

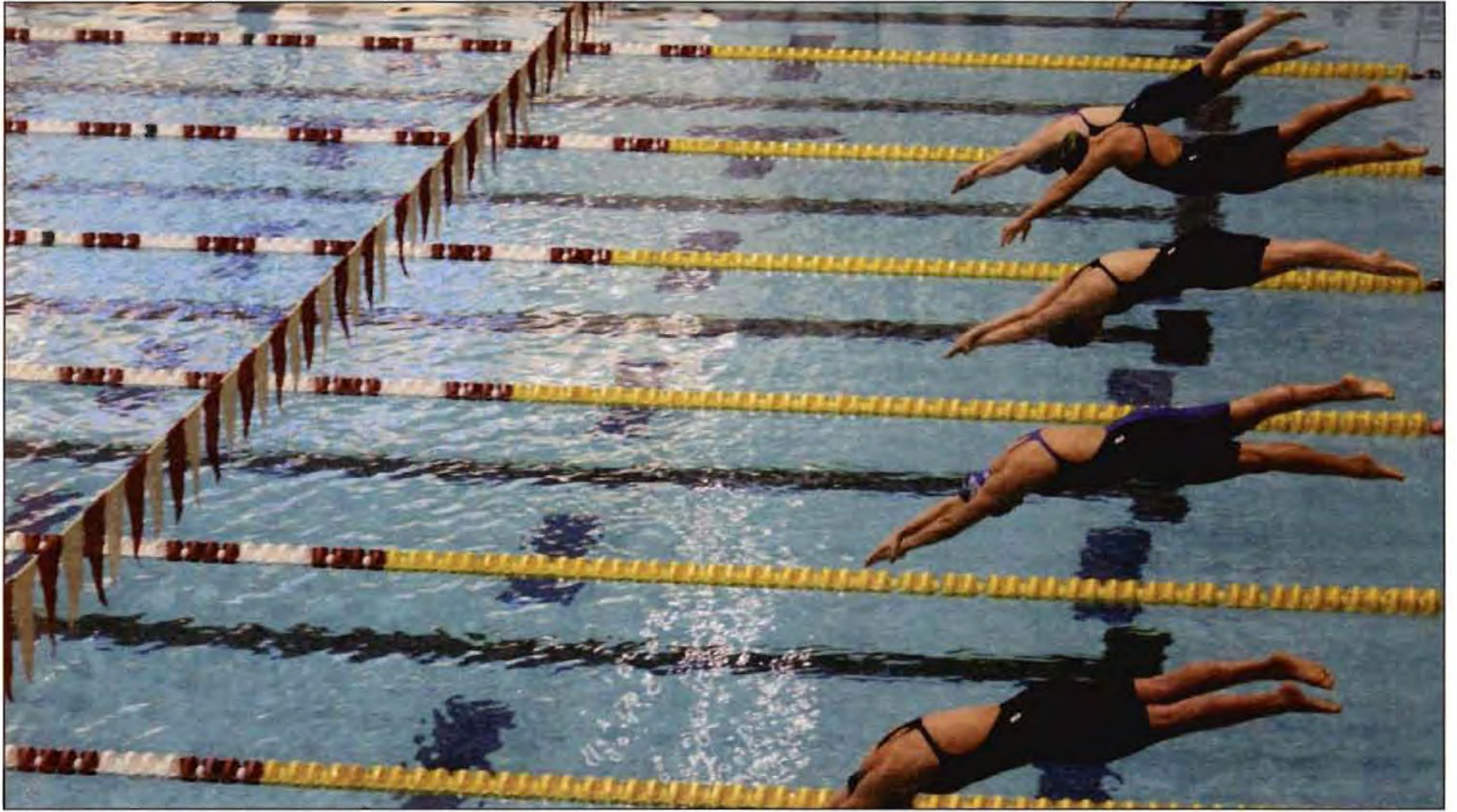
The Wagnerian

Ranked one of the top 20 college newspapers by Princeton Review

Wagner College

Monday, March 9, 2015

Staten Island, N.Y.



Dive into the story on page 6

Winners in the water and on the runway



This past week, Wagner students showcased talent both on and off campus. Our annual **Fashion Show** raised money for the Cystic Fibrosis Foundation and the **Swim and Dive team** placed second at the North East Conference in Cambridge, Massachusetts. The Wagner community had a great time at the show while raising money for a great cause and through our athletes, we upheld our D1 status.

Strut your stuff to page 4 to read more

Best selling author, Monique Truong visits Wagner

By GLEN
MACDONALD
Staff Writer

With two best-selling novels under her belt, author Monique Truong visited Wagner to speak about her work. Born in South Vietnam and emigrated to North Carolina at age six, Truong's worldly perspective is apparent in all of her work.

Truong's unique experiences shaped her unique writing style and stories.

By living in the American South, Truong discovered not only English but "Southern English," a characteristic exhibiting the distinctiveness of the South.

By being the only Asian in her in her small town, Truong remarked the difficulty of always feeling like an outsider for her race. However, Truong learned from her differences and implemented them into her characters.

Truong's novels focus on outsiders trying to cope with being different, such as Binh in "Book of Salt" and Linda Hammerick in "Bitter in the Mouth." Both characters face issues including their race, sexuality and coming of age. Truong's experience as being an immigrant allows for her characters to seem more genuine,



proving her childhood struggles to pay off as an adult. "If my race is going to mark me, I get to claim it," said Truong.

Food is an apparent theme in Truong's work. Yet, Truong is focused on what food represents. To Truong, cooking food is a very intimate process between two people, a process she explores in "Book of Salt." Additionally, food is rooted with a sense of place, which extends to immigrants, coming from their countries to cook for the residents.

"On a more personal note, I think about food all the time," laughs Truong.

Truong finds her ideas by her own sense of curiosity. When uncovering undocumented issues or stories,

Truong feels a desire to "fill in the gaps."

Afterward, Truong familiarizes herself with the subject as much as possible and writes her story around it.

In addition to Truong's writing tips, students can learn a lot for her short story "How to be a Man," soon to be published in an anthology of the same name. The story follows the thoughts of a beached whale. When asked why she would write a story from the point of view from a whale, Truong simply smiled. "Why not?" she replied.

Both of Truong's "Book of Salt" and "Bitter in the Mouth" are available for purchase on Amazon for under twelve dollars.

Truong's Writing Tips for Wagner Students

1. Worry about writing rather than agents. Focus on your work first.

2. Travel as much as you can. Currently, Truong is studying in Japan for her next novel about Koizumi Yakumo, a Greek writer who based himself in Japan.

3. Apply for an artist residency. The locations, sprawled across the country, offer lodging, meal and time for any aspiring writer.

4. Go outside to be inspired. Truong states that visiting parks or museums help her combat writer's block.

5. Read widely. Whenever it be from another culture or a translated text, new reads allow for one's writing to become more diverse.

Want to be published? SUBMIT TO NIMBUS!

Nimbus, Wagner's student-run literary magazine, aims to provide a space of uninhibited creative expression for the Wagner community.

So send your work
to the Spring 2015 issue
by March 15th!

All forms of art are welcome: poems,
short stories, photography, etc.

Submission guidelines can be found at
wagner.edu/campus-life/nimbus/
and on our Facebook at
[facebook.com/WagnerNimbus](https://www.facebook.com/WagnerNimbus)

CLARIFICATION

The Mail Room hours were misprinted in our last issue: The extended hours, from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. are ONLY to be recognized on WEDNESDAYS and THURSDAYS

A quick look at world news

1. Hilary Clinton responds to email leak via Twitter saying, "I want the public to see my email. I asked State to release them. They said they will review them for release as soon as possible."



2. New York state declares the inclusion of Muslim holy days, Eid al-Adha and Eid al-Fitr, to list of holidays observed by public schools.

3. The trial of Dzhokhar Tsarnaev, the Boston Marathon Bomber, began on March 4, sparking further debate over whether his actions, perhaps influenced by his brother's mania, deserve a death sentencing.



4. Controversy continues to surround Ferguson, MO, with new allegations arising over civilian involvement, racist email correspondences between police and civilians, and a rise in petty arrests.

the OPINIONS

editorials, campus critiques, and more...

section

Oscar winners on stage for change

By **AMANDA SUTHERLAND**
Opinions Editor

The 87th Academy Awards may have forgotten diversity on this year's ballot, but the award winners did not in their acceptance speeches.

As winner after winner took the stage on Oscar Sunday, important issues were brought to attention in lieu of the generic 'thank you speeches.' From ALS, Alzheimer's, and suicide, to civil rights, women's rights, and immigration rights, causes were highlighted momentarily during winners' short minute and a half on stage. These speeches gave Oscar night a different spin. For once the night was more about promoting equality and awareness than the glamorization of Hollywood's biggest show business.

In my opinion, the Academy board needs to be especially grateful to their winners. Many know that the Oscars received huge political criticism this year for their nomination choices and their lack of diversity. But the speeches stole the show and pulled the Academy from its hole they dug for themselves. For now the Oscars' screw up is forgiven.

Patricia Arquette, winner of best supporting actress for "Boyhood," got the ball rolling first for the night with her sentimental shout-out to all women of America.

"It is our time to stand up for equal pay and equal rights," she said.

Her speech created a rouse in the audience with great responses from Meryl Streep and Jennifer Lopez, as well as thousands of women watching from their home.

Next came the powerful words of

John Legend and Common for their win of best original song from "Selma." Their acceptance speech was as equally emotional as their live performance of "Glory" moved people to tears. They both brought to attention the fact that there is still a struggle for blacks today, despite being fifty years removed from the Civil Rights movement. The issue of racial inequality still remains.

The most reverent speech of the night goes to Graham Moore who won for best adapted screenplay for "The Imitation Game." His tribute was more personal than the rest as he reflected on his 16 year-old self who tried to commit suicide because he was awkward and different. He attributed his success to his family and supporters who saved him and gave him the strength to keep living. His lasting advice of the night to all of

those "different" kids: "Stay weird, stay different."

Additional heartfelt speeches came from Eddie Redmayne who dedicated his Oscar to patients with ALS; Julianne Moore who devoted her performance to all of those suffering from Alzheimer's disease; and Mexican director, Alejandro Gonzalez Inarritu who took a stand for his native country, hoping that someday soon they can build a government that is well-deserved for their people.

The Oscars may have taken a more serious note than they have in past years, and many people may have found this too somber for their liking, but personally I found it to be one of the best awards shows to date.

To see these actors and directors show enormous passion for something that is other than their career was a true delight.



Patricia Arquette speaks up for equality of women at 87th Academy Awards.



We can all learn from Chapel Hill

By **ABEER MISCHAL**
Staff Writer

Deah Barakat, Yusor Abu-Salha and Razan Abu-Salha were shot and killed by Craig Hicks in their home in Chapel Hill, NC, on Tuesday night February 10. Major news outlets did not pick up the story until two days after the murders, and cited the reason it happened as a "parking dispute."

This sparked an outrage by many Muslim-Americans who took charge on social media with trending hashtags like "MuslimLivesMatter" and "JusticeForMuslims."

Wagner College responded immediately with a conversation with Muslim students and administrators. And for that I am grateful. Then the conversation was open to the college campus. I was disappointed to see that only a handful of students showed up. Although there was a short notice, it is in times like these that the community should get together and show support. Later that evening, I was verbally harassed for being Muslim by a drunk man just several blocks from campus.

Deah, Yusor and Razan were both civically engaged and internationally engaged students who wanted to create a better future. Deah and Yusor were aspiring dentists who distributed

dental care supplies to homeless people in downtown Raleigh, calling it #DowntownSmiles. Deah had went on a dental mission in refugee camps in the West Bank in conjecture with the Palestine Children's Relief Fund. He was planning to go with the UNC School of Dentistry to help Syrian refugees in Turkey with their dental care. He was trying to fundraise \$20,000 and since his murder, his campaign has been shared so widely, that they are now endowed with \$487,204. North Carolina State University has made a scholarship in their name for need-based and merit-based students.

Many Muslim Americans went incognito after the 9/11 attacks. They either isolated themselves from mainstream America and formulating their own microcosm or they assimilated into the image of a typical American, cutting ties with their cultural heritage and religion. Then there were the Muslims who used Islam like Deah, Yusor and Razan, to better themselves by helping others around them and halfway around the world.

I see myself and my fellow Wagner College students in Deah, Yusor and Razan. Their young lives were taken because of the hate Hicks had for their identity. This is a crucial time for everyone to reexamine how they view others and most importantly, themselves.



SNL, 40 years strong

By **NICOLE BIANCO**
Staff Writer

The Sunday night special of SNL's 40th Anniversary, on February 15, was definitely a fun-filled celebration. Steve Martin, Eddie Murphy, Tina Fey, Will Ferrell, Seth Meyers, Chris Rock, Jimmy Fallon and Melissa McCarthy were all present for the night; those were just a handful of the talented comedians that attended.

Justin Timberlake and Jimmy Fallon were the perfect duo to open the show with a segment highlighting the history of SNL's song-and-dance performances. Timberlake, a popular face in pop music, along with Fallon, who dominates the late-night television ratings, meshed greatly for the night and set the tone for the rest of the show.

Some highlights of the three hour

special were "Celebrity Jeopardy" with Will Ferrell doing his hysterical Alex Trebek rendition, "The Californians," with a guest appearance from Taylor Swift (which surprisingly sparked up laughter), the "Weekend Update," a favorite of mine to this day, and the sketch making fun of Beyoncé.

Many former sketches were revisited as well, including "Wayne's World" and "The Blues Brothers." This 'look-back-montage' gave the episode a nostalgic feel, one that I particularly enjoyed.

Many celebrities owe their fame to SNL and it was a grand sight to see the reunion of all those who have participated in the show at one point during their career.

As for the musical performances, Kanye West added a great addition to the show's celebrations, unlike the actions he added at the Grammy Awards a few weeks earlier. Some

snide remarks were made about his actions, because it is SNL, of course and that is what they are best at; but all jokes aside, he performed well.

However, Paul McCartney singing "Maybe I'm Amazed" was awful, in my opinion. Personally, I think it is time for him to retire the vocal chords; you had to be tone-deaf to appreciate his performance.

It's no doubt that SNL has changed over the last forty years, but it has remained original and superior to all other comedy shows on television.

Overall, it was refreshing to see the older celebrity faces mixing with the newer ones of our generation. All the parts of SNL: cast, crew, musical guests, guest stars, and of course the audience, have made this show an unstoppable chart-topper for four decades and counting.

Who knows, maybe one day SNL will celebrate its 100th season. It certainly has the potential.

LIFE & STYLE



Photos taken by: Lejla Bolevic

Designers, Destiny and Jennifer Lopez, are recognized for their amazing work.

65 Roses Fashion Show

By **LEJLA BOLEVIC**
Staff Writer

Seats began to fill, models began to scurry and the music began to boom.

On Saturday, February 28, WagCAB held the "65 Roses Fashion Show" in Spiro Sports Center at 8 p.m.

Four stunning, diverse collections were presented on the runway by five diligent and ambitious students from the Fashion Institute of Technology (FIT). Each collection had a very distinct look and told a very unique story.

One was solely a formal attire collection. Another was a vibrant baby blue based collection varying from casual to formal attire.

A collaborated collection designed by two close designers was inspired by "Hollywood glam." There was even a collection with a Japanese flare surprising everyone in the crowd.

The show presented fashion as exactly what it is: a diverse and unique variation of art.

"I want people to feel beautiful every day," declared Cassandra, 20, from the Bronx, who was inspired by color and nature to make her "every-

day wear" collection. Designers like Cassandra are the hope for a bright future in fashion. Cassandra understands that fashion is feeling good about yourself, and wants to help girls express themselves through her fashion line.

When speaking to two very passionate designers, I got to know the story behind their striking designs. "We wanted to modernize the old Hollywood glamour look. Keep it fresh and new," states Jennifer Lopez, Bronx, NY. "Our collection also tells a story. We've known each other for a very long time, and our collection is about a young girl becoming a woman, as the colors go from white to black to red, the girl matures," Danisi George, Brooklyn, NY enthusiastically shares.

This collaboration was exhibited in the lobby of Spiro Sports Center, and was even up for grabs. These two young ladies put their collection up for sale. What a bold move! You can tell these two are going places in the fashion industry.

Now although these incredible works of art by these young motivated designers stunned us, there was something else very special about this year's fashion show. This fashion show was dedicated to the Cystic Fibrosis Foundation. WagCAB's own production manager, Ashley Sodipo

shared, "We chose Cystic Fibrosis Foundation, because it affected two former students at Wagner College. And it's an organization that gets forgotten about a lot. We wanted to reach out to them and support the cause."

Christine Fitzpatrick, the speaker of the event, shared with us her experiences with Cystic Fibrosis every day. Her bubbly personality won us over, and made us realize how we don't know how much some people are struggling.

Some individuals seem absolutely fine because of hard they work to fight their battles, but we do not know the struggles they face on a day to day basis.

Fitzpatrick made us think twice before we judge a person's life without knowing them. She made us unquestionably realize how serious Cystic Fibrosis is and how we could help.

We wish Fitzpatrick the best of luck throughout her life, and hope that this year's fundraiser will make a difference to the foundation.

This year's fashion show was definitely a hit. The devoted designers brought the house down with their unique designs. That thirty-minute wait after the set time was definitely worth it. Guess they just had to be "fashionably late" to let us capture the whole essence of their fashion world.

Oscars: highs and lows

By **GWENDOLYN HERNANDEZ**
Staff Writer

There were several good moments at the Oscars – "Glory" from Selma, Lady Gaga and Julie Andrews – but the hands down best moment was when Graham Moore (*The Imitation Game*) accepted his Oscar for Best Adapted Screenplay with these words:

"Alan Turing never got to stand on a stage like this and look at these faces and I do – and that's the most unfair thing I've ever heard. So I want to use this moment to say this – when I was 16 I tried to kill myself because I felt like I didn't belong. Now I'm standing here, so I would like this moment to be for that person who feels weird or different. Stay weird and different and when you're up here, pass it along."

His words rang through me and I could not hold back my tears.

Although the awards took up quite a large timeslot, a handful of moments did distract from its epic length.

The Best

The opening number. The clever opening, got the #OscarsSoWhite and #CumberbatchGonnaLose jokes out of the way within seconds and rapidly segued into chirpy appearances from Anna Kendrick, Jack Black and a few Stormtroopers (via a song composed by "Let It Go" writers Robert Lopez and Kristen Anderson-Lopez, no less).

"Ida" director Pawel Pawlikowski's speech. He ignored the music cues and continued talking for a full minute, and we didn't complain once. It's Poland's first Academy Award in the category!

"Everything Is Awesome." After an hour into the show, you probably were quite pleased with the raucous performance of this "Lego Movie" sensation. The Lonely Island! Tegan and Sara! Questlove! And, far more importantly, Oprah holding a Lego Oscar.

John Legend and Common's "Glory" performance and win. The ballads that preceded it (Adam Levine's "Lost Stars," Tim McGraw's "I'm Not Gonna Miss You," Rita Ora's "Grateful") were a snooze, but the duo brought out a choir and

melted the room with a stunning speech about the ongoing struggle for equality.

Patricia Arquette's acceptance speech. The audience – particularly Meryl Streep and Jennifer Lopez – went wild as the "Boyhood" winner championed women's equal pay. Streep's shimmying was exciting!

Meryl Streep quoting Joan Didion during the In Memoriam intro.

Julianne Moore's speech. "There's no such thing as Best Actress." Very inspirational.

Something in Between

Lady Gaga's "Sound of Music" tribute. She was beautiful, but there were seven awards left to go and 15 minutes until the show's slated end. It was odd to see a pop star sing a tribute to a movie that is 50 years old.

Still, it certainly wasn't the worst.

The Worst

NPH's recurring joke about the lock box. Octavia Spencer didn't understand what was going on either.

Joan Rivers and Elaine Stritch's omission from In Memoriam. Rivers not only revolutionized the red carpet; she also wrote and directed 1978's "Rabbit Test" and notched credits in a handful of other titles during her long career. Elaine Stritch shared screen time with Rock Hudson ("A Farewell to Arms"), Ellen Burstyn ("Providence"), Woody Allen ("Small Time Crooks"), Winona Ryder ("Autumn in New York") and Jane Fonda ("Monster-in-Law"), among others. Somehow the Academy's "In Memoriam" panel deemed them unworthy.

The reminder that Jennifer Aniston and David Oyelowo were snubbed. They presented Best Documentary together. It still hurts. (Especially when the host can't pronounce your name.)

John Travolta's Adele Dazeem callback. Cute idea, but did he have to grope Idina Menzel so much?

NPH's Oscar predictions- the show was 30 minutes over schedule when this silly gag with the lock box returned. #FreeOctavia.

"Boyhood" lost Best Picture and Best Director. Congrats, "Birdman," but Richard Linklater would still be the most popular person at the after-parties.

The length. Three-and-a-half hours? That hurt the eyes.

Destress yourself

By **TAYLOR WHITE**
Staff Writer

It's that time of year again! As Spring Break approaches, that can only mean one thing to a college student: midterms. Just the word in itself increases my heart rate. As your hours in the library increase and your hours of sleep each night decrease, let's talk ways to stay cool, calm and collected during exam week.

Time management and procrastination

Managing time is important every

day throughout college, not only during midterms. This is probably two of the most difficult concepts for a college student to grasp, and of course they go hand in hand. Managing time prevents you from procrastinating and vice versa. If your time is managed and you don't wait till last minute to study, you won't be cramming the night before your test. Instead, you can use that time to skim through your notes one last time and get a good night's rest before the morning.

Sleep

Sleep? There's not much of that

going on during exam week. In contrary, sleep is vital during this upcoming week. Getting a good night's rest will help you wake up in a better, more relaxed mood. This in itself will help you feel less less fatigued during your tests.

Music

You're third midterm in, ready to pull your hair out and give up altogether. What's the one thing that makes you feel better? For a lot of people the answer would be their favorite song, artist or band. So don't be afraid to crank up the tunes and dance!



{ ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT }

A goodbye but not good riddance for Stephen Colbert

By DOMINIQUE LANDEW
Opinions Editor

Many people know Stephen Colbert through his popular TV series "The Colbert Report" and for his charming sense of humor. Unfortunately, back in December of 2014 after nine years we said goodbye to "The Colbert Report," but on the positive side, we did not say good riddance to Stephen Colbert.

Now he is taking over "The Late Show," which has been said to start airing on September 8, 2015.

Even though there have been many controversies involving the stars' takeover of the show, I believe he will do an exceptional job and possibly even surpass the legacy of former host, David Letterman.

Colbert has received some strong criticism for accepting the position on the "The Late Show." May uncertain fans believe that he may taint the program and kill NBC's ratings of the show. Others think he does not pos-



sess the 'Letterman-esque' qualities to truly do the job justice. Some go as far as claiming they may stop watching the show altogether.

However, I have faith in Colbert, and so do many others. There is still a large audience out there that wants to see him succeed at this position, and it is a great opportunity to prove all his critics wrong.

In my opinion, I believe he will bring a new style of spark and excitement to the show, while of course adding in his own personal twist.

Viewers need to give Colbert the

benefit of the doubt. He has some big shoes to fill with Letterman's long withstanding legacy, but there are plenty of similitudes between Colbert and Letterman which makes me think that he will do just as good of a job, or perhaps, an even better one.

With that in mind, Colbert will hopefully bring some "pizzazz" to "The Late Show" so that way audiences will fall in love with him just like they did with "The Colbert Report."

For now, we will have to wait and see.



"Fifty Shades" of not that Grey-t

By ERIK PARSHALL
Co-Editor

When you hear the words "Fifty Shades of Grey" your mind goes to strange places. One thing you can be sure of, though, is that in this you are not alone. This is similar to the interest shared by those who were willing to see the film version of 2011's infamous "Twilight"-inspired sex novel of the same name by E. L. James.

The theatre, the weekend after Valentine's Day, was not very packed but even with ten people it still felt a little crowded.

The film opens like any other wannabe indie film might: minimal detail and grey skies. We see Anastasia Steel (played by Dakota Johnson) going to interview the multi-millionaire who started and fully manages his own company but still has the time to speak at Steel's upcoming commencement.

Christian Grey (Jamie Dornan) is smooth and almost too collected, in comparison to the blundering mess that is Steel. After a scene that was verbatim from the actual book (yes, I had to do a little research) – a dialogue so forced, cold and awkward that the audience laughed more about its absurdity than about Steel's questioning of Grey's sexuality – the plot becomes the third most important character in this self-important sister to the "Twilight" saga.

Whereas the first sex scene of "Fifty Shades" takes place over 200 pages into the book, the movie exposes its characters within forty minutes. If this doesn't speak to the quality and unfortunate quantity that the source material has to offer, I don't know what does. But as the clothes come off and hands are tied above heads, it is all too clear what this movie is selling, and it isn't good cinema.

The night before seeing "Fifty Shades" I flipped through a copy just to see what was going on. I had previously attempted to read it when it was first published and last authenticated in 2012. I only made it, then, about fifty pages too far of being interested in what I was reading.

The wordiness is a problem to begin with. I find it amazing that

people were so desperate to intake the sexual aspects of these books that they would subject themselves to writing that is comparable to the worst textbook you have ever read. Yes, I said it. Take the most boring textbook and put in some emotion, a sex scene here and there, and you have "Fifty Shades of Grey."

The film reflected this, and I hate to admit it, the most intriguing scenes were the moments after Steel and Grey's sexual encounters. After the two of them have had their fair share of paddling and belting, some actual emotions come out. Steel is even the one to question what exactly is going on up in the mind of Grey. She says what everyone is thinking, "What the hell am I doing?"

For those who feared that this film would shock their systems and put them into a cultural coma, fear not. This is the work of great marketing and the mysterious campaign, and the so-called "prestige" of the book far overshadow the actual content within the two-hour-long film. Even the most scandalous scenes were made somewhat less provocative by the fact that Beyoncé was chanting an erotic version of "Crazy In Love" from all sides.

The word to describe "Fifty Shades of Grey" is "inescapable." Just like Anastasia Steel, the audience is "tied up" in this poorly crafted world, where CEOs of companies are actually able to keep their sex lives private. You are also unable to escape the exact lure of the book and film.

Something so provocative and modern cannot evade the interest of this generation and the middle-aged modern jet setters who turned "Fifty Shades" from a fan fiction into that summer's most popular beach read.

Do I regret my choice to see "Fifty Shades?" Not exactly. It has put things into perspective. Was it as raunchy as was assumed by audiences and critics all over the world? Not exactly. I was perfectly bored.

Do I recommend the film to you, reader, to go out and explore for yourself? Unfortunately, and I can't believe I am saying this but I can't say reading the book would provide you anything more than the film attempts to show.

But that's your choice. Or is it?



MONTY PYTHON'S SPAMALOT

A Hilariously "Different" Production

By JAMES NAPOLITANO
Copy Editor

As the number one theatre college in the nation, the shows displayed at Wagner never fall short of perfection. This month's production of "Spamalot," originally adapted from the film "Monty Python and the Holy Grail" tells an extremely parodied version of the quest of King Arthur to find the Holy Grail.

Along the way, King Arthur (Greg

Ippolito) and his misfit group of knights engage in comical musical numbers, and break the fourth wall as they overcome the bizarre obstacles they face during the quest. Fans of the original Monty Python film will recognize classic characters such as the French Taunter, the Knights who say "Ni" and many others.

Joining them are several original "Spamalot" characters such as the Lady of the Lake (Lindsay Dunn), whose melodic singing voice makes for some of the most outstanding musical numbers. Throughout the play,

many of the featured songs poke fun at the social problems of the medieval period, religious affiliations and sexual preferences.

Audience members loved the play for its crude and witty humor, catchy and beautifully performed songs, the well-made sets and the actors and actresses who mold the play into such a phenomenal performance.

Whether fans of the original cult classic or not, all members of the audience enjoy the originality and ludicrousness of the show put on by the Wagner theatre family.

SEAHAWK SPORTS



Photos taken by Scott Shaw

Teammates celebrate their win by throwing up a W for Wagner Win.

Swim & Dive record-breaking performance

By GRACE ZHANG
Sports Editor

Wagner's swim and dive team headed off to Boston last weekend to defend their championship title. The Seahawks registered record-breaking times and a hard fought four-day battle at the NEC Championships.

On the first night of competition, the 200 medley relay team consisting of sophomores Anu Nihipali, Katja Claesson, junior Corinne Rondina, and senior Samantha Sides, shattered the previous school record with a time of 1:42.61.

More records were to be broken on the second night as the Green and

White claimed first place in three of five events. Shaw won the first gold of night in the 500 free with a time of 4:58.38, over three seconds faster than the second place finisher from CCSU.

Nihipali then took home two first place finishes while breaking three school records and a NEC record. Nihipali defended her 200 IM title by putting up a time of 2:01.88, shattering the old school and NEC record. She then continued to break Wagner's 200 free relay record with a time of 25.43. In addition, Nihipali also set a new record for the 50 free.

On the diving side, the team had a dominating first night in the 1-meter with junior Erica Cury taking third

place, freshman Sam Levrich in fourth, and senior Mallory Lee in sixth.

Heading into the third night, the Seahawks sat comfortably in the second seat, trailing first place CCSU by 28 points. The night marked two additional broken records. Junior Amanda Lucia broke the school and NEC 400 IM record with a time of 4:21.62, winning this event for three consecutive seasons. She also placed first in the 100 fly with 55.04.

In the final night of competition, Wagner and CCSU were neck in neck for the first place position. Nihipali brought yet another NEC record in the 200 backstroke with a time of 1:58.33.

For diving, in the 3-meter, Lavrich made program history by placing first with a score of 246.65. Lee coming from behind to claim third.

The night concluded with the Seahawks setting as the runner-up, separated only by a 24 point difference from champions CCSU. Nihipali earned the Outstanding Swimmer of the Meet honor for the second consecutive year while freshman Sam Lavrich earned the Outstanding Diver of the Meet, the first honor for the diving program.

"I'm so proud of this team and I know next year this outcome will drive everyone to work harder and to take back the championship title," shared Sides.



Photo: Wagner Athletics

Sam Lavrich named Outstanding Diver.



Photo: Wagner Athletics

Anu Nihipali named Outstanding Swimmer.

Women's lax pre-ranked 2nd in NEC

Though the Seahawks got off on a shaky start to their season this year, they've turned it around with two impressive wins against Manhattan and Lafayette.

In a recent poll surveying the NEC's eight head coaches, the Green and White were voted as the second pre-ranked team for the season.

Sophomore defender, Amanda Rey, expressed, "Our season got off to a slow start but the team came together and realized we are better team. We're currently pre-ranked at number 2 which we're happy about because we like to be the underdogs."

In the season opener, despite the efforts of junior co-captain, Kimmy Tumolo, and junior midfielder Shea Gegan, who each had one goal and one assist, the team fell short to the Bucknell Bisons 9-7.

The Green and White were back at

it against American in their home opener. The Seahawks and Eagles rallied in the first period, recording four ties and three lead changes. Despite a hard fought second half, American came out with three consecutive free-position goals to win the game.

In their first win of the season against Manhattan, freshman midfielder Lauren Ednie registered three goals while sophomore midfielder Olivia Streilein chipped in with two goals and an assist.

Junior midfielder Gretchen Fay, senior midfielder Jessica Mills, junior attackers Stephanie Peterson and Taylor Pastore, and Gegan all contributed a point each to end the game at 10-6 with Wagner on top.

Gegan and Fay both picked up hat tricks in their most recent win against Lafayette. The Seahawks dominated

the first period, leaving the Leopards with a seven point deficit at halftime.

In addition to Gegan and Fay's combined six points, Nicole Luzzi and Peterson each racked up two points, along with April Simmons, Tori Ross, Rey, and Streilein with a point each.

Though the Seahawks were outscored 6-4 in the second period, Wagner maintained the lead ending the game at 14-9 with the help of goalie, Katie Ferraro, who ranks first in the NEC.

"We are out to prove that we deserve to be number one. Our conference games won't a cake walk but if we play our best we will definitely come out on top," shared Rey.

By Grace Zhang, Sports Editor



Photos: Amanda Rey

Above: The team celebrates their win against Lafayette. Below: Fay puts a hat trick in the game against the Leopards.



Photos: Wagner Athletics

Men's Basketball recognizes senior, Marcus Burton.



Photos: Wagner Athletics

Coach Lisa Cermignano and the women's basketball team honor senior, Shawn-Marie Heiliger, during a half time ceremony.



Photos: Wagner Athletics

Hugo Naurais is honored on court during senior night.

Basketball celebrates seniors in on-court ceremony

By MEGAN FRITZ
Sports Co-Editor

As their seasons come to a close, both the men's and women's basketball team honored their seniors and their success as a Seahawk over the years. The men's team held senior night on Feb. 19 to honor two seniors and the women's team held senior night on Feb. 23 to honor their single senior.

In the last home match of their season, the men's basketball team paid tribute to Hugo Naurais and Marcus Burton. Over their four years, Naurais and Burton contributed to one of the most successful eras in the programs history. Both have been a part of 72 victories with the team.

The seniors were honored in a pre-

game ceremony. Burton was lead by family out to mid court where he received a framed Seahawk jersey with his number, 4, on it. Naurais, who is from Nimes, France and whose family could not make the game, was escorted to mid court arm in arm with all his underclassmen teammates. Naurais also received a framed jersey with his number, 12, on it.

The guard from Charlotte, North Carolina, Burton has been a key player for the Seahawks. Over his four years, Burton has played in 109 games and tallied up a total of 1,112 points, placing him at the 31st on the all time scoring list for the Seahawks. Naurais, a forward from Nimes, France, has played a big part in Wagner's success over the years as well. Naurais has played in 66 games, scoring 67 points, and 14 blocks in his

four seasons.

The women's basketball team honored their lone senior Shawn-Marie Heiliger at halftime of the team's last home game for this season. Heiliger is from Charlotte, North Carolina and played as guard for her freshman and sophomore year at Wagner.

She spent her junior and senior years as manager. She was lead by her parents, head coach Lisa Cermignano, and her teammates out to mid court at halftime. At mid court Heiliger received a photo frame with a collage of pictures from her time with the Seahawks. In her two seasons of play, she saw action in 40 games.

Both teams fell in their respective senior night games. The men fell 66-65 against Bryant and the women fell 64-47 also against Bryant.



Photos: Jacqueline Menna

Senior, Hugo Naurais, plays during his last career home game.



Photos: Jacqueline Menna

Marcus Burton, senior guard, dribbles down court.



Photos: Wagner Athletics

Senior co-captain, Jessica Burdge, on attack in water polo's game against Hartwick, where the Seahawks concluded a nail-biting fourth quarter with a win over the Hawks, 16-15.

Water polo ranks 17th in nation

By GRACE ZHANG
Sports Editor

The water polo team has made history by ranking 17th in the latest Collegiate Water Polo Association's (CWPA) National Top 20 Poll. The Seahawks share their 17th position with University of California Santa Barbara at 20 points each.

Previously, the highest ranking in program history was 19th which the team achieved in March 2014 after the Aztec Invitational. The Green and White currently hold a 6-2 record. The team maintained their rank in CWPA's poll with impressive wins against Long Beach State, Harvard, Hartwick, and Marist.

In early January, the Green and White were voted second in the MAAC conference, despite being the defending champions. The snub has driven the team to seek out consecutive championship titles.

"We have used it as motivation in practices and games to prove we de-

serve the number one slot in the MAAC," said sophomore attack, Amanda Sutherland.

Last week, the Seahawks held off Hartwick, ranked 20th, in a nail-biting conclusion. The Hawks had a fast start with two points in first two minutes of the game. However, key saves by sophomore goalie, Emily Riddle, allowed the Seahawks to respond offensively.

Junior center, Jess Lundgren, assisted by teammate Megan Rodriguez, put Wagner on the board. Senior co-captain Jessica Burdge, then scored two more goals with assists by Michelle Greenough and Kimberly Watson. Lundgren added to the lead making it 4-2 with two minutes left in the first quarter.

Hartwick responded with a goal in the last minute. However, with two seconds left on the clock, Burdge kept Wagner's lead with an incredible deep end shot on goal.

In the third, key plays by Burdge, who scored two additional goals, and Lundgren with an additional four,

brought Wagner ahead 13-10 as the two teams went into the final quarter.

In the fourth, goals by senior co-captain Rachel Burns and junior center, Lily Doerfler, assisted by Watson kept Wagner in the lead.

With two minutes left in the game, the Hawks answered with two more goals, making it a one point game. Though Greenough secured the game with Wagner's final goal, the Hawks responded with another in last minute. The game concluded with key saves by Riddle, leaving the crowd on the edge of their seats.

"This year's team might be one of the strongest teams we've ever had. We all can't wait for conference games to defend our title," shared Sutherland.

The Wagner water polo team will be back in the pool March 7 for the Aggie Invitational in Davis, CA. The meet will host number Pacific (rank 14), UC Davis (rank 10), and UC Santa Barbara (ranked tied 17).

Resident Assistants

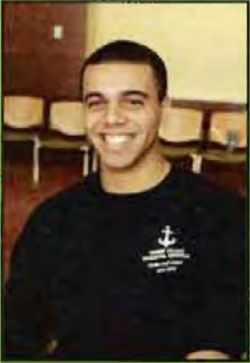
The Wagnerian gets an inside scoop



Ryan Gambino (Towers D5)-

"What is a funny story you had while on duty?"

"The beginning of last year I was on duty and I tucked the duty phone in my mattress so if it rings, I would wake up. It started to ring at 4 in the morning and I could not find it. I ended up reaching too far and falling off my lofted bed."



Tyler Roberts (Harborview 3rd Floor)-

"What is a pro and con of the job?"

"A pro is knowing that all the other RA's have your back and a con is handling a situation with a friend. They have to understand that you are doing your job and it is not a personal thing."

Noah Sprock (Towers C6 Theta Chi)-

"What activities do you do on and off campus?"

"I am the marketing director for WCBG, an admission ambassador and I own my own marketing company."

"What is your favorite thing to do with the RA's off campus?"

"I enjoy meeting all of our intern friends in the city on Fridays."



Featured in the above photo: Phoebe Ford, Claire Manning, Tyler Roberts, Ryan Gambino, Noah Sprock, Alec Reiss, Amanda Gomes, Carolyn Hagerty and Maddie Brown.

Alec Reiss (Harborview 9th Floor)-

"Name some pros and cons of the job."

"I love getting to know everyone on my floor and watching them grow from little baby freshmen to adults. The hardest part is managing your time."

"What other activities do you do on campus?"

"I am a theater major and I am involved with the main stage productions. I have also directed a show with CSP."



Claire Manning (Harborview 8th Floor)-

"Name a pro and con of being an RA."

"A pro is working with the greatest people on this campus. They truly become a family that you learn to love. A con would be waking up in the middle of the night from the duty phone. They normally say you have to work the 7 a.m. desk shift because no one showed up."



Maddie Brown (Towers B6 Alpha Sigma Alpha)-

"What is your major?"

"I am a nursing major."

"What is a funny story you had while on duty?"

"Last year, I had to key into a room with maintenance and walked into someone having sex. It was scandalous."

