

THE FOCUS IS ON FRESHNESS

## Lackmann seeks to deliver 'wow factor'

By KRISTEN HAGGERTY & CAROLINE LATORRE  
Editors in chief

Before the spring semester even started, the new Lackmann dining service was beginning to win the hearts of students. PA majors, athletes, and RAs all return to campus weeks early, and thus had a chance to sample the new dining service before anyone else. The popular conclusion? It was worth waiting for.

Senior PA major Shane Courtney says, "When I first came back, it was still mostly Chartwell's food. But now that they are transitioning, everything is getting much better. It just tastes fresher."

Junior RA Kevin Austin echoed the same thoughts as Courtney stating, "I can tell there is a lot less grease in the food...the ingredients seem more fresh."

Lauren Kantor, senior director of dining services, discussed the thought that went into the restructuring of dining services. "We want to hit on as many tastes as we can, and I think there is something for everyone now."

Several cheerful signs at the entrance to the dining hall announce the changes Lackmann is making. These include serving Dunkin' Donuts coffee,

stocking the on-campus convenience stores with microwaveable meals, and adding a pizza delivery service to the amenities, which is scheduled to start sometime in February. The Hawk's Nest is also receiving a face lift, adding a 'fish market' and an Italian section.

As of Jan. 14, renovations were still being made in the dining hall, revealing just how much is changing. The area which used to house the hot food will now be a deli and ice cream area, complete with a new soft serve machine. Much like popular sandwich shop Quizno's, the deli will now have a "Turbo Chef", an oven capable of toasting multiple sandwiches in under a minute.

The line of hot food has been moved to in front of the windows by the TV and the salad bar is now by the drinks.

Lackmann staff have rearranged seating as well, with the small "date" tables being mixed with larger tables. The change has allowed more space between each table therefore making it easier to move about the dining hall.

Instead of one action station at a time, they will be placed around the dining hall, offering more than one made-to-order dish each night. Omelets will be made fresh all day, and a carving station at dinner will provide sustenance for the carnivores among us.

There is a plan for more variety to be available at breakfast, with the inclusion of breakfast burritos, and quesadillas.

Many diners commented on the freshness and high quality of the food, which is exactly what Lackmann intended. Everything from



Photo: Caroline LaTorre

Lackmann will offer several new amenities, many of which are proudly announced on plaques in the dining hall. Here, a plaque displays the increased variety of food that has been one of the main goals in planning the change to Lackmann.

pizza to muffins is now fresh baked on campus, under the direction of head baker Howie. Fresh fruit such as pineapple is provided, and a smoothie and yogurt bar during breakfast may help students begin the day in a healthy way.

A regional chef from Lackmann is helping head chef Raoul through the first semester, to make sure everything runs smoothly in this transition.

Assistant Director of Co-Curricular Programs, Brian Kenny comments, "The fresh baked food is of

better quality, with more attention paid to it." His favorite aspects of the new dining service? The breakfast pastries and fresh fruit. There is also a new "spread bar" which offers a variety of different cream cheeses and bagels.

Scheduling changes have occurred in the two residence hall-based dining areas as well. The Starbucks in Foundation Hall will no longer be open on the weekends, but to balance that out, the Wag in Guild Hall will open earlier on the weekends at 8

a.m.

Lackmann has begun with a strong showing, impressing those who returned to campus early with fresh baked items and a commitment to variety and health. The multiple changes being planned could be the solution to the frustrations about food on campus that have plagued students for years. Kantor says, "One of our goals is to keep it exciting, to have that 'Wow!' factor. You aren't going to see the same things every day- the meals are always changing."

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Photo: Caroline LaTorre

A soft serve ice cream machine waits to be installed next to the new deli area currently under construction



Photo: Caroline LaTorre

A Lackmann chef refills the trays of pizza that are handmade on campus, and recommends trying his pinwheels





A student uses a trash bag to sled down the Harbor View Hall hill after the snowstorm.

SNOW!

The snowstorm on Jan. 12 brought approximately a foot of snow to the Wagner campus, and shut down administrative facilities for the day.

Photos: Caroline LaTorre



The storm temporarily halted construction occurring on the Guild Patio.



The black-painted anchor stood out in sharp contrast to the blanket of white snow surrounding it.



A few cars were stranded on campus, trapped under the heavy snowfall of the night before.

Meet the new spring 2011 editors in chief

When our Fall 2010 editor announced her plans to study abroad in Rome for the spring, we took on the responsibility of being the new editors in chief. We couldn't be more thrilled! This is an exciting and fulfilling opportunity, and we plan to make the most of it. We are confident that with a little luck, a lot of perseverance, and plenty of trials and errors, we can keep this publication at the same high standards it has always been held to.

The Wagnerian is a powerful entity on campus. It is a way for students, regardless of class, GPA, race or gender to write about things that interest them. It can inspire change, not only in students, but on campus as well—for example, soon after a story about the dilapidated restrooms in the Harbor View bathrooms was published, the rooms received a major facelift. Our paper is a hard copy chronicle of what is important to us as a campus, from major events like the opening of a residence hall, to small personal gripes about registration. We are a



Photo: Kim Testa

Kristen Haggerty (left) and Caroline LaTorre (right) look forward to expanding the Wagnerian staff this semester.

forum for change, a place where students can express themselves, and a link between the administration and student body.

Continuing this tradition is very important to us as editors, and if it is important to you to, please think about joining our staff, writing a

story, or submitting information about your club or organization to be published. Check out a meeting or email us at [wagnerian@wagner.edu](mailto:wagnerian@wagner.edu)!

--Kristen Haggerty & Caroline LaTorre  
Editors in Chief

the wagnerian

Caroline LaTorre and Kristen Haggerty

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# Professor Profile

## Johnson ‘stays on her toes’ teaching

By MISTY ROSSO  
Assistant Opinions Editor

Professor Erica Johnson’s students love her because of how approachable she is. When she teaches it is clear that she truly cares about her students and loves educating young minds. It is also evident that she has a great passion for literature, which allows her students to become excited about the material being covered in her class.

Professor Johnson attended Carleton College, a small liberal arts college in Minnesota, where she graduated with a degree in anthropology.

She soon discovered that she was more drawn to the humanities than she was to social sciences. She then went on to receive her M.A. from the University of Washington, and she received her Ph.D. from the University of California.

Before coming to Wagner, Professor Johnson taught at Chatham University, a small women’s liberal arts university in Pittsburgh, for three years.

Once she made the decision to come to Wagner, she was very excited about working at such a “robust” college with “solid liberal arts”. She was also drawn to the “vitality of the structure of the learning communities” and she praises Wagner’s learning communities and their abil-



Photo: Wagner College  
Johnson’s passion for literature inspires her students

ity to build close relationships not only among students and faculty, but also among faculty members themselves.

Professor Johnson has two published books along with numerous articles. She describes the writing and publishing process as “rich and satisfying”, but what she finds most satisfying is the experience of writing and teaching.

She says, “teaching is what keeps you on your toes”. She also says that it is a “rich experience to be able to share something like literature with other interested people and curious, engaged students”.

When she is not busy at Wagner,

Professor Johnson likes to spend time with her husband and son, to whom she accredits her outstanding pitching ability. When she is not playing baseball with her son, she enjoys reading, writing, running, and spending time in New York City.

She loves to spend her days in New York City’s parks, especially Bryant Park and Prospect Park, as well as just walking around Manhattan, and attending different events the city has to offer.

She also enjoys theatre, and is exposed to a lot of children’s theatre because of her son. She has even seen Mary Poppins twice!

She also describes the opportunity to see authors in New York City as a “special perk” of studying literature in the metropolitan area. Professor Johnson is an experienced traveler, and her favorite food is any gelato found in Italy- especially espresso!

When asked “what is the best book you have ever read?”, Professor Johnson has to pause and think for a moment - what an impossible question for someone who loves literature as much as Professor Johnson does! She says that Toni Morrison’s Beloved is a book that everyone should read, and has had an enormous influence on her.

Professor Johnson describes Dionne Brand as an “incredible” author, and is fascinated by Jean Rhys’ Good Morning Midnight. She also loves poetic prose.



Freshman Orlando Parker in the game against St. Francis.

## NCAA national ranking achieved by men’s basketball

By ALYSSA AHERN  
Wagnerian Staff Writer

The men’s basketball team is off to a 4-1 record, ranking second in the Northeast Conference (NEC). Head coach Dan Hurley explains that, “We’ve been able to take significant steps ... But we haven’t accomplished anything, and we have a long way to go.” On Thursday, Saint Francis (NY) ruined the Seahawk’s perfect run. A perfect 4-0 start in the NEC has not happened for the Green and White since the 2007-2008 season.

Besides having a 4-1 record in the NEC, Wagner has most recently been added to the NCAA national rankings. As a team, the Green and White are ranked eighth in the nation in free throw shooting and 14th in three-point shooting. Their previous game against Saint Francis (PA) may have increased the national rankings for three-point shooting. Wagner went 12 for 15 in three-point shooting.

To add to the stats, in the Saint Francis (PA) game, the Seahawk’s had at one point a game-high 30 point lead, resulting in a 81-53 win. The game was played before a national audience on MSG+ and Fox College Sports, held in the Spiro Sports Center with a 2,034 person crowd.

Three individuals are recognized as well. Freshman Latif Rivers, who made his first 31 free throws, is fifth nationally at 93.8 percent (60-64)

from the line. Junior Tyler Murray is 68th nationally in scoring with his league-best 17.7 ppg and 65th at the free throw line (.854). Freshman Naofall Folahan is among the leaders, ranking 64th in blocks with a NEC-best 1.9 bpg.

Leading the Wagner in the impressive game against Saint Francis (PA) was Murray, who scored a game-high 20 points. The Canadian native has now notched 20 points six times, including the last three games. Freshman Latif Rivers and sophomore Josh Thompson each notched 15 points.

At 18:05 in the second half, Thompson began a 8-0 run that stemmed from an alley-oop lay-up, assisted by junior Chris Martin. Martin had a game and career-high 10 assists, against just two turnovers, with nine points. The game included several dunks, a rowdy crowd and a lot of individual record breaking.

“Any team can win any game ... There is a lot of competition, and the small things separate teams ... It’s not going to be easy,” were head coach Dan Hurley’s thoughts heading into the St. Francis (NY) game. Unfortunately, the Green and White could not capitalize falling short 56-72.

The Seahawk’s take on Long Island University at 4:30 pm on Saturday the 15. Following that their next game will appear on Time Warner against powerhouse, Quinnipiac at 7:00 pm on January 20.

## George Colon: Omelet maker extraordinaire

By STEPHANIE McBRIDE  
Wagnerian Staff Writer

Every morning, Monday through Friday, George Colon wakes up at 3 o’clock to get ready for work. An hour later, after the cab drops him off at Wagner College, George starts his daily routine of preparing breakfast for students and faculty, until the cafeteria opens at 7 a.m. His hard work doesn’t stop until 12:30 p.m., where he then braces for his three mile walk back to his Bay Street apartment. Every night, George goes to sleep at six o’clock for his early morning rise.

Everyone on campus knows who George is. “Of course I know George, he makes my two fried eggs with cheese every morning,” a current freshman claimed. But what else do we really know about George? He memorizes our smiles, sports teams, and even our omelet orders, but what can we say about him?

A Puerto Rican native, George has been a cook at Wagner since 1983. He is proud to say that he has been a master at omelet frying and flipping for 23 years to date. “When I first started, the food service here was T.J. McDermont instead of Chartwells. Man, I used to make my recipes from scratch... lasagna, veal, chicken...you name it,” George said modestly, trying to hide the fact that behind closed doors, he was a phenomenal cook.

Cooking is George’s passion. His

eyes light up when he talks about it. He not only cooks for Wagnerians, but he loves to cook at home either experimenting with new recipes or sticking with his classic signature dish, scrapple. Scrapple consists of frying leftover meat (mostly pork) to complete this simple yet yummy dish. Aside from corn beef brisket, it is his favorite meal.

On the weekends, George loves to get his groove on to Spanish music. He travels to a local Spanish club every Friday night just to dance and let loose. Every Sunday, no matter what the season, he goes to English-town, New Jersey, which holds one of the country’s largest flea markets. He picks up items he needs, but he mostly enjoys the outdoor market and the exciting atmosphere that goes along with it.

George will choose books over television any day. “I like everything, but I love civil war and cook books. When he does turn on the television, he likes to watch anything with action, but prefers civil war movies, his favorite being “Gettysburg”.

George has two dreams that he is determined to carry out shortly after he retires. A trip to Africa is first on his list. “I see this big land and all these beautiful animals, but then I think about it, and I realize that I would want to see the animals from far away,” George laughed. Not long after his overseas experience, George wants to take his home-style cooking and start a business. His dream is to open a little pizzeria/restaurant!.

The question everyone wants to know- does George even like omelets, or breakfast for that matter? “I love breakfast! Bacon, egg, and cheese sandwiches are my favorite, that’s all I need.”

He says, “Wagner is a lot of fun. When I get down sometimes or think about my son, I go into work or think of you guys, and you keep me going. Wagner keeps me going.”

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# Violence the new substitute for political activism?

By MISTY ROSSO  
Assistant Opinions Editor

Following the events of the past few weeks, abject horror and disgust rack my brain. The recent shooting in Arizona prompts me to ask the question, is violence becoming the new American response?

Representative Gabrielle Giffords and about twenty other people were shot on January 8. Since the shooting, there has been an outpour of support from government officials as well as regular citizens. President Barack Obama held a moment of silence on the 10th as American flags flew at half-staff to honor the victims across the nation. The Supreme Court even ended its public session early, something almost never heard of, to observe the moment of silence. The Governor of Arizona, Jan Brewer, was supposed to give her official "State of the State" address on January 10. Instead, she used the occasion to call for nation unity and express

sympathy for the victims of the Tucson supermarket shooting.

While the mindset of the shooter is still being decided, the shooting has increased discussion about negative political rhetoric. Sheriff Dupnik commented on the current state of the country, saying "When you look at unbalanced people, how they respond to the vitriol that comes out of certain mouths about tearing down the government, the anger, the hatred, the bigotry that goes on in this country is getting to be outrageous. Unfortunately, Arizona, I think, has become sort of the capital. We have become the mecca for prejudice and bigotry."

Governmental figures such as Sarah Palin have been heavily criticized. Senator Dick Durbin has continually and in my opinion, rightfully attacked Palin. He made reference to her "Don't retreat; reload" rally phrase.

Senator Durbin also mentioned that Tucson was included in Palin's desired Republican districts. It is a

known fact that Palin did not approve of Giffords' support of a health care bill created several months ago. Giffords herself said "We're on Sarah Palin's target list, but the thing is, that the way she has it depicted has the crosshairs of a gun sight over our district." Eerie words to be spoken just months before the shooting at the Tucson supermarket.

It seems as if the deep and public rivalry between Democrats and Republicans could have prompted this massacre. I agree with Senator Durbin's claim that certain comments from Palin and other members of the Republic party illicit toxic and potentially dangerous ideas and rhetoric. Such rhetoric can and seemingly has led to violence becoming the acceptable response. This is a disturbing notion. Violence, whether verbal or physical, is never a positive solution.

I believe the most important thing goal of the United States of America should be unity. If we allow the anger and prejudices of various Americans

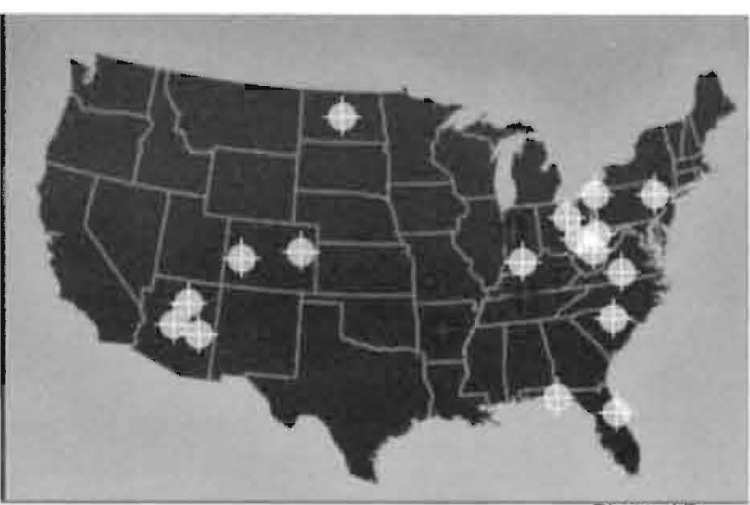



Photo: AP  
Sarah Palin's controversial 'crosshairs ad' aimed to point out which Democrats in primarily Republican districts voted for the health care bill.

to flourish, I believe a massacre such as this one will become the norm. President Theodore Roosevelt had a simple yet monumental idea that I think adequately fits this situation.

He said, "This country will not be a good place for any of us to live in unless we make it a good place for all of us to live in." I think it is time we follow Roosevelt's idea and make the United States a safer, more loving country.

FINALLY, THE END IS IN SIGHT

The road to happiness



By CHARISSE WILLIS  
Opinions Editor

I am not a fan of New Year's resolutions. I stopped making them some time in high school. This year, as people continued to share their lists with me, I decided to try something different. I did not make a list, but I did promise myself one thing.

It did not involve dieting, exercise, volunteer work, organization, or any of the other things that used to appear on my lists. Instead, I let go of my desire to be thin. I stopped feeling guilty about passing by the gym or watching a Criminal Minds marathon when I could be volunteering at a shelter. I let go of the list that tells me I was lazy, overweight and selfish last year and decided to be a little more positive.

I promised myself that I would do whatever made me happy. For some this may seem like an easy task, but did you read the preceding paragraph? In the last three and a half years I have dieted, signed up for volunteer hours that took away from

my sleep, buried myself in school work, joined way too many extracurricular activities, worked three jobs, and done a number of other things that showed I had no concern for my mental well being.

This semester, as it is my last here at Wagner, I am all about me. I will not abandon my health or forego my scholarly responsibilities, but I will do a better job of maintaining my mental health. I will take days off and say no when asked to do things. I will take on volunteer hours for causes that I am really passionate about as opposed to trying to stand for everything. I will pig out on ice cream and I will watch Criminal Minds' marathons when the lines of my thesis begin to blur together. I will do all of these things and I will not feel guilty because I have earned this break.

I encourage you to do the same. Building a resume, both professional and academic, is extremely important. However, if you are too burnt out by the end of your college career to enjoy the opportunities that will come from it, your efforts will have been in vain. Take a look at your day to day activities. Ask yourself if you are doing things that make you happy or just doing what you feel must be done. Life is not only about pleasure, but it must include it. I am not telling you to skip classes, ignore paper assignments, and skip out on your responsibilities. I am simply challenging you to make sure that, every day, you are doing at least one thing that makes you happy.

Staying true to your beliefs

Whether it's casual, romantic, or not in the equation, sex means something different to everyone

By GABRIELLE GILL  
Wagnerian Staff Writer

Sex. What's the first thing that you thought of? A flashback of last Friday? The promise ring on your left ring finger? The topic of sex always seems to be on the minds and in the mouths of Wagner students so I decided to survey people from a few different groups.

In the beginning, I got the expected answers. The most common response from both men and women was akin to "you have to test drive the car before you buy it." and "DO IT UP!"

Another male student stated that "It should be special and mean something. In my BMW would be best." A sophomore female said that "Sex is so necessary to a relationship. I think it's actually harmful to wait until marriage. And in my professional opinion, life is too short not to orgasm everyday...twice."

These were the types of humorous responses I expected and was prepared for, but having a few abstinent friends, I kept asking around to see if my friend's practices were as archaic as they seemed.

Sure enough, I ran into a number of people who told me they had never had sex. This was surprising to me, even more so because a lot of these students had made a conscious decision to not have sex. I found non-sexually active people from groups all over campus: girls, boys, theatre department- yes, yes I know, sorority girls, frat boys, and yes even athletes. These, for lack of a better word, virgins, can be split up into two groups - those who are not waiting for marriage, but simply have not had the right opportunity present itself and those who are taking a vow of chastity and waiting on wedding bells.

The second group was so much larger than I had assumed it would be that I decided to figure out why people chose this path. A female sopho-

more explained that sex "is a special experience that I only want to share with my husband. I believe abstinence is the safest when it comes to diseases, it's scarier nowadays. This is what I wish to do, not my parents, not my religion, just me." Another female student had similar reasoning. "I think that I am going to end up waiting until I get married to have sex. I'm definitely not having sex if I'm not in love with someone, that's just not my style. I think I'll end up waiting because sex is a very intimate thing for me and I don't really feel comfortable doing it with anyone that I don't plan on being with for a long time. Also, I love being in college and not having to worry about birth control, STDs, and getting pregnant. But who knows, I could change my opinion at any time."

Getting male students to talk openly about not having sex was a bit more of a hassle.

Luckily, my friend John Garrish, President and Founder of Fellowship of Christian Athletes, was eager to help me out and sit down with me and discuss his views. John practices chastity, the act of waiting until marriage to engage in sexual activity. Knowing that John is a man of faith, I asked if this was the motivation for his vow, and he said that now it was, but it was more than that. He was raised to respect women, and to him waiting is part of that. "God willing, one day I will have a wife and I would like to look her in the eye and say I saved myself for you."

I asked John if it was difficult for him, as a male college athlete to deal with pressures from friends and society. He said that "Culture, society, it's so sex driven. Anything can use sex to sell it." It is in the music we listen to, the TV shows we watch, everything. Friends know his beliefs, and suggest girls for him who don't want just sex.

With the inescapable societal pressures, and usually understanding

friends, the most difficult thing for John is the temptation of women. Meeting new girls who do not know or understand can be a trying experience. "In college, girls will just throw themselves at you" which can obviously put someone with his values in an uncomfortable situation.

John says that "When you degrade and make sex less important you take love out of life. With intimacy is love. When you lessen sex you lessen and eliminate love, and what are you living for?"

In essence he is saying that the more you have sex without love, the less special it becomes. If you do that he said, "What makes your wife different? She's just the girl you liked more than all the others?"

He wants to be able to tell his wife, the woman he is made to be with forever, that he waited for her.

Thanks to John's contribution, I now had male and female opinions on the subject. However, like most issues in life, sex is not always as black and white as it seems, and there are people who have beliefs lingering somewhere in between the two main opinions.

Senior Jessica Ramsey says that she is "not completely against it [premarital sex], but it should be with someone that you trust." Meanwhile, an anonymous male states that "There should be some love involved first...I'm definitely not down with random premarital sex."

For those of you out there who are sexually active- have fun, enjoy yourselves, and be confident in your decisions. Just please wrap it up folks! Safety should always be a priority. And for those of you remaining "innocent," I commend you for staying true to your beliefs, although they may not be the most popular ones.

Whatever you are doing, you should feel comfortable doing it- if you don't there is a problem. Stand by your beliefs, but be open to other's opinions about the "dirty deed".

Something to say?  
Write a letter to the editor and see your words here!  
wagnerian@wagner.edu



## Tensions escalate between North and South Korea

By ANNA FREY  
Business Manager

The ongoing tensions between North and South Korea recently reached a new high when South Korea persisted in conducting military exercises despite North Korea's warning that such action would bring "the dark clouds of a nuclear war to hang over the Korean peninsula".

South Korea's routine artillery drills attracted special attention in December of last year as they appeared to be a show of military strength in response to North Korea's latest attacks.

Animosity between the two regions began to intensify in March when North Korea allegedly torpedoed a South Korean war ship, killing 46 sailors. Then, in November, a North Korean artillery attack on the South Korean island Yeonpyeong killed four people and was the first bombardment of a civil area since the end of the Korean War, increasing the tension even further.

Despite North Korea's threats to take serious measures should the South proceed with its drills, the danger of an a new outbreak of war could be averted thanks to the UN security council's pressure on the North Korean government to follow a path of diplomacy.

Disarmament talks between the two Koreas, China, Russia, Japan and the US have been at a standstill since April 2009. Though the North Korean government had agreed to stop its nuclear program in return for economic support in 2005, the deal was soon called off due to reasonable doubt whether North Korea was

holding up its part of the agreement. These suspicions were confirmed in November of last year when a high scale uranium enrichment facility was detected in North Korea. As a result reluctant to reassume the six-party denuclearization talks as long as North Korea doesn't prove to be sincere about abandoning its nuclear ambitions.

This decision hit North Korea hard because the region is more reliant on future relaxations of US and UN sanctions than ever, as the election of South Korean president Lee Myung-bak in 2008 lead to a drastic decrease in aid for the North on the part of South Korea.

Due to this development some experts assume that North Korea's recent provocative acts could be a strategy to create a new urgency for the nuclear talks to continue.

Other analysts suspect that the attacks might be a result of the power transfer between North Korea's current leader Kim Jong-il and his son Kim Jong-un. The latter had received key roles in the Central Military Commission last year, which is why the military actions might have been aiming at strengthening Jong-un's position.

South Korean president Lee Myung-bak, however, is unimpressed and states that South Korea's military will "respond relentlessly" if provoked again.

As a result of this attitude on part of South Korea, along with the 200,000 special operation forces and thousands of long-range artillery guns stationed at the North Korean side of the border, the possibility of an armed conflict may loom ahead

The war between the two Koreas had originally been caused by the division of the Korean peninsula, which after being ruled by Japan from 1910 to 1945 was occupied by US forces in the South and Soviet troops in the North after the conclusion of the Second World War. When Korea-wide elections failed in 1948, a Communist government was established in the North, which led to increasing tensions between the two regions. In 1950 the situation got out of hand as the invasion of the South by Northern troops triggered an open armed conflict. Soon the UN and especially US forces came to South Korea's aid, while China and the Soviet Union gave their support to North Korea. This intervention of at the time equally powerful opponents led to a stalemate and after months of negotiations an armistice was signed in 1953.

Ever since then there have been tensions between North and South Korea and the alignment of supportive countries remains unchanged.

Nevertheless, experts predict that even though the situation on the Korean peninsula is uncertain, a war initiated by North Korea is highly unlikely due to the region's economic instability and the danger of an overthrow of the government in case of a foreign invasion.

Still, international attempts to ease the tensions to eventually advance in the denuclearization process continue, one of the next steps being a meeting between Barack Obama and China's president Hu Jintao in Washington on January 19, which may lead to a more unified approach on the Korea issue



Photo: AP

Arizona Representative Gabrielle Giffords has been upgraded from critical to serious condition.

## Arizona shooter leaves wake of devastation

By MOLLY DELBRIDGE  
Asst. Nation & World Ed.

A national crisis struck Tucson, Arizona on January 8. As Representative Gabrielle Giffords was meeting with constituents outside a Safeway supermarket Saturday morning, a gunman opened fire on the assembly, with Gifford as the target.

Federal judge John Roll and Ms. Giffords were talking to a couple about Medicare and reimbursements when a young man appeared in sunglasses and a hood. His gunfire hit the judge and Giffords, along with staff members and people in the crowd. When the shooter attempted to reload his weapon, bystander Patricia Maisch seized the opportunity, and grabbed the gun's magazine away from the killer. Although the 60 year old woman was injured, she was able to stall the shooter long enough for authorities to arrive and stop him.

Prosecutors have accused Jared Lee Loughner, a 22-year-old college drop-out with five federal charges including the attempted assassination of a Congress member.

Officials have confirmed that in the shooting, 20 people were shot and six people were killed, including federal judge John Roll and a 9-year-old girl. The charges filed include three charges of attempted murder- Ms. Giffords and members of her staff- and two charges of murdering federal employees.

It is suspected that this shooting was premeditated and that essentially, Loughner was attempting to assassinate representative Gabrielle Giffords. In his home, authorities found a handwritten note in a safe saying, "I planned ahead," "My assassination," and "Giffords," along with Loughner's own signature.

Additionally, court documents explain that Loughner attended Gifford's "Congress on Your Corner" event in 2007 and included a letter from Ms. Giffords thanking Loughner for attending. The weapon found

at the scene was a Glock semi-automatic pistol that Loughner purchased on November 30th.

It was suspected that Loughner had an accomplice in his crime but it was later discovered that the suspect was a taxi driver who had driven Loughner to the Safeway parking lot, unaware of his intentions.

Earlier in October, Loughner had been suspended from Pima Community College for conduct violations. After five accounts of classroom disruptions involving campus police and remarks from other students of random outbursts, the school suggested to Loughner's parents that he should receive a mental health evaluation. However, in October Loughner withdrew from school altogether. Classmates describe him at "oddly obsessed with the 2012 prophecy" demonstrated by his online video ranting.

Although Giffords was not killed in the attempted assassination, she remains in critical condition as the bullet shot at her head went through her brain. Doctors are hopeful however because even in these early stages of recovery, she is able to respond to simple commands. However, they speculate that her recovery will take months and that she is incredibly lucky to be alive.

Republican lawmakers feel no compulsion to change the Arizona laws over gun control because they feel as though it is unrelated to the shooting.

Senator Rand Paul of Kentucky comments, "It's probably about a very sick individual and what should have been done for that person. But weapons don't kill people. It's the individual that killed these people."

Nevertheless, the nation is shaken by this devastating tragedy. House Republicans have postponed all legislation that was supposed to be considered on the floor this week.

On Monday, October 10th, President Obama called for a moment of silence honoring the wounded and the dead.

## Arkansas mass animal deaths remain a mystery

By ALYSSA BROWN  
Assistant News Editor

A strange sight greeted the residents of Beebe, Arkansas, on New Year's Eve, as hundreds of dead red-winged blackbirds fell from the sky, seemingly without cause. The birds were collected and 65 were sent to be tested. The preliminary lab report from Jan. 3, 2011 reported that "the birds suffered from acute physical trauma leading to internal hemorrhage and death. There was no sign of any infectious or chronic disease." In another strange incident, approximately 85,000 fish died in the Arkansas River on New Year's Day. Experts have said that these two incidents are unrelated- similar mass deaths have occurred before, and are not abnormal. However, since the deaths of birds and fish have occurred in Arkansas, more reports have been made of other deaths in various parts of both the USA and other countries. After the birds and fish were reported in Arkansas, there have been reports of 500 birds dead along a Louisiana highway; hundreds of birds dead in Murray, Kentucky; 8,000 turtle doves falling from the sky in Italy, each with a strange blue marking on their beaks; 2,000,000 fish dead in the Chesapeake



Photo: AP

Dressed in a biohazard suit, a worker collects deceased blackbirds for scientific study.

apeake Bay in Maryland; 40,000 crabs washed up near Kent, England, and 150 tons of red tilapia dead in Vietnam.

With all of these reports, there are, of course, numerous theories about why these deaths have been happening. Many conspiracy theorists related the deaths to the idea of 2012; the fish and bird deaths were included in a few skits on the January 8 episode of Saturday Night Live, referring to the apocalypse as the "aflockalypse" and the "apocafish," amongst other jokes. Another initial public suspicion was that the animals were poisoned. Labs results proved otherwise, but concerns are still present, especially since other areas have been affected. One theory for the multiple fish deaths is the unusually

cold weather. It has been said that in many areas it is up to 25% colder than usual. Also, in cold weather, fish stay together in small areas to keep warm beneath the surface. If there would be a disease, the disease would spread significantly faster when fish are in closer quarters. A newer theory that has come about is that the deaths are a result of the shift of The Magnetic North Pole, which has been shifting towards Russia at a steady pace at about 25 miles per year. This could be interfering with the animals' natural navigation systems, which use magnetism as a guiding force. The animals may be confused about where to go to avoid the cold weather.

None of these theories have been proven to be true, but are currently only speculations.



# 'Black Swan' delivers shocking and psychotic glimpse into the world of ballet

By SAMANTHA KNOERZER  
Asst. Entertainment Editor

Ready for the Oscars? This movie is. "Black Swan", starring Natalie Portman, is a new kind of epic thriller that takes the idea of the beauty of the ballet theater, and turns it into an insanely manic and sexual behind-the-scenes concept. Nina Sayers, played by Natalie Portman, is a struggling young dancer that always seems to be cast in the background of performances. It is only when her director decides to do a new, modern version of Swan Lake that she gets the chance to audition. At first she is told that she is not getting the part. Her director claims that she is too much the innocent 'white swan' and not enough the alluring 'black swan,' but eventually through her persuasion she is given the part. In order to prove she deserves it, Nina goes through rigorous training that sets her up to experience a series mental breakdowns that send the audience through a thrilling search for what is actually occurring, and what is simply in Nina's imagination.

The scenes in which she is having one of her manic episodes are some of the most entertaining to watch. There is a lot of blood, gore, and sexual perversion throughout the movie

that intensify the audience's reaction to what occurs, and Natalie Portman's excellent portrayal of a delusional, perfectionist ballet dancer is something very enjoyable to see.

An interesting behind-the-scenes story about the movie is what Natalie Portman had to do to get into character. In order to portray a ballet dancer, Natalie Portman had to actually learn how to dance en pointe. While memorizing her lines and acting, Portman also had to learn how to pirouette, plie, and pas-de-chat in a fluffy white tutu, all the while appearing professional.

The makeup and digital animation was brilliantly done, and was crucial in advancing the plot. Nina turning into a black swan was fascinating to watch, as you could physically see her body morph as she progressed, though it was all in her imagination. The link of her getting 'goose flesh' across her arms to her skin condition in which she scratches herself vigorously and picks at her nails was a gory, but definitely interesting to watch as the marks are bleeding one minute and are completely gone the next, leaving you to wonder what is actually happening and what is just in Nina's imagination.

The final scenes are very exciting to watch as her breakdown goes into full swing during her first performance as the lead in Swan Lake. The



Natalie Portman, as Nina Sayers, prepares in her dressing room for her leading role in a modern version of 'The Swan Princess'.

final scene is a dramatic ending to a on-the-edge of your seat thriller, as Nina follows her character in the dance to extremes, therefore ending her crowd encore with a realistic ending that links her ending with the plays.

This movie keeps you at the edge of your seat throughout the whole thing. There are mental breakdowns, sexually perverse scenes, and gory dramatic moments that keep the audience members stunned, shocked, and speechless as they watch each intense event unfold.

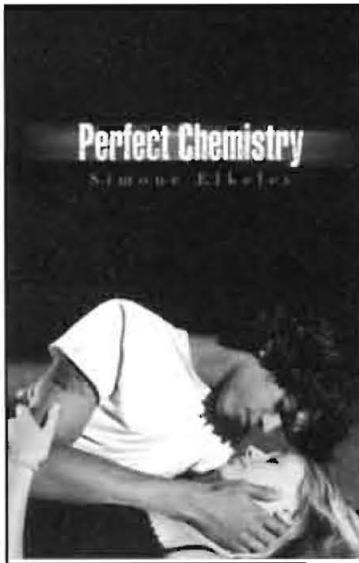
## A real romance, no vampires involved

By NICOLE LINK  
Wagnerian Staff Writer

The recipe for Simon Elkeles book series? Take one part Twilight, without the vampires and awful writing skills of Stephanie Meyer, combine with one part Romeo and Juliet, and sprinkle with just a touch of Grease. For extra enjoyment, be sure to ignore the cheesy title and cover artwork.

Simone Elkeles takes the age-old concept of forbidden love, and uses her expert writing skills to write a beautiful and completely original story. The plot is overflowing with poignant details that will keep you yearning for more even after you read the flawless epilogue.

"Perfect Chemistry" is the first



A cheesy cover, but a great book!

book in the series by Simone Elkeles. The tale is thrilling, exciting, heartwarming, and undoubtedly unlike any other love story you've ever read.

It follows the lives of two seniors in high school who fall in love, despite all the obstacles in their way - Brittany is a wealthy cheerleader who appears to have it all together while Alex is a gang member from the wrong side of town, struggling to provide for his mother and brothers.

Alex and Brittany fall in love, and learn what it takes to make a relationship work, despite different worlds rooting for them to fail.


"Rules of Attraction", the sequel to Perfect Chemistry, follows the life of Alex's younger brother, Carlos, during his senior year. Uprooted from his new home in Mexico, Carlos finds himself being taken in by a generous and caring professor.

Carlos just wants to finish out the year, and get far away - he never expected to fall in love with Kiara, the professor's teenaged daughter. However, that is exactly what happens. Once Carlos is able to let his guard down, a perfect relationship begins.


"Perfect Chemistry" and "Rules of Attraction" are guaranteed to be the most real books you've read in awhile - you'll instantly feel a connection with the characters, and your heart will swell with joy when everything works out happily in the end. Even fans of "Twilight" will appreciate this entirely human storyline!

"Chain Reaction", the third book in the series will be in bookstores this May!


Wagner College Theatre  
Spring 2011 Season




**'Smokey Joe's Cafe'**  
Main Stage  
February 23, 24, 25, 26  
and March 2, 3, 4, 5, 6



**'Loose Knit'**  
Stage One  
March 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6



**'Seussical the Musical'**  
Main Stage  
April 13, 14, 15, 16 and  
27, 28, 29, 30, May 1



**'The Dance Project'**  
April 26, 27, 28, 29, 30,  
and May 1

Evening performances are at 8pm. Matinees are at 2pm  
Student rush available one hour before house opens for Mainstage shows.  
Students can attend Stage One performances for free by showing their student I.D.



## the world according to GOOCH

### The anti-New Year's resolution

*What's not going to change in 2011*

So here we go....a new year, a new you....right? 2011. We're going to seize that day out there. Carpe Diem...blah blah blah. I'm here to tell you that you actually don't have to change at all or even think about it! Like you're not going to be thinking about organizing your school supplies when you're relaxing on the Oval, or how purging those clothes that you never wear but keep 'just because there might be that one day when you really feel like wearing that one pair of pants that hasn't fit for 5 years now but now that you're also going to lose a lot of weight, you'll be able to finally fit into when you hit up the new Lackmann spread down in that beloved dining hall of ours'. So I'm here to offer you the Anti-New Year's Resolution list. Why change? But, if you're going to change, mix it up! Instead of erasing the "bad habits" in your life, why not exaggerate them ten times more? I am here to give you some suggestions.

So I'm sure you've caught at least a bit of the new season of Biggest Loser. Immediately I thought, OK Jillian Michaels, weight loss plan 2011. I'm hitting the gym- no carbs, no flab, I am going to be in the best shape of my life, move out of the way Kelly Ripa- and then I got to New Years Eve. After consuming enough calories for the entire year in one evening of celebration, my original plan didn't seem so reasonable. So then I changed my goal....be skinnier than Oprah. Be skinnier than John Goodman. Be skinnier than Ruby before the weight loss. Be skinnier than Jennifer Hudson before Weight Watchers. Appreciate the chub. Paula Deen is your friend. Become acquainted with the burger stand in the dining hall. All the bacon, tater tots, cream cheese, nachos, wings and so forth you could ever want. Do it up. Why not live a little?

On to the next most common resolution- to stop smoking in 2011. Now I'm not a smoker, but I will bet you money that if you got through the first months of winter going outside to light up, through wind, through rain, through snow, through walking that whole long bridge to get to the smoking hut, I'm here to tell you you're probably going to smoke more. It's going to get warmer. If you're at a pack a day, why not make it 3, hell, if we're at that go for 6. Make it a game. See how often you can possibly smoke. Try all different kinds of cigarettes. Say yes to menthol. Say yes to second hand smoke. For that Parisian cool, je ne sais quoi....that Sandy-transformation cool in Grease...that Williamsburg hipster cool. Smoking is cool, don't deny it, supply it, rely on it, stand by it! Show everyone you have an enviable commitment to something.

Now to the love portion of most people's resolutions. I am here to tell

you that if you are single, no matter how many new outfits you got for Christmas, no matter what new mating tactic you've picked up, no matter what Cosmo or GQ says, single is going to stay the standard. Guys you might have different goals but I'm quite positive adding to your number of sleepovers post sausage-fest at the bar has been thrown into your calculation somewhere during this winter break. Girls, those Cosmo horoscopes are indeed fun to read but no matter what you're best love days are- mine are 8, 21, 14, 27 if you were wondering- it's not going to work out. Like what does that mean? If that means that since my birthday is on February 8<sup>th</sup> and I will turn 21, I will meet a boy who is 27 and is going to sweep me off my feet on 14<sup>th</sup> Street, awesome. But that 27 year old man could also have 8 sexually transmitted diseases, 14 cats and an affinity for 21 things that you just might not like. These are the things they don't include in the magazine.

I suggest that we take new role models such as Snooki or Ke\$ha. They are both very wealthy because of their passion for getting rowdy and being extremely unhealthy at the same time. Which, actually, would go wonderfully with the prior discussion about our new weight plan. If you're in a relationship, this is 'the year of the break up'. Cue the angry Alanis Morisset music. I mean, if your relationship status has changed on Facebook over 5 times in 2010, maybe you should reconsider...just sayin'. But hey, I'm the single one, so who am I to talk. I still think that my Billy Crystal from *When Harry Met Sally* is out there...if you can't find me, I'll be waiting on the Empire State Building. I'm free on Valentine's Day. So yea, Wagner...let me know.

But really, in 2011 you're going to get really serious about school. Last semester was just an off semester. But spring 2011, this little ol' college of ours is going to see a new you, a scholar, Harvard quality, you even bought the glasses and the Polo and Vinyard Vines ensembles for inspiration. Horman is your oyster and you've never liked seafood before but you're about to Captain D on that place.

I'm actually very excited to see every new face in there and talk to you and be loud and not get any work done with our computers opened up to Facebook. They're going to have to make more room on the Dean's List wall so kindly placed for the viewing pleasure of those visiting the Hawk's Nest. Then, we can all sit around at breakfast and talk about how many hours we were studying and how we have 2 more all nighters to pull before that Thursday deadline arrives and wear sweat pants and not shower and zombie walk through the campus. Man, I am so stoked about this ya'll. It's truly going to be magi-



cal.

No but seriously, I'd like to make a toast. First, to Ted Williams for taking advantage of his newfound fame and fortune and to finding his family on Dr. Phil in which they sent him to rehab. If the "Golden Voice'd", Obama look-a-like homeless man can make such huge strides in 2011, we can too! Second, to all of the extra quarters you collected over the break, laundry is going to be done and done at least in time for you not to run out of clothes or sleep in the same sheets for 2 months in Spring semester. Third, to President Guarasci. Fourth, to the new season of Teen Mom, may we all learn from the very well-mannered young lady herself, Jenelle Evans and her heartbreaking story of having to give away her baby Chase....oh, I'm sorry it's Jace. May we not become teen moms in 2011. Fifth, to Lackmann. Sixth to the comeback of Britney Spears, "Hold It Against Me", we will not. Seventh, to all of the lucky men and women that are now travelling across seas for the same tuition price as those of us that are still in the marvelous US of A. Hey, I mean the Oval's pretty cool. Eighth, to Spring Break 2011- C'ABO BABY! Ninth, to our sports teams- may they all do really well at their sports and may their coaches get a lot of recognition for being really good at coaching their sport and may they still like their sport after their sporting season is over and may they not have to wake up too early and/ or miss out on too many large social non-sporting events because of it. Tenth, a large cheers to Pretty Lights for being awesome and coming to our humble abode despite any doubts or low expectations. Sidenote: Wagner, I will be upset if you don't show up to this, you will be pleased and you will not be doing anything cool that night- I already know. Eleventh, to all of you who actually do have New Year's resolutions, may you attend to them most diligently and not listen to my jaded and yet, quite truthful measure of 2011.

I think we can do this. I believe in you that you will listen, accept and understand all that has been included in the Anti-New Year's Resolution. WE'RE BACK!

Most sincerely and dearly, Susanna Katharine Gooch



Photo: AP

## Nook delivers high quality e-reading minus the high price

By SAMANTHA KNOERZER  
Asst. Entertainment Editor

There has been a lot of hype about the new book reading tablets that were marketed so heavily this holiday season. There are many options for these e-readers, leaving some consumers confused. Some want the iPad, while still others are waiting for the new Blackberry Playbook to come out. Popular, and cheaper, options include the Borders Islick, the Amazon Kindle, and the Barnes and Noble Nook.

When comparing features for reading, the Barnes and Noble Nook is just as good as the iPad, and can do pretty much everything the iPad can for half the price. The original Nook or new Nook Color can be a smart investment if you want to read books, magazines, or just surf on websites. The quality of the screen is amazing, with clear image display, and with a slide of your finger across the screen you can turn the page in order to make it feel like you are reading a real book.

You can buy any book that is sold in Barnes and Noble bookstores, and the books are cheaper on the Nook than they are in print. The Nook also includes with a few extras, such as the popular music website Pandora. You can download pictures and videos onto a nook, and even set your own background just like a computer. It is like a mini computer in the palm of your hand. It is compact, easy to carry around, and great for on-the-go read-

ing.

The Nook has 3G and WiFi internet which can be accessed from anywhere with free Wifi. With the WiFi you can purchase as many books as you want, which download in seconds for you to be able to read. There is also a cool application on the Nook in which you can 'lend' your books from your Nook to your friend's Nook and they can keep the 'lent' book for free for about two weeks.

However no piece of technology is perfect, and like all other pieces of equipment, the Nook has kinks that need to be worked out by the company. Though you can access many different sites from the Nook, it has minimal protection against viruses, and therefore you must be careful when accessing unprotected sites. Even one virus can mess up the Nook for good, so it's best to be careful with what websites you go on.

The Barnes and Noble Nook Color is a great product for anyone who wants to read books and magazines easily and conveniently on the go. Instead of carrying all of your favorite books around, you can now save them all onto one convenient tiny, light, portable tablet that let you access them wherever you like. You can use it wherever you want: airports, long car rides, or just sitting at home without the inconvenient hassle of carrying around millions of books. You can even download all your school textbooks onto it, and then not have to worry about lugging them all semester around. It truly is a piece of technology worthy of a fast moving, modern technology-based world.

## Interested in journalism? Join us!

Writers, photographers,  
and designers wanted.

Meetings every Monday  
@ 8:30 p.m. in Union 202.



# Wagner College

## upcoming events for spring 2011

### January

Thursday 20- Wagner Men's Basketball game  
 Friday 21- Martin Luther King Day of service  
 Tuesday 25- First SGA meeting  
 Thursday 27- WAGCAB movie night

### February

Tuesday 1- *Mary Poppins* Broadway show  
 Monday 7- Saturday 12- Greek Recruitment Week  
 Thursday 10- Black History Read Aloud  
 Tuesday 15- *Addams Family* Broadway show

### March

Wednesday 2- Relationship speaker Ellen Gootblatt  
 Monday 7- Friday 11- Spring break!  
 Thursday 17- *Phantom of the Opera* Broadway show  
 Saturday 26- Songfest

### April

Saturday 9- Wagnerstock and Girl Talk show  
 Thursday 14- *How to Succeed in Business* Broadway show  
 Monday 18- Chai Society passover seder  
 Wednesday 27- *Catch Me If You Can* Broadway show

### May

Monday 2- Last day of classes  
 Tuesday 3- Relaxation fair  
 Friday 20- Commencement



Photo: AP



Photo: AP

**Ask Your friends why they love Alor Cafe!**

**Monday Through Friday**

**Lunch Special**  
 (\$10 any two items plus free coffee)

\*\*\*\*

**Dinner Special**  
 (\$10 entrees from 4pm - 7pm)

\*\*\*\*

**Happy Hours**  
 (\$4 sandwich....)

\*\*\*\*

**Th. Fri. Sat.**

**Live Music & Special Events**  
 (no cover charge).

\*\*\*\*

**Late Nights**  
 (Full kitchen open all night)  
 (\$1 egg omelette from 3 am)

\*\*\*\*

**Wagner Girls Special**  
 FREE dessert with purchase of appetizer or salad.  
 (from 1am till 3am)



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