

Presidential Search Carries On

The process continues with a week of visits from candidates, starting April 8



Kinsey Casey

What's Up With SGA?

Since that time, the consultants were in contact with roughly 340 individuals who were interested in the job. They then narrowed it down to the 17 top candidates.

Then, the search committee was given hundreds of pages of resumes, letters, and other application materials to read, pretty much over a weekend. And sometimes you think you have a lot of reading for class...ha!

The search committee met over spring break to discuss the credentials of those 17 candidates. From there, we invited eight to be interviewed on March 22 and 23. Of those eight candidates the field was narrowed even further to just a few that we invited to campus during the weeks of April 8 and April 15. (I am obviously writing this before the initial interviews, but by the time you read this we should, in theory, know who those candidates are, so if you are interested, come to the SGA office and ask me, and I can actually tell you names.)

During those two weeks in April, the final candidates will meet with trustees, administrators, faculty, and students. From there, a final candidate will be chosen and, tada, we have our new president!

Sounds easy, huh? Well, it is a heck of a lot of work! The search committee, and especially trustees Jay Hartig and Donald Spiro, who are the chairs of the committee, and the consultants, have put in an enormous amount of time in order to ensure that Wagner will get the best pres-

The biggest question on everyone's mind lately seems to be... who is going to replace Dr. Norman Smith in May? Briefly, here is what has happened so far:

Last semester, the Presidential Search Committee, which consists of the outside consultants, trustees, administrators, faculty, and a student, wrote a "position specification" (a big, fancy name for job description). The position was then advertised through all of the usual channels that are used to advertise for college presidents, such as higher education journals.



Dr. Norman Smith's 14-year tenure as president of Wagner College is approaching its end. His replacement will be determined next month.

ident possible. I always appreciate advice, so please please please feel free to send me any comments, suggestions, etc.

As for the other stuff that is going on...

Judy Shepard is coming to speak at Wagner on Thursday, April 4, at 7:30 p.m. in Spiro 2. The production company of "The Education of Max Bickford" is sponsoring the event for us, and there will be a reception with Mrs. Shepard after her lecture. We will be showing the "Laramie Project" and other Matthew Shepard specials prior to her lecture.

Parking: Yeah, I know it still stinks, there have been some changes, if you noticed... you get the prize for being very observant!

E-mail: If you want to check your Wagner e-mail (which I know you all do, so you can find out what is going on at Wagner) and you can't get it to work in your room, or you want to check it off campus, just go to www.mail2web.com and type in your e-mail address. Your password is your student ID number.

And good news... for everybody that knows director of student activities Susan Hudec, she defended her dissertation on March 20th, officially becoming Dr. Susan Hudec.

To: The Wagner College Community
From: Jay Hartig, Search Co-Chair
Don Spiro, Search Co-Chair
Bob O'Brien, Chairman, BOT
Date: March 18, 2002
Subject: Presidential Search - Progress Report

We are pleased to report to you on the substantial progress being made toward the selection of the next President of Wagner College. The most important piece of news is that we are scheduled to conduct "off-site interviews" of eight semi-finalists this coming Friday and Saturday, March 22-23. The candidates are impressive, come from diverse backgrounds and present us with both a great opportunity and challenge to further narrow the field. The way we have gotten to this point is through the unselfish efforts of our Search Committee members and the expert support of EMN/Witt/Kieffer, our search consultants. In carrying out the search, EMN made contact with, or received expressions of interest from, 340 individuals. About three dozen individuals expressed serious interest in our position. The candidate field was then narrowed and eventually the Search Committee discussed the credentials of seventeen candidates at a March 11th, on-campus, meeting. At that critical meeting, prior to which the committee had reviewed several hundred pages of underlying application materials, an intense discussion of the applicants ensued.

At the conclusion, the field was narrowed to the eight candidates invited to take the next step. This field of semi-finalists possesses, in varying degrees, the qualities of leadership, commitment to a liberal arts education, vision, management skill and fund-raising experience that we articulated in our rather demanding position specification. We know there will be great interest in the names of individuals we are going to meet at our off-site interviews, but we hope you understand that this information must remain highly confidential. Candidates could withdraw from consideration, or have difficulty explaining their interest to their current employers if their names are made public especially since we have not yet decided whom to invite to the campus. So please help us by not asking Search Committee members for the names of candidates at this stage of the process. The Committee has agreed to maintain confidentiality of specific names until finalists are chosen.

At the offsite interviews, we plan to make additional difficult decisions by selecting the individuals to be invited in for a campus visit, enabling each to meet faculty members, administrators, students and trustees. In order to stay on our very aggressive timetable, we plan to conduct the campus visits during the weeks of April 8th and April 15th, subject to availability. We will put out another announcement with the finalists' names and details of their visit as soon after our meeting as practicable. During the campus visits of the finalists, it is incumbent upon each of us to make every effort to try to achieve some level of exposure to the finalists and to offer constructive feedback to our Search Committee members. Please try to maintain flexibility during those weeks if at all possible; you'll be glad you did. We sincerely thank you all for your support to date.

Top Students Rewarded With Trip To Rome

By JACQUELINE NGUYEN
Wagnerian Co-Editor

This summer, 10 graduating seniors will have the pleasure of taking an expense-paid trip to Rome under the guidance of Professor Patrizia Palumbo. These students were chosen from the Honors Program according to those with the highest grade point average (GPA). The only other selection factor was whether or not they were interested in going.

The selected group of honor students consists of Douglas Auer, Kinsey Casey, Michael Fogel, Peter Herbst, Sahani Howie, Jason Nadal, Michael O'Connor, Elizabeth Quinn, Renee Sudol and Colleen Venable.

Dr. Miles Groth, head of the Honors Program, has initiated this particular event. Last year, a group of students were invited to tour Venice. This year he suggested that Palumbo take the students to Rome and she's very happy to do that especially being from Italy herself.

The group will depart just a few days after graduation. On May 19, the journey begins from Kennedy Airport, to arrive at Leonardo da Vinci Airport on the 20th. From there they will have until May 27 to explore Rome. Palumbo hopes "to bring them to performances and social centers where the young Italian people perform," and to view "social issues and political engagements and all."

The expense of the trip will be covered by the Development Office as well as outside contributions. This allows students that might not have had the financial means to have a great time traveling and experiencing different cultures.

Being originally from Italy, Palumbo "tried to create an itinerary that will expose the students to Italy. I would like them to have at the end of this trip a sense of the contemporary Italy, not exclusively the ancient ruins and archaeological sites even though that will be a big part," said Groth. Beginning from the old Jewish ghetto, they will see the sights of the Trastevere, the Vatican, the Catacombs of Santo Callisto and San Sebastiano, Trevi fountain, Villa Borghese, and numerous other sites.

Palumbo is providing a list of literature and movies for the students that she will be accompanying because she feels that it is important for them to prepare themselves for this trip so that they can get the full experience. "For example," she says, "I want to give them an article on the history of tourism in Italy so they learn what their predecessors were, what they did, where they went, what expectations they had."

The students will finish the group tours in the afternoon so at that point they can have time to explore the city by themselves. They will sometimes have dinner together unless Palumbo gets "the feeling that they want to run away by themselves." Of course, on the last day they will have the entire afternoon for shopping and souvenirs so that they will always remember the fun they had in Rome.

WAGNER STUDENTS HELP THE NEEDY

Renee Sudol, Page 2

Morgan McLean, Page 4

WE JUST WANT TO GET TO THE FERRY!

Eric Cohen, Page 5

NEWS

ODK: Outstanding And Dedicated Kinsmen

Faculty adviser Dr. Eleanor Rogg and ODK president Anne Rossetini receive awards at national convention

By ERIC COHEN
Wagnerian Co-Editor

Sociology and Anthropology department head Dr. Eleanor Rogg was the recipient of the Robert Bishop Faculty Adviser Award and Anne Rossetini was elected Province I Student Director for the New York and New England region at the Omicron Delta Kappa (ODK) Leadership Honor Society National Convention earlier this month.

The annual convention, held this year in Lexington, Kentucky from February 28 to March 3, was attended by five members of the Wagner chapter of ODK: Ms. Rossetini, current president; Michael Acanfora, president-elect; London Jones, vice president-elect for community service; Kristen LaClair, secretary-elect; and Dr. Joedy Smith, faculty secretary.

Dr. Rogg, who was unable to attend the convention, received the Faculty Adviser Award after eleven years of service for ODK. She began serving as co-faculty adviser with the late Dr. Norbert H. Leeseberg in 1991, becoming the sole adviser after Dr. Leeseberg's retirement in 1994. Dr. Smith stated in an official press release that Dr. Rogg has been "very instrumental in building a strong relationship with the Staten Island community" and building "the Wagner Circle's emphasis on volunteerism."

"Dr. Rogg has been an exemplary ODK Faculty Adviser and has been a model par excellence of leadership, integrity, team play, enthusiasm, organizational skills and volunteerism," he said. "Her concrete service and personal qualities have enabled her to inspire and lead ODK members."

In 1998, Dr. Smith was selected to receive the National Robert Morlan Faculty Secretary Award. Wagner College is the only college or university in the nation to have received both the Morlan and Bishop Awards. "270 colleges and universities are active members of ODK, making the selection quite prestigious," Dr. Smith said.

Ms. Rossetini is the third ODK member in five years to be elected as Province I Student Director, a prestigious regional position which entails being a liaison between 14 ODK chapters in the New York-New England region and National Headquarters, helping them with administrative work and attending their initiations and meetings. Alumni Barbara Bellesi and Joseph Manzo were previously elected to the post.

"I'm excited because this will be a way for me to remain active with ODK after I graduate," said Ms. Rossetini, a senior. "I got to meet a lot of new people at the convention, and it was a lot of fun. This gives me an opportunity to travel to other circles and help them out. I'm really looking forward to it."

The members that attended the convention took part in

workshops, panel discussions and addresses on the topic of leadership, designed to help ODK members become better leaders in their colleges and communities.

The Wagner delegation led a national workshop on volunteerism and community service ("Seeds of Leadership and Volunteerism's Fruit"), discussing their special relationship they have developed with the Seaman's Society for Children, a social service agency based in St. George, in addition to Wagner College's mission statement and the Freshman Learning Community program.

The Wagner chapter of ODK has led extremely successful Thanksgiving turkey, canned food and holiday toy drives for the Seaman's Society since the late 1980s, providing 1,333 turkeys and trimmings, hundreds of bags of canned food, and 6,400 toys over a 13-year period.

ODK members raised money to attend the convention through John Franco autographed baseball raffles and bagel and pizza sales. In addition, the organization received grants from the St. Bank and Trust Foundation and Richmond County Savings Bank.

Looking to the future, new members will be initiated into the honor society at their spring induction Friday, April 5 at 6 p.m. in the Gatehouse Lounge. Outstanding seniors will also be honored with academic and leadership awards.

The Wagnerian

*Wagner's Little Paper That Could
Since 1918*

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Comments?
Write a Letter to the Editor...
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Want to Join?
Next Meeting Tuesday, March 27
7 p.m. Union 204
Regular meeting time, Wednesday at 8
p.m., resumes April 3

Newman Club Makes A Difference

Service organization takes a road trip to Baltimore to aid Catholic charities

By RENEE SUDOL
Wagnerian Staff Writer

Over Spring Break, members of the Wagner College Newman Club took it upon themselves to make a difference. Jonathan Acierno, Theresa Flanigan, Bobby Hamm, and Renee Sudol traveled to the Baltimore, Maryland area to participate in Catholic Charities of Maryland's Alternative Spring Break from March 10 to 16.

During the day the group served at Our Daily Bread, Maryland's largest soup kitchen, feeding about 700 people per day. The patrons of the soup kitchen included the homeless, veterans, and those just trying to make ends meet. Working with other college students, we performed duties ranging from serving food and distributing beverages to working in the dish room.

In the afternoon, volunteer coordinator Robin Rich provided the group with tours of several other social service facilities. These included My Sister's Place, a day shelter for women; Christopher Place, an employment academy for single men; and My Sister's Place Lodge, a transitional housing facility for women with mental illnesses.

After a hard day's work, we returned to Sarah's House, a transitional housing complex for homeless families, where we resided for the week. The group ate their meals with residents living in the temporary residents and shared the responsibilities of chores.

After dinner, the group volunteered for the house's FLASH program, an evening homework and recreational program for school-aged children. All had a great time helping the kids with their homework and playing games like UNO and checkers with them.

The week wasn't all hard work, however. The group



Newman Club members Jonathan Acierno (far left), Theresa Flanigan (top left), Bobby Hamm (top center), and Renee Sudol (bottom center) join volunteers from the Catholic Charities of Maryland.

had the chance to visit Washington, D.C., and to enjoy Baltimore's Inner Harbor. Everyone realized the importance of the week's work when we saw some of the people we had served sleeping on benches only a few blocks from the restaurants and shops of the harbor.

Catholic Charities provided the group with a wonderful opportunity to make a difference. This trip opened our eyes and our hearts to the gravity of the homeless situation today in America and taught us that it is possible for a small group to make a big difference.

A NEW LOW
performing at DOWNTIME
on April 3 at 8:45 p.m.

251 West 30th Street
(between 7th and 8th Ave.)
One block south of Madison
Square Garden and Penn
Station

You too could be
a part of the
Wagnerian staff!

Come to the next meeting
Tuesday, March 27
7 p.m.
Union 204

CAREER DEVELOPMENT CORNER

Center for Career Development & Experiential Learning, Wagner Union Phone: (718) 390-3181 Fax: (718) 420-4012

Web site: <http://www.wagner.edu/career>

MUSIC MANAGEMENT SEMINAR

Wayne Forte, President of Entourage Talent Associates, will visit campus Wednesday, March 27 at 4:30 p.m. in Union 201 to speak with students interested in insights into music management. Entourage has exclusive representation of a wide variety of top musicians and performers. Attend this exciting event to learn about the field of music management as a possible career or to gain insights as a performer seeking representation! Entourage also has internships available for students interested in testing the field as an option.

NEW YORK STATE VIRTUAL JOB FAIR.....

From March 15-May 31, Wagner will participate in the Third Annual NYS Virtual Job Fair, featuring employers with jobs and internships from throughout the state. To see the list of participating employers and apply for positions, visit the Career Development web site at: [HTTP://WAGNER.EDU/CAREER](http://WAGNER.EDU/CAREER). Once you enter the site, click on the NYS Virtual Job Fair icon. New employers will be added until the end of May, so check the site on a regular basis.

JOBS and INTERNSHIPS.....

Career Development posts new jobs and internships to our web site daily -- visit Career Development online at: <http://www.wagner.edu/career/>. If accessing our internship database from off campus, use this username and password: wagner2000

ABC DAYTIME.....

Like soaps? ABC Daytime is offering employment and internship positions to interested students. The Youth Marketing Consultant position is a full-time, 12-week opportunity allowing you the chance to have input into targeting ABC daytime dramas to a college-age audience. After the 12-week period, you can apply for a full-time permanent position with ABC. Internships are also offered; visit Career Development for complete descriptions and submit your resume to Career Development for either opportunity by April 1.

Pfizer Pharmaceuticals

Resume Deadline/Drop off resume at
THE CAREER CENTER
Position--Pharmaceutical Sales Rep

Wednesday, March 27th
Entourage Music Agency
4:30 PM, Union 201

Mr. Wayne Forte will host a music management seminar

Wednesday, March 27th
NYPD Police Cadet Corps.
Information Table

11AM - 2PM, Atrium
Learn about internship opportunities with the NYPD Cadet Corps.

Monday, April 1st
Liberty Mutual
Resume Deadline/ Drop off resume at
THE CAREER CENTER
Position-Claims Case Manager

Tuesday, April 2nd & April 16th
NYPD Information Table
11AM - 2PM, Atrium
Learn about opportunities in the police department

NEWS

The Response To Terrorism: Rethinking Security After 9/11

Commander Stephen Flynn discusses the role of homeland security procedures

By ERIC COHEN
Wagnerian Co-Editor

A near-capacity crowd of students, professors and community members came to Spiro Hall 2 on March 21 to hear Coast Guard Commander Stephen E. Flynn speak about the role of national security in the wake of the September 11 terrorist attacks.

Commander Flynn, who served in the Coast Guard for 20 years, is a senior fellow in national security studies at the Council on Foreign Relations, and served as the National Security Council's director of global issues in 1997. Fellow Coast Guard Commander Dave Martin, an adjunct sociology professor and a personal friend of Commander Flynn, introduced the speaker by stating that he is "one of eight experts on modern warfare who President Bush turns to."

The audience was welcomed by Dr. Richard Guarasci, Wagner College's provost, who stated that many Wagner students had the "double tragedy" of watching the towers fall from their dormitories. "We have a personal relationship with this event," he said.

Commander Flynn expressed concern that six months after the tragedy, it seemed to him that America was starting to become complacent. Americans should not consider the attack an "aberrant event," he said, because it is "how warfare will be conducted in the 21st century."

He explained that because the American military established itself as such a dominant force after the Cold War, it ironically made the world safe for "asymmetrical warfare" such as the surprise terrorist attacks on the World Trade Center and the Pentagon.

The commander's major argument was that the nation needed to change its attitude toward terrorist attacks and resign itself to the fact that they will be an unavoidable threat into the foreseeable future. It is a "fact of life" that there will be anti-American terrorists with the power to



Cmdr. Stephen Flynn

inflict mass destruction, he stated.

"Opponents will take note of how we reacted after Sept. 11," Commander Flynn said, pointing to the suspension of all aircraft for three days, sealed seaports and closed Canadian and Mexican borders. Terrorists will see that attacks will "take a great economy and put an embargo on it," and that may only encourage more attacks.

The speaker was critical of the strategy to "eliminate terrorism at its source," an unreasonable goal in light of the complex anti-American attitudes fostered by terrorist groups. Instead, a better strategy would be to look at correctable breaches of security, rather than shutting the system down and starting over.

Commander Flynn's primary concern was with the transport of goods into the country, stating that 95 percent of all goods enter not by airplane, but by ship. Ports need to establish more effective security, he said, such as requiring documentation for all cargo, and putting in place a method to track goods as they travel using navigational devices. Undocumented items would be left up for scrutiny at the ports. He likened the process to people being unable to travel between countries without a passport.

More importantly, he asked Americans to "look at the world around us" and examine the reasons why other nations may have an anti-American attitude. Although he emphasized that there is no short-term solution to the problem, Commander Flynn urged the audience that maintaining open ports and borders would be beneficial to the nation and its economy, so long as more effective security was a part of the equation.

SENIORS... The 2002 Class Gift Effort Wants YOU

To give to the September 11th Memorial, our class gift.

The entire memorial will cost \$3,000. It needs to be paid in installments to have it ready by commencement. Our first deadline is coming up. We've raised \$600, having only 18 seniors participate from a class of 365 people.

That's only 4% of our class!

Come on Class of 2002! Time is running out. We need full class participation to make this truly a gift to remember!

Give to the Senior Class Gift.

Questions or Comments?
Call 420-4165

Gifts can be placed in the boxes found in the Union and Reynolds House.

NEWS

Do You Believe In Magic?

Wagner students are rewarded by their service to Project Hospitality

By MORGAN McLEAN
Wagnerian Staff Writer

There is something even more magical than Disney found in helping others. Coray, isn't it? But before you stop reading, let me tell you about our trip to Project Hospitality, a local agency that seems to do everything. They have a soup kitchen and food pantry, homeless shelter and clothes pantry, home for battered women and children, daycare and after school programs, job and house programs, and the list goes on.

Four of us, three students and Deidre Shaffer, went to the soup kitchen and food pantry on Thursday, February 28. It was great! Kat Kyros, Courtney Fry and I filled bags with canned goods and other non-perishable items. We made over 100 bags that, in a few hours, would be offered to anyone who came to the door. We didn't have to see the faces of the people picking them up to know they would be appreciated. I mean, who wouldn't like a bag stuffed with the basic food groups and some extra goodies that will feed you and your family for the next week?

After the shelves were stocked our backs were a little sore, but we didn't want to stop. Two hours had passed but we hadn't minded the work, it seemed only like 20 minutes. Then we realized we hadn't seen Deidre! We went downstairs to the kitchen and dining hall where the roast beef lunch for an expected 150 people was prepared. We found Deidre there gabbing with her new friends. They had made the meat, sweet potatoes, beans, and cups of peaches, salad, desert, and juice.

How could people become friends just over cooking? Well, they weren't just cooking; they were making a difference and they were sharing that magical experience. We meet all the volunteers and they shared stories of their

experiences and how most of them come at least once a week. (Of course, we set the tables and geared up to serve the meal while we talked.) There was a sudden bustle... the door opened and the people began to stream in.

Deidre served the yams. Kat was on bean duty and Courtney gave out the dessert. My job was to put juice on people's trays. From the thank-you's I got you would think it was something more than a plastic cup filled with juice. And that's what we all said.

A spoonful of beans, a doughnut, things we don't hesitate to throw out or fling across the table, were so appreciated. They were part of a hot, free meal, made especially for everyone in that building. All the people in line weren't necessarily homeless or poor; they were just in need of a good meal. We had created a poetic scene: all kinds and ages of people sitting together happily with a delicious meal.

Everyone in that building was there to help others; they all had a common desire—to make a difference in someone's life. The volunteers knew they had time to spare, and that an hour or two spent at the soup kitchen would truly help.

The people receiving food were bringing meaning and validity to those volunteers with every smile and thank you they gave. The four-person Wagner crew left energized and feeling proud of our work. It was absolutely magical.

We will be going to Project Hospitality weekly on Thursdays from 9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. If you're interested in joining us, or organizing a different day or time to go, please contact Morgan McLean at mmclean@wagner.edu or ext. 9226 or keep a lookout for announcements on campus.

SPORTS

Men's Basketball Ends Successful Season

In spite of a first-round upset, tremendous progress was made

By MIKE SOUTHERN
Wagnerian Sports Editor

Despite being upset in the first round of the playoffs, which was hosted here at Wagner in the Spiro Sports Center, the Wagner basketball team had a quality season. The Seahawks went 19-10, their most wins in 23 years, and they ran-and-gunned their way to 82 points per game, the eighth-best scoring average in the nation. Wagner finished 15-5 in the Northeast Conference regular season, tied for second place with UMBC behind eventual champion Central Connecticut State, and all-conference junior Jennaime Hall (21 points, 7 rebounds per game) blossomed into the best player on Grymes Hill in who-knows-how-long.

At one point during the season, coach Dereck Whittenburg's team ripped off 13 wins in 15 games. The Seahawks went to the National Invitation Tournament for only the second time in school history, and when they got there, they took Richmond to overtime on the Spiders' home court before losing.

They accomplished all that, and more.

"And we had a chance in every game we played," the coach said.

But still it wasn't enough? Not according to the third-year coach.

"We've been in the top half of our league one time," Whittenburg reminds. "In order to win the respect we want, you have to do that consistently. We haven't been to the NCAA Tournament ever. These are the things you have to do."

Does that mean all the good work of hanging against Richmond and Rutgers and of beating a tough Virginia Commonwealth and sweeping St. Francis, N.Y., for the first time in eight years, wasn't important?

That getting more than anyone could ever have hoped from senior Yves Kabore (42 percent from three-point range) and Chris Jackson (10 points, 6 rebounds per game) wasn't noteworthy?

The undersized Kabore, who is listed at 6-foot but looks much more like 5-9, won several games all by himself by

making threes when the Wagner offense stalled. And Jackson had a midseason offensive spurt when he scored as well as any inside player in the NEC.

And what about sophomore point guard Courtney Pritchard's affinity for game-winning heroics? Didn't he make four clutch shots to help decide some of Wagner's closer victories?

All that good stuff doesn't count?

"It's all great," said Whittenburg. "We won this season because we improved defensively over the year and because we had good chemistry. But we have a way to go, and we have to remain a hungry and determined program to accomplish the things we want."

In Whittenburg's three seasons, the Seahawks have shown a steady improvement. They've climbed the win ladder from 11-16 to 16-13 to 19-10. But the real change has been within the NEC, where the numbers for that time period read 6-12, 11-9, and 15-5. Eleven of those conference victories were by double-digit margins and the 15 were by an average of almost 15 points.

In the last 11 NEC wins of the season, Hall was a dominant deciding force, averaging almost 25 points per game.

The 6-foot-5 junior ended the season as the second-leading scorer in the NEC and in sixth on the school's all-time scoring list. He lost the conference player of the year award to Central's Corsley Edwards by the slimmest mathematical margin possible.

And the Dublin, Ga., product's reaction to that disappointment may say as much as all the sweeping hooks, and quick lefty jump shots he made from October to March.

"I was more upset than he was," Whittenburg said. "I thought there was no question Jermaine did more for his team than anyone else in the league, but he just shook it off. He said that he could have played better. Done more. That type of character is the reason he is as good as he is."

The good news is Hall is back next year. So is Pritchard. And sometime starting guard Dedrick Dye (10 ppg). But starters Jackson and Hassan Wilkerson (8 ppg) are gone. As are guards Jeff Klauder and Kabore.



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

By ELIZABETH YOUNG
Kallista Yearbook Co-Editor

AQUARIUS (01/20-02/18)

Rethink your actions before carrying out your plan. You may end up corrupting innocent people.



PISCES (02/19-03/20)

Prepare to break free from the chains that have bound you for so long. You are free and the world is yours to conquer.

ARIES (03/21-04/19)

The end of a problem is near and it looks like the outcome will be in your favor. Enjoy the equilibrium in your life.

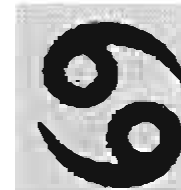


TAURUS (04/20-05/20)

Nobody likes a sneak and that is how you appear to people right now. Rethink your actions and change your ways.

GEMINI (05/21-06/21)

People are going to give you the nickname "Danny Champion of the World." Your strength and power have brought you success.

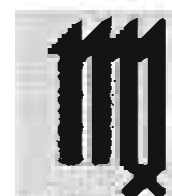


CANCER (06/22-07/22)

Your streak of good luck has ended. Stick to your original plans and ignore outside influences.

LEO (07/23-08/22)

Imagination, originality and creativity are important right now. Use these qualities wisely and you will do well.



VIRGO (08/23-09/22)

Try to stay focused despite the fact that your life is unstable right now. Things will change and for the better, too.

LIBRA (09/23-10/22)

Keep up the good work and keep your confidence, your life is on the right track. Study hard and stay strong.



SCORPIO (10/23-11/21)

Pay attention to details and don't rush to you decision so quickly. A journey is possible to help you escape from your everyday life.

SAGITTARIUS (11/22-12/21)

Confirm plans and be prepared to face reality. An otherwise unexpected loss may come into play. Be prepared for this event.



CAPRICORN (12/22-01/19)

Think twice before you make any upcoming decisions, they may lead you down the wrong path. A separation is possible and the results may be frustrating.

EDITORIAL

Wagner Misses The Boat

*Lack of shuttle service to the ferry remains a major inconvenience*By ERIC COHEN
Wagnerian Co-Editor

Anyone who knows me well knows that I'm an '80s music junkie. So it should come as no surprise that last Tuesday morning, on the way to my experiential learning site in Manhattan, I was walking around the ferry terminal whistling the Hall and Oates ballad "So Close, Yet So Far Away" after once again just missing the boat.

I hate that song, yet it seems to be the story of a Wagner student's life when he or she wants to go to the city.

So close, yet so far away.

The ferry terminal is about 12 minutes away from the college; less than 10 on a good day when the traffic is moving. Unfortunately, for me and a lot of other people, that 12-minute breeze to the ferry is more like a 40-minute ordeal.

Despite constant calls for one, Wagner still lacks a regular shuttle service. Yes, it's good that the school is running a supplemental van service to the ferry at 7:45 and 9:40 a.m. and 2:45 and 4:35 p.m. on top of the semi-regular Atlantic Express service that runs evenings and weekends. But that's still woefully inadequate.

Not everyone is lucky enough to have a car, nor lucky enough financially to afford \$6 per day for parking down in the terminal lots (especially with the recent reduction of on-campus jobs, the subject of another editorial). The city Transit Authority, in its infinite wisdom, runs an always-empty bus (the S60) that takes students as far as Clove Road—in the opposite direction of the ferry.

So what is a person who doesn't have a car, can't hitch a ride off a friend, and isn't going to the city at exactly 7:45 or 9:40 a.m. to do? Unless there's a better way I'm neglecting, that person has to:

—Walk up from their dorm to Howard Avenue, turn left, and walk down to Highland Avenue.

—Walk all the way down Highland, bear left, and walk all the way down the hill to Victory Boulevard.

—Pray that the S61, S62 or S66 bus comes in time to connect with a boat, about a 50/50 chance.

Elapsed time from dorm room to ferry terminal: about 40 minutes.

And coming back, it's straight uphill from Victory Boulevard—unappealing to all except the few of us that are in perfect shape.

This is a poor showing for an up-and-coming college that advertises "studying in the nation's premier city" as one of its selling points. Ask the majority of students here



A Staten Island Ferry departs without Wagner students, who lack an efficient way to get to the terminal.

why they chose Wagner, and it's highly unlikely the answer they give you will be "Charwell's." Usually, one of the first things they'll mention is the school's proximity to Manhattan.

Having four shuttle vans per day that go to the ferry is nice, but not everyone can schedule their day around the odd times that they run. Frankly, it's kind of embarrassing to have a school so close to Manhattan, one of the most vibrant places in the world, with few students that ever go because of the hassle that going off-campus requires.

There is no reason why there can't be a continuous shuttle van running to and from the ferry, at least during the daytime and early evening. At the very least, there could be something that runs once an hour, not four times a day. SGA president Kinsey Casey has been trying all year to get just this kind of plan in place, without any success, because of the ever-popular budget problems.

At some point, Wagner is going to have to start spending money to satisfy basic needs of the students. I'm no finance expert, but how much could it possibly cost to hire someone to do nothing but drive a Chevy van all day?

Going to Manhattan shouldn't be considered a luxury. In fact, considering the number of people that have internships and experiential learning placements in the city—I raise my hand as one of them—a regular shuttle service is downright vital for this college.

Is Apathy A Myth?

By ROBERT HAMM
Kallista Yearbook Co-Editor

Part of my job as Student Government Association Meeting each semester. Despite attempts at advertising to the point of overkill, attendance was still low, but the issues brought up were valid ones. So I asked myself, "Is it just me, or does no one on this campus care about where their tuition is going?" I knew that this couldn't be true, so I went around looking for examples of student leadership and campus involvement.

My first stop was SGA. This year SGA has become a more unified and well-organized vehicle for students to voice their concerns about school policies. Most notably from last semester and this semester were concerns over "Max Bickford," dining concerns, and issues over dorm life. SGA is continuing its hard work this semester, now voicing concerns over the van schedule to the ferry and channeling concerns that students may have about who will be the college's next President. According to SGA President Kinsey Casey, this year SGA has seen more involvement from students. I decided to find some examples of student leadership and wanted to show to the campus the hard work that they do and show what they have gotten out of doing it.

From the freshman class, I found Matt Sheehan and Mel Powers. Powers is currently Freshman Class Secretary, an active member of the Student Activities Council, and new member of Alpha Omicron Pi. She also plays intramural sports just for fun.

Powers plans on remaining active through her Wagner career. "Student leadership and campus involvement is important because it change the campus from being just people to being an integrated community," she said. Sheehan is currently the Student Activities Council's Comedy Chair, vice president of SADD, a member of RHA, and last semester reactivated and became president of the History and Political Science Club. He feels that "if you want to get something changed you have to do something about it. The more involvement the better the community will be."

Morgan McLean, my fellow Executive Board member as Coordinator for Community Service, is a Resident Assistant, a writing-intensive tutor (WIT), a Student Ambassador, and Co-President of Amnesty International. She also was sophomore class president until she was promoted onto the executive board. McLean's philosophy is: "What you get out of college depends entirely on what you put it to it."

Rita Vella is also a sophomore. She is currently a Student Ambassador and a member of Residence Halls Association. She is a rising star in the ranks of the Music Department, being secretary of the College Choir, a member of Stretto and the College Concert Band, and secretary of the Music Society. Vella feels that "active campus involvement enables students to meet new people and get the most out of their college career."

From the juniors I found Elizabeth Young. According to Young, "Getting involved is a great way to meet new people and make new friends. It is a good idea to join only what you can fully commit to and not spread yourself too thin." She is currently the Co-Editor of the Kallista Yearbook, a WIT, an active member of the Newman Club, member of Kappa Mu Epsilon (KME) mathematics honor society, member of the College Concert and Pep Bands, and also writes the horoscopes for the Wagnerian.

Annemarie Galeucia, another junior, is the Coffeehouse Manager, Nimbus assistant editor, a WIT, an RA, and a member of Omicron Delta Kappa (ODK) and Sigma Tau Delta, the recently reactivated English Honor Society. Galeucia feels that "each of the activities I find myself participating in are an important aspect to my well being as a student and a 'real' person."

From the senior class, Senior Class President Peter Herbst is a member of the Student Alumni Board, ODK, Free the Planet co-president, and member of KME. After four years of college, Herbst thinks that "it is important when you are at college to make the most of your time here; this isn't the real world and we'll have a chance to interact with our friends at so many different levels."

Finally, there is Debby Ashim, who is the SGA Vice President for Activities. This year she has greatly increased the activity of the Student Activities Council. She "doesn't think students realizes the great events that we have on campus. Students should take advantage of the entertainment that we bring to Wagner."

After looking around I was able to find these worthy examples of leadership. We as students should live up to these examples and find ways to be proactive in our campus community. If that happens, then it makes Wagner a better place for all of us.

Heroes In Green Jumpsuits



Doug Auer

Power
Auer

Kid Rock hails himself as the "stone cold pimp of the nation," telling how he gets girls from Detroit to Texas. Jay-Z raps a similar message in his song "Big Pimpin'," stating that New York City is notorious for women looking to be teased and pleased. And back in the day, the Beastie Boys had the infamous hit "Girls." Heck, Ja Rule calls the pimp game "religious."

It is no secret these music artists tell of. For as long as women and men have existed, there have been men to catcall and flirt with the women, and some women (far from all of them) who adore the attention.

Call it what you will, but in today's slang terminology, it's called pimping. And it is one of the oldest and funniest institutions around.

Well, here at Wagner, it seems that our small school is not exempt from this pimping frenzy. On any given day, you can either sit in the Hawk's Nest or out on the Union Terrace and observe some of the Wagner male population hoot, holler, wink, wave and whisper at passing ladies. It appears that chivalry is very much alive, just warped, as these women are in no danger other than from the huffoon who is drooling and waving incessantly.

Make no mistake, I, too, am one of these guys, even if I do have the biggest forehead known to mankind and sound like I am still experiencing puberty with the many highs and lows of my voice. Hey, a man's at least gotta try, right?

But it would appear that the undergraduate males of Wagner have their work cut out for them, for there are

bigger pimps on the playground - the groundskeeping staff got more game than any man I know, so to speak.

Dressed in their green jumpsuits, these masters of the pumping artform can school any guy out there. Whether it is lounging in the corner of the Hawk's Nest by the mural on the wall next to the gigantic TV or taking in some sun at one of the rear tables of the Union Terrace, these guys are the bomb.

One look from these dudes and girls melt. I at least go the extra step and say "Hi," but the ladies run as if Steve Urkel is approaching. What's with that? I might not be a snappy dresser, but I am fairly fashionable. I think Well, at least I wear more than green all day.

Perhaps the biggest advantage the groundskeeping staff has is the use of the golf carts. Since all other men on campus are forced to use parking lots for their vehicles, these guys are lucky enough to have access to a green, beat-up Cadillac with a seahawk emblem on the hood that goes 10 mph. Who can compete with that? What good is offering to hold a girl's notebook when one of these mackdaddys come along and offer her a ride to class?

And what of the girls? Some of them love it. And don't let any of them say otherwise, I have seen numerous girls blush from comments given or rides accepted from the groundskeeping crew. Meanwhile, the rest of the undergrad males walk around with their hands in their pockets, looking down, kicking stones around.

Apparently, Ice-T needs to come to Wagner and give us undergrad males a seminar on the methodology of pimping.

So go ahead, guys, and laugh at the groundskeeping staff when they trim a bush outside your classroom or pick up trash you threw on the ground. Just remember that at some point during the day, they probably got a girl to smile, maybe even wink in their direction. And that is more than you got!

Keep pimpin' fellas

ENTERTAINMENT

Take A Hike, Wagner!

Celebrate the coming of spring with a trip to the Staten Island Greenbelt

By ANTHONY D'ALBERO
Wagnerian Staff Writer

Having come to Wagner College from New Jersey, I know what an adjustment it can be getting used to life on Staten Island. Everything seems to move a bit more quickly, and everyone is in an incredible rush to get somewhere just a little faster than you. All of this racing around can take its toll. If this sounds familiar, and you too find yourself needing some relief, without a prescription, and totally free of charge, there is a cure.

Imagine finding a quiet place on this noisy, chaotic island, away from this sleep-away camp/wild-game enclosure known as Wagner College. There is a place to escape from statistics homework, SUV's, and steaming mile-high landfills, a place where the ground is earth colored, and not brick colored, a place without quite so many...people. This place is Staten Island's Greenbelt. Open from dawn until dusk 365 days a year, the Greenbelt is located on an area over three times the size of Central Park (some 2,800 acres) right in the center of Staten Island. It is the home to forests, meadows, parks, wetlands, lakes and streams.

The Greenbelt also offers a variety of free activities such as hiking along thirty-five miles of trails, catch and release fishing in Willowbrook Park, golfing at the David LaTourette public golf course, and perhaps best of all, relaxing with the trees.



Historic Richmondtown's Bennett House, one of several attractions in Staten Island's Greenbelt

For additional information on upcoming events, and directions for navigating trails, call the Greenbelt at 667-2165.

The Greenbelt is also the home to a variety of attractions, which can comprise a \$6 or less date that doesn't involve a Rata's pizza and the Wagner access channel. If you want to take the cultured/artistic route, a good choice would be the Jacques Marchais Museum of Tibetan Art. Situated on a hillside in a quiet residential area, it consists of two buildings designed to resemble a small Himalayan monastery. The setting, which includes gardens as well as a lily and fishpond, is designed to promote relaxation as you explore a rare collection of Tibetan art. The museum is open to the public Wednesday through Sunday, from 1-5 p.m. Student admission is \$3. Call 987-3500 for directions or to find out about special programs such as Tai Chi and Meditation lessons.

Another interesting place for a day-trip is Historic Richmondtown. Located on the edge of the Greenbelt, Historic Richmondtown offers visitors a chance to glimpse Staten Island as it used to be. Buildings and objects of interest are gathered here to showcase Staten Island's culture and heritage from the 16th through 19th centuries. Special exhibits on Staten Island's history are on display at the museum. Call 351-1617 for details and directions.

If art and history make you sleepy, there's always the carousel in Willowbrook Park where you can relive your childhood for two and a half minutes for just \$1 per person. The carousel was completed in 1999 and features handmade wooden animals from the traditional horses to the more exotic animals such as a panda, an ostrich and elephant.

For those of you who are education majors, the Greenbelt has for over thirty years offered environmental education programs that allow schoolchildren from the pre-k through the high school level to get a taste of what nature has to offer. Programs are offered on and off-site, and include summer camp sessions, guided nature hikes, science-experiments, field explorations and take-home art projects. Additional programming is available for senior adults, educators and the general public. Call 667-7475 to request a program brochure.

These are just some highlights of what the Greenbelt has to offer. The only way to get the whole story is to actually go off campus and exploring for yourself. You may be surprised at how good it feels to escape Wagner and your daily routine, if only for an hour or two.

The Museum Of Natural History

By JAYMEE T. CARRENO
Wagnerian Staff Writer

After years of renovating, the Museum of Natural History opened its new Rose Center in 2000, a new glass wing of the museum you can look into from the outside. Once inside, there is double planetarium in an enormous globe. The top half of the globe is used as a traditional planetarium (costs extra), yet the bottom half is used as an inverted planetarium. This planetarium, free of charge, shows 10-minute long shows approximately every 15 minutes.

In general, the recent addition to the museum of natural history is primarily earth science. However, it has an interactive twist. Around the large globe in the core of the new wing is a spiraling pathway that examines how small planet Earth really is in comparison to the known (and unknown) universe. If you take the glass elevator up to the second floor, you travel around in powers of tens. When you begin on the second floor you can hold the planets in your hands like a handball. By the end of the path that surrounds the second floor you are small enough to hold an electron in your hand.

Everything is interactive, there are tons of models and things you can touch and play with. Finally at the ground level of the Rose Center there are scales to tell you how much you would weigh in all eight planets (yes, eight: Pluto was found not to be in our solar system). Also worth a look is the largest self-sufficient ecosystem in existence. If you're interested in things along those lines, you can get one of your own in the always necessary gift shop.

Jay's Info:

Jay Date Rate: J* J* J* J*

(Out of a possible J* J* J* J* J* (5 Jay's)

4 Jay's: Only if your date is interested in this stuff. It's a big plus for you and there's built-in activities

Jay Friends Night Out Rate: J*

1 Jay: Unless all your friends are interested in this stuff

Location: Central Park West and 81st Street

Open: 10:00 A.M. daily

Cost: Whatever you want to give

Directions: B or C subway to 81st street

Do You Know How To Shop?

Learn How To Shop Like A Pro

By FANNIE RICCOBONO
Wagnerian Staff Writer

Do you know how to shop? No, I don't mean buying something and bringing it to the register; my little cousin could do that. I mean, do you really know how to shop? Do you gaze through Vogue and Bazaar longing for designer looks and gasp at designer prices? Are you yearning to get the look of this season's hottest fashions but don't have the bucks?

Well, stop whining and start shopping. That is, if you know how.

Let's be realistic: we're college students. We don't have the bank accounts of Sarah Jessica Parker or even Molly Ringwald for that matter. So how do you get Hollywood fashions at affordable prices? You have to know how to shop!

Before going shopping for your new spring wardrobe and coming home frustrated, try these ten helpful tips:

1. Buy things when you see them. If you see something that you could afford and you actually like, BUY IT! Don't wait, don't look somewhere else, don't come back tomorrow, because if you wait too long to buy it someone else will be wearing "your" shirt.

2. Don't underestimate stores like Old Navy and H&M. While these stores are not known for their quality, they are known for their super-low prices and trendy clothes. Buying one or two great items that may be priced below \$20 but look expensive is the key to shopping in stores like these. Trust me, if you put it with the right accessories no one will ever know.

3. Shop stores like Gap, Express, and Guess. When you're looking for a little more quality but are still on a

budget try shopping these stores. Just because they're your basic "mall stores" doesn't mean that they don't have not-so-basic items. When shopping in these stores, be careful what you buy. I know what you're thinking, everyone and their mother shop in these stores. While you are probably right, that doesn't mean there isn't room for you too. Try to look for the obscure or limited garments that are often in the back.

4. There is nothing wrong with buying sale items. Some items may be on sale because they are damaged or irregular, but let's face it, we're not perfect either. So instead of passing these items up, look at them, try them on, and find out what's wrong with them. Remember you could sew a seam, replace a button, or take down the hem, that is, as long as you're getting it for half price.

5. Buy not-so-cheap key items. It is always helpful to have a few expensive items in your closet to put your look together. Buy a good pair of shoes, preferably black, or whatever color you wear most often, for spring you might try camel. And if you could afford to buy the matching bag, then you're all set. A uniformed shoe and bag can turn your \$50 outfit into a million bucks.

6. The secret to is to accessorize. Buying inexpensive accessories can turn your not-so-hip closet into a fashion haven. Belts, scarves, and costume jewelry can enhance any plain black ensemble and doesn't have to cost you a fortune either. Look for "2 for 1" deals and shop extremely low-price, well, cheap stores. Don't tell her, but a \$5 canvas belt doesn't look much different from a Donna Karan \$125 one. Shhh!

7. Steer away from buying expensive color. While it is the trend to buy color, not black, it is also risky. Walking into a room with a red dress visually sticks with us more

than a black one. In other words, buy a cheap orange shirt that you could wear once or twice and an expensive white blouse that is timeless.

8. Don't shop to make yourself feel better. Shopping is an art form and cannot be done correctly if you are not in the right state of mind. Shop when you're happy, not crabby. Shopping when you're depressed, nine out of ten times, will only make you more miserable, because you will most likely come home with nothing. Shopping under pressure is just as bad. Make sure you shop with an open mind and a good amount of time so as to avoid rash decisions, which could be costly.

9. Buy designer items at low prices. While it is great to get key items at inexpensive stores, it's even better to get designer items at discount prices. Stores like Marshalls, T. J. Maxx, Value City, and Century 21 sell last season's designer duds at prices you could actually afford. But you know what they say, "one person's garbage is someone else's treasure." They may not have up-to-the-minute trends, but you can definitely find great pieces that you could keep in your closet forever.

10. Be a trendsetter. If you like it, buy it. Don't worry if your best friend thinks it's not "in" or if your boyfriend thinks it's too bizarre because most likely she's just jealous of your "fashionista" ways and he's just worried that guys will be looking at you. Buy it anyway. The most important thing about shopping is buying things that will make you happy.

So the next time you go shopping, remember these helpful tricks of the trade, and you, too, could shop like a pro.

Check It Out...Or Maybe Not!

English 366 "Reviewing" students keep us informed on the best...and worst...stuff out there

Big Talent On A Small Stage

'The Rimers of Eldritch,' which played through March 9, told a twisted tale of morality...or lack thereof

By JANICE FRANK
Wagnerian Staff Writer

It is a shame that Wagner College's Stage One theatre tends to get overshadowed by the huge mainstage shows, because the gifted students that the studio harbors deserve much credit, as seen in the latest production of "The Rimers of Eldritch."

A twisted tale of morality or lack thereof, in a small town of many secrets, *The Rimers of Eldritch* will leave you staring wide-eyed as the lights dim and the audience slowly applauds at the conclusion of the final scene.

The storyline revolves around the idea that the town, Eldritch, is no longer safe. The biggest fear being Skelly Manor, superbly played by Paul Campione, who is an elderly, social outcast, known for spying on the supposed good and decent people of the town.

Along the way, however, the truth about each character slowly becomes exposed. You learn that, although everyone in the town believes adamantly in being an individual of strong principles, virtually every character has a dark past that they keep well hidden.

Nathaniel Budd powerfully plays the Preacher and the Judge of the town. The Preacher is the sense of morality for Eldritch, which is why the town has such a lack of it, as he tells them not only what to believe, but how to think. The Judge sends the message that those who do not help society, are of no use to the world. It is these figures that the people look to for direction, and yet are frequently misguided.

"I think the theme is being righteous...and that doing what everybody thinks is not always right," Budd analyzes.

It is definitely "not a play for those with limited attention spans," director David McDonald explains, because the play is not handed to you in the typical beginning-middle-end way. All of the players are thrown at you from the second it starts, and there are bits and pieces of conversations going on back and forth, forcing you to shift your

focus quickly. "The patient and attentive audience member is rewarded when the final pieces of the puzzle are finally put in place and this non-sequential, sometimes repetitive, and often confusing (intentionally) story becomes clear," assures McDonald.

A bit overwhelming at first I'll admit, but once you get used to it, you find the fast-paced glimpses into these characters lives are what keep it exciting.

Once you get to know them however, you'll be afraid that you did.

Robert Conklin (Carlo Rivieccio) is an odd, complex character who is always being compared to his deceased older brother, Driver, and therefore is frequently referred to as 'Driver Junior.' This literally pushes him to the edge. He too is a social outcast who, like Skelly Manor, no one really trusts or understands, or cares to understand for that matter. His only friend is 14-year-old Eva Jackson (Hannah Johnson), a handicapped girl, full of life and dreams waiting to come true. Everyday they would go on walks together and talk about these things.

Throughout a large part of the play you see Robert as a quiet, awkward young man who isn't quite sure of what he will do with his life. Yet on one of their walks, the subject of sex comes up between Robert and Eva, when Eva informs him that her mother, Evelyn Jackson (Emily Moment), is curious about what they do during their time together. However the more Robert tried to get her mind off of it, the more she persisted, calling him a "coward" and "Driver Jr." It is at this point that he snaps; so overwhelmed with everyone seeing him as someone he's not, he lashes out and tries to rape her.

Fortunately Skelly finds Eva being attacked, and he pulls Robert off of her and throws him to the ground. Just as he does this, Nelly Windrod (Tammy Ryan), who lived nearby, had heard the commotion, run out with her shotgun, saw Skelly standing over Eva and shot him.

An extremely intense scene, and a sudden bursting change of character for actor Carlo Rivieccio.

"He's not someone I would normally play," Rivieccio explains, "It was a stretch that was good for me."

The stretch went unnoticed, as his performance was so carefully fine-tuned that the shocking personality-twist of his character was simultaneously startling and captivating.

It was also another riveting performance by Emily Moment, who can be remembered as Nina in *The Seagull* last year (also held at Stage One), which earned her a richly deserved Irene Ryan nomination. She manages to bring brilliant expression and reality to any role she takes on.

One scene in particular is when Evelyn is arguing with Cora Groves (Nicole Vitaliano), who owns a diner in the town, that Skelly was the one who attacked Eva. Cora's defense is that Eva told her that Skelly didn't do it. In this heart-pounding, high-energy scene, Evelyn begins shouting, "You liar! In the name of God, you liar!" over and over again, as the rest of the cast moves around her and gathers on the opposite side of the stage ignoring her, turning their backs to her where it switches to a church scene, and the people begin to pray until Evelyn's cries are drowned out. A magnificent display of emotion and despair, it gave me chills.

Hannah Johnson showed a lot of potential for a freshman just beginning her theatre career here at Wagner. She handled her role like a pro, and I have a feeling we'll be seeing a lot more of her in her years to come.

Another newcomer to the theatre is freshman Rebecca Mercer, who played Nelly Windrod's elderly mother, Mary Windrod. I had no idea this young lady was in her first year here, and no, it wasn't because of the stage makeup that aged her a few decades to make her look like the mother of a grown woman. Her acting was very impressive.

Finding so many new faces on the stage with such wonderful abilities to offer is refreshing.

The complex storyline of this drama is one that makes you think; it doesn't blind you with flashy lights and big dance numbers, putting you in a daze. In fact, this one will keep you on the edge of your seat. With the amazing talents this cast has and the engrossing plot they deliver, "Rimers" proves a great night at the theatre.

It's 3 a.m. Do You Know Where Your Tofu Is?

Tasty and tacky prove to be a pleasurable combination at the East Village's Yaffa Cafe

By JODIE PISARK
Wagnerian Staff Writer

I have often found that when you drive around after midnight, it's impossible to find a decent meal.

Yaffa Café has proven me wrong.

Located at 97 St. Marks Place between 1st Avenue and Avenue A, Yaffa Café has been serving delicious meals to the stylish East Village neighborhood of New York City for 15 years.

The décor at Yaffa Café looks like a yard sale that's gone bad. Yet it is so tacky that it has to be trendy.

The low, eight foot ceiling is painted light blue with white clouds. Hanging from it are plastic fruits, leaves and flowers, along with yellow and white dim lights. Small disco balls and lanterns also adorn it. Gaudy gold lamps and porcelain Buddhas and angels were put anywhere there was room.

Gold-framed mirrors and large garish paintings of fruit, flamenco dancers, Elvis, Napoleon and Jim Morrison hang on the walls. No two walls have the same wallpaper. The prints are floral, leopard, zebra, or red velvet.

The restaurant is quite cramped, with enough tables for 50-60 people. Although I think it can comfortably fit half that amount. Despite the fact that it was crowded during my visit, I found the room temperature to be quite comfortable.

The noise level was a little too loud for my liking, but not so loud that I couldn't hear the Whitney Houston techno CD playing, or the waiters singing to it.

Yaffa Café has an eclectic menu that offers American and Middle Eastern vegetarian-oriented meals. The food is hearty and zesty and the prices are ridiculously low for the large portions that you receive.

There is nothing they serve you that they won't put some kind of flavorful spin on. They do not serve red meat, but it is not a vegetarian restaurant.

Yaffa Café has specials, which are written on chalkboards scattered throughout the café. I chose the French onion soup (\$3.50) special. There was more onion than



broth, but it was quite tasty.

For my entrée I had the Berber chicken, which is Cajun style cooked in a lemon basil sauce. It had melted cheddar cheese and was served on a whole-wheat pita. The chicken was phenomenal. It was fried, yet not too crunchy, spicy and savory.

They have an assortment of large salads for \$6.50 and for \$2.00 extra they will add grilled chicken. These salads alone are enough for a meal.

They also offer veggie burgers, tuna and chicken salad melts, an assortment of seafood, chicken and pasta dishes as well as vegetable and tofu entrees. I recommend the red pesto fettuccini, which is spinach and white fettuccini in a basil tomato cream sauce.

I also had a side order of humus, which is not too garlicky and quite smooth. If you don't prefer humus they also have other Middle Eastern dishes, like tahini and

babaganoush, which are both topped with black olives and tomatoes.

For dessert I had the carrot cake, which was a small piece of heaven. It was fluffy and moist with a lot of coconut in the frosting. I have never had that before and never knew what I was missing. Other desserts include mud cake and a sour cream apple walnut cake.

Everything is reasonably priced with appetizers running under \$6, sandwiches from \$4.25 to \$6.95, and entrees from \$6.95 to \$12.95. You can also add vegetables, bread or brown rice as a side dish for under \$2.00.

I do have a few complaints. The waitress came as soon as we sat down, and the food came a few minutes after we ordered, but then the waitress disappeared. I was sympathetic with her since I could see she was overwhelmed by the amount of tables she was working.

The bathroom is SMALL. When I say small, I mean that there was barely enough room for a toilet. The sink is outside the stall and not exactly in a private area. You practically bump into the unfortunate person that is sitting at the table next to the sink. If you have to use the restroom, I would suggest going to one of the many bars in the area. You will be better off.

The entrance and exit is one narrow door, making it impossible to leave when there is a line forming at the door. I got the impression there is always a line to get in. I had to wait a few minutes myself for a table, but late at night on the weekends can have you waiting up to 30 minutes.

If you go to Yaffa Café you receive an added bonus when you pay your check. There is a sign on the cash register that says, "Don't forget to ask for your free Yaffa condom." That's right, a condom. This can be handy for anyone on a date and is one more odd feature to this establishment.

This café is not for the claustrophobic or conservative, but if you are looking for a place to eat that's fun and whimsical, with a lot of character and a diverse menu, then look no further than the Yaffa Café.

Yaffa Café unquestionably knows how to cater to the city that never sleeps.

Check It Out...Or Maybe Not!

English 366 "Reviewing" students keep us informed on the best...and worst...stuff out there

New Brit Flick Is Not A Hit

"Crossroads" heads for a collision but manages to avoid disaster, barely

By DOUG AUER
Wagnerian Assistant Editor

Britney Spears has decided to take her amazing sense of showbiz talent to the next level, moving away from the realm of singing and into the realm of acting. Not a bad idea, considering her most recent album has sold fewer copies than her debut. However, since Ms. Spears doesn't always sing her songs live (she has been known to lip-synch) and since she doesn't always write all her own songs (she has a songwriting team), she should have thought about having someone else do her acting.

"Crossroads" is the story of three friends, Lucy (Britney Spears), Kit (Zoë Saldana) and Mimi (Taryn Manning), who take a road trip from Georgia to Los Angeles. The purpose of the trip is for Mimi to audition as a singer, despite the fact that she is several months pregnant.

The girls enlist the help of Ben (Anson Mount) to drive them to Hollywood in his 1973 Buick convertible. Along the way, Ben, who never shaves in the film, giving him a mangy mustache coupled with his messy hairdo, happens to fall in love with Lucy.

While traveling, the car breaks down in Louisiana and Lucy, whose father, Pete (Dan Aykroyd), is a mechanic, just-so-happens to know that the classic yellow automobile needs a new radiator. While Ben goes to get a towtruck, Mimi and Kit get into a catfight, which Lucy breaks up. The situation of a broken down car and friendship unraveling is not funny, but the bad acting certainly makes the scene appear canned, with missed punches and silly fighting lines abundant.

One must also question what sort of message Ms. Spears wants to send her audience. Not once in the movie is a seatbelt worn. Ben often drives while staring at Lucy in the back seat and he is forever taking his hands off the steering wheel to change radio stations.

Ben is forced to constantly change radio stations since he likes rock and the girls like pop (no surprise there). The tunes Ben listens to rock but those chosen by the three girls, most interestingly *NSYNC, the boyband of Ms. Spears' boyfriend, Justin Timberlake, do not. Coincidence that bad acting accompanies bad music? I think not.



Ben drives while Mimi (front), Kit and Lucy (rear) sing.

Perhaps the funniest moments of the film come when Ben compromises his manhood. A prime example is when he belts out Sheryl Crow with the girls after earlier listening to The Cult. But the funniest moment by far is when Ben gives Mimi and Kit the keys to his precious ride, an act he refused to do at the start of the trip because the car was his last piece of manhood, so they can go visit Kit's boyfriend. But, the underlying reason for giving away the keys is so he can stay behind in the hotel room and romance Lucy against a glass window. The message is clearly compromise your manhood if there is a probability of having sex.

How did this slow moving vehicle of a film get underway, you ask? Well, the movie opens with the three friends hurrying a box of dreams by their favorite spot. They make the promise to be friends forever, which doesn't hold. As time passes they drift apart. Lucy has become a biology nerd, Kit is a self-centered popular prom queen, and Mimi is a pregnant girl from the trailer park.

But alas, after the three encounter one another prom night (which encompasses a sultry Ms. Spears performing a striptease for her lab partner before they are supposed to have sex) they dig up the box and Mimi proposes the road

trip. The idea also serves as a great way for Lucy to visit her mother (Kim Cattrall) who abandoned her as a child and for Kit to see her fiancé (Richard Voll) at UCLA.

Surprises are in store for all three characters as Mimi learns she can't sing, Lucy's mother reveals that she didn't want a daughter, and Kit discovers her boyfriend is cheating and is also the mysterious guy with a blue beer bottle who raped and impregnated Mimi during Christmas break. And, to top it off, Mimi has a miscarriage.

Wow, that is a lot of let down for three girls fresh out of high school facing the real world for the first time.

The biggest complaint one has of the movie is that it is self-promotional of Ms. Spears. Her music is in constant rotation on MTV's Total Request Live, she adorns Pepsi billboards and TV spots, and now she has invaded the movies. Very few women succeed in both the movie and music biz.

A perfect example is Madonna and her failed attempts in "Desperately Seeking Susan" and "Dick Tracy." Madonna openly admits to being a fan of Ms. Spears in real life and in the movie the opening scene is Lucy lip-synching a classic Madonna tune. Who is paying homage to whom in the world of female superstars?

That said, it comes as no surprise that Lucy's hidden singing talent twice saves the day. First, she takes the mic from a stage shy Mimi at a karaoke bar and performs a rousing, yet popish, rendition of "I Love Rock And Roll."



Mimi, Lucy, and Kit (left to right) win over the karaoke bar with a rousing performance.

This gives the group money to fix the car's radiator and rent out a luxury hotel room. And later, in the pinnacle moment of the film, Lucy auditions for the record-company executives, not Mimi, who along with Kit is a mere background vocalist. And, what does she sing? "Not A Girl, Not Yet A Woman," a poem of hers that Ben turned into a song and a song Ms. Spears sings in real life, again not written by her - words or music. Surprised? Me neither.

The acting in "Crossroads" is so-so, more reminiscent of when Ms. Spears was on the now-defunct "Mickey Mouse Club" than the big screen. But, there are a few highlights in the film, and I am sure females will identify with some of the bonding moments the trio of friends experiences.

As for morals: running away from home, a lack of practicing seat-belt safety, and sex with a guy you've known for only a week certainly don't count. Before Ms. Spears graces theaters with another role, she had better think long and hard what she wants to portray and how. Otherwise, in the words of her boyfriend's group, her acting career will go "Bye, bye, bye."

"Crossroads" is rated PG-13 (Parents strongly cautioned). It has mild sexual situations and one scene of teenage drinking.

CROSSROADS

Directed by Tamra Davis; written by Shonda Rhimes; director of photography, Eric Edwards; edited by Melissa Kent; music by Trevor Jones; production designer, Waldemar Kalinowski; produced by Ann Carli; released by Paramount Pictures. Running time: 97 minutes. This film is rated PG-13.

WITH: Britney Spears (Lucy), Anson Mount (Ben), Zoë Saldana (Kit), Taryn Manning (Mimi), Kim Cattrall (Caroline), Dan Aykroyd (Pete), Richard Voll (Dylan) and Justin Long (Henry).

I Am Sam

An emotional ride that never reaches its full destination

By ROZA SARGSYAN
Wagnerian Staff Writer

Even though it is commercialized to be a movie about a mentally disabled man, "I Am Sam" deals more with parenting and how to raise children with love.

Sam Dawson (Sean Penn), with the mental capacity of a seven year old, is distraught when the homeless woman he impregnated, leaves the newborn baby with him. However, he is not alone; along with his neighbor and similarly disabled friends, he manages to raise Lucy Diamond Dawson (Dakota Fanning). Well, at least long enough to build a climax.

The peak comes when Lucy turns seven, and with everyone else, realizes the great contrast between her intelligence and that of her father.

During Lucy's birthday party, Sam is arrested because he displays rage at one boy who tells him that Lucy is adopted. The public officials, along with Lucy's school, believe that Sam is holding Lucy back from achieving anything, but she strongly disagrees. This is portrayed by Ms. Fanning's defiant attitude towards them that comes off looking natural.

Despite her struggles, Lucy is taken into custody and Sam is left by himself. This is a very emotional scene; nonetheless, it is cut short without further development, leaving the viewer to her own imagination.

Desperate to get Lucy back, Sam goes out to find a high powered lawyer, Rita Harrison (Michelle Pfeiffer). Through endless battles in the court, the case is basically lost, but an award nomination should be won by Ms. Pfeiffer, who is able to cry one moment and then scream the next, or laugh, without any real struggle.

Lucy is given to a foster family, allowing Sam supervised visits, only two times a week. This emotional verdict is once again stopped and the view shifts to something else. I assume the screenwriter wrongfully believes the audience will be satisfied enough.

Although affected by the sentence, Sam gets his life back on track with the assistance of Rita. She helps him to find another job at Pizza Hut, and he also moves into a nice house right next door to the foster family and Lucy, although I am not sure how he can afford it.

Earlier in the film, Sam didn't even have enough money to buy PayLess shoes for Lucy, and his friends had to chip in. This is another example of the writer not caring about detail, and mistakenly, looking only to the big picture.

The moral of the movie, and Sam's motto, is "all you need is love," a famous Beatles quote. Through lengthy and hopeless tribulations, Sam gets Lucy back because everyone realizes Sam's love is all that Lucy truly needs.

Penn does an amazing job playing a mentally unstable person: there is no question of his abilities. His body movements and his language display a great talent. However, if his character was more evolved, we would be able to know who Sam truly was.

Ms. Fanning is one young girl going places. She was just spectacular; this will not be her last movie. Toward the end, her character matured, and this was conveyed in her extraordinary performance. Her portrayal of love towards her father, when running away from her foster home to be with him, or crying when he was taken away, is sure to move everyone to tears.

The role of Lucy's mom, played by Ms. Dern, was short but effective. Same can be said of the neighbor Annie (Dianne Wiest), and the opposing lawyer, Turner (Richard Schiff). Moreover, the mentally disabled friends of Sam Dawson were all colorful and funny at times, but needed more life.

Despite its lack of emotional buildup and the abundance of predictability, I left the theater feeling good and happy about the ending. I guess that's what the writers intended. However, this could've been a much better picture if all the important scenes were formed, instead of jumping from one part to the other.

I AM SAM

Directed by Jessie Nelson; written by Kristine Johnson and Ms. Nelson; director of photography, Elliot Davis; edited by Richard Chew; music by John Powell; production designer, Aaron Osborne; produced by Ms. Nelson, Richard Solomon, Marshall Herskovitz and Edward Zwick; released by New Line Cinema. Running time: 130 minutes. This film is rated PG-13.