

The Wagnerian

Wagner College

Wednesday, April 21, 2004

Staten Island, NY

Wagner students voice their opinions:

Should gay marriage be legal?

By Sarah Zimmerman
Staff Writer

President Bush and his administration have recently put forth their "compassionate conservative" agenda, strongly based on promoting marriage and the traditional family lifestyle. They have created a tax plan which removes "the marriage penalty," and increases tax credits for couples raising children.

The central point of Bush's agenda is using federal funds to create and sponsor marriage classes for unwed couples with children. Many, including Bush, state that his opposition to gay marriage is simply a further promotion and protection of traditional marriage and family.

Not all agree with the president on this matter. Gay marriage has been an increasingly popular issue of debate among Americans as of late. Various states have been in the news for promoting and performing gay marriages, such as Massachusetts, Hawaii, and California. Many others, such as Washington D.C. have made the news by opposing these unions, with reports of anti-gay protests.

According to "The Seattle Times Washington Poll 2004," 62% of Americans oppose gay marriage, 30% favor it, and 8% were NA. The question is: what are Wagner students' thoughts on the subject?

Recently, a survey was handed out to various Wagner College students, asking these five ques-

See Marriage, Page 2



Photo by Alex Jacobs

WITs, like Kristin Zinn, left, and Lauren Lebovitz, held more than 400 tutoring sessions last fall, causing the Writing Center to outgrow its budget. The center is busy now as the semester draws to a close.

Writing Center going strong during busiest time of year

By Heather Weinman
Staff Writer

"The writing center is a victim of its own success," claims Dr. Kim Worthy, the director of Wagner's writing center.

For the past semester, students have been under the impression that a budget cut had altered the hours and availability of the writing center, located in the library basement.

Even the writing intensive tutors, or WITs, as they are called, believed the same misconceptions - that a budget cut had taken place.

There was no budget cut. The writing center, which helps students to write and revise papers, outgrew its budget.

This demand was caused by The Wagner Plan for the Practical Liberal Arts, which gives students a broad education with a close concentration on one

subject through learning communities, or LCs.

Through LCs, which are geared toward making connections between courses and the professional world, all freshmen are required to visit the writing center.

However, since the establishment of the Wagner plan, four learning communities have been added to accommodate the increasing number of freshmen.

According to Dr. Worthy, in Fall 2000, 128 WIT sessions were held, while 421 sessions were held during Fall 2003.

To meet the demands of the students, the number of WITs increased as well.

To further compensate for this demand, "the new Provost has increased the Writing Center budget for 04-05," claims Dr. Worthy.

Christen Madrazzo, a junior, has been working as a WIT since the first semester of her sopho-

more year. She explained that WITs are allotted a specific number of hours per week.

Therefore, due to the increase of freshmen, many tutors used the majority of their hours during the fall semester.

In order to avoid exceeding the budget, a number of WITs had to wait up to three weeks before they could start to work again.

Jeannine Morris, a junior, visits the writing center every semester. She states, "my papers receive much higher grades than they would if I didn't bring them to a WIT."

According to Morris, "The only problem with the writing center is having to wait when there is only one WIT available."

As of now, the scheduling is basically back on track. While there may be a short wait, there are no real complaints at this time and all hours are expected to return by the fall semester.

Author will headline A.C.E. program on April 26

By Jill Higgins
Editor

Joyce Carol Oates, the award-winning author of books including "Them," "Foxfire," and "We Were the Mulvanys," will read excerpts from her new collection of short stories, "I Am No One You Know", on Monday night at 7 p.m. in the Main Hall Theater.



Oates

M.A. from the University of Wisconsin.

In 1978, she moved to New Jersey to teach creative writing at Princeton University, where she is now the Roger S. Berlind Distinguished Professor of the Humanities.

Oates has produced some of the most controversial and lasting fiction of our time.

Her novel, "Them," set in racially volatile 1960s Detroit, won the 1970 National Book Award.

Although Oates has called herself, "a serious writer, as distinct from entertainers or propagandists," her novels have enthralled a wide audience, and "We Were the Mulvanys" earned the number one spot on the New York Times bestseller list.

A book-signing session will follow in the Horrman Library.

The event is sponsored by Academic and Cultural Enrichment.

Felicia J. Ruff is coordinator of A.C.E. programs.

Wagner becomes 21st member of schools consortium

Wagnerian Staff Report

Wagner has been elected to membership in the Associated New American Colleges (ANAC), a national consortium of mid-sized compressive private colleges and universities dedicated to the integration of liberal arts and professional studies and student-centered learning.

Wagner is the 21st member of

ANAC.

"Wagner College will fit well among the member institutions of ANAC," said Alan F. Harre, president of Valparaiso University and chair of the ANAC Presidents Council.

"Its highly acclaimed general education program, known as the Wagner Plan, its curricular offerings, student profile, location and growing regional and national

reputation for excellence motivated the current member institutions of ANAC to offer membership to Wagner College. We are pleased that Wagner has accepted our invitation."

The Wagner Plan for the Practical Liberal Arts is often cited as a model by the Association of American Colleges and Universities and the American Association for Higher

Education.

"This invitation to join ANAC is validation for the commitment of our faculty and staff in creating a model program in the practical liberal arts for our students," said Dr. Richard Guarasci, Wagner's president.

"Membership in ANAC is also recognition that Wagner has reached new levels of administrative and financial strength.

ANAC members typically enroll between 2,000 and 7,500 students. Their core liberal arts focus emphasizes value-centered and residential undergraduate education.

All the member institutions are committed to the belief that integrated learning is the most effective means of achieving intellectual and social development within the student body.

"The science fiction of today can be the science fact of tomorrow."

**FACULTY SPOTLIGHT:
Prof. Harold Kozak**

His head is in the stars.

**By Jeannine Morris
Staff Writer**

Thrilled about the interview, Professor Harold Kozak arrived early, and was neatly dressed in a button down shirt and a pair of khakis, even though it was his day off.

Many of you know him as "the astronomy teacher." However, his passion for teaching and love for Wagner College and the Staten Island community are characteristics that put him above the rest.

As a Wagner graduate with a bachelor's degree in science and pre med, Prof. Kozak had a very positive experience at Wagner as a student, during which he took physics classes with Dr. Otto Rath. Upon graduating in the late 1980's, his goal was to teach somewhere that would allow him to create his own class.

Curious about this proposal, Kingsboro Community College gave him the opportunity to do just that. Prof. Kozak developed a course that incorporated astronomy with biology, genetics, anthropology, and philosophy.

"I really believe that science should be bridged with other disciplines," said Prof. Kozak.

This creation was also highly successful at Wagner College. Ten years ago, when he was hired to teach here, Prof. Kozak's goal was to give to the students the same experience he had while studying here.

Still wearing his class ring, he informs me that teaching at Wagner has been the biggest accomplishment in his astronomy career, because it is "not a job, its fun." Since science is a required

course, one of Prof. Kozak's goals is to make students from all different areas of study feel comfortable.



Prof. Kozak

"I strongly believe that the best way to learn science is to go outside the classroom," Prof. Kozak declared about his educational philosophy.

Pointing to movie posters on his wall, he tells me that he encourages his students to watch science fiction movies as a learning experience. He also requires his class to take trips to the American Museum of Natural History's planetarium and to Gateway Park to observe the stars.

Prof. Kozak added meaning to study when he traveled all the way to Europe to contact one of the journalists studied in class.

He sat with Dr. Jean Pier Luminet in the Meudon Observatory outside of Paris for four hours. Luminet answered a whole list of questions Prof. Kozak collected from his students. His eyes grew big with satisfaction as he stated, "the students were impressed with the replies and were able to put a personality with the journals they've read."

Luminet is planning to visit New York in the near future, and is expected to pay a visit to Wagner, as well. Pointing to a book on his desk titled "Brother Astronomer -- Adventures of a Vatican Scientist," Prof. Kozak announces the next big event in Astronomy at Wagner. While in

Italy in the middle of March, he met with the book's author, Brother Guy Consolmagno, and arranged for him to come to Wagner to speak with his classes on April 27th. Consolmagno will be lecturing about extraterrestrial life, galaxies, and time travel.

"The science fiction of today can become the science fact of tomorrow," Prof. Kozak begins when talking about Mars. As one may have guessed, Kozak is ecstatic about its new discoveries. He recently changed his lecture eliminating the doubt about Mars having lakes and rivers.

He always has and still believes that Earth will come in contact with intelligent life on another planet. The only thing in between us and them is time.

Besides his career in Astronomy, Prof. Kozak recently took up a star role in the Wagner play "Elegies for Angels, Punks, and Raging Queens." This was the first time he was approached to get involved at Wagner in a way out of the ordinary. He was the 'faculty guest star' from March 8-10 in the basement of Main Hall. Prof. Kozak played a character who died of AIDS. Though a bit nervous during his first performance, by the second, he was a pro. Since Dr. Rath was also in a play at Wagner during his teaching career here, Kozak warns the theatre department:

"Watch out, because the physics department is taking over!" He finishes by saying he would definitely do it again.

As a lifelong Staten Islander, Prof. Kozak is very involved outside of the Wagner community as well. For the past 15 years, he's been active in Staten Island politics, and appointed many positions by the Borough President.

Astronomer and Jesuit brother will speak on April 27

Is there life in the universe?

Wagnerian Staff Report

Along with trying to motivate students with his on-the-spot lectures, Prof. Harold Kozak also likes to invite guest speakers to campus. This semester, he has invited Brother Guy Consolmagno, an astronomer and Jesuit brother.

Brother Consolmagno, who earned an undergraduate and master's degree from Massachusetts Institute of Technology and a Ph.D. in Planetary Science from the University of Arizona, will be speaking to classes on Tuesday, April 27.

He will appear in Kozak's 9:40 a.m. to 11:10 a.m class in Spiro Hall 4

His second appearance will be at 1 p.m. in Spiro Hall 2 as part of the Academic and Cultural



Brother Consolmagno

Enrichment (ACE) Program. Both lectures are open to the entire Wagner community.

Brother Consolmagno worked at Harvard University and MIT, served in the United States Peace Corps in Kenya and taught university physics before entering the Jesuits in 1989.

Since 1993, he has been at the Vatican Observatory where his research explores connections between meteorites, asteroids and the evolution of small solar system bodies, observing Kuiper Belt comets with the Vatican's 1.8 meter telescope in Arizona, and curating the Vatican meteorite collection.

In 2000 the International Astronomical Union named an asteroid, "4597 Consolmagno", in recognition of his work.

His talks will center around the concept of a search for life in the universe.

The first talk in Prof. Kozak's class will examine the possibilities that life may or may not exist in our universe.

The afternoon talk, entitled "Black Holes and Origins of the Universe" will look at how the universe began and how it has developed.

**Gay marriage
a concern among
nation, students**

Marriage from Page 1

tions:
■ Do you feel that marriage is important in general, as a representation of couples/love, or as recognition of a couple?

■ Why?
■ Are you for or against gay marriage?

■ Why?
■ If your best friend or a sibling invited you to their gay wedding, would you attend?

Students were asked to fill out the surveys anonymously and return them. The results were very different from the national poll's.

Approximately 65 percent of Wagner students who completed and returned the survey were for gay marriage, leaving about 35 percent against it.

Every survey filled out had a definite opinion on the subject.

The first question of the survey was answered with almost a direct split of opinions.

Many students thought that marriage was a very important foundation of a relationship, while many others thought that a

relationship does not need a title to be recognized.

The most common reasons supporting gay marriage were: freedom of love, respect, recognition, and equality.

The most common reasons opposing gay marriage were: attaining rights for married heterosexual couples, moral objections, and religious beliefs.

The final question of the survey left many stumped.

Obviously, those students who were for gay marriage said that they would attend their friend's gay wedding.

However, on about half of the surveys which opposed gay marriage, this question was left unanswered.

The other half said they would not see themselves attending.

Gay marriage and its recent controversy do not seem to be getting settled any time in the near future.

With presidential elections just around the corner, it seems like we at Wagner will have to wait with the rest of the nation for further advancements.

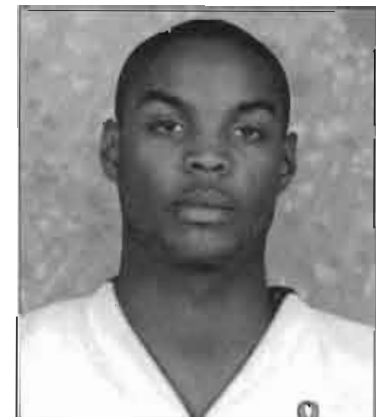
**Wagner senior to join
the United States
Basketball League**

Wagnerian Staff Report

Nigel Wyatte, a Wagner senior, was picked 15th overall in the United States Basketball League (USBL) draft.

Wyatte was taken by the USBL's Brooklyn Kings, with the fourth pick of the second round held via teleconference on Tuesday. He is the first Wagner player to be drafted by a USBL team.

As the only Northeast Conference (NEC) player to average a double-double this past season with 13.7 points per game and a league-leading 10.4 rebounds per game, Wyatte was named to the All NEC First Team and was awarded the NEC's Defensive Player of the Year award. He ranked fifth in the nation in rebounds and recorded 12 double-doubles, including nine in his last 13 games, to finish second in the conference in



Nigel Wyatte

that category. Wyatte is the only Staten Island native on the Seahawk roster. He reached the 1,000-point milestone on Feb. 23 and finished his career with 1,060 points. Wyatte also ranks tenth in the NEC career rebounding chart with 834 boards. In addition, he compiled two 20-point, 20-rebound performances during the 2003-2004 season.

The Wagnerian
Wagner's Little Paper That Could
Since 1918

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Listen carefully and you can hear the Harbor View ghost

By Alex Jacobs
Staff Writer

I recently had my first, and hopefully last encounter with the Harbor View ghost.

There are several different versions of the Harbor View ghost story, but this is the legend as I have heard it.

My friend Melinda asked a couple of us if we had ever heard a sound coming from the room above us: a sound like something being dropped and rolling across the floor.

My roommate and I, as well as several of my other friends had indeed heard it a couple of times, but thought nothing of it.

That was about to change. Melinda explained that what we were hearing was supposedly supernatural.

She said that years ago, a stu-

dent committed suicide in his room.

He had liked playing marbles, and was holding them in his hand when he hanged himself.

As soon as he dropped and the noose tightened, the marbles fell from his hand and rolled across the floor.

Melinda was one of only a few people left in Harbor View over spring break, and she insisted that she had heard the noise over and over again, as if the ghost really knew she was there.

Needless to say, my roommate Leslie and I were pretty freaked out when we went back up to our room.

Even so, I put up an away message on AOL Instant Messenger that read, "Survived another night with the Harbor View ghost..."

Leslie looked over my shoulder as I typed it in and said,

"What are you trying to do? Provoke it?"

Just then, we glanced at the clock and as it turned 3:33 a.m., coincidentally, the time I was born, a loud bell rang out. Leslie and I yelped, and she was so surprised, she slapped me.

The fire alarm had just gone off!

We ran downstairs to our friend Francie's room, who had been with us when we heard the tale of the ghost.

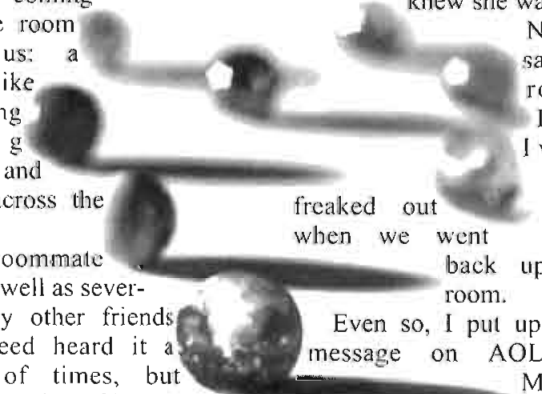
At this point, the bell finally stopped.

We started to tell her what had happened in our room when I "provoked" the ghost, and just then, the bell rang again.

We jumped about a mile, and decided not to talk about it anymore.

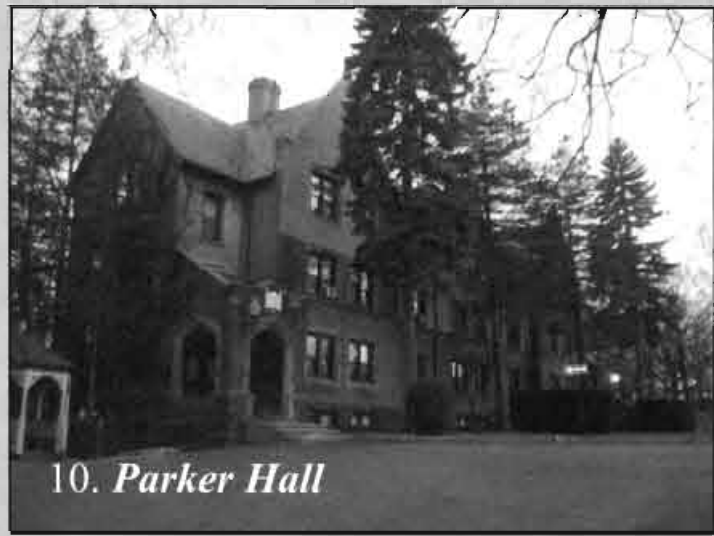
Looking back, I'm sure it wasn't my fault that the fire alarm went off, and I'm sure the ghost wasn't warning me to leave him alone, but it was still quite a coincidence.

Needless to say, I've stopped putting up cocky away messages and started listening more closely for a noise from the room above.



Any building on campus is scary when you're alone in it. This is the second floor of Main Hall, photographed on a Sunday afternoon.

Top 10 scariest places on campus



10. Parker Hall

9. Main Hall basement



8. The old Augustinian Academy (left)

7. Third floor of Main Hall

6. Third floor of Reynolds House

5. Harbor View basement

4. Towers basement (right)



3. Any room in Harbor View where you can hear the "marble ghost"

2. The tower in Main Hall (left)

1. Any empty building on campus

Special topics: Custom courses for student consumption

By Christy Gozzi
Staff Writer

Special topics courses are classes that are usually only taught on occasion and are conceived by the professors that teach them.

They give professors a chance to teach a course in what they are interested in and have studied themselves.

There are numerous special topics courses on the schedule for next semester. Here is a round-up of some of them and comments from the professors who are teaching them.

SO 291 Criminal Procedure

This course is designed to give students an understanding of the major aspects of the law of criminal procedure, the purposes behind that law and our individual rights that are guaranteed by the U.S. Constitution.

Class discussion will focus on investigation of the cases in the Fourth, Fifth, and Sixth Amendment Rights of criminal defendants.

U.S. Supreme Court opinions will be read and briefed so the students may obtain a knowledge of the law of criminal procedure enunciated in them, or interpreted by them, and the reasoning behind the decisions reached.

This new course is taught by David Martin and is designated for "wannabe lawyers, future law enforcement officers and anyone else who is interested in learning more about the criminal justice system."

PH 291-01 Hegel, Marx and Nietzsche

This course studies and evaluates the ideology of some major philosophers of the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries, their issues, traditions and current philosophical and cultural impact. Readings are from Hegel, Marx and Nietzsche. Topics include: mind/body dualism, the notion of consciousness and inner subjectivity; socialism, communism and capitalism; and history, alienation and death.

"I am looking forward to the opportunity to teach this course. Since I believe that discussions about the self, alienation, history, and capitalism are important in the twenty-first century, I think that the authors studied in this

course offer important insights about these topics that demand to be studied," says Dr. Sarah Donovan.

This course, taught by Dr. Donovan, will be of interest to students who "would like to learn more about social and political philosophy."

MDS 291-01 Foundations of Leadership

This course will provide a foundation of leadership theories and will examine leadership as a participatory process. There will be opportunities for practice, application and reflection of leadership through the various roles that students hold on and off campus. The course will allow students to develop their own potential for leadership on campus and in the world beyond Wagner College.

First and second year students are encouraged to register for this course and should plan on applying their experience in a campus or community group to their study of leadership.

The course will be taught by Dr. Anne Love and Ruta Shah-Gordon who say "We are excited about teaching this course because of the opportunity it presents for a group of students to reflect on their own experiences and further develop their leadership skills. Faculty, administrators and community members may be guest speakers, as the course highlights different areas of interest and expertise."

EN 291(W)-02/IT291(W) Italian Cinema; Post War Period to Present

Italian cinema has demonstrated remarkable versatility since its birth at the beginning of the 20th century. This generic breadth is well exemplified by the colorful variety of 20th century film genres, including: the fascist melodrama, postwar neorealism, the so-called "commedia all'italiana," the "spaghetti westerns," and "sword and sandal" epics.

The course will examine the relationship between these different genres and the dramatic cultural changes Italy underwent in the last hundred years. Particular attention will be devoted to the shifts in representations of Italian men and women, shifts which magnified and illuminated national cultural conflicts and aspirations.

For more information on these courses and other special topics classes being offered, contact the registrar's office at extension 3173, or stop by the office, which is open Monday to Friday, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

THINKING ABOUT TRANSFERRING? THINK AGAIN.

Proud to be (almost) a Wagner graduate

By Erin Durkin
Staff Writer

I was two seconds away from transferring during my first week of freshman year. I hated Wagner, and I was absolutely miserable! I kept comparing Wagner's "social scene" to the preconceived notions I had of what college "should" be, and Wagner paled in comparison.

To make matters worse, whenever I talked to my friends from home, I would have to stomach stories about all the wild house parties that they were going to.

Luckily, the girls on my floor felt exactly the same, and we began to commiserate. We started spending all of our time together: meals, workouts, trips to NYC, the tanning salon, stealing food from other kids' rooms, CVS, whatever.

By the middle of September, I felt like I had known them my entire life. As a matter of fact, by the end of the first semester of freshman year, I felt as close to my friends here as I did to my friends from home.

It makes sense, though, if you think about it: compare the hour or so a day you'd spend with a friend from home compared to the hours on end you spend with the friends at school that you *live* with. It adds up.

By the second semester of freshman year, I was really happy with my decision to come to Wagner, which was exactly the opposite of how I had felt that first

August.

Not only did I adore every one of my friends and look forward to spending as much time as possible with them, I was also intellectually stimulated by various professors who challenged me to tap into various aspects of myself that had, till then, remained unawakened. I practically skipped to all of my philosophy classes, and like the little nerd I was, couldn't wait to start certain assignments.

In the years since that time, I have grown in more ways than I ever dreamed possible. For instance, through Wagner's Career Development Center, I scored an amazing internship opportunity at a major television network in Manhattan.

I was able to use my position at the network to segue into a part-time job there, working on Youth Marketing strategies for the Daytime president, programmers and producers. If it weren't for Wagner's connections to internship and job opportunities, as well as its proximity to Manhattan, that opportunity of a lifetime could have never taken place.

I have visited plenty of other colleges over the past few years and, no matter where I go, I'm always homesick for Wagner. I guess I've gotten used to the intimacy and familiarity of such a small community - when I visit another school, walk into a party and my friend leans to me and says, "I've never seen a single one of these people" I can't help but think, "That sucks."

At schools like NYU, which

many freshmen at Wagner would like to transfer to, you have no way of knowing anyone but the kids in your hallway. There's no campus! There's no sense of community. There's no Lucy or Mary or even that leering security guy with a penchant for long legs.

At least here you have the campus life as well as the opportunity to go to Manhattan whenever you want.

In addition to that, I have some very bright friends at Colgate University, Miami of Ohio, and Dartmouth who have excellent GPAs and so much potential. Blah, blah, blah. Good for them! Look where they are though: the boonies!

There's no way that they'll have the same job opportunities in Manhattan as we do. It's all about location and networking. If you get yourself in there and have the drive and dedication, a Wagner kid is more likely to win out over 4.0 boys from the University of East Bumble. That's a fact.

So, that's my case. That's why I love Wagner and am proud to be graduating in May. I am grateful to my friends, the Philosophy department, various teachers who have inspired me and all the people who made me laugh along the way. So, for the rest of you thinking about leaving or who want to complain about Wagner you can:

A). Suck it up, shut up, and give it a chance

B). Shut up and leave.

I love it here, and, to boot, I loooooove the cafeteria food, I sincerely do.

Did you get the classes you need to graduate?

By Kat Pungdumri
Staff Writer

If we lived in a perfect world, students would be able to study whatever they were interested in, all classes in every university would be approved by a worldwide college board, and every university in the world would run on the same credit or unit system.

But we don't live in an ideal world; we live and go to school at Wagner. Here, every other person is graduating a semester late because they got screwed over by a class they needed. Here, freshmen wait outside the night before registration because there is so much competition to get the necessary classes. Here, some advisers don't advise, but rather just sign your registration slip without looking at your transcript to see if you even need the class. The list can go on, and on.

It's easy for students to complain about these things, but many of these problems can be prevented through time, effort, worry, stress, and some planning. Though this is only my second year at Wagner, and I still have much more to learn about registration, I do have some advice to pass along:

Plan ahead. Become familiar with your major and its requirements. Know what your core requirements are, and when they're available, take them the first chance you get. This is why some students don't graduate on time.

Did you know that you have to take your last nine units at Wagner? If you want to study abroad, do it early; don't wait until senior year.

Depending on the year, some students who get a certain high cumulative GPA for two semesters in a row can take an extra class for free.

Talk to Dr. Anne Love for more information: Extension 4212.

Email: alove@wagner.edu

Learn to double dip. Some classes count for more than one requirement. Look out for them.

Get a good adviser. If you don't like him or her, don't feel bad about changing. In the end, your adviser can help or hurt your situation.

If they only sign your registration sheet and don't give you advice, or even take a second look at what you're taking and what you have taken, don't waste your time. Get an adviser who will work with you, who understands your goals and concerns.

Keep in good contact through phone and email. Changes are made at academic advisement, in the union.

Make a checklist of classes you need in order to graduate. Show it to your adviser and have them double-check it. Look at it twice a year, before fall registration and before spring registration. It'll help you keep yourself on track.

Keep in touch with the head of the department of your major by email and/or phone.

This is especially important if you're a double major and are given only a primary major advisor.

A week before registration, become familiar with the classes available. Pick out the ones you need, but also choose backups, just in case.

Summer Classes, and What You Need to Know:

If you're a double major (or want to graduate early, and save some money) take courses in the summer at your local community college.

Most importantly, get courses approved by the associate registrar *before* you take them. You will need to fill out transfer credit forms and have course catalogs in hand (they can usually be found on the college's website). Be sure to check the limit of transferable units.

Become familiar with your associate registrar. You should at least know that her name is Barbara Barletto and that her office is across the business office.

The best classes to get approved for community college are general education requirements like speech, math, electives, science, and introductory classes. Save these classes to take in the summer, when you'll have more time to focus on individual classes.

However, save Writing Intensive (W), Diversity (D), and International Perspectives (I) courses for Wagner, since they are unique to this college only.

Keep informed about the community colleges in your area. Be familiar with the courses they offer and WHEN they offer them (a limited number of courses are offered in the summer), and see if they match any of the courses you might have to take here.

This information may seem overwhelming, or like too much trouble, but keep in mind, the only person you can rely on is yourself.

It may be your adviser's job to look after you, but in the end, if you don't look out for yourself, neither will your adviser, and your advisor won't be screwed, YOU will.

So, be aware of the classes you need, plan, and become familiar with your registrar and your adviser.

Students need to voice their political views louder

By Alex Jacobs
Staff Writer

With the presidential election looming, it is more and more important for young people to voice their opinions on the issues that we care about, so that our future leaders will know what we expect of them and of our country.

It's not hard to see that Wagner is not a politically charged campus- most people just don't seem to care that much about politics to take action. Maybe everyone thinks it's too hard to take a stance on an issue or speak up

about what they believe in, or you don't have to know everything about politics to get involved.

There are many issues being addressed in the upcoming election that students should be more vocal about.

The ongoing wars in Iraq and Afghanistan, the huge budget deficit, social security, banning gay marriage, taxes, the environment, abortion, gun control, jobs, and education - these are all issues that affect us!

It's easy to get informed on these and other issues. Watch or read the news, attend a Politics and Pizza session with Dr. Kiss, be part of a discussion at the Young Democrats meeting, talk

to a professor, or go to one of the many Web sites that compare the candidates.

No matter what end of the spectrum you fall on, liberal or conservative, it makes a difference if you speak up and vote for what you believe in.

So many young people let their voices go unheard by not voting, so our demands go unnoticed. Talk about the issues with your friends and see what they think. You may be surprised.

Most importantly, if you haven't yet, register to vote and if you live out of state, obtain an absentee ballot, so that you can truly make a choice on Nov. 2.

Have a thought, idea or opinion that you want to see
expressed in the Wagnerian?

Write a

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Submissions can be e-mailed to wagnerian@wagner.edu
or dropped off in Union 204

All letters must include the author's name, room number, phone extension, major and year in school.

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Are the political campaigns being truthful?

To the Students of Wagner College:

As your professors at Wagner, one of the most important things we attempt to teach is critical thinking. Rather than accepting what you hear, see or read at face value, we ask that you analyze, examine and put to the test information that is provided to you. In the months ahead, leading up to the Presidential election, the skills of critical thinking will be more important than ever. Although all politicians engage in slanting or mischaracterizing their opponents, the Bush campaign is already engaged in campaigning based on outright lies. When examined, the claims made in recent media campaigns do not hold up. Here are just a few of the outright lies that have appeared in recent weeks:

Claim: "John Kerry will raise taxes by \$ 900 billion in his first 100 days". Truth: Kerry has promised to lower taxes on working families and middle class Americans. His tax cuts will target the richest 5% of the country, as well as corporations. The majority of Bush's tax cuts have benefitted only the wealthy.

Claim: "We can continue to go forward to create new jobs...and

decrease the cost of health care."

In fact the Bush presidency has done just the opposite. According to the Economic Policy Institute, America has lost 2.4 million jobs under Bush, and health care costs have risen a staggering 49 percent on average (Kaiser Family Foundation).

Claim: "John Kerry wants to weaken the Patriot Act used to arrest terrorists and protect America." Truth: Kerry vowed to strengthen the parts of the Act, such as intelligence information sharing that actually fight terrorism, but to take a careful look at the sections of the Act the restrict citizens' freedoms and challenge some of our basic civil liberties.

Be careful of accepting spurious information as fact. Put it to the test: examine it, find out what sources it comes from, and see if it is honest. If it isn't, you must do the only decent thing: give Bush, and the insidious campaign he is launching, an "F" for failure.

Sincerely,
Dr. Laura Morowitz
*Associate Professor of Art
Chair, History and Art
Department*

Looking for work on campus this summer?

Wagnerian Staff Report

If you are interested in staying at Wagner College over the summer then consider being a Wagner College Summer Conference staff member. During the summer, outside organizations come to Wagner College to take advantage of the convenient and beautiful setting of our campus for use as a conference center.

The attendees reside in our residence halls and make use of our facilities.

The summer conference attendees are primarily composed of religious affiliated groups as well as international youth groups. As a conference staff member you are responsible for ensuring these groups have the best experience possible.

Responsibilities include maintaining dorm rooms, acting as a

receptionist at the front desk of Harborview Hall, setting up for large events and any other duties assigned by the Resident Director.

All conference staff work 30 hours per week and in exchange receive a single dorm room and a salary. Interested students may fill out an application, available in the External & Summer Programs office on the second floor of Kairos House.

SGA election coming up next week

Here is a list of the candidates running for Student Government Association positions.

President

Justin Starbird
Mel Powers

Vice President

Brian Kenny
Jake Meranda
Corrine Mertz

Secretary

Matt Hedge
Matt Sheehan
Ashley Willisich

Treasurer

Andrew Keating
Morgan Rowse

Senior Senators

Jeannine Morris
Melanie Corebello
Elizabeth Palowski
Kristofer Bloomer
Toni Ann Daiuto

Junior Senators

Kaitlin Buffington
Amanda Barlow
Katie O'Donnell
Thomas McCormick
John Cichon

Sophomore Senators

MaryEllen Thiel
James Rocco
Alison Hay
Tauny Ventura
Jessica Jameson
Richard Caro

There are four positions open for each class of senators, and those four will then appoint one more for a total of five.

There are also 3 appointed positions on the Executive Board: The Coordinator of Community Service, the Coordinator of Campus Programming, and the Communications Manager.

Applications for all appointed positions are available in the SGA office.

Elections are Tues. and Weds. April 27 and 28 from 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. in the Union Atrium.

ANNOUNCEMENT

Special sale at Kallista

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KAPPA MU EPSILON
SIGMA TAU DELTA
AND PHI ALPHA THETA:
WE NEED TO KNOW YOUR
INDUCTION DATES**

**ATTENTION GREEKS
THETA CHI
TAU KAPPA EPSILON
KAPPA EPSILON ALPHA
AND DELTA NU:
WE NEED GROUP CANDIDS;
PLEASE E-MAIL OR CALL**



The Dining Hall is empty at night, since the closure of Della Noche.

NIGHTTIME SNACK BAR IS CLOSED

What happened to Della Noche?

By Heather Weinman
Staff Writer

"Della Noche? What's that?" laughs junior, Jeannine Morris.

Established to help ease the loss of the Hawk's Nest, Della Noche has fallen short of success among students. "It just could not substitute the Hawk's Nest that students were used to," says Morris.

With the close of the Hawk's Nest for the 2003-2004 school year, Wagner administration has made many efforts within the last year to meet the needs of students by instituting several new eateries. One of which includes Della Noche. Incorporating wraps, outtakes and a big screen TV, Della Noche was designed to be an alternative for students who often drive off campus for late night snacks. Yet, after only one full semester, Della Noche and its late night activities have been cancelled.

"It was closed because of the lack of participation," explains Abir Roychoudhury, Director of Operations for Chartwells catering. The cost of running and operating this venue was not supported by student interest. On most nights only six to ten students would find themselves in

the Trattoria section of the dining hall, where Della Noche was located. "It simply was not feasible to keep it open," states Roychoudhury.

With few weeks left in the semester, only a handful of students have noticed that Della Noche has been closed. But those who have, feel they are more than slightly inconvenienced. Sophomore Joshua Key-Maginnis, explains that Della Noche was an asset to Wagner's students.

"There are a lot of us who have schedules and rehearsals that last through dinner and transfers. It was nice to have someplace to go and eat when all that was done," says Key-Maginnis. "...Or if we were just up late," he adds

Anticipating disappointment among students, Wagner has again worked to accommodate these needs. The WAG, where students can purchase both wraps and outtakes, among many other grocery items, is now open until midnight.

While it is unfortunate that more students did not support the advantages Della Noche offered, its closure was inevitable, and the availability of The WAG has been altered to ensure that students will have a place to eat late at night.

30 hours of fasting and fun

By Christina Martingano
Staff Writer

Did you know that \$1, the price of a can of soda, can feed a child for a day? That would mean \$7 would feed him or her for a month, and \$30 would feed one for a year?

That is the reason why Harp and Bowl: Wagner College Christian Fellowship took part in The 30 Hour Famine between April 3 and April 4, a worldwide fund-raiser to feed starving children in impoverished countries.

The fundraising started on Thursday, where the group had a table in the Union and stood in the lobby of Haborview.

The group then began fasting at 12 pm on Friday, a fast they did not break until 6 pm Saturday evening, totaling 30 hours without food.

The members spent the night in D3 annex, where they watched movies, prayed, sang, and spent the night bonding as a group as they continued to raise money.

By combining proceeds from past fundraisers, they were able to donate \$360, enough money to feed a child for a year.

It's a good play, Charlie Brown

By Christina Martingano
Staff Writer

Musicals and cartoons, two great forms of entertainment that were intertwined from April 1 to April 4, when "You're a Good Man Charlie Brown" was performed in the Gatehouse Lounge.

Proceeds went to the Educational Theater Association, a 75-year-old international organization that strives to provide schools, nursing homes, and other community centers money to fund training in the arts, with focus given to theater.

Senior theater education major Jennifer DeBruin directed the musical, while Kyle McGinley, a

senior technical theater major, served as the assistant director and scene/costume designer.

DeBruin discovered the organization while student teaching. After seeing funding for the arts cut with the New York City budget, she decided to take action by raising money for education in the arts.

Charlie Brown had always been her favorite show and was able to appeal to a wide range of audiences, so it was a simple choice of what to perform.

She was drawn to the show's simplicity and positive energy. "It gives something happy back to the community, instead of something heavy or negative," McGinley added.

However, putting the show together wasn't an easy task. Their hardest challenges were balancing school, writing papers, and work with rehearsals and practice times.

However, they agreed that it was worth it. They were also pleased with their great cast, and the audiences positive reaction.

The show featured freshman Dan Scullin as Charlie Brown, sophomore Saro Badalian as Snoopy, freshman Kyle Hewitt as Schroeder, junior Abbie Leese as Lucy, freshman Amanda Males as Patty, freshman Ben Splading as Linus, freshman Lauryl Trenholme-Pihl as Sally, and sophomore Jennic Weich as Woodstock.

Trade the snow and cold for a semester of sunshine

By Heather Weinman
Staff Writer

Want to spend a semester halfway between Santa Barbara and Los Angeles, California?

Since the fall of 1975, Wagner College and California Lutheran University (CLU) have established an exchange program through which students enrolled at Wagner can take fully transferable classes at CLU, while paying Wagner tuition.

"It was definitely one of the greatest experiences I've had in college," says Vanessa Majsztzik, who attended CLU during spring semester of her junior year.

The exchange program, which holds no limit on the number of exchange students, has allowed an almost even number of students to move back and forth between schools throughout the years. "There has been a lot of interest in this program," claims Barbara Barletto, associate registrar. "I've had close to 20 inquiries."

After becoming friends with a student from CLU who was attending Wagner, Majsztzik decided to attend school there a semester later.

Structurally, CLU is a more diverse, community based school than Wagner. The dorms and overall environment contrast greatly to the campus Wagner students are used to. "But college is still college. You go to classes and do the same things, remarks Majsztzik, who returned to CLU over spring Break.

When applying for CLU, a student maintains a close relationship with Wagner administration throughout the process. Given the choice, he can opt to stay for one semester or for an entire academic year.

Before leaving, the student will register for pre-approved classes, ensuring that his academic requirements will be fulfilled. While there, he can work with the registrar and advisers through email in order to register for the next semester during the time allotted for his class standing.



Imagine escaping the snow and cold of New York, to spend a semester studying in the sunshine halfway between Santa Barbara and Los Angeles.

While a student can take classes toward his major, it is recommended that he take advantage of the exchange program earlier on in his education. The earlier a student goes, the more freedom he will have to take electives and classes of his choice while studying in California.

Although students pay Wagner tuition, they are responsible for all other costs, including room and board according to CLU's rate.

Majsztzik, who is working toward a double major of English and Psychology, admits that she did not register until she was there, making her experience more complicated. She will have to stay an extra semester to finish the requirements for her major. This was in part due to the fact that she decided to attend CLU during her junior year, after the time recommended by Barletto.

Although many students are unaware of this program, it has remained a success throughout the years. "Students aren't really aware of the program at CLU, but more than students at Wagner are," states Majsztzik.

Despite having to stay for an extra semester, Majsztzik says that the experience was worthwhile. "I had been to Europe, but

California Lutheran University

Founded: 1959

Location: 2,825 miles from Wagner, in Thousand Oaks, Calif.

Enrollment: 1,891 undergraduate students and 1,058 graduate students

Residence halls: 12

Majors: 26

Minors: 28

Admissions: (805) 493-3135 or cluadm@clu.edu

never to the West Coast," she acknowledges. For students who want the experience of traveling without having to leave the country, this is the perfect opportunity.

For more information on Wagner's exchange program with CLU, visit the registrar's office to obtain an application.

Is there SheHawk success this season?

By Steve Block
Staff Writer

Despite often receiving less publicity than their male counterparts, many of the finest athletic achievements have come from Wagner women this spring.

Track and Field

The most recent impressive outing from a Seahawk unit came in the pouring rain at the Wagner Invitational on April 14th. While Josh Russell led the men with another dominating performance in the shotput, Tara Ferraiuolo finished 2nd in the women's event with a throw of 11.09 meters.

In the 4x800 meter relay, the women placed first, beating St. Francis (NY) and Fairleigh Dickinson with a time of 9:51.8.

Noemie Wilson, Tiffany Alford and Laura Dogery finished 1-2-3 in the 100-meter hurdle event.

The 3000-meter run was won by Alicia Welsh with a time of 11:33.4. Jaline Bernier placed second.

Softball

Following a difficult out of conference schedule, the Softball team has improved their record to 13-20-1 with an 8-6 mark in the Northeast Conference.

Sophomore catcher Kim Bruckner leads the team in hitting with a batting average of .358 and four home runs.

The squad's ace, Morgan Miller, has been a reliable pitcher with an E.R.A. of only 2.37 and a 5-9 record.

The final NEC softball game is a road trip down to Maryland against Mount St. Mary's. The team concludes the regular season with a tilt against Hofstra in Long Island.

Golf

In the midst of a tough schedule, the women's golf team has recorded a 1st place finish in the

Kutztown Invitational in addition to many hard-fought rounds in recent play.

In Kutztown, Alysee Sweeney shot a 77 to lead the team to a victory over McDaniel and Lehigh by one stroke. The Seahawks finished with a total of 356.

The golfers complete their spring season with the NEC Championships in Blairsville, Pennsylvania.

Lacrosse

After a streak of close losses at home, the women's lacrosse team recorded their first win of the season in impressive fashion. Wagner pounded St. Francis (PA) 15-6. The game was never close as the Seahawks jumped out to a 12-2 advantage by halftime.

Wagner lacrosse fans will have a chance to see the team with conference battles against Sacred Heart, Quinnipiac and Long Island before the end of the season.



Bonnaroo, an outdoor concert each summer in rural Tennessee, attracted almost 100,000 fans last year. For more information on the concert, tickets, or performers, visit the group's Web site at www.bonnaroo.com.

Bonnaroo: Summer concert attracts thousands

By Tim Marino
Staff Writer

Looking for that perfect drug to kick off your summer? Your search ends in rural Tennessee.

For an extended weekend in mid June, nearly 100,000 people will leave their soap, shampoo, and the better part of their hygiene at home and flock to Tennessee to witness the greatest congregation of rock artists since the last Bonnaroo festival.

Initial lineups were announced last week for the third annual Bonnaroo Music Festival, to be held June 11-13 on a 700-acre farm in Manchester, Tennessee.

Classic rock acts Bob Dylan, The Dead, and Willie Nelson will congregate with the likes of jam rockers Trey Anastasio, Dave Matthews, Primus, String Cheese Incident, moe., Medeski Martin and Wood, Gov't Mule, Yonder Mountain String Band, Vida Blue, and a handful of others.

The all-star lineup leaves open the opportunity for Dylan to share the stage once again with surviving members of the Grateful Dead.

Similarly, for many fans of Primus and its front man/bassist Les Claypool's side projects, the possibility of Les joining forces with fellow Oysterhead Trey Antipasto (Anastasio) may bring forth psychedelic trips from the past.

Tickets for the festival are now available on the concert's web site, www.bonnaroo.com. For a limited time, tickets will cost \$139.50 apiece.

After an unspecified period, ticket prices will rise an additional \$25 to \$164.50.

Ticket cost includes all parking and campground fees for the weekend from Thursday morning through Monday afternoon. It is expected that additional space for

facilities this year will yield a capacity crowd of over 90,000, up 10,000 from last year. Regardless, as has been the case in recent years, tickets will sell out well before the performance dates.

Besides the obvious costs of admission and transportation, campers should remember the essentials.

Though sleeping in a tent and spending a few days with tens of thousands of strangers has its perks, it certainly can be wearing on the body. Here's a quick checklist of things to remember.

1. Water... you can never have enough on a hot summer's weekend in Tennessee
2. Canned food
3. Small grill and cooking utensils
4. Quality beer... beer tends to get more expensive as the weekend goes by. Pick up a few at a reasonable price before you hit the road-- it is vital for nightly discussions
5. Extra clothes
6. Sneakers AND sandals
7. Blankets
8. Lawn chairs... Form a circle with these
9. Lighters... it's all too easy to lose one of these. A five-pack of Bics should hold you over
10. Disposable camera
11. Cell phone... An invaluable resource for finding your friends. There is a tower on the festival grounds
12. Bug spray
13. Sunscreen
14. Money ... ATM machines are available on site, but surcharges are expensive. Remember, hard cash is the key to a successful walk down Shakedown Street and good times overall throughout the weekend

Stay hydrated and get lots of rest. It's a long, but unforgettable weekend. Take it slow and enjoy yourself.

Practical martial arts for the 21st century

By Devon Mickey
Staff Writer

It is a cold, dark night. You are walking all alone, heading home from a late night party, when someone grabs you from behind...

You are having a cold one at the bar with your buddies when some tough guy comes up and shoves you for no reason...

Do you freeze? Do you scream? Do you fight back? Or do you take up the Karate Kid Crane stance, yell "Hiiiyaaaa!!!" and hope you are mistaken for an escaped mental patient?

The choice is yours, although I strongly discourage you from the last option. Even if you take a beating, at least you will retain a modicum of dignity.

Since the age of five, I have trained in a variety of martial arts. I hold a black belt in Tae Kwon Do, a green belt in Goshin Ryu Jiu-jitsu and also have amateur kickboxing experience. There are a few things that both men and women should know about self-defense.

You never know when you could end up in a situation where you must fight back. So here are some of the basics.

First, if you can get away with a lost wallet or bruised ego, consider yourself lucky. Never try to be a hero in a threatening situation. Your first goal should be self-preservation and that does not always mean fighting back.

If defusing the situation verbally does not work, then you should be prepared and know how to defend yourself. Size



does not matter as much as you think.

If you know how to use leverage, speed, and strike properly, you can easily outmaneuver a larger opponent. It is better to know how to fight back and choose not to, than to be helpless in danger.

Forget all the Bruce Lee movies that you've seen. Unless you are a highly skilled martial artist, you should never kick above the belt to give your attacker a "fair fight".

Aim for the knees or groin. Remember: this is for your safety, not for Kung Fu Theater. Kicking above the belt in a street fight will often cause you to lose your balance and end up flat on your backside, a place you really do not want to be when someone is trying to hurt you.

The proper punch is often a key ingredient in winning a fight. When throwing a punch, cock your hand back to about chest level. Keep your hand tightly closed with the thumb on the outside and aim with your first

two knuckles. If you hit with these the blow will hurt you less and you opponent more. Striking with the first two knuckles will

keep you from jamming your wrist and fingers.

Do not try to muscle the punch. Power comes from precision and speed. As you throw the punch, twist hard with your hips to drive it home. Use your legs

and shoulders to throw the punch, not your arm. And never aim at your target. Always aim through your target. This way you will not pull up and graze your target, but will drive through with force, making your punch more effective.

If you do not feel confident in your punching power, or you are being held and are unable to punch, there are three main targets on anyone that cannot be strengthened: the eyes, throat and groin.

Regardless of how strong someone is, if you hit them in one of these areas, chances are, they will go down. It does not matter how you do it, with a purse, fist, kick, whatever, as long as you stop the other person from attacking.

The most important thing is, once your opponent is down, get away. You are not Ralph Macchio and Mr. Miyagi is not there to pick you up. In a street-fight, one good hit is all it takes to end a fight. That works both ways.

If you are attacked on the street, run away and find help. Do not beat your attacker senseless. If you are in a bar fight, decide. If you really hurt the guy, you should probably stick around or at least make sure he gets help. On the other hand, if he is getting up and his buddies look as pissed as he does - Get Out.

SLICE OF LIFE

Laundry Day

We all have to do it eventually. Our intrepid photographer took a trip to the Harbor View basement to see who ran out of clean clothes.

Just don't forget to take your laundry out, or someone else may do it for you!

Photos by Alex Jacobs



Paul Pedersen



Allison Hay



Emily Babcock



Chris Powell



Justin Starbird



Lee Chayoc



Angela Kabres