Sisters); and Tom Fiero, 2nd Prince (Theta Chi). In honor of the Royal Court, there was a reception for them and their families to attend at the Union Terrace before Songfest began.

Kristina Casale was the Songfest Chair. Her obli-

gations included overseeing that all rules and regulations were set forth and obeyed and heading the organizational meetings every Wednesday. Michelle Sampson was this year's Royal Court Chair, in charge of collecting profiles and displaying them for the day of elections, as well as ordering the crown and septa for the King and Queen, and organizing the reception for the royal court. The final chair is Judge's Chair, which was held by Marisa Riccio. She was responsible for selecting fair judges to score the competition and to host an appreciation party for the judges before the event.

The advisors who have been there every year to help the students included Susan Hudec, Director of Student Activities, and Deidre Shaffer, Dean of Students. Their help was extremely useful and very much appreciated.

Before Songfest, Casale stated, "So far everyone has been great with their participation and enthusiasm. Let's all go and get in Wagner spirit to have a good time and to see what each organization has in store for all of us to see!"

Seven organizations participated in Songfest this year. Alpha Sigma Alpha appeared first with their production of "Grease." Second to perform was Kappa Sigma Alpha doing a rendition of the "Newsies." Third in line was Alpha Delta Pi performing "Coyote Ugly." Next came Tau Kappa Sigma with a production of "Cabaret." Alpha Omicron Pi followed with an act from "The Ed Sullivan Show." Theta Chi showed us their interpretation of "Dazed and Confused," while the Brothers of Tau Kappa Epsilon closed the evening with "Mob Hits."

The winners of Songfest 2001 were Alpha Delta Pi receiving Best Overall and Most Entertaining. Tau Kappa Epsilon was awarded Honorable Mention, and Alpha Sigma Alpha was awarded Best Representation of Theme. There was a tie between Tau Kappa Sigma and Kappa Sigma Alpha for the Most Original trophy.

Hey,
Wagner:
Thanks
for
reading!

—The Wagnerian Staff

Entertainment

Professional Con Artists

*Weaver and Hewitt have it down to a science
in "Heartbreakers"*

By Lisa Radberg
Staff Writer

It's not easy to be a man. At least not if you credulously decide to marry the more mature part of a fairly successful mother-daughter con duo. It gets even worse if you, on the very next day after your marriage, are lured into adultery with your new wife's voluptuous, dangerously seductive daughter.

Regardless of how bizarre this scenario may sound, it's exactly what happens to Dean (Ray Liotta) in the new motion picture "Heartbreakers." Shortly after his marriage to Max (Sigourney Weaver), he finds himself trapped in a most uncomfortable lawsuit, where he learns that one day of married life can cost a man his brand new Mercedes and a fat check.

The infallible team has scored again, and mother Max and daughter Page (Jennifer Love Hewitt) are off to Palm Beach, Fla., in search of the perfect, rich patsy for their next scam.

If you ever wished to learn more about the every-day tricks and quirks of a real con artist, this comedy is an absolute must-see. Directed by David Mirkin (Romy and Michele's High School Reunion), "Heartbreakers" offers an impressive parade of the most deceitful mechanisms in con artistry.

In Palm Beach, the team takes aim at an elderly billionaire (Gene Hackman), who they figure will suffocate any day soon from his constant smoker's cough. With great skill, Max convincingly seduces the old man (who doesn't once doubt the sincerity of her feelings, despite her resistance every time he tries to give her a smoke-reeking kiss).



Jennifer Love Hewitt of "Heartbreakers"

While waiting for her mother to get the ring on her finger, Page goes off on her own adventures, and accidentally discovers real love. From the second she finds out that the local bar owner Jack (Jason Lee) is good for several million, she tries to fool him into marrying her. Miraculously, considering her cheap lies and rude behavior, Jack falls head over heels for Page and proposes to her. What Page did not expect, though, is that she would develop real feelings (God forbid) for Jack, and that some long lost moral side of her would come alive and get in her way of conning people.

The story reaches its peak when Dean, with revenge on his mind, has finally tracked Max down at the luxurious hotel where she and Page are staying. Needless to say, he becomes even more enraged when he realizes that Page is Max's daughter and that he's been the target of their dishonest schemes.

Is the movie shallow, predictable and unrealistic? Oh yes. But it does offer 123 minutes of easily digestible entertainment – although the last twenty minutes are on the verge of overkill, as the movie takes a sentimental, slightly pathetic, turn.

Fortunately, the talented performances by Hackman, Liotta and Weaver help make the film endurable – and quite funny at times. Hackman is hysterical with his grumpy, cynical humor, while Weaver proves that she's a true, class-A comedienne. Unfortunately, Jennifer Love Hewitt falls victim to her banal character and ends up showing more of her body than her acting skills.

Activities to Raise your Spirit this Summer

at the Jacques Marchais Museum of Tibetan Art

May Events:

Sunday, May 6th - Asunam Pope: Buddhism and Meditation. The importance of the practice of meditation to the Buddhist way of life.

Sunday, May 20 - Manju Prasad - Status of Women in Ancient India and how Buddhism influenced those views. She will incorporate slides and traditional song and dance.

June Events:

Sunday, June 3 - Peter Zummo - Musical Encounter - Organized Heat. Organized Heat evokes a timeless, yet rhythmic, atmosphere.

Sunday, June 10 - Festival of Mongolia: View the various Mongolian objects on exhibit at the Museum. Guest will include the Mongolian Ambassador to the UN, archers and traditional musicians.

July Events:

Sunday, July 15 - Raja Rajeswari - A Kaleidoscope of Indian Dances. Raja will capture the cultural diversity of India by presenting a cornucopia of dances from various regions. She will combine classical and folk styles, and original costumes and music, with the underlying theme of unity and acceptance.

The Jacques Marchais Museum of Tibetan Art

338 Lighthouse Ave.
Staten Island, NY 10306
(718) 987-3500

Hours: Wednesday - Sunday, 1 - 5

Adults: \$5.00

Seniors and Students: \$3.00

Children: \$2.00

Admission to special programs will vary

Not handicapped accessible.

Directions from Wagner College: Take the Staten Island Expressway West to the Slosson Avenue exit (Exit #12). Turn left on Slosson Avenue, which becomes Todt Hill Road. Bear right onto Richmond Road, then right onto Lighthouse Avenue.

Why Does the Drinking Fountain Have Eyes?

Part Two in an Assessment of Some of the Bathrooms in Harbor View Hall and Towers

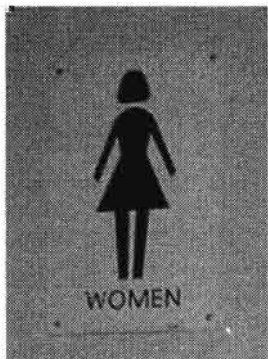
By Lizz Brady
Staff Writer

Okay, let's recap what has been disclosed about the bathroom situation at Wagner thus far:

1) The restrooms in Main Hall and the Union are indisputably the classiest on campus.

2) The bathrooms of Spiro, Megerle Science Building, and other academic buildings and offices are a definite notch below the aforementioned, but still reasonably presentable to the naked eye.

3) Frothing discontentedly at the bottom of the barrel are the communal bathrooms of Harbor Spew, er, View Hall and Towers.



A women's room in the Union.

So it would seem that unless you've formulated a plan to either establish permanent residency in Main Hall or hand Wagner College President Dr. Norman Smith a hefty bag of Sacajawean in exchange for your very own chandelier-lit commode, you're out of luck. And no, the thousands of dollars we're already forking over just aren't going to cut it, kids.

But exactly how offensive are the dorm bathrooms on any given day?

Against my better judgment, I decided to conduct a little field study in (quite literally) the bowels of Harbor View Hall and Towers to find out. By the way, the faint hearted should stop reading right about now.

Harbor View Hall

Deciding to start from the bottom of the building and make my way up, I trekked down to the even side of the



A sorority girl on the can.

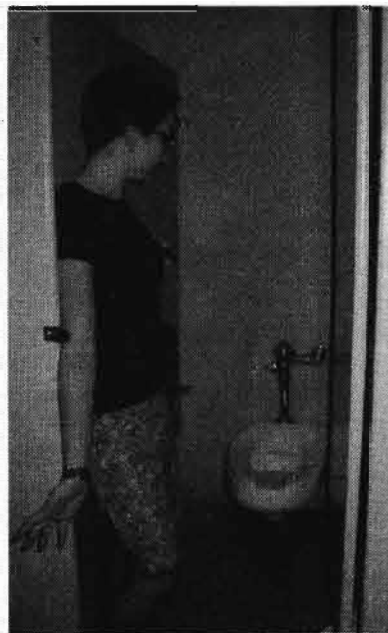
first floor. This floor has always kind of spooked me because it feels so removed from the rest of the building—there's virtually no foot traffic. But in terms of restroom quality, this is definitely an advantage for the floor's residents. The girl's rooms were spotless. We're talking brand new, gleaming counter tops, ivory sinks, and well-maintained showers.

Things got progressively worse from there.

While the girl's restrooms on the second, third, and fourth floors weren't particularly revolting, there were a few eyesores here and there. The private shower on the even side of two, for example, could use a thorough scrubbing—it looked like somebody sheared a Chia Pet in there. Also, all three bathrooms had a problem with overflowing garbage cans and cluttered counter tops.

On to the fifth through seventh floors: Boys on the fifth and seventh floors should keep up the good work. I was pleasantly surprised at the level of hygienic acceptability in the restrooms here.

Guys on the sixth floor, did something crawl into your bathroom and DIE? Never mind, don't answer that. I'd rather not know. Everything else seemed to be in order. Clean showers, fairly presentable toilets and sinks. Aside from the overwhelmingly pungent stench of



A student admires a toilet.

death, things were hunky-dory.

Oh, the restrooms on the eighth floor. Where to begin? Let's start outside the girl's bathroom on the odd side, where I encountered the most nauseating, vile, cholera-inducing drinking fountain that I have ever laid eyes upon. Congratulations, girls. Growing mold of that caliber must require a highly evolved mixture of methodic calculation and pure talent. Maybe you even created a new species. If you play your cards right, I truly believe your fountain could be the next Fraggie Rock.

There was a disconcerting amount of mold in the showers as well. All garbage cans were overflowing. Rumor has it that the restrooms have even had a roach problem. Need I say more?

After such a grim spectacle, visiting the girl's restrooms on floors nine through 13 felt like a walk in the park. Despite a highly neglected shower on the even side of the tenth floor, nothing seemed particularly amiss.

The crowning glory was my final Harbor View stop, floor 14. The first toilet I glanced at was wrapped in plastic. So was the second. I decided it was time to go.

Towers

Admittedly, I witnessed a lot more than I had bargained for in the seedy underbelly of Harbor View, so I basically wussed out of making the full rounds in Towers. Based on what friends had told me, I had a vague conception of which floors are notorious for the most heinous bathrooms.

As it was, I was convinced that I wouldn't be able to digest a full meal until August. Having the gut feeling that things were only going to downwardly spiral from there, I thought it would be in my best interest to take their word for it and be a bit more selective in the bathroom choosing process.

I purposely headed over to the girl's floors of Towers A and C and was relieved to discover the tip-top condition of the majority of the restrooms.

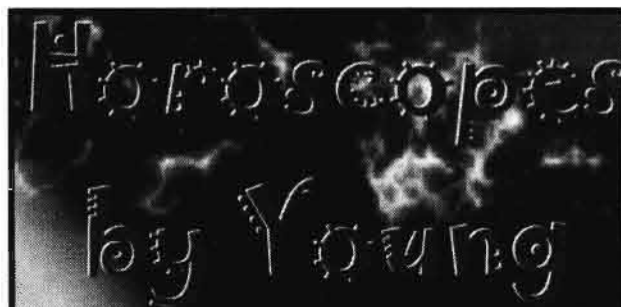
Not only were they generally maintained better than the ones in Harbor View, but there was also a lot less "junk" cluttering the countertops and shelves.

The female residents there must actually make an effort to pick up after themselves.

Good for you, girls.

Cleanliness notwithstanding, when I was finally through with all of this business for good, I couldn't have been happier.

I think it's a safe affirmation that the restroom situation in both dorms could always be worse. However, I'm definitely going to be a lot more fervent in my attempts to land a living spot in Guild next year.

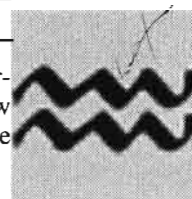


The following horoscopes have been compiled with consultation to the Universal Waite Tarot Deck and "The Pictorial Key to The Tarot," by Arthur Edward Waite.

By Elizabeth Young
Staff Writer

AQUARIUS (01/20-02/18)

Discover new things in order to overcome your fear of this aspect. Show your emotions, counsel others and share your knowledge with the world.



PISCES (02/19-03/20)

The beginning of something wonderful is going to occur. A creation is possible as well as great fortune or the gaining of an enterprise or inheritance. Enjoy!



ARIES (03/21-04/19)

You can accomplish anything if you put your mind to it. Have confidence, take action and your problems will be resolved.



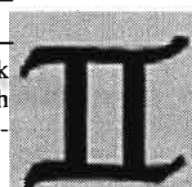
TAURUS (04/20-05/20)

Changes will be made and may alter your life in one way or another. You have managed to escape a serious accident.



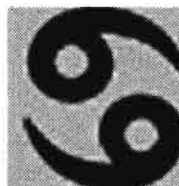
GEMINI (05/21-06/21)

A feminine aura surrounds you. Think practically and you can accomplish anything. You have the ability to motivate others.



CANCER (06/22-07/22)

Escape from your timid nature and listen to ideas others may have. Ignore your tendency to cling to ideas even after they are outdated. This may not lead to good outcomes.



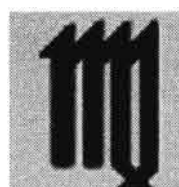
LEO (07/23-08/22)

Perfection and bliss are evident as you achieve your goals. Material and spiritual riches will come your way.



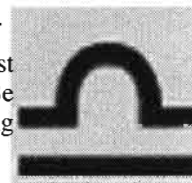
VIRGO (08/23-09/22)

Your constant spying and overall discreetness will lead to the uncovering of the unknown.



LIBRA (09/23-10/22)

Be strong and focus on work you must accomplish in the upcoming days. Be certain of and don't delay in making essential decisions.



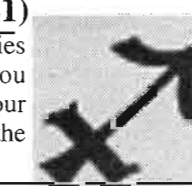
SCORPIO (10/23-11/21)

You are overcome by the influence of the male gender. Confidence, wealth and authority are also seen in your cards. Intelligence and reason will dominate over emotion and passion.



SAGITTARIUS (11/22-12/21)

Mercy and kindness are two qualities that you possess. People like you because you allow insults to roll off your back as you forgive shortly after the incident has occurred.



CAPRICORN (12/22-01/19)

Be patient, you may be in suspense for a while. You may notice that you have neglected your responsibilities. A friend who you normally trust may turn on you.



Bold Contrasts and Playful Combinations

Lurex Legwarmers, Pleated Skirts and Camouflage Prints Intermingle On The Runways

By Lisa Radberg
Staff Writer

This season, fashion designers are dying to bring out the woman in you.

Whether it's the brave, new military style or the chic lady look that appeals to you most – it's all about feeling sexy, sassy and powerful. Femininity is the connecting theme of the many fashion trends this spring and summer of 2001.

For the true romantics out there, this year's fashion has a lot to offer. Many designers, such as Marc Jacobs, Bluemarine and Louis Vuitton show irresistible dresses in tulle and chiffon. Key words are bright colors, full skirts and spacious flower prints.

If you're in for something more sophisticated, there's the option of the chic lady look. With clear influences from the '40s and '50s, the style features below the knee pleated skirts and sleeveless tops, worn with mules, sling-backs or the new cone-heeled pumps. To complete the look, add the indispensable wide belt to mark a cinched waistline. And don't forget the pearls!

Designers like Helmut Lang and Dolce & Gabbana display a bolder, more extravagant take on femininity in their collections. Stretchy tube dresses and high, revealing slits, along with heavy jewelry, are hot trends for the more daring woman.

One of the major tendencies this season is that clothes are becoming shorter and tighter. Kenneth Cole's micro hot pants are just one of many examples. The popular cropped, slimmed leather jacket is another.

For a more casual image, the relaxed, minimalistic safari trend – with linen shirt-dresses, khaki pants and flat leather sandals – is an alternative.

Or, why not spice it up a little with the new, cutting-edge military style, featuring everything from camouflage underwear to short leather skirts and metal studded nylon.

From Europe to New York, designers have gone '80s nostalgic this season. Think sparkling party outfits,



Louis Vuitton presents new fashions for 2001.

disco balls, rainbow colors, 'Fame' ...and you'll get the right picture.

We see glittery legwarmers, shiny leggings and details in beaded embroidery. The materials are Lycra, spandex and Lurex. The must-have accessory is the wide, bulky belt with a funky buckle.

Ralph Lauren has certainly made his mark this season, with an almost entirely monochrome collection. The absence of color does not at all imply a dull and plain fashion, since Lauren's innovative patterns are all the more expressive.

Squares, stripes and optical patterns mix together with polka dots and flashy flower prints. Forget the outdated rule that you can't wear more than one pattern at a time. This season, strive to match your outfits to reach the most confusing and eye-boggling effect possible.

If you're considering changing your hairstyle this spring, go for big, chunky highlights. From icy blond nuances to warm tones of gold and honey – all types of blonde are in style.

As for makeup, don't be afraid to go over the top glamorous with deeply red lips, distinctive eye shadows and rosy cheeks. The colors range from natural shades of nude and peach, to bright pink and purple.

This spring and summer, designers have gone less serious and more innovative than last year. With an enormous selection of contrasting trends, the fashion industry encourages you to let go of all restrictions and to experiment with makeup, colors and designs.

And, above all, allow yourself the luxury to look and feel truly feminine.

No Napster? No Problem

Get Your Music Cheap on eBay

By Eric Cohen
Assistant Editor

It has barely left our lives, and yet many music lovers are warmly reminiscing about the days of Napster.

Every day, hundreds of thousands of college students would throw copyright law to the wind to use the controversial file-sharing service, which allowed users around the world to share their favorite songs. There was no charge for the user – but there was also no compensation for the artists, and ultimately, that did Napster in.

Thankfully, there's a 100 percent legal solution that's not free, but often comes awfully close.

Through the same computer that gave you Napster, a few more clicks can get you to eBay, the Internet's premier auction site. Every day on eBay, thousands of new and slightly used CDs are sold for \$5 or less—including shipping costs. That's a fraction of the price of going to the store.

Registering on eBay is free of charge, and simple. Go to and click on the "Register" button. Fill out a straightforward form, and you'll be ready to shop in less than five minutes.

Once you're registered, the following bits of advice will go a long way to enhance your music-buying experience, and get you a great deal on the CDs you've always wanted:

"Vial." Hence, while "Vile" gets 13 bids and ultimately costs the winner \$9.50, the lucky person who stumbles across "Vial" can usually get the same CD for \$1.95.

Check the seller's feedback before you bid.

Next to the seller's ID (where it says "Seller/Rating") is a number in parenthesis, that is the seller's feedback rating.

Whenever a buyer purchases an item from a seller on eBay, he can add a positive, neutral or negative score to the seller's public record, depending on his level of satisfaction. Before you place a bid (especially a high one), make sure the seller has a strongly positive record.

Click on the number next to the seller's name, and you will instantly see how many positives, neutrals, and negatives he has. And read at least the most recent comments carefully: often, people leave positive scores with caveats (i.e. "CD in excellent condition, but took 3 weeks to arrive").

Don't let feedback ratings in the hundreds or thousands fool you.

Check the seller's record with a discriminating eye. It's usually better to deal with the seller that has 15 glowing recommendations than the one with 5,300 positives, 200 negatives and 537 neutrals.

Never pay more than \$6 or \$7 for a CD (including shipping) unless it's impossible to find in the stores.

As in real life, most of the sellers on eBay are totally swell folks...but more than a few are jokers. Even if they say an item is in "mint condition," it may be more beat-up than a '74 Monte Carlo. That's why it's not worth paying more than half price for an eBay CD, even if it's listed as "brand new and sealed."

Even with a reputable seller, you're still gambling. People lie; people make errors; things get damaged in transit. Unless the CD you're after is an out-of-print collectible, remember that you can buy the same thing brand new and shrink-wrapped in Best Buy or Circuit City for \$13.99.

Avoid paying above \$2 for shipping.

It costs \$1.18 to ship a CD in a bubble mailer via first class mail (which takes 4-7 days on average). Bubble mailers cost 50 cents each, tops. Grand total there: \$1.68. Yet many sellers charge \$2.50 or more for shipping. If the seller wants north of \$3 to ship a single CD, make sure it's because they're sending it Priority Mail (which costs \$3.50 and cuts transit time down to 2-3 days). If it's not, find another seller.

Read the descriptions carefully.

The seller should tell you everything you need to

know about what's up for auction in the item description. Sometimes, CDs are sold in less than top condition, and/or without their inserts or jewel case; the description should mention this.

Be wary of one-sentence descriptions. If the condition of the CD and terms of sale are not thoroughly documented, send the seller a polite e-mail asking for clarifications (click on the seller's User ID in order to find out their e-mail address). Any seller seriously wanting to make an honest deal will e-mail you back quickly with answers. If they don't, stay away.

Don't buy the first CD that comes up on the search list; read through all the selections and pick the best deal.

Before making a bid on the first Britney Spears CD on the list, check every one that came up under your search results. Look at the auction price, feedback records and terms of sale carefully on each auction. Then pick the most attractive one. There's no need to get engaged in fierce bidding wars for one auction, when another one ending several hours later is being completely ignored. Though bidding wars can be a real adrenaline rush, and winning them can be an ego boost, you'll usually end up paying much more than you need to, sometimes for an inferior product.

Throughout the process, be careful.

Bids cannot be retracted once they are placed. Make sure you want an item before you bid, and be certain not to bid higher than what you can afford. If you don't pay for an auction you have won, most sellers will raise hell.

Conversely, if you haven't received a CD you've bought after several weeks, don't hesitate to e-mail the seller and (politely) ask for an explanation. If nothing comes of that, you may leave negative feedback.

Almost all sellers accept money orders, which are available at any post office for 75 cents, and many convenience stores and even some gas stations for less than that. Some accept personal checks, but may require 7 to 14 business days for them to clear before sending the music.

The simplicity of slipping cash through the mail is tempting, but don't do it for amounts more than a few dollars. Often, cash doesn't survive the hands of the U.S. Postal Service. If it's lost or stolen, you have no recourse.

Whatever you choose, there's no need to spend very much. eBay isn't free like Napster was, but it can be a dirt-cheap way to build a massive music collection... if you play your cards right.

Happy bidding!



When searching for a particular album, search under the name of the band, not the name of the album.

This makes much more sense than you'd think. Sellers in a hurry to make money often misspell the names of albums, or forget them altogether. People searching for the album "Vile" usually miss the auction that spells it

Are You Sleep Deprived?

Slow Down and Realize the Relationship Between Sleep and Fitness

By Lisa Radberg
Staff Writer

It's certainly hard to find someone bragging about how they binged on all those candy bars last night.

And you don't hear people mentioning they've only used that expensive gym membership card once since they signed up three months ago.

For some inexplicable reason, though, people tend to share their unhealthy sleeping habits with the rest of the world whenever they get a chance.

Not many people seem to believe that sleep loss has any significant influence on their health, despite the experts' statements that sleep is a biological necessity, just like food and water.

How Big Is Your Sleep Debt?

According to the National Sleep Foundation, adults in America sleep an average of six hours and 54 minutes each night during the work week, and just 40 minutes extra during the weekend. When compared to experts' recommendations of eight sleeping hours, it's clear that America is accumulating an enormous sleep debt.

Let's say that you only got two hours of sleep last night. Subtracted from the ideal eight hours, you now have a sleep debt of six hours to pay back.

The debt can be paid back by sleeping an extra hour for six nights, two extra hours for three nights, or any variation that equals six hours. Regardless of how you choose to compensate for the sleep loss, the point is that your body will not be satisfactorily rested before the debt has been paid back.

It should also be pointed out that the eight-hour rule doesn't apply to everyone. According to The Sleep Disorder Center of Western New York, approximately 5 percent of our population needs additional hours of sleep, while another 5 percent can get by on far less than eight sleeping hours.

Your Health Pays the Price

"There's a lot of consequences to sleep loss," said Pat Britz, program director of the National Sleep Foundation in Washington D.C. She explained that sleep deprivation causes concentration difficulties, memory loss, bad temper and a weakened immune system. In addition, sleep loss puts us at greater risk to accidents, since it may lead to bad judgment, drowsy driving and an overall decrease in our performance.

It's good to keep in mind that many catastrophes, such as the nuclear power plant disaster in Chernobyl in 1986, have occurred largely due to sleep loss. Furthermore, the United States Department of Transportation estimates that drowsy driving causes 200,000 traffic accidents every year.

According to Britz, the actual purpose of sleep has not yet been scientifically established. However, most scientists agree that sleep is a restorative function, which provides the body with renewed energy.

"We do know what happens in sleep deprived people," Britz said. She holds that many athletes underestimate the role of sleep in accomplishing their fitness goals.

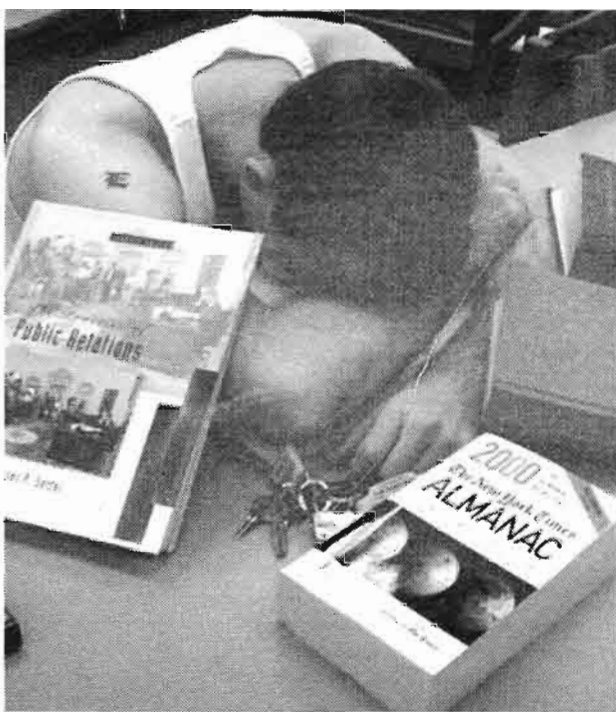
Sleep deprived athletes lose endurance and decrease their ability to sustain activity, Britz explained. Moreover, recent

studies have shown that sleep loss decreases the body's level of growth hormone, which can impair the ability to build muscles.

"Sleep loss disturbs our motor coordination and causes our reaction time to decline," said Michael Twery, Ph.D., at the National Center on Sleep Disorders Research in Bethesda, Md.

Lack of sleep also leads to an increase of the stress hormone cortisol (also called hydrocortisone).

Ideally, the level of cortisol is at its highest in the morning, in order to enable us to wake up, and then decreases at night to make us sleepy. However, if a person is experiencing stress or anxiety, the level of cortisol remains high in order to prepare the body for action, which, in turn, tenses



A student catches some Z's while studying for finals.

our muscles. Therefore, a high level of cortisol makes it difficult to relax both mind and body, and results in bad sleep quality.

"A sustained level of cortisol wears your body out – and it wears your brain out," Dr. Twery said.

Psychological effects

Our sleep cycle alters between two types of phases. On the one hand, there is the restful part of sleep, with a low metabolic rate, which charges the body like a battery, according to Dr. Richard Brower, a psychology professor at Wagner College. On the other hand, there is the so-called rapid eye movement (REM) sleep, which is also referred to as paradoxical sleep, since the brain is fully active during this stage. The REM stage, during which we dream, as well as sort and organize information, is psychologically necessary to us, explained Brower.

"People deprived of REM sleep can develop psychotic symptoms – even hallucinations," said Brower. Furthermore, he noted that lack of sleep not only could block our memory, but also lead to a distorted memory and false interpretations.

Come in sync with your biological clock

"We [National Sleep Foundation] would like to see that our culture place more importance on sleep," Britz said. "Sleep is essential to function optimally. It is an essential component of both physical and mental health."

Britz's best tip for achieving better sleep habits is to maintain regular sleeping hours that are in sync with our biological clock. The biological clock controls the mental and physical changes in our body – the circadian rhythm.

Making up for sleep debt by sleeping in late on the weekend is therefore not recommended, since it will disturb your circadian rhythm and make it more difficult to wake up early on Monday morning.

According to Britz, one of the first, most obvious signs of sleep deprivation is the need to take naps during the day.

"If you need an alarm clock to wake up in the morning – then that's a problem," said Britz.

In today's 24/7 society, we are so accustomed to sleepiness that we have in fact accepted it as part of our lifestyle.

However, considering the benefits that good sleeping habits bring along, it's important for everyone to ask the question: "How would sufficient sleep improve my health?"

Rather than staying up those extra hours, wouldn't you want to remember things easier, be more attentive and make fewer mistakes? Wouldn't you rather stay in better physical shape and have a more stable mood?

Cheating on sleep is really cheating yourself. It is cheating on your quality of life.

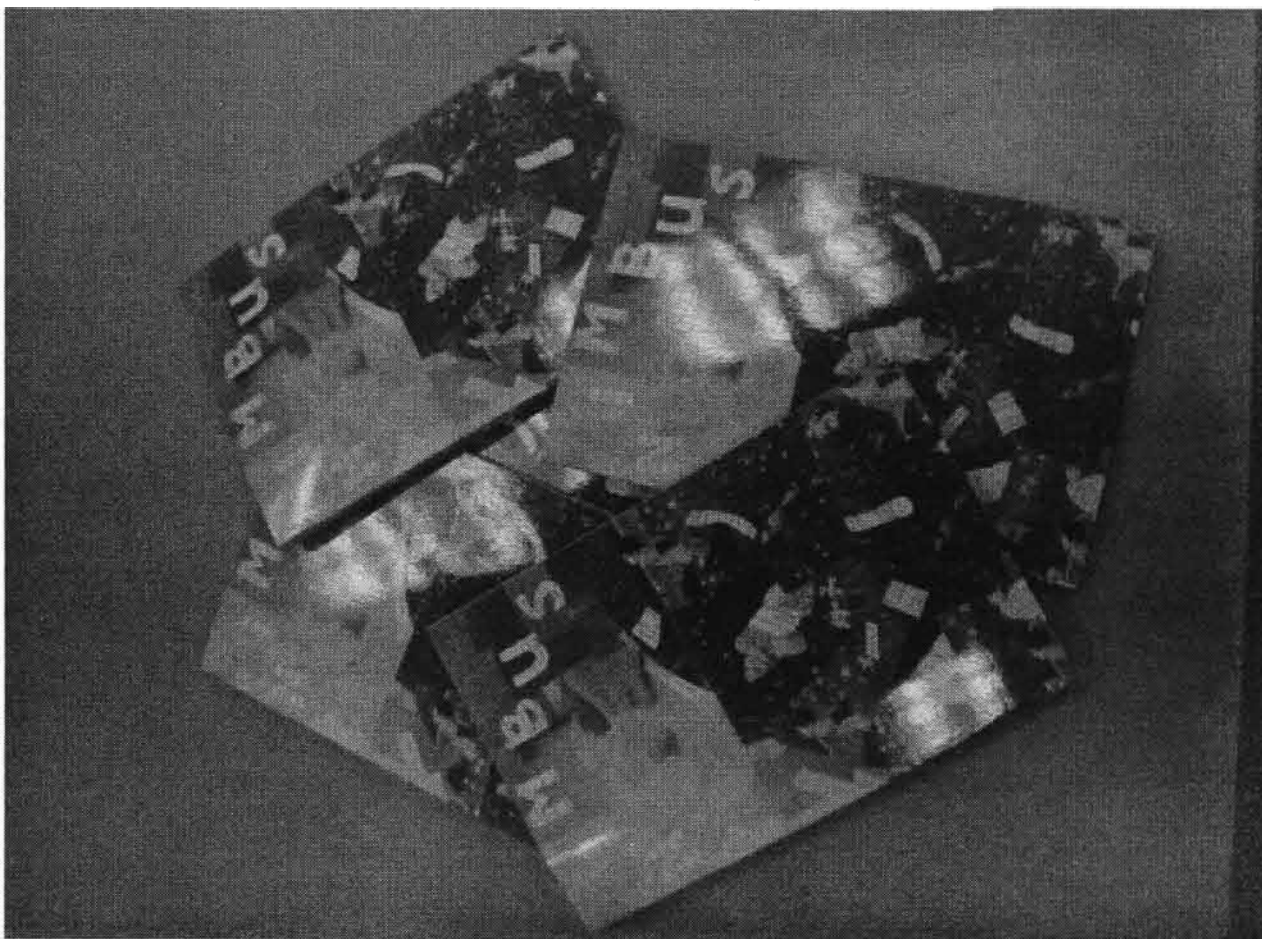
Seven Steps to Better Sleep

1. Try to unwind early on at night to help relax your muscles and prepare your body to go to sleep.
2. Make it easier to associate your bed with sleep by not eating, reading or watching TV in bed.
3. Create a restful sleep environment in your bedroom. According to the Better Sleep Council, the four components of such an environment are: coolness, silence, darkness and comfort.
4. Avoid drinking caffeine-containing beverages after lunch. As the effect of caffeine is very individual, try to experiment with eliminating caffeine after a certain time at day and see how it affects you. Also, stay away from alcoholic drinks. Although alcohol may help you fall asleep, it makes your sleep lighter and less restful. Both alcohol and caffeine are dehydrating and might force you to wake up thirsty at night.
5. Quit smoking. Smokers often have difficulties falling asleep and tend to wake up at night due to nicotine withdrawals.
6. Exercise regularly. It's been proven that physical activity helps improve our sleep. However, give your body at least three hours to wind down before going to bed.

The tips are adapted from the National Sleep Foundation's "Helping Yourself to a Good Night's Sleep" and the Better Sleep Council's "Better Sleep Guide."

Learn More on These Web Sites:

- The Better Sleep Council:
- The National Sleep Foundation:
- National Center on Sleep Disorders Research



Congratulations
all NIMBUS
writers.

You did a
great job!

WIT Or Without Clothes

By Rosemary Poirier
Staff Writer

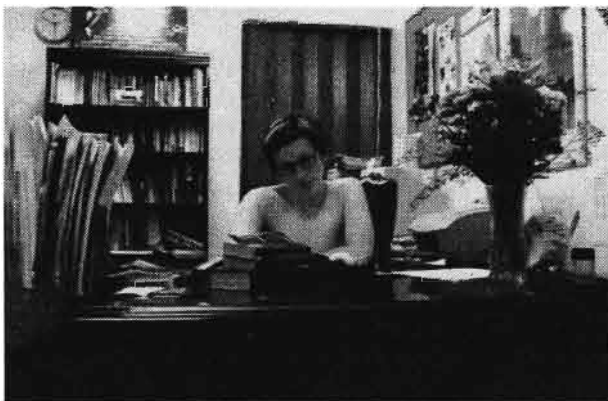
The Writing Center is open to all students from Wagner College and is staffed by students who are willing and able to help all who walk through their doors. There is one problem: Most students don't use the Center.

"The Writing Center is one of the most useful resources and yet it still goes unused," said Writing Intensive Tutor (WIT), Paula Cassil. Although there is a tight group of enthusiastic WIT's, their services aren't thoroughly utilized.



WIT Rosemary suggests a "clothes optional" environment may guarantee an influx of students.

It is generally felt by the WIT's that their job is enjoyable and all are eager to work with students to improve their writing style. However, all of the WIT's feel frustrated that not enough students come to the Writing



Another female WIT agrees with Rosemary.

Center. There have been many attempts to promote the Writing Center and encourage students to use the services offered.

Unfortunately, most of the Wagner population does not come to use the free service that could help them improve their writing styles and stop getting flak from their professors.

Recently the Writing Center made some major renovations. They have added new lights and a comfortable couch, in order to make the Writing Center more comfortable and "student friendly." Cassil feels that improvements add to the welcoming and help-

ful essence of the Writing Center.

Contrary to the pictures shown here, clothes are in fact mandatory. Even so, the Writing Center is a wonderful and quiet space to write and talk about writing.

"Every writer needs a reader," said Dr. Kim Worthy when asked why it is so important to have a Writing Center. All are encouraged to come to the Writing Center and have their work read by a qualified peer. A WIT will be glad to give the feedback and encouragement that a writer needs to improve their writing.

The Writing Center is open Monday through Thursday from 11 a.m. to 11 p.m. and on Friday from 9:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Please come and use the Writing Center, one of Wagner's "most under-used useful resource." Clothing Optional.



A male WIT reads to pass the time.

The Shy Girl Speaks Up

By Eddie D'Anna
Co-Editor

If there were one word that could describe the underclassmen career of Wagner College senior Jen Pristash, it would probably be "quiet."

As a freshman and a sophomore chipping away at her core-curriculum, Miss Pristash played the role of the mousy girl who blended into her classes without drawing attention to herself perfectly.

She stayed clear of class discussions even though she did the assigned readings and knew most of the answers.

She limited her time on campus strictly to schoolwork, avoiding like the plague any extracurricular or social activities like campus sporting events or festivities.

For the most part she kept her shoulder-long brown hair tied back with a scrunchie and kept her wardrobe modest. By her own admission, she was a little overweight, and make-up was a rare occurrence.

Though she was always pretty, she was the girl that guys in her classes didn't pay attention to.

Now she looks back at that time and laughs.

"My high school was really small," she said. Miss Pristash attended St. Joseph Hill Academy in Staten Island, N.Y., an ultra-strict catholic school that forced its students to wear uniforms and, through its methods of unconditional obedience, become part of a class, not an individual.

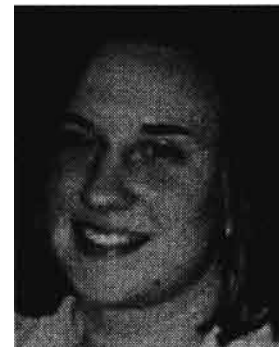
Spending four years in that environment certainly played a part in the woman she was upon entering Wagner.

"There were rules that you had to follow and it took away from a person making their own decisions," she recalled.

But as Miss Pristash, now 21, and a resident of the Great Kills section of Staten Island, is quick to point out, things change.

"At college you meet more people," she said.

"It's more independent and you're not always told what to do. You get to make your own decisions."



Jen Pristash

In this setting, Miss Pristash thrived.

She made friendships with peers who helped drag her out of her shell, and at the end of sophomore year, even bagged herself a man: A College of Staten Island accounting major named Jeff Hess. Come June, the pair will be going out for two years.

"I just got more confident," she said. "I'm not as shy as I used to be."

She attributes part of the change to her time with Hess,

who is also 21.

"It's good to know that someone loves you for who you are," she said.

Her friends see the change, as well.

"Jen is different," said Jillien Soranno, a senior psychology major at Wagner and one of Miss Pristash's best friends. "She's not as quiet as she used to be and she goes out a lot more than she used to. She even has a drink every now and then, too."

Said Hess: "She used to be reluctant when I wanted to hangout with friends, now she's more outgoing with other people."

What a difference two years can make.

As she began developing the woman she was on the inside, it became time for her to change the woman she was on the outside, as well.

"I just wasn't happy with myself and I decided it was time to do something about it," she said.

She has.

Miss Pristash began running and walking regularly and eventually lost upwards of 30 pounds.

Instead of merely blending in, now Miss Pristash struts to her classes chatting with her friends, her straightened hair blow-dried out and dangling in the wind, and her outfits stylish.

Currently a business administration major, with a concentration in management, Miss Pristash has begun playing a more active role in her classes even though they are not in a field that she is ready to dedicate her life to.

According to Miss Pristash, while business deals with making money, she would rather embark on a career that keeps her in contact with people.

"If I had to choose again, I'd probably pick psychology," she said. "It's more about dealing with people."

What a difference two years can make.



Jen Pristash and Jeff Hess, her boyfriend, on the Staten Island Ferry.

Editorial

Irving Greenfield: Wagner's Best Kept Secret

By Jessica Manger
Design, Layout and Photo Editor

Walking down the third floor of Parker Hall, I was stopped dead in my tracks as I heard classical music resounding through the hallway.

Standing outside of Dr. Hensley's office, I closed my eyes and just listened, not bothering to knock on the door, feeling that whoever was in there should not be taken away from such music.

Prof. Irving Greenfield, as I later found out, spends the early hours of the morning in Dr. Hensley's office writing while listening within a museful cloud to classical pieces.

Who is this man and why haven't I, in my four years at Wagner, heard of him?

A 1950 graduate of Brooklyn College, Greenfield spent two years in the Merchant Marine, served during the Korean War in the combat infantry and has been a humanities professor at Wagner for fifteen years.

"Only the Dead Speak Russian," Greenfield's greatest masterpiece, a novel, is a modern detective story involving religion, satire, lust, cannibalism, mysticism and symbolism. What else could a reader want?

"In the wrong hands it could have been an indigestible hodgepodge. In the hands of Irving A. Greenfield, it is an absorbing mystery which, despite enough cliffhangers to do justice to 'The Perils of Pauline,' rises well above the level of potboiler," wrote a reporter in a recent Staten Island Advance article.

"The story follows the perilous flight of 18-year-old Uri Gershon, whose family is in the diamond business, from Russia in the company of the Countess Valeria Vavachina, the former mistress of Josef Stalin... When the scene shifts to modern-day New York, Uri is now an elderly billionaire who becomes the prime suspect in the murder of his ne'er-do-well son, Aaron, definitely not worthy to be Uri's successor as keeper of the staff."

Greenfield has published several novels, including "The Ancient Days," on the Times' best-seller list for six weeks, and another, "Tagget," which was made into a TV film.

Also a playwright, his "Billy" will be performed off Broadway in June at the Tony B. Davis Productions Theatre and "Camp #2, Bucharest" winner of a Nova community television award in 1998 for Best Drama, will be performed off Broadway at the American Theatre of Actors in July. Both theatres are located in Manhattan.

A prolific author, he has also written several short stories that have been published in various magazines and e-zines. "A Most Remarkable Woman (1999)," "Spring Will Be a Little Late This Year (2000)," "Playing the Spoons (2000)," "The Man with the

Tattooed Back (1999)," and "Eddie and the Wizard" are available online.

His first collection of short stories will be coming out in June, and he is currently working along with several Wagner students on his film project "Bobby Lee."

Next semester, Professor Greenfield is teaching "Film and Society" (MDS 112) and "Important Issues of the 21 Century" (MDS104.)

Professor Greenfield, you *were* Wagner's best kept secret, but we know who you are and you can't hide from us anymore!

MIST

by Irving Greenfield

(as appearing in the spring 2001 issue of Nimbus)

I don't want to think
of masses of cold and warm air
mixing to form the mist
I'd rather let the mist hold its mystery
A white vapor
rising off a two day old snow
now violated by footprints
and shades grayer than when it first fell
I'd rather see the mist
curl up the slope of the hill
to steal away a bush
a tree
or in my eyes
transform itself
into amorphous shapes
that slip and slide
along the ground
A mist reduced to temperature differential
isn't a mist at all

Freedom of Speech?



Douglas Auer

Power
Auer

Let us reach back into the annals of time, 1788 to be exact, to when men wore wigs with white curls, England was a colonial pain in the ass, and hunting was a cool thing to do (mainly because there were no PETA protesters to deal with).

Those were the days, back when good ol' James Madison had a damn fine idea. An idea that led to the movement for the adoption of The Bill of Rights to the United States Constitution.

Now for those who are not history majors, or for those who didn't pay attention during grades K-12, The Bill of Rights is a document that guarantees and protects the liberties of the people. In particular, let's talk about the First Amendment:

Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof; or abridging the freedom of speech, or of the press; or the right of the people peaceably to assemble, and to petition the government for a redress of grievances.

Freedom of the press: It's no lie, it does exist. And the Constitution ensures the idea, and men who were wiser than I will ever be, supported the idea.

Ha, imagine that. Now of course, modern journalists, and more importantly editors, must be careful about libelous statements, character defamation, taste, and political correctness. But, like all reputable newspapers, The Wagnerian abides by these guidelines and has experienced staff who make sure these rules are not forgotten.

Now let's get to another point, the proper quotation and use of statements written in a news document. When one is arguing a point of reference about something written, make sure that the quote is right, because I know what I wrote, but do you?

I have found that people who are upset with what I have written often misconstrue what actually was said, and twist my proper words into "Jibba Jabba" (to quote the great Mr. T). If you misquote something and then express anger over what you thought was written, take a long, hard look in the mirror because it's your fault, not mine - you can't read. If my words stir you, good! If they make you think, great! And if they make you laugh, terrific!

And now let me share a Chinese proverb with you: Life is a tragedy for those who feel and a comedy for those who think. Wise words, if you ask me.

Humor makes the day a little easier. We have kids shooting each other, wars occurring over religion, poverty, AIDS, famine, global warming, and a ton of other evils plaguing the world. It's good to find something during some point of the day that allows you to laugh and relax. Like, for instance, "The Gagnerian," the April Fool's Day edition of the Wagner College paper.

Apparently, some people can't take a joke. SO, they make threats against the paper, the students, the staff, and the advisers. They misconstrue (that's the word of the day) what was actually written, but on top of that ineptitude, they forget to read the disclaimer stating all things done in "The Gagnerian" are done in jest and all similarities are coincidental. Hence the idea behind April Fool's Day.

Some people even went as far to suggest that the paper needs to be censored. Yeah, of all the things that go on at Wagner, The Wagnerian requires the most attention. Believe me, all of us here at the paper are blushing like grammar school girls getting their first Valentine's Day card. Really, we are flattered that you have ignored problems concerning the food, the theft, the dorms, the learning communities, the units, the parking lots, and the safety issues, to clamp down on humor. Sound the alarms (no, not the fire alarms), for the preservers of seriousness have arrived. Might as well bring back Prohibition while you're at it!

Honestly, I hope that when I die, I can look back and laugh at all I've done. And I hope others laugh with me, and at me, in all that I do while I am alive. It seems a shame that on a day designated for humor, and on a college campus where freedom of expression and the press should be fostered, it would appear that The Wagnerian and The Constitution are the biggest fools of all.

Hmmm, what would James Madison say?

He'd probably laugh.

Why?

Because he was a thinker.

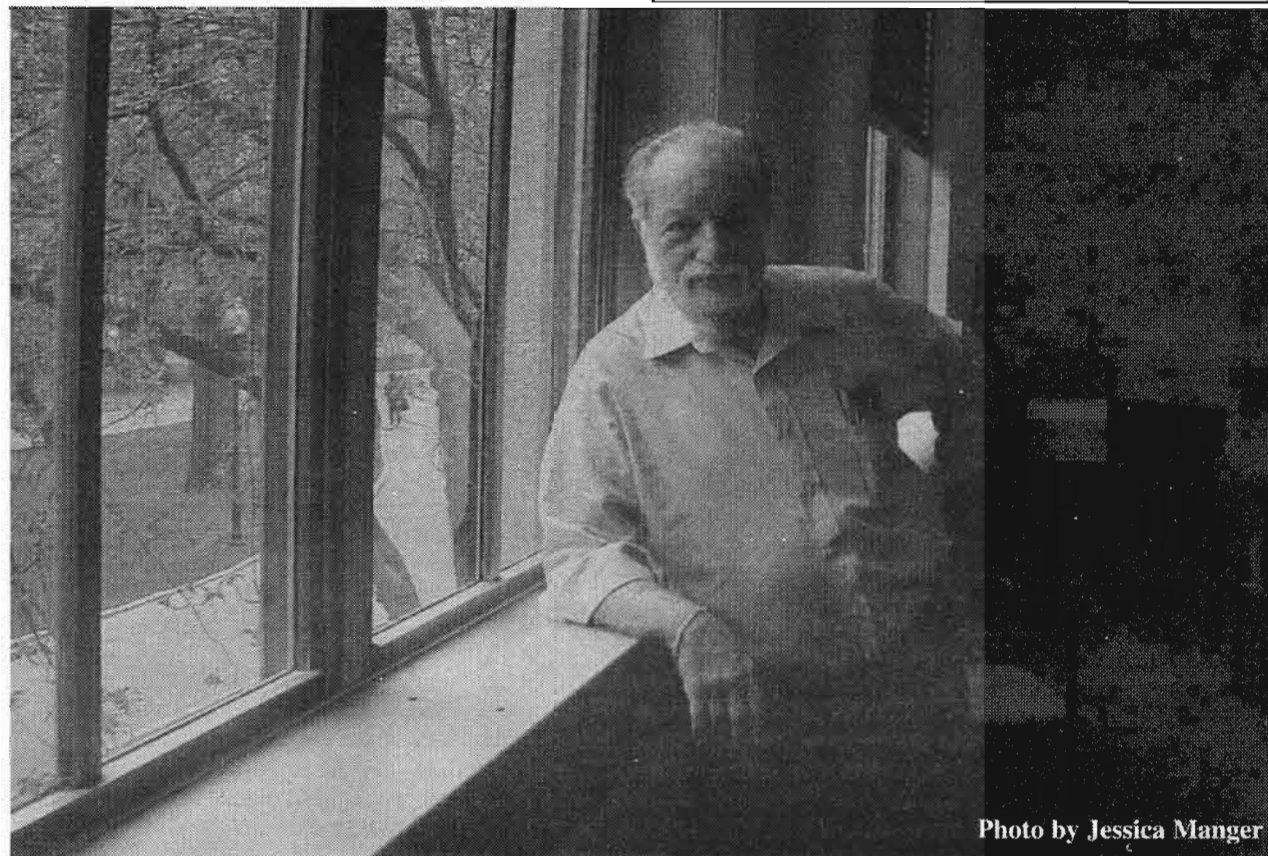


Photo by Jessica Manger

Prof. Irving Greenfield relaxing.

What I've Learned... Take Three

A junior reflects upon his third round of life at Wagner College

By Eric Cohen
Assistant Editor

It's been a whirlwind year, and yet it feels as if August 28, the first day of classes, was just yesterday. I've had the heaviest workload ever, yet it's been an incredibly thrilling ride.

Consequently, for the third consecutive year, I've learned an awful lot from being here at Wagner College. (Hey, it's a dirty job, but someone's got to do it.)

I've learned that it's easier to read the Talmud in Hebrew than it is to read Karl Marx or Sigmund Freud. I've learned that it's easier to write the Gettysburg Address than a "query letter."

I've learned that sometimes, the greatest gift from God is not little girls or love or marriage, but snow—that wonderful powdery white stuff that falls from the sky.

I've learned that the two most hideous words in the English language are "Web board," a diabolical creation that was required of three of my five classes this semester. I hate technology.

I've learned that the most glorious word in the English language is "squat"—something I couldn't do with my single room on the ninth floor this year.

I've learned all about "slippery slope fallacies," the moral bankruptcy of welfare liberalism, Charles Fourier and the "Little Hordes," and all these things that will be so useful when I'm working the midnight-to-6 shift cleaning the ferry terminal. I love being a history major.

I've learned that April Fool's jokes are really funny, except when the joke's on us.

I've learned that a person with no personality, a whiny voice and no knowledge of broadcasting equipment can make a surprisingly serviceable college-radio disc jockey.

I've learned that much to my chagrin, Big Mouth Billy Bass cannot be programmed to sing "Edgecrusher" by Fear Factory. The sales clerk at Hallmark in the Woodbridge Mall shot me a look that I didn't even know was possible from a human face.

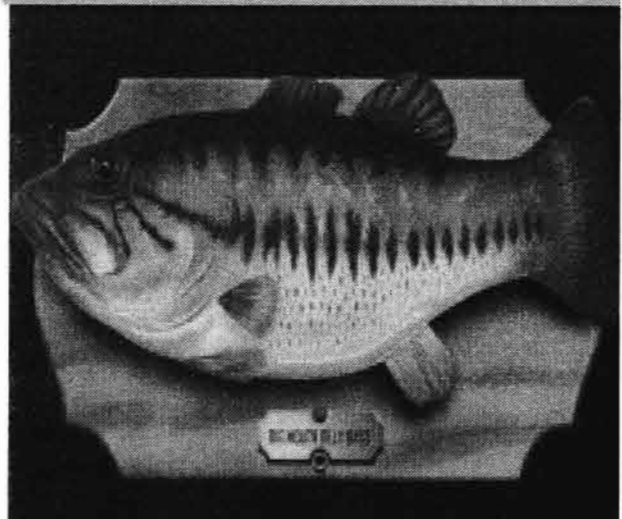
I've learned that taking the stairs is great exercise. If you want to get in shape real fast, just ask for a transfer to Harbor View Hall. My knees feel like they've been through World War III.

I've learned never to take for granted that the major thoroughfares on Staten Island will actually be paved. I then learned how to change a flat tire in the middle of a blinding rainstorm, in the dark.

I've learned that there are, indeed, truly amazing girls on this campus, if you only look hard enough and take the right political science class. I've also learned that it's really fun to make the particular girl I'm talking about blush.

Finally, I just recently learned that I'm going to be one of the two people in charge of running this newspaper next year. Heaven help us all.

Have a great summer, and in the immortal words of WJM-TV News anchorman Ted Baxter, good night and good news.



Nope, Billy Bass won't play Fear Factory.

The Profits and Caveats of Cahoots

The role of relationships in our lives should always be considered

By Maria C. Gelabert
Guest Writer

I recently visited Cabo San Lucas, Mexico, for vacation: Time on the beach, good food, and of course, avoiding the water at all cost. By avoiding tap water, cold salad and frozen drinks, and taking daily doses of Pepto Bismol, luckily I returned feeling only a little queasy. And, for ye of little faith who are wondering: Yes, it is possible to fully experience Mexico and not drink margarita(s) prepared with cheap tequila and tiny umbrellas.

One very important activity for me in Mexico was shopping. There's nothing better than haggling with a shopkeeper over a dollar to buy a straw hat. As much as I would love to barter for every apple and orange, we generally don't do this in the States on a daily basis.

Therefore, I relish these interactions because they usually involve amounts of money that won't break the bank. Further, my command of the Spanish language (ahem) is limited to these kinds of tasks.

The following conversation actually occurred between a beach vendor and myself over a pair of sunglasses. For the reader's convenience, I have translated into English, and converted Mexican pesos into U.S. dollars.

Me (casually trying on one of the pairs on the port-o-rack): "How much for the sunglasses?"
Him (thinking 'naive gringa'): "\$20"
My friend (with a look of shock): "It's too much."
Me (with a look of incredulity delicately balanced with cool indifference): "That's too much. I want to pay \$5."
Him (thinking 'oh no, this is a live one!'): "\$10. This is a good price."
Me (clearly disinterested): "Look, I don't really need these. I left my sunglasses at home. \$6." (For those of you who think I made this up just to lower his price, shame on you. Let me assure you that my statement was absolutely true. I did leave them at home...in New Jersey.)
Him: "\$8."
Me: "Done."

To tell the truth, I don't remember exactly how much I paid. Was it \$9 or \$7? Amazing, to do all this work and then not remember.

Ah, the beauty of bartering: The human interaction is almost as important as the sale.

In addition to the beach vendors, my friend and I encountered many people trying to invite us for a "free" tour of time-share resorts. Unlike the beach vendors, these people would not go away when asked. If we had been willing to endure a multi-hour tour (yawn...!), we could have enjoyed the following goodies: free breakfast, free dinner, free glass-bottom boat ride, free whale watching tour, endless discounts for other activities, but whatever it is, it's free, free, free! And the more we said "no, thank you," the more they promised us. One rather pushy woman even promised us \$50 in cash!

Too good to be true?
Of course.

Had I not been so anxious to run away, I might have tried to get that last promise in writing.

These "tourist resort representatives" are in cahoots with the resorts, or else they would not act so persistently. These employees present themselves in some—not all—hotel lobbies and restaurants. Nonparticipating establishments often post signs forbidding any time-share invitation activity on the premises.

Clearly, the restaurants that offer free meals are in cahoots with the tourist resorts, anxious to sell all the available time-shares. Once they're all sold, as long as the tourist industry continues to boom, real estate profit is on the horizon for developers and buyers. Don't waste any time—now's the time to buy!

Throughout our vacation, my friend and I spent quite a bit of time musing over the many levels of "in cahoots" relationships. We came to a pretty simple, but powerful, conclusion: Everyone is in cahoots with somebody or something. Life is pretty much a collection of cahoots, as no person can survive in a vacuum. We strive for cahoots, or relationships, constantly.

According to Webster's highly abridged pocket dictionary, "cahoot" is defined as a league or a club. The slang phrase "in cahoots" refers to some connection, an exchange of goods or services between people or organizations.

Which cahoots are healthy, and which are unhealthy? The fact that these time-share Mexican folks acted so des-



Time to relax in Cabo San Lucas...or is it?

perately suggests rather unhealthy elements, such as exploitation or too much competition in a society plagued with virtually no middle class: Socioeconomic discomfort. Not nearly as obnoxious, I would surmise, that the beach vendors and shopkeepers must be more comfortable.

There are many other examples of "in cahoots" which I consider to be evil. Airport vendors, in cahoots with each other, charge what?!? for a bagel and coffee? One notable exception to this is the Pittsburgh International Airport (the "Air Mall"), which is mandated to compete with downtown Pittsburgh prices. I am reminded of a slogan from Matt Groening's "Life In Hell" cartoon (that's pre-Simpsons): "When you're stuck at the airport, you're stuck with us!!"

Airlines that offer travel packages for unsuspecting honeymooners just happen, by chance (NOT), to book expensive resorts. Travelers on a budget must read thrifty travel guides, which is, after all, part of the fun.

Those who prefer to be tourists, rather than travelers, are at the mercy of the tourist industry. Sure, more money gets to Mexico this way; however, how much of it reaches the time-share resort pusher or the beach vendor? I have no idea, so your guess would be as educated as mine: muy pocito.

To summarize and expand, listed below are some more examples of cahoot pairs and types. Note that pertinent historical figures have been included for cultural enjoyment.

this... in cahoots with	...that	cahoot type
airport vendors	each other	evil
travel agents	pricey resorts	evil
students	professors	good
children	parents	good
Noah	God	good
Regis	Kathie Lee	evil

Of course, there are always exceptions, and I feel compelled to point out that there is one very important category missing from this table: the "weird" cahoot type. Not good, not evil, but just plain strange. This category was excluded due to its extreme complexity, which would demand an entire column by itself.

Good "in cahoots" are those of our relationships, both personal and professional, that do no harm to others. Who are you in cahoots with? Family, friends and neighbors? Fellow students? How about the bursar's office, or the professor of your most difficult class?

All human interactions serve a purpose, as one never knows what contact might result in an "in cahoots" later. For example, that person you met briefly at a party last week might end up a spouse or business partner later.

In the meantime, we all must realize that no one is ever alone, for human cahoots are central to our happiness.

Maria C. Gelabert is a professor in the Chemistry Department.

Drinking & Driving: A Deadly Mix

By Matthew Agosto
Staff Writer

When I was given the assignment of writing an article about drinking and driving and the effects of peer pressure, I was a little confused. I did not know how to handle the task at hand. I then realized that a good way to take on this job would be to make it an informative article, one that lets people know about the dangers of peer pressure and the negative effects of drinking and driving.

When discussing this situation we must first start out with the problem. Every single injury and death caused by drunk driving could have been prevented. Unfortunately, drunk drivers each year in the United States cause over 20 percent of all traffic fatalities. Thus, drunk driving remains a serious national problem that tragically affects thousands of victims annually.

It is easy to forget that dry statistics represent real people and real lives. We often distance ourselves from these statistics with expressions like "It won't happen to me" or "I can handle my drinking."

Now, what is the solution to this problem? Drunk driving, like most other social problems, resists simple solutions. However, there are a number of actions, each of which can contribute toward a reduction of the problem, which can be taken.



One way drinking and driving could end.

The passing of mandatory alcohol and drug testing in fatal crashes would promote successful prosecution of drunk and drugged drivers. The passing and enforcing of bans on open containers would also reduce drunk driving by deterring drinking while driving.

Surprisingly, 22 states have no open container laws. These are just two of the many legal solutions that can be applied to deter drunk driving, but people need to understand that education is the key.

We need to require every state to provide adequate information on alcohol and driving to prospective drivers and adequately test them on the subject in their driver's exams. In too many states, the subject is given only brief mention, and seven states do not include any information or testing in the process of obtaining a driver's license.

Education should not just be given to people about to attain a driver's license; we need to start educating young children so it becomes instilled in them that drinking and driving is wrong and needs to be stopped.

This now brings us to the issue of peer pressure and how it affects people's decisions, especially children. Children are impressionable and unfortunately the negative actions of their peers easily influence them. Whether a child wants to feel cool, feels the need for acceptance or just lacks the knowledge of the dangers of alcohol, their peers have the most input of what they do.

This problem takes us back to our "key" solution: education. We need to educate everyone on the dangers of alcohol, so they in turn will educate their peers, and then maybe the countless numbers of deaths that occur due to alcohol can be stopped.

Feeling The Pressure

Alcohol-Related Crashes Result in Thousands of Deaths Annually

By Matthew Agosto
Staff Writer

In late December, I was pulled over for making an illegal left turn. After pulling me over, the officer gave me a breathalyzer test, which proved I was intoxicated. A few months later, in March, I had a hearing for my drunk driving charges. At the hearing I was given an ultimatum: Write informative articles about drinking, driving and the negative affects of peer pressure, or lose my license.

Why do kids start drinking?

There is no one reason why people become alcoholics. Some think drinking is fun or cool. Others want to fit in with an older crowd. A few kids think alcohol will help them handle boredom or everyday pressures like school or sports. Many see their family members drink alcohol and want to try it for themselves.

Scientists know that some diseases are passed from parents to children through the genes. Alcoholism may be one such disease. That doesn't mean if your mom or dad is an alcoholic, you will be one too. But children of alcoholics are more likely to become alcoholics themselves. And alcohol is so easy to get, it's sometimes hard to remember it's a dangerous drug.

TV shows and movies make drinking seem fun. Many companies advertise their alcoholic products in magazines and newspapers, on the radio and billboards, and at sporting events. There are even a large number of alcoholic beverage Web sites on the Internet. Even though they aren't supposed to, many of the ads make young people think that drinking alcohol will help them seem and feel older or more attractive.

For me personally, I started to drink due to a mixture of peer pressure and curiosity. I was in seventh grade and a friend of mine, who was in ninth grade, invited me to a high school party. When we arrived at the party, I noticed that all the kids were drinking beer out of a keg. When my friend handed me a cup, it felt like one of those after-school specials. I knew it was wrong, but I took the cup anyway.

I already felt weird being the youngest at the party, so I didn't want to be the only kid that wasn't drinking.



Matthew Agosto was pulled over for DUI and spreads the message here.

Many of my friends who I spoke to about their first time getting drunk shared a similar story.

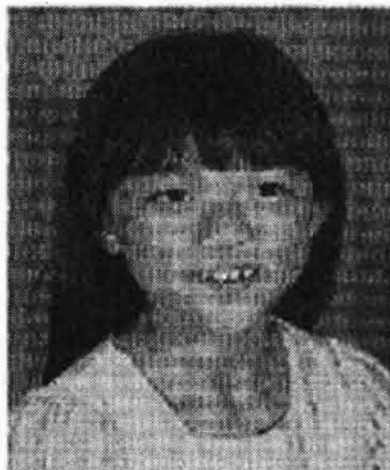
Underage drinking is out of control in every community in America today. Alcohol is the number one drug of choice among our children. When used by minors, alcohol is an illegal drug. Older people who have influence over young children need to start showing these kids that there are other things they can do for fun, things that don't involve alcohol.

Over 40 percent of all the 16-to-20 year olds who died in 1994 were killed in car crashes. About half of those were alcohol-related. That's around 2,222 kids who died because somebody chose to drink and drive.

Many kids have their first drink at an early age, as young as 10 or 11. Some see their parents or older friends drink. They think that because alcohol is so easy to get, nothing bad will happen. That's just not true. Kids who start drinking before the age of 15 are four times more likely than their non-drinking friends to become alcoholics.

Stay Safe This Summer

Age 7, 1982



Age 15, 1990



Age 18, 1993



Elizabeth Suto.

Killed by a drunk driver on February 27, 1994, on Bell Blvd. in Cedar Park, Texas.

If you don't stop your friend from driving drunk, who will? Do whatever it takes.

FRIENDS DON'T LET FRIENDS DRIVE DRUNK.



U.S. Department of Transportation

Kinsey's Adventures in Africa

By Kinsey Casey
Staff Writer

Last week was "April holidays" here in South Africa, which is basically our spring break. Being that I am only in this country for a very short time, I wanted to see as much of it as possible. So five of us (two French guys & three American girls) rented a car (a really small car, they don't drive big cars in this country) and drove a total of about 4,500 kilometers in nine days. That is almost the equivalent of driving from Atlanta to San Francisco.

My University is in the Western Cape so we drove along the N2 through the Eastern Cape & Kwazulu-Natal to Swaziland (the country that borders South Africa on its northeast side). The N2 is a national road, somewhat equivalent to the US interstates, but in certain sections the N2 narrows to two lanes, with a cow crossing the road on one side and a woman carrying an enormous amount of stuff on her head crossing from the other direction. (A little note about how people drive in this country: IT'S NUTS. You think New York drivers are crazy; it is nothing compared to South African drivers).

The first few days were normal, as we stayed in major cities along the coast. By the fourth day we knew we were in for an adventure when we stopped to pay a toll and we were handed a brochure on how to prevent/treat cholera. That same day we went to the Hluhluwe-Umfolozi nature reserve. When we entered we saw a big sign that said gate times were strictly enforced, but it was early and we were thinking oh we have five hours to spend in this park, that will be plenty!

Little did we know that on our way out we would get stuck behind an elephant for 45 minutes. It was entertaining for about the first 10 minutes, then a car behind us decided it wanted to get past the elephant. Unfortunately, the elephant didn't like that idea. It turned around and hit the front of the car with its tusks. Finally, a ranger came by and got the elephant to move off the road, but by this time it was dark, raining, and the park had "officially" closed a half an hour ago. When we got to the exit it was locked securely and no one was around. We finally stumbled on a man in a hut that had keys to the gate, but he was not too happy with us.

The next day we set out for our adventure in Swaziland. Since we really had no plan we called this guy in one of our travel guides because it said he offered

trips to "real Swazi homes and schools." Once again we didn't know what we were getting into. The guy told us to meet him in the market in Manzini (one of the biggest towns in the country). When we got to the market, it was HUGE, we were wondering how this guy was going to find us, but then we realized we were the only white people around, so we were pretty easy to spot. This guy gave us a quick lesson in Siswati (their language), and ordered us a bowl of incwancwa (there are clicks in it when you pronounce it) for breakfast. It is fermented sorghum, I'm not even going to attempt to describe what it tastes like.

After we choked down this bowl of incwancwa, the guy told us to grab our sleeping bags and he then drove us 60 kilometers out of town to a rural, mountain village. Think stereotypical Africa. There is no electricity, no running water, and they live in mud or straw huts. We went to the primary school and we were introduced to several families in the area, but since we had just learned Siswati, our conversations were pretty limited. We helped a woman grind maize, and later she brought it over to our hut and cooked it for dinner.

The following day we headed for Lesotho, the country in the center of South Africa. We decided to enter Lesotho from its southern border and drive to the center of the country, where we were supposed to stay that night. Well, after a few detours on dirt roads, we finally found the road that led to the border . . . it was another dirt road. Keep in mind there are five of us in a little car that is now about six inches off the ground. We were waving at all the people that are walking alongside the road. They just waved back and laughed. We thought they were laughing because we were the only white people within a 100 kilometer radius, but we soon found out the real source of their laughter.

This dirt road began to go up, straight up. We kept going, determined to make it to the border before it closed. At one point we had to pull off the road to let a military truck pass. We decided to ask these military guys if we were even on the right road considering we had not seen any signs for about 30 minutes. They were like, oh yeah, the border is another 10 kilometers up this mountain, but the road gets worse. At that point we decided to attempt to turn around and head back down. We drove past all the people walking alongside the road again, who were laughing even harder at us this time.

Eventually we found a border crossing that didn't involve driving up a mountain on a dirt road, and we made it to the Malealea Lodge. We were in the middle of

nowhere. They did have power here, but it went out at 9:30 p.m.

Since Lesotho is famous for pony trekking, we signed up for the full day's ride the next day. Ha! These are not the ponies you ride at the petting zoo when you are a kid, they are horses.

Because this Montana girl had never been on a horse before (I know it is hard to believe), I got a little riding lesson. "Pull the reins left to go left and right to go right, lean back on the downhill, okay have fun." And we were off! Now, this was no trail ride, we went up and down some mountains and through some rivers.

Needless to say, I am still sore.

So that was my little adventure for a week. I can't wait for my month long safari through the desert.



A Market in Swaziland

Our Right To Park Cannot Be Denied

By Carla Barletto
Co-Editor

Parking at Wagner is no picnic. Everyone knows that. What we did not know was that other people, those not from Wagner, also had a problem with our parking.

On April 9, Joseph Sciamé, the vice president for government and community relations at St. John's University wrote a letter to Iris Weinshall, commissioner of the New York City Department of Transportation. His letter was about traffic issues along Howard Avenue.

In the letter he states that their office had received a number of complaints, from their students and the

neighboring community, about the two new traffic lights placed on Howard Avenue in front of Wagner. He alleges that these lights cause congestion during the school rush hours of "7:20 a.m. to 9 p.m. and 3 p.m. to 4:30 p.m."

First of all he means 9 a.m. (and he should have proof-read the letter), and second of all, there is congestion everywhere at those hours because people are trying to get where they have to go!

Mr. Sciamé, along with a community dialogue group, feel that "No Parking" signs should be posted along Howard Avenue in front of Wagner College so that traffic passes more quickly during "rush" hours and does not get congested at the newly constructed lights.

Mr. Sciamé also seems to be overly concerned about commuters speeding along Howard Avenue. He alleges they use it as a short cut to get to the ferry, and that they justify their speed to the lack of speed limit signs. I have been driving on Staten Island for the past six years, four of which have been as a student at Wagner, and I have never used Howard Avenue as a faster way to get to the ferry. I have also never used excessive speed up here because of the tight curves and the lack of sidewalks.

And just so you know I am not alone in my beliefs, I consulted a random student in the Union. According to Neil Woltjen, a junior, there are no major traffic problems here at Wagner. He sees the problems more toward St. John's, where the curves are.

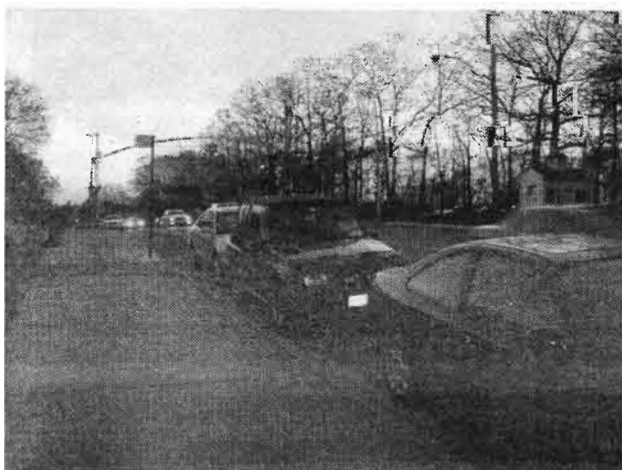
"Between St. John's and here, near the apartments, some cars parallel park and it's hazardous. I have slammed my brakes too many times to count," he said.

Mr. Sciamé wrote his letter without consulting anyone at Wagner College first. It seems that he did not want to hear our point of view on the whole situation.

On April 17, Dr. Norman Smith, Wagner president, wrote a response to the president of St. John's University, Rev. Dr. Donald Harrington.

Rightly so, Dr. Smith was concerned about not being consulted about this, as it was considered to be a big problem. He also correctly points out that the new traffic lights are a deterrent to speeding, as well as a reason for commuters to not use Howard Avenue as a short-cut.

Dr. Smith also points out that any decision that is made toward a solution to the "traffic" problem should best be handled with consultation to Wagner College, a key player on Grymes Hill.



Howard Avenue from the Wagner campus side.



Howard Avenue from the West Lot side.

PLAY BALL: Mike's Baseball Outlook

"Baseball is what gets inside you, it's what lights you up. Of course it's hard. If it weren't hard everyone would do it. The hard is what makes it great." Tom Hanks- A League of Their Own

By Mike Southern
Assistant Sports Editor

"There's nothing more beautiful than Yankee Stadium lit up at night."
Me- Last Season

Ahh, it's that time of year, the month I have been waiting for, ever since Mike Piazza flew out to Bernie Williams to end the World Series. Baseball has begun and all is right with the world.

No more flipping to the back of the sports page hoping to find something interesting on the Yankees. No more sitting through college basketball highlights waiting for a two-minute piece on Bernie Williams.

Time to bring on the home runs, strikeouts, cheering crowds, booing crowds, pulse-racing ninth innings, post-game highlights and the knowledge that every game won in April is one less game to win in September.

But while we bask in the hope that April brings for each and every team, the question is who will be standing come October. My money is on the Twins.

Just kidding, we have a better chance of getting senior housing than the Twins have going to the World Series.

However, I keep hearing about some really good team right here in New York. What's their name again...um, let's see...26 championships...3 in a row...cute guy at shortstop...can someone help me out here?

Seriously, I hate to admit it, but maybe, just maybe, this year will be the swan song for the Yankees. Paul O'Neill, the inspirational leader of the team and my favorite player, is probably going to retire after this year. And yes, they are getting older.

As for THIS year? Bottom line: This team knows how to win, and have been unstoppable in the playoffs. Plus, just because they could, they went out and signed All Star pitcher Mike Mussina (hey girls, this guy is really cute, too. I wonder if Jeter is going to be jealous). Until another team proves that they can beat the Yankees in the playoffs, I have to pick them to win the division and go to the Series.

I have to say one thing, though: Chuck Knoblauch is left? DEAR GOD!

But the Yankees will have challengers. The Red Sox may have lost Nomar for a few months, they may have no depth at pitching (retire David, please), half the team may be fighting with the manager, and Carl Everett may

be a bigger idiot than those that thought that Gagnerian was real; but as long as that team is still breathing, they scare the hell out of me.

Not so the Toronto Blue Jays, who are still wiping the egg off their face from the David Wells-Mike Sirotko fiasco.

Other teams scaring the hell out of me this year will be the Indians and the White Sox in the Central Division. In the West, I pick the A's; you have to respect any team that can make me sweat like they did in the first round last year. Seattle won't win without A-Rod, and I don't think Texas can win with him. Their lineup will hit the crap out of the ball though, I can tell you that.

Now I know that the Mets are the National League champions, the team that went toe-to-toe with the Yanks in the Series, but to me they are still the team that can't beat the Braves. The offseason was not kind to the Mets either, as their refusal to offer A-Rod his own country and their inability to make Mike Hampton appreciate the hospitality of New York left them unable to get a big name free agent (no, Steve Trachsel is not a big name free agent). Oh yeah, they were also unable to trade for David Wells and were unable to sign Manny Ramirez.

Why they could not make those deals baffles me, but hey, these are the Mets. They are still a solid team, but I say they finish second...again...to the

Braves.

And contrary to rumor this column will NEVER be replaced by Met fans telling people why their team is so great. Met fans will not speak unless spoken to. Yankee fans, you may run your mouths all you want. (Of course, due to recent censorship issues, I may never say anything...ever again.)

Speaking of the Braves, I hear that Bobby Cox is going to teach them the Heimlich maneuver so that when they choke in the postseason, they will know what to do. In the Central, I don't think my beloved Cubs (hey, I like teams other than the Yankees) will be con-

tending, but the St. Louis Cardinals and Big Mac (if he can return from his injuries) will be around the top of the division.

The NL West is actually the most interesting division this year. Arizona has the most talent but are old. Los Angeles has the most potential but always seem to be fighting with each other (see Gary Sheffield). The Giants don't have a ton of talent but always get the most out of it, and the Rockies have a nice balance of hitting and pitching but still play in the thin air of Colorado. By the way, nice to see Hampton and Neagle throw their careers away for the money. My pick is Arizona, assuming they can stay healthy.

So here is the way I see it: If the Mets can find a way into the playoffs, then we may very well see Subway Series II because other than the Yankees and Braves, no one has come close to beating them the last two years. But then again the Mets, as we all know, can't beat the Braves, so for that reason alone I say Atlanta takes the NL flag and faces the Yankees.

And if you have all read your history books, we all know what happens from there.

So let the countdown to the parade begin.



Starting pitcher Steve Trachsel: Is this the best the Mets can do?



Yankee Stadium

Got any plans
for Monday, August 27 at 5:15?

Be honest. You don't.

How about writing for us?
Come to the Wagnerian office
for the first meeting of the
Fall semester.

Wagnerian Sports

The Model of Consistency

Cerminaro Prepares for Big Senior Season

By Paul Kurella
Staff Writer

For the past four seasons, the Wagner College Baseball team has relied heavily on Mike Cerminaro to anchor the infield and provide the team with leadership, as well as offensive production. Every year, the senior tri-captain out of Howell, New Jersey has steadily improved. He has gone from shaky freshman shortstop to a sure-handed senior, and is now looked upon as a proven leader on the squad.

Cerminaro entered this season as one of the hottest hitters in the league and is coming off a tremendous 2000 season. The former two-sport star had made quite a name for himself at Wagner as a quarterback/wideout on the football team, but knew it was time to set his priorities straight and dedicate 100 percent to his goals on the diamond, as he definitely has the tools to play professional ball.

"Letting go of football was one of the hardest decisions that I've ever had to make," Cerminaro said. "It was so much fun every year playing football in the fall, and then starting up baseball in the spring, but I realize now, how much more beneficial it is, not only for myself but also for my teammates that I dedicate myself totally to baseball, especially after last season."

Cerminaro was referring to the 2000 campaign in which he enjoyed his finest season in a Seahawk uniform. He ranked second in the NEC and 44th in the nation with a .404 batting average. He also led the NEC in hits (82), runs scored (54), RBI's (52), doubles (23) and slugging percentage (.695). He also registered a .488 average and .850 slugging percentage in NEC contests and set the Wagner single-season hits record.

All the while, the Seahawks played quality baseball, winning the conference, and clinching a berth in the NCAA Regional Tournament.

"Last year was unbelievable. In addition to all the personal accolades, the team really showed what we could do when we all played together," Cerminaro recalled. "The Regional at Miami was an experience that I'll never forget, and will only make us all work that much harder to make it again this year."

The wiry 5'11" star was named All-Region and All-NEC in 2000, and ended the season in the midst of a 27-game hit streak, a testament to his consistency.

The streak extended into the 2001 campaign and reached an incredible 35 games before coming to an end on March 15, in an 8-3 loss to Rhode Island in Boca Raton, Florida.

Over the 35 games, which stretched from April 10, 2000 to March 13, 2001, Cerminaro batted .454 (64-141).

He leads the team this year with a .362 clip.

"The streak was a nice thing to have, and I really wish that it could have continued, but I'm glad it's over with so I can lock-in on what we really have to focus on, and that's defending our title."

So far, the Seahawks are having a rough go of it, starting out 2-4 in conference play. This, though, doesn't have Cerminaro or any of his teammates down.

"We started out slow last year and turned it up midway through the season," the tri-captain said. "I'm not saying that anyone's going to hand us anything, but don't count us out. A lot of people did last year, and look what happened."

With a positive outlook, hopefully Cerminaro and his teammates will achieve their goals this season. Either way, the future still looks bright for the steady shortstop.

With the Major League Baseball Amateur Draft coming in June, the upcoming month will be very important for both the Seahawks and Cerminaro.

Don't be surprised if you hear some noise coming from the baseball field. If you do, you can be sure that "Cerm" will be smack in the middle of everything.

We'll all be watching for you, Mike...good luck.



Mike Cerminaro scrambles out of the box.

Wagner Hockey Skates To Title

By Vincent Musso
Staff Writer

The Wagner College Hockey Team recently captured the Metropolitan Collegiate Hockey Conference Championship with a 10-1 win over SUNY Albany. This was the culmination of a tremendously successful season by the Seahawks. The team finished with a 30-5-2 overall record, and a 14-1-1 record in the MCHC. This domination could not have come without hard work. In fact, head coach Charlie Crispino described this year's squad as, "The hardest working team he has ever coached."

The team clinched the regular season MCHC title early in the season with a 5-2 victory, also against SUNY Albany. The road to the championship game, however, was not an easy one. In the first round of the tournament, the Seahawks eliminated Columbia with an exiting 1-0 victory. The Semi-Finals were not any easier, as the Seahawks held on to a 5-4 victory over Fordham earning them a spot in the Championship game. The championship game was close at one point with the Seahawks holding a narrow 2-1 lead after the first period. During the second and third periods, however, the floodgates opened and the team was on their way to a blow out victory and the MCHC crown.

Much of the Seahawks success can be linked to the tremendous leadership by their captains John Anastasia, Kevin Bernsten, and T.J. Munday. This was also an extremely deep team with several key performers. Louis Weber led the MCHC conference in scoring with 25 goals and 22 assists equaling 47 points. Rich Barbiera, P.J. Scriffigano, Bernsten, and Munday all finished in the top 25 in conference scoring as well. Goaltender Joe Rath was first in the conference in goals against average, and third in save percentage. Rath was also named MCHC tournament Most Valuable Player.

Since the Wagner Hockey team is considered a "club" sport, they are often overlooked. This team has once again proved they are far more than just a "club", they are champions. Hopefully, this championship will open some eyes, and the Wagner College Hockey Team will get the credit they deserve.

Justice Is Served: A Year In Review

Mike Southern

**Southern
Justice**

This is the last column that I will be writing...at least until September, at which point I hope to become even more annoying and opinionated in my writing than I am now. But since this is my last piece for awhile let's look back at the eight months, shall we.

I must say that overall the sports in my life have been pretty damn good. The Yankees won yet again, beating the Mets no less. The Giants shocked everyone by going to the Super Bowl (and yes, there was the minor annoyance of losing to the Ravens and possible murderer Ray Lewis, but hey, what are you going to do).

The Rangers fell on their faces again, but my boys from Jersey, the Devils, continued to kick ass. The Knicks were their normal decent selves, which is a comfort in a way.

On a personal sports level, over the course of the year I have gone from having a slightly overweight, out of shape body to a rock-hard, well-cut physique due to countless days and hours spent in the gym. (By the way, guys, the music is really not that bad, I was kidding about all that.) And yes I realize that I am bragging about how in shape I am, but so what, I work hard at it, and it's my column so I can say what I want. Besides I assure you that comment was not meant for the guys that read this. Then again, do girls ever read this column?

Of course there were also just enough idiots in sports to keep things interesting. Like that Richard Williams guy who I am convinced is the worst thing to ever happen to tennis. I mean even if he didn't order one of his daughters

to lose, you DO NOT have one of them forfeit the match three minutes before it is supposed to be played. Not to mention how much we all love his signboard, his annoying interviews, and his influence on his two kids who are almost as annoying as he is. But anyway back to reminiscing.

One thing that was a disappointment this year was the fact that Armando Benitez didn't get deported for beating his wife. If he had I think I would still be laughing over it. Then again when Carl Everett's reward for hitting his kids is big fat contract with the Red Sox...I just don't think that women and children deserve to be hit, okay?

As for local sports here at Wagner, the basketball teams did well, the hockey team kicked ass, the football team now has gone something like 20 years without a losing season, and even though the baseball and softball teams struggled a bit this year they were still a nice alternative to paying lots of money to sit with those horrible fans that I ripped a few issues back.

I still think that the most beautiful thing in the world is Yankee Stadium lit up at night. Running a close second is Staten Island girls however.

So let's recap the last few months. Mario returned, Jordan didn't. Belle retired, Henderson didn't. A-Rod got paid, but not with the Mets. Hampton got paid, but not with the Mets. Manny got paid, but not with the Mets.

Allan Iverson dominated and inspired short people like me everywhere. Shaq and Kobe mostly fought with each other. Tiger looked like he would never win again, and now looks like he may never lose again. Dale Earnhardt made us all think about driving slower. Strawberry messed up...I don't know...a lot.

The XFL flopped, the WWF bought WCW, Michael Vick became a Falcon, Mike Mussina became a Yankee, Gary Sheffield didn't become a Met, Barry Bonds hit his 500th home run, Stone Cold Steve Austin beat the Rock to win the title, and the Jets choked...again.

At this point I am going to get all wishy-washy, so if you want to stop reading, by all means do. Seriously I would just like to thank and acknowledge the people that made writing on this paper so much fun.

To Carla and Eric Skiff thanks for pretty much letting me do my own thing, even though I know that neither of you care in the least about sports. To Eddie thanks for always telling me that my column was good, it always made me want to write another. And yes I know that I never really gloated to you about the Subway Series. You're Welcome. To Eric Cohen thanks for always being the one to correct my horrible, horrible, grammar and spelling, and congrats again on being the new editor. To Jason, thanks for even letting me HAVE a column even though I had never worked on the staff before. To Dr. Sharpe, thanks for praising my sports coverage because I think you were the only one that ever noticed it, and to Professor Regan, thanks for making me work harder. To Doug, its nice to know that there are people that can write as obnoxious as I can, and to Gavin, well hey, you may very well save the world yet.

And to everyone who read this stuff and yelled "Southern Justice!" at me, thanks, I was flattered. To Yankee fans I hope you liked what I wrote about them, and to Met fans I hope I made you mad. That was the point after all. Now if only we could do something about those screaming Derek Jeter fans...