



# The WAGNERIAN

March 16, 1992

## Brush up on your writing skills

Wagnerian Staff Writer

The Wagner College Writing Center is now open for business on the 2nd floor of Kairos House. "Writing is especially important in an academic community," says Prof. Bill Bly, writing program director. "It's not just a way of communicating ideas. Writing is how we think."

The Writing Center offers three kinds of services: the Writing Clinic, the Writers' Collective, and desktop publishing. The Clinic is open every day, and students may drop in any time for help with their writing. "We won't write anything for you," Bly says, "but we'll do everything else we can to help YOU do it." The Center

plans to offer private conferences, tutorials, and small group workshops in such regular writing tasks as taking essay exams and documenting research papers. Peer tutoring will also be available.

International students are especially welcome at the Writing Center. "English is about the craziest language I know of," Bly maintains. "Anyone learning to write English as a second language has my admiration as well as my compassion, and should be encouraged in every way possible." Workshops and tutorials for international students will begin immediately.

The Writers' Collective consists of

Writers' Groups in Poetry, Fiction, and Playwriting that meet regularly at the Writing Center to share their work. The Center also contains a reading room with books and periodicals on every aspect of writing; the library includes literary magazines and journals, sourcebooks, and reference works. There is also a bulletin board for announcements of contest deadlines, grants, and other literary services.

Finally, there are four typewriters available for use within the Center.

The Writing Center will begin desktop publishing with the next issue of *Nimbus*, the Wagner College Literary Magazine. In addition, a Faculty Newsletter and the Writing Cen-

ter's own *Collected Catastrophes in Communication* (working title) are slated for publication later this spring.

Students aren't the only clients Bly hopes the Writing Center will attract. "Anyone who does any writing for any purpose--including pleasure--can come here for help with an assignment, for encouragement, and, yes, for sympathy. Our motto is, 'Writing well is the best revenge.'"

The Writing Center is located on the 2nd floor of Kairos House, and is open Monday and Wednesday from 10:00-12:30 and from 2:00-4:00; on Tuesday and Thursday from 11:00-2:30; and on Friday from 10:00-12:30.

## More raves for the Theater Department

By CINDY BAKEWICZ  
Wagnerian Staff Writer

Clandestine meetings in the middle of the night, betrayal, retaliation, and heartache — these are the central themes of Christopher Hampton's drama, "Les Liaisons Dangereuses," Wagner's latest production that closed last week after a successful two-week run.

The play, which is based on the novel by Choderlos de Laclos, centers around French aristocracy in the late 18th. century. It ran in London as well as on Broadway, and the screen version (titled "Dangerous Liaisons") starred Glenn Close, John Malkovich, and Michelle Pfeiffer.

The Vicomte de Valmont and the Marquise de Merteuil are ex-lovers who conspire together to break up the betrothal of Cecile Volanges, the daughter of the Marquise's friend, and Le Chevalier Danceny. The Marquise promises to give herself to the Vicomte if he accomplishes this task. He agrees to seduce the innocent young maiden, but at the same time, he sets his sights on another beauty, La Presidente de Tourvel.

As if that weren't enough, he is also involved with a courtesan. All these affairs keep the audience guessing and wondering what the outcome will

be. The lies and deception ultimately lead to tragic results.

Christopher Papish turned in another excellent performance as the devious and lecherous Vicomte de Valmont. He convinced the audience that he is out to corrupt virtually every woman in Paris, albeit quite charmingly.

Jil Mustard as the Marquise de Merteuil was the quintessential black widow spider who wove her tangled web skillfully.

The victims of the Vicomte's schemes, La Presidente de Tourvel and Cecile Volanges, were expertly portrayed by Kristin Barnett and Lisa Gunther.

The duel scene between the Vicomte and Danceny (played by Mark Poutenis) was realistic and exciting. Said one nervous audience member in the front row, "I think we sat in the wrong seats."

The set, designed by Bob Phillips, was quite lavish, as were the costumes, which were designed by Gail Baldoni.

Wagner's final presentation of the year will be "Anything Goes," which can be seen from April 22-May 9.

Letters to the editor  
are welcome  
at the Wag office  
Union 204

Now Open!

### The Writing Center

Kairos House, 2d Floor



Writing Clinic  
Tutorials & Conferences  
International Student Writing Workshops  
Small Group Workshops  
Readings  
Writing Groups in Poetry, Fiction, & Playwriting  
Library & Reading Room  
Typewriters  
*Nimbus*  
The Boies Creative Writing Award  
The Stanley Drama Award

#### Hours

Monday & Wednesday	10:00-12:30 2:00-4:00
Tuesday & Thursday	11:00-2:30
Friday	10:00-12:30

# Opinion

## Editorial/

### Elusive season

By KEITH ABT  
Wagnerian Editor

Gee. I thought spring had finally sprung. All of the usual signs were present; the robins have seemingly returned from wherever it is they go for the cold months (probably a condo they all time-share in Miami), and the crocuses were beginning to bloom.

Juicy Fruit gum commercials had stopped showing people skiing and instead showed people playing volleyball on the beach; the '92 baseball cards had arrived at the bagel store. I spent three hours running around the Oval in sixty-plus degree weather playing frisbee this past Monday, trying to work off an entire winter's worth of beer in one afternoon.

Other than walking down the hill for beer (which I would probably be a gold medalist in, were it an Olympic event), frisbee flinging is the only remotely athletic activity you'll ever see me take part in.

I was psyched! Finally, I thought, I could leave the old winter coat at the dorm (excuse me — RESIDENCE hall) and devote the remainder of my final semester to lazing around in the sun chasing after flying discs. (Trying, of course, to avoid getting my frontal lobes smashed by the footballs being thrown around by others).

Alas, my euphoria was short-lived, as yesterday, things degenerated into the same cold and rainy conditions I've been looking at all winter. It was raining too hard for me to even walk down the hill for beer. My frisbee was tossed under the bed to wait out Mother Nature. You'd think we'd learn about her eccentricities in meteorology class, but no, we learn about cloud formations in Iceland. Nature is cruel to spring-fever crazed frisbee addicts.

Spring Break IS on its way, though. There's still hope for joy, fun, and seasons in the sun. I'm sure the rest of you are suffering from spring fever as well. All I can say is here's to a great spring...whenever it gets here.

**UNRELATED BUT STILL IMPORTANT NOTE:** Yes, I realize that this issue is a lot skinnier than previous editions.

Due to various troubles with the dreaded Deadline Doom, scheduling conflicts, and just plain old LATENESS, we found it necessary to release this little 4-page "fill-in" issue to keep us from becoming any more backlogged than we already are.

A regular-sized issue will be on its way soon, just in time for Spring Break. In the meantime, enjoy this "interim" issue, put together by my able-bodied assistant, Cindy Bakewicz, while ye editor searches for his lost mind. I should be back next time, if it doesn't cut into my frisbee playing time.

Thank you and good afternoon.

## Letters to the editor are always welcome

### *The Wagnerian*

Keith E. Abt, Editor  
Cindy Bakewicz, Assistant Editor  
Gary Geffen, Entertainment Editor

Lisa Acca, Michael Ackerman, Tamsen Adams,  
Jennifer Baldwin, Mark Brown, Annmarie Caruso,  
Karen Cinquemani, Frederick Crosby, Abdou-Karim  
Dia, Heather Doherty, Dave Feete, Michael Hoffman,  
Gwendolyn Holy, George Gagliardi, Suzanne Marra,  
Susan Morrison, Marybeth Morrison, Tali Neuwirth,  
Matthew Perkins, Daniel Pfeifer, Jeffrey Randazzo,  
Brad Stauffer, Loftus Stroud, Coral K. Tria,  
Matthew J. Zaloom

Claire Regan, Faculty Advisor

## Letters to the Editor

To the Editor:

"In all criminal prosecutions, the accused shall enjoy the right to a speedy and public trial..." (U.S. Constitution, Amendment 6).

"Excessive bail shall not be required...nor cruel and unusual punishments inflicted." (U.S. Constitution, Amendment 8).

This is in response to Michael Hoffman's February 18 editorial.

It was with disturbing interest that I read Mr. Hoffman's piece regarding crime and punishment. At first, I was encouraged by his annoyance at the lack of a crime issue at the Democratic senatorial debate. However, my hopes were woefully banished when I encountered the numerous errata and dangerous presumptions presented in the argument. I found myself displeased at his apparent insensitivity to the Constitution and fundamental human rights.

First and foremost, criminals' rights are not the primary concern of our judicial system — not in New York or any state. I sincerely doubt that judges get together and think of new ways to better those who are brought before them. Our system of justice is designed to protect the rights of the ACCUSED—and this is the operative word. Mr. Hoffman apparently forgets that, in this country, people are innocent until PROVEN guilty.

Second, Mr. Hoffman's comments regarding police brutality are equally

troublesome. He asks, "What is 'police brutality' when you're talking about criminals?"

He also says, "If the suspect takes a few bruises, gets knocked around a little — too bad!" Excuse me, but what happens if the suspect is found to be innocent, or was falsely arrested? Do the cops just say, "Sorry!" and expect everything to be all right in the morning? Major rights have been violated (see Amendment 8 above), but apparently, Mr. Hoffman is unaware.

Third, I was anticipating a lengthy segment in support of capital punishment.

I felt that with comments like "No consideration. No rights (in regard to criminals)" and "They deserve due process—and that's all!" a statement like "String 'em up by their testicles!" would quickly follow. Mr. Hoffman should have made his position on this controversial issue clear.

Finally, I strongly urge Mr. Hoffman to seriously peruse the Constitution, or at least the Bill of Rights. I realize the rage and frustration he must feel against certain aspects of our judicial system, but the moment we start thinking "guilty until proven innocent," then everything is doomed.

The first right that is trodden on will inevitably and inexorably snowball into oppression for us all. We must uphold the Constitution at all costs.

— JOSEPH MASTROENI

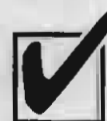
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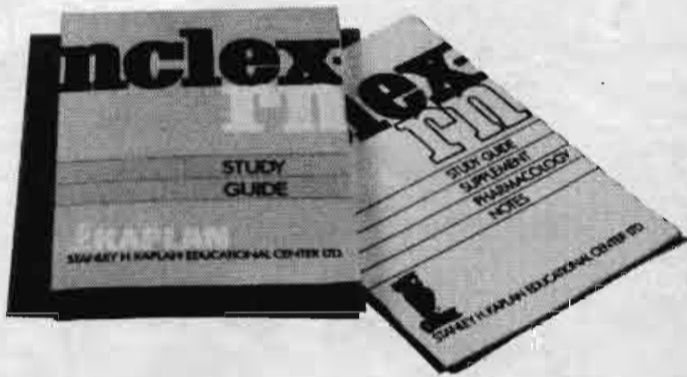
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## Wagner comes up a winner in Superhoops

By CINDY BAKEWICZ  
Wagnerian Staff Writer

This year, Wagner made it to the finals in The Schick Superhoops Big Apple Regional Festival. The tournament was held in The Dodge Fitness Center at Columbia University on Sunday, February 23.

Wagner's first opponent was Fordham, whom they defeated with a score of 65-52. They went on to slaughter Rutgers, 53-36. Finally, they took on FDU and clobbered them 46-29, making them eligible for

the playoffs.

In the first round, Wagner defeated Southern Connecticut 40-33. They met St. John's in the Semi-Finals and overtook them with a score of 36-27.

Wagner faced Columbia in the finals at Meadowlands Arena on Thursday, February 27. This time, Wagner suffered the agony of defeat as Columbia toppled them 45-38.

The second place team was represented by Darryl Johnson, Greg Kovar, Keith Ortetta, and Rick Williams. Congratulations, men.

## SGA has several events on tap

By JEN KORZUN  
Wagnerian Staff Writer

This semester, Wagner's Student Government is busy planning various events and improvements for student life.

On March 3, the new student annex in Towers D3 was officially opened. The annex contains a TV lounge, ping-pong tables, video games, a jukebox, and a student information board. It also houses the Towers Residence Hall Council Office. The annex hours are from 9 a.m. to 10 p.m.

Some of the workshops slated for the semester are: career research, safe sex, date rape, and leadership guidelines. Each class is required to sponsor at least one social and educational program.

SGA is also planning the traditional spring campus events such as Songfest (April 25), Campus Community Chest (May 1), and Greek Weekend (May 1-3). If anyone is interested in joining any of these committees, please see Julie Rombola or call extension 219.

# Calling all entrepreneurs

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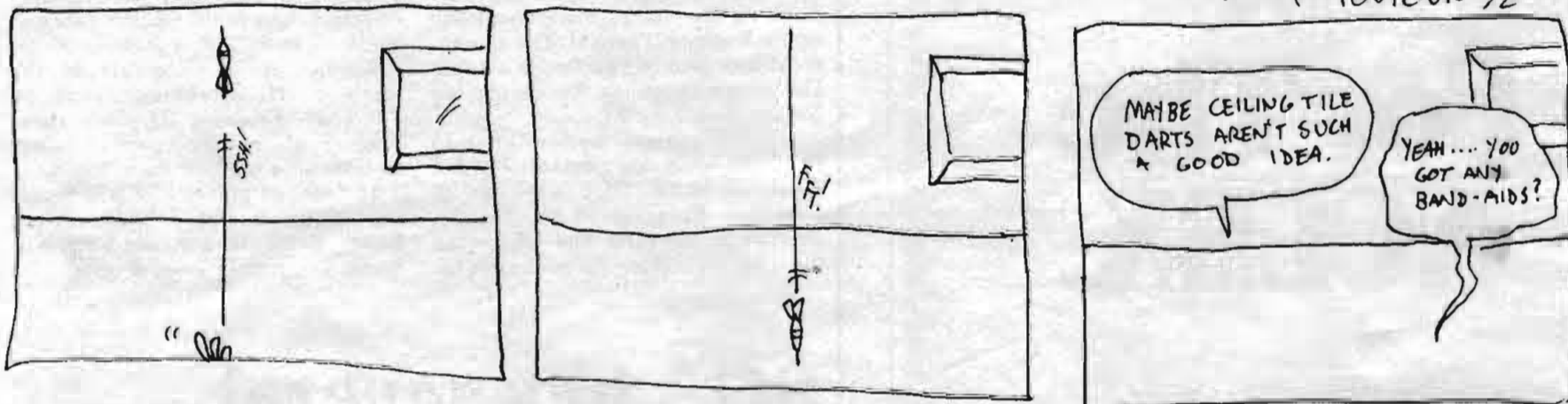
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# Entertainment

## BEN

M. POUTENIS '92



## SINCE 1990! RANDOM THOUGHTS

By Keith Sht *AS USUAL*

GREETINGS! SINCE THIS IS A RATHER OFF-BEAT WAGNERIAN, WE AT THE HOME OFFICE FELT RANDOM THOUGHTS SHOULD BE EQUALLY OFF-BEAT. THUS, I PRESENT SOME STRANGE THINGS FROM MY SKETCHBOOKS... *Keith Sht*

