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Arts showcased on Alumni Weekend

BY JEN JARVIS '07
ASST. NEWS EDITOR

Students saw some familiar faces this past weekend as former PC students returned to campus for Alumni Weekend.

ALUMNI LIFE The Office of Institutional Advancement held several activities for the approximately 500 alumni who returned, and they invited them to a number of other activities, including sports events and performances in the new Smith Center for the Arts.

The alumni kicked off the weekend with an Alumni Association Awards Dinner to honor six PC alums who received awards for service and achievement. All recipients were nominated by another alum and then considered by the Alumni Association before receiving their awards. A reunion took place in McPhail's for the younger alumni who graduated from 1995 to 2004.

On Saturday morning, tours of the campus left from Harkins Hall to show alumni all the changes that have taken place. As president of the A Cappella Club her senior year and business manager for Anacastic, PC's all-female a cappella group, during her junior and senior years, Tiff Toner '03 said she was most impressed by the Smith Center for the Arts.

She was enthusiastic about "the fact that [current students] are fortunate enough to have this brand new arts building," she said.

Among the events that were

not exclusively for alumni were the sporting events such as the Men's Hockey game against Maine and the Women's Hockey game against Boston College. The Men's Basketball game against Notre Dame on Saturday was also advertised. According to Robert Ferreira, director of alumni/donor relations in Institutional Advancement, "we have an alumni block of 800 tickets that we sold" for the basketball game. Nearly every seat was filled.

At halftime, members of the Men's Basketball team of the '72-'73 season were honored for making it to the Final Four. Head Coach Dave Gavitt, assistant coaches, and the members of the team walked out onto the court as their names were called to shake hands with Rev. Philip A. Smith, O.P., President of Providence College, Robert Driscoll, associate vice president of the Athletic Department and athletic director, and Friar Boy, the College mascot.

The honors continued for the Final Four Basketball Team that evening at the Westin Hotel, where they were honored more formally. This event was the most well-attended event specifically for alumni, Ferreira said, attracting more than 400 people.

Alumni also took part in student performances during the weekend, either as spectators or as performers themselves. PC's Improv group, Rejects on the Rise, brought back several alums that faced off against

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TIM PISACICH '07/The Cowl

Students from a number of different schools, including Johnson & Wales University, Rhode Island College, as well as Providence College, live in the PC area.

Emigrating to Elmhurst

BY MALLARY J. TENORE '07
ASST. NEWS EDITOR

With 11 colleges and universities in Rhode Island, Providence lies in the heart of a state that is highly populated with college students. While some of these students choose to live on campus, many are opting to live in apartments throughout Providence, particularly in PC's neck of the woods.

Students from Johnson & Wales University, Brown University, Bryant University, Rhode Island College, the Rhode Island School of Design, and the University of Rhode Island live in the Elmhurst

neighborhood with students from Providence College.

"It creates for an interesting mix," said Richard F. Kless, director of Off-Campus Living. "The neighborhood has become a haven for college students and young professionals." Kless explained that recent graduates from colleges and universities in Rhode Island often choose to live with their friends who occupy the apartments near PC.

Five years ago, PC students were the primary occupants of the off-campus apartments. This dynamic recently changed, however, with the opening of Suites Hall in September. About 200 more students live on campus this year compared to previous years, creating several

vacancies in the off-campus apartments. "These vacancies were quickly filled by students at other colleges who were looking for housing," Kless said.

The affordability of the apartments and their close proximity to downtown Providence makes the neighborhood an attractive spot for college students from throughout Rhode Island.

Melanie Campbell '05, who lives upstairs from a Johnson & Wales student in an apartment on Eaton Street, said she enjoys living off campus and getting to know students from other colleges. "I don't think they cause more trouble. It's cool to

OFF-CAMPUS/Page 4

Cameran and Brad discuss 'real world' issues

BY MEGHAN WELCH '06
NEWS STAFF

CAMPUS NEWS By 7:15 p.m. on Wednesday, Feb. 23, a group of about 250 excited students—mostly girls—gathered in Slavin '64 Hall awaiting the arrival of Brad and Cameran from *The Real World: San Diego*. The two came on at about 7:30 p.m., and began recounting their experiences of trying out for *The Real World*.

"I was from a small town and I really wanted to get out," said Cameran. "I didn't know how, and when I saw that there was an open casting call for *The Real World*, I decided to check it out."

Brad, on the other hand, was reluctant to try out for the show. "My cousin convinced me to go to an open call in Chicago," he

said. "I didn't even want to be there, and I almost got out of line, so it's crazy that I ended up here."

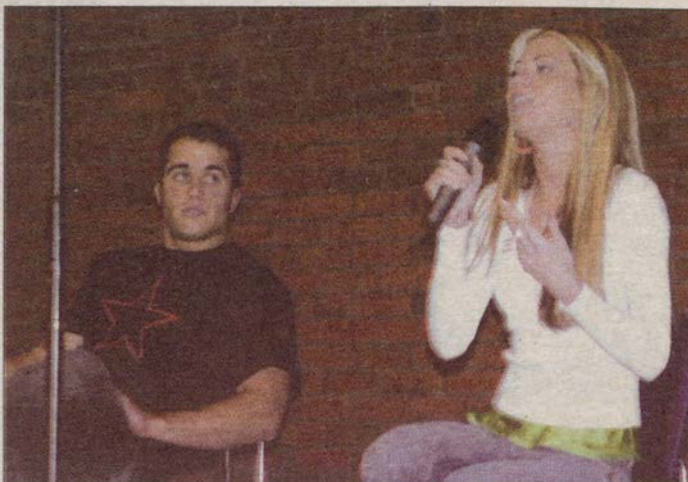
Although Brad and Cameran were happy to recount their *Real World* experiences, they also touched on more serious topics such as diversity and alcohol.

The two went through an intensive one-week public speaking course in Los Angeles and have traveled to schools throughout the country discussing topics they said are close to their hearts.

"No one wants to be preached to," said Cameran. "We just wanted to discuss topics that all college students could relate to."

Cameran discussed the importance of diversity and of getting past judging people based on appearance.

"I went to a high school where there was no diversity,"



DENIELLE BALSARI '07/The Cowl

Brad and Cameran from *The Real World: San Diego* came to Providence College on Wednesday, Feb. 23.

she said. "Black people sat on one side of the cafeteria and white people sat on the other side of the cafeteria. So when I got to San Diego, I was like a deer in headlights. I met these

six people who were totally different from what I knew and who I probably would have judged had they come to my town, and it taught me a lot. If there's any advice I could give

to you, it would be to meet someone new tonight, because you never know who you could wind up being friends with."

Brad also contributed to the diversity discussion. "It's really important to get past first impressions," he said. "If you don't turn people away, you'll only benefit yourself."

Brad then turned the discussion to the importance of alcohol awareness. "I'm not telling you to drink or not to drink," he said. "I just think it's important that you don't sell yourself short, and you don't let drinking get in the way of achieving your goals. Alcohol has gotten me in my fair share of trouble, and there are times when I look back and wish that I knew then what I know now."

The two also talked about the importance of not drinking and

REAL WORLD/Page 3

A&E ▶

James McGehee '08 has an exclusive interview with Brad and Cameran from *The Real World: San Diego*. Read all about it.

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PORTFOLIO ▶

You read part one of Christine Bagley's '06 story last week. Now, read the conclusion to her story of a girl's return to Peru.

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Alumni: Returning to a changed PC campus

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current members for improv bragging rights. They performed in the packed black box theatre in the Smith Center for the Arts.

On Saturday night, PC's three a cappella groups performed in the concert hall in the Smith Center for the Arts. The 272-seat hall was completely packed for the show. Anaclastic, Strictly Speaking, PC's coed a cappella group, and Special Guest, PC's all-male a cappella group, all performed some newer songs and then brought alumni and other former members onstage to perform some old favorites.

Matt Gove '04, a former member of Strictly Speaking, commented on how much life has changed for him since graduation. "I have a real job now," he said. "You just grow up a lot."

Also at the show was Fall Se7en, an a cappella group formed by "seven guys that just really missed singing," said Todd Stigliano '03, a member of the group. All seven singers are former members of Special Guest. Fall Se7en has about eight to 10 gigs a year, performing at weddings, parties, and



TIM PISACICH '07/The Cowl

Alumni Weekend featured a performance by Special Guest, PC's all-male a cappella group. Approximately 500 alumni returned to campus for the weekend, which was planned by the Office of Institutional Advancement.

events like the a cappella show. "It's really been fantastic so far," Stigliano said.

A dance concert took place on both Saturday and Sunday in Angell Blackfriars Theatre. According to Wendy Oliver, associate professor of dance and chair of the Theatre, Dance,

and Film Department, the dance concert is the first official performance to take place in the theatre. Though no alumni from the dance team returned to perform, many came to watch the shows.

The shows featured the work of both faculty and student choreographers. This concert featured "all new work," said

Oliver of the dances the group has been practicing since November. Oliver, who was one of the choreographers, said, "The Sunday performance was pretty much full," while the Saturday show, though competing with the a cappella show for spectators, was half full.

Another concert that brought together current students and alumni was held on Sunday in the concert hall in the Smith Center for the Arts.

On Sunday, a mass was held especially for alumni in St. Dominic Chapel. The mass was "all-alumni inclusive," Ferreira said. The lectors, Eucharistic ministers, and gift-bearers were all alumni.

For the Class of 2000 and others, Alumni Weekend is a precursor to the reunion that they will have in June. Reunions are held for a class every five years. "Five, 10, all the way up to 65 years out," said Ferreira of when reunions are held.

Alumni Weekend showcased past and present student talent in multiple areas. As Oliver said, "Everybody enjoyed it very much." Gove agreed, saying, "It's really nice to come back and see my old friends."

Campus Calendar for March 6 to March 12

Submit events to sbarku05@providence.edu

6 Monday	7 Tuesday	8 Wednesday	9 Thursday	10 Friday	11 Saturday	12 Sunday
<p>6-8:30 p.m. Showing of the film <i>Common Ground</i> in Moore Hall I as part of National Foreign Language and Culture Week.</p>	<p>3:30-4:30 p.m. The Best Ways to Find Summer Internships workshop in Slavin G29.</p> <p>6-8:30 p.m. Showing of the film <i>The Last Kiss</i> in Moore Hall I as part of National Foreign Language and Culture Week.</p> <p>7-10 p.m. History lecture in Moore Hall I.</p>	<p>5 p.m. Pool League in McPhail's.</p> <p>6 p.m. OAS note-taking workshop in Library 104B.</p> <p>6-8:30 p.m. Showing of the film <i>King of Hearts</i> in Moore Hall I as part of National Foreign Language and Culture Week.</p> <p>7:30-9 p.m. Decoding Dan Brown's <i>DaVinci Code</i> lecture in Slavin 117.</p>	<p>12:30-3:30 p.m. Things for Thursday: Decorate a Picture Frame in Lower Slavin.</p> <p>3:30-4:30 p.m. Tips for Summer Job Fair Success in Slavin 117.</p> <p>6-8:30 p.m. Showing of <i>Mostly Martha</i> in Moore Hall I as part of National Foreign Language and Culture Week.</p> <p>7:30 p.m. Ping-pong tournament in McPhail's.</p>	<p>1-2 p.m. Tips for Summer Job Fair Success in Slavin 117.</p> <p>4 p.m. Fridays at Four Student Performance in the Smith Center for the Arts.</p> <p>8 p.m. International Beer Fest in McPhail's with proper ID.</p>		<p>8 p.m. Senior Night and Miller Lite Promo in McPhail's.</p>

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Students build up during downtime

BY MEGAN COMERFORD '06
NEWS STAFF

As spring break rapidly approaches, students at Providence College are getting revved up for the swath of trips they have planned.

SPRING BREAK Ranging from traditional Caribbean stays to Europe trips to volunteer work, PC students have found a myriad of ways to take advantage of the week-long hiatus from classes.

Mike St. Thomas '05 and his roommates Tom Geer '05, Mike Myers '05, and Tom Wurz '05, are all going to Grand Bahama Island.

"We have no real plans except to enjoy the beach and check out the nightlife," said St. Thomas. The group will be on the island for five days and are anticipating a good time.

"Since I've never been on a spring break and it is my senior year, my goal is to soak up as much of the experience as I can before I have to return to the world of books and tests," St. Thomas said.

More than 60 students signed up for Habitat for Humanity this year. The participants, who are separated into groups of eight or nine students, will be helping to build houses in seven states including New York, North Carolina, and Pennsylvania.

Stacey DonFrancesco '05, who is leading this year's program with Eric Powell '06 and Liz Iannessa '07, said students have been enthusiastic about



CHRISTINE BAGLEY '06/The Cowl

Last year, PC students built a house in North Carolina as part of Habitat for Humanity. More than 60 students will participate in the program this year.

participating in Habitat. The participants will leave Saturday morning, Feb. 24, and return to campus the following week.

Sarah Vernon '07 is going to Yonkers, N.Y. as part of Habitat for Humanity. This will be Vernon's first time doing Habitat and she is looking forward to building a house.

"I think it's going to be a really good experience and a good opportunity to volunteer," she said. "My roommates are doing it too."

Keelia Fannon '06 will be going with her parents to their condo in Cabo, Mexico, "for a much-needed lazy, relaxing, 'do-nothing' type of vacation."

Approximately 30 students will be going on a trip to Italy through the Liberal Arts Honors Program; they will visit Florence, Rome, Assisi, and Siena.

"I am going to Italy because I love European culture; the his-

tory, the beauty, and the people," said Giselle Routhier '07, who went to Paris during last year's spring break. "I can't wait to get there and experience everything."

Jeanette Gentile '07 is also going to Italy. "I am very excited to go. I have always wanted to go to Italy and I think that we are given an excellent opportunity through the Honors Program to travel," she said.

Like Routhier, Gentile traveled to Paris last year. "I had such an awesome experience in France last year that I figured this trip would be just as good, if not better, than last year. And it really isn't your typical 'college spring break,' but I think that it is a much better way to spend my week off," said Gentile.

Other students are taking advantage of friends who are studying abroad this semester.

Christina Kozlakowski '06 is going to visit Liz White '06 in Salamanca, Spain where she will be staying in a hostel.

"I have plans to visit Madrid for a few days," said Kozlakowski, who hopes to see works by El Greco, Velazquez, Picasso, and other famous artists.

I am very excited to taste the fine food," she said. "I also hope I will be lucky enough to see some flamenco dancing."

Other students, like Dave Jose '07, have opted to take trips to slightly colder locales. Jose is going to New Hampshire with five friends from PC.

"We're staying at my family's place," said Jose. "We're probably going to ski, go snow-tubing, and possibly go snowmobiling . . . It'll be pretty cool."

He said he is also looking forward to the break from Raymond Cafeteria and a chance to "cook for ourselves."

Student destinations also include Jamaica, the Bahamas, and California for a week of fun in the sun. Some have also decided to take cruises to the Caribbean islands.

Most Providence College athletes, however, are unable to take long spring breaks because of their schedules.

Frank LaMonaca '06 is on the swim team and will be at the Eastern College Athletic Conference (ECAC) in Pittsburgh for the first weekend. "I'll be swimming the 200 and 100 freestyle and a bunch of relays," said LaMonaca.

Real world: TV personalities visit PC

continued from front page

driving. "Drunk driving has affected almost everyone in one way or another," Brad said. "It's the worst thing you can do. When you see the hurt of a family of someone who has died as a result of drinking and driving, you see how many people are affected by one person's actions."

After the more serious discussions about diversity and drinking, Brad and Cameran opened up the floor to questions from Providence College students.

In addition to *The Real World*, both Brad and Cameran participated in *The Real World/Road Rules Battle of the Sexes 2*, and Brad also participated in the upcoming challenge.

One student asked about how Brad felt about being the victim of an alliance on the show. "The challenge was rough, because I came to trust these people, and they totally fooled me," he said. "You just have to learn to have fun playing the game."

After the question and answer session, students had the opportunity to take pictures and have one-on-one discussions with Brad and Cameran.

Eloise Barnum '05, enjoyed the presentation. "I think they provided good insight into the importance of diversity and alcohol awareness. And I was surprised at how down-to-earth they were. Overall, I was really impressed."

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Off-campus: Area attracts students from many schools

continued from front page

have kids from different schools, but at the same time it can get annoying," she said.

The Johnson & Wales students who live next to her belong to a sorority and sometimes have parties in their apartment. Despite their loudness, Campbell said she considers the sorority girls to be friendly neighbors.

Meghan Yeomans '05, who lives with Campbell, agreed, saying, "We've gone to their parties and they're really nice. They've been pretty inviting."

Both roommates attested to the fact that meeting students from different colleges can be a valuable addition to their college experience. "It's nice to meet different people," said Campbell. "You have your core group of PC friends, but it's nice to meet other people, especially during senior year."

Considering the growing number of college students living near PC, Kless said the neighborhood has become more diversified, attracting students of a variety of ages. At many colleges, such as Johnson & Wales, it is not abnormal for sophomores to live off-campus. The age range of students living in the neighborhood has thus expanded throughout the past few years.

Johnson & Wales sophomore Scott Dirico, who lives on the floor below Campbell and Yeomans, said he has befriended several PC students and likes living in an area highly populated with college students. Most of his friends, he said, live in the Elmhurst neighborhood and have chosen not to live on the Johnson & Wales campus. "I have met a lot of PC kids," Dirico said. "It definitely makes it better to have different kids around. I get fed up seeing the same people."

The number of theft and crime-

related incidents has remained consistent in the past few years, Kless said.

The relationship college students have with others living in the area is important for the well-being and safety of the neighborhood. "It comes down to individuals, civility, and respect for all people and all neighbors," said Kless.

If a complaint is brought to the attention of the Off-Campus Living Office, Kless sends an e-mail to the residents in question. Such complaints range from littering, to loud music, to rowdy parties. Kless reminds students that there are other residents in the neighborhood who live lifestyles that may not correspond with those of college students, and who may not have tolerance for littering and disruptive house parties.

College students can bring a youthful atmosphere to the neighborhood, he said, and should not always be associated with causing trouble. To keep the neighborhood clean and well-kept, student athletes and members of several organizations, including Student Congress, take turns cleaning up the streets surrounding the PC campus.

For some students, the thought of living off campus and being more independent is appealing. "I definitely want to live off-campus," said Adam King '08, who hopes to have a change of pace from the traditional dorm setting during his junior and senior years. "The rooms are small in the dorms and in the apartments; you don't have to share a bathroom."

Although only a freshman, King said he would like to live off campus to become acquainted with students from other colleges.

"Ideally I'd like to get an apartment with my friends from PC, but it'd be nice to meet new people," he said. "It adds some dynamics to the neighborhood."

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Panel discusses Islamic heritage and culture

BY CATE RAUSEO '07
NEWS STAFF

A panel discussion in Moore Hall III on Thursday, Feb. 17, gave Providence College students the opportunity to learn more about Islamic culture.

LECTURE Dr. Ann W. Norton, associate professor of art and art history and director of the Asian Studies program, who teaches a course on Islamic art and culture, compiled a panel to inform Providence College students and faculty about the Islamic faith. The panel discussion was entitled "Islam in America."

"I see this presentation as a beginning, and hope that we can continue to have dialogue about the many faces of Islam. With such events, we may help foster a better understanding among different cultures," Norton said.

Imam Salih Yucel, director of the Boston Dialogue Foundation, Janice Ekin, wife of Associate Marketing Professor Dr. A. Cemal Ekin, Tanya Sheikh '06, Fahreen Haque '07, and Mansour Abdur-Rahim '07, joined in the "Celebrating Islamic Heritage" panel to discuss their respective connections to the faith, and answer audience questions regarding Islam.

"Usually when people in Western society think of Islam, they think of [Osama] Bin Laden, and ignore the true aspect of the faith," said Yucel, a native of Turkey.

Yucel continued by explaining the details of the faith, including the aspects of the five pillars of Islam and the difference between the Sunni and Shiite Muslims.

"Islam answers the fundamental questions of humanity. Who are we? What are we here for? Where are we going?" He continued, "... there is a lot Islam can give to humanity."

Yucel concluded his contribution to the panel on a note of hope in regard to the constant fighting surrounding the Islamic culture in the United States and in the Middle East.

"I believe that civilized people will solve their problems through dialogue, not fighting," he said.

Ekin presented an outside view of Islamic culture. She was introduced to Islamic culture when she met her husband, who was a Muslim from Istanbul.

"I went to Istanbul to get married. It was not what I expected. ... Istanbul was very forward thinking, liberal, and high-fashioned. Miniskirts there were shorter there than they were here," Ekin

said.

A native of the United States, Ekin presented the audience with an American view of life in Istanbul. "The distinctive aspect between Western and Islamic worlds is the sense of community [seen in Islamic culture]. Here, we value the individual much more than the community," she said.

"My life there was very different [from my life here in the United States]. All the women in the community would be together during the day. We would help each other make food and in the afternoons we would eat and belly dance. It was a wonderful way of life," Ekin said.

Ekin ended her description of her life immersed in Islamic culture by urging students and faculty to "get rid of the arrogance we have [in Western culture]."

"What we have to see as Westerners is that we can't look at Islam as just 'Bin Laden' and terrorism," she said.

Additionally, three Muslim PC students discussed their experiences of growing up in a predominantly Christian America.

Sheikh, whose Irish Catholic mother embraced Islam after meeting her Pakistani father, explained that she remains close to her religion by traveling to Pakistan every year.

"When I go to Pakistan I dress as a westerner most of the time. But when I go to the Bazaar [city or shopping center], I wear a scarf over my face and traditional clothes to blend in and not attract extra attention ... just as I would not want to attract extra attention walking through any [American] city," Sheikh said of her integration into Pakistani culture each year.

Born in Bangladesh, Haque explained an example of her encounter with religious ignorance at PC. "One day in Civ, I had a professor look right at me and say 'no religious prejudice exists.' Everyone is entitled to their own opinion, but I disagree."

Abdur-Rahim, an African American whose parents converted to Islam in the 1960s, said that he was born and raised Muslim and that it remains a "pretty big part of my life."

The panel was the second event in the "Celebrating Islamic Culture" series of events co-sponsored by the Asian studies program and the Department of Art and Art History.

At the third event, the East West Rug Company will bring carpets, shawls, and jackets made in Islamic countries, most of which will be for sale, to PC on Thursday, March 10. The event will be held in Slavin '64 Hall at 4:30 p.m.

College's visiting professor discusses sacred art

BY JEN JARVIS '07
ASST. NEWS EDITOR

The Very Rev. Aidan Nichols, O.P., delivered a lecture entitled, "The Order of Preachers and Art: The Dominicans of L'Art Sacre" in the concert hall in the Smith Center for the Arts on Wednesday, Feb. 23.

LECTURE The second recipient of the Rev. Robert Randall Distinguished Professorship in Christian Culture at Providence College, Father Nichols is a visiting professor for the 2005 spring semester.

Father Nichols spoke about Dominicans in 20th century France who were trying to uphold the sacredness of art in churches. They tried to create a policy for the kind of art that could adorn churches. The Dominicans' biggest concern, according to Father Nichols, were the "controversial commissions" where the Church often hired "artists who were themselves unbelievers."

The idea of standards for sacred art led to the establishment in 1935 of *L'Art Sacre*, a journal that at first focused on the history of Christian Art. However, a year later, it was in financial trouble, so two wealthy aristocratic ladies bought it and brought it to the Dominicans in 1937. The publishing house was moved to the center of Paris and remains there to this day as the largest religious publishing house in France.

Through the publication, the

Dominicans tried to establish policies for sacred art. The first was that the Church should avoid the avant garde and consider modern artists who were closest in aim to artists of the past. Secondly, the Dominicans only wanted to commission artists who were believing and practicing Christians. Thirdly, the art should not be commonly available, but instead be particularly intended for the Church.

According to Father Nichols, "what was at stake was the face the Church presents to the world." The struggle was how to find a balance between modernity and tradition.

The Dominicans of *L'Art Sacre* were also critical of "sugary, sentimental sacred art," said Father Nichols. Mass-produced art was made possible by machines and came about because the Church did not want to pay for good artists.

At times, this lazy approach to adorning churches was compared to Pop Art. Some people feared that it was turning the masses away from salvation. Denis, a main influence on *L'Art Sacre*, saw a total separation of art from nature and was hostile to styles at art that facilitated this break. Cubism, made famous by Picasso, broke objects down into angular shapes, while futurism found inspiration in the machine and portrayed high-speed motion by whipping objects out of shape, Father Nichols said. Denis instead wanted to

"stress symbolic content" and put emphasis on "the spiritual nature of art."

A student of the artist Gustave Moreau, Georges Desvallieres, had the idea for a Catholic arts school that came to fruition in 1919 as The Workshops of Sacred Art. He looked for a "symbiosis between his life as an artist, his life as a believer, and his life as a normal person," Father Nichols said.

Two people who basically defined the movement of *L'Art Sacre* were Jacques Couturier and P.R. Regamey. Couturier was a Dominican Friar and an artist, while Regamey, also a Dominican, studied literature and became the editor of *L'Art Sacre* for a time.

After Couturier died in 1954, and Regamey was relieved of his editorship at the same time, the era of *L'Art Sacre* was on its way out.

After World War II, a "transformation of French Catholic elites" began, said Father Nichols. Afraid that overwhelming people with dogmatic texts would minimize the common ground of humanity, the Dominicans

loosened up their policies and gave commissions to agnostics and even atheists.

However, these changes met with a new wave of opposition from the Church in Rome. The Roman Instruction of 1952 reestablished policies for sacred art that said that it should not be ruled by the needs and styles of modern times.

Father Nichols concluded his lecture with his own take on the situation. "It seems inappropriate to seek out practitioners among unbelievers," to create sacred art, he said. However, he recognized that if sacred art is defined as simply the human search for God, then that is a different matter.

The endowed chair that Father Nichols currently holds is a revolving position held for one, two, or three years by a professor of international academic renown. It was named after Father Randall, a retired professor who taught in the English Department while at PC.

Father Nichols will deliver another lecture on "Art, Religion, and Society" on April 13.

Library Hours During Spring Recess:



Friday, February 25	8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.
Saturday, February 26	Closed
Sunday, February 27	Closed
Monday, February 28-Friday March 4	8:30 - 4:30 p.m.
Saturday, March 5	Closed
Sunday, March 6	12 Noon - 1:00 a.m.

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Disasters shake global community

BY SARAH VAZ '07
ASST. WORLD EDITOR

India announced this week that a new tsunami warning system would be in place by 2007 to protect those living in coastal areas of the Indian Ocean, giving up to three hours notice following any earthquake in the region, and would also signal the advent of storm surges and cyclones. This news came as only a slight relief however, as it coincided with a deluge of smaller natural disasters around the globe; separate earthquakes in Taiwan and Iran killed hundreds, while heavy rains continue to claim lives in California.

This Tuesday, a powerful earthquake rocked Iran, and 400 people have already been reported killed, with thousands more injured. It measured 6.4 on the Richter scale, with its epicenter in the town of Zarand, just 600 miles south of the capital of Tehran and hit the country at 5:55 a.m. while most were still asleep. Although it lasted for a brief 11 seconds, it was followed by 10 aftershocks that lasted until 9 a.m., affecting 40 villages and over 30,000 people.

Two villages were completely leveled—Daghuyeh and Hoodkan. "The situation in these two villages is so bad that it is possible no one would be found alive from under the rubble," said a local doctor. Many villagers were buried alive in mosques when the quake struck at the traditional prayer time of dawn.

Residents have been frantically searching through the rubble for loved ones and seeking medical care at distant facilities. Their tradition of immediately burying the dead caused issues as 400 burial permits were taken out Tuesday morning alone, and whole families were being buried in the rubble wrapped only in bloody blankets and sheets. "All hospitals in Zarand are filled to their full capacity with the injured, hospitals in the region cannot receive any more of the casualties," state television reported.

Residents are being moved out of their villages because of the recent heavy rains and snowfalls in the area. "We have distributed tents and blankets but will have to move people out of some areas



Iranian women mourn the dead after Tuesday's earthquake. Earthquakes in Taiwan and mudslides in the U.S. added to the deadly natural disasters.

to the city of Zarand before nightfall," noted Mohammad Javad Fadaei, deputy governor of Kerman.

"Some areas are still inaccessible," Kerman Governor Ali Karimi said Tuesday. "There are still people unaccounted for, that's for sure."

Iran is located on seismic fault lines, and because housing there is largely comprised of mud brick houses in villages and small towns, the quake was even more destructive and rescue efforts more difficult. Two years ago, an even more powerful earthquake had hit the historic city of Bam, affecting the same region of Iran. Not only was the historic city flattened, but over 26,000 people were killed.

Elsewhere, heavy rains have been crippling Southern California, producing flooding and mudslides as unrelenting rains continue. Two people were killed when debris smashed through their homes, and a Los Angeles civil engineer was killed when a sinkhole gave way beneath him at a work site. "We noticed the water getting higher and higher and all of a sudden he just slipped and disappeared," L.A. City Councilman Tony Cardenas said.

One man was killed after four feet of mud buried him in his own bedroom, and 16-year-old Caitlin Oto was killed when boulders crashed into her apartment. 45-

year-old Gerilyn Marie Ewing of Nevada was killed by an avalanche while skiing north of Lake Tahoe, where up to 20 inches of snow had fallen.

Three other women were rescued after a 10-foot wall of mud crashed through the front of their home, one of whom was taking a shower when she suddenly found herself trapped up to her waist in mud. "If the mud would have had a little bit more movement on it, it probably would've crushed her to death," L.A. Fire Department Capt. Don Roy said.

Flooding clogged traffic on major California freeways where up to five feet of water stalled passage, and halted Amtrak services. The region has received over 30 inches of rain since last July, making it the fifth wettest year on record. In coastal La Conchita, where a landslide took 10 lives just a month ago, all but six of the remaining 39 residents have fled.

The heavy rains have spawned tornadoes and avalanches as well; dozens of homes were evacuated and red-tagged as uninhabitable because of sliding hillsides, severe thunderstorms, hail, and at least two tornadoes in the Sacramento area. More than 300 traffic accidents were reported in just 14 hours, compared to a daily average of 50. Sources: BBC, Reuters, ABC News

Ailing Chief prompts court concerns

BY RYAN BOWLEY '08
WORLD STAFF

The Supreme Court reconvened this past Tuesday amid speculation as to the future of its most powerful member, Chief Justice William Rehnquist. This past October, Rehnquist announced that he was suffering from thyroid cancer, and has been working almost completely at home since that time. Rehnquist plans to review transcripts and briefs of court proceedings that had taken place in December and January, and form his opinion based on those, only participating in decisions from November cases if there is a deadlock. A Reagan appointee, he has served on the Supreme Court for 33 years, as Chief Justice for 18 of them.

The Chief Justice hopes to be healthy enough to serve out the remainder of the current session, which ends in June. However, there is widespread speculation that he will not finish out the term. Rehnquist does not want to bog down the Senate so early in President George W. Bush's second term with what will inevitably be a battle over his successor. The President and the Senate

will have to make a decision both on who will take over as Chief, and who will be elevated to the Supreme Court in general. There are nine justices total, eight of whom are Associate Justices, in addition to the chief.

Justice Antonin Scalia, is said to be the early frontrunner for the Chief Justice position, but the Bush Administration stands to gain political points if Justice Clarence Thomas were given the top position. Thomas, the Court's only African-American justice, is widely disliked by the Left, with Senate Minority Leader Harry Reid (D-NV) labelling him "an embarrassment to the Supreme Court." Thomas survived a difficult confirmation process, and would certainly face one again.

Conversely, Scalia is lauded as an intelligent and capable leader, even among those who disagree with his politics. "I disagree with many of the results that he arrives at," says Reid, "but his reasons for arriving at those results are very hard to dispute." Scalia's staunch conservative views are likely to be a point of contention among liberal Democrats. In 2003, a 6-3 majority invalidated a Texas law that allowed authorities to arrest gay people for having sex, and Scalia, writing for a minority of

himself, Rehnquist and Thomas, claimed that the Court "has largely signed on to the so-called homosexual agenda." The three also oppose Roe v. Wade, the landmark 1973 ruling that established a Constitutional right to an abortion. This could also add controversy over Scalia and Thomas.

While the President was thankful that the Chief Justice was able to preside over his inauguration last month, saying "I want you to know how touched I was the Chief Justice came to administer the oath," Rehnquist stayed on the platform for only a few minutes, and left shortly thereafter.

Rehnquist is himself a hardline conservative, so a new judicial appointment by Bush would be unlikely to change the court's ideological dynamic. However, the average age of the Justices is rather old, with Thomas as the youngest being born in 1948, and the oldest and most liberal, John Paul Stevens, in 1920. This will inevitably mean retirees, and Bush's ability to tip the court in his favor.

Sources: CNN, Reuters, AP, New York Times, US Supreme Court

Ask PC

Why do women have fewer high-profile jobs in the sciences?



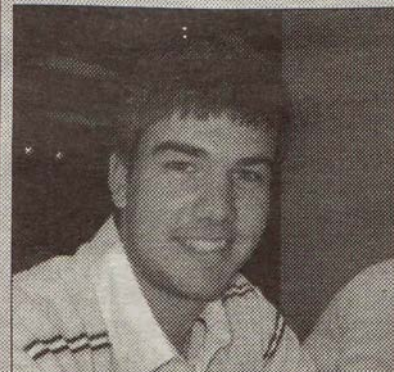
"Because women are less encouraged throughout schooling."

Andrea Moffitt '07



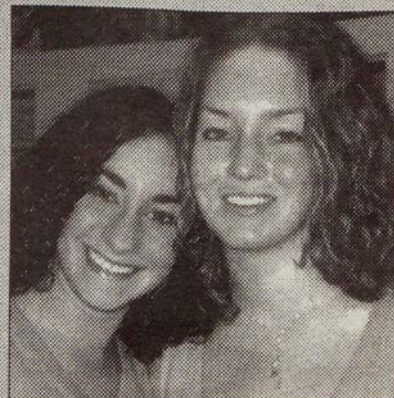
"Well there are more women in medical school now than men, so hopefully it will be changing."

Tim Kelley '08



"Well women's roles in society place them mostly as mothers or caregivers and therefore they have less attention to devote to time-consuming fields like the sciences."

Mark Rhoads '08



"Men have ruled society far too long, it's time for powerful women like us to start dominating."

Michelle Dantuono '07
and
Sarah Dunn '07

COMPILED BY ALLISON HERRMANN '07
AND JULIANNE SPOHRER '07

Week in Review

COMPILED BY NICOLE CHISMAR '07

Local:

Foundation announces challenge

The Kresge foundation recently announced a \$900,000 challenge grant to the YMCA's \$10 million Village of Promise campaign. This national philanthropic foundation is challenging both local businesses and organizations to support the YMCA of greater Providence via donations. So far the campaign has raised \$4.75 million, including recent \$1 million donations from philanthropist Richard L. Bready and the Champlin Foundations. To meet the challenge and obtain the grant, \$4.25 million in new donations must be accepted by Dec. 31.

International:

Beasts of Satan vanquished

In Italy, sentence has finally passed on the "The Beasts of Satan." The heavy metal band and cult committed three "satanic" murders that shocked Italy. Band leader and ringleader, Andrea Volpe, has received a 30 year sentence, 10 years longer than the prosecution's recommendation. Pietro Guerrieri, a second member of the cult, received 16 years. There were three victims of the murders. The first victims were 16-year-old Fabio and his 19-year-old girlfriend Chiara who were murdered

six years earlier and buried in a forest near Milan. These 1998 murders were part of a drug-fueled ritual involving sex and heavy metal music, and the couple were members of the heavy metal band. Mariangela Pezzotta, Volpe's girlfriend, had been shot and buried alive in 2004.

Politics:

Genetic info off-limits

Legislation was passed by the Senate on Thursday that would bar employers from using genetic information in hiring and firing decisions. In addition, the legislation would bar insurers from using such information to deny coverage or raise premiums. Although the White House supports the measure, a similar bill that passed through the Senate in 2003 never came to vote in the House of Representatives. "Since the breakthrough of the mapping of the human genome four years ago, the American people have been vulnerable to this type of discrimination. The risk of discrimination has inhibited the full use of a vast, still un-tapped reservoir of knowledge," said Senator Olympia Snowe (R-Maine), its principal sponsor.

Technology:

Shark Shield starts a buzz

An increasing number of divers are utilizing a protective electronic device

called Shark Shield along the coast of Australia. The Australian company Sea Change developed this new technology which intends to protect divers and surfers from being attacked by sharks while they are in the water. Once turned on it emits a strong pulse of electricity, causing pain to the shark, and scares them off. "It puts the shark into a spasm, it cannot breathe, it cannot survive in this particular field. We call it hitting the wall." It does not affect any other marine life and has no harmful or long lasting effects.

Entertainment:

Journalist commits suicide

Founder of the concept of "Gonzo Journalism" and a figurehead of the "New Journalism" movement in the 1960s, writer Hunter S. Thompson took his life on Sunday at his home. Thompson, who freely "dropped cynical opinions and references to his drug and alcohol use into his stories, termed his style, Gonzo Journalism. As a part of the "New Journalism" wave, Thompson also took a "more novelistic and personal approach to his subjects." He is most notably praised for his best known work, *Fear and Loathing in Las Vegas*. He was 67.

Sources: Providence Journal, BBC

ODDLY ENOUGH

Ohio State President for sale on eBay

What is the newest way to get even with a teacher, professor, or college president? One Ohio State University student has quite the disdain for college president Karen Holbrook, and has put her up for sale on eBay. Timothy Rosman, a sophomore, said he put the ad up as a joke, but admits he dislikes the president. The eBay ad states that she will "ruin the undergraduate experience." For those interested, Rosman has listed Holbrook as a president who "ignores everyday crime on campus," has overseen two tuition hikes, and is to blame for "the hideous construction all over the campus." The auction which started at a penny on Saturday has 64 bidders as of Monday morning with bids reaching almost \$100 million. The school's spokeswoman, Elizabeth Conlisk, called the joke, "a little mean-spirited." Rosman has made it clear that this is merely opinion, "I'm not trying to stand up and be the voice of the people. This is just a little gag between my friend and me. It just got big."

Source: Yahoo

— KIM KRUPA '07

College News

BY SARAH VERNON '07
WORLD STAFF

Harvard President Lawrence Summers released a transcript of his divisive remarks about the place of women in science and engineering last week, spurring a campus-wide debate. The discussion surrounds Summers' comments at a conference for the National Bureau of Economic Research in Cambridge last month, in which he argued that the reason why men outnumber women in scientific fields stems more from innate differences between the sexes than other cultural influences.

According to the transcript, Summers stated that, "In the special case of science and engineering, there are issues of intrinsic aptitude, and particularly of the variability of aptitude, and that those considerations are reinforced by what are in fact lesser factors involving socialization and continuing discrimination."

President's statement sparks venting

In his remarks, Summers said repeatedly that he was "guessing," and that he hoped to be proved incorrect in his hypotheses.

Following his release of the transcript, which he hoped would quell some of the uproar surrounding his statements, Summers posted a letter of apology on the Harvard website. In expressing regret for his comments, he wrote, "if I could turn back the clock, I would have spoken differently on matters so complex. Though my NBER remarks were explicitly speculative, and noted that 'I may be all wrong,' I should have left such speculation to those more expert in the relevant fields."

The release of the 7,000 word document, however, only polarized the university, as both students and professors took sides. A group of professors held a contentious faculty meeting on Tuesday, in which many criticized his actions and words.

Harvard psychology professor Steven Pinker said that the meeting grew "ugly," adding, "People used this as an occasion to vent a large number of grievances."

According to Theda Skocpol, a gov-

ernment professor who vocally criticized Dr. Summers at the gathering, many of the university's professors were, "deeply, deeply distressed about the way this entire thing is tearing the university apart, the Faculty of Arts and Sciences in particular." He added, "I share that distress."

At the same time, other professors are standing up for Summers. A letter circulated last week among full professors of the university containing signatures of those in support of Dr. Summers. Daniel Laibson, an economics professor who backed the effort stated, "At this moment there's a great deal of intensity. All of us care passionately about this university." He said that approximately 160 professors had signed the letter so far.

Meanwhile, the University's governing body, the Harvard Corporation, which is responsible for selecting the president, spoke out in support of Summers. A top board member, James Houghton, posted a letter saying that Summers "brought energetic leadership to an unusually complex and demanding job." Yet the letter does acknowl-

edge that he "has made mistakes," stating, "we agree that his personal interactions sometimes feel confrontational." Only the board has the power to remove Summers, who was selected in the fall of 2001.

Students too are engaging in the debate over Summers' words, which some say are damaging to the university and its reputation. According to one student, "He is generating a significant controversy within the university, and a lot of tension and I don't know if that's necessarily good for the university as a whole."

One undergraduate student, Sopen Shah, gave Summers more credit, saying he "didn't mean to be offensive, maybe he's just misinformed." Yet she admitted that "the fact that he said it doesn't reflect well."

Another meeting for the Faculty of Arts and Sciences is scheduled for Tuesday, Feb. 22 to discuss the matter further and it is rumored that Summers could risk a no-confidence vote, but March 15 is the earliest date that such a vote could be held.

Sources: The New York Times, CNN

Weekly Spotlight

BY KATHRYN TREADWAY '06
WORLD EDITOR

John Negroponte, the 65-year-old, British-born diplomat, was nominated by President George W. Bush last week as Director of National Intelligence. If he accepts this position, Negroponte faces the difficult task of bringing order to the complicated network of spy agencies in the U.S.

Vietnamese is one of the five languages that Negroponte speaks. In the 1960s he was a political officer in Vietnam and later played a role in the peace talks ending that war. His term as the U.S. ambassador to Honduras in the 1980s has come under serious scrutiny. Accused of ignoring human rights abuses, Negroponte was a member of the Reagan administration that helped overthrow the Sandinistas in neighboring Nicaragua. His involvement in funding the Contras and in potentially covering-up abuses by CIA-trained operatives in Honduras is a black spot on his foreign service

record.

Eight months ago, Negroponte was appointed U.S. ambassador to Iraq replacing the much criticized Paul Bremer. Since his arrival in Baghdad, little or no criticism has surfaced regarding his style, in contrast to Bremer's high-handedness. In Baghdad he has been "discreet while being firm," according to British diplomat Sir Jeremy Greenstock.

Far from the neo-conservatives of the Bush administration, Negroponte is known as a "can-do diplomat" whose greatest political ally was moderate Colin Powell, the former Secretary of State. Negroponte resigned from the foreign service in 1996, and it was Powell who convinced him to return from his lucrative job in the McGraw-Hill media group to serve as the U.S. ambassador to the U.N from 2001 to 2004. Negroponte has served under eight presidents, including the present Bush administration.

The task ahead of Negroponte is challenging, as evidenced by three prominent figures rejecting the appointment. With a \$40 billion budget,



Ambassador John Negroponte has been nominated for National Intelligence Coordinator, pending confirmation.

he must reign in the work of 15 competing intelligence agencies. Former Deputy Homeland Security Adviser to Bush, Richard Falkenrath, has criticized

Bush's choice saying of Negroponte, "He is not really familiar with the intelligence process. He has never managed an intelligence agency so he has a lot to learn in that area." Many others, however, agree with Bush's choice of Negroponte, with Greenstock stating, "He has the talent for consultation and understanding to do the job of coordinating 15 agencies. But he will be his own man when he reports to the President."

His wife, Diana, the daughter of Sir Charles Villiers, chairman of British Steel, was an academic and society hostess prior to their marriage. Their five adopted children are all from Honduras which Negroponte said, "keep me young." Explaining why they are all from Honduras he stated, "These children were all orphans. Life was going to be complicated enough without having siblings from all over the world. Adopting them from the same country assured they would have a natural bond to each other."

Sources: BBC, Reuters

What the Pell? Racism hitting too close to home

BY KATE FARRELL '07
COMMENTARY STAFF

President George W. Bush's education program—No Child Left Behind—promises new education options for families in sub-par school districts, offers parents a choice of public school or free tutoring in unsafe or unsatisfactory schools, and—perhaps most controversially—it allows for funding toward services for children in private schools.

The American Association of School Administrators estimates the program will cost the states 10 times the amount of money the federal government will allot to them in order to fund the program, initially costing the Federal government between \$1.5 to 5.3 billion. Since he took office, President Bush has increased grades K-12 spending by 40 percent at an estimated \$11 billion cost.

However, when it comes to higher learning, Bush's attitude towards education becomes much more spend-thrift. Pell grants currently offer between \$400 and \$4,500 to about five million students per year. Proposed cuts to these grants in the coming fiscal year will affect 1.3 million students. However, the amount the Federal Government saved is only \$300 million, a relatively small amount compared to the several billion dollars in cost incurred as a result of No Child Left Behind.

There seems to be a paradox between President Bush's rather liberal attitude towards K-12 education and his conservative cutbacks on what are a staple in the social-welfare sector of American politics—Pell Grants. At the Republican National convention in 2000, Laura Bush proudly asserted that "George spends every night with a teacher," and thus education was placed at the forefront of his platform. However—now a lame duck president—Bush finds it acceptable to slash programs like Pell Grants and social security despite the political ramifications because they no longer apply to him.

However, plowing into the psyche of George Bush is something that I am not qualified for. Clearly, his actions do not have to be backed up by reason, fact or proof. Inconsistency was something John Kerry (D-Mass.) was routinely criticized for in the 2004 elections, but fundamentally, Bush's attitudes on education are uneven at best.

The American Dream—or myth, whichever you prefer—promises that with the right amount of hard work one will ultimately break any oppressive social stratification. Education is often seen as the "ticket out," but the high school diploma is not enough these days. College education is increasingly expected as a pre-requisite for quality jobs. But with the rising tuition costs that have no regard for inflation or affordability, Pell Grants are becoming mandatory for sending those underprivileged children, assisted by No Child Left Behind to college—essentially leaving those in their late teens and "20-somethings" behind after the 12th grade.

It is clear that with a four billion dollar deficit incurred by the Pell Grant program and increased spending across all sectors, budget cuts are necessary. However, with the cuts to the Pell Grant program it is clear that underprivileged families and the middle class will continually be left behind by Republican cuts to the programs that aid them. Perhaps Mr. Bush should rename his program.

BY ADAM D. ROACH '06,
ASST. HEAD COPY EDITOR

There it was, right on my door. That evil word that has symbolized hate, fear and ignorance for so many years was printed prominently in large letters. It was the "N" word, written right here at Providence College, in McDermott Hall.

My roommate had taped a flier regarding the loss of grants for minorities at PC on our door. "Why should we pay money to let more ni**ers into our school?" the door read the next morning. Shocked and outraged I wrote a message to the culprit, who I later found out was an athlete, and asked him to meet with me to discuss his opinion. I heard that he stopped by my door and read my message. "(Expletive) him!" he said as he stormed away. I never talked to him. I guess he must have been intimidated by my 150 pound frame and my experience as a fourth-string cornerback for my high school football team.

I was left with a reality that I found very difficult to face. Not only does racism exist at PC, but it is persistent and something that many are uncomfortable facing. As this is Black History Month, since the 12th was the Great Emancipator's birthday, and because the 40th anniversary of Malcolm X's assassination recently passed, the threat of racism at PC should be discussed.

I have come to realize that many of my classmates have not been blessed enough to have been raised in diverse settings. Many students from private schools simply have not been exposed to many minorities. At the same time, many of their communities are homogenous, and diversity is not a characteristic of their hometowns.

One cannot say that students who have not experienced diversity growing up are racists. What is a product of racial isolation, however, is ignorance regarding different races and a comfort in maintaining the status quo. At best, this results in indifference toward racism. The worst-case scenario, which I experienced on my door, is blatant racism.

Another product of this racial isolation is the composition of the student body at PC. All one needs to do is take a look around Ray Café or Moore Hall before a Civ lecture to see that the student body at PC is predominantly white. In a city such as Providence—with all of its wonderful diversity—this is simply unacceptable. One should always be proud of their school, but I find PC's lack of diversity one of its greatest embarrassments.

The lack of diversity on this campus is not the fault of one person or one organization. The Admissions Office could certainly do a better job marketing the College to minorities and more funds should be made available in order to attract more minorities to this school. Still, the true fault regarding PC's homogeneity belongs to each and every student. It belongs to all students who—consciously or unconsciously—find in PC's homogeneity a certain amount of comfort. It belongs to every student who believes that the student body make-up is satisfactory and does not need to change. It belongs to those who see or hear racism and fail to stand up against it.

Every time a student is assaulted a flier is posted, usually informing us of some scary minority preying on innocent PC students. This is certainly necessary,

but I have not recently seen any fliers posted reading "Warning: This weekend many of you will use alcohol irresponsibly, causing damage to yourself, others, or your school. Please use caution when drinking to avoid danger." Instead, the fliers help feed the misconception that our neighbors are dangerous, further isolating them from ourselves.

Despite this discouraging reality, the annual Black History banquet presented by the Balfour Center for Multicultural Affairs, which I attended on Saturday, presented a hopeful future for this institution. The warmth and inclusion found at this event cannot be expressed through the written word. The evening was highlighted by the music of "Pure Worship" and by guest speaker Cheryl W. Snead, President and C.E.O. of Baneker Industries, Inc. Mrs. Snead impressed upon the audience the fact that black history is everyone's history and—through the story of Benjamin Baneker—displayed what African Americans have been able to overcome in order to succeed. The evening as a whole was pleasant, reflective, and informative.

The Balfour Center, and the tremendous work done by Dr. Wilesse Comissiong and Dr. English Morgan-Gardner, not to mention the students who make up the organization, must be praised. This group—in concert with the great work done by Students Organized Against Racism—provides hope for the future of PC. It provides hope for more diversity, more inclusion, and greater acceptance of different cultures. Still, there is a long way to go, and although PC's colors may be black and white, perhaps when these hopes are achieved PC will be a little less white, a little more black, and much more diverse.

National IDs closer to a reality

BY BETSY ROULEAU '08
COMMENTARY STAFF

Where's your PC ID? Find it quickly. You need it for your dorm, for Ray, for Slavin, for good old Phillips Memorial, and even the gym. If you're a freshman, you need it for Civ. It's not something we think about—a simple swipe and we move on. We rarely think about what our cards help us to do. It gets us safely into our dorms and takes attendance for the professors in Civ. It allows us to use the facilities in Peterson. And, if you have lost it, it stands between you and your daily rations in Ray and Slavin.

But what if you needed a card similar to a college ID to live in the United States? In light of the terrorist attacks over the past few years, several countries are considering instituting federal identification cards. The United States is one of them. Earlier this month, the United States House of Representatives passed the Real ID Act, which demands that citizens will have to carry a national identification card. The suggested ID cards are said to protect citizens against illegal immigration, terrorist infiltration, and to support general national security. Other countries already utilize the national card system, but the U.S. has held out for many years. Americans love their privacy, but it is something that may soon fall by the wayside. The card would contain technology similar to that of a credit card; it could be read instantly by computers and would replace state driver's licenses and social security

cards. The question is, how much will the national ID card evolve into a college ID; needed for everything from entering a building to obtaining daily meals?

The idea of privacy is one that will always pose questions in the United States. How much is too much? Technology is leading civilization deeper into the quagmire of personal rights versus the safety of its citizens. A school system in California has recently instituted a new policy that trails the movements of students in school throughout the day.

“All of the new measures are scary and intriguing thoughts, reminiscent of George Orwell's 1984, with cameras and spies and a complete lack of privacy.”

We all had middle and high school ID cards; flimsy cards that showed our school picture and our graduation years, but this is something entirely different. The ID cards of Brittan Elementary School also contain a tracking device. Children who attend this elementary school have to wear identification cards that contain a radio frequency identification chip in addition to their name, grade, and picture. Claiming they will prevent vandalism and simplify attendance rituals, school officials have installed antennae that pick up signals from the ID cards in doorways of classrooms. Administrators are even hoping to install antennae in restrooms

and locker rooms so that children can be tracked at all times. Many parents are furious at the idea of their children suffering a lack of privacy and are concerned that the information will be used by individuals other than school officials. The new technology makes one wonder—will larger schools and corporations adopt this technology? Will our own government do so some time in the future?

All of the new measures are scary and intriguing thoughts, reminiscent of George Orwell's 1984, with cameras, spies and a complete lack of privacy. What is being done may be to protect students and citizens, but it will have adverse affects. It means that the movements and actions of US citizens will be able to be monitored and tracked like never before. It is a centralization of information, which may prove susceptible to identity fraud and theft. Advocates of the national ID card stress the simplicity of what is, in essence, simply a national driver's license or an internal passport. It may mean fewer cards to carry to identify yourself, but it means that the country is shifting. It is taking the organization of citizens out of the hands of the states and putting it back into the control of the federal government. It's bringing the 10th amendment into play—and a host of concerns about the fate of the nation.

Only time will tell when it comes to the issue of national security and the future of the identification cards. But in the meantime, do not lose your PC ID; you would be lost without it.

Source: Associated Press

Churchill misinterpreted

BY KEVIN KOEGEL '05
GUEST COMMENTARY

In last week's *The Cowl*, Kyle Drennan '07 aired his disgust with the controversial post 9-11 comments made by University of Colorado professor Ward Churchill. In his rant, Drennan directs veiled threats at Churchill while basing his own muddled argument on incorrect inferences and contradictory statements. By briefly focusing on the most glaring of these inaccuracies, Drennan's piece can be easily refuted.

Drennan begins his tirade by misconstruing Churchill's "little Eichmanns" analogy. Indeed, Churchill does compare some of those who died in the World Trade Center attacks to Adolf Eichmann, a former Nazi and convicted war criminal. However, Churchill's reference to "little Eichmanns" is not meant to encompass all those who were killed in the World Trade Center attacks, but rather those who belonged to the "technocratic corps at the very heart of America's global financial empire—the 'mighty engine of profit' to which the military dimension of U.S. policy has always been enslaved." Thus, his actual analogy is meant to compare these "technocrats of empire," whose willing participation in the driving force behind American foreign policy indirectly caused the deaths of thousands of innocent Iraqi civilians during the First Gulf War, to Germans like Eichmann, whose maintenance of the Nazi infrastructure indirectly enabled a genocide much greater in magnitude.

Drennan goes on to state that "The idea that the attacks on September 11th could be not only excused, but justified is ridiculous. Nothing that we could have ever done would justify this kind of atrocity." Churchill's explanation of the motivations of the "terrorists" who carried out the 9-11 attacks is simple and logical. 500,000 Iraqi children died as a result of the American bombing of Iraqi "infrastructural" targets, including the country's water purification and sewage facilities, in 1991. This number, the result of just one of a number of atrocities committed by the American government against foreign innocents, dwarfs the number of Americans (about 5,000) killed in attacks by Arab "terrorists" in the United States. These "terrorists," posits Churchill, are not seeking to "get even"; they've merely "given Americans

a tiny dose of their own medicine."

Drennan continues by asserting that "in recent statements regarding what he had written about September 11th, Churchill suggested that there needed to be similar attacks in the future." Churchill does not make this suggestion; he logically infers that future attacks will occur because most Americans continue to remain ignorant of, unwilling to face or indifferent to the atrocities visited upon other peoples by their own government. Indeed, "In his view, any attack on our nation by terrorists would be justified because he believes that the United States is the cause of terrorism." Drennan stubbornly refuses to acknowledge that American foreign policy is harmful to others, and this refusal compromises any semblance of credibility in his argument.

Throughout Drennan's piece, he continually questions Churchill's competence as a university professor. At the University of Colorado, he worries, Churchill "has a captive audience that he can indoctrinate with his version of American history, society, and culture." He later proclaims that Churchill should be fired "due to his complete incompetence in his knowledge of American history and culture." Apparently those who actually saw him teach did not share these views: Churchill repeatedly received high praise in course evaluations and his presence was so highly valued by university administrators that he was bestowed with tenured professor status six years earlier than normal in an effort to keep him at the school. Certainly, these parties felt that Churchill was qualified as a more than competent judge of American history and culture. By the final paragraph, Drennan's thesis has reached its confusing apex. "Unfortunately, I cannot silence Ward Churchill and others like him for his views...The reason for this is because Churchill has the right to say whatever he wants as an American citizen." First, Drennan laments his inability to censor Churchill, then he morphs into a champion of free speech. The tone of Drennan's piece clearly indicates that he would prefer the former, but to drive his point home, he adds a final warning: "Churchill should keep this in mind the next time he feels the urge to speak out." Remember, he might as well be saying, Big Brother is watching.

Guest Commentaries do not in any way reflect the opinions of The Cowl.

Letters to the Editor:

Search for truth continues in higher education

I am very pleased to see the editorial writers of this publication speaking out against Ward Churchill. The tone of many professors on college campuses today is dangerous. I encountered one or two minor problems at Providence, but I experienced many more at New York Law School, from which I just graduated.

At Providence I was shown a Michael Moore film in class, which was held up as the truth. At the time I believed every word of the Urban Sociology professor, and I thought Michael Moore was one of the good guys. Michael Moore, however, has recently been exposed as an anti-American fraud, and I still feel duped by that particular professor. Many people in "Roger and Me" recently came forward stating that Michael Moore either lied or twisted the facts in his "documentary," including the sheriff and the woman who sold rabbits for fur or food. New York Law School, on the other

hand, is far worse. It is my opinion that school is actually rooting against the U.S. Military, as they have officially banned all JAG recruiting on the campus. Hindering the recruitment efforts of the military in a time of war directly undermines the mission of the U.S. Armed forces. As a member of the military, I do not agree with everything it does, but I would never be so foolish as to try to make it fail. I strongly opposed this policy, in a letter to the Dean, but I got a vague reply that parroted Churchill's defense of "This is freedom of speech."

I am proud to see that Providence College still seems to have its core values. While I certainly did not agree with the faculty and administration on everything, it is comforting to know that Providence College is still a beacon in a world of uncertainty.

CHRISTOPHER ROCHE '96
WEST NEW YORK, NJ

Rwanda's importance, let's review

James McGehee should have continued to sleep through his high school teacher's so-called "social justice-obsessed" ethics class. The genocide in Rwanda has not been made public because of the "obsession" to social justice, but rather because reasonably compassionate people brought it to our attention. McGehee clearly should stick to

reviewing fart films and acoustic-rock albums and leave the reviews of real films to writers willing to run at least one Nexis-Lexis search on their topics. Reducing the struggles of civil conflict to a quote from a Dave Matthews song ignores the real carnage of the Rwanda genocide.

MIKE RAIA '05

Spring-breakers strike back

Our Spring Break clan was very amused by your letter. It is presumptuous for you to say that all people going on Spring Break are dipping into Mummy and Daddy's piggy bank. Some of us found well-paying internships, multiple work-study jobs and worked during breaks. We are sorry you haven't been able to find these jobs or save your money for a trip. We went last year and it was more

than a superfluous booze-fest. It was a memorable experience on a beautiful exotic beach where we strengthened our PC friendships and made many new ones. We're deeply saddened for your misfortune and your negative outlook on spring break. So have fun working and we'll toast to you Ms. Ford.

LINDSAY YOUNG '05

Much more to women than *Monologues*

I am not a male priest at our school seeking to ignore women's needs, as was falsely implied by last week's article on the *Monologues* by the "our school is run by men" comment. That being said, I am more than my vagina, which is more than the *Vagina Monologues* say for women.

I attended the *Monologues* my sophomore year. I continue to be greatly disappointed that the *Monologues* are all that women think they have as a "voice." For however much the *Monologues* seek to promote women's voices, it fails. In fact, it strips women of everything except their vagina, which would include a mouth, a voice, and a mind and will to exercise that voice.

I am all in favor of raising awareness and seeking to prevent violence against women. However, the *Vagina Monologues* are a poor instrument for doing so. To make a person's sexuality all that they are is not an oversimplification, but simply incorrect. Sexual activity and attraction cannot be addressed apart from the whole person, mind, body, and soul. For anyone to address my sexuality in any other context than that of the whole person is degrading to me. Furthermore, sexuality and gender are more than merely

physical things. My sexuality has a much deeper personal, spiritual, and social relevance.

I in no way belittle the suffering many women have suffered. Yet the *Vagina Monologues* only continues that suffering by belittling women through reducing their personhood to their sexuality. To chant "I am my vagina," is not more ennobling to women than to say, "I am my funny bone." The message of being empowered *only* by sexuality is a disservice to women and the beauty and pleasure of the marital act of sex. Instead, women must come to understand their sexuality as an important part, but still only a part, of who they are.

I commend all sincere efforts for seeking to raise awareness of violence against women. However, I encourage all those of sincerity to find a means more deserving of the dignity of being a woman.

Those interested in understanding sexuality in its proper context of the whole person, as I have mentioned in this letter, may consider going to www.giftfoundation.org. I have only begun to scratch the surface here.

KRISTEN L. LOPEZ '05

WWW.THECOWL.COM
News WITHOUT LEAVING YOUR ROOM

THE COWL

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All submissions must include the writer's name, signature, and a phone number where they can be reached. Articles will be printed as space permits. Letters should be no more than 250 words in length. Guest commentaries should be limited to 700 words in length and only one will be published per week. *The Cowl* editorial board and its administrative supervisors reserve the right to edit articles and letters for space and clarity.

However, if there is a portion you specifically wish to remain unchanged, please inform the Editor-in-Chief. Letters to the Editor are the opinions of the writer only

and do not reflect the viewpoint of *The Cowl* staff.

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To Hell and Back

Keanu Reeves battles evil and Satan himself in the supernatural thriller Constantine... no big deal



BY DEANNA CIOPPA '07
A&E STAFF

I try to keep an open mind about most things. I really do. So when I went to see *Constantine*, I decided to put aside all my jaded, hypercritical assumptions

MOVIE REVIEW

about the recent slew of movies based on comic books, about Keanu Reeves, and about the craft of acting. After all, it is Lent. Maybe, I thought, I will be pleasantly surprised. About three minutes into the film, I decided that my short-lived foray into optimism was as futile as I had secretly expected it to be. The plot was contrived, the tone did not fit the content, and Keanu Reeves' acting was, unbelievable as it seems, at its most stilted yet.

The plot centers on John Constantine (Reeves), a gifted demon-slayer and exorcist. Constantine faces his biggest battle yet when it becomes apparent that demons have found a way to cross directly from their plane of existence onto ours without human hosts. But what is this in preparation for? Constantine must race against the clock to, yup, you guessed it, save all of humanity from the netherworld. As an added subplot, the audience soon learns that Constantine himself is not without his own demons, and that his career is an effort to buy his way back into heaven. Rachel Weisz co-stars as Angela Dodson, a police officer whose past might hold the key to the mystery Constantine is trying to unravel.

This film might work as just an action/adventure type of movie. It has

enough violence and cheesy one-liners to satisfy most fans of that particular genre. It would be understandable for a movie based on a comic book, in this case *Hellblazer*, to work on a superficial level as such. And that's fine.

The fatal mistake occurs when director Francis Lawrence and the writing team try too hard to make this more than it is. The filmmakers throw in one bizarre clue after another, without much justification, as if by cramming a lot of multi-syllabic quasi-theological terms down the audience's throat will make them disregard the terrible editing job. The storyline becomes too complex for the types of characters used, and so when a clue is discovered or part of the solution unfolds, it seems to come out of left field. As wily a supernatural investigator as Constantine is, and as mysteriously powerful Weisz might prove herself to be, the audience never really believes that the clues provided could have helped them in solving a case.

Additionally, the religious aspects of the movie do not gel with the rest of the content; the plot is built around religion, and yet religious references are juxtaposed with corny Hollywood commercialisms and CGI-for-CGI's sake images. Most of the spiritual characters, like the angels and demons, are played as if they are simply humans with super-powers and, thus, only serve to further "dumb down" the content. As a result, whatever depth the director may have wanted to add to the film by way of religion becomes forced or amalgamated into some sort of hocus-pocus-sci-fi mess that ends up bringing the religious aspects of the film from a

supernatural or divine level down to a purely human plane. Worse still, one gets the distinct impression that this leveling of religion in the movie is perpetrated not for the sake of making a point about attitudes toward religion today, which would be more understandable, but for the sake of inserting two or three more Schwarzenegger caliber one-liners into the mess. If Lawrence wanted to make a movie about religion, he should have molded his characters into something a little more other-worldly, and not just people with wings and attitudes.

“Most of the spiritual characters are played like humans with super powers and only serve to further “dumb down” the content.”

To further the carnage, Reeves is cast as the lead character. I still cannot figure out what possessed the casting director to do this. There is simply no way around what I have to say: Keanu Reeves does not have the acting ability necessary for most roles, including this one. Everything that came out of his mouth sounded forced or stilted; the man was a robot. This was especially painful in a movie that has a tormented and tragic hero for a main character. The lack of chemistry between him and the other characters was almost excruciating to witness. He was positively awkward around Weisz, his love interest in the film, if you could even call her that. It

was like a high school drama class. Right before dismissal. On a Friday. Keanu, stick to long black coats and sunglasses, please.

On the other hand, Weisz did an admirable job in this film, playing her part as convincingly as was allowed given the terrible material. Unlike her co-star, she was able to find a mix between the action hero and the conflicted human being. Kudos to Shia LeBeouf (*Holes*) and Tilda Martin (*Adaptation*) in their roles as Chaz, Constantine's young, wise-cracking apprentice, and Gabriel, a half-breed (mix between angel and human), respectively. Martin does especially well in her role, bringing an unexpected hint of unease to what one might think would be a predictable character. It's a shame her talent received a limited showcase in what was certainly a forgettable movie.

To conclude, I do not mean to suggest by this article that religious movies should not or cannot contain action elements, or vice versa. Movies like the upcoming *Kingdom of Heaven*, a film about the Crusades starring Orlando Bloom, and the content they are based on all validly establish the element of action/adventure being linked with religion. It is when Hollywood commercializes religion, any religion, and dumbs it down that success, and I am thinking success in terms of artistry and as a basic contribution to the public, goes out the window. That, or Reeves' legion of robots comes one step closer to enacting the massive world-wide coup d'état I am quite sure they are planning.

GRADE: C

Blackfriars holds dance show

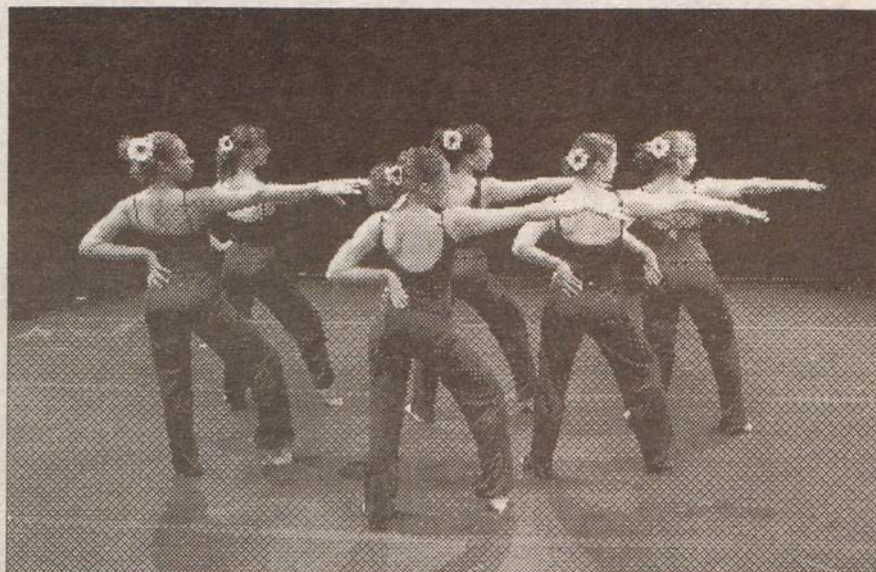
The Providence College Dance Company presents its spring dance concert in the new Blackfriars Theater.

BY STEPHANIE A. SMITH '06
A&E EDITOR

Last Sunday, I attended the spring performance of the Providence College Dance Company. While I knew that the show was mostly created around the dancers' expertise in the area of ballet, I was pleasantly surprised at the diverse ways of presenting that one area of dance. Instead of merely showcasing the beautifully quiet aspects of ballet, the show was filled with fast, bright elements that were impressively modern and innovative. I give the choreographers credit for their ability to plan such a multi-dimensional performance.

Choreographers Michael Bolger, Kristin Horrigan, Cathy Nicoli, Wendy Oliver, Christina Tsoules Sorriano, and Caitlin Trainor all lent their talents to the production, and the different styles of dance really shone through in the routines. The eclectic perspectives that were presented made the show very entertaining for the audience; each piece was so very different from the one before it that we were always on our toes.

The first performance was entitled "Serendipity." The dancers were dressed in brightly colored costumes and the dancing was fast-paced. There was also a story line that ran throughout the show that illustrated a competition between the dancers. They pushed each other out of the spotlight and ran around avoiding each other. Each girl wanted to dominate the center of the stage and would do



RANDALL PHOTOGRAPHY

She's a maniac and she's dancing like she's never danced before: The Providence College Dance Company presents innovative and modern dance performances that defy expectations. (archived photo)

anything to get there. Sometimes during the performance there would be a group of dancers at the front of the stage and then suddenly two girls would run full speed, chasing each other, across the back of the stage. The audience laughed at their bickering and their dramatic facial expressions. My favorite part of this piece, however, was the fact that the music by Vivaldi was accented by little noises by Bobby McFerrin. Yes, that's right. The man who brought us "Don't Worry, Be Happy" was incorporated into the dance show. It was great.

The second piece was one of my favorites. The dancers were not accompanied by any music, rather, they

exhaled loudly to keep some sort of rhythm. It was incredible. At first, I just thought that they were breathing heavily but then I realized that their body movements were exactly in tune with their breathes. Appropriately, this piece was called "Breathes." In addition, the dancers introduced a bell into the dance and so the only sounds that we heard were the breathes and every once in a while, the eerie sound of a bell. It was really beautiful.

Next was a great piece called "The Living Room." I think I enjoyed this the most. All the dancers were costumed in old fashioned looking dresses and they were all different. When they first came

onstage, the dancers almost looked like they were about to perform a scene from a play rather than a dance routine. A gramophone was incorporated into the piece and the dancers interacted with it as if they were changing the songs that were coming out of it. The dancers fought for control of the gramophone and of the big couch that was placed in the middle of the stage. It was actually very funny.

Also presented was a performance called "If the Ceiling's Too Low the Rose Can't Grow." The dancers were in grey and red rose petals were strewn on the floor. The juxtaposition between the drab costumes and the vibrant red in the petals was very dramatic and a very artful touch to the performance. The next part was "Folded Hands, Warm Heart," which was performed by Bolger.

The final two pieces were the perfect way to end the show. "Transcendence" was characterized by very modern music and almost tie-dyed looking leotards. It was great to watch because of the intense colors and innovative music. "Beyond the Blue" was also fantastic, but used music from Handel and seemed more traditional. It was a good mix.

I would recommend checking out a PC dance show to all students. You might think that you'll be getting something Nutcracker-esque if you do, but I feel it is my duty right now to tell you that these shows are really good. Nevermind the fact that it's cool to watch the girl who sits behind you in class showcase some amazing talent, but it really is a break from the ordinary.

GRADE: A-

All dogs go to heaven

The heart-warming family film Because of Winn-Dixie tackles tough topics, yet remains light-hearted

BY PAT EGAN '05
ASST. A&E EDITOR

Because of Winn-Dixie is just plain cute. It's a family film, and a bit of a corny one at that, but there's absolutely no denying its charm. Now you may

look at the trailer and think *Because of Winn-Dixie* is made strictly for the family filmgoer, but it's got a much broader appeal. Why? Because it features Dave Matthews in his first major theatrical release. That's right, folks, Mr. Dave Matthews himself. If you happen to be one of those who just plain hate Dave (and for the life of me I can't imagine why anyone would), then don't go see it. You'll just complain, and no one wants to hear that. If, however, you're in the mood for an adorable little movie with a splash of Dave, *Winn-Dixie* will surely satisfy.

Based on the novel of the same name, *Because of Winn-Dixie* tells the story of Opal (Annasophia Robb), a 10-year-old girl who moves to a small Florida town with her preacher father (Jeff Daniels) and finds a friend in the form of a stray dog that she names Winn-Dixie. Together, Opal and Winn-Dixie meet a cast of colorful townspeople, among them a guitar-playing pet store owner (Matthews), a lonely librarian (Eva

Marie Saint), and a blind woman believed to be a witch by the town's children (Cicely Tyson).

Annasophia Robb, in her feature film debut, is adorable as the lonely Opal. She just walks on screen and you want to give her a big hug and tell her how cute she is. She's great throughout the movie, but her scenes with Daniels in which she asks about her mother (who has abandoned both of them) are among the film's most moving. And that's also what sets *Winn-Dixie* apart from the typical family film. As directed by Wayne Wang (*The Joy Luck Club*), the film deals realistically with some darker themes, including abandonment and loneliness, but at the same time, remains relatively lighthearted.

The rest of the cast is great, but I'd like to take a little time here to talk about Matthews. He plays a guy named Otis, an ex-con who owns a pet store and sings to the animals when they get a little rowdy and need to be calmed down. His performance is so much fun to watch, especially if you happen to be a little bit of a fan like I am. His acting is strong, much better than it was in his film debut, the straight-to-video dud *Where the Red Fern Grows*. And as for us fans, we're treated to a little tune written by Matthews just for this movie. It's called "Butterfly," and it's a sweet song that fits right in with the overall tone of the movie. Seeing him play it for Opal brought a pretty big smile



FOX

to my face (now stop laughing at me for swooning like a little schoolgirl).

Daniels does a fine job in his role as the preacher, as do Saint and Tyson in their respective roles. Particularly notable is Tyson's performance as the supposed witch who is befriended by Opal and Winn-Dixie. She's an older woman whose eyesight has deteriorated to next to nothing, and it is she who teaches young Opal some important life lessons. Tyson's scenes with

A girl and her dog: The adorable Annasophia Robb (left) and her beloved puppy in director Wayne Wang's charming little family film, Because of Winn-Dixie. The movie marks the feature film debut for the 10-year-old Robb, who stars alongside Hollywood veterans Jeff Daniels, Cicely Tyson, and Eva Marie Saint. Also making his theatrical debut as a guitar playing pet store owner named Otis is popular singer-songwriter Dave Matthews. With a sweet story, a great cast, and plenty of feel good moments, Because of Winn-Dixie is a movie for people of all ages.

Opal are among the film's sweetest moments.

And that's the story with *Because of Winn-Dixie*. It may not be the first film that pops into your head when you're thinking about heading off to the movies, but it's well worth checking out. It's a feel-good, family friendly movie with charm to spare.

Plus it's got Dave Matthews. And Dave doesn't disappoint.

GRADE: B+

Picks of the Week

BY PAT EGAN '05
Asst. A&E Editor

Movie

The Scream Trilogy
Director: Wes Craven

These are three of the most entertaining films around if you're a fan of horror movies. The original *Scream* gave new life to the horror genre with its clever, self-referential script and plenty of jump-out-of-your-seat moments. While the subsequent sequels were not quite as great as the original, they're still a whole lot of fun to watch. If you're not familiar with the "rules" of the scary movie, then check out the *Scream Trilogy*. You won't be disappointed.

Music

Eric Clapton
The Clapton Chronicles
Reprise Records

While I'm not that big of a fan of Sir Eric's earlier work (a little bit too rockin' for my tastes), this collection of some of Clapton's later work is the perfect pick if you're looking for a few mellow tunes featuring some great guitar work. Among my personal favorites, "Change the World," which appeared in John Travolta's *Phenomenon*, and the classic "Tears in Heaven," one of the sweetest, saddest tunes you're ever going to hear.

Book

Garden of Beasts
Jeffrey Deaver

An entertaining combination of fact and fiction, *Garden of Beasts* tells the story of an American criminal sent out to Berlin in 1936 to assassinate one of Hitler's top men as the country prepares for the Olympic Games. Deaver, the man behind the Lincoln Rhyme novels, expertly constructs a complex plot that brilliantly weaves together action, deception, and romance. It's the perfect beach read for Spring Break, so pick it up.

Urban Elements

The boys behind the rhymes

You may pay more attention to the words, but it's the behind the scenes producers who drop the beats and make hip-hop an art

BY MIKE HOLLAND '06
A&E Staff

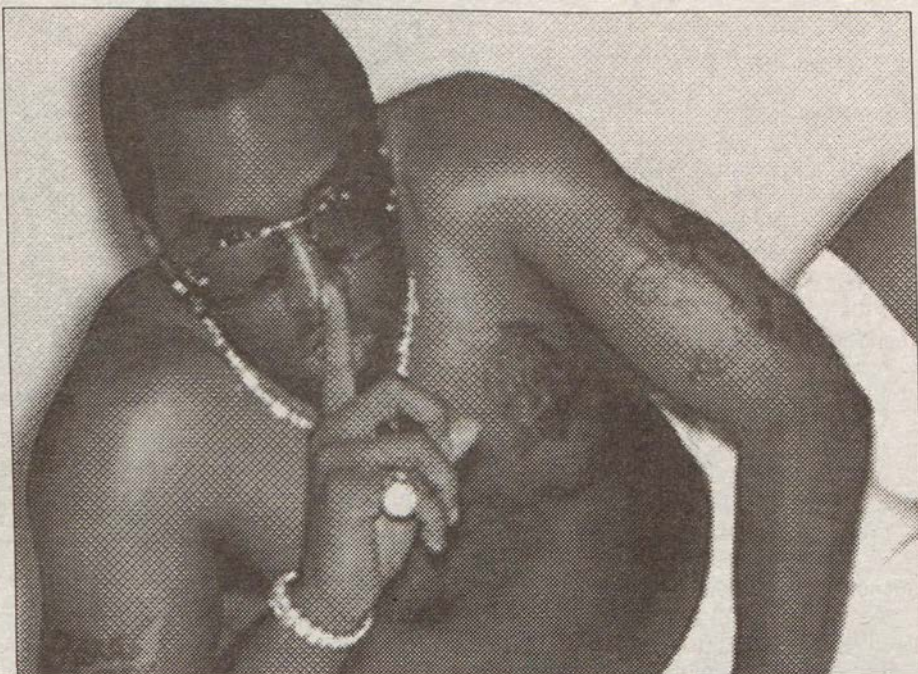
Ever since hip-hop's infancy, listeners have continually embraced the emcee under the spotlight, while the overseer of the entire product sat back in the shadows. The emcee has always been the forefront, with battle lyrics and emphatic punch lines resonating with fans. There's no question that many rappers have earned this reverence, but as Iriscience of Dilated Peoples once humbly spit, "the real back-bone of hip hop is disc jock." In light of this, I've compiled a list of some of hip-hop's greatest all-time producers, recognizing that no lyricist would survive without the help of those who have mastered the art of making your head bop.

One of the most influential and lasting producers in hard-core hip-hop has to be RZA. As the producer for one of the best rap groups ever, the Wu-tang Clan, RZA has created for himself an esoteric sense of beat mastery that combines perfectly with the street knowledge of Staten Island's finest lyricists. Although he is most recognized for his production with the Wu-tang, RZA has produced a number of hits for the solo work of Method Man, Raekwon and even himself. RZA's ability to create an emotive response is further evidenced in the music he produced for the film *Kill Bill*. That's what I call cutting up beats Samurai style.

Another producer whose emphatic scratching skills are always easy to recognize is D.J. Premier. As the man behind the scenes in Gangstarr, Premier has helped solidify some great hip-hop classics, from "Mass Appeal" to "You Know My Steez." As a pioneer in the art of producing, D.J. Premier has been putting out beats since the late 1980s, exhibiting his mastery over the test of time. He too has produced tracks for a number of diverse hip-hop acts like Method Man, Nas, the late Biggie Smalls, Jay-Z and Common Sense. With names like these on his resume, D.J. Premier has to be known as one of the all-time greats.

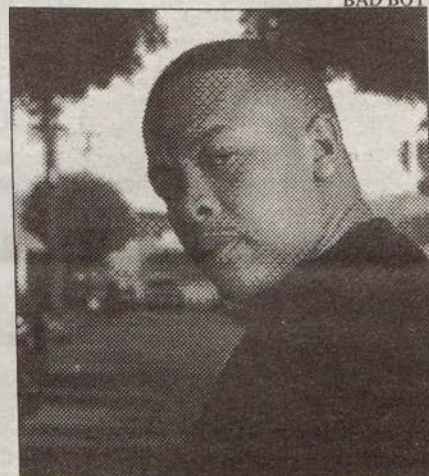
Although I love to hate him for his conspicuous business ventures, P. Diddy has to be recognized for his early work in helping to establish the East Coast on hip-hop's map. Although Bad Boy Records has come to be highly commercialized and covered in bling, P.Diddy's production skills have to be embraced if only for his work with the late Notorious B.I.G. Creating "Da Band" and *Sean John* might be questionable, but it should never be forgotten that he helped put together one of the greatest rap albums of all time, Biggie's *Ready to Die*.

Another producer honing the underground is D.J. Babu from Dilated Peoples. A hip-hop veteran, Babu has blown away a number of crowds with his ability to cut and scratch. Also the D.J. for the Beatnuts, and working with the likes of Mos Def, Babu has consistently kept himself busy creating catchy bass lines and embellishing voice-overs. While he may not be as recognizable as the names above, Babu certainly has the potential to be remembered as one of the greatest



BAD BOY

Diddy says "Quiet baby, just go with it": Hip-hop giants P. Diddy (above) and Dr. Dre (right) are among the most talented producers in the game. Diddy's work on the late Notorious B.I.G.'s *Ready to Die* is undeniably flawless, while Dre's work on both *The Chronic* and *The Chronic 2001* has solidified his place in the hip-hop hall of fame. They're just two of many producers who work behind some of today's hottest rappers.



PRIORITY

from the underground.

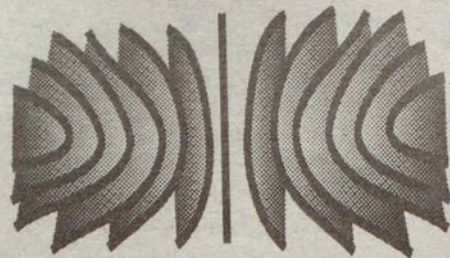
Finally, there's a producer you might know named Dr. Dre. As a hip-hop legend whose full biography is still in the making, Dr. Dre has proved his ability to maintain popularity and success while continually evolving. Starting out with the infamous hard-core group N.W.A. and continuing to produce two of the greatest solo albums ever, *The Chronic* and *The Chronic 2001*, Dr. Dre has proven to hold a tight grip on longevity. Launching the careers of artists like Snoop Dogg, Eminem and G-Unit, he might as well have a Ph.D. in the art of beat making. With his addictive sound, his ability to scout talent and then manifest their potential, and his undying knowledge of the hip-hop game, Dr. Dre has to be the greatest producer in hip-hop history.

While these producers are some of the greatest in hip-hop today, don't forget that this is only a short list. There are a number of other producers whose influence has certainly resonated in hip-hop's history like the late Jam Master Jay, Timbaland, Hi-Tek and the new giant Kanye West.

While emcees are continually scribbling rhymes in notebooks, producers labor in studios in hopes of creating the perfect beat. Just like in building a house, the structure of the rhymes would never hold up if it weren't for a solid foundation. And as these talented producers continue to create classics, emcees and fans alike should pay homage to an art form that gets easily overlooked, yet continues to raise the bar.

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Furnaces heat things up

The Fiery Furnaces follow up their critically acclaimed Blueberry Boat with a new EP that shows the band is capable of even more than what's on their successful debut

BY BRIAN WALL '05
A&E STAFF

Ever since the rise of the MP3 and file sharing years ago, we've been hearing about how the CD is on its way out. Well, it appears that we'll be seeing albums on compact disc for years to come, but other CD releases seem to be on their way out. Specifically, MP3s have made the CD single obsolete. Singles filled record stores a few years ago, letting us buy our favorite songs on CD or cassette for a couple of dollars. Now that online retailers offer single tracks for as little as a dollar, it seems silly to shell out \$3.50 for that same song and a crappy remix of it in a record store.

The EP, or "Extended Play" record, meets the single and album somewhere in the middle. They usually have about five tracks on them—a few more than your normal single and a few less than your normal album. Many bands use an EP as a way to satisfy fans or their own creative itch between proper albums; the short form offers the band a place to put together some rarities or even a couple of new songs. The material culled for an EP is rarely career defining and usually serves as a way for fans to hear what their favorite bands have been up to since their last album.

While most EPs are forgettable, every so often a band releases one that is substantial. The latest example is the new EP by the Fiery Furnaces. Their last album, *Blueberry Boat*, played with the traditional idea of an album by maxing out the disc's 80 minutes with sprawling songs that flow into each other with new ideas rapidly appearing and disappearing. While many critics foamed at the mouth for *Blueberry Boat*'s grand composition and cacophony of sounds, many (myself included) found the record too dense to easily make sense of it.

On their new release, simply titled *The Fiery Furnaces EP*, the band (which consists of siblings Eleanor and Matthew Friedberger) collected a handful of new songs along with some material recorded during the sessions for *Blueberry Boat*. The length of the disc—10 tracks over 40 minutes—could easily qualify for a new album. The material is impressive;



Seriously, I'm your brother. Don't look at me like that: The Fiery Furnaces' Matthew and Eleanor Friedberger follow their *Blueberry Boat* with a 10-track, 40-minute EP that showcases even more musical skills not seen on the band's debut album. For fans, it's sure to satisfy. And for non-fans, this EP may just make you reconsider picking up *Blueberry Boat* one more time.

it is hard to believe that some of these songs are "outtakes" because they are simply excellent songs. Unlike some of the denser arrangements on their last album, these songs never feel overloaded.

The disc's opening track, "Single Again," starts with various synthesizers beeping over a steady drum beat. Eleanor enters with a hypnotic melody and highly repetitive lyrics about an abusive relationship. Unlike many of the songs on *Blueberry Boat* that cram in as many different melodic and harmonic ideas into one track, the cyclical nature of the lyrics and repeated guitar riff is interesting enough to merit its repetitions. Without warning, the track slides into the second song, "Here Comes the Summer," and immediately shifts in mood. The nervous stomp and

tortured lyrics in "Single Again" cease for a laid back groove and Eleanor's sweetly nostalgic lyrics. Matthew Friedberger's contributions shine in this song as a distorted guitar mimics his sister's sugary melody for much of the track. "Here Comes the Summer" is a three and a half minute gem of pop perfection that is on par with any other recent power-pop singles.

On "Evergreen," the Friedbergers pull the tempo back a bit. Piano and acoustic guitar join Matthew's sharp guitar and synthesizer works. Eleanor's lyrics and melody retain the same whimsical nostalgia and light melody that made "Here Comes the Summer" so appealing. These three tracks set the blueprint for the rest of the EP. There are numerous excellent moments (especially Matthew's turn behind the

mic in "Sing For Me"), but the first three tracks set the bar awfully high.

After creating one of the most dense and heady records in recent memory, it is only appropriate that The Fiery Furnaces move in a different direction. However, it is surprising how effectively the band writes individual songs rather than a large chaotic epic. Each of the songs focus on a few elements that work out over time rather than throwing in every trick possible. By doing so, The Fiery Furnaces accomplish two impressive things. First of all, they created a group of songs that are arranged intricately without sounding chaotic or too complex. More importantly, the Friedberger siblings manage to create a rare EP that is every bit as vital as an album.

GRADE: A-



Anna Kukowski '06
A&E staff

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Friday Night Lights
2/01, 2/06, 2/11, 2/16, 2/21, 2/26 @ 1pm, 7pm, 1am
Little Black Book
2/02, 2/07, 2/12, 2/17, 2/22, 2/27 @ 10am, 4pm, 10pm
Troy
2/02, 2/07, 2/12, 2/17, 2/22, 2/27 @ 1pm, 7pm, 1am
Notting Hill
2/03, 2/08, 2/13, 2/18, 2/23, 2/28 @ 10am, 4pm, 10pm
Amistad
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Finding Forrester
2/04, 2/09, 2/14, 2/19, 2/24 @ 10am, 4pm, 10pm
Sky Captain and the World of Tomorrow
2/04, 2/09, 2/14, 2/19, 2/24 @ 1pm, 7pm, 1am
Scarface
2/05, 2/10, 2/15, 2/20, 2/25 @ 10am, 4pm, 10pm
Ray
2/05, 2/10, 2/15, 2/20, 2/25 @ 1pm, 7pm, 1am



MTV

Welcome to the Real World



MTV

Brad and Cameran visit PC and dish a little dirt

BY JAMES MCGEEHEE '08
A&E STAFF

I look around and see a sea of females waiting in eager anticipation. Guys know this is a bad sign, an omen that a bad presentation lies ahead. A woman in a magenta shirt steps onto the stage and tells everyone to get ready for Brad and Cameron. "They are really nice people," she says. Everyone raucously cheers when Brad and Cameron appear. Okay, so it is not like Dave and his guitar or Johnny Depp popped through the door, but I get the idea these people are fans of the show.

Brad and "Cam" start with the formal lecture. Diversity is topic one. Cam asks us to raise our hands if we think PC is diverse. All hands remain at our sides. Cam, a South Carolinian, reveals she used to have a thing against Northerners. *The Real World* taught her to get along with everybody—wait—everybody except Frankie. There is always an exception. Overall though, they have the right idea and they definitely believe in the message they deliver.

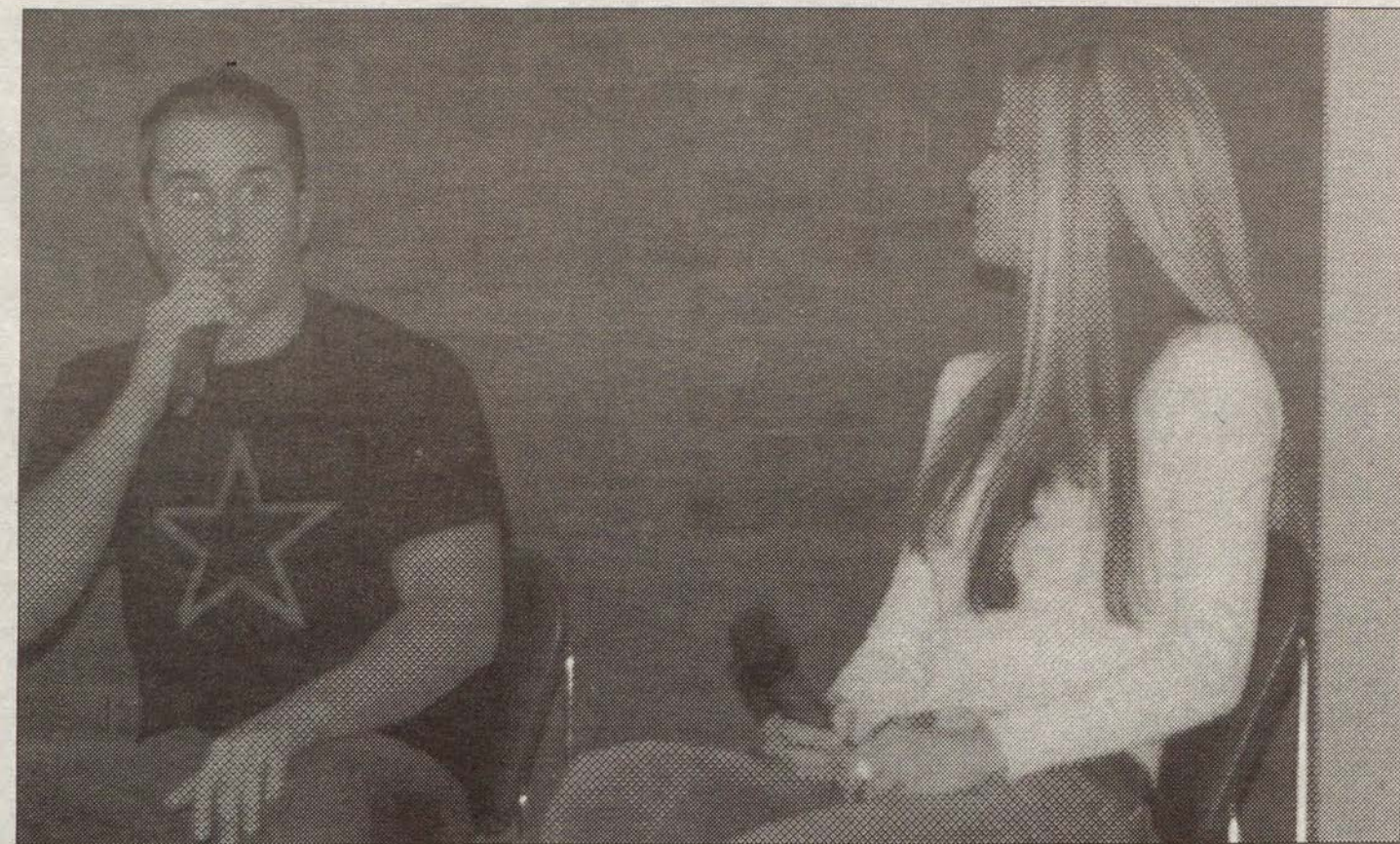
Topic number two: alcohol. Brad makes sure to say he is not pro-alcohol or anti-alcohol. But after he talks about how alcohol helps him feel calm around the cameras, his alcohol-related arrest, and how alcohol was the only form of entertainment in a house without TV, we get the idea he is pro-alcohol. The important message: don't drink and drive.

We've heard it all before; no one is paying five dollars to here about diversity and alcohol problems. The informal question and answer part follows. This is what the audience really cares about. It's not like Civ seminar. Tonight, the hands never stop rising.

The best part is when someone asks if they had any regrets about the show. Brad doesn't live for regrets, but Cameron admits she regrets saying she had a "you know what." An audience member asks what a "you know what" is. Cam: "To clarify: a vibrator, which every girl lies about [not] having."

After, I would say 99% of the people in the auditorium wait in line to get pictures with Brad and Cameron. Watching, waiting to begin my interview with the two *Real World* stars, I see star-struck college students going up to Brad and Cam. "I love you," they hyperventilate, wide smiles across their faces. The butterflies start to swarm in my stomach, but I quiet them and then get my chance with the duo of the night.

JM: You guys are touring the country, people are flocking to you for pictures. Do you



DENIELLE BALSARI '07/The Cowl

I hooked up with this girl...no big deal: Brad (left) and Cameran (right) from MTV's popular, long-running reality series *the Real World* stopped by '64 Hall to meet some of their fans and answer some questions from their many adoring fans.

consider yourselves, or maybe feel like minor celebrities?

Cam: No, no. We're personalities. We're on a reality television show. We didn't do anything special.

Brad: Yeah, there's something flattering about the fact MTV picked us out of all those people, but at the same time, it's definitely not like you're a celebrity.

JM: That John Mayer song: "I just found out there's no such thing as the real world." What do you have to say to John?

Cam: Never heard it. Is it about the *Real World*?

JM: It's just about the world.

Brad: Maybe he was like trying to give a message about the show.

JM: Well, you never know.

JM: You know that movie *Being John Malkovich*? If you could be someone else, who would you be?

Cam: I would be the Dahlia Lama.

Brad: I don't know. Maybe like Brad Pitt so I could hook up with Jennifer Aniston real quick.

JM: *Garden State* or *Napoleon Dynamite*?

Cam: Vote for Pedro.

(She is wearing the button. I missed that.)

Brad: *Napoleon Dynamite*.

Cam: *Garden State*. They were both great movies.

JM: Cocoa Puffs or Lucky Charms?

Brad: Lucky Charms.

Cam: Lucky charms, but only if there's marshmallows. I really only eat those.

JM: Brad, how do you feel about being called a meathead?

Brad: Oh, online and all that. I don't know dude.

Cam: He is kind of a meathead.

Brad: I don't feel like a meathead dude, but whatever.

JM: (to Cam) So you have no problem hooking up with meatheads?

Cam: I guess not.

JM: The Oscars, are this Sunday. You guys rooting for any movies or actors?

Brad: I haven't put any thought into that at all man. Good luck to everyone involved.

Cam: Got to root for *Radio*.

Brad: Yeah, I've got my fingers crossed for *Radio*.

(Note: *Radio* did not receive any nominations.)

JM: Okay, this is a deep one. What is the biggest problem in American society?

Brad: The topic we talked about: diversity. When you go to certain areas, you find some people aren't open. Everybody breathes the same air; everybody has the same blood in their veins. Some people can't help the way they are.

Cam: I think peace.

JM: I know the election is over, but Kerry or Bush?

Brad: Bush

Cam: I think they're both assholes personally.

Brad: I had mixed views, but I thought that Bush was more real. I thought Kerry was just saying what people wanted him to say, I thought Bush was more heartfelt about what he was saying, but at the same time, I'm not a hardcore Bush fan.

JM: Agreed.

JM: What is your favorite book?

Cam: From when I was a little girl, *To Kill A Mockingbird*.

Brad: *The Da Vinci Code*, and I know it's a real trendy thing, but I don't read a lot, and that's the book I recently read.

JM: *Kill Bill: Volume 1* or *Volume 2*?

Cam: I haven't seen 2.

Brad: I think 1.

JM: 2 all the way right here.

JM: If you could eat dinner with three people, living, dead, or fictional, who would they be?

Cam: I would eat dinner with Jesus Christ, the Dahlia Lama, and probably Jimmy Carter.

Brad: Man, I have no idea.

JM: It's a tough one, I know.

Brad: Yeah, it's very tough. I want to give a good answer, but I don't think I have one.

JM: Michael Jackson: innocent or guilty?

Cam: Guilty...guilty.

Brad: Guilty as charged. That man's a freaking molester.

JM: Describe yourself in one word.

Brad: Chill.

Cam: Stupid. No, I don't know how to describe myself. Nerdy.

Brad: (nodding) Nerdy.

Cam: Definitely nerdy.

JM: So what are you guys doing afterwards?

Brad: Well, Randy is in town, and we're definitely swinging by Brad's.

JM: If you guys are free, you can come out with me and get some Golden Crust Pizza.

Cam: Totally.

Brad: I'm down.

Needless to say, I never went out with Brad and Cam to get pizza. Based on what I heard about last year's presentation, I expected Brad and Cameron to be misinformed about their level of stardom and notoriety, vain youth bound to be knocked off the pedestal before long. I wanted them to say, "Yeah, we feel like celebrities." From there, I would have tried to only accentuate their egos, making them appear disillusioned. Yet, they worked their way out of my wormhole and came over as the nice people the lady in the magenta shirt said they were. Their future goals are realistic; none are counting on a phone call from Spielberg or Scorsese. I wouldn't say they are living in the real world, and sooner or later, they will return to normal living. Yet, their *Real World* experience will have a lasting impact.

Unless you are an avid fan of the *Real World*, their presentation was nothing special, and by the end, I was tired of hearing about Frankie and others I am not acquainted with. I expected the interview to be awkward and stilted, but as the conversation should reveal, they were cool cats. There was a lot of laughing between the lines, and we all enjoyed our brief moments together. Brad and Cameron are not deep people with truly interesting things to say, but at least they do not put on a facade. They seemed genuinely excited to be here and were surprisingly kind and ready to listen to the many questions directed to them.

The transformation to Brown Sugar Skin

BY MEGAN BISHOP '07
ASST. PORTFOLIO EDITOR

Diego wiped his brow, as sweat trickled down the creases in his forehead. He could hear the air rushing from the vents in the front of the cab, but just barely, over the ethnic music and the cab driver's voice yelling into his cell phone. Even though air was circulating, Diego questioned if it was really the cool air he desired or just the recycled air he was breathing from his nostrils. He shook his head quickly to erase that thought from his consciousness. He couldn't wait to get on the plane towards cleaner pastures.

"So where are you heading to?" the cab driver asked as he slapped his cell phone shut.

"The airport, gate C," Diego replied, reaching down towards an extended handle in hopes to open a window.

"Er...I wouldn't do that if I was you..."

Diego stopped just as he was about to turn the greasy handle, half relieved to have an excuse to stay away.

"Oh, I apologize."

A laugh erupted from the front of the cab, deafening the circulating air. "No...it's just that it plops off from time to time. You know...rolls around on the ground and all that, not so fun to shove back in once the customer's got out."

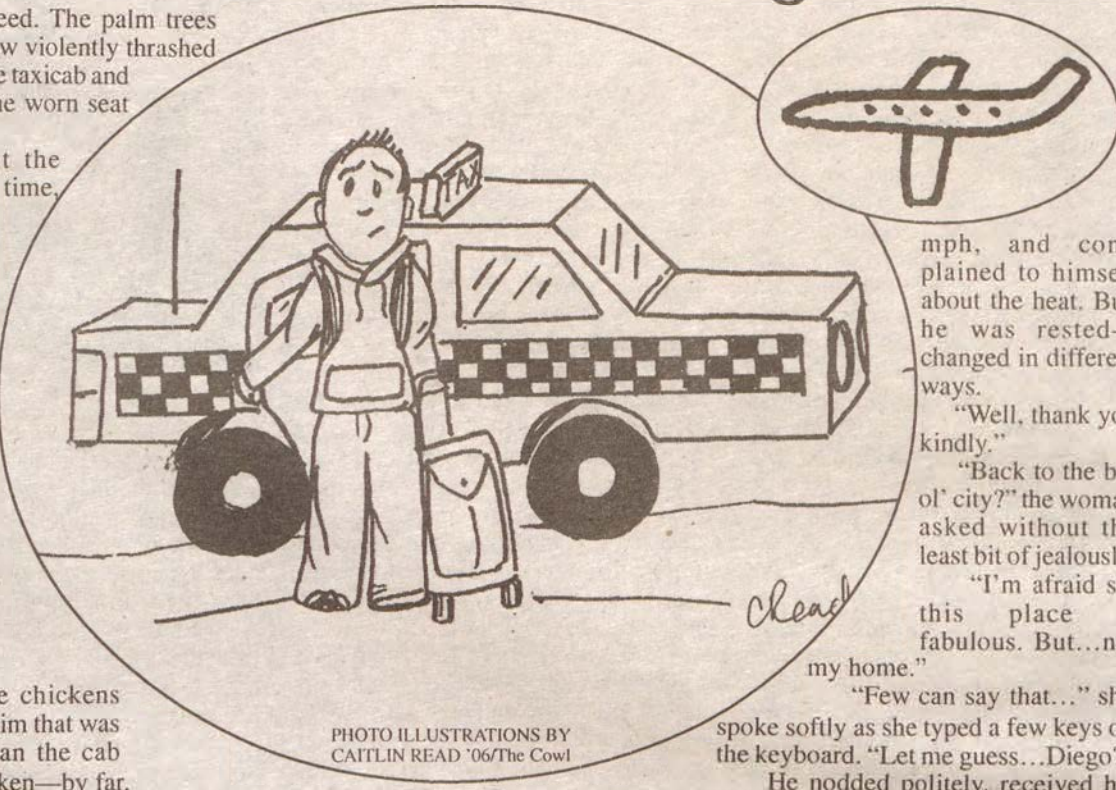
Somehow, that was not as funny as Diego had thought it would be. The cab driver turned up the ethnic music and

picked up his speed. The palm trees outside his window violently thrashed the right side of the taxicab and Diego clutched the worn seat beneath him.

Arriving at the airport in record time, the wary traveler stuffed some bills into the cab driver's hand. With a toothy smile and a soft wave, the driver and his taxi faded in a cloud of dust. Diego was left alone on the curb, choking on the exhaust that still lingered in the air. He had once traveled in a caravan of pickup trucks with more chickens than men, and to him that was more pleasant than the cab ride he had just taken—by far.

With that behind him, he leaned down and gathered his luggage in the most efficient way. Two large suitcases hung from each fist and his carry-on was stuck between his right side and bicep. Diego stepped through the doorway and into the airport. The air was thicker in here. But, it was not stress that saturated the air. The humidity seeped through the cracks in the ceiling and the holes in the windows.

Clearing his throat, Diego walked up to the ticket counter. He seemed to be the only person doing any sort of actual traveling. Except for the few people typing away at dated computers, and the custodian clearing up a pile of paper

PHOTO ILLUSTRATIONS BY
CATLIN READ '06/The Cowl

scraps, little was going on.

"I know you..." the woman behind the counter began with a thick accent.

Diego quickly turned to see if someone was behind him. "Who me?" he asked pointing to himself.

"Of course child! Why you came through here not 10 days ago. Eyes all sunk in, skin as pasty as a cloud filled sky. But now look at cha! Your color's just like brown sugar and your eyes are sparkling."

Diego smiled, she was right. When he had first entered this airport he was full of stress and worry. And, well, he was still the same. He still clutched the side of the taxi when it drove above 40

mph, and complained to himself about the heat. But, he was rested—changed in different ways.

"Well, thank you kindly."

"Back to the big ol' city?" the woman asked without the least bit of jealousy.

"I'm afraid so, this place is fabulous. But...not my home."

"Few can say that..." she spoke softly as she typed a few keys on the keyboard. "Let me guess...Diego?"

He nodded politely, received his ticket and turned towards the gate. Diego opened his mouth and tasted the hot air. He'd miss this. Next week when he sat at his desk, wearing layers and clutching his coffee cup, he'd miss this. The soft humming of the taxis outside the airport doors, the smell of the cinnamon and sugar cane, and the friendly smiles that met him wherever he went.

"ATTENTION. ALL PASSENGERS, FLIGHT 223 TO NEW YORK IS BOARDING NOW..."

Diego took one last long breath and started towards the gate, flashing his teeth to the custodian as the purr of the taxis faded into the background.

The future is now and Multi-Colored

BY KATIE HUGHES '06
PORTFOLIO STAFF

There is a photograph hanging in my dorm room of myself when I was eight-years-old. It is just a picture of me, which may lead others to

ESSAY believe that I am narcissistic. I argue that I am just as narcissistic as the next person, but not completely absorbed in myself enough to forget about the next person. Maybe if I explain the reason for this picture it will explain me a little bit better (Not that it is necessary to explain myself—I am perfectly okay with being inexplicable.)

The picture is from a family vacation. I do not even recall exactly where we were, only that a petting zoo was involved. In the picture I am posing beside a deer in what looks like a cross between Vanna White and a Russian gymnast just finishing her floor routine.

Aside from my stance next to the medium-sized deer, one can note my physical appearance. We will go from top to bottom. On my head I am wearing a tied-dyed rainbow baseball cap that says "Niagra Falls" on it. One might think that perhaps I was in Niagra Falls at the time and that is why I am wearing the hat, but that is simply

not the case. I went through a period in my life where I would not go anywhere without this Niagra Falls cap. It was not a particularly long period in my life, but it is worth mentioning nonetheless. Below the hat is a single messy braid on the side of my head: a variation on the side ponytail. (The side ponytail being one of my most favorite hairstyles ever—to this day.)

"The photo shows a version of me without inhibitions, and self-consciousness. And it is refreshing. I wake up every morning with this photo hanging on the wall next to my bed hoping to return to the girl in the picture."

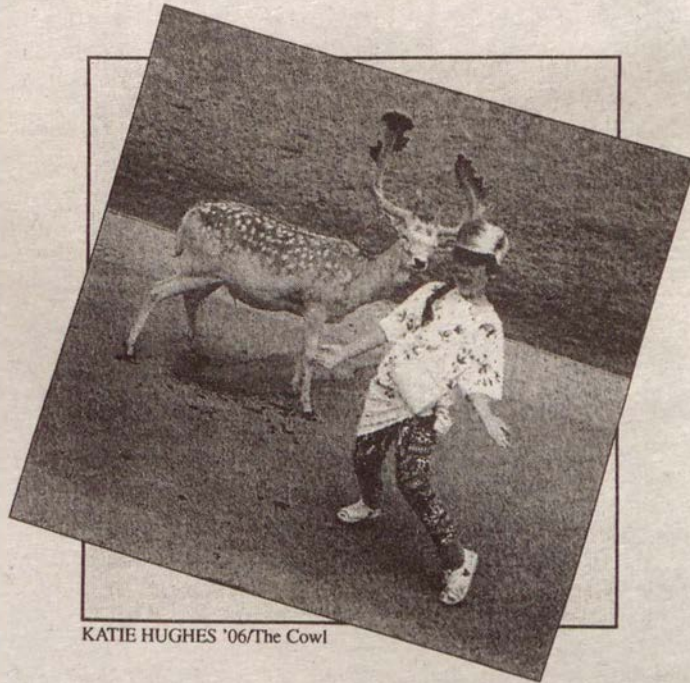
Continuing down, one notes the tee shirt that I am wearing in the photo. It is an oversized white tee shirt gathered at one side in a hair elastic. If that is not bad enough the tee shirt is puffy-painted with multi-colored squiggly lines. On top of the tee shirt and around my neck, is a pocket book, white with pink trim. I am wearing

leggings. Multi-colored leggings with turquoise socks pulled up over them. The outfit is completed with white, puffy-painted Keds sneakers.

The photo would be a perfect postcard from any eighties baby. With a goofy grin and future venison standing next to me, there is a huge question remaining, why on Earth would one mount this terrible reminder of bad fashion on his or her wall? And the answer is so simple—to me anyway—others might find it complex and annoying. I am happy in this photo. I have this goofy grin and basic jazz hands indicating that I am having the time of my life. And the question then becomes, "Why not have this photo on my wall?"

The photo shows a version of me without inhibitions or self-consciousness—and it is refreshing. I wake up every morning with this photo hanging on the wall next to my bed hoping to return to the girl in that picture. A girl who does not care about her surroundings (as is painfully clear by the large deer who has just finished going number one and two in the background.)

The photo makes me laugh to think about the people behind the camera: my parents. My mother dressed me, so that is



KATIE HUGHES '06/The Cowl

funny to think that she actually thought I looked cute in my "outfit." My father was definitely on the other side of the camera provoking my "inner ham" and getting me to be silly. My brother was probably also somewhere behind the camera chasing some farm animal and mimicking an emu.

The one last reason that this is on my wall is because I have a plan for my life and this photo is part of the plan. One day I will be on *E: True Hollywood Story* or *VH1's Before They Were*

Stars, and this picture will be used in some photo montage of embarrassing photos. What the average viewer will not realize is that this photo does not embarrass me in the least. In fact, it is a source of encouragement. I am encouraged to be myself regardless of any societal sentiments towards homogenization. If nothing more, it encourages me to never pick up a pair of Keds sneakers and leggings. And maybe, just maybe, that is good enough for now.

Bundles and armfuls of love for Isabel

BY CHRISTINE BAGLEY '06
PORTFOLIO EDITOR

Alejandra desperately wanted a cup of water or a piece of bread after her long journey, but much more, she wanted to see Isabel. Sensing her thirst and hunger, her mother's eldest sister

PART TWO offered her a bowl of rice and a cup of juice, but Alejandra shook her head.

She was focused on reaching the bedside of her great-grandmother. She reached for the sickened lady's hand, but Isabel caught hold of Alejandra's hand first and gave it a tight squeeze. Alejandra's heart skipped a beat and she knelt at the side of the bed, making the sign of the cross, and kissing her great-grandmother's hand. She didn't dare rise above a squat position as she gazed into the face of Isabel. Alejandra noticed her skin was worn with wrinkles, and her breath was uneven, but she attempted a smile back at her great-granddaughter.

"Tell them to leave for a while. I want to speak with you alone, Alejandra," Isabel croaked in her native tongue, her eyes still softly pressed together. Alejandra turned around to face her relatives, and they nodded to her, exiting the hut one behind the other, heads bowed. She turned back to face her beautiful great-grandmother.

"I want you to know that I have something special for you. I have been saving it to give to you when the time was right. Go get it from the wooden chest in the corner of the room. I have wrapped it in a blue cloth," Isabel whispered, her breath stale and dry.

Alejandra rose to her feet and slowly bent down in front of the chest. She lifted the cover carefully; she couldn't see the contents of the trunk because the

lighting was dim. Feeling around until her fingers grazed a smooth cloth, Alejandra lifted the package from the depths of the chest and brought it to the bedside.

"I have found the present in blue cloth. I have something for you, too," Alejandra told Isabel. She reached into her shoulder bag and pulled out the gift. Isabel tried to nod, but found it hard to move from her still position. Alejandra had spent the last month of art class designing a swan-shaped vase. She had spent hours perfecting the curve and swirl of the swan's neck where the flowers would be placed. She then painted the vase with a mother-of-pearl glaze. When she learned of Isabel's illness, she knew she would give her great-grandmother the gift.

"Open your gift first, my dear Alejandra. I want you to know that this gift has been passed down to only the strongest woman in our village. I think you are the most determined, independent, smart girl," Isabel squeezed Alejandra's hand and forced a smile with her last burst of energy. Alejandra exhaled silently and unwrapped the package.

Under the layers of blue cloth lay a beautiful necklace presented on a silky cloth. The stones on the necklace were the most brilliant shades of oranges, set in the most flawless silver that Alejandra had ever seen at the mall, or in the Tiffany's catalogue. She suddenly felt guilty for being so cultured and Americanized. She felt even more awful that all she had to give to her great-grandmother was a dumb vase.

"The necklace is beautiful. Thank you so much. I don't think I deserve such a special treasure. My gift isn't as gorgeous as yours, Isabel," Alejandra



PHOTO ILLUSTRATION BY TRACY DONADIO '06/The Cowl

stammered, as she placed the wrapped vase into the hands of her elder. She glanced up into the face of her great-grandmother, her heart skipping a beat once again, as she noticed Isabel open her eyes and fumble to unravel Alejandra's gift. Isabel lifted the vase from the layers of the wrapping and her once tired, colorless face, soon gained life and glow.

"This is the most beautiful gift I have ever received. Thank you my child. Did you make this yourself?" Isabel inquired. Isabel nodded and helped her great-grandmother place the vase on the bedside table.

"Be a good child and go pick some wildflowers to put in the vase, like you used to do as a child," Isabel instructed. Alejandra moved from the hut, smiled at the ladies huddling around the square of shade. She moved towards the

hillside she knew so well as a child and began collecting handfuls of bright petals.

After collecting two armfuls, she spun back to face the direction of her village, but was stopped by her cousins, all holding dozens of flowers, smiles wide. They extended their armfuls of blossoms towards Alejandra and she let them place all the flowers atop her collection. They drifted down the hillside and entered the hut of Isabel. They each chose one flower and placed it in the neck of the swan; they placed the rest of the gatherings around the room. Isabel inhaled the scent of the flowers and settled back into the bed.

She reached for Isabel's hand. "Thank you, my dear Alejandra. I love you."

Alejandra was suddenly overcome with a sense of 'being back at home.'

Poetry Corner

Macbeth's Contemporaries

BY CAITLIN MURPHY '06
PORTFOLIO STAFF

Her house smelled like Shakespeare.
Please don't mock me for still driving by her house
once a month, slowing down
looking into the windows.
I'm told three young Indian women live there now
right out of med school.
Ironical that they are living her dream.

We didn't realize then that the guidance counselors
were our witches prophesizing,
we couldn't see the Lady Macbeth in your mother.
There was no real hero in our tragedy.
If you look closely, there never are.

She stood out back on top of the slide shaped like a castle
and shouted down her dreams to me.
To be a doctor, to marry a man, a doctor, a man,
a house where we lived side by side.

The days drew back and they revealed this:
we were killing ourselves from grand ambition,
masking it with dances to Jamiroquai and hummus.
She and I were alone with each other and our ruthless visions,
and we weren't celebrating.

We were both screaming into our fists,
bringing meaningless sound to our fury.

Night on Thayer

BY STEPHAN DELBOS '05
PORTFOLIO STAFF

The air is filled with saffron
And cardamom. The crowds roll
Like waves from the Avon,
Crashing into the night,
Someone's blowing alto jazz,
I think I might
Join in:
Hepcat Zep
With a swing in his step
Comes pacing,
And all the girls go racing
After, with sweaty palms
Sliding slick
Around Pepsi cans
Filled with enough rum
To make you sick
Or to make your bed
By the curb.
The sex-faced teens
Hang 'Do Not Disturb'
Signs on the edges of alleys
As caffeine lights my eyes
In the green and white
Styrofoam neon Starbuck's night.

Glad to be away from slack jaws,
I came down Smith
With my hands thrust
In pockets, pinching dust
And denim lint
As I walked away from freezing,
Breezing towards the East
To observe the stars
On their way back to the moon.

"When will we be there?"
I ask the others.
The others answer:
"Soon."

Hurting From Attraction

BY CHRIS FAHEY '05
PORTFOLIO STAFF

After you left
I kissed the pillow on which you slept,
Inhaling what kisses, what thoughts
Might have seeped through your friendly,
Sleeping face
Which took each breath with my heart
From behind
The romance
That danced off your slender shoulders.

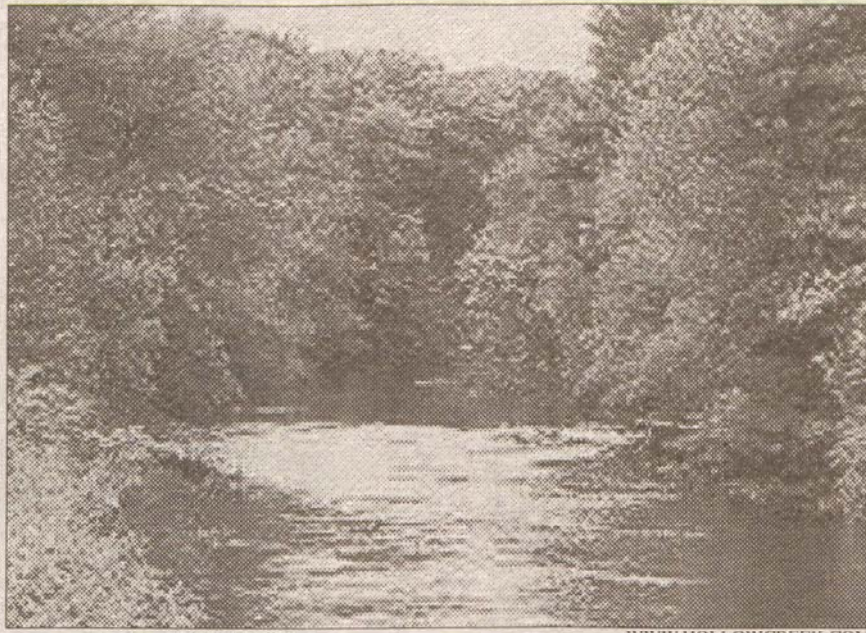
Love is somewhere in me for you.
I've let you know,
I've withdrawn my show,
And now I must go
Where that sweet scent
Has roamed without me for far too long,
Where I will dream you so well
That our lips will not part
After you've left me,
For the day.

Fresh air and uneven strokes of cerulean

(Kristina R.) Sometimes she could not stop the flashing scenes in front of her. Walking along the old towpath next to the Blackstone River, she would not see the strong currents or the leaves waving in the wind. Driving through the center of town, the old ice cream shop had lighted windows. The streetlights were still hanging from a thread and the grassy square was overgrown with weeds. Blinking rapidly, the images would fade and reality would begin to sink in again. But the feeling remained.

She did not know why memories haunted her. She was not an old woman, just barely 20. Wherever she went, no matter where she was, old scenes would come floating back into her mind, the past triumphing over the present. It was as if her life were an old scrapbook being flipped through over and over again instead of being added to. And there was no way to stop it.

(Erin) It hadn't always been like this. There were those nights that she would sit in her one-bedroom apartment with girlfriends and talk for hours about the most brainless subjects, never letting the past slip through. She even went on her share of dates, which had proved to be pretty entertaining for awhile; and a couple of them even turned into something before they fizzled out. Since around November it seemed this restlessness began. She would lie in bed with the luxury of choosing what to think about from under those protective flannel sheets. But those images, where did they come from? *Perhaps a quick phone call to Mom and then I'll fall asleep...*



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(Ashley) But she could never fall asleep. Countless restless nights ran through her mind as endless as the river she loved to walk beside. Now, lying in bed, she thought of the swiftly flowing river calming her frayed nerves, and replayed in her mind the phone conversation she just completed with her mother over and over. She was always worrying, and the conversation had proved no exception, especially in light of her upcoming trip. Maybe this trip would free her thoughts and grant her the perfection found in a good night's sleep.

(Megan) Or maybe it wouldn't. She turned over and looked at the white painted wall. She had meant to paint this wall red or blue, or something other than

white. But she had never gotten around to it. Even a poster would have been an improvement, but now she was leaving tomorrow and things like that were better left to think about while she sat in the airport or flew across the Atlantic. As her thoughts gravitated around air travel and posters, she slipped into an anxious sleep.

She awoke some hours later, feeling as if she had slept for only a few minutes. Goosebumps covered her right arm and left leg. Her covers had fallen between her bed and wall, and she lay, sprawled out, clinging to the loosely fit sheets, breathing heavily.

(Christine B.) She rotated her head towards the closed window and yearned for clean air to revive her. With a quick

yank, she threw the window open, letting the crisp November morning richness sail through her body. The scene below was still, as the fire of the sun's rays stretched out in warm embrace to the awakening world. Only the noise from a passing airplane disrupted the quaint panorama. She followed the path of the plane, with its blinking colors and tail of smoke. It faded into the distance, miles closer to a new destination—a new place with invigorating fresh air and purpose.

Another gust of autumn air consumed her figure and she reached to seal the window closed. She pictured herself in that fantastical plane, away from the dead and scattered leaves, stale air, and colorless walls.

It was time. It was time to tidy up the loose leaves and fill her lungs with clean oxygen. It was time to add some color to the bland pages of her scrapbook. She moved to the pantry and searched among the new cans of paint she had bought. 'Scarlet,' 'cerulean,' or 'indigo?' She jimmied off the lid of the 'cerulean' and whipped out a brush. Dipping the clean edge of the bristles into the creamy elixir, she moved back towards her bedroom. She splattered the wall with uneven strokes of blue, took a step backwards and gazed at her masterpiece.

For the first time in a long time she allowed herself to smile, as the biting smell of the paint filled her nose. She threw open the window once again. Moving to pack her bag, she gathered a few things together, her camera, and made her way out the door towards the airport.

It was time for a change.

Walking in Mount St. Mary's Cemetery

BY JENNIFER McCafferty '07
PORTFOLIO STAFF

Margaret Elizabeth Smith:
1924-1999.

A splotchy rain had begun to fall, quietly but militantly slapping down on the grass and headstones around me and slowly turning what had been a dusty pathway into a sort of shoe-eating quagmire. The heavy clouds apparently were trying to suffocate the mud—they seemed to be inching lower and lower to the ground, getting thicker with each passing moment. If you stood still long enough, you could watch how the flowers that were surrounding some of the graves would gradually sink down to the base of their corresponding headstones, submitting to the water that dragged them down to those they were left to honor.

Gerald Henry Cunningham, Beloved
Husband and Father:
1899-1978.

My hair was plastered to my head with the water. I alternated my pace, sometimes, jogging carefully through the mud and hugging my sweatshirted arms, and other times walking slowly to scan the headstones, to see if I was anywhere close to his grave. My teeth chattered in the cold, and when I wasn't moving too quickly I could see the little puffy clouds my breath made in the air before being drowned by the rain. In spite of my body's protests to the cold, though, my mind remained in a different place. I wasn't especially conscious of the weather or of the fact that my jeans were soaked through or that there were freezing droplets of water pelting me in the face. In fact, I wasn't really aware of anything. I wasn't even sure what was motivating me to visit his grave. It wasn't like we had been close or anything...

Edward Patrick O'Callahan:
1847-1922.

The funeral had been last week. I hadn't been able to go; I had been away at school and couldn't afford to miss

classes. It was kind of ironic, though; the morning I found out he had died, my friend had to go to the emergency room after getting some crazy flu virus or something. (Come to think of it, the doctors never figured out what it was, though she got better within a week). I hadn't told her about him dying; she was the type that would beat herself up if she had the faintest idea that she was inconveniencing someone, and again, he and I hadn't been that close. But it had been weird, sitting in that hospital and seeing sick people everywhere...had he looked like that when he died? At the end of the day, I had taken my friend home, still not saying a word. It hadn't mattered, anyway.

Charlotte Mary Hampton,
Wife, Sister, Daughter:
1939-2003.

I kept walking in what I thought was the right direction. My shoes were coated in mud, and when I occasioned to look behind me, checking to make sure I hadn't just passed the grave I was looking for, I saw my footprints set deep in the Earth. The rain was beginning to increase its intensity, and I hurried onward, anxious to find it. Why was I even concerned? It's not like he would have cared. The last time I had seen him, he hadn't even recognized me. Honestly, I had hardly recognized him. Age, disease and worry had worn his face, his eyes had been clouded and apprehensive. That had been last Christmas, and it had been the first year that he had been stuck in bed. It scared me in a way, and as we stood around the hospice bed, singing Christmas carols, I watched his eyes. They had remained dull, so unlike how they had been in years past. It was at that point when I realized that I had never really known him on anything deeper than a surface level, and evidently I would never get the chance to delve any further into his identity. And frankly, I didn't really have the desire to do so at this point. The idea of becoming acquainted with someone who was clearly on his way out scared me.

Allen Harper Greene:
1959-2004.

Gregory Marcus Simpson,
Husband and Son: 1923-1987.

Katherine Emily Swenson:
1875-1955.

And then...

A newer headstone, peppered with raindrops. His name was there, and the years of his birth and death, and a wrinkled wreath graced its base. I came to a halt. The rain continued to fall, slipping down my tangled hair and into my eyes. I tried to make myself cry so that the rain would mingle with my tears, and then this whole trip would be worth

the trouble of the weather and the mental fog because I would have reconciled myself with my grandfather. But nothing happened. No tears came and I was not reconciled with him. I wanted to care more; I wanted to indulge myself in complete sorrow and feel as though I was mourning appropriately, but my eyes remained dry (with the exception of the rain). I stared at the grave, willing some sort of personal, posthumous connection to suddenly arise between him and me. And nothing happened.

I pulled a wilted flower from my pocket and placed it next to the wreath. Then, turning, I walked away into the crushing atmosphere.

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involved?

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photographs
that 4,000
people will see
each week?



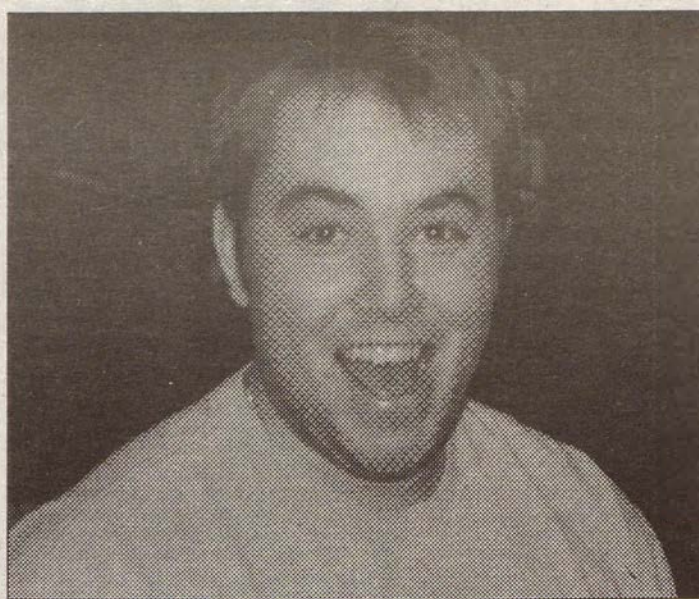
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What are your plans for Spring Break?



Melissa Zywockinski '06
"Living the high life in central Connecticut."



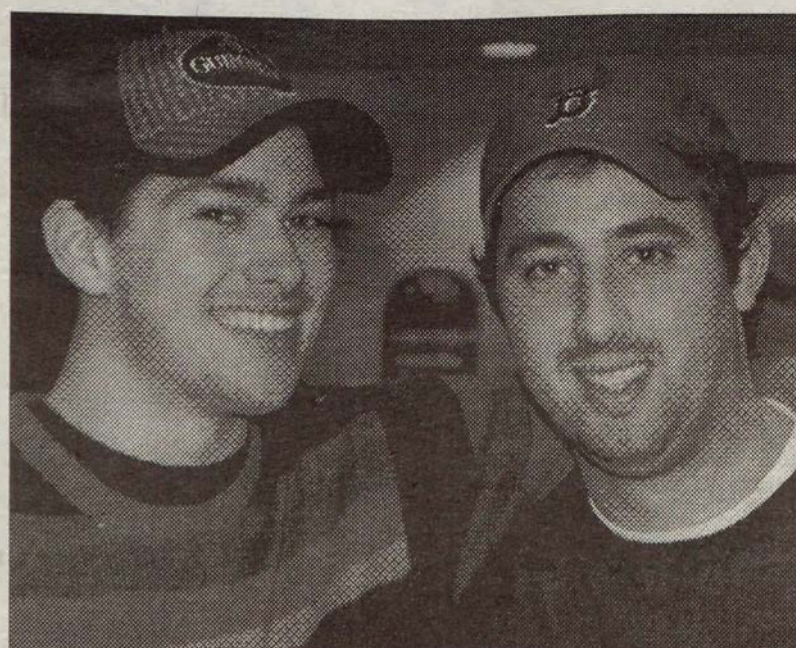
Kyle Casey '07
"Getting wild in Mexico."



Dan Darbandi '08 and Ian Kaloyanides '08
"Traveling the world in eight days in a hot-air balloon."



Meredith Brown '05
"Visiting graduate schools."



Carl Lawrence '05 and John Balliero '05
"Riding a burro all the way to Cosamel."

Pinky and the Brain



"Same thing we do every break."



The PC Scoreboard

Scores • Standings • Statistics • Schedules • Standouts

Standouts



Rush Zimmerman

Women's Ice Hockey
Senior — Grosse Pointe, Mich.

Zimmerman became one of only 14 members in the history of PC Women's Hockey to reach the 150-point mark as she posted three goals and one assist this weekend. She led the team to a 1-1 record this weekend against Boston College.



Liam Reale

Men's Indoor Track
Senior — Hospital, Ireland

Reale took the 1,000-meter event in a time of 2:24.58 this past weekend at the men's indoor track Big East Championships which were held in Syracuse, N.Y. His performance helped to lead the Friars to an eighth-place finish at the meet.

Scores

<i>Friday 2/18</i>		
Men's Hockey vs. Maine		W, 3-2
<i>Saturday 2/19</i>		
Men's Basketball vs. Notre Dame (COX Sports)		L, 62-61
Women's Hockey vs. Boston College		L, 4-1
Men's Hockey vs. Maine		L, 6-2
Men's Lacrosse vs. Navy (Branford, CT)		L, 9-2
Women's Basketball at Pittsburgh		L, 63-47
<i>Sunday 2/20</i>		
Women's Hockey vs. Boston College		W, 4-2
Men's Track at Big East Championships		8th of 12
Women's Track at Big East Championships		12th of 12
Men's Swimming and Diving at Metropolitan Conference Championships		7th of 17
Women's Swimming and Diving at Metropolitan Conference Championships		4th of 20
<i>Tuesday 2/22</i>		
Women's Basketball at West Virginia		L, 99-59
<i>Wednesday 2/23</i>		
Men's Lacrosse at Holy Cross		L, 5-4
Men's Basketball at Seton Hall		W, 67-54

Schedules

<i>Friday 2/25</i>		
Men's Hockey at Merrimack		7:00 p.m.
Swimming and Diving at ECAC Championships		All Day
Indoor Track at New England Championships		All Day
<i>Saturday 2/26</i>		
Men's Basketball at Syracuse (ESPN 2)		12:00 p.m.
Women's Hockey at New Hampshire		2:00 p.m.
Men's Hockey vs. Merrimack (COX Sports)		7:00 p.m.
Women's Basketball vs. St. John's		2:00 p.m.
Indoor Track at New England Championships		All Day
Swimming and Diving at ECAC Championships		All Day
<i>Sunday 2/27</i>		
Women's Hockey vs. New Hampshire		2:00 p.m.
Track at New England Championships		All Day
Swimming and Diving at ECAC Championships		All Day
<i>Tuesday 3/1</i>		
Men's Basketball vs. St. John's		7:30 p.m.

Standings

Providence College Men's Basketball All-Time Scoring List (2/23)

Rank	Team	Pts.
1.	RYAN GOMES	2048
2.	Jimmy Walker	2045
3.	Eric Murdock	2021
4.	Jamel Thomas	1971
5.	Marvin Barnes	1839
6.	Joe Hassett	1828
7.	Bruce Campbell	1809
8.	Ernie DiGregorio	1760
9.	Otis Thorpe	1625
10.	Austin Croshere	1523

USCHO.com Women's Hockey East Standings (2/23)

Team	Hockey East				Overall		
	W	L	T	Pts.	W	L	T
New Hampshire	11	2	3	25	19	6	5
PROVIDENCE	11	3	1	23	16	10	4
Connecticut	8	5	3	16	12	11	7
Maine	5	9	2	12	14	11	3
Boston College	4	9	3	11	8	17	4
Northeastern	2	12	2	6	3	22	3

Weekend yields split decision with Eagles PC: NE's next

PC misses chance to catch Hockey East leading UNH, but has date next weekend with Wildcats

BY PAT BROWN '05
SPORTS STAFF

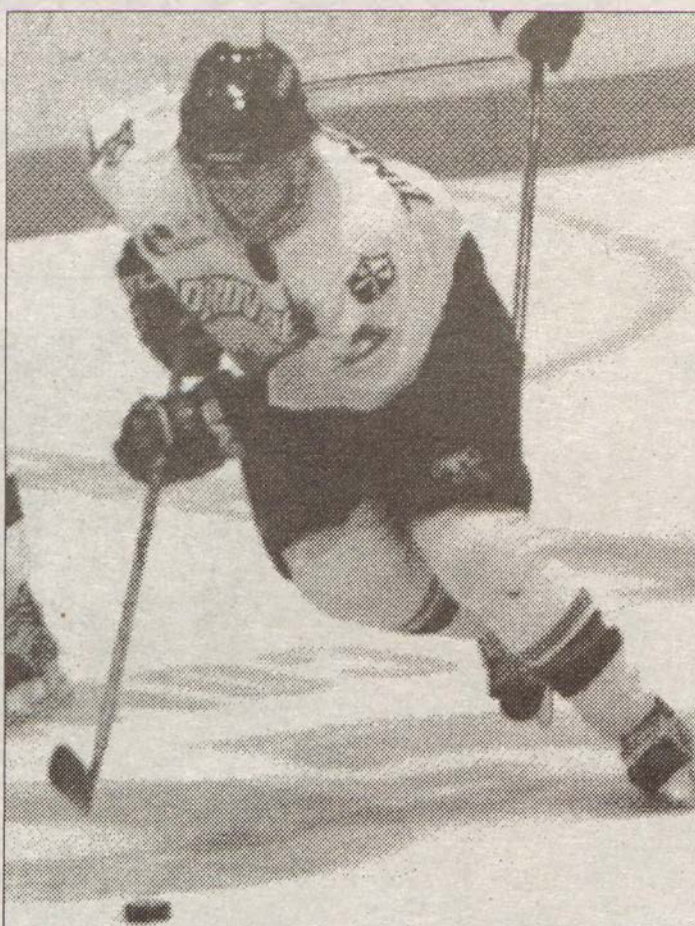
Coming off a weekend in which Hockey East's newest challenger, Connecticut, managed to keep the Providence College Women's Hockey team at bay for the first time in almost 30 years, the Friars looked to avoid a second straight series of disappointments as they laced up against Boston College on Feb. 19 and 20. With the Eagles festering near the bottom of the standings and with the Friars having outscored them 40-10 in their last seven games, PC looked to regain some momentum this past weekend as the season winds down to the home stretch.

What was shaping up to be an extension of the Friars' seven-game winning streak against BC unfolded contrary to expectations.

In the first match of the home-and-home series, the Eagles stunned their hosts by handing them a 4-1 defeat. PC would have its revenge, though, as it returned the favor by a score of 4-2 the next day in Boston. The results push Providence's record to 11-4-1 in Hockey East and 16-10-4 overall.

Hoping to snap their two-game losing skid, the Friars took to the ice against BC on Saturday, but would have no luck in putting the wind back into their sails.

Despite outshooting their opponents 24-9 through 40 minutes of regulation (14-1 in the second period alone), PC's bounces were anything but favorable as the score remained deadlocked at 0-0.



TRACY DONADIO '06/The Cowl

Senior Rush Zimmerman became the 14th player in Friar history to surpass the 150-point mark for her career, as she led PC to a weekend split with BC. Providence currently sits in second place in Hockey East behind New Hampshire.

Early into the third, the squad's prospects took a turn for the worst, as the Eagles soared to a 1-0 lead on the powerplay at the 6:21 mark. In the blink of an eye, the visitors tripled the deficit to 3-0 as they netted two goals in a span of 53 seconds.

Though senior Rush Zimmerman got Providence on the board a minute later, BC erased the deficit change and restored its three-goal lead with less than half the period to play.

When the final buzzer sounded, BC had accomplished the unexpected by dealing their hosts a 4-1 defeat and stretching their string of losses to three games.

"I thought we were playing pretty well," said Head Coach Bob Deraney. "[But] our margin of error is small. When things aren't going your way, everything is magnified. On Saturday, it seemed like our goalie [senior Amy Thomas]

didn't get that many shots and kind of got cold. I think she learned a very valuable lesson: you've got to stay in the game no matter what's going on. She made some huge saves in the first two periods, but sometimes you get out of rhythm."

Intent on not going two consecutive weekends without a win, PC showed up at the Eagles' nest ready to engage in a little quid-pro-quo.

Providence earned itself an early first period lead when senior Hilary Greaves successfully converted on the power-play for her seventh goal of the season. BC found an equalizer eight minutes later, but two second period tallies from Zimmerman and junior Karen Thatcher pushed the score to 3-1 in the Friars' favor.

Both teams wouldn't score again until the last 20 seconds of regulation, when the Eagles capitalized with the extra

attacker. Zimmerman quickly reversed the tide, though, registering an empty-net goal with eight seconds remaining and helping the Friars earn retribution by a 4-2 score.

"What it comes down to is that they're big plays to be made in every game," Deraney said. "On Saturday, BC made the big plays, we didn't. Yet on Sunday, we made the big plays when we were called upon, whether they were on defense or offense. We've got to make big plays at big times. Champions make those plays."

Though Providence was unlucky not to claim full points against a normally vulnerable and inferior BC squad, its Hockey East fortunes were improved courtesy of UConn, who held league leaders UNH winless over the weekend, tying them 0-0 and handing them a 3-2 loss. So despite finishing the BC series 1-1, the Friars only remain two points out of first place in the league thanks to the Wildcats' recent setbacks.

PC has the opportunity to bridge this two-point gap during the upcoming weekend.

For the second consecutive year, it appears that the final PC-UNH showdown of the season will determine which team claims the league title. The teams split the series during their first encounter of 2005 in late January and with the league title and tournament seedings at stake, there's no question that both squads will look to pull out all the stops.

"I've never doubted how successful our team wants to be and I don't now," Deraney said. "We're not good enough to underestimate anybody when we play with such a small margin of error. We have to come ready to play all the time."

"We have the opportunity to bear a burden that only a three time champion can. The only people who want us to win this year are the people at this institution. That makes it even harder. But we're going to do everything in our power not to fail, to win it for the fourth straight time."

continued from back page

(three runners) at the event, so consequently the Friars did not have a good team finish despite the best efforts of those who competed. Junior Fiona Crombie turned in a fourth-place finish in the mile, clocking in at 4:57.72 to qualify for the ECAC Championships. Freshman Michelle Childs clocked in just behind her at seventh with a time of 5:03.42. Senior Roisin Quinn, finished eighth in the 1,000 meters with a 2:56.10 mark.

Despite the strong individual performances, the team finished 12th out of 12 teams, clearly hurt by a lack of depth as it has been for much of the season.

"With the women, we knew what we were getting into," said Treacy. "We only had the three athletes, but they all scored, and I couldn't ask anything more of them. They all got into the finals, and they all scored."

He also expressed optimism for the future. For the men's team, that future arrives shortly—namely at this weekend's New England Championships.

"We are hoping to finish in the top four. We beat UConn last weekend [at the Big East Championships] who had been New England Champions for the last 10 years. So I'm hoping that we score enough times to make the top four at least, which would be a great achievement for a small team like ours."

However, for the women's team, the future refers primarily to the Outdoor Track season, when they will gain several of their top runners back from injury. Coupled with the three women who competed at the Big East Championships, the spring looks to be bright.

"The women will look forward to the Outdoor season, when we get Mary [Cullen], Deirdre [Byrne], and Lisa [Cappello] back," said Treacy. "And that makes us a lot stronger."

In the meantime, Treacy was pleased.

"Overall, I couldn't have asked any more of our athletes over the weekend."

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MCC's a swimming success Fan: Frustrating year

BY LARRY HARVEY '05
SPORTS STAFF

The Providence College Swimming and Diving teams experienced a wave of success at the Metropolitan Conference Championships. The Men's and

SWIMMING & DIVING

Women's teams competed for three days, starting on Feb. 18th and ending on Feb.

20th. The Women's team finished fourth out of 21 teams by scoring 382 points, while the Men's team finished seventh in a field of 17 teams, scoring 197 points. This was one of the final challenges for each of the swim teams with only the ECAC Championships left in the season.

Providence was led on the women's side by sophomore Annie Nemeth. Nemeth notched the highest finishes for either team by winning both the 100-meter breaststroke and the 200-meter breaststroke, finishing with times of 1:07.46 and 2:24.60 respectively. Nemeth continued to contribute the impressive team finish by placing fifth out of 24 in the 500-meter freestyle with a time of 5:21.91. She was also a member of the 800-meter freestyle relay, the 400-meter medley relay, and the 200-meter medley relay.

The relays played a large part in the success of the Women's team. The third place 800-meter freestyle relay consisted of Nemeth, junior Lori Brezinsky, sophomore Emily Corcoran, and fellow sophomore Katelyn Flynn.

Nemeth and Flynn were also on the fourth place 400-meter medley relay with fellow sophomores Carolyn Rider, and Emily Corcoran. Freshman Danielle Matook and senior Alyssa Meleski joined Nemeth and Flynn on the sixth place 200-meter medley relay.

The breaststroke was also a valuable event for the Friars. In addition to the

first place finishes of Nemeth, Corcoran added a seventh place finish in the 200-meter breaststroke in 2:35.21, and an eighth place finish in the 100-meter breaststroke with a time of 1:11.17. The Friars continued to gain points in the 200-meter breaststroke as freshman Kate Ryan placed 15th with a time of 2:44.47, and senior Megan Fuller on her heels with a time of 2:44.61 and a 16th place finish.

Head Coach Jonathan Caswell was happy with how his team performed.

"They all swam close to their best times," he said. "A lot of girls stepped up and made finals. It was an overall good team effort, from number one to number 23."

The Men's team also earned a large portion of its points in the relays. The combination of freshman Ryan Barnicle, sophomore Andrew Zockoff, junior Frank LaMonaca, and junior Seth Brockman earned fourth place in both the 800-meter freestyle relay and the 400-meter freestyle relay. The Friars also took seventh in both the 200-meter medley relay and 400-meter medley relay. The 400-meter medley relay consisted of Barnicle, Zockoff, LaMonaca, and Brockman, while the 200-meter medley relay replaced Lamonaca with fellow junior Michael Kerwin.

Caswell was also optimistic about the men's performance, especially the relays. He noted that since his team doesn't have the depth of some other teams, they have to count on the relays.

"The guys all swam really well," he said. "They all did best times, up and down."

The only event left for the Providence College Men's and Women's Swimming and Diving teams is the ECAC Championships. The Friars begin championships on Friday, Feb. 25th and conclude the season on Sunday, Feb. 27th.

continued from back page

- The Women's Basketball team is 1-24 and has lost each Big East game by an unfathomable average of 32 points.

- The Women's Field Hockey team compiled a respectable 10-10 record—while not playing a single home game. That's right, the turf field that was supposed to be done in time for field hockey season this year won't be done until at least this summer, which left Coach Diane Madl and her players homeless for the season.

These are just some of the reasons it hurts to be a Friars fan. Now, I'm a realist—I know that PC is not some colossal state university with a bottomless pit of funding for its athletics department (read: UConn, Pittsburgh). But I also know that we've managed to successfully compete at a Division I level in a number of sports for quite a few years. To all those who maintain that Providence is too small of a school to maintain competitive sports programs, please listen to the following:

- Just last year, Men's Basketball leapt as high as No. 12 in the national rankings. Nevermind the end-of-season meltdown, the point here is that Welsh's guys were nationally competitive for most of the year.

- Coach Paul Pooley led Men's Hockey to a second-placed finish in Hockey East and the NCAA Tournament four short years ago.

- Men's Soccer, not traditionally a very strong program, did manage to knock off nationally ranked No. 23 Virginia Tech en route to the Big East semis last year.

Believe it or not, the Women's Basketball program was highly competitive in the Big East as recently as the early 1990s. From 1989-1992 Providence earned bids to four consecutive NCAA Tournaments, and captured the Big East regular season title and Conference Tour-

namment championship (both in 1990). Over that same period of time, the Friars compiled an impressive record of 50-16 as one of the premier programs in the Big East.

On top of all that, the Cross Country teams and the Women's Hockey program are two current examples of Providence sports programs that have been able to achieve sustained competitiveness.

The message here should be clear; that being a small private college does not automatically preclude athletic success.

As the posterchildren for Providence College, Men's Basketball bears an unequally large portion of the burden. Do we expect Welsh to have his Friars in the Top 25 year in and year out? No, but more than two Big East wins with a returning All-American would be nice. Do we expect Men's Hockey to compete with the likes of BC for Hockey East supremacy? No, but a return to the success of Pooley's first few years is certainly within the realm of possibility. And what about Men's Soccer and Women's Basketball—what can we have expect from them? Well, for starters, how about more than one win between the two of them?

This is not a situation that is going to change overnight. I wish I could prescribe a remedy, but in reality there is nothing I can say that would help. Still, it should be obvious that with careful recruiting—especially important as Providence enters into the "new" Big East—and good coaching, sustained athletic competitiveness is possible here at Providence College. The fans have a right to expect this, and the teams have the responsibility to provide it.

But until that happens, despite how close we may come, the ball will inevitably rim out as it did for Gomes and our frustration will inevitably continue.



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Split with Maine propels Providence into playoffs

BY KEVIN O'BRIEN '07
ASST. SPORTS EDITOR

Coach Paul Pooley and the Providence College Men's Hockey team will be the first to admit that this has been a disappointing season for them so far.

MEN'S HOCKEY

Inexperience has played a key role in the Friars' struggles, as they seemingly haven't been able to win a close game all year. Still, things haven't been as bad as the statistics seem to indicate, and Pooley and his crew have been searching for one pivotal win that could jump start their stretch run.

Mission accomplished.

The Friars split a two game home set against nationally ranked No. 14 Maine over the weekend, and in the process clinched a spot in the Hockey East postseason tournament. To most, a 3-2 win followed by a 6-2 loss doesn't sound like a great accomplishment, but anyone who has followed Friars hockey this season knows just how important this weekend was.

"We needed something to get us going," senior center and leading scorer Chris Chaput said. "A win at this point was huge. It's gratifying to get success for your effort."

"We were kind of waiting for it," echoed senior Dave Carpentier. "We have a good squad, a lot of talent, grit, and a balanced team. We just didn't have any confidence because we weren't getting any bounces."

Those bounces finally went the Friars way on Friday night. After a scoreless first period, Providence drew first blood in the second. Sophomore right wing Jamie Carroll threw the puck in front and junior left wing Torry Gajda poked home the rebound to give the Friars a 1-0 lead. Just 34 seconds later, a faceoff won by sophomore center Chase Watson found its way to junior Nate Meyers, who set Carpentier up for a shot from the slot. The senior made no mistake, firing glove side high to double the PC lead.

"It was the first shift after a goal and you want to come out with energy,"



TRACY DONADIO '06/The Cowl

Senior center Chris Chaput notched the game-winner in a 3-2 victory on Friday against nationally ranked No. 14 Maine. With two points this weekend, Chaput leads the Friars with 26 points this season.

Carpentier said. "A lot of times this year it's been the other team coming right back, but fortunately for us it went the other way this time."

Providence was not in the clear yet, however, as the Black Bears came roaring back later that same period. A goal with under five minutes left in the second trimmed the Friars' lead to one and set the stage for the critical third period.

Unlike in the past, though, this time it was the Friars who came out firing. Early pressure from Chaput's line culminated with the senior center beating All-American Maine goaltender Jimmy Howard through his five hole to extend the PC lead to 3-1.

"As a line we have kind of picked it

up," Chaput said. "We've been clicking over the last couple of weeks."

While cognizant of that line's success as a whole, Carpentier was quick to point at Chaput as the creative impetus: "Chap[ut] had a helluva game. He was the best player on the ice."

A Maine goal later in the period set up a tense finish, but the Friars' defense, led by a solid effort from freshman netminder Tyler Sims, bent but refused to break.

Pooley was certainly satisfied with his team's performance.

"We knew they were going to make a run at the end," he said. "But I wasn't nervous. The guys did a good job getting in the shot lanes, and they weren't in any rhythm."

"This was a very good character win," he continued. "I'm proud of our effort, we got three [goals] to get a 3-2 win. We've had a lot of 3-2 losses."

This 3-2 win, besides being Providence's first in Hockey East since October, also clinched a playoff spot for the Friars. With ninth-placed Merrimack falling 4-1 to Northeastern, the cellar dwellers can no longer catch the Friars, who now find themselves only two points adrift of seventh-placed Massachusetts.

"It takes a little pressure off our shoulders," a relieved Chaput said. "Now we're looking forward to try to catch UMass in the next couple weeks."

Not even a 6-2 loss on Saturday could completely dampen the Friars' spirits after Friday's big win.

In truth, the game was a lot closer than that. Providence's momentum from Friday seemed to carry over, as sophomore Colin McDonald opened the scoring just 22 seconds into the game. The Friars lead held throughout the rest of the first period, but a trio of Maine goals in the second gave control of the game back to the Black Bears.

A shorthanded goal by freshman Jon Rheault early in the third brought PC back within a goal, but Maine struck back with three more to earn itself a split of the weekend series.

"It wasn't a 6-2 game in terms of chances," Pooley said afterwards. "But we were our own worst enemies. Puck decisions are absolutely huge, and we just didn't get it done tonight."

"I'm disappointed that we didn't get a chance again, especially after Johnny [Rheault's] goal," he continued. "But we were a little banged up, playing with four D-men, and the fatigue showed a little bit tonight."

Overall though, a split of a weekend series against a nationally-ranked opponent was certainly a welcome result.

"I saw a lot of positive things this weekend," Pooley said. "We learned our lessons. We've got to get healthy number one, and we've got to get our D corps back number two."

The Friars return to action with a home-and-home series against Merrimack this weekend.

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Friars: Pick up win

continued from back page

record to 11-15 overall and 1-11 in the Big East Conference. The Friars are inching closer to becoming the first Providence team since the early 1980's to finish last in the Big East. PC finished last in the Conference for a string of three straight years through 1980-82 when they compiled an overall record of 5-29.

The good news for the Friars is that this was a game where they had a chance to win even though the team did not play particularly well. The Friars shooting percentage was down, they were out-rebounded and shot a dismal 20 percent from the free throw line in the first half. With just about two weeks left before heading to the World's Most Famous Arena (Madison Square Garden) for the Big East tournament, the Friars have a chance to get some more wins and gain some momentum against the likes of St. John's and Georgetown, which have struggled of late.

"We're worried about the next game, which is Seton Hall," said Welsh. "Obviously, we think we can win every game we play and that's our focus. We still have some time left here to get some momentum heading to the [Big East] tournament in New York."

PC took the first step in gaining momentum, defeating the under-achieving, under-manned Seton Hall Pirates 67-54 on Wednesday night at Continental Airlines Arena. The game showcased two NCAA participants last year that have struggled to find similar success this season.

In the victory, Gomes eclipsed Jimmy Walker's scoring record which previously stood at 2,045. Gomes scored 19 points to finish the night with 2,048. He also surpassed the 1,000 rebound mark in his career, adding eight rebounds to help lift PC to its second conference vic-

tory this season.

The Friars struggled to pull away from Seton Hall, which was playing without star Kelly Whitney, who was suspended for undisclosed reasons. Despite his absence, PC let Seton Hall hang around through much of the game. Specifically, the Friars allowed a 29-18 half-time lead to slip away as the Pirates whittled it to a one point contest.

Whereas in the past PC has folded late in close games, on Wednesday night PC blew open a close game with a 14-2 run down the stretch to ensure the victory.

Besides Gomes, fellow elder statesmen Kotti and McGrath continued their resurgences of late, adding 14 points.

The pace was exceedingly slow at the start as neither team came out firing on all cylinders. While both teams heated up a bit as the game wore on, the final shooting statistics were not a thing of beauty. PC finished up with a respectable 42 percent mark from the field and a 39 percent clip from three point range. Seton Hall, meanwhile, shot a frigid 33 percent from the field to match its 13 percent mark from behind the arc.

The Pirates stayed close in large part due to foul shots. They attempted eight more free throws than PC, connecting six more times from the charity stripe.

In the end, though, a depleted Seton Hall team could not keep up with the Friars and McGrath connected on a deep three to give PC a firm hold on the game with a nine point cushion with just over a minute left.

With the win, Providence improves to 12-15 on the season, including a hard-luck 2-11 mark in Big East play to move into a tie for last place with Rutgers. The loss drops Seton Hall to 11-13 on the year and 3-10 in the Big East. There is a realistic possibility that the Friars could get hot and catch the Pirates before the Big East tournament begins on March 9 in New York City.

SportShorts

All the news we couldn't fit in...but did.

Woeful season continues for Women's hoops

The Providence College Women's Basketball team continued its free-fall with two more Big East losses this week. The first came at the hands of Pittsburgh by a count of 63-47, and the second was against West Virginia in a 99-59 romp.

In the Pittsburgh contest on Saturday, Feb. 19, the Friars' attempts at a win were foiled early as Pitt blew open a 13-13 game with a 14-0 run midway through the first half. PC found itself trailing 36-22 at the half, and effectively had no chance at coming back.

In the second half, the Panthers kept the Friars out of striking distance, maintaining a double-digit lead to cap off a 63-47 victory.

Providence was paced by sophomore Shauna Snyder, who recorded 21 points in the losing effort.

PC traveled to Morgantown, West Virginia on Tuesday, Feb. 22, only to be handed another defeat. Behind a torrid shooting performance, the Mountaineers followed Pitt's example and ended PC's hopes of victory in the first half. West Virginia shot nearly 72 percent in the first half, including a 62.5 percent clip from behind the arc to open up an insurmountable 48-22 lead at the break.

The halftime adjustments only helped slightly, as PC saw its offensive output increase and its shooting percentage top out at 52 percent for the second frame. However, a continued assault from the Mountaineers (60 percent shooting in the second half) allowed them to coast to a 99-59 victory.

The squad's 59 points mark the second highest total for the team this season, but 23 of those points were scored by Snyder and 17 were poured in by sophomore Jill Furstenburg.

Freshman Kristen Brown was the final Friar to reach double-digits in the scoring column, as she contributed 11 points and a game-high five rebounds.

Snyder has been the only consistent scoring option for PC this season, as she has tallied double-figures in 20 of 24 contests. She also leads the team in 20 point performances with three.

The losses drop PC's record to 1-24 overall and 0-14 in conference play. As a program, the Women's Basketball team has lost 39 out of its past 40 Big East games.

The Friars close out this season's slate with home contests against St. John's on Saturday, Feb. 26 and Pittsburgh on Monday, Feb. 28.

Lax drops opener; date of home game changed

On Saturday, Feb. 19, the Providence College Lacrosse team lost its season opener to nationally ranked No. 4 Navy 9-2.

PC stayed close throughout much of the contest thanks in large part to the play of senior goaltender Andrew McMinn. McMinn stopped 11 Midshipmen shots, and as a whole, the PC goalies combined to turn aside 17 Navy offerings.

However, Navy's defense stole the day, limiting the Friars to a meager 14 shot attempts. PC lost the faceoff battle, controlling only five of 15 as well as groundballs, 32-18.

Senior Dan Giuntini recorded both of the goals for the Friars as the team looks to improve on last year's NCAA Tournament appearance.

Also, the Friars home game against Albany which was scheduled for Saturday, March 5 has been moved to March 6 at 1:00 p.m. at Glax Field.

—compiled by Steve O'Keefe '05

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One fan's (modest) opinion

BY KEVIN O'BRIEN '07
ASST. SPORTS EDITOR

Receiving the entry pass, senior Ryan Gomes spun left into the lane. He elevated and let go of the turnaround 10-footer that would cap the comeback victory over Notre Dame. It was a shot he'd made countless times before—only this time it rimmed out, and the scoreboard revealed only triple zeroes and a one point differential that Providence had ultimately failed to overcome. Gomes just stood there, undoubtedly thinking that this was not how it was supposed to happen, looking a little bewildered and very disappointed.

Ryan, we know how you feel.

It's been that kind of season for Providence College sports fans: it seems that every team on campus has managed to snatch defeat from the jaws of victory. Losses have rained down upon Providence teams like ill-advised Marcus Douthit jumpers. While it's certainly not from lack of effort that wins have failed to materialize, that doesn't make matters any less frustrating.

I didn't intend this article to be an indictment of PC Athletics at the moment. Rather, I merely wanted to voice my frustration over a collection of sports programs that, on the whole, seemed to be relatively healthy a year ago but have this year seen their well-being plummet faster than Jason Giambi's popularity.

Take a look at what's happened so far this year for Providence sports:

- The Men's Basketball team, once thought to be just barely on the outskirts of the Top 25, has stumbled to an, ahem, disappointing 12-15 record, including a PC record-setting nine straight losses to open Big East play. Providence—a team pegged for a middle-of-the-pack finish prior to the season—now resides in the basement of the Big East with a mark of 2-11 in conference play, and pre-season hopes of a return trip to the Big Dance have been dashed.

- The Men's Hockey Team compiled a 16 game conference winless streak en route to a Hockey East record of 3-14-4. For those of you who don't have a calculator handy, that's a winning percentage of .088.

- Men's Soccer didn't earn a single point, let alone win a game this year. Let me say that again: in 16 matches this season, the Friars managed to walk away from each one without a win or even a tie.

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Reale continues great season with 1,000-meter crown as men place eighth

BY DREW GOUCHER '08
SPORTS STAFF

This past weekend, the Providence College Indoor Track team competed at the Big East Championships, held in Syracuse, N.Y. The results were solid, as both the Men's and Women's teams competed at the level they had expected to going in, and qualified some of their top runners for the IC4A and ECAC championships, respectively.

The Men's team finished eighth out of a field of 12 teams, but if not for some difficulties during a baton exchange in the 4 x 800-meter, the finish may have been as high as seventh. The 10 points lost due to the sloppy exchange dropped the Friars into eighth. Still, Head Coach Ray Treacy was satisfied with the performances turned in over the weekend.

"It went as well as I could hope except for the 4 x 800 at the end of the meet," said Treacy. "That was a race that we



COURTESY OF SPORTS INFO

Senior Liam Reale captured the title in the 1,000-meter at the Big East Championships in a time of 2:24.58. Behind Reale's performance, Providence finished eighth overall.

had hoped to win and probably should have won. We lost a lot of ground on the changeover, so that was probably the only disappointing thing from the weekend on the men's side. We were always looking at sixth to eighth anyway, so that was the only thing that went wrong over the

weekend, I would say."

By far, the best performance was turned in by senior Liam Reale, who captured the 1,000-meter with a time of 2:24.58, finishing just over a second ahead of the second place runner. His victory qualified him for the IC4A Championships,

which are fast approaching on the first weekend of March. Junior Richard Jones also had a great race, finishing with a 1:51.79 mark in the 800-meter, less than two-tenths of a second behind the leader. His second place performance qualified him for the IC4A's as well. Senior Pat Moulton turned in a fourth place finish at 14:29.52 in the 5,000-meter, and Joe Dionne took seventh in the same event with a 14:36.21. Both qualified for IC4A's.

Sophomore Darren Brown was the final Friar to qualify, as his 4:13.41 in the mile was good enough for fourth place. Other notable times were turned in by Freshmen Max Smith and Ahmed Haji, both of whom finished eighth in their respective races—Smith in the mile at 4:15.22, Haji in the 3,000-meter at 8:29.02. The Friar distance medley finished sixth out of nine teams, as did the aforementioned 4 x 800 squad.

"There is good promise on the guys' side," said Treacy, "With Liam [Reale] winning, Richard [Jones] getting so close to winning the 800, [Brown and Smith] scoring well in the mile, [Moulton] in the 5,000, and getting something out of the 3,000 and the distance medley as well."

The Women's team only had a very small representation

PC/Page 20

Cardiac Friars go down to wire again

BY RYAN DURKAY '05
SPORTS STAFF

It is starting to get old for the Men's Basketball team and Head Coach Tim Welsh knows it. After his team's 62-61 loss

MEN'S BASKETBALL against Notre Dame, Welsh left the microphone at the end of the press conference, disappointed more than anything else, just letting out a sigh and muttering the words, "that's enough." He isn't disappointed in his team's effort, but in the fact that they seem to be coming up short time and time again.

Saturday afternoon was one of those games that statistically looked like the Friars should have won.

However, the Friars dropped a game against a team that plays three guards but outrebounded PC by a count of 45-32. This is after battling one of the top rebounding teams in the country, Connecticut, to a virtual stalemate on the glass through 50 minutes of play. The Friars shot better than the Irish from the field—43 percent to 33 percent—and from the foul line, 62 percent to 44 percent.

But, the lack of answers is nothing new to this campaign, and that is obvious as the Friars have now dropped eight of their 11 Big East games by five points or less.

"I guess the nightmare con-



TRACY DONADIO '06/The Cowl

Senior All-American Ryan Gomes became Providence's all-time leading scorer, passing Jimmy Walker against Seton Hall on Wednesday night. For his stellar career, Gomes has scored 2,048 points. Gomes recorded 19 points against the Pirates to lead the Friars to a 67-54 victory. The win was PC's second in conference play this season.

tinues. It won't end, these late game situations," said Welsh.

The games have been taken on the form of the worst possible nightmare. It would be one thing if the Friars were getting run out of the building like

a typical last place team, but Providence has been in every game, especially the last three. Against West Virginia, Connecticut and Notre Dame the Friars had a shot at the buzzer to win the game. However, in

all three instances the shot clanged off the rim. Saturday was no different.

After a lay-up by little used freshman Rob McKiver had cut the lead to 62-61, senior Ryan Gomes and freshman DeSean White clamped down and forced a jump ball with 4.1 left. The possession arrow was in the Friars' favor and they had the ball on the sideline after a timeout. Coming out of the timeout, everyone in the building knew who the ball was going to: Gomes.

Notre Dame keyed on Gomes, forcing him to take a contested shot in the lane as time ran out. The shot rimmed out, sealing the win for the Irish.

"I was going towards the middle, but I had to come back and shoot it off my right instead of shooting it off my left," said Gomes. "They had a lot of guys in the paint."

Gomes scored a team high 16 points, moving him past Eric Murdock and into second place behind only Jimmy Walker in PC's all-time scoring list, who he surpassed on Wed. night in PC's victory over Seton Hall. Freshman Randall Hanke scored 12 points and was the only other Friar in double figures for the game. Senior Tukka Kotti and junior Donnie McGrath both finished the game with nine points.

The loss dropped the Friars

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