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OCTOBER 20, 2005

Dorm debacles cause distress

Roaches encroach on Dore

BY MEGHAN COMERFORD '06
NEWS STAFF

Since September, the third-floor residents of Dore Hall have had some unexpected visitors in their rooms.

RESIDENCE LIFE Between Sept. 30 and Oct. 14, three incidents of cockroach sightings were reported to the Office of Residence Life's maintenance line.

On all three occasions, Residence Life alerted Physical Plant who then promptly contacted Griggs & Browne exterminators to remedy the problem.

According to Dr. Steven Sears, dean of residence life, Griggs & Browne, a pest-control company, sends in a professional to assess the situation and to de-

termine the necessary course of action.

"As soon as we're contacted, Griggs & Browne is asked to come in," said Sears.

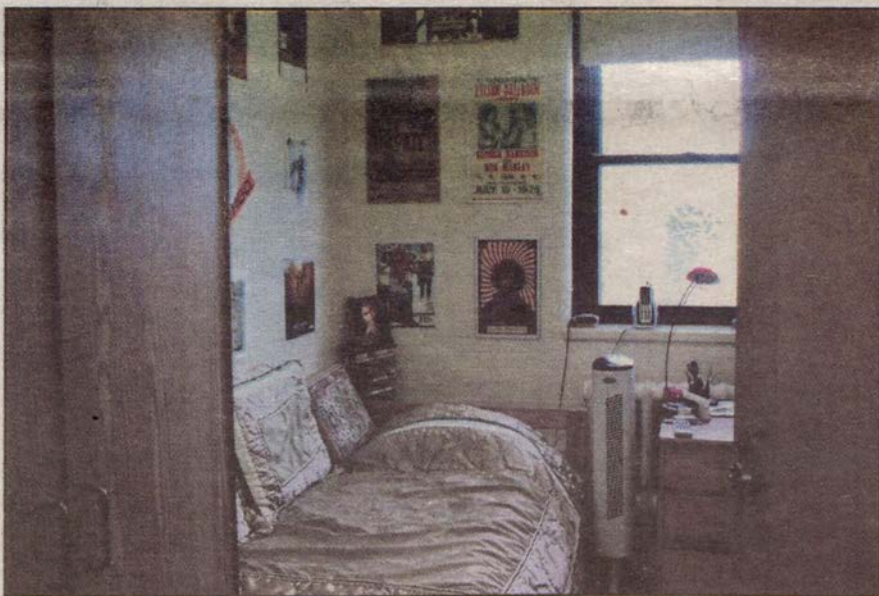
"We [Providence College] have a very serious protocol about this," said Sears regarding insect problems. "One cockroach is one too many."

In the case of Dore Hall, the exterminator from Griggs & Browne, along with representatives from both Physical Plant and Residence Life, "inspected the basement, the tunnels, the bathrooms, and the corridors," said Sears.

"They sprayed all the tunnels; they put down traps in every place that they possibly could," Sears said of the extermination measures. He did not know if any cockroaches were found.

Sears emphasized that, "we were told by Griggs & Browne that there isn't an infestation problem."

Unfortunately, cockroaches are at
COCKROACHES/Page 3



DENIELLE BALSARI '07/The Cowl

Students have found cockroaches in rooms on the third floor of Dore Hall, but Griggs & Browne exterminators have not deemed the problem an infestation.



TRACY DONADIO '06/The Cowl

The ceiling shown here in Suite 511 was torn open to shut off the sprinkler.

Suites awash with water damage

BY JEN JARVIS '07
NEWS EDITOR

Imagine being woken up at 7:30 a.m. on a Saturday to a blaring fire alarm and a torrent of water pouring from the ceiling. Imagine waiting outside for

RESIDENCE LIFE nearly an hour and coming back to find four inches of water on your floor. This scenario was a reality for some residents of the Suites last Saturday morning after a sprinkler went off in one of the rooms on the fifth floor.

"We woke up to the fire alarm," said Caitlin Parsons '07, a resident of Suite 511, where the sprinkler went off. "We thought it was a real fire."

Parsons and her roommates hurried out to join the crowd of Suites residents who evacuated because of the alarm.

Then they realized that they were the only ones who were wet.

"It was just this one sprinkler that let go," Parsons said.

That one sprinkler flooded Suite 511 and leaked into other suites on the floor and onto the floors below, causing damage in 11 rooms.

"We don't know yet what actually caused the sprinkler system to discharge," said Jack McCarthy, executive director of the Physical Plant. "Forensic engineering is underway. Our insurance company is examining the actual sprinkler head that discharged. Others are investigating the entire system from the main fire pump to the Suites building infrastructure prior to the incident."

"We're investigating the cause," said Dr. Steven Sears, dean of residence life. "We've solved the problem but we're still trying to get to the source. We've taken

SPRINKLER/Page 7

Sheldon Whitehouse asks PC Dems for help

BY MEGHAN K. WELSH '06
ASST. NEWS EDITOR

Last Thursday evening, U.S. Senate candidate Sheldon Whitehouse spoke to 30 members of the Providence College Democrats club. Whitehouse spoke

POLITICS about his values, his political intentions, and his strong feelings on why the Republican Party should not be in power.

Though students will not have the opportunity to vote for Whitehouse until almost a year from now, he spoke to them with a message of immediate ur-

gency.

"I'm here for a simple reason," Whitehouse said. "I'm here to ask for your help."

Whitehouse told students that with their help and the help of other citizens in Rhode Island, he hoped that enough Democrats would be elected to the U.S. Senate to be able to take back the Senate majority vote in Washington, D.C.

Because Rhode Island is a blue state, the majority of people in Rhode Island have different ideas and values than the current party that is in power in Washington, especially the Bush administration, Whitehouse said.

During the time Whitehouse spent with the students, he briefly outlined

some of the reasons he is running for Senate and then chose to take questions from students, stating that he "wanted to talk about what you really want to talk about."

Students asked Whitehouse about his stance on everything from banning gay marriage to education and concern for the environment.

He said he believed an amendment added to the Constitution banning gay marriage would be a moment of shame for our country; that education should be our nation's biggest priority to ensure a good future; and that global warming is a very serious problem.

Whitehouse also emphasized that health care is something he has been pas-

sionate about for the past 15 years. He referred to the current healthcare system as a complicated piece of machinery that needs fixing and asserted that Democrats would be the ones to bring about necessary changes.

When questioned about John Roberts and Harriet Miers—President Bush's recent nominees to the Supreme Court—Whitehouse stated, "These nominees are essentially Trojan horses for right-wing views."

Iraq was by far the most popular question subject, however. Students asked Whitehouse about a number of issues surrounding the topic, including the general war on terror, the methods of the

WHITEHOUSE/Page 4

WORLD ▶

After serving for more than a year in Iraq, Richard Duffy rejoins the PC community.

PORTFOLIO ▶

This week's *He Said/She Said*, finding that perfect Halloween costume.

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NEWS BRIEFS

Honors dinner draws a crowd

Last Friday, an exceptionally large crowd gathered in Slavin Center '64 Hall to hear College President Rev. Brian J. Shanley, O.P. '80 deliver the distinguished alumni address at the 2005 Liberal Arts Honors Convocation.

According to Dr. Stephen J. Lynch, professor of English and director of the Liberal Arts Honors Program, the event drew 163 attendants, including 113 students, whereas in years past the event typically has drawn about 110 guests.

Lynch suspects that the large turnout was due to the anticipation of a speech from the College's newly inaugurated president.

Father Shanley focused his speech around the idea that all of his experiences as a PC undergraduate and participant

in the Honors Program were, although he did not know it at the time, preparing him for his current role as College President.

The event also featured addresses from Dr. Richard Grace, professor of English, and Dr. Francis Eagan '63, professor of economics at Trinity College in Hartford, Conn.

In addition, Deanna Cioppa '07 and Christopher Berard '07 were presented with the Thomson Award. The award is given annually to students who are nominated by faculty members for excellence in the Honors Development of Western Civilization program.

—Cate Rauseo '07

Alcohol proclamation signed

On Wednesday afternoon, in recognition of National Collegiate Alcohol Awareness Week, an Alcohol Awareness Proclamation Presentation was held in McPhail's. More than 50 students and 20 faculty and staff members attended the event, which was sponsored by S.T.E.P. 1 and Student Health, Education, and Wellness.

The gathering was designed to raise awareness about alcohol use by students on campus. Alcohol-free drinks called "Mocktails," as well as a variety of healthy refreshments, were served at the event. Entertainment was provided by members of Providence College's improvisational comedy group, Rejects on the Rise.

Rev. Brian J. Shanley, O.P., the

College's new president, attended the event to sign an official proclamation and enjoy a Mocktail with students.

The proclamation asked those who signed to pledge a shared commitment to foster academic learning in a positive, safe and healthy environment. A large copy of the proclamation was on display for everyone who attended the event to sign.

"When it comes to alcohol, we need to work to change the behavior and culture on this campus," said Father Shanley during his remarks before signing the proclamation. "It needs to be a group effort."

—Meghan K. Welsh '06

Campus Calendar for Oct. 21 to Oct. 27

Submit events at cowlnewsstaff@yahoo.com

21 Friday	22 Saturday	23 Sunday	24 Monday	25 Tuesday	26 Wednesday	27 Thursday
<p>4 p.m. "Fridays at Four" student music performance in the Smith Center for the Arts.</p> <p>5:30 p.m. "Pasta with Padres" dinner in the Chapel basement.</p> <p>9 p.m. Fortune Live! in McPhails.</p>	<p>12:30-4:30 p.m. B.O.P.'s "Rocktoberfest" on Slavin Lawn and in McPhail's.</p> <p>8 p.m. Newport Storm Scavenger Hunt in McPhail's.</p>	<p>10:30-2:30 p.m. Club Presidents Brunch in '64 Hall.</p> <p>6-8 p.m. African-American Club's "Soul Food Sunday" in McPhail's.</p> <p>5-11 p.m. Senior Giving Kick Off Party in McPhail's.</p> <p>9 p.m. Monday Night Football in McPhail's.</p>		<p>8-10 p.m. B.O.P.'s Coffeehouse "Off the Curb- Hip-Hop Demo" in McPhail's.</p> <p>1:30-3:30 p.m. Major/Minor Fair in '64 Hall.</p> <p>7-9 p.m. Colleges Against Cancer's "Breast Cancer Buffet" awareness event in McPhail's.</p> <p>7-10 p.m. SOAR's monthly movie <i>Crash</i> in Moore Hall III.</p>		<p>12:30-3:30 p.m. Things for Thursday "Candy Corn Count and Caramel/Candy Apples" in lower Slavin.</p> <p>4:30-6:30 p.m. Volunteer fair in '64 Hall.</p>

Catholic Charities USA thanks PC community for generosity

The following letter was received by Rev. Thomas Blau, O.P. from Catholic Charities USA regarding the donation of \$16,800 made by the Providence College community for Hurricane Katrina relief. This letter is in response to the donation which resulted from Phase One of fundraising efforts at PC. Phase Two of fundraising produced an additional \$12,260, which was sent to Catholic Charities USA last week.

We are so grateful to the Providence College community for your gift of \$16,800.00 towards Catholic Charities USA's 2005 Hurricane Relief Fund, which will support the ongoing recovery efforts for Hurricane Katrina. Your compassion is a true blessing for the victims of this tragedy and your generosity helps Catholic Charities USA and local Catholic Charities agencies nationwide fully participate in this humanitarian effort.

Because of the overwhelming devastation of Hurricane Katrina, Catholic Charities USA will be using each donation wisely—with approximately 96 percent of contributions used for emergency response and recovery efforts. Catholic Charities USA has already begun to distribute emergency grants to Catholic

Charities agencies in the affected areas. These will be the first of many grants to local agencies as we engage in the long-term recovery, which may take up to five years.

Across the nation, the Catholic community is showing outstanding generosity. I am pleased to announce that Catholic Charities USA and Catholic Charities agencies across the country have recently joined together to launch Operation Home Away From Home to provide temporary housing for evacuees from the devastation of Hurricane Katrina. This is just one of the many acts of kindness that we have been privileged to witness over the last several weeks.

It is my hope that this wonderful spirit endures as we continue to recover from this tragedy and help heal the spirits of those people whose lives were forever changed by Hurricane Katrina.

Please join us in keeping these victims in our prayers during this difficult time. Thank you again for your generosity and heartfelt concern.

Sincerely yours in Christ,
Reverend Larry J. Snyder
President

SANCTIONS

Administrative Review Outcome
October 4, 2005
Student Handbook: P. 38, Responsible. P. 36, Responsible. Sanctions: Fine, Alcohol Education, McPhail's Restriction, and Disciplinary Probation.

Administrative Review Outcome
October 4, 2005
Student Handbook: P. 36, Responsible. Sanctions: Fine, McPhail's Restriction, Disciplinary Probation.

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Shanley and faculty discuss Civ curriculum

BY MEGHAN E. WELCH '06
NEWS STAFF

On Friday, Oct. 14, faculty teaching in the Development of Western Civilization program met with Rev. Brian Shanley, O.P., president of Providence College, in the first Development of Western Civilization (DWC) Colloquium of the year. The purpose of the meeting was to discuss the Civ program at PC and what can be done to improve the program and the curriculum.

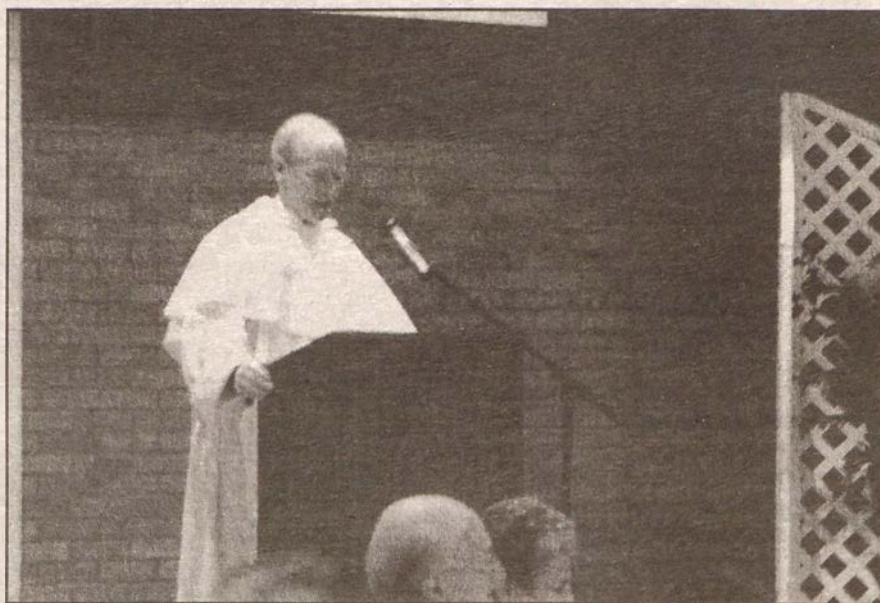
The meeting, "A DWC Conversation with Father Brian Shanley," was a reinstitution of the DWC Colloquium series that had been in place in previous years but fell off during the last school year.

According to Dr. Karen Holland, director of the DWC program, there was hope that the Colloquium series would continue throughout the year in a variety of formats.

"Although today we're meeting with Father Shanley, often the Colloquium series is a professor presenting a paper they wrote to other members of the faculty," she said.

One thing that was evident from the meeting between Father Shanley and the faculty is how dedicated the College is to the Civ program at PC. Father Shanley described himself as "as pro DWC as you're going to get," and the faculty expressed similar appreciation for the program throughout the meeting. However, everyone also realized the need to improve the program.

One of the biggest problems the faculty saw with the way the DWC program is currently run is the size of the classes, especially the seminars. For many pro-



MARY PELLETIER '09/The Cowl

Father Shanley addresses faculty at a meeting about the D.W.C. program last Friday. Faculty made suggestions on how to improve Civ, including adopting the schedule that Honors Civ currently uses, with three one-hour lectures and one two-hour seminar each week.

fessors, smaller seminars are crucial, because with seminars of 25 people, it is difficult to get to know all of the students and to get everyone to participate in the discussions.

A major topic of discussion at the meeting was changing the format of the program, which is currently four lectures and one seminar per week. One suggestion that was extensively discussed was the movement of the entire DWC program to an honors model of Civ. Students in the Honors Program have three lectures a week and one more intimate and intensive two-hour seminar. The lectures consist of only about 35 people and the seminars have about 12 people, encouraging discussion and creating a more personal atmosphere.

Students seem to be interested in the idea of longer, smaller seminars.

"I think that the set-up of Honors Civ makes it possible to really discuss what you've done in the past few days and apply it to what you're reading for seminar," said Caitlin Lloyd '08, who is in the Honors program. "Also, if you have a two-hour seminar with only 10 or 12 people, it makes it easier to get to know your professors."

Harry Powers '09 also agreed with a movement to smaller seminars, although he worried about the loss of a class day. "I think that smaller classes would be good, but it might be hard to have Civ only four days a week because there isn't as much time to do work," he said.

Father Shanley saw the benefits of a movement to the Honors model, but also talked about the need to look at the potential costs and scheduling problems of making the move. He said he was also

open to other suggestions for other models of the Civ program.

Suggestions included having three lectures a week with two one-hour seminars or having more two-person teams, which leads to a more coherent presentation of the material. There is currently one section of Civ that is taught by two professors rather than the traditional four. It was suggested that there should be several test teams over the next few years to come up with new, better models.

Faculty also expressed concern over the need for more professors in the Civ program. Many thought there was not always enough consideration given to the departments whose professors teach DWC, as many faculty are asked to teach DWC classes in addition to their regular departmental classes. They also said that DWC should be a central part of the hiring process, so that when professors are hired, the college will know that they are committed to the Civ program.

One source of distress for both Father Shanley and professors was the passivity of the students taking the course. They discussed the fact that students are not discussing information after classes and aren't doing readings for the class.

One suggestion for why this may be is that the students are not able to really discuss the materials in class, and it was pointed out that Civ should be a collaborative process rather than just information delivered from the professors to the students.

There was also discussion about the material taught in Civ. It was suggested that it may be worthwhile to slow down the material and teach fewer things in greater depth rather than teaching all of the more traditional material in its entirety. It was also suggested that focus groups should be held with the students so that a better indication of what the students wanted from D.W.C. could be revealed.

Cockroaches: Dore residents have some unwanted roommates

continued from front page

tracted by easily accessible food sources, such as open garbage containers, and they tend to move indoors as the weather gets colder.

This is the first time that Sears has been aware of a cockroach problem on campus.

While two of the reports were of cockroaches in the hallways, Holly Ashton '08 found one in her room.

"I opened the top flap of the [duffel] bag and saw a cockroach approximately two inches long sitting on the damp towel that was in my bag," said Ashton.

"I screamed and ran down the hall, luckily to find my friend Kyle who promptly took care of the situation."

Ashton reported the incident to her

Resident Advisor, Alyssa Cheetam '07, who then told the Office of Residence Life.

Not surprisingly, the residents affected are disturbed by the problem. "It's disgusting," said Ashton.

As with any student who has a significant issue with their living situation, Ashton and her roommate "were given the option to move," said Sears. "At first they thought they were going to, but then they decided not to."

Since the complaints have been from third-floor Dore residents, representatives from Residence Life have visited each room and Deborah Falvo, hall director for Dore, held a floor meeting on Thursday, Oct. 13.

The students were given an opportunity to voice any concerns they had surrounding the cockroach problem.

"We had the meeting... also to in-

form them of what we were doing [to remedy the situation]," said Sears.

"The school promises to have the exterminator come every week that a cockroach is spotted," said Ashton. "Each week he will spray the room that the roach was found in, including the tunnels and other areas."

At this meeting, students asked that sticky pads to catch any cockroaches be placed in all the rooms on the third floor.

"The hall director [Falvo] assured us that she will do everything possible to comply with this request," said Ashton.

As of Tuesday, Oct. 18, these sticky pads were placed in each third-floor room by Physical Plant workers as what Sears called an "extra precaution."

"The Residence director is working really hard on this problem... he is doing a great job," said Ashton of Sears.

Third-floor Resident Assistant Laura

McCarthy '08 expressed similar sentiments: "They've been doing what they can," she said of Residence Life.

Still, Ashton said she feels that "the school has not resolved the problem."

Residence Life will also be contacting the third floor Dore residents to make sure they are satisfied with the results of the extermination.

"Normally, Kevin Hillery, who is our assistant dean, goes back and inspects and we do everything we can. We contact the students to see if they are satisfied with the results," said Sears, who often calls the students himself.

While the recent cockroach sightings are not at a level where they are considered infestation, Sears assures that "if this becomes a growing problem, obviously we're going to do everything we can."

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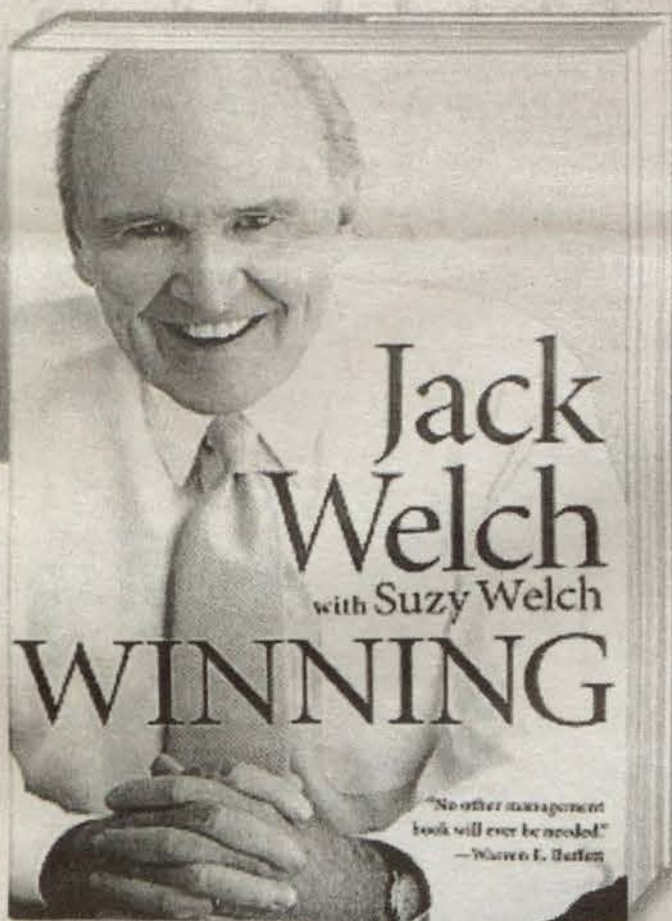
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Whitehouse: Senate candidate discusses views with PC students

continued from front page

Bush administration, and the reinstatement of a formal draft in the United States.

Whitehouse said that he does not support a draft currently and would only choose to support one if the threat to our country's safety was very different from the one we are currently facing. He suggested that the United States pull out of Iraq as quickly as we can.

"As I look forward, I do not see light at the end of the proverbial tunnel," Whitehouse said. "I think the Iraqis will make better decisions when they are more responsible for themselves."

When questioned about his ideas for strategies to get the United States out of Iraq, Whitehouse stated that he felt it should be done in a way that minimized American casualties by not letting insurgents take advantage of the process of the United States leaving the country. He also said that we should be careful to protect our investment in Israel in the process.

"We're doing more harm than good in Iraq," Whitehouse said. "The problem is that there is no credibility in that part of the world that we are there to bring democracy. We are not seen as honest brokers."

Kevin Roe '07, the Outreach Coordinator for the PC Democrats, is serving as Whitehouse's Campus Coordinator for Providence College. Roe said he believed Whitehouse's experience distinguished him from every other candidate.

"He is a proven leader who can effectively represent constituents in Rhode Island, as well as get things done in the U.S. Senate," Roe said.

Other students, such as Kyle Hill '06, agreed. Hill was impressed with Whitehouse's stances on healthcare reform and gay marriage and agreed with his statement that a traditionally Democratic state like Rhode Island should not be contributing to the Republican majority in the Senate.

"I appreciated that Sheldon Whitehouse didn't come to give a speech, but spent most of the time an-

swering students' questions, and listening to our concerns," said Hill. "Though I didn't know much about him before the event, Mr. Whitehouse absolutely left a positive impression on me."

Some students in attendance were more critical of Whitehouse after hearing him speak, however.

"I think he did an alright job relating to college students," said Emma Pietrantonio '08, treasurer of PC Democrats. "He seemed very straightforward. Personally I don't like all his name dropping, though. I look for a candidate who has made a name for himself, like Matt Brown—not someone who uses others to make himself look qualified."

"I appreciated that Sheldon Whitehouse didn't come to give a speech, but spent most of the time answering students' questions, and listening to our concerns."

Kyle Hill '06

Whitehouse will have to win a three-way primary election against Carl Sheeler and Matt Brown next September in order to run in November's general election for U.S. Senate. The Democratic nominee will be challenging either Republican incumbent Sen. Lincoln Chafee, or his primary challenger, Stephen Laffey.

When asked how he planned to overcome Sen. Chafee, who has traditionally been very popular, Whitehouse seemed unfazed by his competition.

"According to polls, he's not that popular," Whitehouse said. "Anyway, it's not about him, it's about the monopoly of power in Washington. And I'd like you all to help me get things back on track."

Zero Proof

Friday, October 21st from 9 PM – 1 AM

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Monday, October 24th from 8 PM – 9 PM

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Tsunami lecture could start wave of change

BY CHRIS DONNELLY '08
NEWS STAFF

Almost 10 months ago in the waters of Southeast Asia, an earthquake set in motion a tsunami whose devastation has been unrivaled in recent history. Hop-

ing to address the effects of that destruction, Dr. Craig Wood, professor of biology, delivered a PowerPoint presentation as part of his Asian Perspective: South/Southeast course. Twenty students attended the lecture, which was open to the College community.

Wood used a PowerPoint presentation during his lecture, which was divided into four parts: The Event, The Cause, History and Comparison, and The Effect. Wood started his presentation by showing images and a video of the tsunami and the shorelines it struck. Before explaining the science behind a tsunami he contrasted the popular Hollywood image of a tsunami and its actual appearance.

The lecture showed how the earthquake triggered the tsunami through a series of slides depicting the shifting of plates on the earth's surface and the path of the wave from emanating from the epicenter of the earthquake. The next topic was infamous earthquakes and tsunamis throughout history. Wood presented slides depicting the earthquake and tsunami of Lisbon in 1755 and one slide showing an earthquake that shook Boston in 1755. Then the religious, political, and economical effects on the re-



SUSIE LUSHER '07/The Cowl

Dr. Craig Wood gave a lecture on the tsunami that hit Southeast Asia last December. The lecture, which was open to the College community, was part of The Asian Perspective: South/Southeast course at PC.

gion were discussed. After the lecture ended, the attendants in the Asian Perspective class asked questions they had concerning tsunamis.

"I think Professor Wood has done a good job of pulling together imagery to show the effect this [the tsunami] has had on our world," said Dr. Ann Norton, director of Asian Studies and co-professor of the Asian Perspective course.

"I thought the lecture was very informative. It had a nice blend of the human element and science," said Ben Moyer '07.

"What I found most interesting was

the science of the tsunami and its destructive power," said Ronald Strohsahl '07, who is enrolled in Asian Perspective.

Norton and Wood decided to teach the class together, using Wood's expertise to incorporate information about the tsunami into the class. The tsunami will be addressed throughout the course and students will form teams to make their own PowerPoint presentations. These PowerPoint presentations will be put on a Web site the course is developing which focuses on the tsunami. The course will also host guest speakers from Catholic Relief Services and Habitat for Human-

ity to determine what active role a person can take in aiding the victims of the tragedy, Norton said.

The lecture served not only to raise awareness about the tsunami, but also to educate students about this natural disaster. It also was a chance for PC to expand academically. Reference Librarian Emily Wild attended the lecture, seeking to expand the amount of science resources available to students.

Wood also used the lecture to show the need for an activation of the Environmental Studies program, which the college offered up until last year. "I think this course is a perfect example of how environment phenomenon brings together all these expertise," said Wood.

For years, the Environmental Studies program has not been available to students, but there is a new push by faculty and students to bring back the program. The Faculty Senate recently formed the Committee to Evaluate the Environmental Studies Program to look consider what will take to resurrect the program.

"In about every field nowadays Environmental Studies plays a part," said Wood, who continued to stress the variety of studies the program could include. "There is such a call now for students in that area of study."

He continued by pointing out that PC's competency schools—specifically Villanova—have excellent Environmental Studies programs.

A discussion is being held about the Environmental Studies program on Tuesday, Oct. 25, 2005 in Slavin 117 at 5:30 p.m. Students interested in becoming an Environmental Studies major are invited to give their opinions on what they would like to see included in the program.

Class of 2009 election results

President



Jesse De Patsy '09

Vice President



Andy Mac Mannis '09

Treasurer



Guilherme Araujo '09

Secretary



Laura Ferrazzano '09

Representative



Athena Fokaidis '09

Representative



Brendan Ward '09

Representative



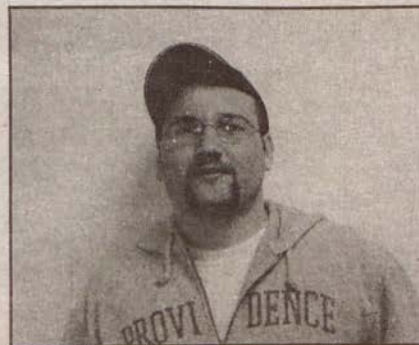
Michelle Palermino '09

Representative



Will Bromstedt '09

Representative



Hannibal Gambino '09

By the Numbers

Jesse De Patsy
320/750 votes

Andy Mac Mannis
313/745 votes

"G" Araujo
241/740 votes

Laura Ferrazzano
244/724 votes

Athena Fokaidis
310/750 votes

Brendan Ward
291/750 votes

Michelle Palermino
262/750 votes

Will Bromstedt
224/750 votes

Hannibal Gambino
216/750 votes

759 total votes cast
71.1% of eligible students

† The Friar Focus: †

Chronicles of the lives of Friars at PC

Rev. Nicanor Austriaco, O.P.

BY RICHARD KURKER '09
NEWS STAFF

Anyone who has had the pleasure of experiencing a class with Rev. Nicanor Austriaco, O.P. has truly seen a great educator and theologian at work. Father Nick, fondly known as Father Nick, begins each of his lectures with a prayer, in which he asks God to "graciously let a ray of your light penetrate the darkness of my understanding." With a teacher like Father Nick, students know that they will always have a source of guidance.

Father Nick, who specializes in biology and theology, was born in the Phillipines and grew up in Bangkok, Thailand. With one younger brother and one younger sister, his childhood was much like that of any other ordinary child. He loved to read, spend time with his friends, and hit the dating scene. But one of his greatest childhood passions was science.

"I was always fascinated by science," said Father Nick, warmly reminiscing his younger days. "It was my favorite subject."

After graduating from the Ruamrudee International School in Bangkok, Thailand, Father Nick journeyed to the United States to earn his college degree at the University of Pennsylvania. With a major in bio-engineering and a minor in chemical engineering, he graduated from UPenn with a bachelor's degree of science in engineering. He then decided to take a year off, during which time he returned to Bangkok to teach fifth grade.

After this interlude, Father Nick returned to the United States and earned his doctorate in biology from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology. After obtaining this degree, he went to London on a fellowship to work as a scientist at the Ludwig Institute for Cancer Research. It was there that he experienced his calling from God.

At this point, Father Nick realized his life would never be the same and he resigned from his position to join the Dominican Order in 1997. To further his religious training, he went to the Dominican House of Studies in

Washington, D.C., where he obtained a bachelor's degree in theology. He went on to earn his Licentiate in theology, concentrating on moral theology. During the process of becoming a priest, Father Nick studied philosophy and theology. Although he also investigated the areas of dogma and sacred scripture in his theological studies, he wrote his Sacred Theology License thesis on the topic of bioethics, a part of moral theology. Father Nick was ordained a priest on May 21, 2004.

"It was the greatest day of my life thus far," he said with a smile.

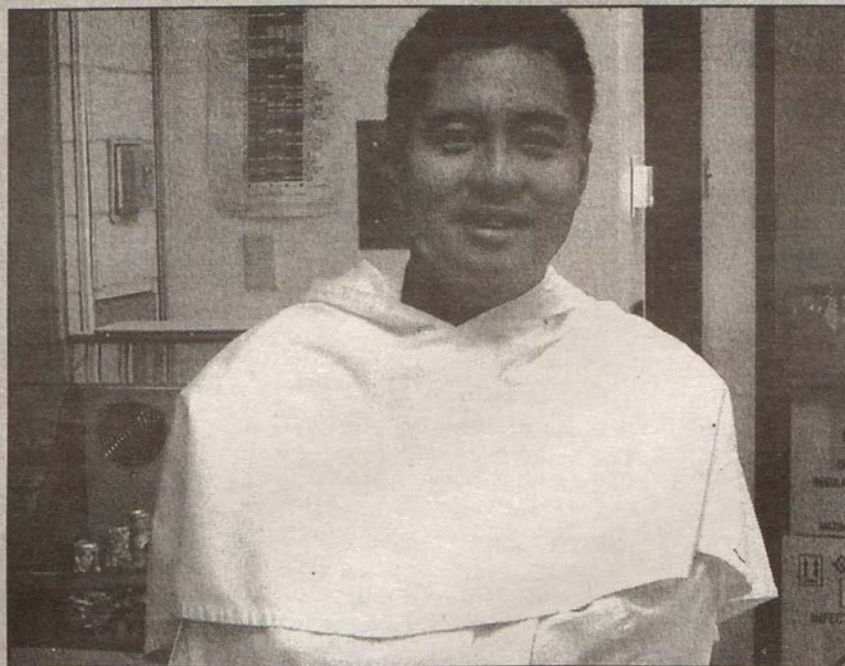
The adjustment to pastoral life was a "huge difference," Father Nick said, for his life would now be centered on prayer and on God, and all of his activities, hopes, and dreams would be focused on the Lord. Although this new lifestyle was a drastic change from the way he had lived before, Father Nick said the adjustment quickly became easier and that it was well worth the effort.

Although being a priest is his first priority, Father Nick keeps very busy with his classes. One activity he enjoys doing in his limited spare time is reading. His favorite books include the Bible—the book in which he seeks answers to life's questions—and the *Summa Theologiae* of St. Thomas Aquinas, which is a summation of theology. He also enjoys reading scientific journals, particularly in the field of biology.

Additionally, Father Nick loves talking with people who are looking for truth and enlightenment, as it is fulfilling for both him and his companions, he said. Prayer is a vital part of his life, as it begins and ends each of his days. Continuous prayer throughout the day is key in his life of worship.

This semester begins Father Nick's first year of teaching at Providence College, and he is getting accustomed to the routine he follows as a priest and teacher on a daily basis. On a typical day, Father Nick wakes up at 6:00 a.m. and starts the day with Morning Prayer. After having breakfast in the Priory, he participates in Mass and then goes to his room to prepare for his classes.

Most of his morning is spent in the classroom, enlightening his students in the areas of theology and biology. This semester, the three courses he is teaching are General Biology, Contemporary Moral Problems, and The Biology of Aging. After a morning of lectures and discussions, Father Nick goes to the



KEVIN TASSINI '06/The Cowl

Father Nick is currently in his first year at Providence College, where he teaches classes in theology and in biology. He spends his afternoons in the labs working with his students.

priory for lunch and then heads to the laboratory to work with his students.

From 5:00 to 6:00 p.m., Father Nick partakes in an hour of prayer. This session of prayer is followed by dinner at the Priory, where he can relax and talk with his fellow Friars. Depending on the work that must be done, Father Nick either goes to his lab to do research or works on his writings in moral theology. Sometimes he uses this time to prepare for his classes the following day.

Once he finishes his work, he spends the evening talking to students and listening to confessions. His day ends in prayer before he retires to bed.

Although Father Nick is not a huge fan of movies and television, he said he enjoys watching videos of the T.V. show "Smallville." He said he finds this program particularly interesting because it raises many important moral issues that are pertinent to life.

In terms of music, Father Nick mostly enjoys praise and worship, but on occasion he relaxes to the classical melodies of such composers as Vivaldi. However, he finds himself most at peace in the absence of sound because, as he likes to say, "silence is beautiful." He goes for a walk at the end of each day to reflect on the day's events and to enjoy the quiet atmosphere.

Father Nick is not a big sports fan

because he was not born in the United States and has not developed a taste for this aspect of American culture. So who does he root for when it comes to the Sox and the Yankees?

"I have no commitment one way or another," he said.

Besides Catholicism, science is Father Nick's biggest passion. His research deals with the biology of aging in the species *Saccharomyces cerevisiae*, or budding yeast, which he claims is his favorite organism. He also writes on bioethics in terms of the morality of science and technology, particularly on the ethical issues involved in stem cell research.

When asked about possibilities for future research, he responded, "You never know where your research will take you."

Father Nick especially enjoys teaching because he is able to help mold students into scientists by showing them that science is both a frustrating and exciting adventure. He says it is a pleasure and a privilege to aid the progress of students in their studies.

"My goal and the goal of the Dominican Order is to preach truth for the salvation of souls," said Father Nick, adding with a wink, "even in the biology classroom."

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Time: 6:00 pm

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When: Wednesday, October 26th
Where: Library 104B
Time: 3:30 pm

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Speaker shares story of abuse

BY BETH FINAN '07
NEWS STAFF

As part of Domestic Violence Month, police officer Tori Heaton shared her story as a victim of domestic abuse at the hands of her husband, also a police officer. Her talk on Wed. Oct. 12 was sponsored by the Department of Sociology, the Women's Studies Program, and Women Will.

Heaton's story garnered national attention when it was featured on the CBS program *48 Hours*. The former Miss Rhode Island was sworn in as an officer of the Cranston Police Department in 1994. In her line of work, she received extensive training about how to recognize and respond to domestic violence incidents.

"When it came to domestic violence, I had a good knowledge base and experience," Heaton said.

In 1997, Heaton started dating a fellow officer, and married him a short time later. She said the first sign of her husband's violent side came about three months before their wedding. He lost his temper and hit her, she said, because he was "having a bad day." After eight

months of physical abuse, Heaton placed a restraining order against her husband, and the couple separated. After their separation, her husband came to her house; the violent confrontation was recorded on tape during the call Heaton made to 911 during the incident.

“

Do I always watch my back? Yes. I will never ever live free from it, but I will not obsess over the issue [of the abusive relationship].

Tori Heaton

”

Heaton said that the decision to press charges against her husband was a difficult one because she knew it would be career suicide to "rat out" another cop.

She said she faced ridicule from her co-workers and was also forced out of work for two-and-a-half years, as the police department deemed her incapable of performing her duties as a result of the emotional trauma that goes along with being a victim of domestic violence.

"Domestic violence can affect a wide spectrum of issues, both personal and professional," she said.

Although it has taken her a long time to overcome the damage, Heaton remarried—she described her new marriage as normal and healthy—and had a baby girl in April.

"I didn't think I would trust anyone again, but I do," Heaton said.

Now, Heaton investigates domestic violence cases for the Cranston Police Department—the same department which years earlier had tried to force her out of the force.

"Things have come full-circle," she said. "Now, my experience is welcomed."

In addition, Heaton also travels the country, sharing her story with others.

"If I can share my experience and help just one person, I can validate that this happened for a reason," she said.

However, she continues to live with the painful memories of the abusive relationship.

"Do I always watch my

back? Yes. I will never ever live free from it, but I will not obsess over the issue," she said.

Dr. Maureen Outlaw, assistant professor of sociology, said that the idea for bringing Heaton to campus stemmed from student feedback in a seminar on domestic violence, which Outlaw taught last semester.

"The students said people need to understand that [victims] are real people in real situations," she said. "It's more complicated than it seems."

Fran Ford '07 said, "When you give out numbers, it doesn't mean anything. You get more out of a person sharing their story."

After Heaton's speech, a domestic violence vigil was held in Slavin Center '64 Hall. Deanna Cioppa '07 sang "For Always," and Bridget Barrett '07 read the poem "I Got Flowers Today," which tells the story of a woman who did not leave her abusive partner because he always bought her flowers. The poem ends with her receiving flowers at her funeral.

The vigil also featured life-size replicas of women who have been killed by domestic violence.

Ford said that the display "gives a voice to women who have been killed."

To drive home the point that domestic violence is the leading cause of injury for women ages 15-44, stickers were put on ev-

ery fourth chair to represent that one-quarter of women are abused.

"This activity helped everyone realize that domestic violence affects everyone, even over race and economic backgrounds," Trish Wagner '07 said.

Other activities planned to raise awareness about domestic violence include "Face-Off Against Domestic Violence" and a cell phone drive. The Face-Off will take place at the women's ice hockey game on Oct. 30. All proceeds will be donated to organizations dedicated to domestic violence awareness.

The cell phone drive, being coordinated by Chelsea Rundell '06 and Orla Kennedy '06 as part of their final project for their Violence Against Women class, asks for donations of old cell phones and batteries. The phones will be programmed to call 911 in an emergency and will be given to victims of domestic abuse.

"The most dangerous time for a woman is when she is leaving her abuser, and it's helpful to have a 24-hour way to get in touch with authorities," Rundell said.

The cell phone drive, combined with the other events occurring on campus, are designed to "increase awareness and understanding of the issue of domestic violence," said Outlaw.

Sprinkler: Students get wet but aren't left in the cold

continued from front page

steps to make sure this kind of thing doesn't happen again."

When the fire alarm went off because of the engaged sprinkler, the fire department responded and shut off the sprinkler in Suite 511. Parsons said the fire department "had to break the ceiling open to stop the sprinkler." In the meantime, many of the things in the suite were damaged by the water.

"My roommate's laptop was ruined," said Parsons, who estimates the sprinkler discharge has cost her "close to \$800" in damage.

"It was just really frustrating," said Rachel McCullough '07, another resident of Suite 511. "No one expected this to happen."

McCullough said she was lucky, since only her cell phone charger was damaged. Her concerns are more about the suite in general.

"It smells like wet dog," she said.

Rooms below the original source of water received damage as well. Michael McTague '07 who lives on the third floor, said the ceiling to one of the closets in his suite started leaking.

"Water started pouring out of the ceiling," he said, in what he described as "continuous drips." Fortunately, no one's personal items were ruined in that suite.

Megan Dardininski '07, on the fourth floor, said that many things in her suite were damaged because of the water. She cited her roommate's computer and her iPod, which was "in a puddle."

"Students have been compiling an itemized list of damaged items... we're waiting to hear back from the College's insurance company," Sears said.

Sears said the immediate response of

the Office of Residence Life was to contact Physical Plant and Hurley of America, the school's cleaning service, to assess the damage. They then talked to students.

"We got all the residents [who were affected by the water damage] in Suites Pavilion," Sears said. "We went to all their rooms to do an assessment."

Of the rooms affected, Suite 511 was a main concern.

"It appeared that the source of water was in 511... because the sprinkler head was in their room," said Sears.

The first step in amending the situation was clearing out the accumulated water.

"We immediately extracted as much water as we possibly could," said Sears. He also said that an electrician from Physical Plant cut off electricity to the odd-numbered wing of the Suites to ensure safety.

Students were told to lift everything off the floors to prevent further damage, Sears said. He said soap was also put in the carpets to prevent mildew. "We purchased a number of dehumidifiers," he said, which have helped to dry out the carpets.

Sears also said that Residence Life has stayed involved with the students affected by the sprinkler discharge.

"The first day we checked on the rooms at least four times, and since that time we've at least gone twice a day to the rooms," he said. "We went back again today [Tuesday] and compiled a list of all the damage to the specific rooms," to determine what needs to be done to get the rooms themselves back to their original condition, he said.

Despite the obvious frustration of having their rooms damaged, students recognized the positive points that went

along with the situation. "They bought us lunch; that was nice," said McTague.

"[Sears] bought us subs; the president stopped by," Parsons said.

"I think that's great," Sears said of College President Brian J. Shanley O.P.'s visit to the Suites. "That says a lot about a president."

Sears also noted the understanding of other people on campus. One student, whose books were ruined, is getting books on loan from the bookstore, Sears said. Professors, too, seem to sympathize with the students.

“

We've solved the problem but we're still trying to get to the source. We've taken steps to make sure this kind of thing doesn't happen again.

Dr. Steve Sears
Dean of Residence Life

”

"They're pretty understanding," said Dardininski.

However, the concern over whether to stay in the Suites or to relocate remains an issue.

"We gave the students an option to move to other rooms on campus if they would like to do so," said Sears. "One group of students opted to relocate." The girls in Suite 511 were given a guest/emergency apartment in DiTraglia, where they stayed Saturday night. They have also called on the hospitality of fellow students.

"We've been kind of staying with friends," Parsons said.

"They're going to split us up," said Dardininski, if she and her roommates choose to leave their suite. "We're in our room right now because we don't want to leave." Yet she said she recognizes that there is not much the Office of Residence Life can do.

"Steve Sears has been really nice about it; you can't make a room that doesn't exist; I understand that," she said.

"I just want someone to say 'you can stay here' or 'you can't'," said McCullough, who said she wanted a direct answer. Nevertheless, she acknowledged that the decision to stay or go would be based on comfort, as the suite does not pose a health hazard.

"I don't think they'll have us stay in here if we're going to get sick," she said.

Sears supported this statement, saying, "If we thought there was a health risk, we would've moved them without question."

On the morning of the Suite's sprinkler mishap, fire alarms also went off in Mal Brown and Davis, which Sears said could have been related to the sprinkler and alarm in the Suites. In addition, there was some water leakage in Davis.

"We had so much rain that it seeped into certain areas in residence halls," said Sears. "We extracted and cleaned as quickly as possible."

As the damage gets remedied, the Office of Residence Life is trying to keep everyone happy.

"We're still fielding calls from parents," said Sears. "They want to make sure that their sons and daughters are safe."

"Everyone wants the same conclusion," Sears said, adding that those involved care about the safety and health of the students and getting the Suites cleaned up as quickly as possible.

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Homecoming for PC hero

BY SARAH VERNON '07
WORLD STAFF

As most students at Providence College were just getting into the swing of classes last September, Maj. Richard Duffy was being deployed to Iraq with his Rhode Island National Guard Unit. Duffy, a 1990 PC graduate who participated in the ROTC program, went as a member of the 103rd Field Artillery Battalion, and spent most of last year working for the military in Iraq in both Baghdad and Mosul. While he spent last winter working with the Iraqi elections, he will spend this winter as an apartment complex director at PC.

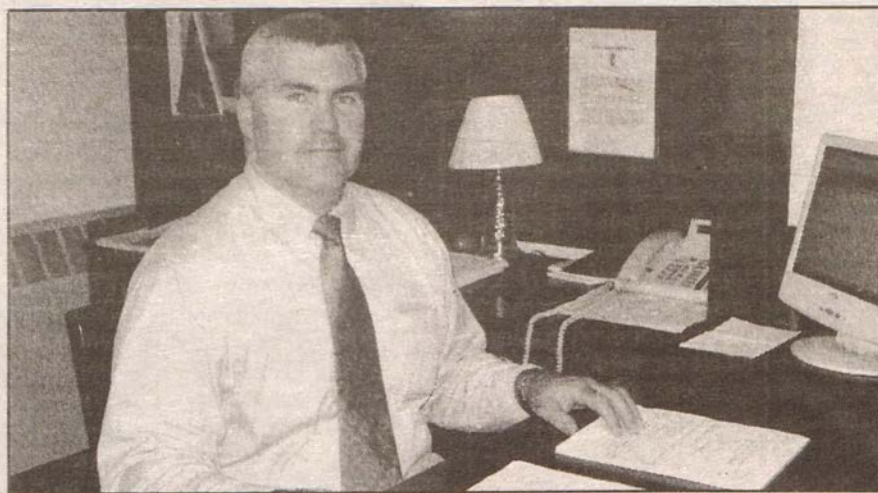
Duffy's unit was called up for duty in Iraq in July 2004. A former battery commander, Duffy was promoted to the position of major when his Rhode Island National Guard unit was deployed. After spending the summer training at Fort Dix, N.J., he and his unit left the United States on Sept. 16, arriving a few days later at Kuwait's International Airport to be greeted by 110-degree heat.

In Mosul, Duffy first acted as a unit liaison officer, evaluating and training other military organizations assigned to work with his unit. Later, he served as a unit plans officer, who helped his unit prepare for emergencies, and wrote orders for his unit commander. Duffy was then transferred to Baghdad, where he worked as a Deputy Chief of Operations and Night Battle Major for the 11th Armored Cavalry Regiment. There, he said his "responsibilities included writing and reviewing critical reports, monitoring the activities of military units that worked for the task force, as well as coordinating actions with Iraqi leaders."

Other duties included taking over some of the responsibilities of the chaplain, who had been deployed with another Rhode Island National Guard unit, and acting as the unit historian by educating other soldiers in his unit on the history of the Sunnis and Shiites, two major sects in Iraq.

In addition to these jobs, Duffy said that he and his unit helped coordinate trash removal, clean up the streets, and repair the schools, giving the Iraqi children a safer learning environment. They also gave food and candy out to the children and citizens.

In response, the Iraqis "were grateful for the increased work opportunities, cleaner environment in which to live, and



TRACY DONADIO '06 / THE COWL

Maj. Richard Duffy returned to his duties as apartment complex director in the Office of Residence Life after returning home from service in Iraq.

the repaired or rebuilt schools provided by the coalition forces often from generous donations from the American people," said Duffy. These services helped provide a "more secure situation" for the Iraqi citizens. The efforts to rebuild the schools also provided a better atmosphere for the students, who could "focus on learning."

But the most positive reaction toward American troops came during the Iraqi elections. Despite threats of terrorism and violence, Iraqis came out to vote in large numbers even though the polls were guarded only by Iraqi army and police. Duffy said that "throughout the day, the Iraqis sought out any American soldier they could find to say thank you and shake their hands. After voting they danced with their children in the streets and showed off their ink finger that proved they voted." Duffy said of one grateful Iraqi that, "for the first time in a long time he had hope that his children would live a better life." "The American presence in Iraq is welcomed by many and tolerated by others as they see their lives improve and the Iraqi police and army become more effective," Duffy explained.

Those Iraqis who would like to put an end to the presence of troops are relatively few. "Of course there are some who do actively oppose our presence but they are in the minority, especially as the average Iraqi experiences the possibility for a better life," he said.

When he got to Iraq, Duffy said that he was surprised most by the "unsanitary conditions" that were allowed to exist in the cities. Broken sewer systems had been left unrepaired for decades, and were not fixed until contractors were paid by co-

lition forces to repair them. Duffy was astonished to find that most Iraqis did in fact have satellite dishes on their roofs, however.

Duffy also pointed out the differences he found between the northern areas of the country and the cities. "Many Assyrian and Chaldean Catholics are able to practice their faith more openly, especially in the north of Iraq. The Catholics I met in Baghdad were able to practice their faith, but very quietly and could not show any sign of their faith in public other than going to church on Sunday." In addition, Duffy also said that the violence in Iraq is not dominant throughout all of Iraq. The north of the country is actually "very safe, experiencing no terrorism," he said.

When asked how long he thought it would take for Americans to exit Iraq, Duffy said that it was difficult to come up with an exact time frame. He said he believes the creation of a constitution is an important step for the Iraqis and will help move the process along. Some of the most important elements that may determine their future include an effective army and police force, a government that is accepted by the people and includes all sects, and time for the Iraqi citizens to realize that they can work together. A major challenge is for the "more peaceful members of each sect to push the other members to work together," he noted, since only then can Iraq avoid the possibility of a civil war. In terms of Iraq's future as a country, Duffy can say from his own experience that "the next year will be crucial."

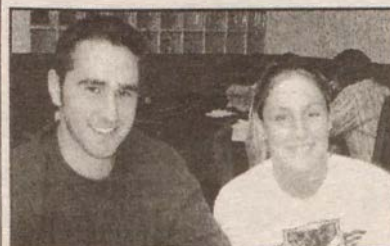
Ask PC

Do you think that the government does enough to help the environment?



"Nope, but life goes on."

Laura Griffin '06



"We don't think that the air is as clean as everyone thinks it is and the government isn't doing enough to keep it clean."

**Rob Tammero '07
and Katherine McGill '08**



"The government should work harder to provide more efficient ways of transportation like solar power cars."

**Tessa Tomassini '09
and Rebecca Hanscom '09**



"No, because of foiled attempts by current and previous administrations to protect natural resources, which adds to the overall pollution."

**Hal Walcott '06
and Sammy Gonzalez '06**

COMPILED BY JULIANNE SPOHRER '07
AND ALLISON HERRMANN '07

Birds no Hitchcock threat as flu spreads

BY SARAH VAZ '07
ASST. WORLD EDITOR

Birds in hand, Turkish farmers were taking to the streets in the village of Kiziksa this week, protesting a government order to destroy their poultry in the wake of a renewed Avian-flu outbreak in Eastern Europe, arguing that their birds are "perfectly healthy" and suitable for consumption.

The government ordered the fowl to be gassed, burned, and buried in a wholesale slaughter of the animals intended to prevent the spread of H5N1, a deadly strain of Bird Flu that has destroyed entire flocks of birds throughout Asia and killed several dozen people recently.

International authorities fear the disease, carried by wild fowl, could mutate into a form that can be easily contracted by and spread among human beings. While the 60 killed in Asia were mostly poultry farmers infected directly by the birds, there is a chance millions could

be affected should the mutation actually occur.

"Once in a while, every 10 to 40 years, the flu virus mutates into a strain which we haven't got natural immunity to," said Liam Donaldson, Britain's Chief Medical Officer. Donaldson went on to say Britain would begin bracing itself for a pandemic of bird flu that could take up to 50,000 lives, whereas the average winter flu kills about 12,000 in Great Britain despite the availability of vaccines.

Britain's alarm comes after officials confirmed that the flu had reached mainland Europe for the first time. The disease was present in three ducks discovered dead in the Romanian Danube delta village of Ceamurlia de Jos.

Vehicles in South Eastern Romania have been disinfected at checkpoints when leaving infected areas, poultry and pigs have been ordered to remain indoors, and the transport of any live animals out of these counties is forbidden.

The European Union is asking governments to pinpoint at-risk areas and to keep

poultry away from wild birds whenever possible. Meanwhile, doses of regular flu vaccine have been sold in large quantities even though the vaccine will not protect people from Avian flu, as it is only effective against the most recent known human strain of influenza.

This specific H5N1 strain first emerged in Hong Kong in 1997, causing the death or compulsory destruction of 1.5 million birds, and sickening 18 people, six of whom did not survive. It resurfaced in 2003 in South Korea, but has since spread to China, Vietnam, Thailand, Laos, Indonesia, Turkey, and now Romania.

Until a solution can be found, extensive blood tests are being performed on hundreds of dead birds, and European Union bird experts are staging preventative measures. In the United States, health officials are trying to prevent widespread panic, simply stating that there is no evidence Avian flu has or will spread to the North American continent. Sources: BBC, Reuters

Week in Review

COMPILED BY KANHAR MUNSHI '08

Local:

Rhode Island in state of emergency
Gov. Donald Carcieri (R-R.I.) declared a state of emergency for flood-stricken Rhode Island on Monday, in the first step toward securing federal funds to help in the cleanup effort. Days of steady downpour caused flooding across the state this weekend, prompting hundreds of evacuations and hurting businesses.

The governor's declaration covers all flood-related expenses since Saturday. Carcieri said officials would assess the damage caused by the flood and calculate the amount spent by the state and local communities. Carcieri also said workers dislocated by the flooding would be immediately eligible for unemployment insurance benefits and would be exempt from the typical one-week waiting period.

National:

U.S. homicide rate falls to 40-year low

The nation's homicide rate fell last year for the first time in four years, dropping to the lowest level in 40 years. The rates for all seven major crimes were down and the overall violent-crime rate reached a 30-year low, according to the FBI's annual compilation of crimes reported to the police.

There were 391 fewer homicides nationwide in 2004 than in 2003. The total of 16,137 worked out to 5.5 homicides for every 100,000 people. That is a decline of 3.3 percent from 2003 and the lowest homicide rate since 1965, when it was 5.1. "The declines are relatively small compared to larger, steady drops in the 1990s, and the results are by no means the same across the country," said Alfred Blumstein a professor at Carnegie-Mellon University in Pittsburgh.

Blumstein said that Chicago, with a decline of 150 homicides, and Washington, D.C., with a decline of 50, accounted for 51 percent of the net nationwide drop. St. Louis, on the other hand, saw an increase of 39 homicides. Of 19 large cities with more than 100 homicides in 2003, 13 had declines and six had increases in 2004. The four major violent crimes—murder, rape, robbery and aggravated assaults—fell from 1.38 million in 2003 to 1.37 million in 2004.

Science and Technology:

Darwin's theory questioned in court

Charles Darwin's theory of evolution came under sustained attack in federal court in Harrisburg, Pa., on Monday as biochemistry professor Michael J. Behe argued that the theory fails to account for

the complex biological machinery that scientists find in the corners of the human cell.

Behe, who teaches at Lehigh University, is one of the intellectual founding fathers of "intelligent design," which holds that aspects of life are so complex as to be best explained as the work of a super-intelligent designer. Last year, a school board in Dover, Pa. voted to require high school biology teachers to read to students four paragraphs that cast doubt on Darwin's theory of evolution and offers intelligent design as an alternative theory for the origin and development of human life.

Some scientists say that although there is ample evidence of small, evolutionary changes, there is less proof of the grand leaps needed to progress from one-celled life to modern man. Earlier in the trial, Darwinian biologist Kenneth R. Miller of Brown University argued that the pieces of the flagellum which form the crux of the intelligent design argument could function independently and slowly, and over many millions of years have evolved to work in concert with other parts.

Sources: Associated Press, Seattle Times, Boston Channel, Washington Press

ODDLY ENOUGH

Cake-throwing protest?

"Let them eat cake" took on an entirely new meaning in Europe on Tuesday as Norway's new finance minister, Kristin Halvorsen, was pelted with cake on her first full day as a member of the new Norwegian government.

The leader of the Socialist Left Party, Halvorsen entered the new government as part of a Red-Green coalition which won September's election.

Halvorsen had entered the building but returned outside when told a well-wisher wanted to give her cake. Unfortunately, Halvorsen did not realize what was happening until the man unpacked the cake, at which point she turned and began to move away. As she did so, the cake hit her directly in the back of the head.

The assailant told reporters that he didn't believe Halvorsen should be finance minister. Although the name of the man was not released, the police said he was in his twenties and assured the media that he was being interrogated.

Possible copycat crimes involving thrown baked goods are not expected.

Sources: Reuters, Yahoo

—KATHRYN TREADWAY '06

College Georgetown students respond to Darfur

BY MATTHEW SULLIVAN '06
WORLD STAFF

In early 2003, fighting began in Darfur, a western region of the African nation Sudan. Rebels from that region initially attacked the Sudanese military in 2003 because they felt that a recent peace treaty had not been fair to the people of Darfur. In response, the military and opposing rebel groups supported by the Sudanese government launched attacks on the Darfur region. These attacks soon targeted civilians and became a campaign of ethnic cleansing against the non-Arab people of Darfur. Many people in Darfur were killed, raped, or had their homes destroyed.

The genocide being committed against the people of Darfur continues to this day. While the United Nations, United States, and African Union have all attempted in various ways to address the crisis, the genocide continues. The death toll is estimated to be as high as 400,000 and is still climbing with mil-

lions more displaced in neighboring Chad or at risk of starvation.

In response to this crisis, a group of students from Georgetown University organized a student advocacy group to work to end the genocide. The group, Students Taking Action Now: Darfur (STAND) was created in September 2004. Its primary purpose is to stop genocide in Darfur by raising awareness about the genocide, raising funds to support victims, and advocating a swift and sustainable political solution. Since last year, STAND chapters have been formed in nearly 200 colleges and universities in the United States and Canada, according to National Director Patrick Schmitt, a Georgetown senior. Individual chapters of the group form on college campuses and perform their actions independently of the Georgetown group while still existing under the umbrella of STAND as a whole. No chapter currently exists at Providence College.

The group recently sponsored the Darfur Fast on Oct. 6. All participants of the "fast" were asked to abstain from one luxury item for the day and donate the

savings to relief efforts in Darfur. Participants included 160 high schools and colleges as well as many notable figures, like Senator Sam Brownback (R-Kan.), Congressman John Lewis (D-Ga.), *New York Times* Columnist Nicholas Kristof and Bill Cosby. In total between \$1-2 million was estimated to have been raised from the effort.

Currently, STAND is working to have the Senate pass the Darfur Accountability Act. This act would require the President to freeze the financial accounts of anyone deemed by the United Nations to be involved in the genocide and to deny visas to those people as well. Crucial to the bill's passage is the support of the Chairman of the Foreign Relations Committee, Sen. Richard Lugar (R-Ind.). STAND chapters throughout Indiana have been applying pressure on Sen. Lugar by calling, writing his office, and writing letters to the editor. Recently, Congress increased its funding of the African Union after pressure from STAND and other grassroots groups.

Walter Fauntroy, who served as Martin Luther King's political liaison and was

a leader in the anti-apartheid movements, has said, "This is the biggest student action I've seen since the fall of apartheid." Schmitt attributed the success of STAND to its ability to produce tangible results despite the common view that most students are apathetic to politics. "STAND has been so effective because people see that their time with STAND has been productive," noted Schmitt.

The situation remains grim in Darfur with two million displaced persons, and according to the United Nations three million people at risk for starvation. However, STAND believes it has made and will continue to make a significant difference in helping the people of Sudan. "While it seems unlikely that a small group of college students can have much impact on events happening 6,000 miles away, if people from across the country do a small part they together can have a significant impact on bringing an end to this tragedy," said Schmitt.

For more information, visit <http://www.standarfur.org/>
Sources: The New York Times, Patrick Schmitt

Weekly Spotlight

BY LAURA BEDROISSIAN '07
WORLD STAFF

"Johnny, you know handling those old computers will bring your I.Q. down!" Can't recall the last time your parents told you not to play with hazardous "e-waste"? If you were living in India or any of several other countries in Asia, you could potentially be dealing with that reality everyday.

Many view the city of Bangalore, home to more than 1,200 foreign and domestic technology firms, as being a center of technology. However, many others, including environmentalists, view the city as a dumping ground for the world's electronic waste.

What has been dubbed "e-waste" is made up of discarded cell phones, CDs, DVDs, televisions, computers, tapes, refrigerators, and many other electronic parts to which the modern community has grown accustomed. All of these items contain some form of harmful toxic chemicals such as lead, cadmium, and mercury.

India's e-waste becoming a toxic treasure

Due to the make up of e-waste, all of our unwanted, unneeded and past-their-prime items, being non-biodegradable end up in huge piles. India has one of the biggest piles, and cities such as Bangalore and Delhi, being centers for technology in the country, end up being affected the most.

In cities like Bangalore, e-waste can be quite profitable and India's underprivileged see opportunity in it. The poor rummage through the e-waste to sell whatever they can to recyclers by breaking down items such as PCs. Using any means possible to extract the valuable materials inside like gold and platinum, the poor often profit. But by burning and crushing all of the high-tech trash to make ends meet, India's poor are exposing themselves to harmful chemicals, which can ultimately lead to serious health issues.

Once blamed on the Bangalore's notorious traffic-related air pollution, toxic levels of chemicals in the environment there remain disturbingly high. India's hospitals are beginning to see patients with 10 times the expected level of lead in their blood. Dr. Thuppil Venkatesh, director of the National Center for Lead

Poisoning, said the dumping and unsupervised recycling of e-waste in India is leading to a "brain drain". "There should not be any lead in our blood because lead has no biological function. You and I, living in a society like this, will have about eight to 10 micrograms per deciliter." He continued by saying that even low levels of lead can cause DNA aberrations.

E-waste is already displaying harmful effects on the children of the nation. Venkatesh added that, "in children, anything around 10 micrograms per deciliter can bring down the I.Q. . . Half of the children in a city like Bangalore already have blood lead levels at about 10 micrograms per deciliter." Thus e-waste has become the poor's means of survival at the possible expense of their health.

There are tougher regulations concerning e-waste in the rest of the world, but India has much more lenient import laws. Organizations such as Greenpeace are calling for India's largest technology firms to take more responsibility for their hardware, especially when they become obsolete—a prime time for dumping.

Ramapati Kumar, a toxics campaigner for Greenpeace said that, "These

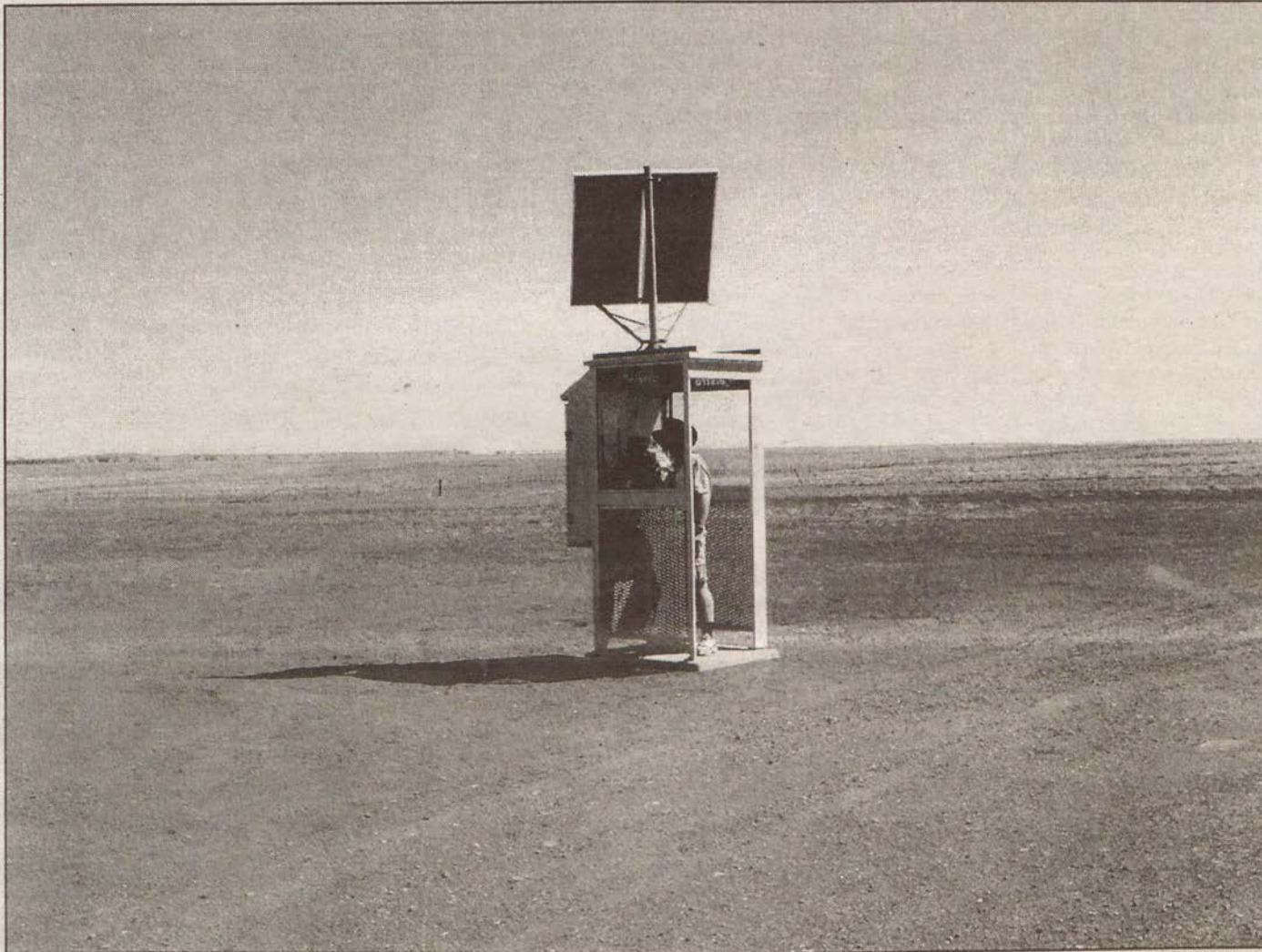
multi-national companies are dumping these electronic goods in the name of charity work." Second-hand computers from the West get dumped into India, most of the time illegally so. Many computers also get sent to India as "donations," when they will really just contribute to the slow-piling poison of e-waste.

India generates about \$1.5 billion worth of the electronic trash annually, and while some efforts are being made towards safe-recycling and education of the poor, who are unknowingly risking their safety, these alternatives can be expensive.

Vinnie Mehta, executive director of Mait—a part of the hardware industry—recognizes the need for recycling hubs in areas where the waste is being dumped, but recognizes that "who pays for the recycling is a major concern." He added that he believes companies should shoulder the responsibility. "If the hardware manufacturer has to pay, it would reflect in the price of the PC . . . The sales of the organized sector will suffer for adopting better business practices."

Sources: BBC, The Telegraph (Calcutta, India), The China Daily, Toxics Link

www.thecowl.com



**because we
don't deliver to
the middle of
nowhere**

Sprawl mart

BY ADAM D. ROACH '06
COMMENTARY STAFF

In the town of Ware, children once played soccer at Wal-Mart. Like many former mill towns situated in the Quabbin Valley of Massachusetts, Ware had seen better days. Desperate for a big name employer to settle within its borders, and pleased with the bargaining chip of a soccer field, Ware accepted the retail goliath with little resistance. The soccer field provision showed that the Wal-Mart Corporation valued community as much as profit.

Fast forward 10 years. The soccer field once enjoyed by the children of Ware is now covered by a massive receiving center where clerks make shippers wait for hours, often outside in the cold. Entire shipments are rejected at the receiver's whim, causing undue strain on the drivers and the supplying companies. Refunds are demanded for products broken by Wal-Mart employees. It is hard to think that soccer was once played here. In order to make the store a super-center, the soccer field had to go. Sorry kids. Slashing soccer fields is a necessary consequence of slashing prices. Wal-Mart continues to slash the very fabric of American society.

The Cowl has become a small cog in the society-slashing Wal-Mart machine by serving as an accomplice in outsourcing, an ally in union-busting, and a pawn in the assault on America's standard of living. Since the beginning of the semester, *The Cowl* has run multiple advertisements for the retail behemoth. A glance at the malicious business practices of Wal-Mart make it apparent that this publication should look elsewhere for advertising revenue.

Wal-Mart is guilty of outsourcing jobs to foreign labor pools. The corporation is dedicated to slashing prices, and if this means that the products consumed by Americans are made in China by workers making 25 cents per hour—as opposed to being made in America—so be it. One can not blame the supplier for outsourcing jobs. Not only is Wal-Mart the world's largest corporation, earning \$245 billion in annual sales, it is also world's largest seller of furniture, toys and jewelry. Independent suppliers can not deny Wal-Mart's enormous market. It is completely at the will of Wal-Mart in the bargaining process, as Wal-Mart always has the upper hand in price and placement bargaining. With this advantage, Wal-Mart can demand miniscule prices from the supplier, forcing it to look abroad for foreign labor in order to meet the Wal-Mart price. The supplier has to either play by Wal-Mart's rules or sell to a much smaller consumer market.

The "made in the U.S.A." tags often found on Wal-Mart products are deceptive. Substitute the word "assembled" for "made" and one has a more realistic portrayal of Wal-Mart products. Although the product is "made" in the U.S.A., the component parts of the product are made in foreign countries, depleting cores of American jobs. If one is still not convinced that Wal-Mart ships jobs to China, realize that if Wal-Mart were a sovereign nation it would be China's eighth greatest trading associate.

Both the quantity of jobs and the quality of jobs are affected by Wal-Mart's policies. *The Los Angeles Times* reported that when Wal-Mart expanded its grocery business in California, the supermarket

Why can't we all just get along?

BY KELLY JONES '07
ASST. COMMENTARY EDITOR

Students and teachers have much in common. We are both immersed in the same texts, struggling with the same infinite problems, and striving to do what we do well as members of the same community. It is very true that students and teachers are not equals, but they harbor similar goals (i.e. the pursuit and endurance of knowledge). Based on these similarities, it follows that healthy student-teacher relationships would beget a healthy community.

LEARNING

Student-teacher relationships have suffered, as going to college has become a vastly utilitarian activity. In previous generations, the goal of higher learning was for the well-being of the whole person. For many of us, it was not even a question whether or not we would attend college. Just as middle school was followed by high school, high school would be followed by college. Our parents wanted us to go, and our friends were expected to, as well. In today's job market, anyone who does not attend college earns less respect. Our generation is prone to go to college for the degree that will land us a well-paying job. This shift in academic purpose has belittled the classroom and made students into automatons, while the average teacher is as valued as any source on the Internet.

It cannot be true that all students and teachers have no desire for further interaction. It is reasonable to think that some students are only after a degree—not a

true education—and therefore view their professors as means to an end. However, it is also reasonable to conclude that many students yearn to be recognized by teachers but are simply intimidated by their superiors.

Similarly, while some professors may want nothing to do with students on a personal level, there must be a portion of the faculty population that are generally interested in the individual members of a class. Perhaps teachers are intimidated as well; worried that their efforts will be met negatively or—worst of all—that students just won't care.

“It will take many years to establish effective student-teacher relationships within this community, most especially because this utilitarian generation of college students will not come to PC for her Veritas, but for her diplomas.”

These preconceptions are obstacles to healthy student-teacher relationships, and a detriment to any college. Dialogue between students and teachers yield more creative, involved learners and educators who are more in tune with their audience. It is certainly very difficult to establish relationships with 21-year-olds who come off as apathetic, just as it is difficult for 21-year-olds to prove the worth

of their young intellect to a more experienced doctorate. Yet these difficulties need to be overcome.

Often, the most productive student teacher discussions are extracurricular. Visiting a teacher's office hour or stopping to chat on campus breaks down the stereotypical mindsets of the lofty, unapproachable professor versus the cynical boozehound. Most teachers encourage students to engage in these informal meetings, making their office hours explicit. This stereotype is not innate in every mind on campus. However—for whatever reason—many students are reluctant to reach out to their professors.

When a prospective student tours the Providence College campus, he or she is taken through the Alumni Food Court in the Slavin Center where they are told that students and teachers eat lunch together. This is simply not the case. The majority of professors eat with one another in seemingly unapproachable clusters or in a separate dining room. Perhaps to foster healthier relationships, members of a particular department and students majoring in that department should make an effort to eat together once or twice a week.

This is only a small suggestion in the face of an issue with many possible solutions. It will take many years to establish effective student-teacher relationships within this community, most especially because this utilitarian generation of college students will not come to PC for her Veritas, but for her diplomas. Presently however, it may come as a surprise just how many students and teachers are in secret want of interaction.

American T.V., time for a reality check

BY KATE FARRELL '07
COMMENTARY STAFF

Fortunately or unfortunately, depending on how much you enjoy watching people humiliate themselves, reality T.V. has become a staple in American entertainment. People can sell their dignity for a solid buck, and are hence at the mercy of

TELEVISION

editors, producers, and the opinion of the American public at large. In the past few years, reality T.V. has turned out American sweethearts like *The Bachelorette*'s Trista and Ryan, and cult villains like *The Apprentice*'s Omarosa. All it takes is the loss of a great deal of dignity as one finds themselves in a series of forced dramatic conflicts. In exchange, the reality star receives the promised fulfillment of 15 minutes of fame and a varying amount of cash, sometimes a small stipend. Hey, everyone has their price. So, how much is *Vhl* paying Danny Bonaduce? Perhaps even more appropriate, how much is *Vhl* paying Gretchen Bonaduce? What about the psychiatrist who has compromised his professional integrity to be part of the Bonaduce Circus?

The notorious child star of *The Partridge Family* has famously battled drugs and alcohol for decades. His struggles have been fodder for personal interviews encouraging drug-addicted viewers to seek help. Often Bonaduce would sing the praises of his wife Gretchen, who “saved him from the clutches of addiction”—absolutely an admirable thing to do. However, his past successes have faded and he is in disastrous shape. His T.V. show documents his steroid abuse,

his alcoholism, his anger—management problems, his blatant control issues with his wife, and his neglect and disregard for his children. In short, the man is nuts. I have complete compassion for someone struggling with such serious problems, but why would one want to parade their manic, out of control life for the world to see? How much could they possibly pay you?

At least Bonaduce is getting paid. The fact that Americans will tune-in to watch the agonizing adventures of the tragically flawed Bonaduce is even more in need of debate than Bonaduce cashing in on all his mistakes. Is Danny Bonaduce the new gladiator in the American voyeur-coliseum? We are all too willing to watch the animal addiction attack Bonaduce. Are we a nation that looks in on the failures of other people to excuse the flaws in our own pedestrian lives? It seems that Bonaduce has pushed the reality T.V. envelope becoming the pioneer of a new and disgusting medium where one can make money off their innermost flaws.

Bonaduce's show has introduced a new type of elitism in the voyeuristic pursuits of the average American reality enthusiast. Where former reality stars were immoral, slightly ruthless, or cheesy, Danny Bonaduce has showed that whatever the level of control you feel you have over your life—he has less. Hence, we all are a little bit better than Bonaduce. No one can beat Danny Bonaduce in the “my life is a mess” contest.

The show also features taped therapy sessions with Bonaduce's personal psychiatrist and marriage counselor. The man has a Doctorate. He is a certified

mental health professional. Why would a man with such credentials allow himself to be associated with “the crashing car” Bonaduce calls himself?

How could a medical doctor allow cameras in sessions where a man is breaking down and a marriage is ending? I am sure the doctor is being rewarded handsomely and we have already established that Bonaduce is out of his mind. What about his wife? If she is the sane rock of the Bonaduce family, how could she allow cameras to exploit her crazy husband?

The show even documents a suicide attempt by Bonaduce. One can make the argument that the series has a certain appeal that could help drug addicts seek treatment. No, it's a sadistic look at the tragic but manic behavior of a sick man who acts so shockingly you have to laugh. His personal failures become a circus, his wife's loyalty to him becomes asinine, and his children's situation becomes disgusting.

The tagline for the show is Bonaduce saying: “I am a car crash, and you have every right to watch the car crash.” In truth, we have no right to do it. Its only the hundreds of thousands of dollars *Vhl* paid the man that gives us any sort of authority over what we are allowed to see. But do I want to see it? Yeah. Frankly because it makes me feel better about any stupid thing I did at Old's on Saturday night.

Currently, Bonaduce is in rehab, thank God. Poor Gretchen can go out with her friends without her husband stalking her and the streets of Los Angeles have one less drunk driver. But Bonaduce will get out. Poor Gretchen, Poor LA, Poor America.

Letters to the Editor:

A plea for papers

I have waited nearly a month for an update on the newspapers (or lack thereof) on campus. One of the little things that make life at Providence College great is the availability of newspapers to students at no cost. After living in dorms for two years, I was able to enjoy three, count 'em three, newspapers on a daily basis (*ProJo*, *USA Today*, and *New York Times*) in the Suites Hall.

However, I returned to school to find only the *ProJo* available in the apartments. I was especially disappointed when I visited the bookstore and found the *USA Today* and *New York Times* available at newsstand price. Why would PC cut the subscription? Do they not want us to be educated? One of the most bizarre policies ever occurs during finals week when the newspaper service is cut off. Apparently reading the news, check-

ing the box scores, and doing the crossword puzzle are frowned upon by the College in favor of cable T.V. Reading of the newspaper during the "reading" period is not allowed, but watching T.V. is perfectly fine. Sorry, that was a bit of a tangent, but that is in the spirit of this section.

Anyway, the bottom line is I am sick of seeing the Red Sox and Patriots all over the front page. It is not like there is a war or natural disaster to take precedence. I would love to flip open a *USA Today* and find an analysis of everything going on around the nation, but I guess I am in the minority. Ooo, a new vocabulary word for Providence College... minority. But that is another tirade.

Scott Donnelly '06

Demise of the machines

I am currently writing this letter from my roommate's computer. Why you ask? I am unable to use my computer. It crashed Saturday night. Losing my whole hard-drive, I spent all Monday rewriting my five-page paper that I had already done in advance.

Soon after the death of my Dell, my suitemates computer also kicked the bucket. We turned to the techie-mecca called "Computer Services" thinking they could help us. What we came to find was a few guys looking at us like we were just stupid kids who knew nothing about computers. Obviously helping students is not their first priority, as my roommate discussed her problem with the worker, he was talking to his buddies on Instant

Messenger. This man was no student, he was an adult. This is your job, take it seriously. Without really examining my computer he claimed it was a hardware problem that they could do nothing about. I later found out it is a software problem, which now makes me think they just did not want to bother helping me. Apparently computer services is just here to provide us with virus software. The moral of the story is... I hope this does not happen to you (seeing as we are on a network) and if it does, bring your dying computer to someone who cares.

Leanne Orabona '07

Challenging the Church

I find Los Angeles Cardinal Roger Mahoney to be a dubious prince of the Roman Catholic Church.

Since Cardinal Mahoney has recently been prevalent in the news, I find it very disturbing that he is still in charge of this Archdiocese, when for 75 years he and his predecessors quietly shuffled pedophile priests off to counseling and then to new assignments. What I really find most disturbing is that Cardinal Mahoney "continues to resist court orders for the disclosure of church personnel documents to criminal investigators concerning sexual misconduct with children." After all, there was a warning last year by a scandal review board appointed by the American hierarchy that "there must be some consequences" for the missteps of the bishops, and not just the priests, involved in the long hidden scandal.

Cardinal Law of the Archdiocese of Boston, is fortunate that he is not serving a prison sentence. Instead, he is currently

the Arch-priest of Mary Major Basilica in Rome, Italy. Good deal? After all, two former priests subordinate to Cardinal Law went to prison for being pedophiles, including John J. Geoghan who was murdered by an inmate when he was incarcerated. This is a result of Cardinal Law protecting these former priests. Since we are a nation of laws and not of men and women, then Cardinal Mahoney is obligated to respect Civil Law, regardless of wearing a red hat. If he continues not to cooperate, then the Holy Father Pope Benedict XVI could ask for Cardinal Mahoney's resignation. After all, we are all expendable.

I am praying to the everlasting Father, Blessed Mother, Saint Dominic, and Thomas Aquinas that this situation will be resolved in the future.

Source: *The New York Times*
Russell P. Demoe '73

TOO
HOT FOR
WORDS

Floody waters

BY ERIC FULFORD '08
COMMENTARY STAFF



Tangents and Tirades

Old man: Conan, what is good in life? Conan the Barbarian: To crush your enemies, raze their villages, and to hear the lamentations of their women... oh, and also Tangents and Tirades

The best things in life are still free Last week my roommate and I ventured off campus to what may be the sketchiest part of Providence, and no, it is not the corner of Admiral and Douglas. By the time we realized we were lost and scared, our ride had driven away. Luckily, we found what we were looking for—the Steel Yard. This wonderful place is like a retirement home for old or beat-up bicycles that are either taken apart and used for parts, or laid to rest. It is home to the non-profit organization called Recycle-a-Bike. The deal is, it is a labor trade. They teach you all about bikes, how to pick parts, and ultimately how to repair an entire bike. Once you have learned a bit about the mechanics, all you have to do is give four hours of your time to either organize or help build bikes. Upon doing this, you can pick from the piles of spare bike parts what you like and begin to assemble one for yourself. The best part is, once it is done, it is yours for free. The bikes assembled by volunteers are given to the community, or in my case are sent to Liberia. The staff was extremely friendly and the atmosphere was very relaxed. It is a great way to spend a free afternoon and meet new people. They even have a ladies night on Mondays. Get there before it gets too cold and they close for the winter.—**Erin Rice '06**

Water water everywhere True or False: It has rained a lot in the past two weeks? TRUE. True or False: We have leapt through rivers of water for days, watched umbrellas flip inside out, and sported the soggy look for a good week-and-a-half. TRUE. In fact, remnants of the rain are still visible in puddles and saturated grass patches all over campus. But, on several occasions, I have caught the sprinkler system ON outside the Chapel and on the New Turf—while it is still raining out! Can someone explain to me the point of watering the already-drenched grass? I am pretty sure the grass will stay green for a while after the Seattle-like weather we have experienced. Please, please, please turn off the sprinkler system when it's raining.—**Christine Bagley '06**

True Story Taking a late night walk and enjoying some of the illuminated foliage, I walked past St. Pius V School and turned onto Eaton Street. There were two guys walking toward me, about 200 feet away, and as a car screamed by, a water balloon flew out the passenger side window hitting one of the walkers in the side. Instantly his friend broke into a full sprint—T-2000 style—chasing the car down the hill, past the college's main gates, through the set of lights and straight on 'til morning out of our view. The car was long gone, but we still watched the guy run full sprint for at least a quarter of a mile—being at the top of the hill, you can see for quite a while—sporadically cursing his friend's assailants. The stranded friend was recovering nicely from the drive by ballooning, and was glad it was only water rather than something more than unpleasant. "Well, I guess I better go get him" he said as he hiked his pants for a better stance on the situation. "He will literally run forever."—**Chris Ackley '06**

CORRECTION:

The Cowl would like to apologize for an error in last week's article entitled, "College's studies go global." The article stated that students enrolled in the Global Studies major are required to spend a year studying abroad. While it is true that students are asked to take part in an international experience, their time abroad is not required to be a full year long. We apologize for our error.

COWL LETTERS POLICY

The Cowl welcomes guest commentaries and Letters to the Editor from all members of the Providence College community, as well as outside contributors.

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.

Submissions must be delivered, mailed or faxed to *The Cowl* office no later than 5 p.m. on the Monday before publication. Mail submissions to Box 2981 Providence, RI 02918, fax to 401-865-1202, submit online at www.thecowl.com, e-mail to thecowl@providence.edu, or hand deliver to *The Cowl* Office in Slavin G05. Call 401-865-2214 with any questions.

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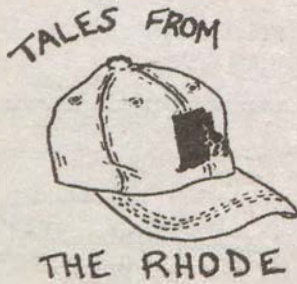
MURPHY '07

MODERATOR: MR. RICHARD F. KLESS

Confessions of an American trash picker

Sprawl

continued from page 12



BY CHRIS ACKLEY '06
COMMENTARY EDITOR

Robert Hunter penned the famous line, "One man gathers what another man spills." He and the Grateful Dead would use this line in the song *St. Stephen* alluding to the first martyred Catholic Saint. Wow, what a factoid. Reading the Church-chunky *Cowl* commentary section must really be paying off. The song—one of my favorites—is about a searcher. Despite his constant pondering and frequent trips through the garden, he is left with more questions than answers. This is the feeling I get while scavenging through garbage; the only difference is I come home with lots of great free stuff.

I clearly remember my first experience with scavenging. I was 12 years old, hungry, and most likely dirty. Our middle school had a half day which meant that Southborough, Massachusetts's downtown area was taken over by awkward teens. Now, by downtown area I mean pizza place, ATM, and general store and by awkward I mean white-guy doing the Macarena in 1999 and not being facetious-awkward. Per usual, I had no money. Most half-days I would sit around with my friends looking hungry until someone offered me the cheese plastered to the bottom of their empty pizza box. I ate it, and I thanked them kindly.

However, after watching somebody toss an empty soda can into the big BFI dumpster behind Mauro's Market, I had an epiphany. That kid just tossed away

a nickel, and not so many nickels equals a pack of Big League Chew. I had no qualms about crawling through that dumpster until I had tossed out every can and bottle. Some kids thought it was great, others thought I was an idiot. Like I said, I was probably already dirty to begin with.

Now, "scavenging" has become so much a part of my life that I no longer use a word with such negative connotations—urban opportunist. All the couches and chairs in my apartment, my spiffy New Balance sneakers, some of the art adorning my walls, my hiking frame pack (with tent), numerous books sitting on my shelf, and even the hat featured at the top of this column all came from the trash. Maybe it is the Yankee in me, but I cannot fathom how anybody could throw away these functional, valuable items.

This simple way of life is no big secret. In fact, junking, rummaging and, the like have developed a loyal sub-culture intrigued with idea of resourceful self-sufficiency. On the East Side, especially around the first of the month, Sunday night trash picking can get competitive. I know people in the city who have never bought a loaf of bread because they know Daily Bread and other bakeries throw their surplus loaves into the dumpster at least every few days. Eating bread out of a dumpster might sound disenchanted, but the way it is packaged—often wrapped in plastic, then double bagged—leads me to believe that store owners, or at least lower level employees, are conscious of these cashless transactions with urban opportunists.

I am not even the most avid oppor-

tunist in my household. My roommate Mike has a keen eye for rubbish. His most recent find is a wooden storage box for onions and potatoes. I have not been more jealous since he pulled a near mint condition bicycle off the side of the road. I still think he stole it, Johnson and Wales kids, keep your eye on them.

Perhaps the culminating event of the dumpster diving season comes when Brown students move out and the University places enormous dumpsters around campus. Students practically place their whole room up for grabs. This event known as "Christmas for Hippies" is a great chance to pick up power strips, clothes hangers, and lamps; however, I think that concentrating that much garbage is meant to send a message. Americans are the most wasteful people on the planet, and even a progressive school like Brown is no exception.

In the idea of theory and practice, I ventured out into the neighborhoods of Smith Hill and Elmhurst on Monday night, in search of hidden treasure.

It is hard to believe because of the seamless transition in this article, but time has passed, it is a new world and I am a new man with new stuff.

Combing only the streets from Pembroke up to Hill-top I found a pewter serving platter, a butterfly T.V. tray, a crock pot (in the original box), a suitcase, and a boogie board. Everything was in near perfect condition save the boogie board. Still, it was far from trash. This was a less than thorough examination of five streets in Providence. Taking this as a subsample, we can speculate the vast quantities of useful items shipped to the landfill each week.

Now if you will excuse me, I have to go make some chili and pack for my boogie boarding vacation in Fiji. . . or maybe just Pawtucket.



The Supreme Court's first Litmus Test, abortion

BY KYLE DRENNEN '07
COMMENTARY STAFF

Recently, there has been a flurry of activity on the U. S. Supreme Court. Normally, the court is one of the least public branches of the federal government. However, that all

SOCIETY

changes as soon as it is time for the president to appoint a new Justice. This latest publicity for the court began back in June, when Justice Sandra Day O'Connor sent a brief letter to President Bush, notifying him of her intention to retire as soon as her replacement was confirmed.

In response, President Bush announced that D.C. District Court Judge John Roberts would take O'Connor's seat on the court, a seat considered to be a crucial swing vote in numerous closely divided decisions. Many conservatives worried that Roberts was not conservative enough, while many liberals worried (and still worry) that he will single-handedly reverse the entire Civil Rights Movement. This worrying on both sides was due to a minimal paper trail left by Roberts of his views on key issues, such as Civil Rights, gay marriage, and especially, abortion.

In the end, conservatives have accepted his credentials as a constitutional originalist and liberals have gnashed their teeth at his confirmation. The Roberts' appointment, of course, took on a different dynamic after the passing of Chief Justice William Rehnquist in early September. Many believed that this development eased the Roberts confirmation process by having one perceived staunch conservative replace another known staunch conservative. However, this shift in Roberts' appointment continued to

leave O'Connor's seat open, needing the President to fill it yet again—this time with White House Council Harriet Miers. Similar to the Roberts appointment, this appointment has stirred up discontent on both the right and the left. However, unlike the Roberts appointment, this time many are doubtful of Miers' credentials to be a Supreme Court Justice; whereas fewer questions surrounded Roberts' qualifications, being largely accepted as a top legal scholar.

This discontent is reflective of a situation regarding the appointment of Supreme Court Justices that has plagued our nation for nearly 40 years. Since the famous or infamous *Roe v. Wade* decision, the appointment of Supreme Court Justices has become not only the most important job of a president, but also the most controversial. As a result, many presidents, including President Bush, have been forced to look for so-called "stealth" candidates, with minimal paper trails, in order to increase the chance of getting these candidates confirmed for the high court. Some say that the abortion issue has been exaggerated when it comes to discussing the Supreme Court, but the fact is, most Americans continue to be extremely divided over this issue and continue to look to the court for answers. The initial concern among conservatives with the Roberts nomination, with continued concerns over the Miers appointment, reflect the importance of this issue on both sides.

To many conservatives, it is so important that they will not settle for trusting the president's decision, due to the number of liberal and moderate justices that have been appointed by Republican administrations. At the same time, liberal groups such as NARAL and People for the American Way, have "war rooms"

to deal with the appointment of new justices. This attention, to the point of paranoia, is paid by both the right and the left because of many factors, but the fundamental one is abortion. The reason for this is not only the passions that are stirred by such a deeply personal issue, but that this issue represents a fundamental difference between conservative and liberal thinking, both judicial and political. The abortion issue defines the clear difference between the liberal and conservative interpretations of the Constitution. Liberals tend to view the Constitution as a living, breathing document, subject to change, even dramatic change, with the changing times. Conservatives take a traditional approach, looking at the original text of the document as well as the writings of the founding fathers, to determine their original intent in writing the document.

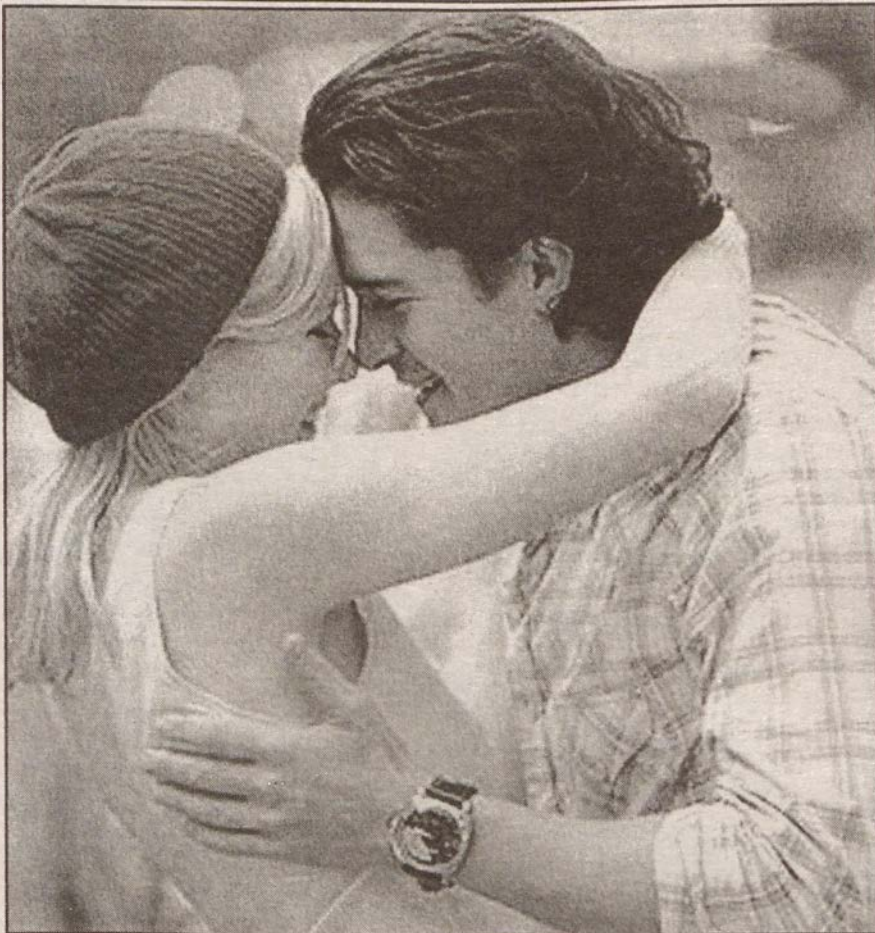
On the issue of abortion, liberals and pro-choice advocates in general rely on an implied "right to privacy" in the Constitution. For the most part, conservatives do not disagree that some rights to privacy exist in the Constitution, but not to the point of justifying the taking of a human life (even a potential human life). Many conservatives adopt a pro-life stance out of a deep sense of morality, and liberals also claim morality as their reason for supporting abortion. Liberals use extreme circumstances of rape, incest, and the health of the mother to illustrate this moral stance. They will also use economic circumstances to justify the action in most other cases. However, all of these arguments represent a moral relativism that does not truly appreciate the fact that human life is a gift from God, which cannot be given or taken away by other human beings. As anyone can see, the argument over this issue cuts deep

for many.

It is unfortunate that we must violate the principles of justice by demanding that judicial nominees answer how they would decide specific cases in order to gain support from certain Senators. Many blame conservatives for this problem, thinking that it is unreasonable for judicial nominees to hold pro-life views, especially if those views were to play a part in deciding cases. The truth is that as long as judges are human, they will have bias. Secondly, many legal scholars, including John Roberts, take issue with *Roe v. Wade* because they view it as a poor legal decision in the context of the Constitution. What no one understands about the abortion debate is that even if *Roe v. Wade* was to be overturned, abortion would not be banned; it would simply be decided by individual states. It would go from an on-demand, God-given right, as many pro-choice people see it, to a limited procedure performed under specific circumstances, which is far more responsible. For any liberals who think that the settled law of the land should not be overturned, I will remind them that this kind of logic would have the *Dred Scott* decision continuing to define slaves as property, and "separate but equal" schools would still exist.

Instead of worrying about whether or not justices would agree with our personal views, we should focus on whether or not they are qualified for the position, have sound legal logic, and possess an open mind to all arguments. Forcing justices to pre-decide cases only forces the president to nominate more stealth candidates and prevents justices from keeping that open mind, which is so crucial in deciding cases based on their individual circumstances, rather than a pre-determined notion.

Sources: *Business Week*,
www.walmartwatch.com



BY JAMES McGEHEE '08
ASST. A&E EDITOR

Elizabethtown's writer and director, Cameron Crowe, is the master of the feel-good movie. If you are feeling low, slip Jerry Maguire or Almost Famous into the DVD player.

THE GUY'S
IDEA

When Americans wise up and follow this simple advice, Prozac use will plummet. Crowe's philosophy, like John Locke's, argues for the natural goodness of humanity. His protagonists share two defining characteristics: a great desire to be loved, and a greater capacity to love in return. It is comforting to know Crowe is not planning his retirement, since almost every other serious director clings to darkness with its endless web of lies, corruption, greed, and violence.

Elizabethtown's protagonist, Drew Baylor (Orlando Bloom), is fired from his job after causing the Oregon shoe company he works for to lose \$1 billion. Two seconds from setting an inventive suicide machine into motion, Drew Baylor's cell phone rings. His sister is calling, and so he picks up to tell her he will call her back later. The joke here is cell phone calls come first, even before matters of life and death. I see the truth in this, especially after hearing about a kid who answered a call during a Civ lecture and proceeded to carry on a lengthy conversation in the back of the classroom. Drew's sister ignores him, and through stifled sobs she blurts out that their dad just died while visiting his hometown of Elizabethtown, Ky. Drew is chosen to go there in advance to make the arrangements for Mitch Baylor's cremation or burial, delaying his plans for suicide. On a red eye flight to Louisville, where Drew is the only passenger, he meets perky flight attendant Claire Colburn (Kirsten Dunst), who gives him her number, a number we know he will be dialing before long.

The movie is set up with great narrative drive and wit, but after Drew takes a wrong turn on his way to the quirky Kentucky village, Elizabethtown takes a wrong turn, and does not find its way back. The problem is Crowe takes on three or four major ideas, each of which needs to be developed into its own movie. California-raised Drew travels to meet the Southern side of the family with whom he is unacquainted. The vast possibilities of this clash-of-cultures sce-

nario are never explored. The audience is led to believe that Drew will establish a relationship with his cousin, but a friendship never materializes. At the end, Drew traverses cross-country on a journey of discovery, mapped out too precisely by Claire. This five minute long segment needs more than a few good tunes and quirky locales (such as The World's Second Largest Farmer's Market) to back it up; it needs development.

The main plot is the romance between Drew and Claire, a romance that belongs in the subplot. Drew and Claire connect one night by phone, and fall in love. Claire soon cancels her flying plans and integrates herself into a wedding party at the hotel where Drew is staying. Is this too unlikely? Maybe. Is this too creepy? Yes.

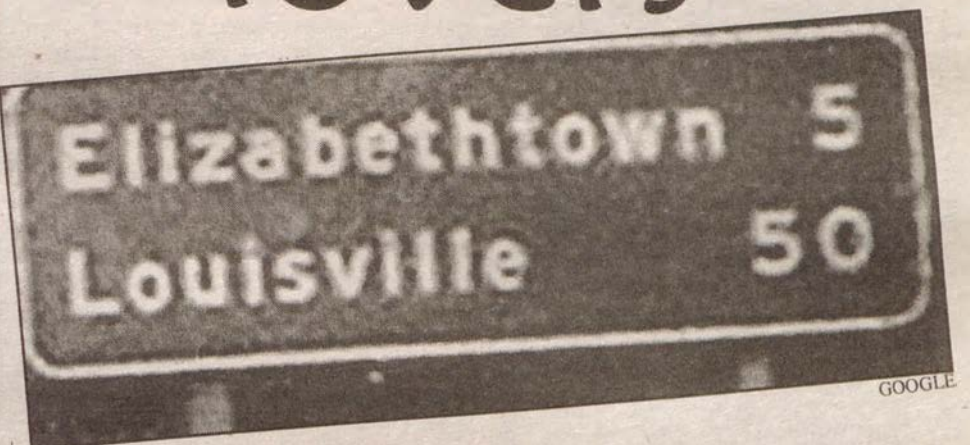
Orlando Bloom has been in six major Hollywood movies since he debuted as the elf Legolas in 2001's *Lord of the Rings*. This is his first lead where he is not battling with either a sword or bow-and-arrow. He handles the role of Drew decently, employing his usual stoicism. Kirsten Dunst plays Claire as a girl with a constant rush of caffeine in her bloodstream. Her performance is too cute and energetic at times. I think Crowe intended her to be loveable (like Dorothy Boyd in *Jerry Maguire*). Unfortunately, Claire is too much of a flamboyant enigma and a stalker for an audience to appreciate.

Among Crowe's great talents is his use of classic rock to compliment the story. I love that scene in *Jerry Maguire* when Jerry sings along to Tom Petty's "Free Fallin'" as he drives down the highway. And there is that scene on the bus in *Almost Famous* when the band groupies sing Elton John's "Tiny Dancer." In *Elizabethtown*, the music does not complement the story as much as it replaces the story and character development. To express the relationship between Drew and his father, the movie plays Elton John's "My Father's Gun." The song is appropriate, coming from the perspective of a son whose Southern-born father just died. Still, when the lyrics "I'd like to know where the riverboat sails tonight" played for a second time late in the movie, I thought "I'd like to know more about Mitch Baylor's relationship with his son."

Elizabethtown has some great moments and dialogue, but unlike Crowe's other work, it never finds the niche where the feel-good can flourish.

GRADE: C

Kentucky is for lovers



A&E gives you a guy's and girl's perspective on Elizabethtown

BY KATIE LEVINE '07
A&E STAFF

Love can hit you at the most inconvenient times, but the kind of love that comes when you least expect it always comes at the time you need it most. Or at

THE GIRL'S
IDEA

least that is how it happens for Drew Baylor when he ends up in Elizabethtown.

Drew Baylor (Orlando Bloom) comes from a world where your worth is measured by your success, and he has just experienced a huge failure. He designs athletic shoes, and his company has just lost \$1 billion from a gamble they took on one of his designs. He loses his job, he loses his girlfriend—and then he loses his father. The death of the dad he didn't really know is the cause for his journey to visit his father's family in Elizabethtown, Ky. Once there, he goes on an emotional journey which makes him realize that life is not just measured by your career success or failure.

This movie starts out slowly, so don't be surprised if you don't get into it right away. Drew meets love interest Claire Colburn (Kirsten Dunst) on his flight to Kentucky, where she is a flight attendant. She is obnoxious and annoying at first; chatting with him and giving him annoyingly detailed directions to Elizabethtown from the airport. It makes you wonder why Drew decides to call her later that night. But he does, and it is the turning point that stops this movie from being mediocre and makes it great. Their first phone conversation is romantic, funny, and brilliantly cut. And the movie just gets better and better after that.

The relationship between Drew and Claire ends up being surprisingly realistic, especially after the disappointment caused by their first encounter. Drew feels like a failure and can't imagine anyone falling for him, and Claire is afraid of getting too involved for fear of disappointment. Sounds like every twenty-something out there. But Claire's obnoxiousness turns into a quirky likeability and Drew's obsession with failure less-

ens as he falls for her. They start out as each other's substitutes for something better, until they realize that the chemistry they have together is better than anything else out there. It goes to show you that sometimes you need to know all of the reasons why the other person is not the one to know why he is.

This film is primarily advertised as a romantic comedy, but there is a lot more to it than a cutesy love story. Before traveling to Elizabethtown, Drew is a depressed man who measures life by the money you make and the job you have. But then he meets Claire and gets reacquainted with his family from Kentucky. This movie has the same kind of feeling as *Garden State*; a dead parent brings the son back home, where he meets a girl and all kinds of quirky people who bring him back to reality and give him a new kind of happiness that he never knew existed. Elizabethtown is a catharsis for Drew.

His experience with the estranged family in Elizabethtown and his relationship with Claire help Drew get his life back on track. And then he starts talking to his dead father's ashes. OK, so that sounds weird, I know. But it is all part of the message of this movie. You have to accept who you are and reconcile with your past. You have to do new, weird, and incredibly outrageous things to really understand yourself—and that's OK. Like Drew, you have to accept failure and just move on—and hope that you are lucky enough to find a beautiful girl like Kirsten Dunst to help you get through it all.

Elizabethtown has some great cameos by Alec Baldwin, Jessica Biel, and Susan Sarandon (whose scene stole the movie). It evokes a range of emotions, from crying because you are laughing so hard, to crying because you are sad, to crying because you are happy. It covers the whole spectrum of human emotions and takes you along with it. So take a visit down to *Elizabethtown*, and maybe it will change your life too.

GRADE: B+

Picks of the Week

BY RYAN BURNS '08
A&E STAFF

Movie

Dead Presidents
Directed by
The Hughes Brothers

With great visual effects and a classic soundtrack, *Dead Presidents* is one of the most creative and original films made about the Vietnam Era. Larenz Tate stars as a Vietnam veteran who returns to home, and along with a group of vets attempt a robbery of an armored car. This great cast includes Chris Tucker, Keith David, and Bokeem Woodbine as some of the members of the daring group of veterans. *Dead Presidents* features gripping scenes from the drama-filled Vietnam War, and great action scenes from the heist back home. *Dead Presidents* is truly powerful, and should not be missed by any movie fan. If you haven't seen it, pick it up.

Music

Dwele
Subject
Virgin

After his debut appearance on Slum Village's hit "Tainted," Motown singer Dwele creates a great album with *Subject*. His unique, smooth vocal styles set him apart from his R&B counterparts of recent memory. Using jazz influenced percussion and acoustic guitar at times, Dwele's lyrics fit every single track that he is on. Songs like "Find A Way" and "Let Your Hair Down" showcase an upbeat style of music, while "Kick Out of You" and "Hold On" slow the pace down, producing a great contrast of sound. A guest appearance by his father, and Detroit rhyme legends Slum Village, completes the album and promises to give the listener a unique and eclectic taste of modern Motown soul music.

Book

Fab Five: Basketball, Trash Talk, the American Dream
By: Mitch Albom

Mitch Albom's *Fab Five* tells the story of possibly the most popular group of college basketball players of all time with his book, *Fab Five*. Consisting of Chris Webber, Jalen Rose, Juwan Howard, Jimmy King, and Ray Jackson, the Fab Five led Michigan to the National Title game only to lose the game to North Carolina. All the stories and behind the scenes actions of the Michigan basketball program are included in this great book. You see all the action, from how the players were recruited, all the way to the infamous National Title game. With the college basketball season rapidly approaching, *Fab Five* is a great book for hoops enthusiasts.

Domino's sound and fury signify nothing

BY OWEN LARKIN '07
A&E STAFF

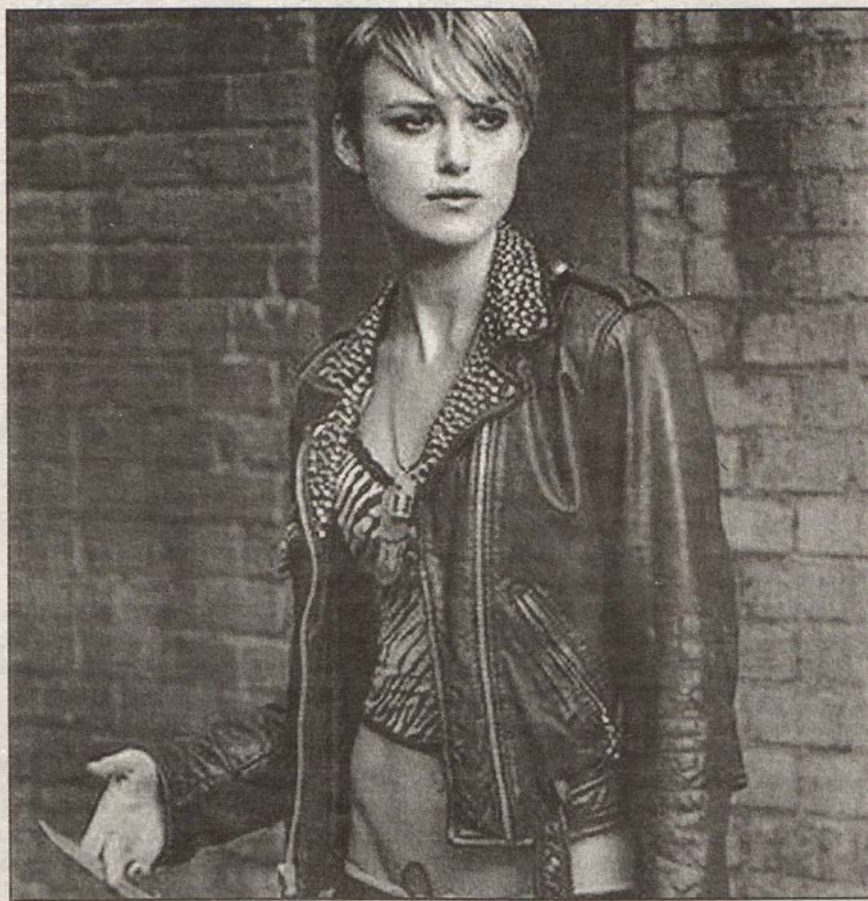
MOVIE REVIEW

Warning: Prior to seeing this film, take four Advil, a stiff drink, and a double dose of anti-seizure medication. Be sure to drink plenty of water, and lower your expectations of how absurd a movie can be. *Domino* moves so quickly, and illogically, it feels like coming down from a bad trip. Especially when the main characters are unknowingly given coffee laced with mescaline. They soon flip their RV in the desert and are joined by a prophet that looks like a door-to-door vacuum cleaner salesman. At least I think he was a prophet, because he seemed to know a lot about the plot of the movie, even though no one in the theatre had a clue what was going on.

This is the part of the review where I am supposed to give a little plot summary, but that's about as easy as writing a three-page book report on the Bible. The film jumps around like "a ferret on crystal meth"—the same term used to describe one of the movie's characters. We follow the exploits of Domino Harvey (Keira Knightley), your standard rich sorority girl model turned bounty hunter. After going to the best schools and spending some time as a model for Ford, she joins Ed Mosbey (Mickey Rourke) and his partner Choco (Edgar Ramirez) as they traipse about Las Vegas. In her first mission, Domino and her cohorts enter a house in search of a bounty, only to be drastically outmatched in both man and fire-power. After some yelling and a little bit of confusing narration on the part of Domino, the three bounty hunters are shot over and over again and lie dead on the floor. Then Domino explains to us that this is what could have happened, but not what actually happened. Someone hits the rewind button and the bullets magically fly back into their guns. The whole "but this is how it really happened" technique may have had comedic value in *Clue*, but it only serves to frustrate and confuse in *Domino* (it happens repeatedly). So, they are not dead. Instead, Domino handles the situation like any nice American girl with a British accent would; she gives a lap dance. Let's not beat around the bush here, Keira Knightley is hot. Not so much with a butch haircut, but you don't really notice in this scene.

Domino becomes a full member of the team, and they go around kicking ass for awhile until, like any good bounty hunters, they are offered a deal for a reality T.V. show from the WB. Christopher Walken plays the entertainingly neurotic producer pitching the idea, and he gives us some of the funniest scenes in the film. Naturally, the bounty hunters take the deal and are soon joined by a camera crew, and Beverly Hills 90210's Ian Ziering and Brian Austin Green. For those of you who don't remember, Ziering was the creepy blond guy with the oversized forehead that looked like he carried rufies on a daily basis, and Brian Austin Green was the little schmuk freshman with the manly ear piercings. How the writers worked these guys into the film, I don't know, but it makes as much sense as anything else that goes on this excruciatingly long and twisted movie.

There aren't what you'd call scenes in this film, aside from the ongoing conversation Domino has with Lucy Liu that serves to give the movie a little bit of stability. The rest of the film is a fast-paced, ambitiously edited epileptic fit that seems



Those abs are amazing: Keira Knightley (above) stars as a bounty hunter in *Domino*.

NEW LINE

like a drawn out Nine Inch Nails music video. I don't know what Tony Scott was thinking when he made *Domino*, but if he feels like he did a good job then he must have recently suffered some serious head trauma.

There were some good things about *Domino*—at least some parts that were so awful and over done that I couldn't help but laugh out loud. I enjoyed when Lateesha (who, coupled with Lashindra and Lashandra make a threesome of sassy black women) goes on the "Jerry Springer Show" and pulls out her "racial flow chart." This explains all the different mixed race possibilities with clever and amusing contractions. My favorite was Chingre, but I'm still not sure

if the term is offensive or not. So, if any Chingre's are reading this, then I sincerely apologize for the hurt I may have caused, but I refuse to say that it is not hilarious. And if anyone thinks this is a quality film, then I'm not sorry at all, but I don't know how you got into college. I don't even know how you graduated high school. I don't know how Darwin didn't rise from the grave and slap your parents for overcoming natural selection. It would be about as much of a mistake as the time and money spent on this film, and the loss of a Saturday afternoon that I will never get back.

GRADE: C-



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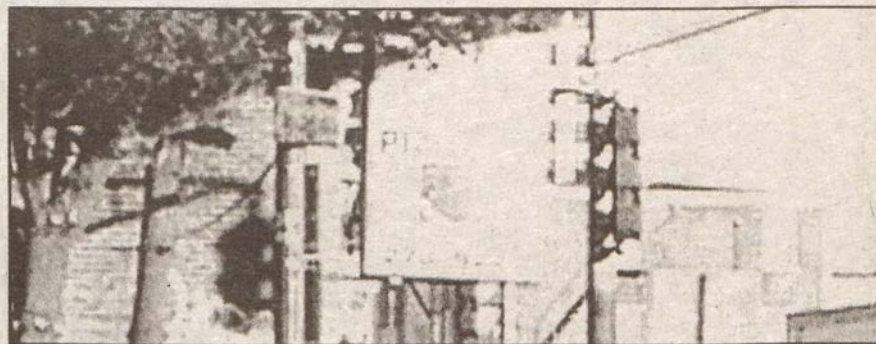
Taste of the Town

with Stephanie A. Smith '06
A&E Editor

Sicilia's Pizzeria
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I hate to start the column off this way, but I did not have a good time at Sicilia's. I mean, it was OK, but you will find no lip-smacking descriptions here. You will find no praises of atmosphere. My experience was mediocre and I, as a journalist, have a responsibility to share the truth. And so, without further ado, I state my case.

Atmosphere: When you walk into Sicilia's, you will notice a bar on your left, a take-out counter on your right, and a gaggle of suspect loiterers milling around said counter. I felt that this scene was whispering (not necessarily screaming) disorder. You can seat yourself and so I did, but it was a bad, bad choice. You see, for some reason, I chose a booth that also happened to be a cozy home to about a half-dozen flies. I feel I don't even need to describe how annoying they



STEPHANIE A. SMITH '06/The Cowl

became as the night wore on. There was nothing bad about the atmosphere at Sicilia's, it's just that there was nothing good about it either. Oh wait, I take that back. There is a lovely mural of an Italian seascape along the back wall and next to the bathroom.

Selection: Sicilia's offers what most Italian places offer: pizza, pasta, calzones... oh, and tuna sandwiches. You won't find anything that different on this menu, although you will find what they consider to be their trademark: stuffed pizza.

That's right, for \$12 to \$15 (depending on what you add) you can get a pizza that has double crusts and in between is stuffed to the breaking point with cheese. Now, as an avid cheese fan, I did appreciate (although I don't think I can say the same for my arteries) the attempt to incorporate as much cheese as possible into one dish. So, I think that the stuffed pizza is probably Sicilia's saving grace.

Quality: The pizza, as I said, is good. It isn't made with the best ingredients and it does kind of sit in your stomach like a

bowling ball when you're done, but it is tasty. The calzones are the same: the crust is thick and chewy, perhaps too much so and the sandwiches and salads aren't quite up to par with something you'd get at a nice deli.

Service: Our waitress was nice enough, but she said that we would have to wait 30 minutes for our order and it ended up being an hour and 15 minutes. And the place wasn't crowded. Moreover, I ordered a ham and cheese calzone and got a ham and cheese and pineapple calzone. How could you think you hear pineapple in an order? Pineapple—it's a hard word to mistake. Luckily, I don't mind pineapple, but what if I had been allergic?

Overall: There is one thing about Sicilia's that I forgot to mention: it's open until 2:00 a.m., maybe later—and it delivers. Think about it: greasy food after a long night delivered to your door. I have to give them credit for that aspect of their business.

GRADE: C

WDOM concert brings relief

The station's concert to benefit hurricane relief raises money and brings people together

BY JOE McCORMACK '07
A&E STAFF

Disaster relief does not just happen. To organize relief efforts takes vision, skill, manpower, and time. Devin Driscoll '08 and Kevin Moore '08 know

CAMPUS EVENT

this as they chair the United in Hope project, the central organization for hurricane relief on campus. United in Hope unites all the clubs and organizations raising money for the victims of the hurricanes in the Gulf States. Friday night, WDOM hosted a concert in McPhail's, uniting local bands and songwriters for a night of music, community, and fundraising. The WDOM representative of United in Hope, Bob Tobio '07, helped bring together seven local bands and two singer/songwriters to donate a performance for hurricane victims. It was a good ol' time for most of the di-

verse crowd. Guys in black hoodies and flannel, girls dressed for the clubs, dudes in button-down shirts, and plenty of kids wearing a T-shirt and jeans all shared the McPhail's floor.

About half of the crowd seemed to be made up of supporters of the bands playing. Those bands were a seemingly uncomfortable mix of emo, classic rock, ska, hardcore, and acoustic singer/songwriters. To give some sense of the breadth of bands present, Jeff Mayer '06, followed a hardcore band called the Departed. The Departed drove rhythm after driving rhythm into the crowd, especially to the dozen or so supporters that stood apart on the floor in front of them, their black hoodies facing the rest of the crowd, their arms folded, their heads nodding. The music was distorted and primal, as were the screaming vocals and animal posturing of the tattooed singer. Jeff Mayer followed this act sitting on a stool, playing well-crafted pop and la-

zily singing Snoop Dog lyrics over acoustic guitar. Jeff's supporters, many in backward Yankees hats and Abercrombie attire, sat and drank, clapped and laughed along.

One might think that this kind of crowd would have nothing in common, that, even though all were there to see a show, mistrust and callousness would rule the day. On the contrary, with the exception of an incident involving spilt beer during the last band's performance, the atmosphere was quite relaxed and genial. The McPhail's tap was getting quite a workout and good spirits prevailed. Though I would like to think that it was due to the crowd being united in a good cause, my instincts tell me it was just a bunch of people uniting to have a good time. That good time, however, subtly morphed into \$701 raised for United in Hope, thanks to donations at the door and WDOM t-shirt sales. Amen.

Perhaps the most poignant moment

of the night occurred during the set by the Rusty Trombones, PC's own ska cover band. After playing a heartbreakingly ironic version of Journey's power ballad classic, "Don't Stop Believing," singer Mike King '08 raised the call for a "skanking circle" for the next ska tune. For those unfamiliar with the ways of ska, "skanking" is its trademark dance, consisting chiefly of bouncing and leg-kicks. As the loyal supporters filled the big PC logo on the middle of the McPhail's floor, skanking their little hearts out, a few convivially curious guys in black T-shirts (one of which being the singer from the Departed) joined them. What followed was a wonderfully poignant moment where two carefree PC girls taught those boys how to skank. They had a bit of trouble, but the patient, cheerful girls kept at it as the Rusty Trombones presided over a very special meeting of two cultures. The understanding in that simple act was at the heart of the effort.

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A&E Profiles



BY KATE COSTELLO '08
A&E STAFF

Name: Erin Murphy '06
Major/Minor: English major / Business Studies Minor
Activities: Providence College Dance Company, Concert Band, Wind Ensemble, Flute Choir, Anthem singer, was in Pit Orchestra for Brigadoon, and Intramural softball
Favorite movies: *Moulin Rouge*, *Love Actually*, and *Center Stage*
Favorite album: *Feels like Today* by Rascal Flatts and *Songs about Jane* from Maroon 5

How did you get involved with dance and flute?

I have been performing since my first dance recital at 3 years old. I loved being on the stage since I was very little. When I was in fourth grade I wanted to pick up an instrument so I began playing the flute. Then I became involved with a musical theater program in Massachusetts for a few years. Though I wasn't interested in pursuing a degree in the arts, it was important to me to find a college where I could keep performing. I am glad that I have the opportunities to do what I love here at PC.

What have your experiences been like at PC so far?

My performing experiences here have been great, especially since the addition of the Smith Center. The new facilities are beautiful and really make performances seem more professional. Also, I am glad that I have been able to perform in so many different types of concerts and events for numerous audiences.

What is your favorite activity that you participate in?

I like all of the activities that I am involved in because they all include something I love to do. I have met wonderful people and have had a lot of fun. I will miss all of these activities when I graduate.

What advice would you give a fresh-

man interested in the arts?

Get involved! There are so many opportunities to share your talents at PC, whether it is through music, dance, or theater. Don't be afraid to ask professors and other students in the arts how you can get involved. There are always performances happening on campus, so go to them and see what interests you.

Where do you see yourself in 10 years? Happy, successful, and hopefully still performing!

Favorite quote: "Celebrate we will because life is short but sweet for certain."
— Dave Matthews Band

Contact us at cowlaande@yahoo.com



SUSIE LUSHER '07/The Cowl

Living the dream

When Elizabeth Clark '06 got the opportunity to act professionally this semester, she welcomed the challenge

BY ANNA KUKOWSKI '06
A&E STAFF

Rehearsal. Catching one of the first showings of *Elizabethtown*. A quiz or paper thrown in there. What is a day in the life of Elizabeth Clark '06 like?

THEATER FEATURE

Clark sure has a lot going on this semester. In addition to her English major, catching the latest film releases, and participating in a few senior activities, you'd think that life was busy enough.

But life for Clark is a little bit different this semester than in semesters past. From Oct. 7 to 30, Clark is playing Elaine in Joseph Kesselring's *Arsenic and Old Lace* (1944), the latest production at the Firehouse Theater in Newport, R.I.

It's 40 minutes away, rehearsals were 7:00 to 10:00 every night seven days a week, and she's the only student in the production.

But it's quite the experience to really work in the theater business. Clark can't say enough about being an actress in this latest production. The opportunity fell directly into Clark's path when she received an e-mail from the play's director, Bob Colonna. Well-known in the Rhode Island arts scene and an occasional guest director at PC, Colonna emailed her about the show pretty much saying: "There's this part . . . do you want it?"

It didn't take Clark too long to say yes to the offer. "I was extremely flattered by the offer and delighted at the chance to work with Bob again," says Clark.

Though the cast was already two weeks into rehearsing, Clark jumped on board. 7:00 to 10:00 every night turned into 7:00 to 11:00 as opening night inched closer. The rehearsals and the commute made her lifestyle a little different than it had been in years past. Acting outside of student productions has been a very different but very enlightening process: "I am the youngest person in the cast. I like that, I enjoy being around people older than me. You can



FIREHOUSE

Elizabeth Clark '06 (far right) is the only student in the Firehouse Theater's production of *Arsenic and Old Lace*.

learn a great deal from them. Some of the actors are teachers, some have nine to five jobs, some have kids."

It isn't easy balancing the life of a college senior with outside work. But with balancing studies and a professional production, Clark doesn't seem all that worried. "At this point, I know what I have to do if I want to do well. I really let the school work fall where it may. I definitely multitask, and I have been using breaks in between classes pretty efficiently."

Clark gives much credit to Colonna. "Bob Colonna is very respectful of other people's time. Rehearsals go for the number of hours allotted. If I know that I have those four hours of rehearsal each night, then I can just be there and not worry about anything else . . . If I'm going to try to be a student and act, it is wonderfully reassuring to know that you won't be going overtime."

In addition to being in *Arsenic and Old Lace*, Clark has been in other productions. She explains that she has always been interested in acting—her formal training started early on during

weekend acting classes in high school. Clark entered PC, declared an English major, and started auditioning. In fall 2003 she had a small role in *Much Ado About Nothing*; and in Spring 2004 she performed a lead role in Colonna's guest-directed *Dancing at Lughnasa*.

Since then, Clark has pursued acting diligently. This past summer, Clark was able to attend the prestigious Williamstown Theater Festival as an apprentice. Clark commented that, "I was an apprentice there, the lowest of the low, but treated so incredibly well . . . I picked up cigarette butts, I worked midnight to 8:00 a.m. turning over sets. I was so lucky to work with such unbelievably talented, smart, and incredibly funny people." By attending Williamstown, Clark was able to meet a variety of well-respected theater folk and participate in many aspects of the different plays produced there.

And now senior year is buzzing happily along, and the reality of something Clark has always known is coming closer—for Clark, acting is more than just a hobby.

Clark noted that, "I really want this to be my job. I'd love for this to be how I earn my living." There isn't a sure-fire way to achieve such a goal, however. "There's no map for getting to where I want to be," Clark said. "I'm thinking of auditioning for drama school, but I'm not really sure yet. I know that it isn't going to be easy, it will be difficult, and it might break my heart." No matter what, however, Clark admitted that she "can't remember ever wanting to do anything else."

In the meantime, *Arsenic and Old Lace* is the current goal—and it is an exciting one. It is a witty farce about the two Brewster sisters, Abby and Martha. Mortimer, these women's nephew, comes home one day only to find a dead man on the couch. This interestingly loopy cast of characters figures out the murderer . . . or murderers . . . with satire and absurdity galore. Clark plays Elaine, Mortimer's fiancé. *Arsenic and Old Lace* is running at the Firehouse Theater in Newport until Oct. 30. Please call 401-849-3473 for details or ticket sales.

THE COWL

Portfolio

OCTOBER 20, 2005

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Leaving Georgia, y'all come back now

BY CHRISTINE BAGLEY '06
MANAGING EDITOR

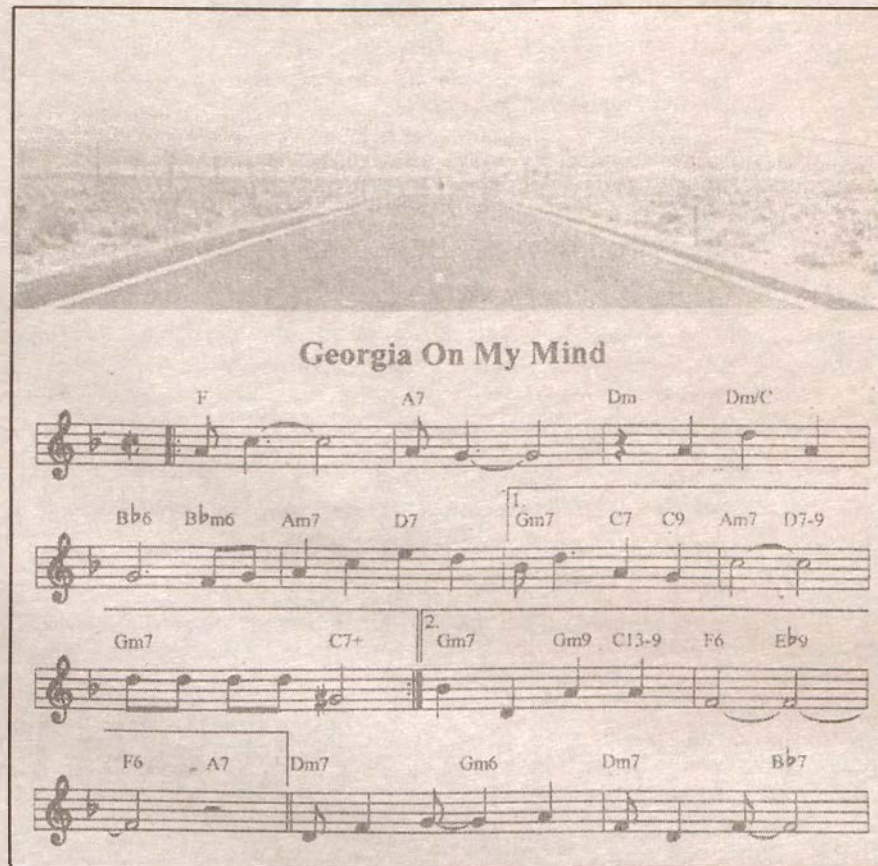
A glaring smear of orange fire blazed across the horizon as she eased back into the cheap vinyl seat of the Chevy. Even with the car's top lowered, even with the wind blowing across their faces, the heat was hallucinatory. No one felt like talking. No one felt like shifting in the cracked plastic seats.

She had only moved her foot off the gas pedal once in the last 20 miles, slowing to a crawl, when a herd of lazy cattle blocked the crude excuse for a road. Her co-pilot had fallen asleep an hour ago, but they didn't really have a set destination, so she let her nap; she fought to keep her own eyes open, as the heat rocked her into a light slumber. Sighing with drowsiness, she stretched her back and inhaled the thick air.

The third passenger was sprawled out across the back seat, across the crumpled potato chip bags and empty soda cans, her toes dangling out the side of the car. Exhausted. Worn. Drained. Saturated.

The driver's face, was coated in a layer of sweat: she pushed her sunglasses back onto the bridge of her nose. With a swift stroke, she wiped her forehead, glistening now, as she baked under the oven of the summer's orb.

They hadn't passed another car in hours on the quiet country road in rural Georgia. Overgrown fields and idle orchards cluttered the scene on both sides of the path. Sporadic barns with wrap-around porches broke up the greenery. She couldn't make out any spark of motion. Only on shadier porches, she glimpsed soft teetering of the rocking



GRAPHIC BY MEGAN BISHOP '07/The Cowl

chairs, as the dwellers used whatever energy they had to quiver back and forth steadily.

Slowly, her driving companions drew themselves out of their drowse. After a minute of familiarizing, they stretched their cramped necks and exchanged glances of weariness. Tossing garbage aside, the backseat passenger searched for any unopened bottles of water—a mere drop of liquid to quench her arid

mouth. She surrendered after several minutes and softened back into the sticky vinyl.

The driver reached over to the tattered radio and fiddled with the stations. After several minutes of searching through the dial, they settled on the only station that came in clearly. After the commercials finished and the weather report was announced, the DJ returned to the afternoon music sweep. He played a few odd

choices by request from his listeners. Before signing off for the afternoon, the DJ took one last request from a tired listener: "Could I please hear, *Georgia on My Mind*?" begged the elderly woman from the local county. Without hesitation, the DJ granted the woman's wish and the soulful tune filled the stale summer air.

The girls had heard the song many times before, each knowing all of the brilliant lyrics. Yet, none of the girls dared to sing, not daring to ruin the moment.

"You know how there is one song you always associate with some special event or occasion?" asked the girl from the backseat. None of the girls had exchanged words for hours until now. She spoke with an urgency, in wanting her friends to understand her question. The girls from the front seat nodded in unison.

"You know how there is that one song, that every time you hear it, you are reminded of your first slow dance in junior high? Or your summer vacation on the lake?" Once again her two companions nodded. The girls once again shifted in their seats as they finally passed the massive blue "Y'all come back to Georgia, now, real soon" sign which bid them farewell.

None of the girls had to acknowledge the fact that this song would forever represent their trip to nowhere in particular. They eased back into their seats, as the afternoon's heat melted away into the starlit dusk. Lowering the volume of the radio, the driver glanced over at her co-pilot and backseat passenger. They pressed onward—onto their next destination of nowhere in particular.

The day that Dali and his lobster mocked me

BY JENNIFER McCAFFERTY '07
PORTFOLIO STAFF

Let me begin with some feeble self defense: I am not an artist.

That doesn't mean that I don't like art. When we had art lectures in Civ, I even impressed myself by feeling as though I understood the significance of the works we

discussed. For a while, I thought I was pretty cool, being able to go to art museums and notice brushstrokes and diagonal lines. I lacked the ability to actually create visual art. But as long as I could at least realize that there was some sort of artistic method behind what might appear to me as madness, I felt I could call myself one of those "classy" people who enjoys art.

It was with this sort of mind set that I decided to visit the Tate Modern Museum, London's renowned institution for modern art. The idea of modern art intimidated me, but I had never seen a sculpture, painting, or abstract collection of random knickknacks whose message I hadn't at least attempted to understand. Plus, I hadn't been in London very long yet, so I was still on a euphoric "I can take on anything!" sort of high. And besides, if I left London after four months without having gone to the Tate Modern, I could expect a mob of artsy people who formerly had called themselves my friends waiting at the airport gate to kill me in some horrific manner involving Modge Podge.

It was late morning when I arrived. I entered, and after assuring myself that

there was nothing especially exciting in the lobby, I stepped onto the nearest escalator, rising above the buzzing throngs of tourists and art students weaving in and out of the lobby bookstore. However, the next floor consisted of little more than a café and some seminar room.

A little worried that, perhaps, the café was supposed to be an exhibit that I simply failed to understand, I soon found myself back on the escalator, my confidence in my ability to appreciate fine art wavering a bit.

Upon reaching the following floor, however, I saw signs that pointed to galleries. My self-confidence immediately buoyed up to its former position, and I sauntered into the first gallery. There, I was met right away by a huge piece of Monet's work.

Thrilled to have already recognized a great piece of art, the part of my brain still reserved for random tidbits of Civ trivia, sprang back to life and informed the rest of me that Monet was an Impressionist who lived . . . in France. And who painted water lilies. Yes . . . those were water lilies before me. Sort of. Maybe if you stood really far away and squinted.

After five minutes of trying to convince myself that Monet's water lilies really were, in fact, water lilies, I sheepishly moved on, quietly trying to convince myself that my reaction to the painting was what Monet had intended for his audience and that I was merely swept away by the intensity of his artistic expression.

I passed through the adjoining room

and paused to admire a few bizarre yet interesting paintings—my faith in my art-appreciating capabilities slowly rebuilding itself. Perhaps I was not one of the people in the gallery taking notes on each painting or trying to replicate the modern masterpieces in sketchbooks purchased at the British equivalent of CVS, but at least I was dedicating a Saturday to trying to broaden my horizons with artistic exposure. That counted for something, didn't it?

Resolutely, I walked into the next room and suddenly, I was besieged by a wave of Salvador Dali works. It was as though the Tate Modern had been designed to sneak attack non-artsy people like me by giving us a false sense of calm with mellow Monets and other digestible paintings, only to unleash a sort of visual mayhem on unsuspecting eyes.

Sure, lots of people loved Dali; they thought his eccentricity was brilliant stuff. I, however, thought it was just weird, and no Civ art lecture could convince me otherwise.

As I stood in the middle of the room,



www.philamuseum.org

bewildered by the works around me, my eyes came to rest on a piece consisting of a lobster sitting on top of a telephone. And while I don't consider myself an expert on lobsters or their emotions, had this particular one been real, I'm pretty sure that it was laughing at me.

It was as though Dali was channeling his spirit through a lump of orangey-red papier-mâché in order to mock me and my feeble attempts to appreciate fine art that I had no chance of comprehending.

I didn't spend much more time at the museum that day. I still go to art galleries every now and then, but I've resigned myself to simply enjoy art for art's sake. I don't mind not being "classy."

After all, I'd rather not be laughed at by a lobster.

Dear Scared,

I guess I can say it's a good thing that you've accepted the fact that Halloween is what it is. And expect to see lots of girls wearing tall black boots—everywhere. The real problem here is not your lack of confidence—it's your friends. What kind of friends would be upset with you if you told them you were uncomfortable with something?

Tackle that aspect of your life, and then pat yourself on the back like you did in elementary school. Many girls would just go along with their friends and wear the uncomfortable lingerie just to fit in.

But, you need to realize that Halloween is fun. I'm not saying to go and sluttify the campus, but don't take it too seriously. I'm sure that no matter what you and your friends come up with, another group of girls, or even guys, will be dressed as something much worse.

As far as costumes go, consider that there are plenty pieces of lingerie that cover up plenty. You don't need to wear something excessively skimpy—select what is best for you! If all else fails, find that dirty white sheet you have left over from the toga party, cut out two eye holes and drape it over your body. The ghost costume never gets old.

Tiffany

She Said, He Said

Making PC an emotionally stable place, one letter at a time...

This Week's Edition...

CHOOSING THE PERFECT OUTFIT TO WEAR WHILE WATCHING A POP-UP VIDEO

Dear Tiffany and Earl,

With Halloween rapidly approaching, my friends and I are scrambling for the best costumes. Now, I know that you expect me to say that we're going to be sexy cops, hot fire-women, or naughty nurses. But you're wrong. My friends have opted to buy some lingerie—that and only that. Really, why dance around the obvious fact that Halloween is an excuse to show some skin. That aside, though all of my friends seem enthused with the idea of prancing around Douglas Avenue in something you wouldn't want your Grandmother to see—I am not. Call it morals, call it body issues, but really I'm just not comfortable. How do I tell my friends? And do you have any ideas for an alternative costume?

—Scared of showing some skin

Got a huge crush on the kid in the sandwich line at Ray? Worried about JRW already? Hate your roommate? Then you need an honest man's and a girly girl's opinion. Write to Tiffany & Earl!

Send your e-mails to:

AskTiffanyEarl@yahoo.com

It makes us happy when you send e-mails!

Dear Scared,

I hear where you are coming from, and I agree, there is a huge problem here. But, it's not the lingerie. The gross-lack of Pop-Up Videos within the past few years is an issue that we all have to face on a daily basis. We have to come to the painful realization that the blissful days of finding out little nuances regarding a musician's life, video, or other random facts has now changed to a dreary, depressing existence.

I believe that when T.S. Elliot described a hell on earth in his piece, *The Wasteland*, devoid of love, happiness, and spiritual fulfillment, he had our current situation in mind. We find ourselves immersed in the mire, unable to reach salvation due to the lack of meaningful sustenance in our life.

Instead of writing to myself and Tiffany I implore you to use your time more wisely and engage yourself in correspondence with the management of VH-1 in hopes to remedy the grave injustice perpetrated upon the world. I for one know that I can only "Love the 80s" so much, and long for the days when I can pop into Pop-Up Videos once again.

EARL

P.S. YOU CAN NEVER GO WRONG WITH LINGERIE!

Poetry Corner

"He lives the poetry that he cannot write. The others write the poetry that they dare not realize." —Oscar Wilde

A blues song for the river banks

BY DAN MEEHAN '07
PORTFOLIO STAFF

Oh mama, come save me, my faith is fleeting fast
I've been screaming to the heavens sayin'
"Please, please forgive my past!"

Well I shot and killed two men down in Baton Rouge
threw my pistol in the river there and then got on the move
but my gun just keeps on shinin' through the river's watery glass
and the demons from the banks gonna come shoot me down at last.

I'm an outlaw mama, but I ain't done nothing wrong
just been howlin' to the moon ever since you been gone
and your ghost comes to me in the middle of the night—
Oh I miss you mama, and that just ain't right.

So those two fellas, they got mamas too
and the tears they'll be cryin' are just living proof
that a loss is a loss, whether it be one man or ten
and as soon as it's over, it'll happen again.

Oh mama I've been shivering down here
cryin' and prayin' that I can be saved
Any dreams I ever had I went and threw 'em all away
and it's a painful thing to be cold and all alone
but it's damn near deadly if your face be unknown,
if your own voice don't sound right
if your legs are scarred and bruised
if your fingers are beaten
if your brain is confused
if your eyes are burning
if your ears can't hear
if your stomach keeps churning
and your bones ache with fear.

So I'm sitting on these banks looking off into the night
thinkin' how I done you wrong and wishin' I could make it right,
but mama I know there's a heaven and I may be there soon
so if I can't see you before that, I'll save you some room.

Your local waitress is not an expert on state smoking bans

BY KRISTINA REARDON '08
ASST. PORTFOLIO EDITOR

I'm writing to a woman from Michigan with a sugar sweet voice who called me yesterday. At work in a Massachusetts restaurant, I picked up the phone when it rang, and gave the required message. Unfortunately, this woman needed more help than I could give

ESSAY |

her.
"Yes, yes, dear," she said. "Yes, I'd like the number for your restaurant in Woonsocket."

Picking up a pad of paper with the numbers for all the restaurants in the franchise, I recited the number and thanked her for calling again.

"Yes, dear, yes," she said in her syrupy voice. "What was your name again?"

I answered appropriately.

"Well, Kristina, you see, thank you so much, it's so hard to find someone helpful on the phone these days," she said. "It's just so difficult, dear. I've just been calling around to find out if there's anywhere left in this world where I can have a drink and a smoke."

Interesting, since that's been illegal in Massachusetts (in restaurants and bars) since early 2004. And back at PC last semester, I could've sworn I heard about similar legislation being passed in Rhode Island.

Now, keep in mind, this was around 6:30 p.m.—prime time for a restaurant. The time when people come flooding in, the phone starts ringing off the hook for take-out orders, and the time when you're always needed in the kitchen. About five minutes later, the phone rang. It was someone calling for a take-out order, so I whipped out my pen and pad of paper. On the other line, the phone rang again. My friend Mary Beth, who works with me, picked up. As I was mindlessly scribbling down an order for some sort of sirloin and chicken, I heard Mary Beth.

"Yup, yup," she said. "Yeah, she's right here."

Motioning to me to pick up the phone, I gave Mary Beth the raised eyebrows look (meaning, "Who is it?") as I asked my customer on the phone whether they would prefer rice or mashed potatoes.

"Your mom on line two," Mary Beth mouthed. A mixture of annoyance and worry swept through my mind. About 10 minutes later, the phones had calmed down long enough for me to pick up line two.

"Mom?" I asked.

"Oh, Kristina, Kristina!" the syrupy voice gushed. "It's me, it's me! I just called you a minute ago for the Woonsocket number."

"Oh, um, how can I help you?" I asked. This was getting weird. It suddenly dawned on me why she had asked me to repeat my name when I talked to her last. And she had obviously asked for me, which explained why Mary Beth had mistaken her for my mother.

"Kristina, they don't allow smoking in Rhode Island restaurants anymore!" she said dramatically. "Darling, do you know of anywhere where they might bend the rules? Dear, I'm so, so sorry to call, but you see, it's just so hard to find someone helpful on the other side of the phone these days. I'm from Michigan, in town for a graduation, and I just want to go out and have a good smoke over my meal!"

I don't remember what I told her. What I do remember is Mary Beth quizzically looking at me, wondering why exactly a woman from Michigan would be calling a local restaurant to find out about the state smoking bans. And I remember her laughing, because of all people in the world, I'm the last one to ask—I'm not a smoker, and I've got asthma to boot.

So, Dear Anonymous Caller: I am not Ann Landers. Please don't call me for advice. But just in case you were wondering: there are only 17 states left where smoking is legal in every town, in every restaurant and every bar. One of those, of course, is Michigan.



www.wdcweb.info

The era of the kite



www.larabar.com

BY CAITLIN MURPHY '06
PORTFOLIO STAFF

"Certain feelings, smells, images, and sounds pervade an era in your life," she said.

My fingers stopped making small tears in the paper bag in my lap, and my cordial smile turned into a polite, uncomfortable grin. I had been having a bus-station conversation with a nine-year old Asian girl on the bench next to me. I had been right in the middle of answering her question of where I was going, and now I was completely thrown off. I didn't even realize nine-year-olds could pronounce the words "pervade" or "era".

She was braiding her hair over her shoulder, braiding an electricity yellow ribbon into the tight bundles. Her legs kicked out and swung around each other, and I saw tiny bunny tails on the back of her socks. Hopping around, they were



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squeaking the word "pervade" to each other—hopping, bouncing, rolling over matted cigarette butts, soda bottles, and gum. "What do you mean?" I had been making up a pretty good lie to tell her about my destination, and had been looking forward to grand embellishments: a dead grandfather, a fortune to collect, a schizophrenic brother to keep under control, a 90-pound cat to take in as part of my inheritance. Nothing too absurd, just something to tell to a little kid, something hard, dry, wooden, and false, like a dead grandfather. I felt like a dead grandfather—with ugly orange carpet under my feet, reeking of cigar smoke, eyes buzzing from watching too much trout fishing on T.V., and plaid slippers damp from my old-man sweat. The girl swung around her tiny McDonald's Barbie doll by its purple hair and repeated, "Certain sensations pervade an era of your life." I knew the stereotype: little Asian girls and boys perched over their calculators and textbooks at lacy living room tables, with marble eyes around the rooms hovering over their decimal points. Big grandfather clocks ticking and chiming and clucking when they brought home a test

or paper that was less than perfect. Big cats on the chairs and lots of glassware, reflecting back the grated buildings of MIT instead of a small child's face. I expected that was the kind of world that brought out words like "sensations" in regular third grade conversational vocabulary.

She continued, "Like last year, in second grade, it was the smell of lasagna, bowling pins, and baby powder. Dad cooked lasagna every night because that was all he knew how to cook. My baby brother loved the plastic bowling pins I lined up and he knocked down, and I always changed his diapers."

"Not this year?"

"No. Dad learned how to cook more. Jake likes cars now and is out of diapers." She shook her head at the middle-aged black man that gestured to a plastic bag full of Rolexes. She glanced at her bus schedule and then looked at me expectantly.

I was silent and then said, "The mornings of last summer: the feeling of chilled feet, a red, stinging face, aching eyes, and my reflection in the faucet, like the back of a spoon. Like a carnival mirror." I started tearing the brown paper bag in my lap again. The sweat from my palm was turning the stiff paper under my fingers soft and transparent. She pulled a loose thread from her electricity yellow ribbon and braided it through the purple-haired Barbie. I loved how the yellow looked intertwined haphazardly into the purple.

"But not anymore, right? That was an old time, that was last summer."

"Right," I said.

"For me, now, it's Crunch bars, my striped jump rope, a wheelbarrow, and bunny-socks." She gestured down to her feet, and rolled her ankles around in wide circles. "What's yours?"

I saw her and her best friend screaming, running around in the backyard, pushing each other in the wheelbarrow, flecks of paint and metal flaking off onto their hands, gripping tightly onto the sides. They were using the striped jump rope to scale the fence into the neighbor's gardens next door, which reminded them of *The Secret Garden*. They pretended the gardens might swallow them whole in the nighttime. I saw them standing on tip-toes to reach for the box of Crunch bars in the hall closet, eating three at a time. I saw myself scratching at my skin, smoothing my hair, and taking out the trash. I saw myself sitting there, staring at the skyline from my apartment window. The view was so aesthetically pleasing, with the

buildings lined up in an ascending, then descending order, spaced out evenly. If I leaned forward a few inches in my chair, I could take in the entire skyline. I saw how it calmed me down, how it stopped me from scratching too hard for a few moments. I saw how I couldn't stop smoothing my hair and my obsession with keeping the trash can empty—self-emptying. I remembered someone saying that the classical hero was self-building, while the Christian hero was self-emptying. I saw Christ—thin, pale, and transparent, and felt like scratching very hard, hard enough until I was completely drained of blood. I looked down at the soft paper bag I was working with my fingers and stopped tearing and rubbing. I answered her, "The skyline outside my window."

"What else?" She wasn't satisfied. She glanced up at the big clock that stood at the center of the bus station, then back at her schedule.

I nervously started smoothing down my hair. There were two bodies lying together, one was mine. His had a red star tattoo painted lushly on the back. The lines were so clean, I wanted to cry. It was a sharp, precise star. I had thought how nice it would be to scratch with those points. Maple syrup dripped in-between my fingers; we were eating pancakes in his bed. I brought cinnamon in to put on top of the pancakes, with bananas hooked on my elbow. I tripped; the cinnamon's glass tube shattered on the ground, scattering brownish-reddish specks everywhere. I frantically tried to brush all the specks together, but he told me, "No, leave it." And his room always smelled like cinnamon. There were cinnamon talks and cinnamon touches and cinnamon flirtations and cinnamon flutterings and cinnamon bedtime stories and cinnamon glances.

"Cinnamon."

"And?" She made Barbie do a pirouette and stand on her head. The Rolex-man made a second pass. And there it was: the reason why I needed the skyline to distract me from the self-emptying, why I needed the distracting taste of cinnamon. There was the persistent memory of joy, like the thrill of pulling around a rusty wheelbarrow and reaching for Crunch bars. There were memories of Her, a best friend, and that kind of little-girl joy in our recent past. There had been star earrings and dance floors, pearls and drinking games. There had been plans, stories, comfort, trust, and many more things that I had already forgotten had once applied to our relationship. There had been love, and then there

had recently been the death of the best friendship.

Her dead eyes pervaded everything, they followed me home and greeted me in the morning. Her dead eyes swept everything out. They rolled around the carpet of our apartment and looked straight up at me like gray grapes as I was scratching. They pin-pricked straight through the fruit I arranged in the living room. They rolled up my chair and sat, perched on the back of the chair, blankly staring through my back, causing me to lean inches and inches forward towards the window. The death of our best friendship felt like a grandfather stretched out, heaving, having a sweaty heart attack in front of a static T.V.

I finished, "Dead eyes."

"Crap! I'm at the wrong bus-stop." The Asian girl held the bus schedule up closer to her eyes, squinted, and then stood up. "Eras end, you know. I hope your next era has things like penne ala vodka, old, beat-up green shoes, and kites." She ran across the cement and flagged down a bus that was about to leave. I opened up the paper bag and tipped the liquor into my mouth, sloshed it around, and swallowed. It was 4:30 p.m., the dead hour. I waited until her bus was far gone until I got up and went to my real destination, the apartment across the street. The dead house.

I couldn't take the dead eyes anymore. I had snapped. I was skipping work, drinking, tripping over my high heels. One heel, under the pressure of such an unsteady body, snapped. I threw that heel over the curb, and it bounced heavily into the gutter. I threw the other in the trash can, and pushed my way barefoot into the corner store that adjoined the liquor store.

I picked up my purchase.

The owner behind the cash register smelled my breath, saw my smeared mascara, and cocked an eyebrow. "Is this all?"

I anxiously pushed it closer to him saying, "Yes, just the kite."



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Laughing in a beautiful black dress

BY ALISON ESPACH '07
PORTFOLIO STAFF

Truth was, I did have a lot on my mind. So much so that I didn't even want it anymore. My mind, that is. I pretended to give it to my little neighbor, Johnny, for a cup of lemonade at his stand down the street but he didn't get the joke and stared at me like I never had a childhood.

But with my brother's funeral and all, I did have tons on my mind. I couldn't stop thinking about what to wear to it. I had a black dress, the one usually worn to all sorts of functions, and it looked appropriate in the reflection of the mirror. It was short, and I wore black heels with it because what I was told was that black must be worn at funerals.

But when I got there, nobody else had on a short black dress. There were turtle-necks and sweaters and jackets and long faces but no short dress.

People were staring at me, and Mrs. Baker from down the road whispered to Mr. Hamlin, "She looks too nice to be sad," and so I started to think that maybe it would have been more appropriate to

look ugly, and I probably shouldn't have put on a nice necklace because they say you aren't supposed to care about those things in the face of true grief. All the books say that—I mean, the ones people get after someone dies.

They come slowly at first, and casually appear on your desk or nightstand one morning. But then people realize they've got a lot of other things to do besides spend their time being clever about the way they support you.

So they get careless and start bringing lasagnas. Soon they run out of those, and just start bringing shopping bags full of self-help books with clear and distinct steps on the correct way to be sad.

Apparently, I was doing it all wrong. I had step one confused with step five and was two months too early to be experiencing anger. You aren't supposed to be shouting out "Why, God, why?" because I should be in denial until at least month five.

I guess I figured that if I knew the last step ahead of time I could just skip out on the middle ones and get to the end. It would have saved me a lot of time wasted in front of mirrors two hours before the funeral trying to decide which

outfit made everything feel better, because when I finally stood next to the coffin, the blackness of my dress against the expensive wood looked dull grey. And if it was just going to look grey, I could have just worn my grey turtleneck. It looked equally nice, and probably would have been warmer.

Everybody else looked really classy, even Johnny. He was in a little black suit with a navy tie. When I saw him at the reception after, he was in the corner eating crackers and cheese. I went over and asked him if he could make lemonade out of the lemons in this situation, but he just said



ILLUSTRATION BY CAITLIN READ '06/The Cowl

no, took some cheese, and walked away because he didn't know how to respond to a joke like that yet. I guess kids don't understand jokes like that yet, the ones you learn to laugh at, even when nothing is worth laughing over at all.

“Oops, there goes
this week’s *Cowl*...”

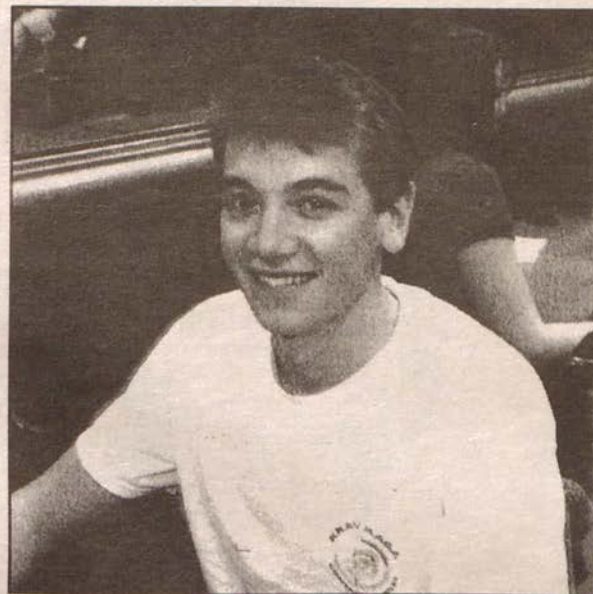


good thing we
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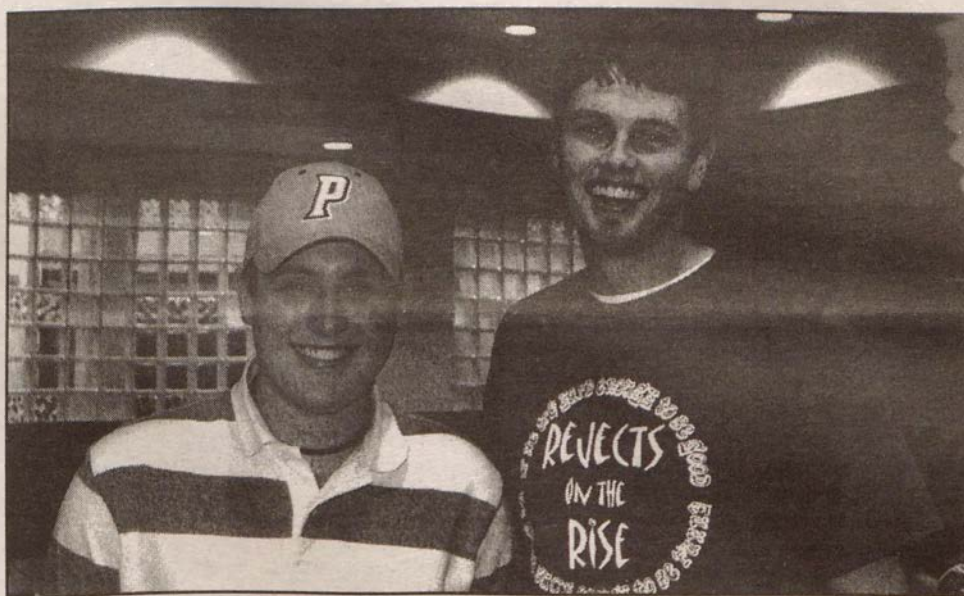
What do you want to be when you grow up?



"Undeclared."
Justin Dunham '08



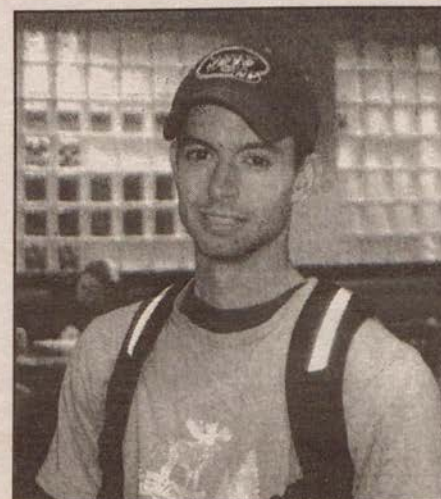
"Batman."
Blaise Sheppard '08



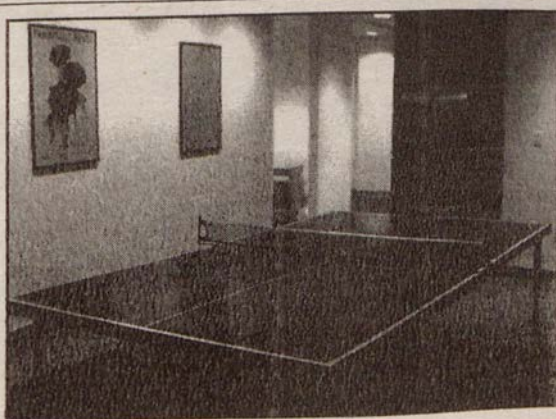
"We want to be Dave Jose."
Chris O'Connor '07 and Brian Calnan '07



"A lawyer."
Laura Sweeney '08 and Catherine Breaux '08



"A dinosaur."
Matt Veith '07



The McPhail's ping-pong table

"A tennis court."

Friars Scoreboard

Scores --- Standings --- Statistics --- Schedules --- Standouts

Standouts



Fiona Crombie
Women's Cross Country
Senior – Christchurch, New Zealand
Crombie finished fourth overall in a time of 20:49 this past weekend at the Penn State Invitational meet. She led the Friars to a second-place finish.



Martin Fagan
Men's Cross Country
Senior – Mullingar, Ireland
Fagan captured the individual title at the Penn State Invitational meet this past Saturday. He led Providence to a fifth-place finish overall.

Scores

<i>Friday 10/14</i>		
Women's Soccer at DePaul	L, 3-2	
Men's Hockey at Clarkson	L, 5-2	
<i>Saturday 10/15</i>		
Men's Cross Country at Penn State Invitational	5th of 37	
Women's Cross Country at Penn State Invitational	2nd of 34	
Men's Soccer vs. Marquette	postponed	
Field Hockey vs. Syracuse	L, 2-1	
Women's Hockey at Connecticut	L, 3-1	
Men's Hockey at St. Lawrence	L, 5-3	
Volleyball at Lafayette	L, 3-0	
<i>Sunday 10/16</i>		
Tennis at New England Championship	7th of 8	
Women's Soccer at Notre Dame	L, 6-0	
Volleyball at Rider	L, 3-0	
Field Hockey vs. New Hampshire	L, 1-0	
<i>Wednesday 10/19</i>		
Men's Soccer vs. Notre Dame	L, 2-1 (2 OT)	
Field Hockey vs. Brown	W, 4-3	
Women's Volleyball vs. St. Peter's	L, 3-1	

Schedules

<i>Friday 10/21</i>		
Women's Soccer vs. Pittsburgh	4:00 p.m.	
Men's Ice Hockey vs. UMass Lowell	7:00 p.m.	
Men's Basketball Mal Brown Scrimmage	7:00 p.m.	
Tennis at ITA Regionals	TBA	
<i>Saturday 10/22</i>		
Men's Soccer at West Virginia	2:00 p.m.	
Men's and Women's Swimming & Diving vs. Fairfield	11:00 a.m.	
Volleyball vs. Quinnipiac	1:00 p.m.	
Women's Ice Hockey vs. Colgate	2:00 p.m.	
Men's Hockey at UMass Lowell	7:00 p.m.	
<i>Sunday 10/23</i>		
Women's Soccer vs. West Virginia	1:00 p.m.	
Women's Ice Hockey vs. Colgate	2:00 p.m.	
Field Hockey at Villanova	1:00 p.m.	
<i>Tuesday 10/25</i>		
Men's Soccer vs. Harvard	2:30 p.m.	
<i>Wednesday 10/26</i>		
Women's Soccer at Brown	7:00 p.m.	
Volleyball at Quinnipiac	7:00 p.m.	

Standings

FinishLynx Women's Division I Cross Country Poll 10/17/05						U.S. Cross Country Coaches Association Northeast Poll 10/17					
Rank	Team	Pts	Rank	Team	Pts.	Rank	Team				
1	Duke (13)	390	11	Minnesota	250	1	Dartmouth				
2	Stanford	373	12	Wake Forest	233	2	Iona				
3	Michigan	365	13	Northern Arizona	216	3	Providence				
4	Notre Dame	352	14	Boston College	204	4	Brown				
5	Arizona State	338	15	Oklahoma State	203	5	Cornell				
6	Illinois	323	16	Providence	194	6	Columbia				
7	Columbia	307	17	Arkansas	181	7	Yale				
8	Brigham Young	301	18	Princeton	172	8	Harvard				
9	N.C. State	285	19	Virginia	162	9	Boston College				
10	Colorado	279	20	Baylor	149	10	New Hampshire				

Steep learning curve for Friars in New York

BY KEVIN O'BRIEN '07
ASST. SPORTS STAFF

If you're looking for an admission from Tim Army that this weekend's losses against Clarkson and St. Lawrence are a bad sign for the Providence College Men's Hockey team, you're not going to get it.

MEN'S HOCKEY

"We did a lot of good things this weekend," he said. "We moved the puck as a team, we skated well, we forechecked hard. Philosophically that's how I want to play."

Does the fact that the Friars lost both games bother Army? Yes, he said, it does. But he's interested in looking at the bigger picture.

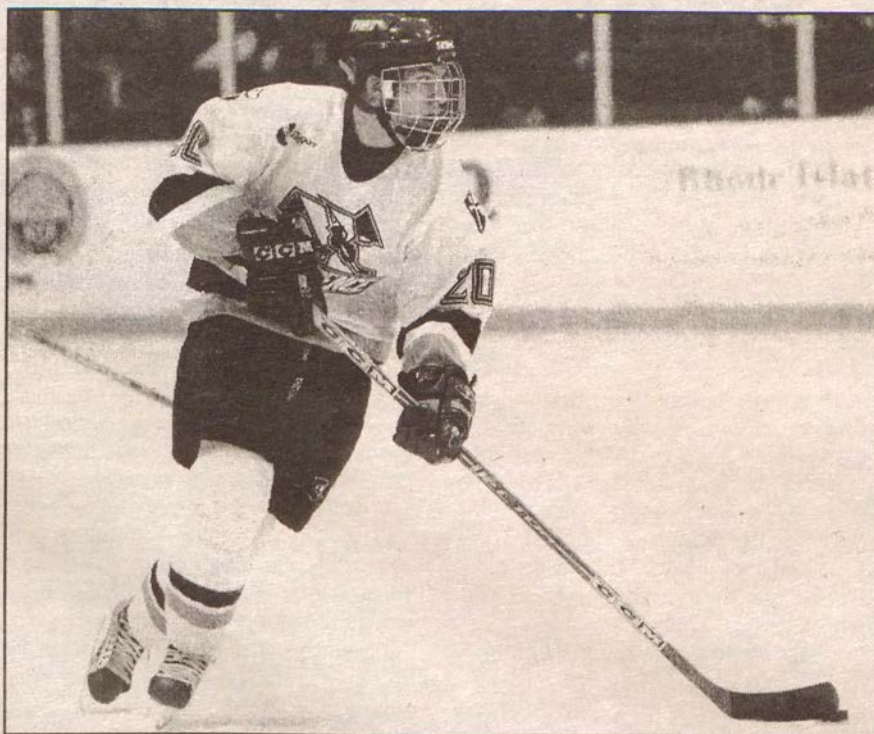
"We're stressing an attacking mentality," he said. "Eventually, if we keep working on it, it will come naturally."

Until then, the Friars will have to work out the kinks in the new system. Their first challenge: special teams. Seven of the 10 goals PC allowed this weekend came via the power play, while the Friars themselves went only 1-12 on the man advantage this weekend.

Army doesn't deny that that's a problem, but he chalks a lot of this up to the new system.

"On the penalty kill we like to be very aggressive in pursuing the puck," he said. "But if you pursue and not everyone's in sink, you're in trouble. The kids weren't quite used to it yet."

This fact was particularly evident on Friday as the Friars fell to Clarkson despite outshooting them 43-25. The dif-



COURTESY OF SPORTS INFO

Junior center Chase Watson led the Friars' effort at Clarkson on Saturday, tallying PC's first goal of the season and assisting on the other goal. Watson and the Friars will take on UMass-Lowell on Friday in their home opener.

ference in the game: each team had nine power play opportunities, but Clarkson was able to convert four of theirs, while the Friars capitalized only once.

PC did manage to jump out to an early lead on Friday, as junior center Chase Watson opened the Friars' account for the season with a goal less than a minute into the game. In a back-and-forth af-

fair, the Friars went down 2-1 before senior defenseman James Pemberton scored to knot the score at two.

Unfortunately, it was all Clarkson after that, as the Golden Knights scored three straight goals to win 5-2.

Saturday at St. Lawrence was much the same story. This time, the Friars fell behind early, but an early third period

goal from senior right wing Torry Gajda, his second on the night, pulled the Friars to within 4-2. Unfortunately, a slew of PC third period penalties, including four 10-minute misconducts, prevented the Friars from completing the comeback, and St. Lawrence registered a 5-3 win.

While recognizing that there is room for improvement, Army was optimistic about what he saw this weekend.

"I don't want the kids to play the score or play the clock, I just want them to play," he said. "In itself daily, it is making itself more natural, we've just got to stay with it."

"It's like in *The Empire Strikes Back*, when Yoda says to Luke, 'You must unlearn what you have learned,'" he said. "The guys have to break old habits, and re-adjust their thinking."

Army's attacking philosophy should certainly provide a new hope for the Friars as they begin Hockey East play this weekend with a home-and-home against UMass-Lowell.

"They'll be ready to play," Army said of his guys. "Playing a Hockey East opponent really energizes your team."

So while the Friars adjust themselves to their new coach's philosophy, Army says that the transition is going smoothly.

"We want to put our identity to the game," he said. "If we can get the attacking mentality, ultimately we can sort out the other areas we need."

The Friars host their home regular season opener on Friday when they face UMass-Lowell at 7:00 p.m. The teams will face off again in Lowell on Saturday.

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Sport Shorts

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

Men's Soccer loses a heartbreaker

The Providence College Men's Soccer team once again proved that it can play with any team in the country—it just has trouble putting them away.

The men lost 2-1 in overtime to Notre Dame on Wednesday, a loss which saw their record drop to 4-2-7 overall and 2-2-4 in the Big East. After a hot start, the Friars are winless in their last four games, though two of those games were draws, and the other two were overtime losses.

PC went behind 1-0 to the Fighting Irish in the first half on Wednesday, a lead which Notre Dame managed to hold onto for most of the game. It was not until late in regulation that a long throw from freshman striker Tim Ritter found its way to junior fullback Scott Hankard. Hankard slid the ball to senior striker Ian Wexler, whose cheeky finish equalized with precious time to spare.

It was not to be for the Friars, however, as after one scoreless overtime period, the Irish netted the game-winner with less than three minutes showing on the clock in the second overtime.

PC returns to action on Saturday, as they travel to Morgantown to take on the

West Virginia Mountaineers. The Friars return to Providence to take on Harvard next Tuesday in their penultimate home game of the year.

Women's Tennis competes at New England Championships

Last weekend, the Providence College Women's Tennis team traveled to Fairfield, Conn. to play in the New England Championships, where they placed seventh out of eight teams. The Friars were led by junior Jen Daigle and senior Sara Bitetti, who both finished fifth at first and second doubles, respectively. Daigle and Bitetti teamed up to place fifth at first doubles.

As for the rest of the team, sophomore Kate Lyons made the best individual showing with her third place result at sixth singles followed by Ashley Risolo, fifth at fourth singles, Megan Gilroy, sixth at fifth singles, and Andrea Lee, eighth at third singles.

In the doubles competition, the women fared slightly better. Juniors Andrea Lee and Kerry Shulz came in sixth in second doubles while freshmen Megan Gilroy and Ashley Risolo placed

second at third doubles.

This week, the team will play their final competition of the season, the ITA Regionals at the U.S. Military Academy in West Point, N.Y.

Defending Hockey East champs drop championship rematch

On Oct. 15, the Providence College Women's Hockey team traveled to Storrs, Conn. to face off against the University of Connecticut in a rematch of last year's Hockey East final. PC outshot UConn 38-25 but lost 3-1, dropping the Friars to 0-1 on the season.

The Friars' lone goal was scored by junior Kristin Gigliotti with an assist by Jenna Keilch. All of the scoring in this game took place in the first period. PC goalie Jana Budgen saved 22 of 25 shots on goal by UConn for the day.

The Friars had opened their season Oct. 1 at home with an exhibition game against the Beatrice Junior Aeros, a team from Toronto, Canada. The two teams finished tied 4-4 after overtime.

Leading the Friars for the opener was senior Karen Thatcher with two goals. She was assisted by Ashley Payton on her first goal and Erin Normore and Sonny Watrous on the second. Also scoring unassisted were sophomore Kathleen Smith and junior Kristin Gigliotti.

This weekend, the Friars return to action when they play host to Colgate at 2:00 p.m. on Saturday and Sunday, in Schneider Arena.

—compiled by Erin Redihan '08

PC: Good in PA

continued from back page

that Joe Dionne suffered a hamstring injury while leading the race. "Joe is a very important part of this team," said Treacy. "Hopefully, Joe will be able to run at the Big East meet as I feel it is a meet that we can win."

Both Treacy and Crombie stressed that PC's goals are to win the Big East title and to qualify for the NCAA Championships in late November.

"I believe when the Big East [Championships] and Regionals come around, the team will step up again to the challenge," Crombie said.

With the end of the season and the NCAA Championship approaching, running well at the Penn State Invitational was important. After their strong showing at last weekend's meet, PC's women's team rose in the rankings to 16th in the country.

"This meet allowed us to get higher in the rankings, so that we don't have to put everything on the line at [NCAA] Regionals," she said.

Providence College doesn't race again until the Big East Championship on Oct. 28, at Van Cortland Park in Bronx, N.Y. After the Big East Championship, the Friars will compete in the NCAA Northeast Regionals on Nov. 12 in Boston, Mass.

FH: 1-3 week

continued from back page

Syracuse's Paige Sullivan scored what would prove to be the game-winning goal as she intercepted a pass in Syracuse offensive territory. After going one-on-one with the PC goalie, Sullivan was able to chip the ball into the upper left side of the cage. Sullivan's goal made the score 2-1 in Syracuse's favor, and that is how it would stay as the final moments of the game passed.

The Friars' next home game would not produce a positive result either, as the girls would also fall to New Hampshire the next day.

The Friars and the Wildcats would both play competitively, yielding few opportunities for either team. However, at the 29:43 mark in the first half Wildcat Katie White was able to hook up with a pass from Kara Napolitano to take the lead 1-0.

A direct result of missed opportunities and fierce play on behalf of both teams, White would record the only goal for the game, and UNH was able to keep up their intensity and hold on for the win.

With their loss to UNH, the Friars now stand 5-11 on the season and 1-2 in the Big East Conference. Their next scheduled game is against next-door opponent Brown University and will mark their final home game of the year.

"Against Brown we need to regroup," said Madl. "We are looking for a positive experience going into tonight. The team is ready to push us back into the right direction and we plan on playing the moment."

The Friars certainly played the moment against their crosstown rivals—right up until the last moment of the game.

The Friars fell behind three separate times in this game, but each time they rallied to tie the score. With time winding down and the score deadlocked at 3-3, PC earned two successive penalty corners. On the second, sophomore Abby Maguire collected a rebound and deposited the game-winner to end the Friars' week on a high note.

The Friars hit the road for the two games remaining in their regular season against Villanova and UConn. Both of these games will determine PC's chances of making the Big East Tournament.

"We need to win both of our games," explained Madl. "The loss to Syracuse put us in a must-win situation in our upcoming games, as well as Villanova's upset over Louisville. Everyone in the league has a loss and our play is becoming more and more even in comparison so we are hopeful."

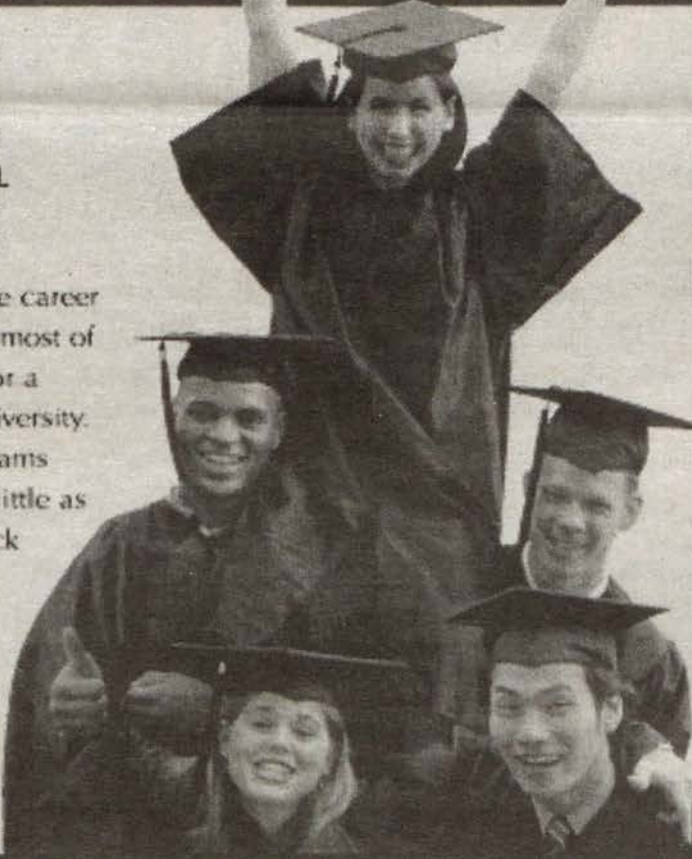
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Post-season hopes slipping away for Friars

BY RICH SLATE '06
SPORTS STAFF

The weekend after the Providence College Women's Soccer team picked up its two most important results of the season—a tie at St. Johns and a win at Syracuse—the Friars road success came to a screeching halt this past weekend. PC lost 3-2 to DePaul and was on the wrong end of a 6-0 thrashing by the No. 6 ranked Notre Dame Fighting Irish.

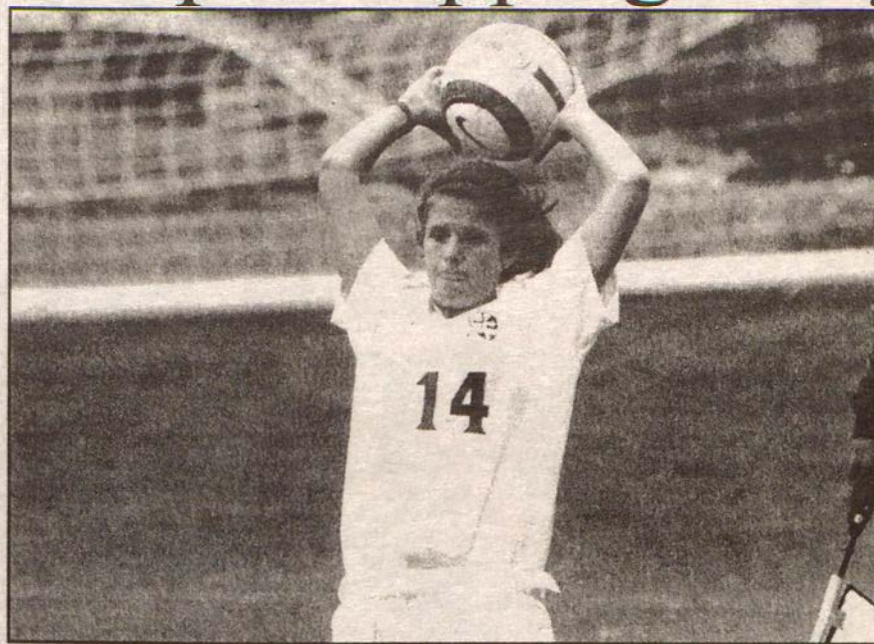
All of this leaves the Friars' postseason fate out of their control; it is now in the hands of other Big East teams. The Friars go into their final weekend of conference action with two home games against Pittsburgh on Friday at 4:00 p.m. and Sunday at 1:00 p.m., the final home game of the year for the Friars.

"We still have a shot," Head Coach Jim McGirr said. "We have to win both (to make the Big East tournament) and have some other teams help us out in other matches."

All in all, it was a lost weekend for PC, which could prove to be the final nail in its proverbial coffin for the 2005 season.

The dissatisfaction started last Friday, Oct. 14, at DePaul. The Friars went into the game with the Blue Demons knowing that they needed a win, especially since a point would be unlikely to come from the next match. The Friars jumped out to a 1-0 lead in the fifth minute of the game, as freshman fullback Christie Gent passed to sophomore midfielder Ashley Amaral in DePaul's box. Amaral received the pass, dribbled around her defender and chipped it over the DePaul goalkeeper for the goal.

Unfortunately, the lead was short-lived for the Friars, as DePaul equalized less than a minute later to make it 1-1. In the 30th minute, PC fought back and went ahead once again as sophomore



COURTESY OF SPORTS INFO

Sophomore midfielder Amanda Klane scored for the Friars in their game against DePaul over the weekend, and is now tied for the team lead in goals.

midfielder Amanda Klane finished off Gent's free-kick to put PC up 2-1—a score that remained until halftime.

But DePaul was not to be denied on this day. They came back in the second half, outscoring PC 2-0 and taking the game with them, emerging triumphant by the score of 3-2.

The trouble for PC in the second half started in the 53rd minute as a DePaul forward capitalized on a one-on-one with PC goalkeeper sophomore Ashley. With both teams desperately needing the win, the teams battled evenly for 26 minutes before DePaul stepped up in the 78th minute with the game-winning goal on a header.

Fedyshyn tied her season-high with 10 saves. The Blue Demons outshot the Friars 24-6, including 13-2 in the second half. Both teams had three corner-kicks on the game.

"We were disappointed after the

DePaul game," McGirr admitted. "We didn't execute and made poor decisions, which are part of being a young team, but I felt like we could have walked away with three points. We had the opportunity to win it, but soccer's funny like that."

On Sunday, Oct. 16 at Notre Dame, the game was over early. It didn't take long for the highly-ranked Fighting Irish to flex their offensive muscle. In a seven minute span early in the first half, Notre Dame blitzed the Friars with three goals to go up 3-0 just 19 minutes into the game. It didn't get any prettier from there for PC, as Notre Dame added two more strikes before halftime to head into the half with PC facing a 5-0 deficit.

PC played with a lot of heart in the second half, as they did not pack it in on a day when the result was a forgone conclusion less than halfway through. They held Notre Dame to only one more goal

in the second stanza, closing out the scoring on the day at 6-0 in favor of the Irish.

Lost in the blowout was the fact that Fedyshyn did an admirable job in goal, making a career-best 15 saves in the blowout loss. The Irish extended their home unbeaten streak versus Big East teams to 63 games (62-0-1), a streak which dates back to 1995.

McGirr was an assistant coach at Villanova when they played the University of North Carolina—another national powerhouse—so he knows something about great teams. He felt like this Notre Dame team was by far the top squad the Friars had seen all season.




"They are the best team we've seen," McGirr said. "They're so polished and professional on the field. They played 25 players against us and there was no drop in skill level from the 18th to the 25th player."

The Friars certainly made things difficult for themselves as they head into their final two vital home games. The Friars are in eighth place out of eight teams in Division A of the Big East, but they could vault to fourth place by the end, provided that they win their two conference games and the teams in front of them don't win. The Friars must now focus on the two home games they have left because they mean everything with regard to the Big East postseason tournament.

"Friday holds all the cards for us; we're not looking ahead to Sunday," he said. "We have to beat Pittsburgh and put ourselves in a situation we can control."

Two wins and they're in, provided the teams closest to them don't win—it's just that simple for the Friars. But as we know, things are often a lot easier said than done. For McGirr and his squad, the time to step up is right now.

"We all need to feel a sense of urgency," he said. "It would be a valuable experience for us to get a playoff spot this year. It would set the bar higher."

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SPORTS

OCTOBER 20, 2005

Friars pass tough test in Keystone State

BY ANDREW WARD '09
SPORTS STAFF

The Providence College Men's and Women's Cross Country teams had a very successful meet at the Penn State University Invitational, which was held on Oct. 15 in University Park. Overall, the women finished second and the men finished fifth.

Heading into Saturday's meet, the women's team was ranked 20th in the nation. They had also had great success in the Penn State Invitational, as they had won it the past three years.

In this year's field of 34 teams, Duke was considered the team to beat, as its women's team is ranked No. 1 in the country. Tennessee was expected (and later proved) to be a formidable opponent as well.

The PC women ran an excellent race, finishing second only to Duke. The Friars' top finisher was senior Fiona Crombie, who ran the 6K course in 20:49, good enough for fourth overall. Other notable finishers were Aine Hoben, who finished in 21:14, and Meghan Owen, who finished in 21:30. Those times were good enough for 13th and 18th respectively.

Crombie attributed the team's success at Penn State to everyone having better races than they did at the Roy Griak Invitational earlier in the season.

"One of the big focuses for us in this race was getting out fast so we didn't get caught in the pack and do all the run-



COURTESY OF SPORTS INFO

Sophomore Ahmed Haji completed one of his strongest runs as a Friar this past weekend, finishing second in the Penn State Invitational only behind teammate Martin Fagan. Haji helped the men's team to a fifth place finish.

ning in the start of the race to get into a good position, which we managed to do," Crombie said.

The Providence College's men's team also ran well, but an injury to senior runner Joe Dionne hurt their chances of finishing higher than fifth overall.

It was still a successful day for the Friars, highlighted by Martin Fagan taking the individual title. He finished with a time of 24:56 in the 5.2 mile race. Not far behind Fagan was sophomore Ahmed Haji, who finished just under 30 seconds afterward in second place. Providence's

other top runners were sophomore Max Smith, junior Nick Weidman, and graduate student Liam Reale.

"We went to the race expecting to beat two ranked teams, which would have given us a higher ranking," Fagan said. "Unfortunately it didn't happen in the end because one of our men dropped out, but it was a good run for us before we race in the Big East meet in two weeks."

Even though Providence was fifth overall, Fagan was still optimistic about the men's team as they prepare for the Big East meet.

"We were unlucky to have Joe drop out, because we would have easily come in first, but we now know what we can do," he said. "We are going to regroup for the Big East meet and hopefully win, which I have no doubt we can do."

"Ahmed, who finished second, was very impressive and is improving every race," Fagan added. "Max, who has returned from an injury, had a great race considering. Also, Nick had a solid run but we have room for improvement before the Big East."

Coach Ray Treacy was impressed with both of his teams at the meet.

"With the number one team in the country (Duke) being at the meet along with the University of Tennessee, it made it very competitive," Treacy said. He was also pleased with Fiona Crombie, adding, "She helped put us in a great position heading into the Big East meet in two weeks."

Treacy was disappointed, however,

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Big East struggles, but big win over rival for PC

BY GREG HARTWELL '07
SPORTS STAFF

Hitting the road, the Providence College Women's Field Hockey Team was able to tally their first Big East win against Rutgers University, 2-1, but were

only able to follow that up with losses to conference foe Syracuse and non-conference opponent New Hampshire.

However, the Friars' week ended on a high note courtesy of a last-minute, 4-3 home victory over crosstown rival Brown.

The pair of conference losses dropped the Friars' Big East record to 1-2, while their overall record now stands at 6-11.

Traveling to Rutgers University Stadium Complex on Oct. 7, PC was anxious to get the game underway. However, not much action took place at the beginning of the game. It was not until the 29th minute of play that the Friars would be able to capitalize on an opportunity to get themselves on the board.

Freshman Jessica Lane led off the PC effort, coming up with the ball during a broken penalty corner play. Lane, located at the right of the circle, fired a shot that beat the Rutgers goalie to the left, giving Providence the lead 1-0.

The remainder of the half proved to be uneventful. Strong play on both teams' behalf prohibited advances in the score and the Friars were able to maintain their grasp on the lead leaving the first half.

With the start of the second half, once again tough play resulted in few offensive opportunities. It was not until the 39th minute of play that another goal would be added to the scoreboard, and



COURTESY OF SPORTS INFO

Sophomore forward Abby Maguire, the Friars leading scorer with nine goals on the season, came up huge for PC yet again on Wednesday, sweeping home the game-winning goal against Brown with no time left on the clock.

once again, it would be attributed to a Friar.

Senior Kati Lary was in the right spot at the right time and was able to fire a rebound past the Rutgers goaltender. This goal would give Providence a 2-0 lead in the second half, and would also prove to be the eventual game-winner.

The Scarlet Knights were down but not out. Rutgers would finally get themselves on the board in the 50th minute of play. This solitary goal still left the Knights down one to the Friars, and that was as close as Rutgers would come.

This win would not come easy, how-

ever—with two penalty corner opportunities in the final minute of the game, freshman goaltender Stephanie Scavelli would be tested. Thankfully for the Friars, she was up to the challenge, and deflected both shots, allowing PC to maintain the lead and come away with a Big East win.

"We felt pretty good about the way we came out against Rutgers," said Head Coach Diane Madl. "We were confident and the team's level of play reflected that. Their performance throughout the game gave them the win. They played the entire game with the 'never say die' atti-

tude and the results indicated that."

With their win over Rutgers, the ladies boosted their Big East Conference record to 1-1. This win gave the girls confidence as they headed into their next conference match-up against Syracuse University at home. Unfortunately, the results would not be the same as before.

The game started as it did against Rutgers. There was fierce play on behalf of both teams; however, there were no results until 21:20, when once again a Friar would lead off the scoring.

Taking advantage of a penalty corner situation, junior Jessica Weinstein found the back of the net via an assist from junior Melissa McGow. This would once again provide PC with a 1-0 at the half, but this time the second half would bring a different result.

"We didn't start the second half as we needed to," said Madl. "We played a competitive game but missed some opportunities. That's why this game is silly. We were evenly matched as far as statistics are concerned, but the team that is able to take the advantage of the game is the team to win. As of now we will have to work on our finishing skills and seizing opportunities."

The Orangemen seemed to come out of the half-time break with a renewed spirit and were able to tie the game at 1:24 into the half. The goal was a result of a shot from the Orange's Michelle Sola, who connected on a direct shot during a penalty corner.

With the score now tied at 1-1, the game was open to whoever would take it. After nearly the whole second half, there still was no gain by either team. It was not until the 56th minute of play that the Orangemen would pull out ahead.

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