

The Wagnerian

Staten Island, NY

Wagner College

12 November 1996



Wagner College students participate in an induction ceremony for the Omicron Delta Kappa honor society

ODK inducts new members

By MEREDITH NELSEN
Wagnerian Staff Writer

Proud parents, relatives, friends, and teachers were enlightened on Friday, Oct. 25 when 26 of Wagner College's elite students and three faculty members were inducted into Omicron Delta Kappa National Leadership Honor Society.

These students and faculty members were honored for their outstanding scholarship and leadership performance both at Wagner and in their own communities. This year's group of inductees had a combined cumulative grade point average of 3.67.

ODK was founded at Washington and Lee University, Lexington, VA, on Dec. 3, 1914. ODK, which is present at over 240 colleges and universities, emerged at Wagner on May 28, 1960. The Wagner Circle has inducted over 930 members into ODK over the past 36 years.

The purpose of ODK is to recognize those individuals who have excelled in five areas of collegiate activities including, scholarship, athletics, social service and religious activities, journalism, speech and mass media and creative and performing arts.

ODK also brings students and faculty members together on the basis of mutual interest and understanding. The individuals honored are exceptional students involved in a wide variety of activities, organizations, and volunteer work.

In order to be eligible for student selection into ODK, a student must be of junior, senior or graduate standing. He or she must rank in the upper 35% of his or her respective class with a cumulative G.P.A. of 3.40 or higher. He or she must distinguish himself or herself in at least one of the five areas of leadership mentioned previously and must be of unquestioned good character.

The keynote speaker and new alumnus member of the ceremony

was The Honorable Charles J. D'Arrigo, New York Surrogate Judge from Staten Island. Judge D'Arrigo graduated from Wagner College and went on to Brooklyn Law School. He has been Surrogate of the County of Richmond since June 23, 1981. Judge D'Arrigo has an extensive resume of awards and community activities and has been involved in various projects on Staten Island for many years. Some advice was offered to the inductees by Judge D'Arrigo, "As your years go by, if there are circumstances that develop, try not to lose sight of your ambition and goals. Leadership will then show itself. The true leaders are the ones who will hold that staff and maintain steadiness."

Also included in the program was a speaker from The Society for Seamen's Children, Joseph Conti, who spoke about ODK's involvement in his organization.

Roxanne Patterson, Faculty Province Director of ODK, offered her congratulations to the new members.

"There is hope, promise, and leadership. It's among these students."

Dr. Joseph D. Smith, Jr., ODK Faculty Secretary and professor at Wagner College, and Jesse Weiss, President of the Wagner Circle of ODK, organized the ceremony and reception that took place on Wagner's campus.

Those honored included, Naomi Alcock, Michele Appello, Julianna Berggren, Amy Chorzempa, Allison Cummings, Toniann Curcio, Andrea DiGregorio, Lana Flotteron, Keri Gniewkowski, Christine Horan, Steven Howley, Melissa Kirchner, James Lohse, Beth Ann Loveridge, Danille Melfi, Joseph Pallotta, Michelle Romano, Suzanne Rybarczyk, Marlo Salerno, Howard Schneider, Dawn Sgarlato, Bruno Sousa, Derek Staranowski, Rachel Turner, Gregory Wallace, and Tara Yeo.

Faculty members include Professor Gary P. Sullivan, Pamela Sue Roecker, and Sudha P. Patel.

Don't be a
target of
date rape

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an elegant
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News

Environmental humorist to play the Gatehouse

By JACKIE KAJZER
Wagner College Student

Environmental humorist, actor and folk rapper Dave Street will perform his one person theater show, 'The Ultimate College And University Environment Show' at Wagner on Tuesday, November 12 at 7 p.m. in the Gatehouse Lounge.

The performance is sponsored by Free The Planet, Wagner's own environmental organization.

Street's focus will be the role of the individual in helping to have a healthy environment. He uses theater, humor, drama, original songs and scientific information to make his point. Street also touches on most environmental issues, such as ozone depletion, global warming, destruction of the rainforests and lessons to be learned from endangered and extinct animals.

Street has been giving performances about the environment for over ten years, sharpening his skills at numerous environmental festivals such as the Clearwater Festival both in New York and New Jersey, Eco-Fest '95 in New York City and three straight First Night New Year's Eve events as well as gatherings of local and national environmental organizations like the Sierra Club, Rainforest Releaf and the national convention of the Citizen's Clearinghouse for Hazardous Waste (CCHW) in Virginia.

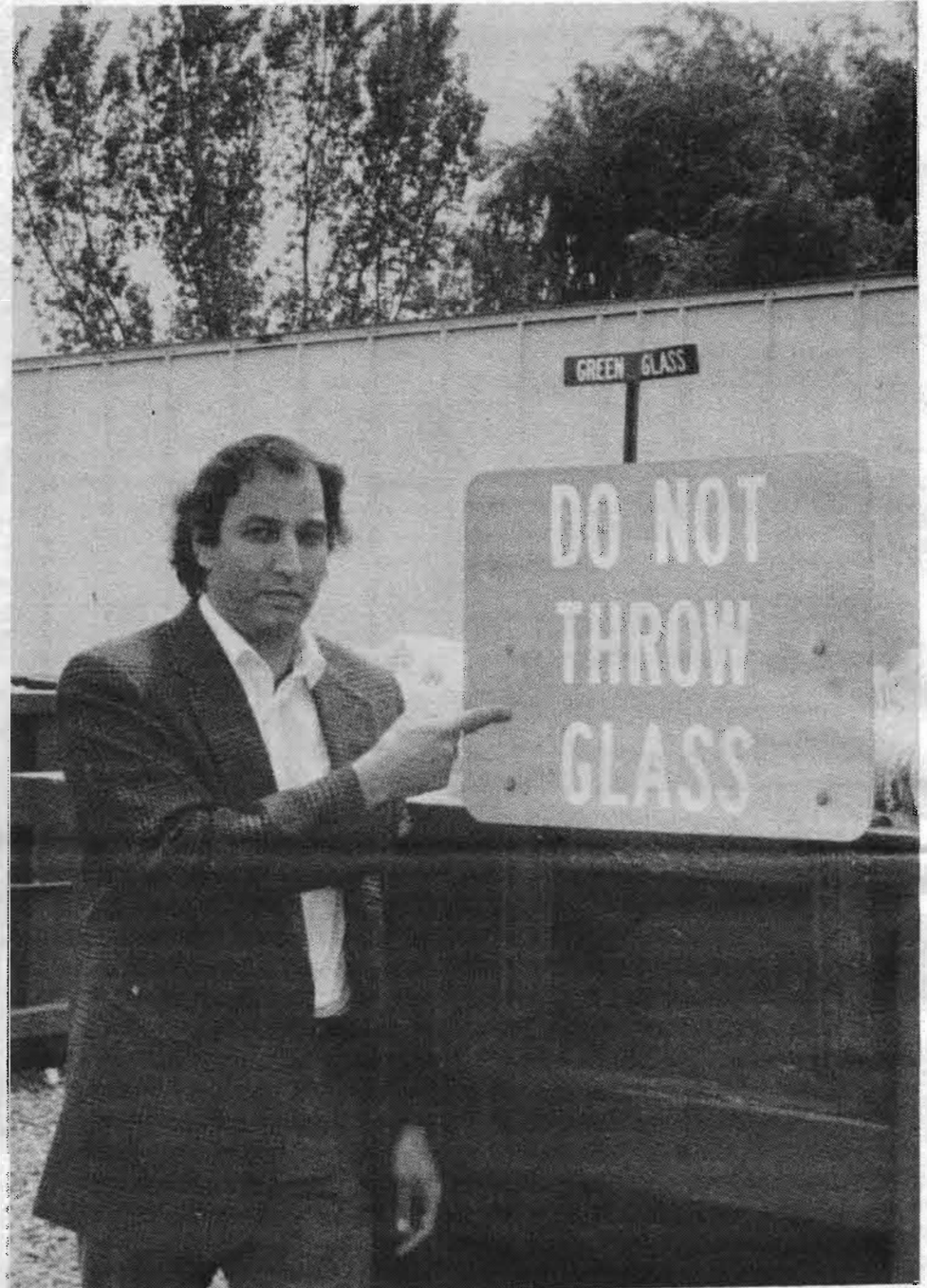
A former stand-up comic, Street turned his work into a full length show for college audiences, using stand-up

techniques to present a wealth of ecological issues. Some of the more local campuses he's performed at include Montclair State University, Drew University, Kean College and the University of Delaware.

The main theme of his show is that the way we treat the environment is an extension of how we treat each other and ultimately ourselves. In addition to examining all major ecological issues, he illustrates how daily, individual behavior affects all of these matters. Street concludes by discussing solutions such as recycling, precycling and composting and treating ourselves better.

An extra dimension of his performance is music. While working as a substitute teacher a few years ago in an urban New Jersey High School, the students there taught him how to 'rap'. Being a former folk singer, Street combines the rhyming patterns of rap music with the mellow musical sounds of folk, inventing his own style of 'folk rap' music. He usually performs one or two songs as part of his overall show. Street also performs a show for elementary schools titled "The Habits That Save Habitats" which has also received continuous acclaim from the educational community.

Street is also a former New York City performance artist and he once very briefly managed the legendary punk rock band The Misfits, whose lead singer, Glen Danzig, went on to solo fame. These days, however, he's more likely to be discussing ecological concerns with a scientist returning from the Rainforest.



Suicide: Everyone's disease

By KIM BURKE
Wagnerian Staff Writer

Susan was an average 18-year-old freshman in college. She was athletic, intelligent, popular and very outgoing. Not even her closest friends would have expected her to fall to pieces over a guy.

Around midnight on October 18, a quarrel broke out between Susan and her boyfriend, Mark. It lasted for several hours and concluded with Susan threatening to kill herself. Mark left in rage never thinking that Susan would actually follow through with it.

Early that morning, Susan's little sister Kristine found her in the bathroom in a pool of blood. Susan lacerated herself with a straight-edge razor and was already dead when found. It was then realized that the Susan everyone knew and loved was gone.

Suicide is an ongoing issue in the United States that is constantly overlooked. Suicide is a disease in society, it not only affects one person, but causes an impact on family, friends and the community as a whole.

A serious problem is the suicidal motivation among college students, especially at large universities. According to college psychologist Henry Seiden, 10 thousand college students have attempted suicide, of which one thousand have succeeded.

A Cornell study reports that, for students, stressors of academic demands, social interaction problems, career choices and challenges to their basic values evidently make it impossible to accommodate situations that their lives demand. This study shows that suicide is most often attempted in the beginning and the end of semesters.

The Los Angeles Suicide Prevention Center states that three times as many men commit suicide when compared to women, but women dominate when it comes to attempted suicide. this is because females tend to use methods that are not considered extremely lethal or devastating, such as drug ingestion. Males usually resort to methods that they know will work, such as gun wounds, knife or razor blade wounds and jumping from windows and bridges.

The Cleveland Suicide Prevention Center reported that suicide ranks as the third most common cause of death between the ages of 15 and 24, with automobile accidents being first and homicide second.

Seiden added, "Suicide is extremely contagious and harmful."

Wagner College offers personal counseling services. For more information contact the Dean of Student's office.

The Cleveland Suicide Prevention Center's lists various signs a potential suicide victim may display. Some of these signs are:

- Drug and alcohol abuse
- Excessive depression
- Problems at school and at home
- Drastic changes in attitude
- Nervousness and loss of appetite

News

Molinari wows 'em at Wagner

By JASON BORELLI
Wagnerian Staff Writer

A mere week before Election Day, Omicron Delta Kappa, Wagner's leadership honors society, inducted Staten Island Congresswoman Susan Molinari.

Molinari had an event year. In addition to giving birth to Susan Ruby in May, she also gave the keynote address at the Republican National Convention. A week after her lecture in Spiro Hall, she easily retained her seat in Congress.

In his opening speech, ODK President Jesse Weiss proclaimed, "She's honoring us by being here today." SGA President Gregg Gavoli followed up, "We could not have chosen a more appropriate person for the leadership lecture series. [She] is a true leader by definition." Among her finer moments, she has been an advocate in victim's rights, she has helped close down the Fresh Kills landfill, and being elected one of twelve national co-chairs of the Republican campaign.

Molinari was given a certificate of membership, as well as an ODK key and a plaque commemorating the day. She was also given a silver spoon from Tiffany's for her daughter.

The congresswoman was very friendly throughout the lecture. She admitted she was "taken aback" being

described as a leader. "I don't consider myself a leader in any way, shape or form," she noted. "I consider myself somebody who's been given the same opportunities as a lot of other people, and I was afraid to try."

Continuing in her modesty, she cited three real cases of leadership and triumphing over adversity. First was Bob Dole, who survived World War II, who keeps his wounded right arm cocked and his fist balled up so it won't deform further, for 16 hours a day.

Then there's Mary Joseph. Both of her parents were deaf, yet she could hear fine. She had to learn sign language and translate for her family. Now, she runs an institute for learning sign language, which she named after her father.

Finally, there was Cody. He came to America years ago from China, and he ended up waiting tables. Still, he put his children through college (his son is now in business school, his daughter goes to John Hopkins). Molinari said, "He took an experience that would've wounded many people; being a [stranger] in a strange land speaking a strange language, and he brought his kids up believing in the American dream."

The mood of the day was summed up perfectly by Molinari. "Take a risk," she said. "Because the worst failure in life is the one where you don't try."

Theatre growth forces change

By MATTHEW BISHOP
Wagner College Student

Some professors in the Wagner Theater department feel that immense growth can damage the existing program's effectiveness, but as Lewis Hardee said, "I don't think it's fatal."

As head of the department, Hardee has been tracking the growth since 1984, when the number of theater majors at Wagner was 30.

"Nobody knew who we were," said Hardee, who started actively recruiting theater students at the International Thespian Festival in 1985.

By the time the department had become home to 80 students, the question of how best to facilitate their education had become a major issue.

"How can we handle all of these kids," asked Hardee, "our facilities can only hold so many."

Currently, there are about 132 theater majors. According to Hardee, the ideal department goal would be to stabilize this figure at 125. The aim is to have about 35 incoming theater students each fall.

This year 47 freshmen have declared a theater major. The increase in numbers has been noticed by faculty who have been discussing the impact of class size on the quality of education.

Although Hardee acknowledges the increase in his own classes, he is flexible with his teaching methods. Hardee said that a different method of teaching must be employed with larger

classes.

"I like to take my shoes off in class," said Hardee who prefers smaller classes but sees the importance of lecturing to larger ones. One of his major concerns with large classes is his personal knowledge of the students. "I don't know who the freshmen are," he said, "I don't like that."

Professor of acting, Chris Catt, feels that the numbers are positive. Speaking as a director, Catt said that more students allows more options for casting productions.

"Bigger's better," said Catt, who, even though feels the numbers are positive, has too voiced his difficulty with class size. "It takes longer to get to know everybody."

Catt's in-class exercises also take longer to get through than in previous semesters. "It used to take one day to get through the exercises," he said, "it takes three now."

Acting techniques professor, John Jamiel, also expressed his difficulty getting through class exercises and in developing strong working relationships with students.

"The system works better with fewer people," said Jamiel. He feels that 10 to 12 students would be a suitable number for the type of class he teaches.

Jamiel currently has 17 students in his section of Acting Techniques I, a figure that battles with his high educational standards. He noted, "I won't sacrifice quality for quantity."

Rohypnol: A date rapist's secret weapon

By CHRISTINE PIETROFESA
Wagnerian Staff Writer

It has no distinct taste, odor or color and dissolves instantly in your drink. Just minutes after you swallow it, you're unconscious and unaware of what is happening. You are now helpless against a rapist's attack. When you wake up, you can't remember anything.

The drug is called Rohypnol. It is also known by the street names "roofies," "roaches," or "Mexican Valium."

Rohypnol is being labeled the "date rape drug." It is a white sedative, 10 times stronger than Valium. It can leave you unconscious for up to 10 hours. With the help of "roofies," rape is an easy crime in which anyone can be an instant target.

Rohypnol will sedate its user 15 to 30 minutes after ingestion causing the

user to feel sleepy and have amnesia. If an overdose occurs, the need for medical attention is vital.

The drug is usually prescribed to treat severe insomnia, anxiety and to sedate surgery patients. It is legally prescribed in about 70 countries, but not in the United States. It is, however, spreading rapidly across the U.S. by drug dealers who smuggle it in mostly from Colombia and Mexico. This drug can be purchased illegally for only a few dollars.

As of now, Rohypnol is a Schedule IV narcotic, like Valium. Plans are being made to reclassify it as a Schedule I narcotic, right up there with cocaine and LSD because it can lead to rape or even death.

There are many ways of avoiding being drugged with Rohypnol. Some simple steps that will help are:

- ▶ Never put your drink down, leave it unattended and pick it up later. In your absence, someone could have put "roofies" or another drug in your drink.
- ▶ Never accept a drink from anyone, regardless of who the person may be or may seem to be.

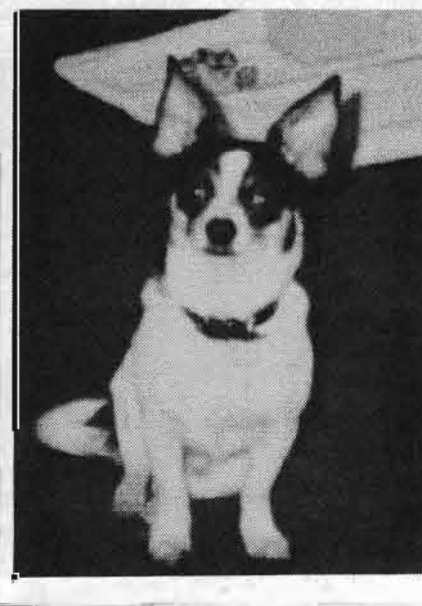
Several powerful politicians including Susan Molinari, Staten Island Republican Congresswoman and Rep. Patricia Schroeder (D-Colo.) want the drug to be outlawed.

According to a recent editorial published in the *Staten Island Advance*, President Clinton recently prohibited the use of Rohypnol and other drugs that can cause the same effect.

Clinton stated that a crime committed in these manners is "a sick attempt to facilitate their violent crimes."

*The ASPCA
needs your help
controlling the
pet population,*

**SPAY YOUR
DOG**



Entertainment

Alternative "fad" is over

Have we finally seen the death of Alterna-crap? It seems that way! Or at least a slowing down of its popularity. Some so called popular alternative bands have been out sold by Slaughter and Warrant! Submitted for your viewing pleasure, the terrible sales figures of recent "alternative" releases.

Bands such as Sponge, Weezer, Better Than Ezra (what a stupid name, I guess the band "Ezra," must have really sucked!), all achieved gold or platinum status with their respective debut albums. Their luck has changed. SPONGE: from 650,000 copies to 138,000

WEEZER: from 2,000,000 copies to barely cracking the top 20

WORSE THAN EZRA: from 772,000 copies to an embarrassing 86,000.

Even with heavy radio play of their recent single, Better Than No-one couldn't sell albums.



Music Notes
TONY CORRENTI

What happened? It seems as though some of the new "Metal" bands such as White Zombie (not really new), Marilyn Manson (Not very good) and Tool (not really Metal) are enjoying successes with their recent releases, while the alterna-pop stars fade away. It seems that the alternative label serves as a distraction now!!! LONG LIVE REAL: ROCK AND ROLL!!! I think I am going to cry....

On Nov. 22 at 9:30 p.m. in the Coffeehouse Todd Dorman will be appearing with his band. They have just released their debut album, *Conversation With My Soul*. Their music is mellow, acoustic rock with sweet vocals and interesting melodies. I'm

sure that they will bring copies of their album with them because after you hear them, you'll want to spend a few bucks on it.

TIDBITS: There are so many exciting concerts looming on the horizon. KISS! is returning to the area on Dec. 29th and 30th. I demand that you go see them!!! Rush will be at the Meadowlands on Dec 14th. Blues Traveler will entertain MSG on New Years Eve. The almighty Dream Theater is doing a five show mini-tour of all new material. They will be on Long Island on Dec.5th and at the Birch Hill in New Jersey on Dec. 14th. Rush or Dream Theater? What a choice!!!...The Libertarians got 500,000 votes. That is twice as many than in 1992, which is a good trend...The I hate HURL-JAM web page is still under construction, but it

can still be reached through my own page:

www.geocities.com/sunsetstrip/alley/6038... I hope everyone knows that the Aquarian Weekly, a really cool newspaper in the vein of The Village Voice, is now available in the Hawks Nest. Try it once, it just might change your life!!! I am going to run another contest. Who ever can come up with the best made up name for Pearl Sharn, can win a stale Quick Chick and a papaya slurpee from 7-11. Send me your submissions....Please tell me that someone else taped game four of the World Series. I had my VCR on the timer and I ran out of tape during the 7th inning. Other than that, I have every pitch of the whole series. If you can help me in my dilemma, E-mail me: tonox@wagner.edu... remember: Professional Wrestling is NOT real, but Mud Wrestling is! Till next time!!

Toto's is top rate

Toto's South Shore Country Club, situated on a sprawling golf course, offers a menu and cuisine as extraordinary as its surroundings. The lush greens, lit up with thousands of tiny lights, make for a beautiful view as you dine in a tastefully decorated restaurant.

The room we dined in was completely enclosed in glass and contained a majestic fireplace and grand piano. The pianist added to the ambiance with the romantic interludes he played. The atmosphere was a combination of elegance and charm, making it an excellent choice for a special occasion.

We chose to start our meal with a light appetizer served cold. The Antipasta Pisa (\$12.95) we ordered included a tower of grilled eggplant and zucchini, as well as fresh mozzarella and tomatoes, thinly-sliced soppressata and mortadella.

The Beef Wellington (\$24.95) was a sumptuous combination of tender beef enrobed in a flaky pastry. It was absolutely delicious. The meal's escorts included corn-whipped potatoes, so



The Critic's Corner
KARA LAURENO
ROBERT ASCIUTTO

smooth and creamy they nearly melted in your mouth, as well as sauteed asparagus and baby carrots.

The other entree of choice was the Bistecca (\$24.95). This char-broiled steak was cooked medium-well to our liking. The meat's own natural juices provided for the delicious flavor. It was also served with the famous corn-whipped potatoes and included spinach simply prepared with a touch of butter and salt.

Upon the completion of our meal, we decided to sample the Tiramisu. Prepared in the traditional manner with rum, marscapone cheese and lady fingers, it was served in a delicately shaped glass and awakened even our most lethargic taste-buds.

To summarize our dining experience at one of Staten Island's most elegant restaurants, we would say that Toto's South Shore Country Club was

nothing short of magnificent.

Combined with its awe-inspiring scenery, delectable cuisine and attentive service, it is a restaurant sure to please even the most seasoned connoisseur.

Dinner for two adults, including an appetizer, two entrees and desert came to \$74.47 plus gratuity.

How to get there...
From Wagner, take Staten Island Expressway to West Shore Expressway, get off at Huguenot Ave. (exit no. 4), make a left at first light (Arthur Kill Rd.), and bear to your right so that you are now on Huguenot ave. Restaurant will be on your right.

Please note... This is our first restaurant review at Wagner College. We hope you find it to be informative. For your convenience we will continue to provide you with periodic reviews of restaurants in our area.



Toto's South Shore Country Club
200 Huguenot Avenue
(718) 356-7017

RATING: *****

HOURS: Mon: closed
Tues to Thurs: 11:30 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.; 5 - 10 p.m.
Friday: 11:30 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.; 5 to 11 p.m.
Saturday: 5 - 11 p.m.
Sunday: Brunch served from 11 a.m. - 1 p.m.

FOOD: French

PRICES: Appetizers: \$9.75 to \$14.50
Entrees: \$18.75 to \$27.00

AMBIANCE: Semi-formal; Proper attire required

LIQUOR: Yes

CREDIT CARDS: American Express, Visa, Mastercard

RESERVATIONS: Accepted

VALET PARKING: Available

RATINGS KEY
***** Outstanding ** Fair
**** Very Good * Poor
*** Average

Nov 1996 STUDENT ACTIVITIES

10 8:00pm Movie "Bed of Roses" (CoffeeHouse)	11 Veterans Day	12 4:00pm SGA Meeting (SpH5)	13 12:00pm Semi-Annual Blood Drive (Parise Fitness Center)	14 11:00am Ticket Sales for "A Christmas Carol" (WU 227)	15 9:30pm Division Street Performance (CoffeeHouse) 11:00pm Movie "Mission: Impossible" (CoffeeHouse)	16 1:00pm Football @ Towson State 9:30pm Ray Pinetti, Comedian, in the CoffeeHouse
17 8:00pm Movie "Mission: Impossible" (CoffeeHouse)	18 11:00am Ticket Sales for 12/5 trip to Play "RENT" (WU227)	19	20 11:00am Ticket Sales for Radio City XMas Show (WU 227)	21 4:00pm Thanksgiving Pacesetter (Dining Hall) 9:30pm Pete Michaels, Comedian (CoffeeHouse)	22 11:00am Jewelry Sale 9:30pm Performer, Todd Dorman 11:00pm Movie "The Cable Guy" (CoffeeHouse)	23 3:00pm "A Christmas Carol" Paramount Theater (Tiers PL)

AIDS Awareness Week

The Career Development Center is pleased to sponsor:

The Juilliard School Post Graduate Internship Opportunities



Helen Taynton, Director of Intern Program, along with Sean O'Hara and Melissa Fabrizio Wagner Class of '96, will discuss the Professional Intern Program for students with a career interest in arts administration, music or technical theater.

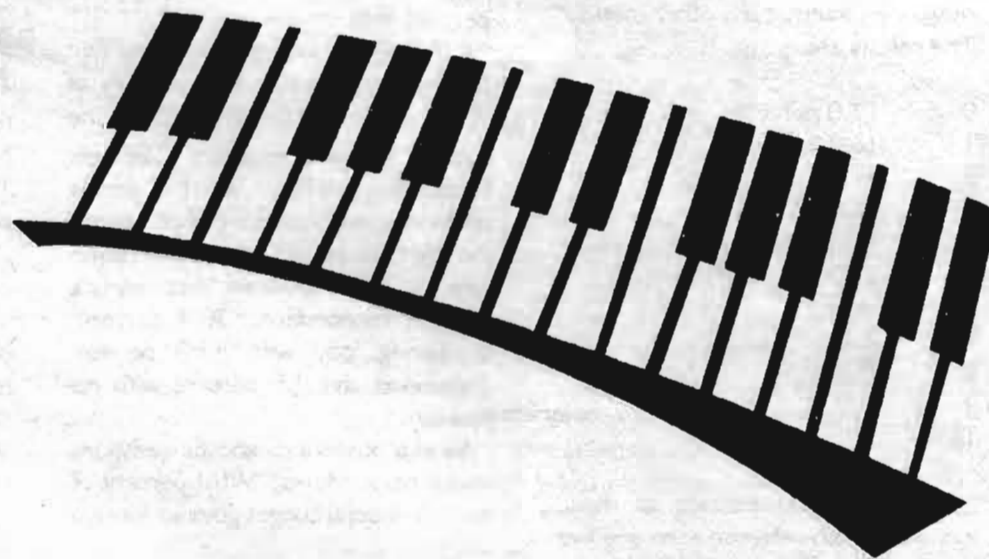


Thursday, November 14
11 am - 12:10 pm
Music Performance Center

To register call the
Career Development Center
390-3181

Students in Professor Oxberry's Performance hour are already registered.

HELP WANTED!



**THE WAGNER COLLEGE GOSPEL CHOIR IS IN SEARCH
OF A PIANO PLAYER AS WELL AS A BACK UP DRUMMER.**

*** MUSICIANS WILL BE PAID.
REHEARSALS ARE HELD IN NORTH HALL EVERY TUESDAY
IN ROOM 25 FROM 5:45 - 6:45. * REHEARSALS IN THE SECOND
SEMESTER WILL CHANGE TO MONDAYS. COME AND HELP US
MAKE A JOYFUL NOISE.**

*** CALL 390-9317 FOR MORE INFORMATION**

Opinion

Four more years (or less, depending on investigations)

How do you know you're losing badly in a presidential election? When you're a Republican and you lose Staten Island.

The American public has spoken, and they have reelected Bill Clinton, the one who his fellow world leaders call "the other white meat". Mistake? Yes, but considering who he was up against, it's a "damned if you do, damned if you don't" no-win proposition.

Of course, one can't help but feel sorry for Bob Dole. He deserves better than all the old man jokes. For crying out loud, he helped God with his six-day Earth Plan, how bad could he be? (Oops. I did it again).

And as for Ross Perot, I say this: It's over. Go away. Go far, far away, back into whatever armadillo hole you crawled out from and never surface. You will never become president. A



liquored-up Ted Kennedy stands a better chance of winning than you. A BRONX TALE

Okay, I am about to do something unbelievably painful. Here goes: Congratulations to the New York Yankees on their 23rd World Series title. There, I said it.

I honestly didn't think they could do it. Yes, I knocked them for the Jeffrey Maier fiasco in the ALCS. Yes, I loved it when the Braves went 2-0 on them. But they came back. They destroyed the Atlanta Braves, who are - with one World Series title in four attempts -

the end-all, be-all choke artists of the 1990s. Dr. Heimlich couldn't save those guys.

Especially liked it when the players took a Cal Ripken-esque victory lap around the field. I laughed when Wade Boggs mounted the horse. And I guess that George Steinbrenner does deserve to be happy for once. Now, if only the Mets could get Barry Bonds. A Subway Series in our lifetime? Why not?

RANDOM THOUGHTS: The Giants and Jets win on the same day, Michael Jackson announces he's having a kid. It's official: Hell has not only frozen over, they're putting up ski-lifts...! :-(
weight-loss program: run over as many gypsies as you can, and hope one of their fathers puts a curse on you...Recommended reading: Michael Moore's "Downsize This!", Dave

Barry's "Dave Barry in Cyberspace", and Al Franken's "Rush Limbaugh is a Big Fat Idiot"...Ever notice New Yorkers never riot over sporting events?... "The Associate": Somewhat weak, and next time Whoopi Goldberg decides to do the drastic costume thing, she should call Eddie Murphy's makeup guy. B...NBA Finals: Bulls over Lakers in six. Unless Michael Jordan decides to act full-time, Scottie Pippen gets injured, and Dennis Rodman falls off the earth altogether. Then it's Bulls in seven...By the way, is anybody else getting a bad vibe off Shaq O' Neil's upcoming flick, "Steel"? Can Hollywood make a comic-book adaptation that doesn't stink (still hoping for the "Kingdom Come" epic)...Greatest game no one cared about: MLS Cup, D.C. United beating the Los Angeles Galaxy in overtime. Come April, give soccer a chance.

Survey yields mixed results

By STEVE VILARDI
Wagner College Student

Dr. Hagland's Political Science 103 class (Introduction to American Government and Politics) recently completed a project surveying political opinion among Wagner College students.

The objective of the poll was to get a better feel of the political views of Wagner students and their views on some important issues.

The survey sample was relatively large, and, while the number of responses for each question varied, it ranged upwards from 360 to 390, representing approximately 20 percent of the 1,800 Wagner students.

While some of the results of the survey were quite surprising, others were less so.

To the most topical question, "Who do you plan on voting for in the 1996 presidential election?," almost half responded in favor of President Clinton:

Bill Clinton	49.5 percent
Bob Dole	22.0
Ross Perot	7.0
Ralph Nader	3.5
other	2.8
don't plan to vote	8.3
not a citizen	1.0
not registered	1.0
don't know	5.0

Presidential preference closely correlated with party affiliation:

Democratic	49.8 percent
Republican	29.2

Reform	5.3
Libertarian	4.3
Green	2.0
other	2.5
no party	6.9

We also surveyed students on their television viewing habits, asking them, "How many hours a week, on average, do you spend following the news and current political affairs (through newspapers, radio, television, magazines, Internet and other media)?" The results are:

0	12.0 percent
1	16.2
2	11.0
3	15.0
4	12.0
5	11.0
6	4.0
7	6.0
8	0.5
9	1.0
10+	6.0

Hence, over 80 percent of those surveyed watch between zero and five hours of news and politically related programs. It would be a fair assumption to say that opinions can be influenced by political commercials or programming.

When we asked, "Do you think there should be mandatory HIV testing for all professional athletes?," we found that 58.0 percent answered 'yes,' with 16.5 percent responding 'no,' 17.5 percent undecided and 7.5 percent with 'no opinion.'

Of those asked, "In the wake of the O.J. Simpson trial, do you believe that the U.S. criminal justice system serves

the people well?," a clear majority of 51.4 percent responded in the negative, with only 26.0 percent in the affirmative, 15.0 percent undecided and 7.5 percent with no opinion.

To the question, "Should euthanasia be legalized if a painful death is imminent and if performed by a licensed physician?," a hefty majority of 61.2 percent responded 'yes,' with only 20.3 percent responding 'no,' 12.2 percent undecided and 7.6 percent with no opinion.

A question of immigration generated far less consensus, with a plurality of 46.3 percent responding 'yes' to the query, "Do you support California Proposition 187, which denies undocumented workers ('illegal aliens') the right to public education, health care and social services?," but nearly a third of respondents, 30.4 percent, answering 'no,' with 13.8 percent undecided and 9.5 percent with no opinion.

We also posed a diagnostic question, asking respondents, "What percent of the U.S. federal budget goes to foreign aid?"

1	10.4 percent
5	22.3
20	25.9
35	27.4
50	6.6
65	5.1

Only about 10 percent answered correctly, which is about one percent of the federal budget. When asked, "What percent OUGHT to go to foreign aid?," the results showed that most thought less should go to foreign aid than they thought was currently

paid out:

1	24.9 percent
5	39.1
20	20.2
35	8.8
50	3.6
65	5.1

On the issue of the United States and its role in world affairs, when asked, "Should the United States play the role of world police officer ('hegemon') in the post-Cold War era?," a plurality of 45.1 percent responded in the negative, with a quarter of those polled, 24.4 percent, answering 'yes,' 19.7 percent undecided and 10.7 percent with no opinion.

Finally, when asked, "Do you support or oppose the presence of lesbians and gay men in the military?," a plurality of 40.6 percent answered in the affirmative, with a quarter (24.4 percent) opposed, 18.5 percent undecided and 16.5 percent with no opinion.

Asked to specify a reason why, most did not; those who opposed gave answers ranging from, "Affects other soldiers," to "They should have a separate (sic) section for them," to "For his/her own good and protection" to "Their (sic) gay; and I hate homosexuals because they don't belong on this earth nor this country."

Among those supporting the presence of homosexuals in the armed forces, answers ranged from, "Who cares what their sexual preference is," to "Should be no discrimination," to "Sexual preference has nothing to do with how well you can support/defend your country," to "They're human."

Opinion

Wagner subscribes to America's views

By PAUL HAGLAND, Ph.D.
Wagner College Professor

Given the season, the first thing that will attract attention to our survey is the data on presidential election year voting intentions. But the broader objective of the survey undertaken by students in my two sections of American Government and Politics (Political Science 103) was to 'learn by doing,' learning about public opinion surveys by constructing and conducting one. Students in class had many reactions to the experience, overwhelmingly favorable, but the common insight that it generated was that the phrasing of questions has a great influence on the answers that respondents give.

In my larger section with 26 students, for example, in preliminary surveys that groups of three-to-five students conducted in class, a question by one group asking whether abortion "should be legal" elicited a majority opposed (i.e., an apparent 'pro-life' majority), while a question posed by another group asking "Do you believe the government should have the right to decide whether abortion should be legal or illegal?" also won an overwhelming majority (which could have been constructed as a 'pro-choice' majority); the mere inclusion of the word 'government' radically shifted public opinion in our little 'public' of 26, and dramatically demonstrated to students the power of the survey researcher as random sampling and sample size.

Given the demographics of our survey sample, with 91 percent polled between the ages of 18-21 and 54.5 percent describing themselves as Roman Catholic (and overwhelmingly European-American at 78 percent white), our sample obviously is not representative of the American public as a whole in terms of age, religious affiliation, or other socioeconomic characteristics. However, given the sample size, our survey data probably is representative of the Wagner College student body. In the end, with each student administering 10-20 surveys, we were able to get a healthy sample of 390, representing more than 20 percent of the total student population at Wagner College, quite a large sample by the standards of professional survey research.

So how would one characterize the Wagner student body in political terms? With 49.8 percent identifying with the Democratic Party and only 29 percent with the Republican Party, Wagner student party identification is more Democratic and less independent than the US public as a whole (though to be fair, we did not give the students the choice of identifying as an 'independent,' but rather the choice of indicating that 'no party most closely represents my views'); but these figures are broadly consistent with the trend away from the Republican Party among young people since the heyday of the Reagan era (1981-88), when our oldest president ironically attracted a new generation of young people to the Grand Old Party. The 1992 election saw a reversion back to the dominant post-1932 trend of identification with the Democratic Party among young people, at least among those who identify with an established party, though people in their 20's and 30's are also the most likely to identify as independents.

It is very significant that, while Democratic Party identification at 49.8 percent of Wagner students surveyed is nearly identical to support for Bill Clinton at 49.5 percent, of students identifying with the Republican Party (29.2 percent), only slightly more than two-thirds (22 percent) express a preference for Bob Dole as a

presidential candidate; in this respect, our survey echoes national surveys showing a dissatisfaction among Republican voters with the former Kansas senator as presidential candidate. Hence, just as in the 1980's, one spoke of 'Reagan Democrats,' one can now speak of 'Clinton Republicans.' Interestingly, a not-insignificant percentage of Wagner students cite the Reform (5.3 percent) and Libertarian (4.3 percent) Parties as most closely representing their views, suggesting a certain sentiment within the student body that could probably be characterized as anti-government or at least in favor of a much smaller government intervention in private life.

The Wagner student body, as reflected in this survey, like the American public as a whole, does not seem to follow political news very closely, and again like the public at large, does not appear to be especially attuned to public policy issues, if one may judge solely by a single diagnostic question. With a clear majority (53 percent) believing that either 20 or 35 percent of the US national budget goes to foreign aid, Wagner students seem to be, like the American public, unaware of where most tax dollars actually go, namely, to entitlement programs such as Social Security (22 percent) and Medicare (10 percent) (both of which largely go to the middle and upper middle class) and to national defense (18 percent) (which does not include foreign aid, military or otherwise). The most popular targets of public ire, such as foreign aid, 'welfare' (Aid to Families with Dependent Children, or AFDC), and the arts each receive less than one percent of the federal budget (arts funds getting about 0.02 percent), and yet polls routinely find the public believing that each of these get a quarter, an third, or even more of budget expenditure.

On social issues, it is difficult with our data to characterize Wagner students as consistently 'liberal' or 'conservative,' 'traditional,' 'progressive,' or 'radical.' On the one hand, a clear majority (58 percent) favor HIV testing for professional athletes, which might be thought a 'conservative' position, but an even larger majority (61.2 percent) favor legalizing euthanasia, which is generally thought to be a 'progressive' stance. Like the American public, the Wagner student body would seem to be divided on the issue of immigration, without a clear majority in favor of or opposed to California's Proposition 187. The Wagner body politic is also divided on the issue of 'gays in the military,' with no clear majority either way, though a plurality (40.6 percent) supports the presence of lesbians and gay men in the armed forces.

On foreign policy, Wagner students, like the American public, seem to be opposed to a hegemonic role for the United States in the post-Cold War era, and nearly two-thirds majority (64 percent) want to restrict foreign aid to five percent or under, reflecting the isolationist or quasi-isolationist sentiment that has spread across the country since the dissolution of the Soviet Union in 1991.

Hence, while the Wagner College student body clearly is at least demographically unrepresentative of the American public in certain respects, such as age, it is perhaps less unrepresentative of US public opinion on some social and political issues; whether Wagner students prove to be a barometer of public opinion in terms of presidential preference will be made clear on November 5 when, if every indication is to be believed, Bill Clinton will win re-election by a landslide, thanks in no small part to young people such as Wagner students who (even among those who identify as Republicans) clearly are unexcited by the prospect of a Dole presidency.

A right world that left me out

By CHRISTINE PIETROFESA
Wagnerian Staff Writer

I have a disability.

Or at least this world thinks I do. I can't use scissors because it is too hard for me to handle. As a matter of fact, I can't do all sorts of things. What can I say, this world is made for the RIGHT kind of people.

Everything I do is never right. I am just one of the few who are "blessed" with being left-handed.

I will never forget that one teacher who yelled at me for being a lefty. She forced me to write with my right hand;

maybe if I had listened, I would be a successful righty today.

One word most people use to describe a left-handed person is clumsy. However, we can't help ourselves.

First of all, we are way out numbered. Of course, majority rules. Plus, most objects produced are made to satisfy the numerous right-hand clan. So no one should be calling us clumsy or awkward.

Being a lefty rarely bothers me. I enjoy being original and different from others. However, Wagner is making me think twice.

Everything runs smoothly until the

time comes for me to write. The desks are made only for right-handed people. There is nowhere for me to lean my arm. Everyone except me, and the other (if any) left-handed people, seems to be relaxed and comfortable. I thought I could get accustomed to it, but I can't.

Class after class, there is only that same horrible desk. It's starting to get very annoying and quite tiring to say the least. In order for me to write my body is shifted all the way to one side, making me look totally ridiculous. My books are flying all over the place while my left arm becomes exhausted from holding it up for so long. I am a

total wreck, a walking (sitting) disaster.

I constantly complain to my family and friends; I even thought about writing with my other hand. It's no use. It is already too late. I should have listened to that teacher.

A student at the College of Staten Island informs me that there are at least 10 desks in each class suitable for those who are left-handed. I can't believe it. I suggest that Wagner should do the same. Three or four desks would be more suitable, however, because the school is much smaller.

Left-handed people should not be discriminated against. We are as capable as everyone else

Sports

From Stank-ees to Yankees

When the World Series started and the Yankees fell behind two games to none, everyone had them counted out, including myself.

I don't know what happened on the flight to Atlanta for game three, but something definitely turned the "Stank-ees" back into the Yankees.

With momentum gained from a masterful pitching performance by David Cone in game three, the Yanks went on to win the series from the Braves 4-2.

Series M.V.P. was Yankee closer John Wetteland, who saved all four Yankee victories. You could have made a case for Cecil "Big Daddy" Fielder, who had key hits throughout the series but no home runs.

My personal choice for M.V.P. was Yankee reliever Graeme Lloyd.

When Lloyd was traded to the Yankees he was booed unmercifully at the stadium, and rightfully so. He couldn't get anybody out, and the trade looked like a bust.

In the playoffs, he really turned it on, especially in the series. He made key appearances and did not allow a run.

A View from
the Bleachers

NEIL LEONE



Although the series was great, I have one beef with New Yorkers. Early Sunday morning, after the Yankee victory, there was a line around the corner at Modell. The line consisted of people wanting to purchase World Series shirts and hats.

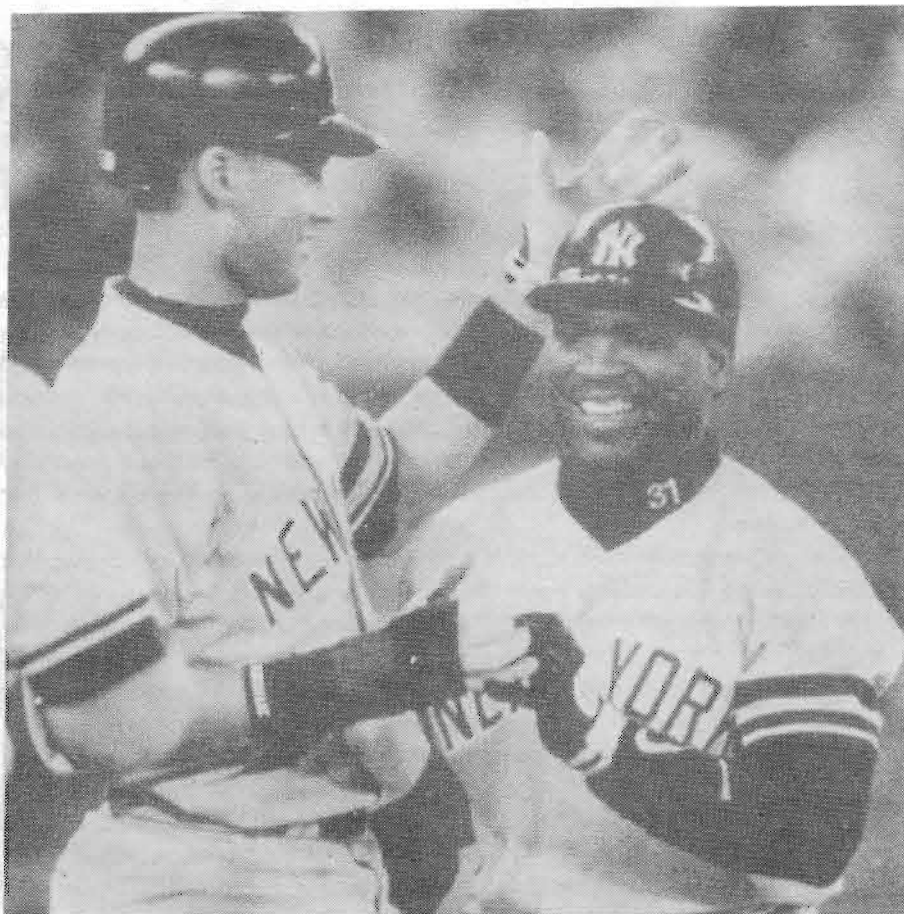
Just like when the Rangers won the Stanley Cup in 1994, everyone will be sporting Yankee stuff.

Is this going to happen every time a New York team wins a championship?

Come on, let's get real. Band-wagon jumping may be just as popular as the real sports, because, it seems all New Yorkers are making it a habit.

If the Jets can win the next seven, become a wild card and win the Super Bowl, will everyone be wearing Jets shirts and hats?

Knowing New Yorkers--PROBABLY. We do love a winner, don't we?



1996-97

BASKETBALL

1996-97 WAGNER COLLEGE SEAHAWKS WOMEN'S BASKETBALL SCHEDULE

NOVEMBER		
23 Sat.	COLUMBIA	3:00
30 Sat.	Seton Hall Puls Mayfair Farms Tournament	4:00
DECEMBER		
1 Sun.	Seton Hall Puls Mayfair Farms Tourn.	1:00/3:00
7 Sat.	LEHIGH	5:00
14 Sat.	at Univ. of Maryland-Baltimore County	2:00
21 Sat.	GEORGE MASON	3:00
28 Sat.	21ST WAGNER CHRISTMAS TOURN.	7:30
29 Sun.	UMASS/NEW HAMPSHIRE/COLGATE	TBA
JANUARY		
2 Thu.	MONMOUTH*	7:00
4 Sat.	at Rider*	5:30
11 Sat.	MOUNT ST. MARY'S*	5:00
13 Mon.	at St. Francis-NY*	7:00
16 Thu.	ST. FRANCIS-PA*	7:00
18 Sat.	ROBERT MORRIS*	5:00
22 Wed.	at Long Island*	7:30
25 Sat.	MARIST*	5:00
27 Mon.	at Fairleigh Dickinson*	7:30
30 Thu.	at Monmouth*	7:00
FEBRUARY		
1 Sat.	RIDER	5:00
8 Sat.	at Mount St. Mary's*	3:00
10 Mon.	ST. FRANCIS-NY*	7:00
13 Thu.	at St. Francis-PA*	7:00
15 Sat.	at Robert Morris*	5:00
19 Wed.	LONG ISLAND*	7:00
22 Sat.	at Marist*	2:00
24 Mon.	FAIRLEIGH DICKINSON*	7:00
27 Thu.	NEC Tournament Opening Round	TBA
MARCH		
1 Sat.	NEC Tournament Quarterfinal	TBA
5 Wed.	NEC Tournament Semifinal	TBA
8 Sat.	NEC Tournament Championship	TBA

* Northeast Conference Games HOME GAMES IN BOLD
FRONT: Seahawk junior Alicia Conquest.

1996-97 WAGNER COLLEGE SEAHAWKS MEN'S BASKETBALL SCHEDULE

NOVEMBER		
26 Tue.	at Rutgers	7:30
30 Sat.	at St. Peter's Tournament vs. Dartmouth	3:15
DECEMBER		
1 Sun.	at St. Peter's Tournament	1:00/3:15
3 Tue.	FAIRFIELD	7:30
7 Sat.	IONA	7:30
21 Sat.	DELAWARE STATE	7:30
23 Mon.	at Seton Hall	7:30
30 Mon.	at Siena	7:30
JANUARY		
4 Sat.	at Rider*	3:00
6 Mon.	MONMOUTH*	7:30
9 Thu.	ST. FRANCIS-NY*	7:30
11 Sat.	MOUNT ST. MARY'S*	7:30
15 Wed.	at Long Island*	7:30
18 Sat.	ROBERT MORRIS*	7:30
20 Mon.	ST. FRANCIS-PA*	7:30
23 Thu.	at Fairleigh Dickinson*	7:30
25 Sat.	MARIST*	7:30
FEBRUARY		
1 Sat.	RIDER*	7:30
3 Mon.	at Monmouth*	7:00
6 Thu.	at St. Francis-NY*	4:00
8 Sat.	at Mount St. Mary's*	7:30
12 Wed.	LONG ISLAND*	7:30
15 Sat.	at Robert Morris*	7:30
17 Mon.	at St. Francis-PA*	7:30
20 Thu.	FAIRLEIGH DICKINSON*	7:30
22 Sat.	at Marist*	7:00
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28 Fri.	NEC Tournament Quarterfinal	TBA
MARCH		
3 Mon.	NEC Tournament Semifinal	TBA
6 Thu.	NEC Tournament Championship	4:30

* Northeast Conference Games HOME GAMES IN BOLD
FRONT: Seahawk senior Warren Anderson.

The Wagnerian

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