

The Wagnerian

Wagner College

Tuesday, November 22, 2005

Staten Island, NY

“Wagner is less homogeneous than it’s ever been before. But we cannot be satisfied. We must see this as a step in a journey.”
 -- Dr. Devorah Lieberman, provost

Campus diversity is still a work in progress

By ALEX JACOBS
 Wagnerian Co-Editor

The “Celebrate Diversity” signs and banners posted all over campus beg the question: Just how diverse is Wagner College?

The answer in terms of numbers, in terms of sentiment, in terms of goals — turns out to be simpler than one might think: In short, we’ve come a long way, but we still have a way to go.

In fact, with 13 percent of Wagner’s student body being made up of students of color, this college is actually ahead of the mark for most similar small liberal arts schools, which have on average about 10 to 11 percent, says Angelo Araimo, vice president of enrollment and planning.

But that still falls far behind the great diversity found here in New York City, where the black and Hispanic communities each make up 27 percent of the population, while Asian-Americans make up another 10 percent, and 13 percent of New Yorkers report another race.

“Wagner is not reflective of the diversity that surrounds us,” says Dr. Devorah Lieberman, college provost and vice president of academic affairs. “We don’t want Wagner to become an ‘island’ on an island! We want to be a part of the Island, a part of the city as a whole.”

The reason for this disparity falls less on Wagner in particular and more on higher educational trends as a whole, Araimo says.

“We are committed to doing better, but this is a college-wide, and not just a student recruitment, issue,” he said.

In fact, according to the Minorities in Higher Education Twenty-First Annual Status Report, only 9.8 percent of Hispanic high school graduates and 17.5 percent of African-American high school grads completed college between 2000 and 2002, while 34.6 percent of whites did.

But gains are being made, across the board and within the Wagner community.

The same status report shows that between 1991 and 2001, white enrollment in college declined, while minority enrollment increased, raising the minority share of higher education from 20 percent in 1991 to 27

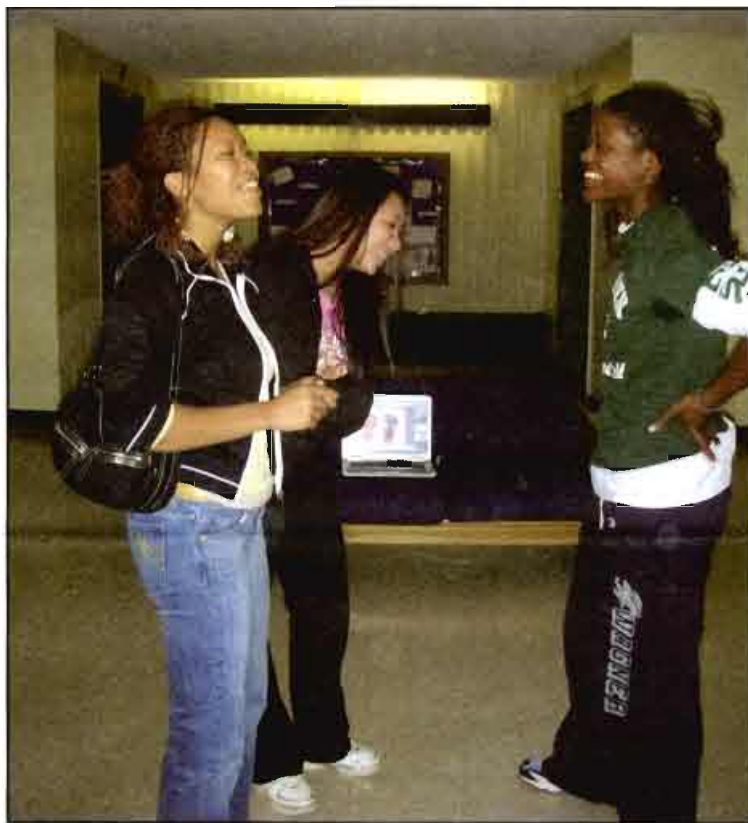


Photo by Laura Gardner

Groups like the Nubian Student Union reflect Wagner’s growing diversity. For more on the club, see Page 2.

percent to 2001.

“Wagner is less homogeneous than it’s ever been before,” Dr. Lieberman said. “But we cannot be satisfied. We must see this as a step in a journey.”

In the interest of taking that next step, of increasing diversity, Dr. Lieberman spearheaded the creation of the Diversity Action Council, whose charge is not only to focus on rhetoric, but to take action, instigating change in the Wagner community.

Ruta Shah-Gordon, associate dean for student development, and assistant professor Dr. B. N. Kumar co-chair the council, and the other members are Dr. Amy Eshleman, Dr. Shaohua Hu, Assistant Athletic Director Kimberly Marsh, Administrative Assistant Susan Rosenberg, and students Jessica Ford, Gwendolyn Moore, and Armand Valdes.

“We have the opportunity to create a fantastic environment that’s welcoming for all,” Dr. Lieberman said. “We aren’t only thinking of diversity in terms of race. We’re also looking for diversity of religion, ethnicity, sexual orientation, ability, geographical orientation, and language.”

The Diversity Action Council hopes to conduct focus groups next semester, including students, faculty, and staff, Shah-Gordon said.

The council wants to use this dialogue “to put together a blueprint for Wagner’s campus, on the way to success,” she added. The council is also working on a mission statement and Web page.

Another sign of increasing diversity on campus is the growing number of student organizations representing affinity groups. These clubs include: the Nubian Student Union,

Wagner College undergraduate demographics 2005-2006

Female:	1,200	63.4%
Male:	692	36.6%
White:	1,512	79.9%
Black:	99	5.2%
Latina/o:	87	4.6%
Asian-American:	50	2.6%
American Indian:	4	0.2%
Unknown/Other:	140	7.4%

--Source: Rosemary Anastasio, institutional research director

the Muslim Student Association, the Lutheran Student Movement, Hillel, and more.

“These affinity groups provide opportunities to maintain cultural richness while continuing to support cross-cultural ties. It’s just a wonderful statement on the current atmosphere here at Wagner and the vision we have for our campus,” Dr. Lieberman said.

Nubian Student Union Vice President Aaron Robinson agrees. “We are here to be the stepping stone to true diversity,” he says.

Banner beauty



These banners are just one part of the “Celebrate Diversity” festivities. For more on diversity, see Page 2.

Following theft, lost key policy is changed

By ALEX JACOBS & ANDREW MINUCCI
 Wagnerian Staff Writers

Taking action to abate student security concerns, Residence Life has changed its lost key policy.

This is partly in response to the circumstances surrounding the Oct. 2 theft of freshman Olivia Nagle’s Dell laptop and Canon digital camera. An article on this theft and the impact it had on Nagle, who with her hardware lost digital pictures of her deceased father, appeared in the last issue of the Wagnerian.

When Nagle lost her room key, she reported it to Residence Life, and unknowingly left her room unlocked in the meantime. Nagle didn’t know that students without keys are allowed free lock-outs. It was after this that the break-in occurred.

“After I talked to Olivia, I checked, and this information isn’t in the Student Handbook,” Lavina Panjabi, director of Residence Life, said. “RAs are supposed to let residents know in their first freshman floor meeting, but it’s easy to forget. It will definitely be in the handbook next year.”

It’s also unclear how Nagle’s request for a new key left her waiting for two weeks—normally Maintenance cuts a new key within 24 hours, Panjabi said.

“We have no e-mail records of requests to Maintenance, but it’s possible (Nagle) spoke to the desk attendant or the e-mail simply was never sent or got lost,” Panjabi said.

“In the past, there has never been an issue of having stuff stolen after a student lost their key,” Panjabi noted.

In the interest of making sure no other students’ requests for new keys get lost in the mix, Residence Life has changed its policy.

Effective immediately, when students lose their key to their room and report this to Residence Life, a request will immediately be sent out to Maintenance to make a new key and replace the lock within 24 hours. To ensure that no one who may have found a room key can use it in the future to break in to the room, resi-

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Wagner's gender gap reflects national trend

By LAURA GARDNER
Wagnerian
Entertainment Editor

While Wagner College was not established as a co-ed institution, females here now find themselves surpassing their male counterparts at an almost 2 to 1 ratio. This year's incoming freshman class boasts 63.4 percent women, 36.6 percent men—a recent low for males. For the past five years, the number of incoming freshman men has remained at or around 40 percent.

These ratios reflect a more universal national trend: that of an increasing female enrollment and dwindling male enrollment. The gender disparity in college attendance is one that can be witnessed across a majority of U.S. campuses. In fact, Collegeboard.com lists NYU, Boston University, and American University with similar figures.

According to recent articles by Glenn Sacks, columnist and talk radio host, female high school grad-

uates are 16 percent more likely to go to college than males. This statistic is a reflection that the decrease in male attendance in college is rooted in instances of lower education beginning as early as elementary school.

Male enrollment nationwide in institutions of higher learning is currently at about 43 percent, putting college women in the majority for attainment of a Bachelor's degree. In fact, women outnumber men in every arena of higher education: public, private, religiously affiliated, four-year, and two-year.

Where then, are all the young men going? Much speculation surrounds the issue. One theory is that some young men feel as though they have access to skilled labor and blue-collar jobs that do not necessitate a college degree, such as construction work. Yet as job standards and expectations rise, this assumption will not necessarily be the case.

There may be the notion that a liberal arts degree isn't attractive for many young men. Wagner has a small, liberal arts setting, and this

"Men tend to go to bigger universities ...

Women tend to go to smaller liberal arts colleges."

*--Dr. Jean Halley,
professor of
sociology*

kind of environment isn't necessarily attractive to men. According to Sociology professor Dr. Jean Halley, "Men tend to go to bigger universities and get more focused, science and technology oriented degrees. Women tend to go to smaller liberal arts colleges and get broader more liberal arts type degrees."

Angelo Araimo, Vice President of Enrollment and Planning, agrees with Dr. Halley saying, "studies show that men prefer larger universi-

ties (more than 6,000 students), and women prefer smaller ones." But it still does not answer the question: Why are more women than men seeking college degrees in 2005 and what impact does this have on the future American society?

One concern is how the gap will affect the institution of marriage—a decline in the number of college-educated men may mean that women who expect to marry a man with a similar education will face a "marriage squeeze." As far as college life goes, college has become less of a haven for dating and women may find themselves in competition with each other for the decreasing male population.

Educational sources such as "The Chronicle of Higher Education" have been observing this trend for the past five years and have brainstormed ideas on how to address this problem in an effort to continue to make college more attractive to the male audience. Some of these involve expanding sports programs, which is limited with Title IX, as well as changing admission strate-

gies.

At Wagner, Araimo states they are working to bring our college's ratio closer to the 57 percent / 43 percent national average. "One way we do this is to make sure all of our 'phone-a-thons' and e-mail campaigns in Admissions target as many high school males as females, even though we may have to 'dig deeper' to find them."

Another way to view these statistics is to realize that in the past 40 or so years, female enrollment has risen dramatically: from 19.2 percent in 1967, to 38.4 percent in recent years. In this same time, male enrollment has decreased slightly: from 33.1 percent to 32.6 percent.

On either side of the issue, statistics do reflect a gender disparity on college campuses across the U.S. Although exact reasons can not be pinpointed in understanding the reason behind this, the problem is beginning to be universally recognized and examined more in depth. Hopefully, in the future, Wagner will see a rise in male enrollment.

Nubian Union serves as a forum for minority voices

By LAURA GARDNER
Wagnerian
Entertainment Editor

If you didn't take notice before, members of Wagner College's newly formed Nubian Student Union stirred attention and interest recently at their first campus activity—a dance party complete with a hired DJ in Harbor View's Gatehouse Lounge on November 1. While many students were drawn to the blaring dance music and flashing multi-colored lights, most outsiders were left asking: what exactly is the Nubian club?

The club was formed as an equivalency to other universities' Black Student Unions. While living on campus over the summer, President Azim Ross and Vice President, Aaron Robinson, both football players, sparked the idea of reforming such a group at Wagner. While similar groups have existed on campus before, there has not been the same interest and membership that the Nubian club is currently building.

"I had no idea how it would turn out...but it's been nothing but positive," Ross says. Since forming the group at the beginning of the semester, the club's attendance now hosts close to 30 members representing a diverse selection of racial and ethnic groups.

So how does a student union, focused on minority groups and issues at Wagner College, feel about diversity on Wagner's campus? The sentiments amongst Nubian members are mixed.

Senior business major Lauren Whitaker recognizes the need for Wagner to reach out more to minority groups. While looking at Wagner's black student population, she says, "I can't help but feel disappointed...and it is 2005." A few other members agreed with



Photo by Laura Gardner

Nubian Club members pose at a recent meeting.

Whitaker's statement that they feel as though Wagner is behind the times in representing their racial or ethnic group.

Some members also expressed the sentiment that while Wagner might not be reflective of the diversity in New York City, it is more representative of the more isolated Staten Island borough. In addition, Wagner is a private institution, and therefore, attracts a different student body than CUNY schools.

Not all members feel negatively about Wagner's level of diversity. Ross feels as a black student, "I do not feel underrepresented on this campus." Sophomore Jocelyn Ford recognizes that "diversity is not just race," and feels that in this sense, "Wagner falls somewhere in the middle," in regards to its student body.

This discussion on diversity was not out of place at a recent meeting, as Ross admits that group discussions are centered around "talking about issues, such as politics." The enthusiastic Nubian student union is working on getting its name out there and making the campus more aware of its purpose to promote cultural awareness. The group is also

working on developing effective fundraisers so that they can continue to serve the Wagner community as a pillar of cultural consciousness.

Hoping to be role models for a younger generation of minorities, the group is currently working on a community service project that will unite its members with the Big Brothers/Big Sisters mentorship program. In addition to this community service, the group also hopes to host guest speakers and plan an eventful Black History Month in February. Ross expresses his interest in celebrating cultural holidays that might normally be overlooked.

As new members continue to join and diversify the club, the student union will continue their mission of educating themselves and others of their role in the Wagner community. While in the process of formulating a mission statement, Whitaker comments that "we need to be a group that has courage." Vice President and senior, Robinson, adds that this attitude will lead to the group's success in the future, hopefully establishing a strong student union that can serve the Wagner community for years to come.

How does Wagner match up?

Check out the demographics of both similar and different colleges and communities to see how Wagner's diversity matches up:

Wagner College, Staten Island, N.Y.

Women 63%
Men 36%
White 80%
Black 5%
Hispanic/Latino 5%
Asian 3%
Unreported 7%

Elon University, Elon, N.C.

Women 63%
Men 37%
White 84%
Black 8%
Hispanic/Latino 2%
Asian 1%
Unreported 3%

Manhattanville College, Purchase, N.Y.

Women 68%
Men 32%
White 56%
Black 7%
Hispanic/Latino 15%
Asian 2%
Unreported 13%

New York City Ethnic Make-Up (of 8 million)

White 45%
Black 27%
Hispanic/Latino 27%
Asian 10%
Other Race 13%
Two or more races 5%
Foreign-born 35%

Moravian College, Bethlehem, Pa.

Women 56%
Men 44%
White 91%
Black 2%
Hispanic/Latino 3%
Asian 2%
Unreported 2%

Pace University, New York, N.Y.

Women 66%
Men 34%
White 42%
Black 7%
Hispanic/Latino 12%
Asian 11%
Unreported 23%

College of Staten Island, Staten Island, N.Y.

Women 57%
Men 43%
White 61%
Black 13%
Hispanic/Latino 14%
Asian 10%
Unreported 0%

United States Ethnic Make-Up (of 296 million)

White 75%
Black 12%
Hispanic/Latino 13%
Asian 4%
Other Race 6%
Two or more races 3%
Foreign-born 11%

Dr. Alauddin puts a Fulbright to good use

By **ASHLEY FOLEY**
Wagnerian Staff Writer

Every year eight hundred professors across the country, from various colleges and universities, are selected to teach in other countries. Just like students who study abroad, professors can teach abroad, and The Fulbright Scholar Program makes this possible.

The Fulbright Scholar Program is an international educational exchange program, created by Senator J William Fulbright, who believed in gaining "mutual understanding between the United States and the people of other countries of the world."

Fulbright grants are given to U.S. citizens and citizens of other countries for educational activities, university lecturing, and advanced research. Those citizens given the grants are those who are selected out of many that apply each year.

One of those to be selected was Wagner's own Dr. Alauddin.

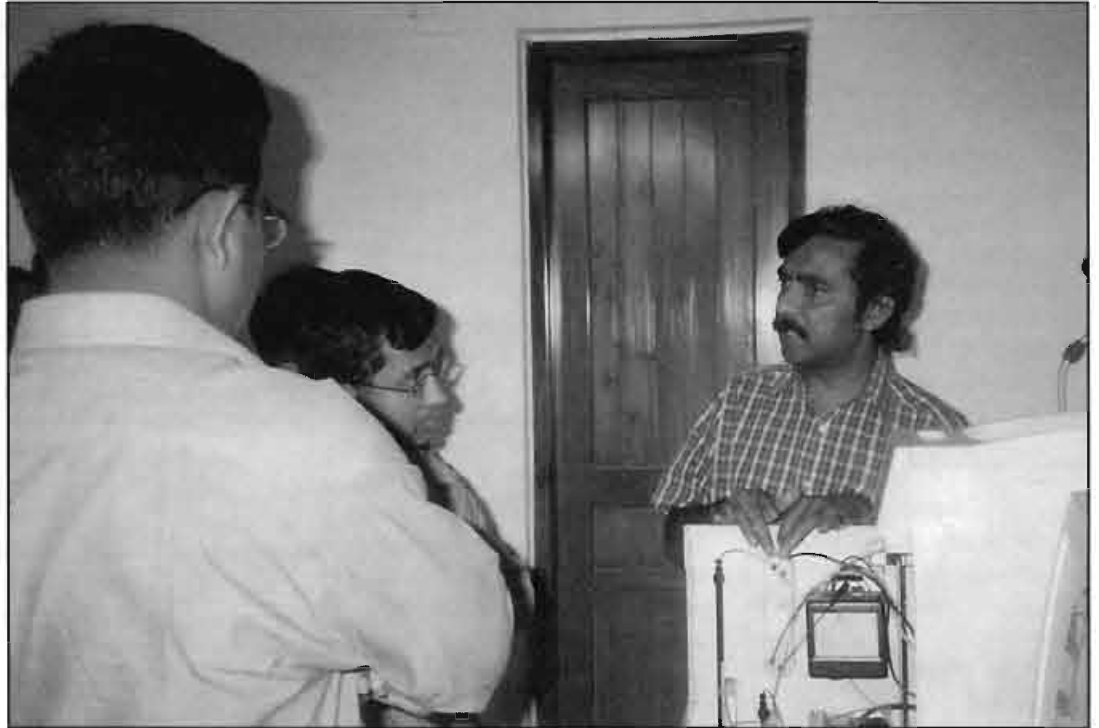
Dr. Alauddin, professor of chemistry and physics here at Wagner, was selected as a Fulbright Scholar last year. This was Alauddin's second time applying to be a Fulbright Scholar.

"To be selected as a Fulbright Scholar, is a very big honor," says Alauddin. "The application process is a very rigorous one. The Fulbright program wants to see if you can offer a lot to the country that you are going to be working in."

Some of the requirements when applying to be a Fulbright Scholar consist of U.S. citizenship, a Ph.D., experience in teaching at the college level, and, depending on the country, the ability to speak the language.

Alauddin was chosen to work and teach Environmental Issues in Bangladesh. Alauddin was born and raised in Bangladesh and has been here in the United States for over 29 years, yet he says, "I am still attached to my home country".

Since 1998, Alauddin has been working in Bangladesh, going there



Photos by Larissa Randall

Dr. Alauddin is Wagner's first Fulbright scholar. At right, he teaches students in Bangladesh.

three to four times a year. While there he is working on a major project concerning the country's water supply.

There is a continuing shortage in drinking water worldwide, and there are twenty countries facing this problem. Bangladesh is the worst being affected.

In Bangladesh, they receive their water supply from wells and these wells are being found contaminated with arsenic. Here in the United States, we take for granted fresh drinking water, but in Bangladesh, 97% out of the 140 million people depend on the well water to survive.

Because it is contaminated, it is slowly poisoning the people of Bangladesh, and the worst part is, the symptoms of the poisoning do not show up until five to ten years later.

The damage to the body is internal, and the external symptoms do not show up until it is too late. The damage from this poisoning, ultimately leads to cancer and people are dying.

Alauddin has been working in Bangladesh to figure out how many

people are being affected. He has been testing the water, by going to each well and figuring out which ones are causing the contamination. Filtration systems are a cheap way to clean the water, so Alauddin created a filtration system that became approved by the government, to help those with contaminated water. He has also trained others on how to test for the contamination as well. He even brought the water samples back to the Wagner campus, where his students have had the opportunity to test the water themselves.

All this work, led to Alauddin's selection as a Fulbright Scholar. Dr. Alauddin went to Bangladesh from September 2004 to January 2005: a whole semester. While there, he taught at the University of Dhaka in Dhaka, Bangladesh.

He gave numerous lectures and seminars at the University and other universities, making people aware of this danger affecting them. He went to hospitals and gave his students field training. He taught them how to test the water and how to test the air quality, which is also a major problem in this third world country.

In Bangladesh, they do not have electric or gas stoves like we have in the United States, so they will burn anything to use as fuel while cooking. Those fumes from the fires contain hazardous particles.

Alauddin says, "Breathing in the air in Bangladesh for twelve hours will equal the damage of smoking one pack of cigarettes. That is how bad the air quality is."

Alauddin wants to make these people aware of the dangers in their country, and help them better their living environments.

"Being in Bangladesh, I am representing the United States, I have to explain to them how we live and I have to educate them on things they do not know, but they also show me as well. It is a mix of both worlds," he said.

Although Alauddin's semester in Bangladesh is over, he still is connected to the Fulbright program.

"When I came back, people from all over were contacting me and asking about my experience and my work over in Bangladesh," he said.

He also has been asked to speak at an orientation for prospective win-

ners of the award.

Dr. Alauddin is the only winner ever from Wagner, as far as he knows, but he said, "I am encouraging many of my colleagues to apply for The Fulbright Scholar award. You get to see how another part of the world teaches and how they run things at their university."

He also mentioned, "I have had great support from the Wagner faculty throughout the entire time I've been working on this project. Everyone has been very concerned and helpful. I am very appreciative and fortunate."

As for Bangladesh, Alauddin will still be traveling there a few times a year for the next two years, to help with the air quality project.

This January he is taking some students from Wagner over to Bangladesh for twelve days.

"Seeing is more than a thousand words," says Alauddin, "and that is why I am taking the students over."

The trip is open to anyone and it can count as an (I) requirement. Anyone interested can contact Dr. Alauddin at extension 3127.

Senior history LC volunteers at soup kitchen

By **COURTNEY DONAHUE**
Wagnerian Staff Writer

Project Hospitality was established in 1982 as a private, not-for-profit volunteer organization based in Staten Island. The organization strives to provide services for those who are hungry, homeless, or in need, by supplying emergency shelter, food, and clothing. They seek to assist those hungry and homeless with means of achieving self-sufficiency.

Project Hospitality is the only homeless service provider in Staten Island, and serves more than 5,000 residents each year. It has a staff of 300 and a community of more than 600 students, religious, and corporate volunteers.

Surrounding businesses, stores, religious communities, and individual sponsors support the organization by volunteering their time or



Members of Dr. Weintrob and Dr. Smith's senior history learning community volunteer at Project Hospitality.

donating food or clothing.

The senior history LC, under the guidance of Professors Lori R. Weintrob and Alison A. Smith, went to an emergency food pantry to offer their assistance. The food pantry that the fifteen senior history students visited offers aid to affected HIV and AIDS patients and their families.

Patients at the pantry come once a

month and are able to get food based on the number of people in their family. The pantry also offers nutrition information to help the HIV and AIDS patients who need to follow a certain diet.

"The pantry provides a chance for these patients and their families to meet other patients and families to get together to share support to each other," said Alicia McBratney, one

of the participating students.

The issue of homelessness and hunger has become more apparent to the country after the effects of Hurricane Katrina. People have been sending donations to organizations like the Red Cross to try and help the people displaced by Katrina. It's good that people are concerned with homelessness in Mississippi and Louisiana, but this is a problem

all over the country. According to the Hunger Action Network of New York State (www.hungeractionnys.org), over 904,884 New Yorkers rely on soup kitchens and food pantries each week.

In New York State alone, there are 3,000 of these soup kitchens, food pantries, and shelters providing food to those who need it.

Plans for new dorm already in the works

By SARAH ZIMMERMAN
Wagnerian Co-Editor

In response to the increasing overcrowding crisis on Wagner's campus, administration announces that new dorms are finally underway.

Wagner's popularity and national standing has been on a steady increase over the past few years. Though bringing much deserved notoriety to the college, this rapid influx of student interest has forced administration to come to a much awaited decision pertaining to the "dorm dilemma." Announcing plans for new upper classman apartment-style housing, Wagner is hoping new dorms will be in place and functional by the beginning of the 2006 fall semester.

The building site of the new student housing will be where the tennis courts currently are. Administration has been waiting for this land to be assessed and approved for the project, but according to Dr. Richard Guarasci, president of Wagner

College, "As of late last week [Nov. 7] we now know the site is appropriate, satisfying what is called the geotech requirements." He adds, "We are now moving to the next stage, which is to pick a builder and pursue the permitting process."

Though blueprints are not definite at this time, Levina Panjabi, director of Resident Life, describes the dorms to be a spacious mix between the current Wagner suites and the Grymes Hill apartments. As of now, administration is aiming for each dorm room to consist of three to four two-person bedrooms (each containing their own bathroom), surrounding a common living area and kitchen. "We are hoping the new housing will hold 150 to 160 students," Panjabi shares. "Though this will increase on-campus living availability, we are using the dorm to alleviate the overcrowding, not as a way to accept more students at Wagner."

Exact building plans are not concrete to date, but administration continues to make progress toward a new option for student living.

Omicron Delta Kappa inducts 47 new members

By ALEX JACOBS
Wagnerian Co-Editor

The Wagner College Circle of Omicron Delta Kappa National Leadership Honor Society inducted its next generation of leaders on Friday, Oct. 28 in Spiro Hall 2. 47 juniors, seniors, and graduate students were honored for their accomplishments as leaders and scholars. Their combined cumulative grade point average is 3.838.

The Wagner circle also accepted three national circle awards for a record-breaking fourth consecutive year: the Circle of Distinction Award, the Superior Circle Award, and the Presidential Award for Excellence.

Dr. Joedy Smith, Wagner College ODK faculty secretary and Province I faculty director, presented the awards, which were accepted by Elisabeth Cardiello, current ODK president; Danielle King, former ODK president; and Aletta Kipp Diamond, Louise Kaufman, and Dr. Maureen Robinson, all alumni, ODK members, and college trustees.

Cardiello and King also crowned Gerard Mangieri, last year's Province I student director, with a laurel wreath to recognize him for receiving an ODK National Foundation Scholarship, one of only 16 awarded nationally.

Carl Westerdahl '59, a founding member of ODK at Wagner and second vice president of the Wagner College National Alumni Association was the keynote speaker, and was awarded the Dr. Norbert Leeseberg Alumni Award.

The inductees are:
Alumni: Dr. Maureen L. Robinson, College trustee, and Dr.



Photo by Joedy Smith

The student initiates of ODK pose in Spiro Hall.

Kenneth Popler, president and CEO of Staten Island Mental Health Society.

Honoris Causa: Joseph Masi, director of marketing, Richmond County Savings Bank.

Faculty and staff: Dr. Anne Schotter, English department chair; Dr. Mary Rose Leacy, economics professor; Mary Zanfini, campus writing center director; Andrew Schwartz, senior associate athletic director; Anthony Martinesi, Public Safety director, and Denise Martinesi, math and computer science secretary.

Graduate students: Tulin Aldas, Joan Goodman, Dina Gramegna, and Kate Rogers.

Undergraduate students: Leandra Aguirre, Racquel Campo, Mara Caputo, Richard Caro, Lee Chayot, Zeinab Coucair, Brittany Corn, Rachel Covert, Angela DeMaio, Irena DeMario, Erica Drozd, Kristina Fells, Lydia Emnott, Lauren Ernst, Kimberly Farrell, Nicole

Filippazzo, Alexandra Formica, Alison Hay, Alexandra Jacobs, Jared Jax, Molly Judge, Angela Kagres, Richard Maltesc, Jr., Kira Marshall, Emilia Martin, Julie Mason, Jacob Meranda, Michael Moawad, Kelly Opotzner, Victoria Ophthof, Farah Piracha, Jenna Pollack, Alfred Raccuia, Maris Reutzl, Christina Riguardi, Brigitta Roser, Kimberly Simck, Mitch Sims, Robin Steinthal, Gina Watzka, Christine Wendt, Bridget Wilson, and Anne Marie Zafarino.

ODK's 17th annual Dr. Norbert Leeseberg Thanksgiving Turkey and Canned Food Drive has also raised enough for over 100 turkeys with all the trimmings for the Seaman's Society for Children and Families.

The circle's next endeavor will be the holiday toy drive, which will kick off Dec. 1.

So while you join the Black Friday shopping rush, pick up an extra toy or two for a child in need, and donate it to the ODK toy drive!

OPINION

The Hawk's Nest: Good food, good people, wild times

By ANDREW MINUCCI
Wagnerian Staff Writer

Looking for the wildest and craziest party at Wagner College? Are you in the mood for a good time? Your best bet is to check out the Hawk's Nest, where the good times never seem to end. The new festive atmosphere has drawn many students to dine here instead of the dining room below.

The Hawk's Nest is comparable to the Holy Land for students with a block meal plan. Food is available here all day and it is much better than the "food" they serve in the dining room below. This year however students have noticed a difference in the Hawk's Nest, and it has nothing to do with the food. This year's Hawk's Nest staff has become known campus-wide for their wild antics and loud voices.

Common sayings heard in the Hawk's Nest are "4029 CHICKEN! Whose 4029! CHICKEN SANDWICH!" or "4036! HAMBURGER! LET'S ROLL." The screams how-

ever are not cries of anger but simply the employees carrying out their duties in a fun and exciting manner.

The numerous members of the Hawk's Nest staff have become respected by the students of Wagner College for their extremely helpful services. The staff handles the lunch and dinner rushes in a timely manner and is never reluctant to help out in any way such as throwing some free bacon on a cheesesteak or quickly refilling the condiments and soda when they have run dry. Going above and beyond their contractual duties, the staff members take time to chat with the students as they cook their meals, often asking how the pursuit of their major is going or about their weekends. These personal conversations help ease the stress of everyday college life and help alleviate the wait time while meals are being cooked.

Many students have noted that the side of the Hawk's Nest that includes the grill is much more rowdy than the side with the pizza oven. The employees who cook the pizza often remain quiet while they roll the pizza

dough and consistently check the status of the food in the oven. The grill side however is where the party happens. The chefs are fun-loving individuals making the best of their rigorous tasks.

When asked about the grill side, junior Jenny Golden states, "I just think their trying to make their jobs less stressful and put some humor and fun into it, I'm not bothered by it at all."

As festive as the Hawk's Nest is this year many students still have issues with some of the business practices of the establishment. When asked about his thoughts on the Hawk's Nest this year sophomore Bill Galluccio said, "I think the Hawk's Nest is overpriced and I still want to know why a drink isn't included when you transfer a meal, but as far as the crazy antics of the employees I don't mind it at all!" Changes in the pricing and meal options are a problem that needs to be addressed by food services.

As far as a good time the Hawk's Nest is the wildest party you can find before 11 p.m.

The Wagnerian

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IF YOU'RE INTERESTED IN WRITING,
PHOTOGRAPHY OR DESIGN, COME TO
OUR NEXT MEETING!

MEETINGS EVERY
WEDNESDAY AT 8:30,
UNION 204

Res Life's lost key policy changed, following theft

'Lock Your Door' campaign is also stepped up

Continued from Page 1

dents will now not only get new keys--they will get new locks.

Maintenance will change the locks the next day (or on Monday if a key is lost over the weekend), and the resident and their roommate will both get new keys. The lock core, the key to which is missing, will then go out of circulation for a few years.

Residents will be charged \$50 for this new key service in the past, it cost twice as much. If a key simply breaks, a resident will get a new key

for free, whereas they used to be issued the same charge.

Residence Life has also stepped up its "Lock Your Door" Campaign. When RAs do rounds of the residence halls, they try doors to see if any are left unlocked and empty. If so, they will lock the door and leave on an appliance or valuable item a special "lock your door" note with a cartoon figure of a robber, reading "If I was a thief, I would have stolen this by now!"

There has been a significant decrease in thefts this year from

years past, Panjabi noted, but with breaks coming up, she warned. "We have more thefts close to break time than at any other time of year, because thieves find it easier to get those items home and residents are a little more lax with locking their doors."

"Students have to be aware that thefts are more likely to occur if they leave their door open and someone notices, even for five minutes; if someone knows what's in the room, and around break times," she said.

Six legs, and going nowhere



Photo by Larissa Randall

This large insect -- is it a roach or a water bug? -- was captured at 11 p.m. recently in the women's bathroom near the mailboxes in the Union. Yuck.

Guttu's haunted tour frightens students

By COURTNEY DONAHUE

Wagnerian Staff Writer

On Thursday night, October 27, students set out on a Haunted Wagner campus ghost tour led by Lyle Guttu. The event was planned by Wagcab, the activities planning board on campus, to provide a fun Halloween activity for students.

To the surprise of both Campus Planning Board coordinator Ali Hay, and Lyle Guttu, close to twenty people gathered on the Union Terrace, eager to begin the spooky campus tour, and all acknowledging the large amount of students participating. Lyle Guttu began addressing the group by standing on a picnic table. "I am a little overwhelmed," he confessed. "I was expecting about a dozen of you." He explained that he would be making three stops on the tour, so the group, clad in sweatshirts, hats, gloves, scarves, and good spirits, set off for their first stop.

The first stop was the practice football field near Stage One. Lyle led the group down a hill into a small section of the woods. Students made their way down the

hill into a wooded area, stepping over logs, walking through leaves, and ducking vines hanging above them. He explained that students that years ago, there were only woods where the practice field is now. He told a story of a Wagner alumnus who had died and whose family did not have enough money for a proper burial, so his wife asked to have the urn containing his ashes buried on Wagner property. The college agreed and buried his urn in the woods, and placed a small tree at the spot, so they would know exactly where he was buried. When his wife had the money to bury him properly, she wanted his urn excavated, but when they went to find the urn, they could not locate it. The tree was gone and they could not find where they had buried the urn. So, to this day, there is still an urn buried somewhere near the field.

Afterwards, the group made their way over to a tree planted on the right side of Main Hall. Here Guttu explained that the tree has been dying of root rot, and is the only one affected in the area. The tree looked just like all the other trees around it. Originally, there was a plaque in front of this tree, remem-

bering the man who had planted it. Strangely, when the plaque went missing, the tree started dying of root rot.

The last stop of the tour was by the mailbox in back of Reynolds House. This stop was the place of a murder during the 1970s, previously written about last year in *The Wagnerian*. Apparently, a man had been constantly asking a girl for a date and she had continuously been declining. After awhile she agreed and went on one date. When he asked her again she refused. One night when she was walking up the hill behind Reynolds House, he came out of the woods, and attacked her. Although she was taken to the hospital, she unfortunately died that night. Guttu also pointed out that there is plaque located near Campus Hall in her memory.

WAGCAB succeeded in bringing Halloween fun to the campus with the spooky tour. Walking around the campus at night with the deep, low voice of Lyle Guttu, while he shared creepy information about the college, was definitely a good activity for the Halloween season.

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Information Tables

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NYPD - Nov. 22 & Dec. 8 - 10:00a.m.-2:30p.m.

ELCA Global Mission - Nov. 30 - 3p.m.-7p.m.

New York Army National Guard - Dec. 1-10a.m. 2p.m.

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The Wagnerian's pop-culture page, where you'll always

That's Entertainment

find reviews, features, and NYC's hip hang-outs

Don't drink the tea, no matter what...

Polish off the semester with "The Maids"

Wagnerian Staff Report

The savage double murder of a mistress and her daughter by their two housekeepers horrified France in February 1933. The maids had not simply killed the women, but gouged their eyes out with their fingers and used a hammer and knife to turn both women into bloody pulps.

The bodies were unrecognizable. The Papin sisters did not run though. They simply went up to their rooms, got in bed together and waited for the police to arrive.

Jean Genet was one of many who worked to retell the story of two sisters, two maids, whose rage suddenly snapped within the 'happy' home. "The Maids" follows the murderers through their grotesque and ritualistic impersonations of their employer and the subsequent designs to destroy her. Genet illustrates the ongoing themes of reality and illusions by binding them close-

ly together in the form of a sinister game played by the sisters, Solange and Claire.

There is role-playing and gender-bending as you watch these sisters play-act their 'roles' in the household.

Directed by adjunct professor Amy Williams and assisted by Amanda Snarski, "The Maids" will play December 9, 10 and 11 at 8 p.m. in Stage One.

Dr. Felicia Ruff of the theatre faculty also serves as advisor on this Senior Honor's Project, involving the students in the creative process and development.

Megan Brandt-Meyer (Solange), Billy Potvin (Claire) and Laura Pike (Madame) take on Genet's "Maids and play to win. But just watch out, because these sisters play it rough.

The Maids is playing December 9, 10, and 11 at 8 p.m. in Stage One. Admission is Free. Seating Limited.

Student music events

Support music and check out your fellow Wagner artists in these upcoming performances.

Wagner College Guitar Ensemble

Sunday, Nov. 20, 7 p.m.
Campus Hall Performance Center

Concert of New Music by Wagner Composers

Saturday, Dec. 3, 7 p.m.
Campus Hall Performance Center

Holiday Choral Concert by The Wagner College Choir

Sunday, Dec. 4, 7 p.m.
Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church
309 St. Pauls Ave., Staten Island, NY

Wagner College Band

Sunday, Dec. 11, 3 p.m.
Main Hall Auditorium

Holiday Sing-Along by The Wagner College Choir

Sunday, Dec. 11, 7p.m.
Campus Hall Performance Center

Lyfe's got your number

Singer's experiences add credibility to "Lyfe 268-192"

By YVONNE QUINONES
Wagnerian Staff Writer

Self-taught musician Chester "Lyfe" Jennings has just released his soulful debut album "Lyfe 268-192." 268-192 refers to this 26-year-old Toledo native's prison number in an Ohio Institution.

Don't worry. His album is not a catalog on how many bullet holes he has acquired or a glorification of his time in prison – not to hint at a certain rapper from Southside Jamaica Queens.

In a biography on MTV.com, Lyfe explained the message he wanted to send through his music:

"You can talk about something real and relevant and still get some record spins. You don't have to be talking about ass shaking and diamonds. That's fine but not

everybody has to talk about that. I want people to know that they ain't the only one going through something. Sure we all might know that but a lot of times you need to have it confirmed."

Lyfe began his music career like most R&B singers: by becoming a member of the church choir as a child. The gospel influence is apparent after hearing his raspy, expressive vocals over the lulling of his guitar. It's easy to get lost in thought and reflection while listening to "Lyfe 268-192."

Lyfe's career and album is almost parallel to the career of literary genius Piri Thomas. After serving time in Sing Sing Prison, Thomas used his poetry and writing as a creative and emotional outlet. He con-

tinued to pursue his writing career just as Lyfe uses singing and song-writing as his outlet. Less than three weeks after Lyfe's release he was performing on "Showtime at the Apollo." His first single "Must Be Nice" made him a five time winner at the Apollo in Harlem.

From the intro to his last song, dedicated to inmates, Lyfe tells his story and views on different situations everyone can relate to.

It feels like he's in the room with you and telling anecdotes from his life experiences. Listening makes a person do some of their own soul searching.

"Lyfe 268-192" is definitely worth your while and your money. It will be interesting to see if Lyfe can top his first album.



THE VERDICT'S IN:

A

"Some of My Best Friends" showcases talent

By LAUREN RABADI
Wagnerian Staff Writer

Stage 1 Productions have established themselves as a powerhouse with the production of "Some of My Best Friends...Too!" The show, an infusion of music, dance, and theater brings out some of the brightest stage talents on campus. Marisa Giacalone and Monette McKay start the show off with a soulful dance duet to the song "Individuality (Can

I be Me?)," which sets the theme for the rest of the presentation. The show continues on with a more comical look at racism with a ditty from Matt Ban, Evan Smith, and Liz Wentworth, entitled, "Everyone's A Little Bit Racist." The show takes a more dramatic role next, without skipping a beat, with the spectacular performance of "A Rumblin' and A Rollin'" carried out by Evan Smith, Brianna Home, Karissa Harris, and McKay. Continuing strong, the

show captivated the audience with different racial stereotypes and generalities that the public has become numb to. The full cast came out to finish the show with a rendition of "Impossible Dream" from "The Man of La Mancha."

As a post-show highlight, the cast stayed for a question and answer round with the audience about how the racism and other stereotypes in the show has affected them and their lives around campus.

Up 'Til Dawn

There's a buzz around campus about Up 'til Dawn! November is St. Jude Awareness Month and every student here at Wagner has the opportunity to save a child's life. St. Jude Children's Research Hospital is the first institution established for the sole purpose of conducting basic and clinical research into catastrophic childhood diseases, genetic immune defects, and pediatric AIDS and cancers. What makes St. Jude's so amazing is not only the child-sensitive care, but that the young and spirited patients receive treatments for free. That's right, because of college campuses all over the United States having Up 'til Dawn programs, donated money is sent to this cutting-edge institution. It takes over one million dollars each day to support the hospital's operating costs. Last year, Wagner College raised over \$22,000 and we plan on surpassing this amount with your help.

Here's how to get involved:

Sign up a team – 6 people make up a team and participate in our letter writing campaign. There are opportunities to earn spirit points and win prizes at our grand finale event in the spring! Sign up before the semester is over!!

Donate – whether you buy things like Up 'til Dawn calendars and pumpkin pin ups or give loose change, every dollar makes a difference; every dollar saves a life.

Learn more about St. Jude when you see informational tables, RA bulletin boards, ABC's posters hung around campus or highlighted patients of the month.

Talk to Up 'til Dawn Executive board members

Participating in Up 'til Dawn is also a great way to complete community service requirements for clubs. Our organizational information meeting will be held on Thursday, November 17th. If you have any questions or concerns regarding Up 'til Dawn please contact Holly Barilla at hbarilla@wagner.edu.

Holiday Movie Preview

It's that time of the year again: the holiday season, complete with stuffing, the Macy's Day parade, the tree lighting in Rockefeller Center, Christmas shopping on Fifth Avenue, and of course, an influx of new holiday movies. The period between Thanksgiving and Christmas often boost the cinema gems of the year, and for 2005, it will be no exception. Upcoming movies include Broadway adaptations, novel translations, and epic biographies. So over holiday break, between fighting for spots in the mall parking lot and dinner at Grandma's, don't forget to save room for popcorn and check out one (or all) of these upcoming movies.

Pride & Prejudice

Nov. 11 (limited release)- One of the advantages to attending college in NYC is having access to movies before their wide-release so that we can view them before our friends from back home do and proceed to rub it in their faces. Jane Austen's masterpiece gets another adaptation with British "it-girl" actress Kiera Knightly filling the role of headstrong, precocious Elizabeth Bennet, and newcomer Matthew McFadden playing the arrogant Mr. Darcy. While most of us remember how the story ends from our high school Lit class, the 2005 adaptation appears visually endearing and hosts a strong supporting cast of British and American actors, including Judy Dench. With no previous films to boast, director Joe Wright will have to prove himself through the direction of yet another screen version of an Austen classic.

Harry Potter and the Goblet of Fire

Nov. 18- Complete with a new director, the question is: will the fourth Harry Potter movie retain its magic touch? New challenges face Harry such as the Quidditch World Cup, Triwizard Tournament, and a new crush. The characters' relationships continue to develop, including the sexual tension between Potter's friends Ron and Hermione. While the majority of the same actors return to resume their roles, Lord Voldemort will make his first appearance played by Ralph Fiennes.

Walk The Line

Nov. 18 In order to fill the shoes (and notorious black clothes) of Johnny Cash, Joaquin Phoenix had to learn to play the guitar as Cash did, with no prior experience. Reese Witherspoon steps in as love interest June Carter, the center of love and redemption for Cash in the movie, slated to be as much as a classic Hollywood romance as it is a biopic of Cash's life. With both actors performing all the music themselves, one wonders if the movie will prove to be this year's "Ray."

Rent

Nov. 23 I'd be lying if I didn't confess that every time I see the commercial for this movie I get chills down my spine. Rent was such an important Broadway musical for our generation, but can a movie version be capable of portraying the raw emotion and unique musical experience of a live show? A glimmer of hope is the casting: the movie boasts the original cast of Jonathon Larson's Broadway musical excluding the role of Mimi, who in the film is played by Rosario Dawson ("Josie & the Pussycats," "Sin City"). Another point of optimism is veteran blockbuster director Chris Columbus, who has apparently abandoned Harry Potter for Broadway. While there's no use in explaining the plot (who hasn't seen "Rent"?), listen for new song "Love Heals," a previously unfinished overture that Columbus decided to include in the movie. La Vie Boheme!

The Chronicles of Narnia: The Lion, the Witch, & the Wardrobe

Dec. 9 It's about time someone adapted the C.S. Lewis classic for the big screen! With no "Lord of the Rings" film for 2005 (Peter Jackson is now busying himself with a "King Kong" remake) this film could prove to be its holiday replacement. In fact, not only was the movie filmed in New Zealand like the LOTR trilogy, the same make-up and effects team was employed to create the film's lions, goblins, and centaurs. Oh my!

Memoirs of a Geisha

Dec. 9 Notice a pattern here? Either Hollywood is becoming more literate or they are beginning to run out of original story ideas. Rob Marshall ("Chicago") directs the film version based on Arthur Golden's bestselling novel. The mystically beautiful Ziyi Zhang ("Hero," "Crouching Tiger, Hidden Dragon") stars as Nitta Sayuri, a famous geisha in 1920's Japan. With producer Steven Spielberg and composer John Williams on board, how could this film possibly go wrong?

King Kong

Dec. 14 Is it fair that a renowned director (Oscar winning Peter Jackson of LOTR fame) entice his audience with a remake of such a played-out classic? Well, yes, I guess it is since the cast does include Oscar winner Adrien Brody as well as Naomi Watts ("The Ring"), and "School of Rock's" Jack Black. Who doesn't want to see a giant monkey and a dinosaur engage in combat? Rather than make it contemporary, the film recreates 1933 New York. Andy Serkis did such a great job as the sneaky Gollum, Jackson chose to cast him in this movie as the infamous Kong himself. And they called it monkey love....

The Producers

Dec. 16 With the success of "Chicago" it's no wonder Hollywood is choosing to create on-screen magic that only a live musical can allude to. If you couldn't scrounge up the \$400 to see both Nathan Lane and Matthew Broderick in the Broadway version a few years ago, now you can see them for \$10. Almost makes going to the movies sound like a bargain! But what will truly make this movie remake of the Tony award winner a must-see is the role of Franz Leibkind being filled by none other than Will Ferrell. In addition, Uma Thurman, whose many talents are still being uncovered despite her "Kill Bill" success, will play the Swedish Ulla. This remake, directed by Susan Stroman, should make Mel Brooks proud.

--Compiled by Laura Gardner, Wagnerian Entertainment Editor



IN OUR OPINION...

(where you'll find columns, editorials, letters to the editor, and more.)

GIRL ABOUT CAMPUS

The 'Ex-Factor': Get over your new guy's past

By **KELLEEN KADEN**
Wagnerian Columnist

Let's face it, at the age of most college students, it is very unlikely that we will date someone without previous relationship baggage. When we first start talking to them, we have to hear about what's-her-name, and how she broke your new beau's heart. We find ourselves hating these people we don't even know, either glamorizing them to be something you're not, or convincing ourselves they must be the ugliest little



Kaden

troll to ever breathe air. Is it because the thought of your guy/girl being with someone else makes you gag, or is it your own insecurities about yourself and your relationship? When it comes to the factor of the ex, can we get past the past, or will we be next? We want to imagine we're the

first. And I'm not talking about taking their virginity. But you do want to be the first and the only to console your mate, do something special for them, or take care of them.

Visualizing that someone did it before you and possibly did it better could drive you absolutely mad. There's really just no point in torturing yourself. You can't take away his/her past, and if they have already moved on to better things, the only one living in the past is you. He/she was a big part of your mate's life --or WAS-- If they bring up their name, it's more or less to get a reaction out

of you. They want to make sure you care, that you love them, and you're happy to have them in your life. If the tables were turned, they would be just as insecure about possibly losing you.

Let go of it! Your insecurities and constant harp on the ex-factor will only drive your mate away. Make the best of the time you have with them, and if things turn out the way you expected them to all along, so be it. You don't want to be with someone who wants to be with someone else. This may seem like a bit of common sense, but when you're

caught in the drama of the moment, things may not be as clear. You cannot go back in time, or move backwards. Allow yourself to pass GO and collect a couple hundred dollars. Your mate is with you for many reasons they're not with someone else. No one is perfect, not you, not your mate, and certainly not the ex. The sooner you stop idolizing something that probably never existed, the faster you will be able to concentrate on your own relationship, and avoid being ex'ed next.

A DOSE OF SOUL

Searching for 'the sacred'

By **E. FEEHLEY**
Opinion Editor

So I was sitting in the ever-inspirational Dr. Kaelber's class the other day discussing the religious views of Durkheim, or Frazer, or Eliade, or someone, I honestly can't remember, when we stumbled upon the topic of the "sacred". Of course we were discussing the religious implications of what is sacred, but it got me to thinking, what is "sacred" anyway?

The fifth definition of the word "sacred" in Webster's dictionary (after all the definitions having to do with religion) says "worthy of respect; venerable." The word itself holds certain esteem. It's not a word that one usually uses outside the religious context, but if it were to be used, what would it be used to describe?

This is a highly subjective question and everyone will have a different answer. If there was some way to poll the majority and ask them what was "worthy of respect" in their eyes, what would their answer be?

I think it has to have a lot to do with what is important to each of us. When we were kids it was biting into that first piece of Easter candy after lent, or the sound of the bell ringing for the last time on the last day of school before summer vacation. Those were things that meant something to us, that we looked forward to, that no one had the right to take away. Now that we're older, what do we have left that we feel so passionately about? What do we look for-

ward to? What would we be outraged about if someone tried to take it from us?

As the holiday season approaches, we can oftentimes be distracted from what's really important about this time of year. We concentrate on making sure we don't overcook the turkey on Thanksgiving instead of being grateful that we have a turkey. We anticipate what our parents bought us for Christmas or Chanukah instead of watching our younger siblings faces fill up with joy as they unwrap a present from us. We party like rock stars on New Years Eve instead of reminiscing about the past year and anticipating the next.

What we don't realize, especially during the holidays, is what is still sacred in our society. It is right under our noses and we are usually just too distracted to notice.

In this world of materialism and misplaced ideals, I challenge us all to seek out what is still pure, and true, and good in this world, and to hold onto it with everything we've got. As we start thinking about the holiday season, ask yourself what is sacred to you. What is the most important thing in the world to you? What are you willing to fight for? *Who* is the most important person in your life? Who challenges you to be better?

For me the answer was clear almost immediately. I thought of one thing that answered all these questions and that was my family. I'm not saying that this has to be everyone's answer, everyone's life and situation is different.

All I'm saying is that over Thanksgiving break, over winter break, next semester, whenever, we should all take a moment to examine our lives.

We should take a moment to identify the good in the world and be thankful for it. Happy Holidays everyone. And thanks for reading.

IT'S NEWS TO ME

Hell has a ring tone

Even Boston beer pong is cut short by my dad's ringer

By **EVAN JAGELS**
Wagnerian Columnist

Last Friday night I was playing beer pong in a crowded apartment somewhere in Boston. With a wet ping-pong ball in one hand and an adult soda in the other, I heard a cell phone ring. Somehow, this ring penetrated all the noise of the party and made it clearly to my ear. I immediately turned away from the



Jagels

direction which the sound came from, tucked away my beer, and hid my face. After a just a few seconds, I realized why I reacted the way I did; the ring tone I heard was the same ring tone that my father has. I realized that I must have heard the ring and subconsciously thought that my father had followed me to Baahhston and found his way to the apartment.

I soon began thinking even more deeply; alcohol sometimes triggers this. I stepped outside for some cancer and started thinking about hell. Hell must be a place where you have to tell the truth all the time, I thought.

For instance, I'd be out for a little stroll through the hot hot flames of damnation and I'd run into a classmate. "Hey, I'm Kate, I think we are in class together," she would say- a typical encounter.

"Hi Kate, I'm Evan...I think we have English together." Of course, this would be the end of a heavenly conversation, but in hell you

"Hell must be a place where you have to tell the truth all the time..."

must tell the truth all the time. "I think you've also made appearances in several of my sexual fantasies," I would add.

Perhaps she would slap me in the face; or maybe, since it is the after-life, she would merely disappear and leave me feeling stupid and awkward. When I reached the butt of my cancer I realized that I did not want to go to hell. I returned to the party.

With hell temporarily out of my mind, I focused on the game at hand- beer pong.

In case the game is unclear to the reader, I will briefly explain. Cups are set up like bowling pins on each side of a long table and filled half way with beer. Teams of two stand on each side of the table and attempt to toss ping-pong balls into their opponent's cups. When a player successfully tosses his or her ball into an opponent's cup, that person must drink the beer. When one team drinks all of their cups, they lose. Winner stays on. Other rules and intricacies of the game exist, but are too many to list. Beer pong is truly unique because it is possibly the only game in which heated competition can be mixed with large amounts of alcohol without risk of serious, life threatening injury.

However, it was surprisingly hard for me to maintain competi-

tive focus on the game for several reasons. First of all, I am not a competitive person at all. For instance, I often attend sporting events but rarely root for a certain team. Secondly, I generally don't like any game where the loser is forced to drink. But this was an exception as I was playing on a team with a close childhood friend. We must represent our hometown to these Beantown folks- and that we did. After several victories we stepped down, graciously displaying our skill and sportsmanship.

Hell did not leave my mind- perhaps because within the next twenty minutes after the game, I heard my father's ring tone two more times. Not only did this particular ring irk me, it triggered thoughts of hell, flames and eternal truth telling.

"Who has this terribly awful ring tone?" I asked myself. I must find this person and explain my situation. "Hello, yes, Brian? Hi, I'm Evan. I'm going to give you two options, Brian. Either change that cursed ring tone or leave the party. Thank you."

Perhaps that was a little harsh and straightforward. Maybe I should simply find the person, ask to borrow his phone, and change the ring tone myself. He is probably too drunk to even remember what his ring sounds like anyway, I thought. Or I should just steal the phone and throw it out the window. Perhaps I should just...

Anyway, my perpetual, paranoid thoughts spiraled out of control and really put a damper on my New England night. I ended up face down on a futon in a bed of potato chips and breadcrumbs, miles from my last memory. Perhaps I should just give up Boston for a while.

Letters to the editor

Dear Wagnerian Editors,

I was so excited when I saw the Wagnerian! I thought it was so well written, and the "Not Just About Sex Column" was fun and a clever way to put a sex topic in the paper.

Overall, the paper seemed entertaining, and I enjoyed reading it and staying in touch with what is going on at Wagner.

*Jeannine Morris '05
Graduate Program in
Communications,
New School, Manhattan*

Dear Editor,

I must say that I respect the improvements you have made to the paper. It has grown from a pamphlet to an interesting and informative outlet for the student voice.

I am a part of NORML and thought that your article on us captured what we are trying to achieve. This campus is incredibly politically apathetic, and a lobbyist group such as NORML is an outstanding voice for student concern.

However, we have been met with nothing but administrative roadblocks along the way.

I want you to know that even though I am only one voice, I fully support your paper, and would be incredibly dissatisfied to see it in jeopardy for simply presenting clear and accurate facts.

I realize that Wagner is a private institution, but students are allowed to have a voice.

Change needs to come and the student paper must be an outlet for this. Please continue to fight for your rights of free press, and remain an accurate outlet for the frustrations of the student body.

*Thank You,
Christy Gozzi*

Dear Editor,

I am writing to you to express my concern for one of our most prized professors here at Wagner. William Kane, an associate adjunct professor, has been teaching here for 9 years and that may all come to an end. Professor Kane is only being offered one class to teach next semester. He cannot travel here for over an hour each day to just teach one class, and it does not make sense financially either. Administration says that they are cutting back on classes, but why get rid of one of the best teachers we have while allowing professors who have been here for much less time to stay?

Wagner prides itself on having small classes where professors can have a more intimate relationship with their students. We learn better with smaller classes. If they are cutting back on classes while accepting more and more students, how is this supposed to continue?

Professor Kane teaches public speaking and various theater courses. I have the privilege of being in one of his public speaking classes. I cannot tell you how much I have learned from this man. I have always been a quiet person who could never get up in front of the class, but professor Kane helped me get over my fear. He creates such a comfortable atmosphere for his students, and teaches us so well that none of us have a problem getting up in front of class anymore. Please, let's not lose one of the best professors we have. We need more classes to be offered, and we need teachers like Professor Kane to teach them.

*Sincerely,
Kate Sullivan*

TRAPPED IN THE HARBOR VIEW ELEVATOR

Not the best way to get to know your fellow students

By **HEATHER SOHARA**
Wagnerian Staff Writer

By this late in the semester, everyone knows how big an elevator problem Harbor View has, and I'm sure everyone has heard that a few weeks ago there were 12 people stuck in the left elevator on the twelfth floor for 45 minutes.

Unfortunately, I was one of them.

It was about 3 p.m. on a Monday afternoon, and the elevator was crowded with students who had just gotten back from their 1:20 classes. For a few days, the left elevator doors had been sticking for a minute or two every time it stopped on the twelfth floor, so nobody panicked when they didn't open at first.

When they still hadn't opened five minutes later, someone got out a cell phone and called the RA office. It was still another forty minutes until they got us out.

Even though everyone stayed pretty calm the entire experience was not fun. There was barely any room to move, let alone sit down, and it was *hot*. It's hot enough when you're on the elevator for a few minutes; it only gets worse the longer

you are on it. We were able to get some cool air when one passenger, a big guy, managed to pry the inside doors open.

As he did this, he started feeling for the lever that could open the outer doors.

I was just waiting for him to accidentally hit the release brake and send us crashing down fourteen flights.

When they finally opened the doors to let us off, the elevator was stopped below the twelfth floor, so we had to take a big step up in order to get out. They told us we had to leave one at a time, carefully, so as not to move the elevator too much – which was not the most comforting thing to hear.

Needless to say, later, when I was calmer and had a chance to think about what had happened, I was kind of angry. Aside from being annoying and unpleasant, getting stuck had also been dangerous. I wondered why the school has us using such unpredictable elevators, and why it took so long for anyone to rescue twelve students. I contacted Residence Life for some answers.

"As soon as an elevator problem is seen, the staff first checks to see if

there is anyone in the elevator. If it is determined that students are on the elevator, the contracted elevator company is called immediately and we let them know students are stuck," said Lavina Panjabi, director of residence life.

"We also call Public Safety, Maintenance, and Powerhouse to see if there is anything they can do to get the elevator doors open."

She added that, "We have to wait until the elevator company gets here to get the students out since sudden shifts can occur – and this can be dangerous."

Some people wonder when and if the school is going to replace the elevators. According to Lavina, there are no plans at the moment to replace the elevators, but that doesn't mean that they're not taking care of them. "Technicians do come on a regular basis to maintain the elevator, not only when there is a problem," she explained. "Also, on days where we know the elevator is getting more usage than normal, such as check in and check out days, we have a technician that remains on our campus just in case an issue arises."

Despite all of this, the elevators still obviously experience problems.

So how are we supposed to avoid getting stuck, or even just being late every day? Lavina offered some advice for students on how they can help with maintaining the elevators:

1.) Students need to know that there is a weight limit in the elevator. It has been recommended by the elevator company that only 6-8 people should be in the elevator at one time.

2.) Students should not drop items down the elevator shaft. We understand that sometimes it is done accidentally but some do it intentionally. There have been several items found at the bottom of the elevator due to them being thrown down the elevator shaft.

3.) People should not kick or bang on the elevator. This causes the elevator to misalign and it will get stuck eventually.

I personally feel that there is probably more that Wagner could do to remedy the elevator problems and prevent other situations like the one I was in.

But for the time being, students should take this advice into consideration. I know I would rather wait a few extra minutes for a less crowded elevator than risk being trapped in one for another 45 minutes.

Pass the sauteed spinach -- again

By **LARISSA RANDALL**
Wagnerian Photo Editor

Black bean nut burgers, brussels sprouts with mushrooms and onions... um, no thank you.

So this is what we have to choose from in the dining hall? It seems that the food options Chartwells makes available to Wagner students is a bit lackluster

as of late.

It happens every year. We come back in August and the food really isn't so bad.

But week after week the quality diminishes to the point of no return. Honestly, I can only take so much of *sautéed spinach*.

I don't know about you, but I am really looking forward to December when I can once again enjoy "normal" food.

The weekends in the dining hall are definitely the most bleak. Not only is the sandwich station shut down but we are also left with hardly anything to choose from. It's days like Sunday that I wish I had gone to the Hawk's Nest. Too bad I can't afford anything in there.

I'm all for themed dinners (aside from the incredibly loud music) but maybe it's time that Chartwells focuses their attention more on

what matters -- food. Take all that money used to buy decorations and invest in some better tasting recipes that actually look edible.

What's with the rose colored poultry that's supposed to be barbeque chicken and the so-called "soup" that's really just a mish-mash of left-overs anyway?

I ate better food in my *public* high school -- and I didn't have to pay \$30,000 a year to go there.

ATLANTIC CITY COMES TO GRYMES HILL

Taking a gamble with Wagner's washing machines

By **GRETCHEN JACOBS**
Wagnerian Contributor

The laundry room here is ridiculous. Here's the thing: if I wanted to use slot machines I would have taken my \$30,000 and gone to Vegas. Seriously. I don't see why they don't just take the next step and put a lever on the side of the washers so at least you get some pleasure out of the experience.

Literally, you need a bucket full of

quarters to even consider doing laundry. "Just enough" is NOT enough. First quarter...great. It worked. Everything seems to be on track. Second quarter...got it, things are going well. Next quarter...nothing's happening...maybe it didn't realize that I put in the quarter. Next quarter...still nothing. It won't eject my quarter. But I already have 50 cents invested here. I might as well try again. Next quarter... "ERR"?!!? What do you just mean "ERR"?!!? Maybe if I just hit the start button...BEEF:FE:EEEEEEEEEEEEP.

Oh, and just wait and see how frustrated you get when you realize that you have to lug your wet load of laundry across the room to a different machine, which, more likely than not, is also not functioning, which you won't discover until you waste another dollar in precious change.

Seriously, just being in the laundry room invokes a Gollum vibe. These are my quarters. No, you may not borrow 50 cents. I have three more machines to try and I don't have quarters to waste on anybody else. I don't care if you trade me a twenty

for a quarter. This machine is not accepting bills and neither am I.

All I'm saying is that most casinos pull in millions of dollars from their slot machines, but most people don't mind wasting their money on those. And do you know why? Neon lights. Huge fountains. Dancers with sequins and feather headdresses.

To be fair, I think Wagner should:

- Refund my quarters
- Offer me free laundry services, or
- Invest in some neon lights and a giant fountain.



With your columnists Alexandra Jacobs, Sarah Zimmerman, and Laura Gardner

not just
 THE SEX COLUMN

Wagnerian sex fact

Individuals who have sex once or twice a week show 30 percent higher levels of the antibody immunoglobulin A, which is known to boost the immune system, according to a Wilkes University study. Way more fun than a flu shot! But that won't protect you from STDs, so grab some free condoms from the SGA office or Health Services, and use one every time you get down!

When you don't have a chance to say no

By LAURA GARDNER
 Entertainment Editor

*Come on babe it's your lucky day!
 Shut your mouth, we're gonna do it
 my way! Come on baby don't be
 afraid! If it wasn't for date rape I'd
 never get laid.*

The song "Date Rape," by Sublime offers a cautionary tale of the consequences of drugging a girl and then forcing nonconsensual sex upon her. The perpetrator eventually ends up in jail as a punishment for his violent act.

Unfortunately, I can identify all too well with the young woman in the song, as I myself was drugged after a concert in Manhattan a year ago, during my sophomore year.

On my way back to the subway after a Converge and Cave In show at the Knitting Factory in late October of 2004, I was approached by a young, good-looking guy who struck up a friendly conversation with me. Since most of my friends lack the same musical tastes and interest as me, I had gone to the show by myself. After flirting for a few minutes, he invited me to a nearby bar and offered to buy me a drink. It wasn't a school night so I had no apprehensions about extending my visit in the city.

I told him to order me a mixed drink and followed him to the dimly lit bar. While I may be trusting, I'm not completely naïve; something inside of me was telling me that this situation seemed suspicious. I grabbed my own drink and we sat at a table, where idle chit-chat of majors, interests, musical tastes, and future goals followed. He told me he was a law student living in lower Manhattan. I would be lying if I didn't admit that this made me trust him a little more.

This is the part of the story where I made my mistake. I excused myself to use the restroom, and left the three-quarters full drink sitting at the table. Without thinking, I finish it and ask him to walk me to the nearest subway.

Upon standing up, I felt overwhelming weakness in my muscles. It was not the feeling of being drunk, or even buzzed, since I had only consumed one drink and as a college student, I am familiar with the feeling that accompanies too many drinks. But this was not the same feeling, and I had only had one drink. I felt as though I could barely walk, as though I hadn't eaten for days and my muscles had begun to atrophy. I confessed this discomfort to my new male friend, who suggested I follow him back to his apartment where I could rest and get food.

His apartment happened to be around the corner, and I told him I'd wait outside if he would grab me something to eat. He insisted I follow him in because "it's dangerous out there." As it turned out, it was more dangerous inside his apartment, and as soon as he closed the door his intentions were made apparent. He grabbed my arms, held them above me, unbuttoned his pants, and proceeded to force himself on me. After kicking and pushing his body away from mine with the very little

strength I still had, I somehow made it out the door, and then ran back to the bar as fast as I could. Both my mind and body were in a daze.

I approached some people I had met earlier and told them the entire story. I obviously appeared very flustered and upset. Up until this point, the idea that I had been drugged had never occurred. One always tends to think, "that will never happen to me." I spent a large chunk of time at the bar, drinking water and trying to regain a feeling of normality. When I felt as though most of the drug had worn off, I asked for handwritten directions to the nearest subway, and made my way back. I did not bother to contact the police, which should have been done immediately. I guess I was too worried I'd somehow be responsible for underage drinking.

Following that ordeal, it took a long time before I could go into the city alone, restricting myself from going to shows I was interested in because I feared something else would happen. I felt really ashamed, like I had done something wrong. While I still have awful feelings about everything that happened that night, I do feel somewhat lucky. I was never physically raped or forced into unwanted sexual contact—I was able to escape before this happened. Most of the time, people aren't as lucky.

Date rape is an act of violence that goes underreported on college campuses. The most commonly accepted estimate is that 1 in 4 college women have experienced rape or attempted rape.

College students also fit into the age bracket in which most of these rapes occur: between the ages of 16 and 24. Date rape, or acquaintance rape (when the victim knows their attacker) is the most common kind of rape, occurring in 85% of reported cases.

So why are college women so vulnerable to this type of violence? Alcohol and pressure to consume vast amounts of it at college parties plays a large role in the choices that many young women make. Alcohol not only impairs thinking and judgment, it can also serve as a host to a series of other commonly used date rape drugs such as Rohypnol, Ketamine, and GHB which usually appear colorless and odorless when put into a beverage.

Young women (men, too) need to be aware of these potential dangers and take certain precautions when drinking at college parties or when out on the Island, enjoying a Thursday night at Aqua or Beer Goggles. Dr. Amy Eshelman, a psychology professor at Wagner, says one of the most important things when you are drinking is "to bring someone you can trust." Stick with your friends, as well as watching their backs.

College is the time of your life, and for a lot of us that includes partying and experimenting sexually. Unlike the Sublime lyric, there are ways to get laid that do not require the use of alcohol or date rape drugs. If we can educate ourselves and others, hopefully we can put a stop to this.

Let's burst out of the bubble

By SARAH
 ZIMMERMAN
 Wagnerian Co-Editor

Having been a student here at Wagner for the past three and half years, I have experienced the relationship crisis that most of my fellow females discuss on a daily basis—where are all the boys?

Attending a college with the ratio of women to men being 63.4% to 36.6% it is nearly impossible to find a "relationship." According to the statistics, we gals might as well all turn to each other and say, "Where did you find those boots; want to make out?"

Though these overwhelming variations in numbers seem to be a nationwide college trend, Wagner campus, as rated by the Princeton Review, "No. 1 for great college theater," offers yet another obstacle to women—where are all the straight boys?

It is an unfortunate predicament being a heterosexual female student on Wagner's campus. If you don't prefer the "jock" (and I use that term loosely), and can't find a match among the scarce handful of, lets say "others," you are doomed to a college career alone.

Please, let's not be so cynical girls. Yes, Wagner campus may be

a desolate wasteland of unpromising hook-ups, but what are most colleges, really—besides a larger and more available cess-pool? Look around, we're in New York City!

There are millions, that's correct millions, of interesting single men wandering the streets, bars, coffee shops, subways, etc. right under our noses. And, we actually have an advantage over most, our plentiful gay friends' opinions (face it they're more honest when it comes to men than any of your girlfriends.)

I have had two serious boyfriends since my freshman year in 2002, neither of which were fellow Wagnerians. I'm not saying that I have not made a lot of great male friends here, some of which I've shared more than friendly times with, or that you should automatically bypass the few men that are at Wagner.

I am saying I've learned that stepping outside the bubble of our little green and brick world on top of the hill is actually a huge part of the experience! Rather than complain about the stats and the fact that you're forced to date your roommate's ex, take advantage of your surroundings: you'll be surprised at what you find.

The drugs often have no color, smell, or taste and are easily added to flavored drinks without the victim's knowledge. **GHB (gamma hydroxybutyric acid)** - Can be a liquid, powder, or pill. Legal in the U.S. Can cause drowsiness, dizziness, nausea, unconsciousness, seizures, memory loss, dream-like state. **Rohypnol (flunitrazepam)** - A pill that dissolves in liquid. Illegal in the U.S. Can cause muscle relaxation, nausea, feelings of intoxication, confusion, sleepiness, problems speaking, and slowing or loss of motor skills. **Ketamine(ketamine hydrochloride)** - A white powder that is a legal anesthetic in the U.S., usually used as an animal tranquilizer. Symptoms include, hallucinations, impaired motor functions, memory problems, dream-like state, loss of coordination, slurred speech, and numbness.

How can I protect myself from being a victim?

Don't accept drinks from other people.
 Open containers yourself.
 Keep your drink with you.
 Don't share drinks.
 Don't drink pre-made beverages(junglejuice/punch)
 Don't drink anything that tastes or smells strange.
 Have a sober friend with you.

SLICE OF LIFE

Habitat for Humanity gala

Wagner Habitat for Humanity members and supporters showed up in their finest for the chapter's inaugural gala ball, on Saturday, Nov. 5 in the Union.

The 161-member group and their supporters dined and danced in the bedecked Atrium and Dining Hall, both shimmering in gold and white decor.

Highlights of the evening included live music by the Julius Tolentino Quartet, a silent auction, and presentations on Habitat for Humanity.

Next on the chapter's list is a build in Miami over Winter Break, from Dec. 19 to Dec. 23. 25 members will help build housing for needy families there.



Above, from left: Crescendo Smalls, Courtney Donahue, Kelly Byrd and Ashley Foley enjoy their catered dinner.

Counterclockwise, from top: The Dining Hall was decked out in shades of gold for the event; WHFH executive members pose in their finest; attendees enjoy cocktails in the Union Atrium; and guests take to the dance floor as the jazz band plays.





SLICE OF LIFE

Nice Kicks!

Who wears flip flops in November? Who supports their school with "W" socks? Take a stab at matching the ten faces at the top to their ten piggies at the bottom.

1. Courtney Donahue (sophomore) is J., 2. Elicia Enriquez (junior) is F., 3. Rob Stevens (junior) is D., 4. Victoria Ophof is B., 5. Jon Galvez (senior) is I., 6. Megan Brandt-Meyer (senior) is A., 7. John Biscuit (junior) is C., 8. Kelly Byrd (sophomore) is G., 9. Jenn Perkins (freshman) is E., 10. Jocelyn Ford (sophomore) is H.

Photos By Larissa Randal, Wagnerian Photo Editor