

The Wagnerian

The student voice of Wagner College since 1934.

Wagner College

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Staten Island, N.Y.



WAGNERIAN PHOTO BY ARIANA PALMIERI

Rocco Macchia presides over the bookstore every day. "Students need to know that the bookstore is more convenient to them than Amazon or other bookstores," said Macchia.

The state of the Bookstore

By **KRAG KERR**
Staff Writer

The Wagner Bookstore, to any current student, has always been in the same place: an immediate right after entering the Union. The setup of the inventory has remained generally the same. Yet there has been a change in the way students use the bookstore, namely, that they use it less.

Rocco Macchia, who presides over the bookstore every day, says that the students buy significantly less books than they have in previous years. Books remain the most purchased item at the bookstore, however, with clothing following shortly behind.

"So much more of it is done online," Macchia says. "They buy e-books and hard copies at places like

Amazon now. They're buying them off of other students. And it is much more of a hassle to get a refund if it's damaged or if the professor changes their mind."

At face value, the students' choice in purchasing from sources outside of Wagner seems logical. But while a student may be able to rent "The Riverside Shakespeare" on Amazon for \$20 rather than \$90 and "Critical Theory Today" for \$2 rather than \$24, it remains that a student may purchase one of these and, in an absurd case, receive the other.

No matter how much a student feels he/she has saved from shopping online, when the box is opened and the packaging cleared away, he/she could be holding any book, if a book at all.

In less extreme and more common

instances, these books may be damaged beyond suitable use. There may be drawings obscuring long passages, with the ruined remains of pages violently ripped from a required chapter. Even should the book purchased be the book received, and should all the text be readable and intact, the student might find him/herself in a jam after procuring an erroneous edition of an anthology.

Aside from then falling back on the bookstore, there is no immediate solution in such a scenario.

When asked what direction he would like to see the bookstore head in, Macchia says, "We need to be more competitive. Students need to know that the bookstore is more convenient to them than Amazon or other bookstores. It is tailored specifically toward what they need."

Alum is back to lead major departments

By **LEJLA BOLEVIC**
Staff Writer

Once a Wagner Seahawk, always a Wagner Seahawk. Christian Miller returns to his alma mater as the new director of campus operations. "It is a perfect way to cap off a successful career and come back to a place where I can smile every day and walk the halls that I remember from the fall of 1980," said Miller.

Miller majored in Business Administration and went on to excel in administrative positions throughout the years. He worked for the National YMCA as their Administration Services Director for 15 years. He was responsible for the building of the first new YMCA in Manhattan and ran that establishment for about 6 years.

He also went on to work for the Brooklyn Navy Yard and ran the DEP of Maintenance, which consisted of handling 40 buildings, and 4 million square feet of space.

Just recently starting the position, Miller is already planning years ahead on how he is going to advance the Wagner experience. Miller supports not only the students, faculty and staff, but also the visitors that show interest in our college.

He says his job is to provide comfort, and he works hard at it. He takes every complaint with a smile and tries his best to accommodate the faculty and students on this campus.

Miller emphasizes the hard work and dedication from his departments. Housekeeping and maintenance employees are the people who hold this

campus together. The grounds crew takes care of the oval where we sit on sunny days, housekeeping keeps our library clean where we study through all hours of the night and maintenance makes sure our heat and air conditioning are functioning to keep us comfortable.



Miller is the man "behind the scenes," he says. He was a theatre minor and even worked for the department for 7 years. However Miller was not the guy on stage; he was the guy in the back tying everything together, just like he does now at Wagner.

Who is better to run this campus than someone who knows Wagner inside and out? In terms of the future, Miller states, "I know I'm going to retire in 10 years, but that is enough time to make a difference. There are so many things to learn, and who knows, maybe I will stick around 15 years instead of 10."

New ILCs to debut next semester

Over the next semester, Wagner College will be offering new ILCs to encourage students to view the courses not just as a requirement, but as a growing experience.

Among the new ILCs, there will be 17 options and two internships to Albany and Washington D.C. Here is an in-depth look at four new ILCs being offered:

ILC 4: Public Speaking for Business-FI 201 and SPC 103

In this dual class ILC, students will be taught to speak efficiently, confidently and informatively. Students will also learn how to present financial information to important stakeholders. Professor Tully and Professor Fenley will be teaching the paired courses.

ILC 11: Getting Away with Murder-CH 291 or SO 291

This ILC explores the sociology of crime and how chemistry plays an important role in exploring a crime scene. Students will learn about different crimes, such as kidnapping and burglary, as well the scientific methods behind crime scene investigations. Students do not need to be a science major to take this course.

This class will be team taught by Professor Civarella and Professor Pinto.

ILC 12: Holocaust Drama on Stage and Media-TH 103 and HI 291

Students will watch, read and analyze several works, such as the Diary of Anne Frank, Playing for Time and the Deputy. Students will also get the chance to meet the writers, directors and actors involved in works discussed in class. This class will be team taught by Professor Sweet and Professor Weintrob.

ILC 15: Honors team-taught: Cities and Perversities: Art and Literature in the turn-of-the-century Paris, Vienna and Berlin (W) (I)-AH 326, EN 310, or FR 310

Students will analyze works from the fin-de-siècle period in relation to sexuality, metropolitan life and escapism. Students will get the opportunity to visit museums, see films and attend special lectures in correspondence with the course. This class will be team taught by Professor Morowitz and Professor Urbanc.

Reported by Ariana Palmieri



WAGNERIAN PHOTO BY CLAIRE REGAN

NEW WHEELS FOR PUBLIC SAFETY

Security Supervisor Monica Wohltjen waves from her department's new vehicle. Look for a complete story in the next Wagnerian.

Integrating faith into college life: How Chaplain Martin Malzahn can help

The Wagnerian sat down with Rev. Martin Malzahn in his office to discuss his new position as chaplain and his goals for Wagner.

By LUCILLE WHISLER
Staff Writer

Wagnerian: What led you to Wagner College?

Chaplain: Previously, I had been the assistant university chaplain at Columbia University, and I really enjoyed what I did there. I have been a Lutheran pastor in churches before, but I left Lutheran churches to get more graduate school education, because I saw a shift in the way in which faith is both transmitted and practiced. I just recognized the need for a change. An opportunity opened at Wagner and I knew I could mold the idea of doing interfaith conversations working with students who don't affiliate with a tradition, or are in the process of searching for their identity.

W: What led you to become a chaplain?

C: I enjoy working with students who are in transition of becoming better people. I also like being surrounded by intellectual traditions, to be able to delve more deeply into the life of the mind as well as the life of the spirit.

W: If you pulled out a copy of your resume right now, what would it look like?

C: I think one thing people would notice right away is that I have a lot of geographic diversity. I went to high school in Indiana, I graduated from college in Ohio, I went to seminary in Berkeley, California and I did an internship in South Bronx. I've lived in central Connecticut, Pebble Beach, Monterey, Denver, Boulder and Manhattan. It's the consistency of people that interests me; even if they have very different life experiences, they all have kind of the same things that makes them people, the same hopes and dreams, and fears and frustrations.

W: What are your responsibilities on campus? What is your role?

C: One of the nice things about being chaplain is that there is a flexibility to be where I am most needed, whether that is responding to student concerns, responding to faculty and staff needs, doing administrative responsibilities. One of the things that I'm working on is starting new student groups for religious and spiritual life. I want to help those groups grow stronger in their own commitments, as well as to be in conversations with people from very different commitments. I work with athletics, counseling, the dean's office and students personally.

W: Any words of advice to students who may be looking to partake in services or meet with you?

C: One of the things I would tell college students is that I want them to be filled with success and achievements, and I would also like them to be filled with questions. So as they are searching for ways in which to either continue to live out their faith commitments as they find those



Rev. Martin Malzahn's loves the people at Wagner and enjoys "working with a diverse and curious student body."

groups that are best for them, I want them to also be curious about other groups that they may not have had contact with before.

W: Do you have any plans for upcoming events?

C: I have lots of plans! One of the ways is to work with individual organizations to help them in individual services. For example, we're bringing authors to campus to talk about their books, and I hope to partner with the academic departments to say that the practice of faith may be a spiritual practice, but it can also be an intellectual one as well.

W: What is the best forum for students to find information on services and events?

C: The two best ways to find information are to talk with the organization leaders, or to stop by the chapel. There will be fliers posted either on the table or on the door. The chapel is open 24 hours a day, seven days a week. In addition to the chapel, there is a new interfaith prayer room. It is for all students. We ask that they remove their shoes to enter.

W: Do you have any ideas to change or improve existing programs here at Wagner?

C: I have worked much more closely with our student groups, so that the office of religious and spiritual life is responding to the real needs and priorities of the students rather than the perceived desires. Rather than myself or an administra-

tor saying, "Hey we should behave like this, we should do this," I ask the students, "Hey, what is it you want? What is it you need?"

W: Why do you think a religious presence is important at a secular school?

C: Just this last week, secretary of state John Kerry was asked if he was in college again, what would he study. He said he would be a religious studies major rather than a political science major, because the bulk of his work right now in international affairs is all related to religious understandings and misunderstandings, and if we are to be a nation that leads people, we have to be familiar in the traditions of others, as well as the teachings that we ourselves claim to have come from. I think that religious and spiritual life helps people to engage in questions, helps people to engage in community, and it helps people to get in better touch with themselves.

W: What do you love most about Wagner?

C: The people. I really enjoy working with really committed faculty members. I really enjoy working with a diverse and curious student body. And I love the fact that Wagner is full of contradictions. It's a small school, and it's a division one school. You have athletes and you have theater students. You're in New York City, but you're removed because you're on Staten Island. So it is this place of contradiction, and yet it all somehow works together.



WAGNERIAN PHOTO BY ANNA BAHN

Anna Bahn, right, gives a hug to Anna from Disney's Frozen.

Freshman gets accepted into Disney College Program

By CASSIDY MILLER
Staff Writer

In the spring, Anna Bahn, a freshman at Wagner, will get the rare opportunity to study and work at Walt Disney World in Orlando, Florida. After a selective application process, Anna has been accepted into the Disney College Program, a dream she has had since her freshman year of high school. Anna will be taking mostly business classes at Disney World and working at one of the fast-food restaurants in the theme park. She also gets to attend workshops and seminars with Disney executives that could lead to networking and future connections.

Anna first heard about the program in ninth grade from her high school's college guidance counselor, who said it would be perfect for her. "Ever since then, I've been dead-set on doing it," Anna said. She applied two days before freshmen move-in day at Wagner and heard back shortly afterward. In the application, she filled out information about her high school and previous job experiences. "I talked a lot about how I used to work at 'Toys-R-Us' and did a lot of professional plays, and I talked about volunteer experience that I did through Girl Scouts, because I thought that those three were a pretty



comprehensive look at my professional experience," she said.

During the first step of the application, Anna submitted her high school and job information, as well as her resume. About an hour later, she heard that she had been cleared for the next step. She took a personality test, was asked more questions, and then took a second personality test. She was asked to schedule a phone interview, when they asked her more questions about herself, her past experiences and how she would handle certain situations.

Though Wagner is not able to let Anna earn credits for the classes she takes at Disney, her experiences and the opportunities are well worth it. Tuition for the program is free, so she'll only be paying for rent and food. Anna plans on returning to Wagner in Fall 2016 to pursue a Theatre Education major. Appropriately, her favorite Disney character is Princess Anna from Frozen, though she also loves everything Disney.

The Wagnerian

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WORLD NEWS



A Greenpeace activist protests Volkswagen in Germany.

A good name is tarnished

By **KATIE MCKNIGHT**
Staff Writer

Recently, the German car company Volkswagen has been under scrutiny for lying about carbon emissions in their diesel cars.

The company admitted to cheating emissions tests in both the United States and countries around the world. The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) found devices in diesel engines that could detect when they were being tested in order to improve test results.

The EPA found that 482,000 cars in the US had these devices. Volkswagen has admitted that roughly 11 million cars worldwide are fitted with the device; 2.8 million of these are in Germany. The EPA found that the devices change test results so much that the engines emitted pollutants up to

40 times above what is allowed in the US. The New York Times reported that the cheating began in 2008, when Volkswagen's engineers figured out that the expensive new diesel engines they developed would not meet emissions standards in the U.S. and other countries. The creation of the software to beat emissions tests resulted from not wanting to throw away the years of effort they had put into developing the engine. According to a German newspaper report, several Volkswagen engineers have admitted to fitting engines with this software.

This crisis for Volkswagen has wiped out \$34 billion in the company's value, and shares have fallen. The EPA said it will order Volkswagen to recall seven of its American car models with the affected engine type, which is about 500,000 vehicles. Volkswagen has not released a

list of international models that have the same engine. Volkswagen's future is now uncertain as it has stopped sales of the affected cars in the U.S., and its value has fallen greatly. Car sales in the United States accounted for about 15 percent of the 3.1 million Volkswagens and Audis sold since 2009.

The Volkswagen scandal is seen as a huge issue in Germany because Germans see Volkswagen as more than just a car company. Volkswagen employs almost 300,000 people in 29 plants across the country, and many people rely on the company for jobs. This helps explain why the scandal is such a big deal to the German people as well as their politicians. Volkswagen's headquarters in Wolfsburg, Germany is an icon of Germany's postwar economic rise and widespread prosperity.

Boko Haram cuts childhood short

Compared to ISIS, Boko Haram, the terrorist group based in Northeast Nigeria, receives less attention. However, its methods are just as brutal and involve the use of children. The terrorist group gained notoriety in April 2014 for the kidnapping of over 270 female students from Chibok, Nigeria. Such actions against children are common for Boko Haram.

A recent UNICEF report indicated that Boko Haram's actions displaced half a million children in the last five months, which brings the total number of displaced children in Northeast Nigeria and neighboring countries to 1.4 million. About half of these children are under five years old. Many children are separated from their families as they attempt to escape Boko Haram's violence and brutality.

This makes it very easy for Boko Haram to exploit these children as a means to carry out its extremist agenda. Boko Haram uses children as soldiers. Children are estimated to make up forty percent of Boko Haram's 60,000 soldiers.

Boko Haram also uses children as suicide bombers. Bombs are strapped to children without their knowledge and detonated in public places. In one attack earlier this year, a girl no older than ten was used as a suicide bomber, killing twenty people and injuring eighteen.

A May 2015 UNICEF report noted that 27 suicide attacks occurred up to that point in 2015. Women and children committed seventy-five percent of the attacks.

Boko Haram's methods cause people to mistrust displaced children. People fear that the children taken by Boko Haram are potentially brainwashed into believing its extremist ideology. Boko Haram's child soldiers are groomed from a young age to carry out its plans. Girls, such as the ones who were taken in Chibok, are married off to Boko Haram soldiers and are pressured to be suicide bombers.

These children do not have a choice once they are taken. Either they comply with what they are asked to do, or they are killed. As a result, the children become either indoctrinated into Boko Haram's ideology or are traumatized by their experiences. Both make it difficult to assimilate these children back into society.

According to Manuel Fontaine, the UNICEF Regional Director for West and Central Africa, each child displaced by Boko Haram represents a "childhood cut short." Boko Haram's interference presently disrupts the lives of millions of children, which makes the rest of their lives difficult.

Reported by *Armend Lajka*



Boko Haram's army of children.



President Xi spent a lot of time with Bill Gates during his time in Seattle, including a private dinner with the Microsoft founder.



President Obama and President Xi held a joint press conference discussing cybercrime and global warming.

President Xi's visit to the USA

By **RYAN MONAGHAN**
Staff Writer

From Sept. 22 to the 28, President of China Xi Jinping travelled to the United States for his first visit as president to meet with President Barack Obama, among others. His busy week included stops in Seattle, Washington, D.C., and New York City.

In Seattle, on Sept. 22, President Xi held meetings with Seattle Mayor, Ed Murray, members of the Washington

state Congress, Washington Governor Jay Inslee, and governors from California, Iowa, Oregon and Michigan.

The meetings ended with a signed agreement to work towards businesses using cleaner-air technology. Afterwards, a banquet was held for President Xi. Many prominent CEOs were in attendance, along with Bill and Melinda Gates and Chair of the National Committee on U.S.-China Relations Carly Hill. On Sept. 23, President Xi attended a conference with business leaders from the US

and China including those from Uber, Microsoft, Apple, IBM and Starbucks. That afternoon, he visited Boeing's largest production factory, where it was announced they would sell \$38 billion worth of aircraft to China. Later in the day, he attended a Microsoft sponsored forum to discuss multiple agreements between China's tech industry and Microsoft. Later that night, he attended a private dinner with Microsoft founder Bill Gates.

On Sept. 24, President Xi landed in Washington, D.C. to attend a dinner

at the Blair House with President Obama and two other US officials. On Sept. 25 he held a news conference with Obama, where he announced that China would be using \$3.1 billion to help developing countries fight global warming. President Obama also addressed issues about cybercrime between the US and China.

On Sept. 26, President Xi arrived in New York City, where he was greeted with hundreds of overseas Chinese outside of the Waldorf Astoria. At the United Nations, he agreed

to invest \$12 billion over 15 years to assist the UN in reaching their new global sustainable development goals.

On Sept. 27, President Xi was the chair of a Global Leaders' Meeting focusing on Gender Equality issues. This came with criticism from Hillary Clinton based on the imprisonment of five female activists in China earlier in 2015. His trip concluded with the 70th United Nations General Assembly. He pledged over \$1.1 billion to aid the UN in various initiatives over the next ten years.

the OPINIONS

editorials, campus critiques, and more...

section

Are you the reason we can't have nice things?

By **MARISA PETRARCA**
Staff Writer

Students often complain about the state of things here at Wagner; whether it's about a ripped apart bulletin board that our students took hours putting together, the torn up couches in Foundation Hall, those bricks next to Cunard Hall that seem to keep magically disappearing and more.

These issues do exist, and many of us have the right to point them out. But the problem is that we often mistakenly blame Wagner when the blame lies within our student population.

Many students pay tuition to make this place their home. For some students, this home means even more to them than their first. I pay to go to a school that makes me feel comfortable, safe and happy. I'm sure most students at Wagner College would agree.

So how can we put an end to vandalism in order to make this school the best it can be?

Katie Dion, a senior RA in Parker Towers Hall explains, "As an RA, I have come across many different types of vandalism. I don't think I have ever had a bulletin board that has not been ripped or torn down."

"Vandalism encompasses a lot more than just what people think of. Anything from throwing a trash can to breaking a mirror or taking furniture from community places are all things that happen in our residence halls too frequently."

It is all about respect. No one would like someone abusing or ruining something that personally belongs to him or her. How can we instill the idea into the minds of our current students that this campus belongs to everyone and it deserves the same respect that you would give to your own belongings? What seems like simple courtesy to many of us



This is the notorious "missing brick" hot spot on campus. Periodically bricks will be stolen and displaced around campus as a joke; however, this is vandalism.

does not come so easily to others.

It is necessary for the Wagner College student body to speak up if you see someone committing an act of vandalism.

"The best way to prevent vandalism is for all members of the Wagner community to watch out for each other. Please, if you see someone committing vandalism, don't just look the other way; call Public Safety at ext. 3148, or (718) 390-3148. Wagner has been rated in the top 100 beautiful campuses in America. Let's keep it that way," said Edwin Moss, the director at Public Safety at Wagner.

Dion explains, "The entire residence hall is your home; the hallway, the bathroom, the lobby are all common areas that we as students live in.

Vandalizing these places is vandalizing your home, and affects a lot more people than one would think. Breaking a mirror in the bathroom might seem funny at the time, but now no one in your floor's community can use that mirror, and it costs money to replace. Being educated on the effects of vandalism and maybe having students realize how much money it costs would help stop. In a few short years, most of the students here will be living on their own and wouldn't accept the excuse of a college student having fun as OK if their house or apartment was vandalized."

Perhaps we all need to take a moment to consider that yes, we may be in college; but this is still real life and these are still real people that we are affecting.

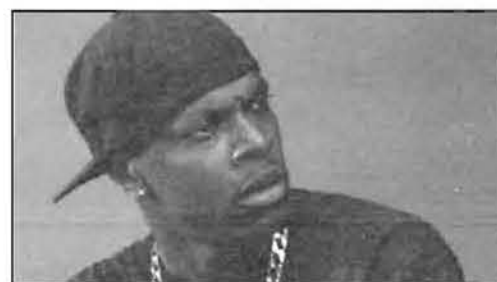


The new study room in D tower annex originally had four tables and six chairs. Already missing is one table and three chairs.



This is a bulletin board recently made by Foundation RA Aspen Trutz. Hopefully it will not be torn down like many before it.

Photos by Amanda Sutherland & Aspen Trutz



Did you gif that?

By **GIANNA FIUMEFREDDO**
Staff Writer

Since texting is the main form of communication these days, people have found more creative ways to communicate their thoughts and ideas to friends. Many people have started using gifs from the internet in their text messages to mix up the normal conversation.

Gif stands for Graphics Interchange Format. Surprisingly enough, they have been around since 1987. A gif contains images that are all stored in one single file to create the effect of an animation. Interestingly enough, gifs only contain 256 colors so they cannot accurately depict the image if it was taken by a digital camera. That's probably why most of the gifs you look at are usually blurry.

In earlier years, gifs were small animations primarily used for companies or logos. Not much has changed, as they are still used for logos and promotions all over the internet on company websites as banners or buttons. However, gifs have also taken a new meaning; they have now become an internet phenomenon.

Gifs are now known by the majority of the population as short videos. These videos are only a few seconds long and they are usually very funny. Since gifs have taken off, there have been an abundance of people creating gifs and even adding captions to them

to make these little snippets even more entertaining to use.

Personally, I love to use gifs while texting. I believe they get my point across to someone much easier than having to actually convert my emotions into words in a long and boring explanation.

For example, if a friend texts me, "I just got an email from our professor and he said class is canceled," I could easily respond to her text with a gif of the Carlton dance (you know the one I'm talking about, from the show *Fresh Prince of Bel-Air*?) to show how excited I am by this news. This is so much more entertaining than just saying "Wow, that's great news!"

A gif can explain how excited, angry, happy and surprised I am better than any string of words or emojis I could ever use. Also, they are so much more fun!

Gifs are so simple. They could sum up a very long-winded response. They add life to any conversation. Plus, they have become easy to access on smartphones. There are apps that can be downloaded to add gifs to your keyboard.

There's really no reason as to why texters don't use gifs. They are an awesome addition to any string of messages and, personally, it is such an easier way to text. So go ahead -- send that gif and let your friends know what you're really thinking.

To stay or not to stay in the honors program

Argument for:
Senior Carolina Silva



"I don't want to have to write another thesis" or "it's just a piece of paper" are common objections against being a member of Wagner's honors program.

As a senior, I have seen many of my classmates drop the honors program. While maintaining a 3.5 GPA every semester requires time and effort, I cannot understand why everyone would not want to continue being a part of the program.

The honors program keeps students accountable, creates networking opportunities, gives priority access to course registration, offers higher level courses with stimulating subjects and requires a strong work ethic.

Maintaining a 3.5 GPA is something that all college students should strive for, especially at an institution as personalized as Wagner. Our small class sizes encourage an intimate learning environment, so that students should never hesitate to ask questions when they do not understand a concept. In my entire time at Wagner, I have never had a class with more than 25 students and even had a class with just the professor and I. Professors are more than willing to accommodate everyone and make sure everyone is on the same page. Even if I didn't understand something in class, I always knew I could go to my professors during office hours to get one on one attention. If I was unavailable to attend office hours, there are peer tutors for every class. Staying in the honors program is an excuse to keep yourself accountable for what you should be doing in the first place.

Along with being a form of accountability, the honors program creates a strong networking group amongst students. Dr. Guarasci and his wife host a freshman honors dinner at his beautiful home every year. Having opportunities like that do not come often, but being able to enjoy delicious food with an amazing view and rubbing elbows with intellectual people should

not be taken lightly. Being a part of the honors program creates a sense of unity amongst a small group of people with the same academic goals. Creating connections with likeminded people continues throughout all four years. I know who is still in the honors program. Those are the people I link up with immediately in a classroom because I know that they are equally motivated to be successful and shoot for an A.

Being able to belong to an elite group does not compare to the convenience of registering for classes early. This is one of my favorite perks of being in the honors program. I have never had to worry about not getting into a class. The older you get, the even better your time slot for registration is. I could always count on getting every class I wanted.

Seeing a class registered as honors often deters students when registering. As disheartening as that can be, it weans out those who do not want to be challenged. My honors courses have been my best courses because of the level of engagement. Everyone has taken that 100 level course where no one cares to be there. Chances are that everyone is on their laptop pretending to type intense notes, but they are actually online shopping and watching BuzzFeed videos on Facebook. All of my honors classes have students who want to be there, and who want to learn and grow. Lectures become class discussions where everyone wants to participate and share their inferences on a certain topic. The honors courses I have taken at Wagner are Cities and Globalization, International Finance, International Trade, Game Theory, and Public Speaking. All of these are my favorite classes, and have helped me realize what I would like to do after graduation.

While many argue the insignificance of graduating with a distinction, it exemplifies elite work ethic. Since so many think it's not a big deal, it becomes a sign of who decided to go the extra mile. It separates those who want to be the best version of themselves from the ones who don't care. What makes the honors program prestigious is the fact that, as a student, you are required to work hard all four years in order to stay in the program. Going the extra mile, in the case of academics and the honors program, shows employers and graduate schools an indication of strong and consistent work ethic.

Argument against:
Senior Nick Woodman



Like many incoming freshmen at Wagner, I was invited to join the Honors Program. As someone coming out of a prestigious Staten Island high school, and who had been in "gifted" programs for his entire educational career, I was excited. I'd grown to associate honors with academic rigor, networking with like-minded individuals, and the pride of being recognized for your academics.

Now as a senior who recently left the Honors Program, I realize that I had set my expectations too high.

The Wagner College Honors Program is like going to a fancy bistro, asking for a steak, and instead getting a Hungry Man microwave dinner. Its mission statement is loaded with lofty, almost hyperbolic language.

Among the listed goals are to recruit students with "special intellectual ability", "provide students with special support and counseling", serve as a "source of innovation and curricular experimentation", and "contribute to the overall enhancement of intellectual life on campus". These are all wonderful things to say on paper, and I would commend Wagner if they adhered to these standards.

And they do, to a degree. They seek out the brightest of the incoming class to invite into the program. To stay in the program, you need to maintain a 3.5 GPA.

To gain re-entry into the program, or to apply late, you need to hold a 3.5 GPA, write a 400-500 application essay, and garner two letters of recommendation. One would think that these requirements, and the students produced, would lead to an academically rigorous program.

The stated requirements of an honors course – enhancing oral and verbal communication skills, promoting critical thinking, etc. – are present in virtually every course at this college. Although some of my honors courses were cer-

tainly challenging, none of them were more challenging than the core classes for my major.

Nearly half of the honors courses offered this semester are 100-level, and include such gems as "Drawing I" and "Public Speaking." And, save a couple of freshmen-only classes, all of these courses are open to the general population, meaning that some decidedly "non-honors" students are mixed into courses that are supposed to be for the best and the brightest of the school. This is unacceptable.

The only two requirements of the honors program, outside of the entry requirements stated above, are to take five of these honors courses and to write a senior thesis. All Senior LC theses (for those majors that have one) also count towards the honors requirement.

So, to recap, to be in honors, you need to hold a 3.5 GPA, take five gen-eds or major classes designated as "honors" courses, and either submit your final senior thesis, or get your advisor to sign off on some sort of hastily done "thesis" or "project" that generally goes both unread and unnoticed.

Your reward for this is early registration (which is really only necessary for freshmen at this school, if we're being honest), an optional trip to Philadelphia (which, if you have a car, can be made in about the amount of time it takes us to go anywhere in Manhattan), and...bragging rights? There's technically an honors floor in both Harborview and Guild, but it's very possible to room on the floor without being in honors.

I left the program this year due to thesis complications. I could have easily stayed in, but the fact that I, and so many other juniors and seniors was apathetic about doing so is a testament, I think, to the failure of the Honors program. The program gives students no reason to care about it, or contribute to it in any meaningful way.

I think the success of Wagner's Bonner Program is a testament to how, as a campus, we can create an organization that thrives on both the enthusiasm of its students and a rigorous set of requirements.

So why should we allow our Honors program to fall flat? There is so much wasted potential. I would argue that Wagner, with its already insightful, intelligent student body, deserves much better.

One small step for NYC, one giant step for SI

By NICOLE BIANCO
Staff Writer

In two years time New York's forgotten borough will be getting a big addition, and hopefully will not be referred to as "the forgotten borough" any longer. In May 2017, Staten Island will be welcoming hundreds of thousands of people to the grand opening of the New York Ferris Wheel.

This project was originally set to start in 2013, but due to changes in city code and engineering difficulties, construction has been delayed. For now it will not open until mid-2017, and if there are any further complications, it might lose funding altogether.

This ferris wheel is projected to be one of the biggest in the world – if not THE biggest. Yes, even towering the London Eye. It will be 630 feet tall and will hold 1,440 riders per ride. Each ride will be about an hour long. The ferris wheel will be located to the

right of the Staten Island Ferry and look directly over the New York Harbor.

For New York City this wheel is big news; for Staten Island this is giant news. Why? Analysts project that this will bring needed publicity and tourists to Staten Island, something that is not normally done. People will be able to utilize the free Staten Island Ferry and walk to the ferris wheel from the station. This will be an all around good thing for Staten Island since it will bring in money, status and popularity to our side of the water.

Every borough is known for something. Brooklyn has Coney Island, the Botanical Garden and the Barclays Center; Queens has Citi Field, home of the New York Mets; the Bronx has Yankee Stadium and Bronx Zoo; Manhattan has Broadway, Central Park, Madison Square Garden, Times Square and many more. Finally, in less than two years, Staten Island will be known, not just nationally, but internationally. It may

even, in terms of demand, trump out all of the other NYC boroughs for the first time in the competitive tourist market.

Although it will drive more people here, there is a con to building it. It is a seasonal attraction, so it does not have year-round economic or recreational benefits. However, if an arena like the Barclays Center or Madison Square Garden was built instead, that would be more of a success. It would be used all year long, and host many different types of entertainment events. The Ferris wheel would just go to waste sitting there during the winter.

The New York Wheel should be rethought. In addition to this, traffic is not even able to support the volume of cars on Staten Island right now. Adding this attraction would clog roads even more. That is another issue that needs to be solved. What would you rather experience: a concert or a short Ferris wheel ride?



This is a close-up model photo of what the Staten Island ferris wheel capsules will look like.



The ferris wheel will be located right next to the Staten Island Ferry.

LIFE & STYLE

What you need in your Instagram feed

Sociality Barbie - satire, humor; 1.3 million followers.

@socialitybarbie is a fairly new Instagram account that many are buzzing about. The account was created by an anonymous photographer who takes pictures of a Barbie doll that is eerily similar to those annoying Instagram accounts that #liveauthentic. Very short hikes, staged pictures of now-cold coffee and washed-out Instagram filters; Sociality Barbie shows the cliché of these Instagram accounts. Is your Instagram aesthetic #blessed?



Ulta (ultabeauty) - makeup, sales, tutorials; 1.2 million followers.

Ulta is a makeup company that sells high-end and drugstore products all in one store and always has great discounts and sales. Their Instagram account showcases some of the best products on the market, advertises many coupons, and short tutorials for all makeup lovers, experts and beginners alike.



BarkBox (barkbox) - humor, dogs, animals; 954k followers.

@barkbox is a New York based subscription service of dog toys, treats, accessories and health products. BarkBox's Instagram is a hilarious feed of dogs, cats and other animals that only has subtle advertising, but it doesn't get in the way of the humor. It almost fills the gap of not allowing pets in college - almost. Ten percent of the proceeds from every BarkBox subscription goes to local shelters, rescues and animal welfare organizations.



Lane (ferdalump) - Disney, kid's humor, costumes; 378k followers.

4-year-old Lane is living the dream of any Disney fan. Lane and her family live near Disney World and have season passes that allow them to take her to the most magical place on Earth! Lane's mom is a seamstress and avid-cosplayer, so she makes costumes for Lane to wear on their many adventures. Their Instagram photos have circulated the internet quite a bit in the past year with Lane as various characters. The costumes are not only beautiful, but Lane is adorable and hilarious to follow!



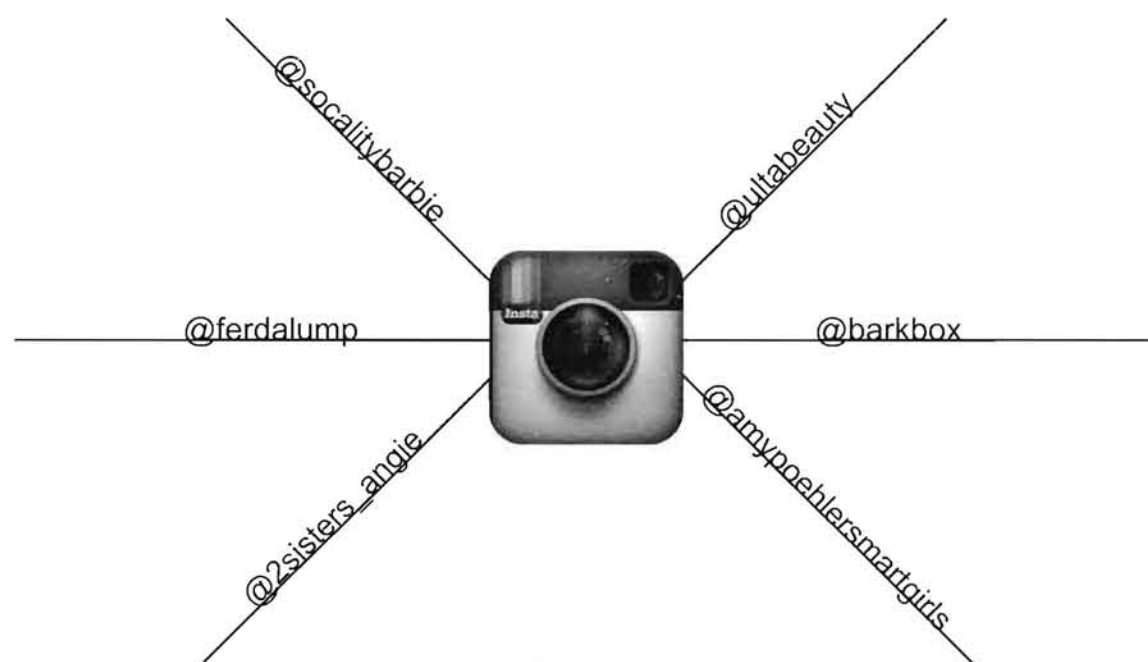
Angie (2sisters_angie) & Mayhem (fashionbymayhem) - fashion, kid's humor, art; 491k followers.

Mayhem (a pseudonym) is a creative 5-year-old who creates fashion out of mostly construction paper. Her mom, a professional photographer, started sharing pictures of Mayhem in her creations. The original Instagram, @2sisters_angie, went viral about a year ago. She is well known for her recreations of Project Runway and award show dresses. She started designing dresses for J. Crew at 4-years-old. Barbie even created a one-of-a-kind doll of Mayhem for their "Sheroes" collection.



Amy Poehler's Smart Girls (amypoehlersmartgirls) - inspiration, female empowerment; 188k followers.

Amy Poehler and Meredith Walker created Amy Poehler's Smart Girls to empower girls to be themselves and emphasize intelligence and imagination. They are involved with many different charities that have the same goals and host a number of events to do so. Their Instagram is full of inspirational posts for anyone to encourage people to be themselves!



Reported by Anna Bahn

Autumn in New York: must do's!

By DOMINIQUE LANDEW
Staff Writer

Even though summer has come to a close, it doesn't mean you can't still have fun in the Big Apple. There are so many things that will make your fall dreams come true just by going into New York City. Here is a list of events that will make your fall not so dull:

China Doll

This Broadway play is Al Pacino's return to the Broadway stage. Pacino is playing Mickey Ross, a man who overspends on sex and later deals with a life-altering realization.
Dates: Oct. 21-Dec. 30

Eclipsed

This Broadway show starring Lupita Nyong'o is based on a true story about the women who fought to end the Second Liberian Civil War in 2003.
Dates: Sept. 29-Nov. 8.

American Ballet Theatre

This performance captures the true essence of grace and rhythm. One of the biggest stars in this event is Mark Morris.
Dates: Oct. 21-Nov. 1

**Thrill the World NYC
Zombie Masquerade Ball**

Get ready to get your inner "Thriller" on by dressing up in costume and learning the famous Michael Jackson dance. With this event, you can get a zombie makeup treatment.
Dates: Oct. 24

**Giant Pumpkin
Carving Weekend**

With this Pump-tastic event, you will be able to pick pumpkins in the dark by going around with a flashlight to go "pumpkin haunting". There will also be different pumpkin carvings on display.
Dates: Oct. 24-25

Village Halloween Parade

If you love Halloween, this event is for you. This event involves walking around with many other Halloween-loving native New Yorkers seeing the parade. With this event, you are allowed

to get all dressed up in costume.

Dates: Oct. 31

Okwui Okpokwasili: Bronx Gothic

Okwui Okpokwasili, a dancer and theatre-muse, tells her intriguing story of youth, terror and erotica through the artistic expression of dance.
Dates: Oct. 21- Oct. 24

New York Comedy Festival

If you are in for a good laugh and love to see real live comedy, the New York City Comedy Festival is for you. This festival includes performances from Billy Crystal, Kathy Griffin, and so many more!
Dates: Nov. 10-15.

**Tompkins Square Park
Halloween Dog Parade**

If you're in love with puppies and want to see them dressed up in their best Halloween attire, this free event is the place to go. Plus there will be raffles and costume contests (dogs only). Dog lovers, don't forget to bring your cameras!
Dates: Oct. 24

WAGNER POLLS



Junior Randee Boulay
"I text everyday, call once a week"



Freshman Lindsey von Elm
"I text everyday."



Sophomore Joey Uccio
"Every day in person"



Senior Noah Bridgestock
"I call and text daily"



Senior Kyle Allen
"I text very rarely"



Sophomore Antuane Mosley
"I call two or three times per day"

Reported by Dominic Zmarlicki

Group costume fun

Let's make Halloween at Wagner even more exciting this year by having group themed costumes. Every year, students create great costumes to wear on Oct. 31; however, this year we suggest you grab a group of friends to make it even more great! Here are some ways you can put it all together with a low budget in mind.



101 Dalmatians:
In order for this costume to come together, half of your friends need to find an old white shirt and draw black spots on it. For the bottoms, you can just wear black and don't forget to get some black face paint to make some spots on your face!



Candy Crazy:
This is a candy explosion! Everybody in your friend group loves a certain type of candy, right? Well, just pick one, find a shirt of similar color and have a craft party. Go wild and decorate the shirt just like the York peppermint patties' logo.



Social Media Addicts:
This cute group idea is reflective of how much all of our friends are addicted to social media. Again, this is an easy DIY of painting the logo of some social media on a plain shirt.



Spice Girls:
Be your favorite girl group for Halloween! Dressing up as the Spice Girls is a little "tbt" for everyone. This will be for a group of five. You will need a Baby Spice, Ginger Spice, Sporty Spice, Scary Spice, and a Posh Spice.



Dominoes:
This simple idea consists of wearing all black and either taping or gluing white spots on your body in order to look like a domino. When you come together as a group, you could have a human domino game.



Bachelorette Party:
Pick a friend to be the bride and everyone can wear boas and sashes with their respected bride party name on their sash.

Reported by Kimberly Watson

{ ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT }

'Damn Yankees' opens with a devilish performance

By **MELISSA CALATO**
Assitant Editor

Wagner College's production of "Damn Yankees" was truly a home run! Once again, the Wagner theatre department amazes the audience by making it hard to believe that these actors are students. The show, which ran from Sept. 30 to Oct. 11, is an upbeat musical directed by Mickey Tenenbaum.



"Damn Yankees" centers around Joe Boyd (Christopher Zika) and the deal he makes with the devil, Mr. Applegate (Joseph O'Malley). Joe trans-



forms into the superstar Joe Hardy (Jesse Pimpinella) and becomes the hero of the failing Washington Senators baseball team. Once the deal is

set in place, Joe leads the team to the success, but not without any consequences. This show, along with its energizing choreography and enter-

taining characters, is a story about not realizing what you have until it's gone, all centered around America's favorite pastime.



From left to right: Christopher Zika, Joseph O'Malley and Jesse Pimpinella

The cast is not the only part of this production that was a success. The crew was also a major contribution to the overall uplifting atmosphere of the show. The set was colorful and skillfully designed for each scene. From the 1950's essence that the Boyd's home brings, to the flame covered curtains during Mr. Applegate solo, all costumes, props and set



pieces made the show come to life.

Students and faculty who missed "Damn Yankees" can catch another Wagner College theatre triumph later this season with "The Most Happy Fella", running from Nov. 18 to 22 and Dec. 2 to 6, and Shakespeare's "The Tempest", running from Dec. 1 to 6.

The Doctor is still in – on BBC, that is

By **DOMINIQUE LANDEW**
Staff Writer

After six decades of being on the air, Doctor Who has been named one of the "longest running and most successful sci-fi series in television history," according to the Washington Post.

As the ninth season of Doctor Who was drawing near, many wanted to capture the reasons why the world loves the many "resurrections" of the Doctor. There are three major reasons as to why viewers keep watching the show: the Doctor, his companion and the Tardis.

Throughout the show's history, there were a total of twelve doctors, each with a different personality. Among these twelve doctors, there were two doctors, Matt Smith and David Tennant, that many fans seemed to love.

David Tennant is from West Lothian, Scotland and starred in the detective series, Broadchurch. Matt Smith is from Northampton, Northamptonshire, England and is starring in the show The Walking Dead.

In the show, as the Doctor dies, he regenerates into the same man, but in a new incarnation, which makes fans want to watch more.

With each resurrection, the Doctor is accompanied with a companion, who helps him fight off monsters. The two companions that seemed to hit it off with the doctor are Clara Oswald and Amy Pond.

Throughout the show, the companions are mostly needed to keep the doctor sane by asking the right questions. Also, they are the doctor's greatest support system throughout the show. Along with being the doctor's closest friend, the companions provided a "lens through which the viewer is introduced to the series." The 12th doctor, Peter Capaldi's companion is Clara Oswald.

Also, the Doctor travels in a Tardis, which is a time machine. The Tardis is a blue box that looks like a London telephone booth. On the top it states "Police Public Call Box." Ever since the doctor's visit to London in 1963, the circuit to camouflage has been broken, leaving it in the shape of a London Police Box.

The Tardis may look small on the outside, but it is big on the inside. The Tardis has become a trademark of the show due to its unique elements inside.

Fans from all around the world were getting curious about what the Doctor will "exterminate" this season. Would it be the Daleks? Would it be the Oods? The only way to find out is to watch and see.



Meet the new crew in charge: The Seahawk head coaches



**Football Head Coach
Jason Houhgataling**

Coach Houhgataling is known as "Hoss" to his players and fellow coaches.

Experience:
•Seven seasons coaching at Wagner in various positions
•Last three seasons with Seahawks he has served as offensive coordinator
•2013 season coaching at Cornell University
•Has coached seven former All-NEC Student Athletes
•Was a member of Wagner's coaching staff when they captured their last two titles, in 2012 and 2014

Alma Mater: Binghamton, 2004

On Coach Houhgataling:
"Jason has a sharp football mind and he is an excellent teacher and leader of young men. He has prepared himself carefully to be a head coach of a Division I program," said Dr. Richard Guarasci, Wagner College President, in statement to Wagner Athletics.



**Fencing Head Coach
Attila Lukacs**

Experience:
•Ten years coaching, nine of those at Steven's Institute of Technology
-Former member of the Hungarian National Fencing Team

Alma Mater: Obuda University, 2006

Coach Lukacs:
"I'm very excited to have the opportunity to create a fencing program that will both enhance Wagner athletics and the student-athlete experience. My goal is to build a program which provides a great environment for on-coming fencers to improve and become successful college athletes. The exposure and training opportunities available to the Wagner women's fencing team is an invaluable competitive edge. I believe that with my guidance as a dedicated fencing coach the fencing team will have no limits and achieve great NCAA, national and international results."



**Women's Lacrosse
Head Coach
Katie Rowan**

Experience:
•Member of the 2009 and 2013 USA World Cup gold medalist teams
•Three years as assistant coach at alma mater Syracuse

Alma Mater: Syracuse, 2009

Coach Rowan:
"I am thrilled to be a part of the Wagner community and specifically, the women's lacrosse team. We have had a great fall ball so far, and by mid-October will have been involved in five tournaments against some strong competition. There has been lots of positive energy and an excitement to learn at practices; we are fortunate to have upperclassmen with great leadership as they have helped acclimate our new student-athletes to the college level. Thanks in advance to everyone's support of the women's lacrosse program, we look forward to a great season!"



**Men's Tennis Head Coach
Jason Sinkoff**

Experience:
•Three years coaching at San Diego Mesa as an assistant coach
•Served as program director and head coach at the JCC Maccabi Sports Camp
•Coached two students-athletes that attained All-American status and Pacific Coast Athletic Conference singles and doubles titles

Coach Sinkoff attended the JCC Maccabi Sports Camp as a player prior to coaching there.

Alma Mater: Hofstra, 2012

Coach Sinkoff:
"I could not have asked for a better group of players to work with. I stepped in and they immediately started working hard. We have big goals for this year and everyone is on the same page. I'm honored to be a part of the Seahawk family."

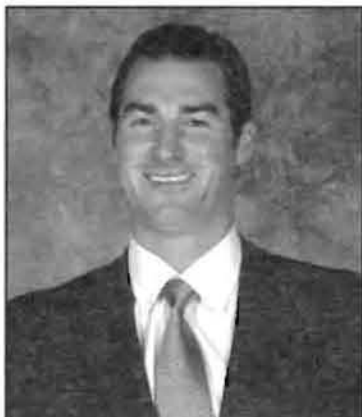


**Softball Head Coach
Angie Churchill**

Experience:
•Coaches more than 500 collegiate softball games
•Five years head coaching, six years assistant coaching
•Five years as assistant for University of Buffalo

Alma Mater: Michigan, 2004

On Coach Churchill:
"We're excited to add Angie Churchill to the Wagner athletic family. Following her playing career at Michigan, where she served as a co-captain, she has coached in more than 500 softball games combined at the Division I, II and III levels, and owns more than 100 victories as a head coach. Student-athletes will benefit greatly from her leadership," said Athletic Director Walt Hamline in a statement to Wagner Athletics.



**Men's Basketball Associate
Head Coach
Mike Babul**

Experience:
•Fourth year coaching the Seahawks, previously as an assistant
•Twelve years as Division I coach
•Member of coaching staff at: Auburn, Texas-El Paso, Drexel, Youngstown State and Memphis

Alma Mater: UMass, 2000

On Coach Babul:
"I think Mike is a tremendous coach. His ability to get these guys better in terms of skill and development has been great for our guys. His overall knowledge for both of them, he's ready to run his own program. By giving him this title it will help him to start to visualize how he would run his own program," said Men's basketball head coach Bashir Mason.

Reported by Megan Fritz



WAGNERIAN PHOTO BY MEGAN MOORE

SOFTBALL TEAM RECOGNIZED AS SIXTH HIGHEST GPA IN THE NCAA DIVISION I PROGRAM.

What do sports mean to you?

*A look into what drives Wagner's
most dedicated students in their sports.*



**Greg Senat
Junior
Basketball
Elmont, NY**

Everyone has a special talent, a key that makes them stand out from everyone else. That talent for junior Greg Senat comes through basketball. Playing the position forward, this rising basketball star played 29 games out of the 31 in his sophomore career.

Born and raised in Queens, Senat started playing when he was twelve years old. When asked who influenced him to play Senat says "My mom. She wanted me to get out of the house." Just wanting to get her son out of the house opened up his love for what is now more than just a game for Senat.

He goes into detail of how he feels pure adrenaline when he walks on the court. He says, "I am meant to be there."

Just like anybody else, Senat doesn't forget to mention his support system, which includes his family and friends at church who are always there for him.

On any college campus there are stereotypes directed towards athletes. When asked how he feels about people who stereotype athletics Senat says "I like that because it motivates me to do well, and to educate people and prove them wrong. I have been stereotyped, people think I am just into basketball and that is false."

Senat was scouted by many colleges for his talent on the court. Senat says he chose Wagner College because "The coaching staff always kept in touch with me, came to all of my practices and gave me that support I needed." For Senat, basketball is more than just a game.



**Matt Sefcik
Freshman
Lacrosse
Towaco, NJ**

People often find they have an athletic ability at a young age. For freshman Matt Sefcik, it was at the age of eight years old.

Lacrosse was something that Sefcik grew into, and it has been part of his life ever since he could remember.

When asked how he feels about playing this intense sport, Sefcik says "It feels like a natural instinct, something I am meant to be doing."

Just like any dedicated athlete, Sefcik goes into detail about how he feels so relaxed when he sees his family on the field. Sefcik says, "My parents are one of my biggest support systems, they always push me into the right direction."

Growing up with brothers who also played lacrosse, he always found himself in goal.

Now in his college career, he finds himself yet again playing in the net for a much larger group of brothers, the Wagner men's lacrosse team.

Sefcik is the first person in his family to play a division one sport. That is definitely a big accomplishment.

When asked how he feels about people throwing negative opinions about athletes, Sefcik says "It is a huge misconception, when people throw around negative opinions about athletes."

Sefcik remembers where he came from, and the people who helped him get to where he is: an athlete dedicated to his sport and his team.

Reported by Liana Ribaldo



Shift supervisor Monica Wohltjen.



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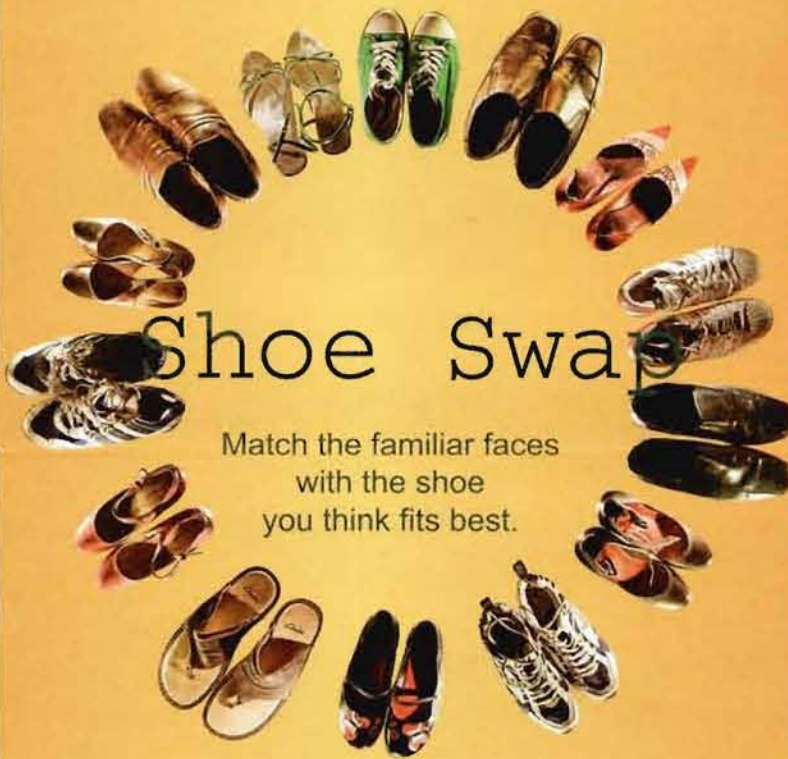
Sophomore Kolton Bell.



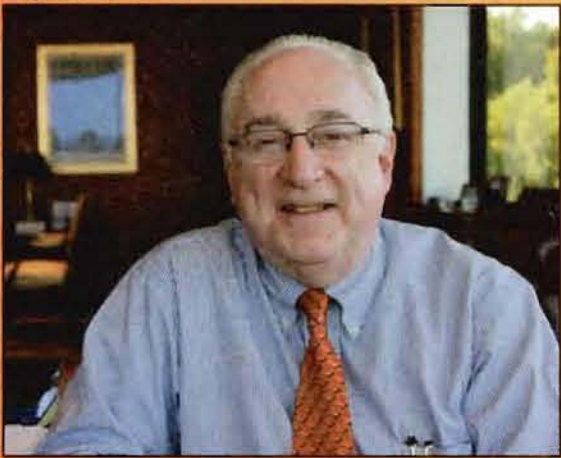
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Program manager for Lifelong Learning Krystal Ladal.



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President Dr. Richard Guarasci.



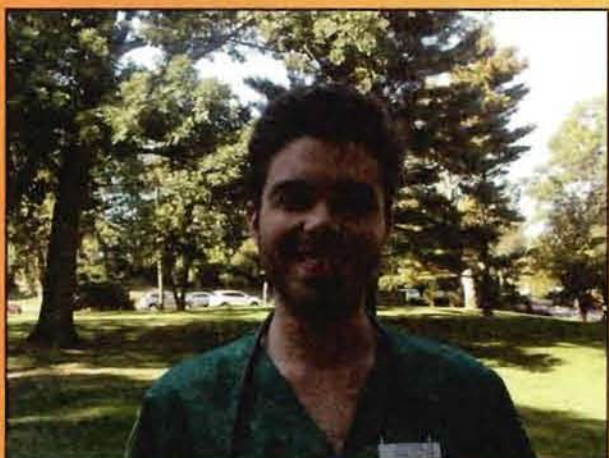
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Graduate student Kevin Messier.



5



Senior Tyler Wilcox.



6

1. Senior Tyler Wilcox 2. President Dr. Richard Guarasci 3. Graduate student Kevin Messier 4. Shift supervisor Monica Wohltjen 5. Sophomore Kolton Bell 6. Program manager for Lifelong Learning Krystal Ladal