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Congressman extolls gay rights

BY LEAH CONWAY
News Features Editor

"What the hell business is it of yours, whether if someone is of a different race or of a different sexual orientation if they are not imposing themselves on you?" the only openly gay member of Congress told an audience of 65 people during a speech Monday.

Rep. Barney Frank, D-Mass., a senior Democrat on the House Financial Services Committee and member of the Select Committee on Homeland Security, spoke about his experience as the only openly homosexual man in Congress for the past 23 years as part of the Lesbian/Gay/Bisexual/Transgender Questioning lecture series in Amy E. duPont Music Building.

The gay rights movement has made enormous improvements in the past 30 years, he said.

"I am not suggesting that anyone should be grateful that there is less of a hateful prejudice than there used to be when there never should have been any at all," he said.

When addressing the issue of marriage, Frank proposed amending banning same-sex marriage, new proposed he does not think it will pass in the Senate or even come up in the House.

"I think we may see this as the last major national effort to use gay bashing for political purposes," he said.

Civil unions, which were so bitterly fought against and caused huge debates in places such as Vermont years ago, are not only not an important debate issue but are the default positions of bigots, he said.

"Civil unions today are boring to all the people that are not in them and probably some of the people that are," he said.

President George W. Bush has lost gay Republican votes, Frank said, and the general public does not think banning same-sex marriage is an important issue to be worried about while there are bigger problems such as terrorism, the economy and the health care crisis.

"President Bush embraced the anti-gay marriage thing not to gain votes but to avoid losing votes," Frank said.

The best way to fight sexual discrimination is to come out, he said. When homosexuality was not discussed, people were afraid of it, but as people found out that their relatives and friends were gay they were able to embrace it.

"We have demonstrated to most Americans that they are not homophobic, they just thought that they were supposed to be," he said. "When we discuss our sexuality in an honest way it's called coming out. Heterosexuals, of course, also discuss their sexuality, but when they do it, it's called talking."

In addition, he said he thinks the United States will begin recognizing same-sex marriages, as is scheduled to occur in Massachusetts starting in May. After same-sex marriages are in effect for two years, he thinks they will be more openly accepted like civil unions have come to be.

Frank said he thinks people in the young adult generation are much more accepting of same-sex marriage.

However, when asked about same-sex marriages in San Francisco and other cities, he said he thinks it is a mistake to declare people married when it violates the law.

"I think that does more harm than well politically. What you really need to do is lobby people," he said. "I don't think having a ceremony does much one way or another."

Another issue Frank has advocated during his career is overturning the government's current policy of withholding financial aid to tens of thousands of college students with drug convictions or minor possession convictions, including some cases from many years in the past.

Withholding financial aid because of past drug convictions affects minorities disproportionately, he said, and he has recently introduced legislation to repeal the policy.

Frank said he thinks there is a better chance for legislation calling for the government to disregard past convictions to pass than for the entire act to be accepted.

Graduate student Vicky Morelli said this is not the first time she has seen Frank speak, but she always enjoys him because he is familiar with other liberal issues as well as gay rights.

Morelli said she agrees that attitudes about homosexuality have changed greatly since the late 1980s. Many individuals recognizing that homosexuals are not hurting them or affecting them in any negative way and are willing to support gay marriage, she said.

She said she agrees that coming out is the best



Courtesy of Public Relations

Rep. Barney Frank told a university audience he thinks the U.S. will recognize same-sex marriages soon.

way to open people's minds.

"In a way it almost desensitizes people to it," he said. "A lot of people grew up with very negative stereotypes about gay people and when they start meeting real live gay people and they realize, 'Oh my God, your nothing like what I thought you were when I was 8; you don't have cooties.'"

Larry Peterson, music professor and coordinator of the LGBTQ series, said he enjoyed the speech, but it was shorter than he would have liked it to have been.

The series is part of a number of activities to promote a new minor in sexuality and gender that Peterson and other faculty members are hoping to approve for next year.

Speakers delve into Arab affairs

BY MONICA SIMMONS
Staff Reporter

"It is naïve to think we will make enormous progress in changing the perceptions of the Arab World without changing American policy," a former ambassador told a packed Mitchell Hall audience Wednesday night.

Ambassador Kenton Keith joined United Nations Human Development Zahir Jamal to speak about the Muslim world as part of the Global Agenda lecture series sponsored by the political science department and the Wilmington World Affairs Council.

"It's good to recall that the U.S. and Muslim world was not always so negatively perceived," Keith said.

While the region resented the United States' early recognition of the state of Israel, he said, it found a valuable ally in the United States when faced with the secular nature of communism.

Most Arab countries supported the United States following the Sept. 11, 2001 terrorist attacks, Keith said.

"But the good will is running dry," he said.

The humiliation the Arab world continues to face, such as losses against Israel and the discrimination against Muslim minorities throughout Europe and Asia, Keith said, fuels anger towards the United States.

Along with the lack of U.S. aid to ailing regions, he said, the Islamic perception of the United States as callous and unreliable is maintained by American policy.

"Many believe or suspect that the U.S. is very anti-Muslim," Keith said. "I think there is a growing

majority that perceive a permanent threat to Islam."

One crucial way this negative perception changed, he said, was through international student exchange programs.

"There is no way we can buy this type of influence," Keith said.

However, due to the recent tightening of visa requirements, he said, the United States is hindering rather than helping transform its perception in the Middle East.

Zahir Jamal, who has worked on the United Nations Human Development program for 24 years, said in order for the Islamic perception of the West to improve, the Arab world must first fight its own weaknesses.

"For 30 years, it has misrepresented itself to its people and to the world," said Jamal.

Deficits in three crucial areas of Islamic culture — lack of freedom, knowledge and female empowerment — are aiding in a misconception of the United States, he said.

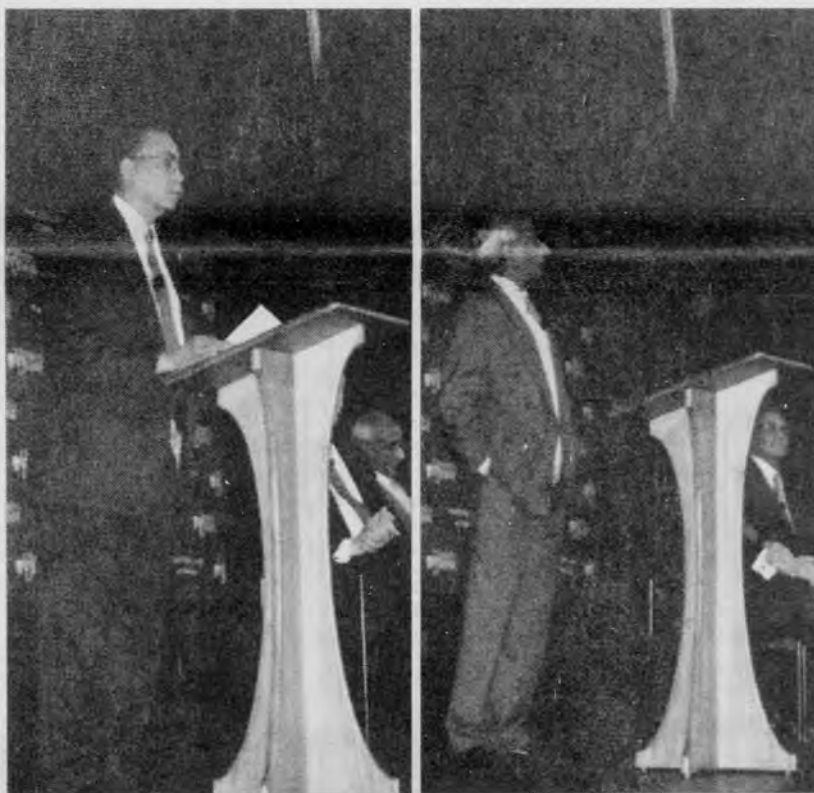
The spread of knowledge has stalled throughout the Middle East, said Jamal.

Over 10 million Muslim children do not attend school, he said, and Internet access in the Arab region is less than that in Africa.

For decades, there were few legitimate leaders in the Middle East, Jamal said, which led to a faulty infrastructure and lack of human development.

"It didn't matter that Arabs weren't free, but that the oil was free-flowing," he said.

Any major change must come from within, Jamal said.



THE REVIEW/Jessica Sitkoff

Former ambassador Kenton Keith and United Nations Human Development Zahir Jamal discuss the international perceptions of the United States and the Arab community.

The vulnerability many Americans feel is also prevalent among many Muslims, he said.

"At one point, America was the only hope they had," Jamal said.

The United States must prepare itself for the possibility that democratic reform might not lead to a leader who is congruent with the U.S. administration, he said.

By suppressing alternatives, extremist or not, Jamal said, the United States is helping make them more attractive in the eyes of many Muslims.

The United States should return to working alongside international institutions to ensure leaders in the Middle East make human develop-

ment a priority, he said.

The United States is assisting in the deterioration of its own image by working alone, Jamal said.

"America is both a fearful and feared power," Jamal said. "It stands alone with no checks and balances."

As for the war against terrorism, both Jamal and Keith agree there is no simple answer.

"What will be D-Day?" Jamal said. "If we identify the enemy, how do we know we have defeated him?"

Dan Green, political science professor, said one thing is for certain: action must be taken immediately.

"This is not a region which can be on our enemies list in the long haul," he said.

Former TKE house demolished

BY JAMIE EDMONDS
Administrative News Editor

What once was a lively fraternity house or 43 W. Delaware Ave., is now an open space slated to become a parking lot.

The former Tau Kappa Epsilon fraternity house, located on the corner of Orchard Road and W. Delaware Avenue, was demolished on March 24 to make way for a 15-space lot.

Ramona Adams, assistant treasurer-receipts, real estate and risk management for the university, said the university purchased the house on Feb. 9, and a private contractor was hired for the demolition process.

Matt Lenno, assistant director of the Traband Leno Center, said TKE was suspended from the university last year due to citations of hazing and alcohol.

Once a fraternity moves out of a house, the city does not allow any other to move in, he said.

"It was up to TKE to decide what to do with their house."

In the April 25, 2003 issue of The Review, it was reported that the city forced the 15 members living at the house at the time to leave their residence.

Their departure was due to a city statute stating any fraternity or sorority suspended for more than one year must vacate the building immediately.

Ron Sylvester, building manager for the city, said it was a series of events that forced the fraternity to vacate their house.

"Fraternities are not allowed to have a house unless they are recognized by the university," he said. "Due to the city statute, after one year of suspension, the house is only zoned for four people."

After the city enforced this statute, all members vacated the house, and they eventually sold it to the university, he said.

Sophomore Jason Green, former treasurer of TKE, said the house was privately owned, and once the members moved out, it was up to them to decide what to do with the property.

"Once we lost standing as a fraternity house, we were expected to keep up with the current city codes for houses," he said. "We didn't have the funds for the renovations to the house, so we sold it to the university."

Larry Thornton, director of Public Safety said the new parking lot would simply be an extension of an already existing one.

"The lot will be an extension of the lot adjacent to Alfred Lerner Hall," he said.

The property is long and narrow, he said, therefore they will only be able to create 15 parking spaces safely.

Thornton said he predicts the new lot will be another Gold Parking Lot, which is restricted to staff, graduate students and second-year seniors with more than 110 credits. Only those with the appropriate gold stickers will be permitted to park there.

The project is expected to be completed in early June.

City sued by reservoir contractor

BY KELLY MCHUGH
Staff Reporter

The city of Newark and its contracting consultant are being sued in District Court by the Pennsylvania contracting company it fired for failure to complete construction on a reservoir.

Carol Houck, administrative assistant to the city manager, said Donald T. Durkin Contracting, one of ten bidders for the project, was hired in 2002 to build Newark's first reservoir in 70 years.

She said the reservoir should have been completed in 2003, following the original timeline. However, Durkin raised concerns over the safety of the reservoir's design midway through the project and wanted to modify its plans.

"This past fall, they started informing us that they could not proceed as designed," Houck said.

At that time, Durkin had completed 70 percent of the project, she said.

The city was not willing to accept the proposed modifications, which she said it believed were unnecessary, and felt the plan could be safely com-

pleted as originally designed.

"The changes in design would be much more expensive," Houck said. "It was outside of the acceptable budget and would not be beneficial to the city."

After the dispute, Houck said Durkin refused to continue construction on the reservoir.

"They would not complete the project as designed," she said. "Then their presence at the site diminished."

Durkin did not respond to requests for comment about the matter.

Houck said the city attempted to negotiate, but Durkin was not willing. The city then hired legal counsel who recommended Durkin be fired.

Houck said the city was not surprised by the lawsuit and is primarily concerned with finishing the reservoir.

"We need to move forward, and are not willing to put faith in [Durkin]," she said. "They lost that."

Councilwoman Christine Rewa, 6th District, the district in which the reservoir is located, said her

constituents have expressed concerns over the prolonged construction, but most are not safety related.

"They are more concerned about the job being completed," she said.

"I tell people 'I'm as concerned as you are,'" Rewa said. "We wish it was done."

Rewa said despite the concerns being raised by Durkin over safety issues, the project can be completed without modifications.

"It will absolutely get done safely and be a great asset to the city," she said. "It will greatly raise our capacity for water storage."

Houck said construction has been suspended since December.

The city is hoping to have a new contract by June and the reservoir finished by the end of the year, she said.

"We had expected some delays related to weather, but certainly not this," she said.

Del. evaluates diploma tiers

BY CARSON WALKER

Staff Reporter

Gov. Ruth Ann Minner announced plans March 25 to assemble a panel of education experts from outside Delaware to closely examine the controversial three-tier diploma program.

Greg Patterson, spokesman for Minner, said Delaware has been pursuing the system for 10 years.

"The three-tier diploma is part of an accountability system in education," he said.

State Sen. Karen Peterson, D-9th District, said the system gives out three types of diplomas: standard, basic and distinguished.

Some have expressed anger at the fact that the only way to achieve a distinguished diploma is to do well on a test administered in 10th grade, she said.

"Taking the test in 10th grade is like going into sudden death over time — the pressure is on the kids," Peterson said. "One shot at winning or losing, [the test] affects the rest of your life to some extent."

Patterson said Minner has agreed to bring in a panel of experts to look at scores on ninth and 10th grade tests and to look at the three-tier diploma system because of complaints from concerned citizens.

"The governor has not decided on any one specifically," he said, "but they will be

people outside of Delaware, people in the field of testing and education who have not been involved to this point to give a honest and fair look."

Peterson said a better alternative to the governor's panel of outsiders would be a bipartisan committee drawn from within the state legislature.

"We are the ones who hear from the parents every day," she said. "Some consultant in California isn't going to have a clue what issues have been brought to us, the elected officials."

State Rep. Michael Mulrooney, D-17th District, said he does not have a problem with the basic and standard diplomas but he does with the distinguished diploma.

"Too much weight is placed on one test taken in the 10th grade for a diploma," he said. "It puts extra pressure on the kids."

Legislation to reform the distinguished diploma has been developed and introduced, Mulrooney said, so it is not based strictly on one standardized test.

"You have a large group of kids whose priority is to do well in school," he said, "and just because they don't score high enough on one test they don't receive a distinguished diploma."

Peterson said she believes a moratorium is needed to halt the diploma system to take a closer look at what does and does not work.

"We need to put the breaks on to look at the unforeseen consequences," she said. "There is no shame in fine tuning what we have."

Patterson said the governor is concerned about the students who have been working for the past couple years in this system.

"All the students in high school who will graduate in June have been working under the assumption they would get a three-tier diploma this year," he said. "There are those who worked hard for the distinguished, the governor would feel bad if they weren't able to receive that."

Peterson said she has received a number of complaints from parents, which prompted her interest in the program. Many parents are opposed to the test given in 10th grade.

"Some children are slower learners and can't pass no matter how hard they work," Peterson said. "On the other end, there are kids who are very bright and don't have to study, they aren't being challenged."

Peterson said the system focuses on the wrong aspects of the children.

"We should not be measuring everyone by the same yardstick," she said, "but rather challenging kids to compete with themselves, not putting everyone in the same boat."

Cases challenge abortion ban

BY JOE OLIVIERI

Staff Reporter

The debate over abortion in the United States flared Monday as the recently passed Partial Birth Abortion Ban was challenged by litigation arguing that it is unconstitutional.

The act established a legal definition of a "partial birth" abortion and criminalized its practice.

The definition describes the intentional breach birth of a fetus and subsequent termination of its life through forcibly removing the brain from the skull during delivery.

The ban stated it "is a gruesome and inhumane procedure that is never medically necessary and should be prohibited."

Sharyn Tejani, legal director for the Feminist Majority Foundation, said three organizations filed suit shortly after President George W. Bush signed the ban into law.

"The ban is vague," she said. "The ban doesn't contain any exceptions for the health of the woman, and it's not the government's role to be criminaliz-

ing safe medical procedures."

She said while the majority of abortions happen in the first trimester, the ban would criminalize steps that could happen in any abortion after 13 weeks.

Joseph Scheidler, national director of the Pro-Life Action League, said he questions the necessity of the procedure.

"They sometimes do it because the baby is unhealthy," he said, "but mostly they do it on healthy babies."

"Many of the babies could survive [and] would survive."

Scheidler said the procedure only serves the convenience of the doctor performing the abortion.

"It guarantees a dead baby," he said. "It's medically contraindicated, in other words more harmful than good, because it is a breach delivery. It's dangerous for the woman."

Katherin Rogers, philosophy professor, said the law challenges the legal precedent of the 1973 *Roe v. Wade* Supreme Court decision that protected a woman's right to choose an abortion.

"It does seem to say that the woman doesn't have the right to kill the fetus at every single possible stage for any given reason," she said.

Tejani explained the significance the ban would have if the cases were unsuccessful.

"It will be the first time a type of abortion will be criminalized by the federal government," she said.

Another aspect of the "partial birth" abortion ban issue was the use of anonymous medical records subpoenaed in order to judge the procedure's medical worth.

Tejani said the Justice Department requested the files but was not granted access.

The Seventh Circuit Court of Appeals ruled that the Justice Department should not get the records, she said.

Tejani said she believed the Department of Justice did not need medical records to make their case for the ban.

"I don't think they need the records at all," she said. "I think it's a fishing expedition that would make women nervous

about the procedures."

Scheidler said the reluctance of the doctors to hand over medical records makes their argument look suspicious.

"They can't seem to get the records and they say privacy," he said. "The doctors don't want to turn them over because they are not done for health reasons."

He said if the doctors cannot come up with evidence to prove it is necessary, then the assumption is that it is an unnecessary procedure.

Tejani said the ban would set a legal precedent if it stands.

"If the courts rule it's legal," she said, "this will have an enormous effect on women's rights."

Scheidler said the tenacity of the issue makes every ruling on the topic very important.

"It's still going on," he said. "That would indicate that the Supreme Court didn't settle it 31 years ago. Thirty-one years later it's front page news, and it's not going away until we win."

'Under God' before Court

BY BILL WILLIAMS

Staff Reporter

The Supreme Court heard arguments March 24 regarding whether two words in the Pledge of Allegiance violate the First Amendment.

Michael Newdow, an atheist, believes his daughter's religious freedom was violated when she was required to be exposed to the phrase "under God" during the daily recitation of the Pledge in school.

In June 2002, the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals ruled in his favor.

Jeremy Leaming, spokesman for Americans United for Separation of Church and State, said the words should be stricken from the Pledge.

"We believe the government should refrain from taking sides in religious matters," he said. "It makes no sense for schoolchildren to recite something they might not believe in."

Paul Devin, general counsel for the Knights of Columbus, the world's largest Catholic layman's association, strongly supports keeping the words in the pledge.

"It's not a matter of separation of church and state," he said. "It's whether or not it violates the Establishment Clause of

the First Amendment, which we believe it doesn't."

The government has made many references to a supreme being throughout its history, Devin said. It has even been suggested that the rights granted in the Constitution come from a higher power.

"The Pledge recognizes the historical underpinnings of these rights," Devin said. "Therefore, rights that did not come from the state cannot be taken away by the state."

Leslie Goldstein, political science professor, said while there are precedents that might validate Newdow's case, most people do not have a strong opinion about the Pledge.

"Its impact is so minimal," she said. "No one takes it seriously as a religious exercise. No one who is saying it believes they are praying."

In 2000, the Supreme Court ruled that reciting a religious message at an official school function is unconstitutional.

Leaming said school children should not be forced to recite the Pledge.

"If students want to voluntarily recite the pledge, that's fine," he said, "but teachers, who are government workers, should

not be leading students in the saying of the Pledge as it currently stands."

Goldstein said two law professors filed a friend of the court brief suggesting the Pledge be handled in a similar way to the oath of public office, where a person can either choose to take the oath or give a solemn affirmation.

"The best way is to allow two versions: one with 'under God,' and without it," she said. "Though that kind of gets away from the purpose of the Pledge, which is to unite."

Leaming said Americans United for the Separation of Church and State also filed a friend of the court brief to uphold the Ninth Circuit's ruling, and sees no problem with a secular pledge.

"Students should not be worried about violating their beliefs," Leaming said.

Devin said he was hopeful the court would see the historical precedence of religion in government.

"Every president since Washington has made reference to a supreme being," he said.



U.N. COURT WANTS U.S. DEATH SENTENCES REVIEWED

MEXICO CITY — In a rebuke of the U.S. legal system, the International Court of Justice ruled Wednesday that 51 Mexicans on death row in the United States were illegally deprived of consular assistance and that their sentences should immediately be "reviewed and reconsidered."

It was unclear whether the decision would spare the prisoners' lives or even force new trials.

U.S. officials said they were studying the ruling by the court, the principal judicial body of the United Nations, but the United States has refused in the past to abide by its decisions.

Officials in Oklahoma and Texas, where executions of Mexicans are imminent, were defiant.

Although the effect of the court's decision remains unknown, the Mexican government and human rights advocates hailed it as a triumph for international law, and Mexican officials vowed to mount fresh challenges to the death sentences case by case.

President Vicente Fox, an opponent of the death penalty, said the international court in The Hague has supported Mexico in the question of human rights.

"They have agreed that our citizens have been given the death penalty in a process that did not respect the law," he said.

Mexico argued before the court that the condemned Mexicans were not advised of their right under the 1963 Vienna Convention of Consular Relations to request "without delay" help from their embassies or consulates.

That deprived them of access to services that Mexican consulates provide, such as legal and financial assistance, and even visas for witnesses.

While admitting that foreign detainees have not always been advised of their right to consular aid, U.S. officials consistently argued during the proceedings that the Mexican case was an intrusion of U.S. sovereignty.

BRITISH MUSLIM LEADERS URGE BELIEVERS TO SHUN EXTREMISM

LONDON — A day after the detention of eight Muslims by anti-terrorist police, leaders of Britain's 2 million Muslims on Wednesday issued a letter calling on believers in the country to shun extremism and political violence.

The statement, signed by the secretary-general of the Muslim Council of Britain, was sent to imams, scholars and all other leaders of mosques, Islamic organizations and institutions throughout Britain.

The instruction will be read out at Britain's 1,000 mosques today.

The council said the letter was in the works even before Tuesday's arrests and seizure of a half-ton of potentially explosive ammonium nitrate in the largest counter-terrorist raid in Britain since the immediate aftermath of the Sept. 11, 2001 terrorist attacks.

In the letter, the council instructed Muslim leaders to "provide the correct Islamic guidance ... especially to our youth, as to our obligation to maintain the peace and security of our country."

They also were asked to "observe the utmost vigilance against any mischievous or criminal elements from infiltrating the community."

Secretary-General Iqbal Sacranie said the country would not tolerate terrorism.

The arrests this week, like previous detentions of Britains accused of cooperating in terrorist actions, has caused a certain measure of soul-searching in the country's Muslim community.

There have been calls by mainstream Muslims for curbs on radical groups they say are tarnishing the image of Islam in Britain.

The radicals, often from abroad, are alleged to recruit and proselytize among young Muslims, especially those who are unemployed or disillusioned about their prospects.

Police said the eight people taken into custody were being questioned at a high-security police station in London, and released no additional information about the alleged plot. The youngest of the eight was 17.

U.N. WATCHDOG SAYS IRAN HAS NOT GIVEN FREE ACCESS

ISTANBUL, Turkey — An internal report by the U.N. nuclear watchdog agency challenges Iran's contention that it has provided international inspectors with free access to workshops where it has manufactured parts for centrifuges.

The document contradicts Iranian assurances earlier this month that it allowed inspectors from the International Atomic Energy Agency unrestricted access to the sites during inspections in January.

"The agency's visit was 'managed' by the Iranians in the sense that the inspectors were not permitted to take pictures with IAEA cameras or use their own electronic equipment," the document stated.

Iran signed an agreement in December promising inspectors unfettered access to its nuclear facilities and to sites where the agency suspected nuclear activities might have taken place.

The agreement came after inspectors discovered traces of weapons-grade uranium at two locations and other evidence Iran had failed to disclose.

In a paper circulated earlier this month to the 35 countries on the IAEA board in Vienna, Austria, Iran maintained it had granted "full and unrestricted access" to its nuclear sites.

The contradictory report from the international agency was disclosed the same day Britain, France and Germany criticized Iran for starting operations at a uranium-conversion facility in Esfahan.

The plant is designed to transform uranium ore into uranium hexafluoride, a gas used in centrifuges to produce enriched uranium, which can be used in civilian reactors or in the production of weapons.

Tehran acknowledged Saturday it had started operations at the plant, following reports the enrichment had begun there last month.

The European countries, which negotiated an agreement with Iran to suspend uranium enrichment last fall, said the start-up sent the "wrong signal" to the international community about Tehran's intentions.

A team of inspectors arrived Saturday in Iran to inspect the Esfahan facility and a huge centrifuge plant under construction near the central Iranian city of Natanz.

The IAEA and the Europeans have worked to keep negotiations with Tehran on track.

The United States has urged tougher action because Washington, D.C., believes Iran is concealing a nuclear weapons effort behind what it describes as a civilian program.

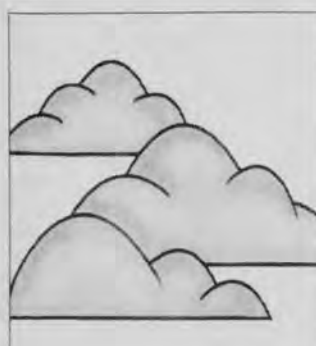
— compiled by Erin Burke from L.A. Times and Washington Post wire reports

THREE-DAY FORECAST



FRIDAY

Rain likely,
highs in the 50s



SATURDAY

Mostly cloudy,
highs in the 50s



SUNDAY

Partly cloudy,
highs in the 50s

— courtesy of the National Weather Service

Police Reports

MAN EXPOSES HIMSELF OUTSIDE APARTMENT

An unknown man exposed himself outside of an Ivy Hall Apartment at approximately 10:34 p.m. Tuesday, Newark Police said.

Cpl. Tracy Simpson said two women were walking into Building E and the man held the door for them. They assumed he was another resident's father.

Minutes later, she said, one of the women heard a shriek from outside.

Simpson said she looked outside of her window and saw the man exposed.

The man escaped on foot, she said, and police were not able to find him.

There are no further leads, Simpson said.

STOREFRONT WINDOWS DAMAGED

An unknown person damaged two storefront windows on Elkton Road between approximately 7 p.m. and 9:30 p.m. Tuesday, Simpson said.

The Eagle Diner and Happy Garden were both targeted by BB gun shooters, she said.

Simpson said damage to both windows totaled \$1,700.

Police are currently working on the investigation, she said, and the incident may be linked to previous ones.

PURSE REMOVED FROM SHOPPING CART

An unknown person removed a woman's purse from her shopping cart at the Acme in Suburban Plaza Shopping

Center at approximately 5 p.m.

Wednesday, Simpson said.

The woman stepped away from her cart for only a moment, she said, and when she returned her purse was missing.

Simpson said police reviewed surveillance tapes, and it appears the purse was there when the woman was in range of the camera.

However, in the time she left and returned to her cart the purse was missing, she said.

Removed property is estimated at approximately \$50, Simpson said.

— Stephanie Andersen

Twelve charged at Del. Ave. checkpoint

BY ANNIE GOTTLIEB
Staff Reporter

While students were on Spring Break last Friday, police from departments throughout New Castle County charged 12 people with driving under the influence at a semi-annual DUI checkpoint on East Delaware Avenue.

Michael Capriglione, New Castle County Strike Force commander, said 754 cars passed through the checkpoint and 42 were given sobriety tests.

"Believe it or not, it wasn't targeted at the university students," he said. "For some reason that area has always been a high drunk driving accident area."

Capriglione said the checkpoint, sponsored by the Delaware Office of Highway Safety, took place between

10:30 p.m. and 1 a.m. behind the Newark United Methodist Church.

Lt. Thomas LeMin, Newark Police Traffic Division commander, said the checkpoint was part of a series sponsored by the state to reduce traffic deaths by preventing drunk driving.

"We are also doing individual patrols as part of the series," he said. "The next day one officer on overtime was out and all he did was look for drunk drivers."

Andrea Summers, community relations officer for the Office of Highway Safety, said the series of checkpoints are headed by the officers of Team DUI, an enforcement plan working to prevent drinking and driving.

Summers said Team DUI was

developed after a checkpoint team worked between July and December of last year and made hundreds of arrests.

"There were 388 DUI arrests statewide in that six month period," she said. "The program was so successful we wanted to do more."

Capriglione stressed the checkpoint was not intended to arrest university students but rather to discourage drunk driving.

"We try to hit every city in the county," he said. "We don't want to make arrests."

"It would be great to go out one night and not get one drunk driver."

Delaware has strict laws about driving under the influence, Capriglione said. Any driver can be arrested with a

blood alcohol level of .08 or above, but for underage drivers there is a zero tolerance policy.

He said in addition to one underage consumption charge, two of the 12 DUI charges police issued were to drivers under the legal drinking age.

According to a press release, officers from New Castle City, Wilmington, Newport, Elsmere and Newark charged people with driving under the influence, and immediately issued citations at the scene from a Mobile Command Center provided by the Wilmington Police Department.

Capriglione said drivers charged were released when someone sober arrived to take them.

The consequences of drunk driving

are stern, he said, particularly for repeat offenders.

"The penalty increases each time someone is caught," Capriglione said. "By holding these checkpoints we are strongly trying to discourage people from getting behind the wheel if they've been drinking."

He said the checkpoints are advertised in the Wilmington News Journal in addition to radio advertisements.

"I don't think one person charged was a student at UD," he said.

LeMin said the checkpoint took place during the university's Spring Break coincidentally, and another checkpoint in Newark will take place later on this semester.

Students spend Break building

BY JACQUELINE RIVA
Staff Reporter

Thirty members of the university's chapter of Habitat for Humanity spent their Spring Break in Opelika, Ala., where they assisted in the construction of two new homes for low-income families as part of Habitat's International Colleague Challenge.

Junior Lindsay Messenger, vice president of the club, which has 115 official members, said the drive through seven states on the road to Alabama was fun in itself.

"It was hilarious," she said. "It was such a parade."

Although the typical college student's Spring Break consists of beaches and clubs, Messenger said, the 30 members spent their days shingling, siding, sodding, landscaping and painting.

The group's officers chose Alabama for the build location, Messenger said, by registering on Habitat's Web site and matching up available builds with their own free time, funds and personal interests.

"No one had ever been to Alabama before," she said.

The Colleague Challenge provided food and shelter for the group, Messenger said, but that consisted of only one large room for all 30 students, one tiny storage room and two showers.

"I was really into sponge baths," she said.

This particular week-long build was special because students became more united in their cause and established new friendships,

Messenger said.

"This gave everyone a really good opportunity to meet and bond with people that want to have the same kind of fun that you do," she said, "and to have a really good, productive Spring Break."

Due to the popularity of the trip, Messenger said the group is organizing a summer build and plans to continue over future Spring Breaks as well.

"We want to keep it going as much as possible," she said.

Another student who shares Messenger's passion for the club is junior Maria Pullella, president of Habitat.

Pullella wrote a \$2,500 grant Award to the Alumni Enrichment Request in order to fund the Spring Break build and received the full amount.

"I've changed my major because of Habitat," she said. "Now I want to work in community service. It's meant a lot to me."

Recipients of Habitat's houses have to go through an application process to determine if they will be able to afford the low mortgage, Pullella said, and must complete a set amount of service hours before they are awarded their new home.

"You're not just getting this house just for free," she said. "You have to show that you really want it and can pay it back."

While on campus, Pullella said the group has its own plans for funding and will hold activities such as a car wash, semi-formal, barbeque and volleyball game,



"We try to incorporate students into reaching funds outside of Habitat and not just be business," she said.

The club's next build has a Youth United theme and is planned for April 12 to 17 with young children from Delaware schools and youth centers fundraising, Pullella said. Students ages 16 and up will do the building.

"We're trying to get a lot of people to help us with that," she said.

Junior Linda Estevez, secretary of Habitat, did not go on the Spring Break build but participates with the club on Saturdays in Delaware during the Fall and Spring Semesters.

She said the group builds on local projects in cities and towns like Middletown, Newark, Wilmington and Georgetown.

"We just kind of give them an extra hand on the weekends," she said.

Estevez said no-interest mortgages, free labor from volunteers and supplies donated from companies all make Habitat's homes possible for low-income families.

"We're trying to fundraise so we get our own [university] house and we can control it," she said, "but so far we haven't made enough."



Courtesy of UD Habitat for Humanity



Thirty university students spend Spring Break building two new homes in Opelika, Ala. as part of a Habitat for Humanity project.

Police chase men from Embassy Suites hotel

BY NICOLE A. SARRUBBO
Staff Reporter

A loaded pistol, a hypodermic syringe and numerous baggies of heroin were among the items found in the backpack of one of two suspects arrested March 19 after they tried to flee from authorities, Newark Police said.

Sgt. Elwood Williams said Wilmington resident Brandon Episcopo, one of the men that fled, was in possession of the backpack, which contained an undisclosed amount of money, a loaded Walther PPK/S .380 pistol, a baggie of marijuana and other drug paraphernalia.

He said Newark Police were called to Embassy Suites Hotel on South College Avenue at 2:15 p.m. after the two suspects did not check out on time. The hotel staff said they heard loud noises coming from the room.

Brad Wenger, general manager of the Embassy Suites Hotel, said check out time is at 11 a.m.

After repeated attempts to contact the individuals inside the room, he said, the hotel staff finally spoke on the phone with one of the men at approximately 2 p.m., and he told the employee they were leaving.

The men did not leave the room, Wenger said, so the hotel staff called Newark Police.

"We got the police here and indicated that the guests had overstayed their welcome, so we used our override capabilities to disengage the deadbolt lock and gained entry into the room," he said.

Williams said that when police entered the suite, the suspects were in the process of climbing out of a window they had broken. The suspects then jumped off the two-story roof to the ground.

Episcopo fled and tried unsuccessfully to highjack a NKS Distributors tractor-trailer truck stopped in traffic on Christina Parkway, he said.

Episcopo was arrested and taken into custody.

Cpl. Tracy Simpson of Newark Police said Episcopo was injured while trying to highjack the truck.

"He was bleeding and complained of pain to his leg," she said.

He was brought to Christiana Hospital by Aetna Hoke, Hooke and Ladder Co. ambulance, where he was treated and released into police custody, Simpson said.

Williams said the other man, William Kowalski III, of Pennsylvania, N.J., also ran from police into a wooded area in back of the Embassy Suites Hotel.

Kowalski was later found walking on the Christina Parkway where Newark Police arrested him, he said.

Simpson said Episcopo was arrested, charged and brought to Gander Hill Prison in Wilmington because he was unable to post his \$30,000 bail.

Episcopo was charged with attempted carjacking, possession of a stolen firearm, possession of a firearm during the commission of a felony, possession with intent to deliver heroin, possession of marijuana, drug paraphernalia and a hypodermic syringe, maintaining a dwelling for the use of drugs, felony criminal mischief, resisting arrest and conspiracy.

Kowalski was also arrested, charged and taken to Gander Hill Prison, she said. His bail information was unavailable.

He was charged with maintaining a dwelling for the use of drugs, resisting arrest and conspiracy.

Women explore ethnic pride in 'Yo Soy Latina'

BY JOCELYN JONES
Copy Editor

"Yo Soy Latina," a hit stage play about six Latina women living in America, captivated an overflowing audience in Mitchell Hall Tuesday night.

Linda Nieves-Powell, writer and director of the show, said the play continues to be a major success on the college level because of how well students identify with her message.

"It's about being the outsider, trying to fit in somehow," she said.

At the start of the play, six women, who expected to attend a seminar about "what it means to be Latina," began introducing themselves to each other while waiting for the facilitator to arrive.

One character began reading the pamphlet about the seminar, which includes a section on "what to do if the teacher is late." The rest of the play was a casual dialogue between the women as they wait, loosely focused by the directions in the pamphlet.

By the end of the play, the audience and characters realize that a teacher was never meant to come at all but instead, each of the Latinas helped lead the "seminar," bonding with one another while breaking down not only societal stereotypes but also assumptions and prejudices within the Latino community at large.

"We can't wait for someone to give us the answers," Soledad said, played by actress Corina Ayala. "We have to find them ourselves."

The women, dressed in black, used only chairs as props. Rather than relying on special effects and gaudy set design, the play's appeal laid within the dialogue of the script and the capability of the actresses.

Each character felt a sense of pride for her heritage but also struggled with the fight against stereotypes and the temptation to alter oneself in an attempt to make life easier.

One of the women changed her last name as to appear less Latina.

Another character, Maria Elena, played by Sherette Gregg, is black and Latin American and chuck-

les as the other women discuss the pros and cons of changing their names.

"No matter what I change it to," she said, "I'm still black."

The characters also touched on how unrealistically they are portrayed on television, if they are recognized at all. The women discussed how Latinos are typically pigeonholed as sexpots, whores, drug addicts or welfare recipients.

"In 10 years, have you ever seen a Latino on 'Friends'?" asked Migdalia, played by actress Daisy Seda. "What part of New York City are they living in?"

The women went on to discuss how all Latinas are expected to wear red lipstick, hoop earrings and spandex, as well as speak fluent Spanish and only watch Telemundo.

The play ended with each character reciting the line, "Let me be who I need to be."

Nieves-Powell said she wanted her audiences, particularly women, to feel inspired.

"I wanted the women to be who they wanted to be, regardless of what they think a Latina is supposed to be," she said. "They can't make assumptions anymore, we're so diverse."

Sophomore Jodi Bramwell said Latinos were not the only people who could benefit from the performance.

"Boundaries were overcome," she said. "Although I am Jamaican, I could identify with so much of their experiences and pain."

Junior Tiffany Melendez said the play was not just focused on society's stereotypes against Latinos. "I appreciated the fact that they broke down discrimination among our own people," she said.

HOLA, the Office of Women's Affairs and Lambda Pi Chi sorority sponsored the play.

Senior Julissa Gutierrez, president of Lambda Pi Chi, said she and others had been working for over two years to bring the show to the university.

"There are a lot more Latinos coming on campus," she said. "It's important to create a familiar sense of home for them."

Same-sex marriage protested

BY RENEE GORMAN
Staff Reporter

A demonstration against same-sex marriage involving a group of suit-wearing young men, bagpipes, the American flag and a gigantic red banner stating "Tradition, Family, Property," could be seen and heard on the corner of South College and West Delaware Avenues Monday.

The protestors were non-university student members from Pennsylvania State University and various other colleges who belonged to the American Society for Defense of Tradition, Family and Property, a Catholic faith-inspired organization.

John Ritchie, director of student action of the TFP, said the group was not invited by a university organization.

"We decided to come to the university due to its close proximity to our Pennsylvania headquarters," he said. "We had also been touring other colleges along the East Coast and the university was along our route."

Ritchie said the group does not believe same-sex marriage is "true" marriage. Marriage can only take place, according to the group, between a man and a woman.

"[We decided to visit the university] with the intent of shedding light on the issue of same-sex marriage," he said.

The group is concerned with the recent flood of marriage licenses issued by local governments to same-sex couples in states such as California and New York, Ritchie said.

California's supreme court stopped the issuing of gay marriage licenses in San Francisco last month, but he said the group is still concerned anarchy will occur if marriage licenses continue to be given out across the United States.

Junior Ashley Pruss, a member of Haven, tore up a flier that was being distributed by the group and proceeded to throw it back at them.

She said she was not angry at the group for expressing its First Amendment right to free speech but was angry people could have the idea of blocking same-sex marriage by means of a constitutional amendment.

"It is frustrating to see the ignorance of other people," Pruss said. Junior Aaron Bradford said he was supportive of what the group was doing.

"[I am] concerned that the ideals meant to be passed down by the nation's founders are being placed in jeopardy," he said, "and the issuance of civil unions is very damaging to the concept of families."

The protest also came on the same day Massachusetts lawmakers voted on a new state constitutional amendment that would ban same-sex marriages but would legalize civil unions.

Previously, Massachusetts' Supreme Court was the first state to rule it unconstitutional to withhold marriage licenses to same-sex couples after a decision in November.

If the amendment is ratified, it would not be before the allowance of same-sex marriage goes into effect next month.

President George W. Bush has called for a Constitutional amendment defining marriage as strictly between a man and a woman.

The Defense of Marriage Act signed by former President Bill Clinton in 1996 granted individual states the right to decide the legality of same-sex marriages and also the act gave other states the right to deny that legal status that had been held in other states.

The act also created a federal definition of marriage as being a union between one man and one woman.

The demonstration came coincidentally two weeks after Haven's Marry-In demonstration, which supported same-sex marriages and was held at the Trabant University Center before Spring Break.



THE REVIEW/Erin Biles

The former Grass Roots shoe store will soon house a flower and antique shop.

Act makes killing fetus a crime

BY BENJAMIN ANDERSEN
News Features Editor

The Victims of Unborn Act passed the U.S. Senate Thursday, making assault or homicide charges against a pregnant woman carry a second offense on behalf of her unborn child.

President George W. Bush supported the bill and is expected to sign it into law.

Opponents of the bill claim it is an attempt to undermine the Supreme Court's *Roe v. Wade* decision in 1973, which guaranteed abortion rights to women.

The act states abortions committed with the woman's consent are immune from prosecution.

Evelyn Becker, deputy communications director for the National

Abortion and Reproductive Rights Action League Pro-choice America, said the bill is an assault on the landmark decision.

"It's an assault on the right to choose," she said.

Giving rights to fetuses is dangerous, Becker said, because pro-life Congressional members are trying to diminish women's rights.

"By enacting laws that protect embryos and fetuses they are destroying a pillar of *Roe v. Wade*," she said, "which doesn't provide constitutional rights for the unborn."

The bill is the first federal law giving rights to unborn children, Becker said.

She said her organization supports similar legislation punishing violence against pregnant women

that does not get entangled in the abortion debate.

Carrie Gordon Earll, spokeswoman for Focus on the Family, said the bill would protect wanted pregnancies.

"They have a right for that pregnancy to be protected," she said.

The legislation also brings federal law into compliance with approximately 30 states that already have similar laws, Earll said.

The state laws will be used more often than the new federal one, she said, but the law is on the books if needed.

In addition, the bill is a step forward for women's rights as well as the right to life, Earll said.

Besides protecting the potential mothers, she said, it is an important

step in protecting the humanity of an unborn fetus.

Leslie F. Goldstein, Judge Hugh M. Morris professor, stated in an e-mail message she feels the legislation is inconsequential and is not an attack against a woman's right to choose.

"It is definitely not an assault on *Roe v. Wade*," she said.

Goldstein said the act is a reminder of the sanctity of life, but ultimately it is merely an appeasement to anti-abortion forces within the United States.

"I have no special feelings of mercy toward criminals who deliberately assault pregnant women," she said. "On the other hand, I expect it to have virtually no deterrent effect."

Prof. book mulls religion in schools

BY RACHEL CIRONE
Staff Reporter

Joan Delfattore, English professor, has written a new book concerning the issues of religion in public schools.

Her book, "The Fourth R: Conflicts Over Religion in America's Public Schools," has come out just as the Supreme Court is deciding whether it is unconstitutional to recite "under God" in the Pledge of Allegiance in public schools.

Delfattore is an amendment, public schools and the First Amendment.

Her book addresses many issues surrounding religious speech and helps to rid people of misconceptions they might have about these issues, Delfattore said.

"There are a lot of misconceptions about religion in public schools," she said.

Many people think that no religious acts are permitted in public schools, Delfattore said. However, students can read the Bible and pray as much as they want. It is the state that is not allowed to lead students in prayer.

If individual students want to pray, it is up to them, she said, but "students can't just stand up in the middle of math class."

The issue of religion in public schools is a battle between majority rule and individual rights,

Delfattore said.

It used to be that everyone was expected to follow the majority, she said. Today, there is more focus placed on the individual.

The book also covers traces of the evolution of thought on religious speech in public schools. Many people believe that this issue did not become a problem until the 1960s, Delfattore said. However, there have been controversies over religion in schools as early as the 1800s.

In "The Fourth R," she described a riot in Philadelphia in 1844 where people fought over which version of the Bible should be used in schools, Catholic or Protestant.

Delfattore said instances of religion in schools are still going on today.

In the 1990s, a school in Mississippi was still giving Bible readings over the loudspeaker, she said.

"It is not the school's business," Delfattore said.

The problem is that people have certain views about religion and feel strongly about those views, she said. It then becomes a problem if officials favor the practice of religion in schools.

"If there is anything the government should stay out of, religion is it," Delfattore said.

In a previous book titled "What Johnny

Shouldn't Read," Delfattore wrote about the challenges to books motivated by religion. In her new book she focuses more on general speech within schools, such as whether or not students can have a Bible club.

In writing the book, she said she found there was a great amount of material to cover.

She also covered the historical, congressional, court and advocacy group aspects of religion in public schools. The latter, she said, was the most expansive topic.

"The issue is very largely a fight among advocacy groups," Delfattore said.

Mark Stern, co-director of the legal department of the American Jewish Congress, said Delfattore is "an author who took the time to go beyond the headlines."

She gave everyone a fair hearing that is uncommon in this field, he said.

The Rev. Robert Edgar, general secretary of the National Council of Churches, said he thinks Delfattore understands public education.

As a pastor, he said he has tried to convince congregations to pay attention to public education in neighborhoods and believes that Delfattore's book will help with this issue.

Main Street store blooms

BY ANNIE BALDRIDGE
Staff Reporter

Bloom, a funky antique and flower shop, will replace the Grass Roots shoe store on East Main Street and will open for business on April 10.

There will also be a gallery opening from April 5 through 9.

The store will feature eclectic gifts, fresh cut flowers and accessories.

Owner Mimi Sullivan said she plans to decorate the store in a French-American country theme with bright colors to complement the flowers on display.

She said she thinks the mix of old antiques and new modern items will make the store stand out.

"The antiques will be the bones of the store," Sullivan said. "They are there to complement other items."

The space on Main Street recently opened up due to Grass Roots consolidating and moving the shoe store into their main store across the street.

Kristin Short, co-manager of Grass Roots, said the store is trying to reduce expenses since the economy has not been friendly to business in the past few years.

"We decided the best way lower our expenses was to bring the shoes into the main store," she said.

By moving out of their second store, Grass Roots will save money on insurance, personnel and rent.

The shoe store officially closed March 15 and Grass Roots has been rearranging to fit everything into one store.

"It is not so much a problem finding space in the store but it's tight in the back room," Short said.

Grass Roots is looking to make shoes more of a self-service deal with all the merchandise on the floor. She said she thinks people will prefer not having to deal with a salesperson.

Short said she is glad they did not have to let any employees go and is looking forward to integrating their shoe line with new styles of clothing coming in.

Sullivan said the moment she saw the space on Main Street, she fell in love with it.

"I love Main Street in general," she said. "There is a comfort zone there and it has a great energy about it."

Sullivan said she plans to hire students to work in her store, but is currently unsure of her business hours. The store will be closed on Mondays and open every other day according to the flow of business.

She said she hopes to start her own accessory line and sell that in the store as well.

"I want to create a buzz on Main Street," Sullivan said. "I hope the store becomes a site people want to go."

Pencader renovations nearing end of first stage

BY SHARON CHO
Staff Reporter

The Pencader Residence Hall Project, which began in mid-January, is nearing completion of its first phase.

Penny Person, senior project manager of facilities planning and construction, said the project is divided into two parts: building the recreation courts near Pencader Complex and breaking down the older ones near the Christiana Towers to provide the space for a new residence hall.

Vic Costa, director of facilities planning and construction, said this project has been planned for approximately one year.

The recreation courts were selected as the first project, considering students' convenience.

"We did not want students not to have access to

the recreation courts, so they will be ready before the existing courts are broken down," he said. "We never want student's inconvenience."

Matt Coyle, an employee of Top-A-Court Tennis Company, said the company is building one tennis court, two basketball courts and a sand volleyball court in front of Pencader Residence Hall E.

"An average of 20 people are working on the project every day except for Sunday," he said. "The only tough parts about the project are the cold weather and the time restriction."

The new recreation courts the company has been working on will be ready for student use by April 19, he said.

Once the first phase of the project is completed, construction for the new residence hall will begin.

The new residence hall building will not look

like the Pencader Complex or the Christiana Towers, Costa said.

"Its architecture will be more of Georgian architecture, relating more to the center of campus," he said.

The new building will have singles and rooms called semi-suites, which two students share with a restroom, Costa said.

It will also include facilities, such as a laundry room, kitchen, restrooms, lounges and study areas for student's use and enjoyment, he said, but he is not sure what recreational games will be used in the new lounge.

Currently, a fence stands around the old recreation area preparing for the eventual start of the construction.

Kathleen Kerr, director of Residence Life, said

the recreation area will be replaced by a five-story residence hall building which can hold approximately 750 students.

Costa said the university administration first brought up the idea for the Pencader Hall Project.

Kerr said there have been no complaints concerning the construction from students.

"It has been a planned project for a long time and the university has been talking [about it] for the past several years," she said.

Person said the entirety of the project is projected to be completed by late summer 2006 with more students being able to live on campus, and the current students on campus will have functioning recreation courts.

Coffeehouse comedian takes stage at the Scrounge

BY BROOK PATTERSON
National/State News Editor

Kung-fu impressions and sound effects entertained approximately 40 students in the Scrounge Tuesday night during the Coffeehouse Series, sponsored by the Student Center Programs Advisory Board.

Students trying to study were distracted by the stand-up comedy act of Steve Byrne, a comedian who shares his time between New York and Los Angeles.

He began his act by singling out members of the audience in pairs and questioned whether they were dating or not. He also serenaded one female student with a special rendition of "Lady in Red."

Byrne followed the serenade with a series of impressions involving sexual innuendo, including sound effects. Roaring laughter ensued as shocked audience members watched Byrne perform his brand of humor.

Byrne has performed at the university before, but Tuesday's show was different, he said.

"It was a lot more fun this time. The audience interacted a lot more and made it easy for me," Byrne said. "Sometimes, you can't get people to talk, but everyone here was really nice."

He said he usually performs at the Comedy Cellar in New York, but also appears at approximately 35 colleges a year.

Byrne said he did not initially plan on becoming a comedian. However, he began working at a comedy club and, by watching other comedians, decided to try it out.

"I watched and decided to give it a try, and it worked out," he said. "I like to goof off."

The act comes from hanging out with his friends, Byrne said, where he comes up with different material.

"I am usually just goofing off with my friends," he said. "My act is pretty physical, and you definitely don't have to think too much."

Junior Stephanie Raible, chairwoman of the Coffeehouse Series, said she thought Byrne's performance was excellent.

The beginning of the act had a lot of energy, she said, and as the night progressed, Byrne became more comfortable and casual with the audience.

"He felt out the audience, and the act tended to be a little more raunchy toward the end," Raible said.

Junior Kaitlin Hoffman, vice president of SCPAB, said the turnout was a little lower than expected, but she thinks it may be because it was the first show after spring break.

"It was slow tonight, but the series is usually a success, and we have had a successful year," she said.

Byrne was most recently seen on "The Jimmy Kimmel Show," "The Late, Late Show with Craig Kilborn" and "Tough Crowd with Colin Quinn."

Twelve charged at Del. Ave. checkpoint

BY ANNIE GOTTLIEB

Staff Reporter

While students were on Spring Break last Friday, police from departments throughout New Castle County charged 12 people with driving under the influence at a semi-annual DUI checkpoint on East Delaware Avenue.

Michael Capriglione, New Castle County Strike Force commander, said 754 cars passed through the checkpoint and 42 were given sobriety tests.

"Believe it or not, it wasn't targeted at the university students," he said. "For some reason that area has always been a high drunk driving accident area."

Capriglione said the checkpoint, sponsored by the Delaware Office of Highway Safety, took place between

10:30 p.m. and 1 a.m. behind the Newark United Methodist Church.

Lt. Thomas LeMin, Newark Police Traffic Division commander, said the checkpoint was part of a series sponsored by the state to reduce traffic deaths by preventing drunk driving.

"We are also doing individual patrols as part of the series," he said. "The next day one officer on overtime was out and all he did was look for drunk drivers."

Andrea Summers, community relations officer for the Office of Highway Safety, said the series of checkpoints are headed by the officers of Team DUI, an enforcement plan working to prevent drinking and driving.

Summers said Team DUI was

developed after a checkpoint team worked between July and December of last year and made hundreds of arrests.

"There were 388 DUI arrests statewide in that six month period," she said. "The program was so successful we wanted to do more."

Capriglione stressed the checkpoint was not intended to arrest university students but rather to discourage drunk driving.

"We try to hit every city in the county," he said. "We don't want to make arrests."

"It would be great to go out one night and not get one drunk driver."

Delaware has strict laws about driving under the influence, Capriglione said. Any driver can be arrested with a

blood alcohol level of .08 or above, but for underage drivers there is a zero tolerance policy.

He said in addition to one underage consumption charge, two of the 12 DUI charges police issued were to drivers under the legal drinking age.

According to a press release, officers from New Castle City, Wilmington, Newport, Elsmere and Newark charged people with driving under the influence, and immediately issued citations at the scene from a Mobile Command Center provided by the Wilmington Police Department.

Capriglione said drivers charged were released when someone sober arrived to take them.

The consequences of drunk driving

are stern, he said, particularly for repeat offenders.

"The penalty increases each time someone is caught," Capriglione said. "By holding these checkpoints we are strongly trying to discourage people from getting behind the wheel if they've been drinking."

He said the checkpoints are advertised in the Wilmington News Journal in addition to radio advertisements.

"I don't think one person charged was a student at UD," he said.

LeMin said the checkpoint took place during the university's Spring Break coincidentally, and another checkpoint in Newark will take place later on this semester.

Students spend Break building

BY JACQUELINE RIVA

Staff Reporter

Thirty members of the university's chapter of Habitat for Humanity spent their Spring Break in Opelika, Ala., where they assisted in the construction of two new homes for low-income families as part of Habitat's International Collegiate Challenge.

Junior Lindsay Messenger, vice president of the club, which has 115 official members, said the drive through seven states on the road to Alabama was fun in itself.

"It was hilarious," she said. "It was such a parade."

Although the typical college student's Spring Break consists of beaches and clubs, Messenger said, the 30 members spent their days shingling, siding, sodding, landscaping and painting.

The group's officers chose Alabama for the build location, Messenger said, by registering on Habitat's Web site and matching up available builds with their own free time, funds and personal interests.

"No one had ever been to Alabama before," she said.

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"I was really into sponge baths," she said.

This particular week-long build was special because students became more united in their cause and established new friendships,

Messenger said.

"This gave everyone a really good opportunity to meet and bond with people that want to have the same kind of fun that you do," she said, "and to have a really good, productive Spring Break."

Due to the popularity of the trip, Messenger said the group is organizing a summer build and plans to continue over future Spring Breaks as well.

"We want to keep it going as much as possible," she said.

Another student who shares Messenger's passion for the club is junior Maria Pullella, president of Habitat.

Pullella wrote a \$2,500 grant request to the Alumni Enrichment Award in order to fund the Spring Break build and received the full amount.

"I've changed my major because of Habitat," she said. "Now I want to work in community service. It's meant a lot to me."

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She said the group builds on local projects in cities and towns like Middletown, Newark, Wilmington and Georgetown.

"We just kind of give them an extra hand on the weekends," she said.

Estevez said no-interest mortgages, free labor from volunteers and supplies donated from companies all make Habitat's homes possible for low-income families.

"We're trying to fundraise so we get our own [university] house and we can control it," she said, "but so far we haven't made enough."



Courtesy of UD Habitat for Humanity



Thirty university students spend Spring Break building two new homes in Opelika, Ala. as part of a Habitat for Humanity project.

Police chase men from Embassy Suites hotel

BY NICOLE A. SARRUBBO

Staff Reporter

A loaded pistol, a hypodermic syringe and numerous baggies of heroin were among the items found in the backpack of one of two suspects arrested March 19 after they tried to flee from authorities, Newark Police said.

Sgt. Elwood Williams said Wilmington resident Brandon Episcopo, one of the men that fled, was in possession of the backpack, which contained an undisclosed amount of money, a loaded Walther PPK/S .380 pistol, a baggie of marijuana and other drug paraphernalia.

He said Newark Police were called to Embassy Suites Hotel on South College Avenue at 2:15 p.m. after the two suspects did not check out on time. The hotel staff said they heard loud noises coming from the room.

Brad Wenger, general manager of the Embassy Suites Hotel, said check out time is at 11 a.m.

After repeated attempts to contact the individuals inside the room, he said, the hotel staff finally spoke on the phone with one of the men at approximately 2 p.m., and he told the employee they were leaving.

The men did not leave the room, Wenger said, so the hotel staff called Newark Police.

"We got the police here and indicated that the guests had overstayed their welcome, so we used our override capabilities to disengage the deadbolt lock and gained entry into the room," he said.

Williams said that when police entered the suite, the suspects were in the process of climbing out of a window they had broken. The suspects then jumped off the two-story roof to the ground.

Episcopo fled and tried unsuccessfully to highjack a NKS Distributors tractor-trailer truck stopped in traffic on Christina Parkway, he said.

Episcopo was arrested and taken into custody. Cpl. Tracy Simpson of Newark Police said Episcopo was injured while trying to highjack the truck.

"He was bleeding and complained of pain to his leg," she said.

He was brought to Christiana Hospital by Aetna Hoke and Ladder Co. ambulance, where he was treated and released into police custody, Simpson said.

Williams said the other man, William Kowalski III, of Pennsville, N.J., also ran from police into a wooded area in back of the Embassy Suites Hotel.

Kowalski was later found walking on the Christina Parkway where Newark Police arrested him, he said.

Simpson said Episcopo was arrested, charged and brought to Gander Hill Prison in Wilmington because he was unable to post his \$30,000 bail.

Episcopo was charged with attempted carjacking, possession of a stolen firearm, possession of a firearm during the commission of a felony, possession with intent to deliver heroin, possession of marijuana, drug paraphernalia and a hypodermic syringe, maintaining a dwelling for the use of drugs, felony criminal mischief, resisting arrest and conspiracy.

Kowalski was also arrested, charged and taken to Gander Hill Prison, she said. His bail information was unavailable.

He was charged with maintaining a dwelling for the use of drugs, resisting arrest and conspiracy.

Women explore ethnic pride in 'Yo Soy Latina'

BY JOCELYN JONES

Copy Editor

"Yo Soy Latina," a hit stage play about six Latina women living in America, captivated an overflowing audience in Mitchell Hall Tuesday night.

Linda Nieves-Powell, writer and director of the show, said the play continues to be a major success on the college level because of how well students identify with her message.

"It's about being the outsider, trying to fit in somehow," she said.

At the start of the play, six women, who expected to attend a seminar about "what it means to be Latina," began introducing themselves to each other while waiting for the facilitator to arrive.

One character began reading the pamphlet about the seminar, which includes a section on "what to do if the teacher is late." The rest of the play was a casual dialogue between the women as they wait, loosely focused by the directions in the pamphlet.

By the end of the play, the audience and characters realize that a teacher was never meant to come at all but instead, each of the Latinas helped lead the "seminar," bonding with one another while breaking down not only societal stereotypes but also assumptions and prejudices within the Latino community at large.

"We can't wait for someone to give us the answers," Soledad said, played by actress Corina Ayala. "We have to find them ourselves."

The women, dressed in black, used only chairs as props. Rather than relying on special effects and gaudy set design, the play's appeal laid within the dialogue of the script and the capability of the actresses.

Each character felt a sense of pride for her heritage but also struggled with the fight against stereotypes and the temptation to alter oneself in an attempt to make life easier.

One of the women changed her last name as to appear less Latina.

Another character, Maria Elena, played by Sherette Gregg, is black and Latin American and chuck-

les as the other women discuss the pros and cons of changing their names.

"No matter what I change it to," she said, "I'm still black."

The characters also touched on how unrealistically they are portrayed on television, if they are recognized at all. The women discussed how Latinos are typically pigeonholed as sexpots, whores, drug addicts or welfare recipients.

"In 10 years, have you ever seen a Latino on 'Friends'?" asked Migdalia, played by actress Daisy Seda. "What part of New York City are they living in?"

The women went on to discuss how all Latinas are expected to wear red lipstick, hoop earrings and spandex, as well as speak fluent Spanish and only watch Telemundo.

The play ended with each character reciting the line, "Let me be who I need to be."

Nieves-Powell said she wanted her audiences, particularly women, to feel inspired.

"I wanted the women to be who they wanted to be, regardless of what they think a Latina is supposed to be," she said. "They can't make assumptions anymore, we're so diverse."

Sophomore Jodi Bramwell said Latinos were not the only people who could benefit from the performance.

"Boundaries were overcome," she said. "Although I am Jamaican, I could identify with so much of their experiences and pain."

Junior Tiffany Melendez said the play was not just focused on society's stereotypes against Latinos. "I appreciated the fact that they broke down discrimination among our own people," she said.

HOLA, the Office of Women's Affairs and Lambda Pi Chi sorority sponsored the play.

Senior Julissa Gutierrez, president of Lambda Pi Chi, said she and others had been working for over two years to bring the show to the university.

"There are a lot more Latinos coming on campus," she said. "It's important to create a familiar sense of home for them."

Same-sex marriage protested

BY RENEE GORMAN
Staff Reporter

A demonstration against same-sex marriage involving a group of suit-wearing young men, bagpipes, the American flag and a gigantic red banner stating "Tradition, Family, Property," could be seen and heard on the corner of South College and West Delaware Avenues Monday.

The protestors were non-university student members from Pennsylvania State University and various other colleges who belonged to the American Society for Defense of Tradition, Family and Property, a Catholic faith-inspired organization.

John Ritchie, director of student action of the TFP, said the group was not invited by a university organization.

"We decided to come to the university due to its close proximity to our Pennsylvania headquarters," he said. "We had also been touring other colleges along the East Coast and the university was along our route."

Ritchie said the group does not believe same-sex marriage is truly marriage. Marriage can only take place, according to the group, between a man and a woman.

"[We decided to visit the university] with the intent of shedding light on the issue of same-sex marriage," he said.

The group is concerned with the recent flood of marriage licenses issued by local governments to same-sex couples in states such as California and New York, Ritchie said.

California's supreme court stopped the issuing of gay marriage licenses in San Francisco last month, but he said the group is still concerned anarchy will occur if marriage licenses continue to be given out across the United States.

Junior Ashley Pruss, a member of Haven, tore up a flier that was being distributed by the group and proceeded to throw it back at them.

She said she was not angry at the group for expressing its First Amendment right to free speech but was angry people could have the idea of blocking same-sex marriage by means of a constitutional amendment.

"It is frustrating to see the ignorance of other people," Pruss said. Junior Aaron Bradford said he was supportive of what the group was doing.

"[I am] concerned that the ideals meant to be passed down by the nation's founders are being placed in jeopardy," he said, "and the issuance of civil unions is very damaging to the concept of families."

The protest also came on the same day Massachusetts lawmakers voted on a new state constitutional amendment that would ban same-sex marriages but would legalize civil unions.

Previously, Massachusetts' Supreme Court was the first state to rule it unconstitutional to withhold marriage licenses to same-sex couples after a decision in November.

If the amendment is ratified, it would not be before the allowance of same-sex marriage goes into effect next month.

President George W. Bush has called for a Constitutional amendment defining marriage as strictly between a man and woman.

The Defense of Marriage Act signed by former President Bill Clinton in 1996 granted individual states the right to decide the legality of same-sex marriages and also the act gave other states the right to deny that legal status that had been held in other states.

The act also created a federal definition of marriage as being a union between one man and one woman.

The demonstration came coincidentally two weeks after Haven's Marry-In demonstration, which supported same-sex marriages and was held at the Trabant University Center before Spring Break.



THE REVIEW/Erin Biles

The former Grass Roots shoe store will soon house a flower and antique shop.

Main Street store blooms

BY ANNIE BALDRIDGE
Staff Reporter

Bloom, a funky antique and flower shop, will replace the Grass Roots shoe store on East Main Street and will open for business on April 10.

There will also be a gallery opening from April 5 through 9.

The store will feature eclectic gifts, fresh cut flowers and accessories.

Owner Mimi Sullivan said she plans to decorate the store in a French-American country theme with bright colors to complement the flowers on display. She said she thinks the mix of old antiques and new modern items will make the store stand out.

"The antiques will be the bones of the store," Sullivan said. "They are there to complement other items."

The space on Main Street recently opened up due to Grass Roots consolidating and moving the shoe store into their main store across the street.

Kristin Short, co-manager of Grass Roots, said the store is trying to reduce expenses since the economy has not been friendly to business in the past few years.

"We decided the best way lower our expenses was to bring the shoes into the main store," she said.

By moving out of their second store, Grass Roots will save money on insurance, personnel and rent.

The shoe store officially closed March 15 and Grass Roots has been rearranging to fit everything into one store.

"It is not so much a problem finding space in the store but it's tight in the back room," Short said.

Grass Roots is looking to make shoes more of a self-service deal with all the merchandise on the floor. She said she thinks people will prefer not having to deal with a salesperson.

Short said she is glad they did not have to let any employees go and is looking forward to integrating their shoe line with new styles of clothing coming in.

Sullivan said the moment she saw the space on Main Street, she fell in love with it.

"I love Main Street in general," she said. "There is a comfort zone there and it has a great energy about it."

Sullivan said she plans to hire students to work in her store, but is currently unsure of her business hours. The store will be closed on Mondays and open every other day according to the flow of business.

She said she hopes to start her own accessory line and sell that in the store as well.

"I want to create a buzz on Main Street," Sullivan said. "I hope the store becomes a site people want to go."

Act makes killing fetus a crime

BY BENJAMIN ANDERSEN
News Features Editor

The Victims of Unborn Violence Act passed the U.S. Senate Thursday, making assault or homicide charges against a pregnant woman carry a second offense on behalf of her unborn child.

President George W. Bush supported the bill and is expected to sign it into law.

Opponents of the bill claim it is an attempt to undermine the Supreme Court's *Roe v. Wade* decision in 1973, which guaranteed abortion rights to women.

The act states abortions committed with the woman's consent are immune from prosecution.

Evelyn Becker, deputy communications director for the National

Abortion and Reproductive Rights Action League Pro-choice America, said the bill is an assault on the landmark decision.

"It's an assault on the right to choose," she said.

Giving rights to fetuses is dangerous, Becker said, because pro-life Congressional members are trying to diminish women's rights.

"By enacting laws that protect embryos and fetuses they are destroying a pillar of *Roe v. Wade*," she said, "which doesn't provide constitutional rights for the unborn."

The bill is the first federal law giving rights to unborn children, Becker said.

She said her organization supports similar legislation punishing violence against pregnant women

that does not get entangled in the abortion debate.

Carrie Gordon Earll, spokeswoman for Focus on the Family, said the bill would protect wanted pregnancies.

"They have a right for that pregnancy to be protected," she said.

The legislation also brings federal law into compliance with approximately 30 states that already have similar laws, Earll said.

The state laws will be used more often than the new federal one, she said, but the law is on the books if needed.

In addition, the bill is a step forward for women's rights as well as the right to life, Earll said.

Besides protecting the potential mothers, she said, it is an important

step in protecting the humanity of an unborn fetus.

Leslie F. Goldstein, Judge Hugh M. Morris professor, stated in an e-mail message she feels the legislation is inconsequential and is not an attack against a woman's right to choose.

"It is definitely not an assault on *Roe v. Wade*," she said.

Goldstein said the act is a reminder of the sanctity of life, but ultimately it is merely an appeasement to anti-abortion forces within the United States.

"I have no special feelings of mercy toward criminals who deliberately assault pregnant women," she said. "On the other hand, I expect it to have virtually no deterrent effect."

Prof. book mulls religion in schools

BY RACHEL CIRONE
Staff Reporter

Joan DelFattore, English professor, has written a new book concerning the issues of religion in public schools.

Her book, "The Fourth R: Conflicts Over Religion in America's Public Schools," has come out just as the Supreme Court is deciding whether it is unconstitutional to recite "under God" in the Pledge of Allegiance in public schools.

DelFattore is an expert on religion, public schools and the First Amendment.

Her book addresses many issues surrounding religious speech and helps to rid people of misconceptions they might have about these issues, DelFattore said.

"There are a lot of misconceptions about religion in public schools," she said.

Many people think that no religious acts are permitted in public schools, DelFattore said. However, students can read the Bible and pray as much as they want. It is the state that is not allowed to lead students in prayer.

If individual students want to pray, it is up to them, she said, but "students can't just stand up in the middle of math class."

The issue of religion in public schools is a battle between majority rule and individual rights,

DelFattore said.

It used to be that everyone was expected to follow the majority, she said. Today, there is more focus placed on the individual.

The book also covers traces of the evolution of thought on religious speech in public schools. Many people believe that this issue did not become a problem until the 1960s, DelFattore said. However, there have been controversies over religion in schools as early as the 1800s.

In "The Fourth R," she described a riot in Philadelphia in 1844 where people fought over which version of the Bible should be used in schools, Catholic or Protestant.

DelFattore said instances of religion in schools are still going on today.

In the 1990s, a school in Mississippi was still giving Bible readings over the loudspeaker, she said.

"It is not the school's business," DelFattore said.

The problem is that people have certain views about religion and feel strongly about those views, she said. It then becomes a problem if officials favor the practice of religion in schools.

"If there is anything the government should stay out of, religion is it," DelFattore said.

In a previous book titled "What Johnny

Shouldn't Read," DelFattore wrote about the challenges to books motivated by religion. In her new book she focuses more on general speech within schools, such as whether or not students can have a Bible club.

In writing the book, she said she found there was a great amount of material to cover.

She also covered the historical, congressional, court and advocacy group aspects of religion in public schools. The latter, she said, was the most expansive topic.

"The issue is very largely a fight among advocacy groups," DelFattore said.

Mark Stern, co-director of the legal department of the American Jewish Congress, said DelFattore is "an author who took the time to go beyond the headlines."

She gave everyone a fair hearing that is uncommon in this field, he said.

The Rev. Robert Edgar, general secretary of the National Council of Churches, said he thinks DelFattore understands public education.

As a pastor, he said he has tried to convince congregations to pay attention to public education in neighborhoods and believes that DelFattore's book will help with this issue.

Pencader renovations nearing end of first stage

BY SHARON CHO
Staff Reporter

The Pencader Residence Hall Project, which began in mid-January, is nearing completion of its first phase.

Penny Person, senior project manager of facilities planning and construction, said the project is divided into two parts: building the recreation courts near Pencader Complex and breaking down the older ones near the Christiana Towers to provide the space for a new residence hall.

Vic Costa, director of facilities planning and construction, said this project has been planned for approximately one year.

The recreation courts were selected as the first project, considering students' convenience.

"We did not want students not to have access to

the recreation courts, so they will be ready before the existing courts are broken down," he said. "We never want student's inconvenience."

Matt Coyle, an employee of Top-A-Court Tennis Company, said the company is building one tennis court, two basketball courts and a sand volleyball court in front of Pencader Residence Hall E.

"An average of 20 people are working on the project every day except for Sunday," he said. "The only tough parts about the project are the cold weather and the time restriction."

The new recreation courts the company has been working on will be ready for student use by April 19, he said.

Once the first phase of the project is completed, construction for the new residence hall will begin.

The new residence hall building will not look

like the Pencader Complex or the Christiana Towers, Costa said.

"Its architecture will be more of Georgian architecture, relating more to the center of campus," he said.

The new building will have singles and rooms called semi-suites, which two students share with a restroom, Costa said.

It will also include facilities, such as a laundry room, kitchen, restrooms, lounges and study areas for student's use and enjoyment, he said, but he is not sure what recreational games will be used in the new lounge.

Currently, a fence stands around the old recreation area preparing for the eventual start of the construction.

Kathleen Kerr, director of Residence Life, said

the recreation area will be replaced by a five-story residence hall building which can hold approximately 750 students.

Costa said the university administration first brought up the idea for the Pencader Hall Project.

Kerr said there have been no complaints concerning the construction from students.

"It has been a planned project for a long time and the university has been talking [about it] for the past several years," she said.

Person said the entirety of the project is projected to be completed by late summer 2006 with more students being able to live on campus, and the current students on campus will have functioning recreation courts.

Coffeehouse comedian takes stage at the Scrounge

BY BROOK PATTERSON
National/State News Editor

Kung-fu impressions and sound effects entertained approximately 40 students in the Scrounge Tuesday night during the Coffeehouse Series, sponsored by the Student Center Programs Advisory Board.

Students trying to study were distracted by the stand-up comedy act of Steve Byrne, a comedian who shares his time between New York and Los Angeles.

He began his act by singling out members of the audience in pairs and questioned whether they were dating or not. He also serenaded one female student with a special rendition of "Lady in Red."

Byrne followed the serenade with a series of impressions involving sexual innuendo, including sound effects. Roaring laughter ensued as shocked audience members watched Byrne perform his brand of humor.

Byrne has performed at the university before, but Tuesday's show was different, he said.

"It was a lot more fun this time. The audience interacted a lot more and made it easy for me," Byrne said. "Sometimes, you can't get people to talk, but everyone here was really nice."

He said he usually performs at the Comedy Cellar in New York, but also appears at approximately 35 colleges a year.

Byrne said he did not initially plan on becoming a comedian. However, he began working at a comedy club and, by watching other comedians, decided to try it out.

"I watched and decided to give it a try, and it worked out," he said. "I like to goof off."

The act comes from hanging out with his friends, Byrne said, where he comes up with different material.

"I am usually just goofing off with my friends," he said. "My act is pretty physical, and you definitely don't have to think too much."

Junior Stephanie Raible, chairwoman of the Coffeehouse Series, said she thought Byrne's performance was excellent.

The beginning of the act had a lot of energy, she said, and as the night progressed, Byrne became more comfortable and casual with the audience.

"He felt out the audience, and the act tended to be a little more raunchy toward the end," Raible said.

Junior Kaitlin Hoffman, vice president of SCPAB, said the turnout was a little lower than expected, but she thinks it may be because it was the first show after spring break.

"It was slow tonight, but the series is usually a success, and we have had a successful year," she said.

Byrne was most recently seen on "The Jimmy Kimmel Show," "The Late, Late Show with Craig Kilborn" and "Tough Crowd with Colin Quinn."

Nuclear concerns 25 years after Three Mile

BY E. KULHANEK

Staff Reporter

Last Sunday marked the 25th anniversary of the nuclear near-disaster at Three Mile Island.

The island, located near Harrisburg, Pa., is home to a plant that houses three nuclear reactors.

The incident occurred when a nuclear reactor on the island underwent a partial meltdown and a small amount of radioactivity escaped.

No one was killed in the incident, but it caused a scare throughout the nation and raised concerns about the dangers of long-term effects.

Steve Kerekes, spokesman for the Nuclear Energy Institute, said the Smithsonian Institution in Washington, D.C., held activities last weekend commemorating the accident.

The accident was caused by a mechanical malfunction, he said, and was compounded by human error.

"A relief valve on a pressurizer was

stuck open allowing the reactor to leak small amounts of radioactive gases," Kerekes said.

There was an estimated 40 to 50 percent meltdown, making it the worst U.S. nuclear power plant accident.

"Thanks to the design of the American power plants housing the reactor within its own building," he said, "harmful levels of radiation were not released into the atmosphere."

Kerekes said in 2002, the University of Pittsburgh Graduate School of Public Health released the results of surveys that were taken of people who lived within a five-mile radius of the power plant.

"In this 20-year follow up study, the researchers found no significant increase in deaths from cancer of people who lived within that five-mile radius," he said.

Since the accident, 51 new reactors have been licensed in the United States, he said, with five in Pennsylvania.

Scott Burnell, spokesman for the

Nuclear Regulatory Commission, said

"The NRC regulates each plant to have only a one-in-a-million percent chance of meltdown..."

— Scott Burnell, spokesman for the Nuclear Regulatory Commission

there have been a number of regulation changes since the incident.

"After the accident, the agency took a long, hard look at their current regulations," he said. "Since then, we have revised inspection programs and now have a comprehensive means of judging plants against a set of standards."

Burnell said there are also state-of-the-art communication devices, as well as employed resident inspectors that check each plant in the country everyday.

"The NRC regulates each plant to have only a one-in-a-million percent chance of meltdown, utilizing multiple, redundant safety systems," he said.

David Lockbaum, nuclear safety engineer for the Union of Concerned Scientists, said in hindsight, the regulations for all plants were not good enough.

"If the accident hadn't happened at Three Mile Island, it would have happened somewhere else," he said.

Since the incident 25 years ago, nuclear plants now face a new danger and threat of terrorism.

Lockbaum said protection has

improved significantly and nuclear power plants are currently among the best-protected buildings in response to terrorism threats.

"After Sept. 11, the NRC increased security standards," he said.

Every three years, each plant runs a simulation where a small group of "attackers" try to overtake the plant, he said. There is also more protection against sabotage from within the nuclear power plant.

"Plants now run background checks even for temporary workers," he said. "They also run periodic checks throughout the term of employment instead of just in the hiring process."

Lockbaum said it was ironic that the company that owned the Three Mile Island nuclear plant when the disaster occurred is the same electric company at fault for the power blackouts in parts of New York, Ohio and Canada last summer.

Sorority rocks for charitable foundation

BY KATHRYN DRESHER

Staff Reporter

The steady creak of rocking chairs could be heard all across campus as Phi Sigma Sigma sorority held their 11th annual Rock-a-Thon for charity from 6 a.m. Tuesday until 6 a.m. Wednesday, raising a total of \$2,500.

For the past 10 years, Phi Sigma Sigma has been holding the Rock-a-Thon as a charity event against domestic violence. Money collected was donated to the Allison Beth Schmidt foundation.

Senior Julia Morgan, president of Phi Sigma Sigma, said the Schmidt foundation

was put together in 1993.

"Allison was a former Archon of Phi Sigma Sigma and was murdered by her fiancé the night before her wedding," she said. "The foundation was set up the spring after she died."

The majority of the money given to the foundation comes from personal donations of \$25 from every sorority member, Morgan said.

The money from the foundation will eventually be awarded as a scholarship to one selected sorority member from any chapter in the country, she said.

"This is an event the



THE REVIEW/Jessica Sitkoff

Phi Sigma Sigma sorority members collect Rock-a-Thon donations outside Newark Bagel and Deli.

sorority enjoys doing because we are interacting with the whole community and not just other Greeks," she said.

Sophomore Jessica Barth, philanthropy chair of the sorority, said every girl in the sorority participated in the 24-hour event.

"It is mandatory for every girl to commit at least one hour of the day to sitting in a rocking chair at one of the areas that has been set up," she said. "There are at least four girls at one time rocking."

Girls rocked in front of Newark Bagel and Deli in the morning, Smith and Purnell Halls during the day and were in front of D.P. Dough all night into the early morning, Barth said.

"In addition to sitting in the rocking chairs, girls went to local merchants and collected donations," she said.

Barth said she was prepared to rock into the rainy Wednesday night armed with her umbrella and blanket.

"I'm going to be there with six other girls," she said,

"so we'll probably get some food and get as many people as we can to donate money."

"The good times to get people to donate are during food rushes, such as dinner-time, but at night when the bars let out, there's a lot of intoxicated people running around who will give you any money they have left."

Sophomore sorority member Kristi Weiner said the Rock-a-Thon is important because the sorority members are out in public, and the community can see more of what the sorority is about.

"It's very personal to us, and it's a really fun thing to come out and do for charity," she said.

Sophomore sorority member Lauren Sabol said members of Sigma Chi fraternity joined the girls at 10 p.m.

"The Sigma Chi brothers volunteered to help make sure the money doesn't get stolen, and make sure we're safe out here," she said.

FDA approves oral HIV test

BY NATALIE BISHOP

Staff Reporter

OraSure Technologies Inc. has developed a new HIV/AIDS test that uses saliva samples, rather than blood samples, and received approval by the Food and Drug Administration last Friday.

Richard Klein, HIV/AIDS program director for the FDA, said the new OraQuick Rapid HIV-1/2 Antibody Test is more than 99.8 percent accurate.

The new test is less intimidating than previous tests, he said, because it uses saliva from the mouth rather than drawing a blood sample with a needle.

"The new test uses a cotton swab to obtain oral fluid containing cellular material from the cheek," Klein said.

The test will be available in all states that currently provide HIV/AIDS testing, he said, but the FDA has rated the test too complex for clinics with minimally trained nurses.

William Bruckner, vice president of OraSure Technologies, Inc., said the test will be available in June 2004.

There is no reason not to get tested now that the swab test is available, he said.

In the past, Bruckner said, patients have been intimidated by the hospital setting, but the swab test will be available in clinics and public health centers.

A major problem with the blood test was that the results were not available for up to seven days, Bruckner said. Two-thirds of patients tested did not return for their test results.

Nancy Nutt, program director for the WellSpring Health Center at the university, said the center no longer provides HIV/AIDS testing on campus.

"The administration feels that there is free and anonymous testing

within walking distance from campus," she said. "They feel that offering services on campus would be repetitive."

Paul Silverman, director of the Delaware Division of Public Health, stated in an e-mail message that the main purpose of the test is to obtain results in a timely manner, so patients receive the results right away.

"The rapid test's main value and the reason why it is of great advantage is because of the problem of patients who don't call to get their results when they have to wait for the 10 days it takes for the earlier tests," he said. "The rapid tests give us a result before the patient has a chance to leave the clinic."

Darcy Brasure, director of hotline services for AIDS Delaware, said the swab tests will be available in places that currently provide the blood sample test, however, it will not be offered by AIDS Delaware.

AIDS Delaware is an anonymous site, Brasure said, and the swab test has to be taken in a confidential atmosphere.

Klein said the swab test has many advantages over previous tests because it is safer for those administering the test.

Other advantages, he said, are quick and easy collection plus rapid and effective results.

Although the swab test is not yet available over the counter, Klein said, if a patient receives positive test results, a secondary test should be taken.

Bruckner said if anyone feels as though they would be at risk for HIV/AIDS, then they should not hesitate and get tested.

"Now they have the option of an easy, rapid and accurate test that is the best in the U.S.," he said.



THE REVIEW/Jessica Sitkoff

The money raised was donated to a national foundation founded in honor of a former sorority president.

Obesity dangers eclipsing other medical advances

BY SARA K. SATULLO

Staff Reporter

Improvements in children's health and safety over the last three decades are being challenged by a 15.6 percent rise in child and youth obesity, according to a childhood well-being report conducted by Duke University.

Fasaha Traylor, senior program officer at the Foundation for Childhood Development, said the report released March 24 by the Brookings Institute monitored the problems facing children over the last 30 years. The FCD hopes to use the child well-being index to release annual reports for at least the next decade.

Traylor said prior to this study there was no way to know how the general population of children are doing.

"Until this index, there was no way to answer this question," she said. "You may say teen pregnancy is up but there was no way to say, on average, are American children doing better than they were 30 years ago?"

Kenneth Land, a professor of demographic studies and sociology at Duke University who headed the report, said the objective of the study is to develop an overall comprehensive composite index of child and youth well-being from 1975 to 2002, with projections for 2003. The study focused on the changes in the variety of indicators of childhood well-being, in addition to obesity.

The report found childhood obesity to be the greatest problem, Land said. When obesity was not included as a health indicator over the last 30 years, there was a 10 to 15 percent increase in child health. Yet, when the trend towards increasing obesity was factored in, a 15 percent decrease in overall health of children was seen.

Traylor said the report's findings regarding obesity were surprising only in their extent.

"This is a problem that we've had now for 20 years," Traylor said. "The fact that it is now a crisis is testimony to the fact we need to pay attention to a number of different dimensions of childhood well-being. I would guess that obesity will be a problem for some time to come."

Traylor said the index reported an overall increase of childhood well-being of 5 percent since 1975.

"I would say that we have a right as Americans to expect we would have had better than 5 percent improvement over all this time," she said. "We could have done much better; we should have done much better."

"We need to look at it this way: if you have money in the stock market," she said, "and after 30 years your broker tells you that you've earned 5 percent you'd probably fire him."

Althea Zancosky, a registered dietician and spokeswoman for the American Dietetic

Association, said there are a number of contributors to the childhood obesity problems.

"As a dietician you'd expect me to say the rise is due to children's diet," she said. "Yet, the major reason for the rise is that kids do not have the opportunity to move as much as they used to."

Children have a variety of appealing opportunities for stationary entertainment such as computer games, the Internet and television, Zancosky said.

The social climate of today also plays a role in obesity, she said. Children used to walk to school and play out in their neighborhoods. Now, due to safety concerns, many parents will not allow this.

Food obviously plays a factor in obesity, Zancosky said. The main issue is that a child's eating opportunities are endless, and often times those foods are not healthy and the portion sizes are large.

"It's very difficult for a kid, based on their environment, not to constantly face these challenges," she said.

Traylor said the obesity issue requires action on many different levels. There are things parents

must do but child obesity needs to become a part of governmental institutions' responsibilities.

"We need to ensure we put healthful choices in front of children," she said, "and seek ways to organize their time which allow them access to physical activity."

Both Zancosky and Traylor warn that childhood obesity has many implications for future generations.

Traylor said if people think there is an obesity problem with adults today, then the current generation of obese children will reach adulthood with heart problems, high-risks of stroke and bodily mechanical problems from carrying too much weight.

"These problems will cost our country much money," she said.

Zancosky said psychological problems inevitably accompany childhood obesity along with the complications of no exercise.

"Ironically, we live in a country that is obsessed with being skinny, and we have one of the highest obesity rates in the world," she said. "I have no doubt in my mind that overweight children face much stigmatization."

Land said the study found consistent improvements in areas of safety and behavioral concerns, specifically pertaining to violent crime victimization and teenage pregnancy, as well as drinking, smoking and illicit drug use.

"The violent crime portion of the report is important because that was an area with signs of improvement," Traylor said. "That is funny because if I were to just ask you if you think children are safer today than 30 years ago you would say no."

Feminist speaker decries Western militarism

BY SARA J. GRAHAM

Staff Reporter

A public speaker from Clark University explored various topics on militarism and its effects within the framework of a feminist curiosity in a lecture Tuesday.

Cynthia Enloe presented a lecture titled "Militarism and Empire: Some Feminist Clues" to an audience of approximately 50 in Kirkbride Hall.

Jessica Schiffman, assistant director of women's studies, said the lecture was part of a series at the university titled "Women in War and Conflict," which has included two films and will include one more lecture before its conclusion on April 15.

"The series brings attention to both the involvement of women in war and conflict and the effect of war and conflict on women," she said.

Enloe said after studying race and ethnicity surrounding the military for years, she realized that this was not enough to gain complete understanding. Examining women's roles in militarism was

taking the extra step toward gaining more insight.

"When I did start asking feminist questions about foreign policy, power and militarism I realized that it did make me smarter," she said.

Militarism is defined as the process by which anything or anyone becomes more dependent on the military and its values for well-being regarding economic security and status as a patriot, she said.

Her speech was especially timely due to the United States' current involvement overseas.

"Other people believe that the U.S. has become so militarized in culture, not just foreign policy, that it is a country to be wary of," she said.

Enloe also analyzed the roles of military wives, prostitution linked to the military and even toy soldier production to describe how the United States is militarized.

"I'm very interested in toy stores," she said.

Militarism has found its way into homes and parenting with the Hasbro production of G.I. Joe, she said, and the implications of the success of its sales.

Using a historical and current perspective, Enloe dedicated a great portion of her speech to describe how the military regards military wives and their positive or negative impact on morale.

She also described the strain a husband on active duty can cause a relationship, she said, and the marriage then becomes militarized.

"The government is worried about military wives because they aren't completely controllable," she said.

Historically, the military has considered whether or not wives are good or bad for soldiers in active duty and whether soldiers should even be able to be married or not, she said. Military wives can influence their husbands to enlist or re-enlist in the military, and can cause a conflict of loyalty to the military and their family.

"Wives are dependent on the government rationale for the use of their husbands," she said.

This is not only psychologically stressful for some women, she said, but has also raised divorce rates in the past.

In addition to her vast historical knowledge of the U.S. and British military and how women have been historically involved, Enloe used her personal experiences to describe how she gained a better understanding of militarism in the United States.

After spending a semester in Tokyo in 2003, Enloe relayed her experiences there to illustrate how militarized the United States is compared to other countries.

She said her Japanese friends were shocked to see a Japanese flag waving outside of a secondary school. She juxtaposed this scene with the patriotism of the United States indicated by the prominence of the American flag here.

Junior Carly Dunn said she enjoyed the speech and the various perspectives and topics that Enloe discussed.

"I didn't know what it was going to be about," she said. "She covered so much, you learned a new way of thinking."

Calif. ponders underage voting

BY TESSA WEIS

Staff Reporter

The same age group that idolizes pop stars such as Britney Spears and Clay Aiken may soon be making decisions for an entire state.

For years, election officials throughout the United States have been faced with the problem of voter apathy, leaving the polls empty on important election dates.

California legislators have proposed a radical idea to help combat the low number of voters by extending voting rights to children as young as 14 years old.

If passed, teenagers 14 to 17 years old will be granted the right to vote in California state elections but not federal elec-

tions.

Jay Hanson, head of the Voter Outreach Program for the California secretary of state's office, said California has always focused on involving young people in the election process.

Through programs such as California C.I.V.I.C.S., the secretary of state's office gathered information by visiting schools in the state. Then, they composed teacher's guides and newsletters and held student contests to promote interest in statewide and national elections.

California also held a mock election for children and their parents in November 2002.

Hanson said although these programs are only "somewhat

successful," many children are still uninterested in the issues that involve them and their families.

Being given the chance to vote, he said he thinks teenage citizens may take more time to watch the news and become better informed about their state's laws and issues.

Vincent Hutchings, political science professor at the University of Michigan, said he is in favor of the proposal to change the voting laws.

He said he has no qualms at the passing of the minor voting law but does not feel it would make much of a difference.

"It will be the same as when women were granted the right to vote and when 18-year-olds were granted the right to vote,"

Hutchings said. "The voters in that younger age group will not immediately run to the polls."

Since the right to vote was extended to citizens 18 and older, he said, lack of interest in voting among that age group has been rampant.

Few young people show up at the polls for elections, Hutchings said. He thinks that if 14- to 17-year-olds are given voting rights, this phenomenon will repeat itself.

Gregory Markus, political science professor at Michigan, said he does not think lowering the voting age is a good idea.

It is almost impossible that California's proposal will become law, he said, because it is not well enough formulated.

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Lurking Within:
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Movie Reviews:
"Hellboy,"
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B2



Friday, April 2, 2004

Will The Rock cook up a box office hit?

BY JEFF MAN
Contributing Editor

The morning after his return to the squared circle at Wrestlemania XX, The Rock prepares for a long tour of the East Coast promoting his new movie "Walking Tall."

His first stop is Philadelphia, a city one wouldn't think Rocky is too fond of, considering it is where he lost the WWE title to Stone Cold Steve Austin five years ago at Wrestlemania XV, and where he taunted the sold out Wachovia Center crowd on cable television not too long ago about the Philadelphia Eagles losing to the Tampa Bay Buccaneers in the NFC Championship game.

This time his visit to the City of Brotherly Love promises to be a lot less confrontational.

Away from the confines of the arena The Rock takes his seat inside the luxurious Madison room on the first floor of the Four Seasons Hotel. And as he sits back and takes a sip of his protein drink, the first question becomes obvious: How could The Rock/The Great One/Former WWE Champion/The People's Champion/The Brahma Bull and his tag team partner Mick Foley lose their fight against the jabronis of team Evolution at Wrestlemania?

"Aw man, we just got beat. I had a blast last night though with Mick."

And with the loss, and a flourishing film career, wrestling fans may have seen the last days of Rocky on the WWE.

One can't blame him either. The Rock was unanimously praised for his on-screen charisma and good comedic timing for his last two films, both of which he starred in and opened at No. 1 at the box office. This is a good sign for "Walking Tall" and his other upcoming projects such as "Be Cool," a sequel to "Get Shorty," and "Spyhunter," based on the hit video game.

"I think by virtue of the schedule of making films, especially with the films I want to make," The Rock says, "and I have a commitment to the studio and to the other actors."

"I should say, though, that I love wrestling, because I grew up with it, so I have a passion for it. I, especially, love old school wrestling, and I have a very good relationship with Vince McMahon, who has said, 'Listen, look at this like your toy chest and come back and have fun any time you want.'"

"But I also have a passion for film, and the funny thing is you hear about getting bit the by the acting bug and I thought it

see ROCK page B4

Wilmington Film Festival

Indie films feature robots and return of The King

BY CALLYE MORRISSEY
Entertainment Editor

Not every city has the opportunity to boast having its very own film festival, but Wilmington has been able to do so since September 2001, and during the weekend of March 19, the city presented a mini-fest to inaugurate the festival's new, permanent time slot in March.

Moving the five-day event from the city's busy month of September to the quiet month of March was not a difficult decision.

"We looked at the schedule of all the different events that were coming or that are already in Wilmington and we noticed that we were conflicting with a lot of the different theaters and other events. We looked at the calendar and noticed that there wasn't a lot happening in March," says Barbara Belli, festival organizer and volunteer.

From March 19 to 21, the mini-fest screens approximately 70 independent films, including shorts, documentaries and features, in three short days, instead of the 100-plus films shown during the regular five-day festival.

National festival favorites such as Greg Pak's "Robot Stories" and Don Coscarelli's "Bubba Ho-Tep" are screened, as well as locally-themed documentaries, such as Stephen Labovsky's "It Happened Here: The Lynching at a Town Forgot," the true story of a black man who was burned alive in 1903 in front of 5,000 people in Wilmington for the rape and murder of a 17-year-old.

Of the 17 shorts that are screened, many were by local officers. Students from the Delaware College of Art and Design had a block of four shorts, and local director Brian Wild's Victorian-era silent piece, "True Love, A Picnic and The Undead" was screened to open-minded audiences.

The Wilmington Independent Film Festival will be back in full-swing next March, so don't miss out on the local spirit and fun.

Until then, here are some brief film highlights from the festival this year.

"Bubba Ho-Tep"

Bruce Campbell ("Evil Dead") stars as Elvis in the twisted story of what really happened to the King of



THE REVIEW/File photo

"Robot Stories," a short about raising a robot before a couple may have a baby, is part of the film "Robot Stories."

Rock 'n' Roll

Despite what many believe, Elvis is still alive, although he is not doing much. Mr. Presley is old, fat and bed-ridden in a convalescent home with a handful of paranoid residents. His friend Jack (Ossie Davis) believes he is actually John F. Kennedy and the government dyed his skin black as the perfect cover-up. The hilarious comedy gets even weirder when the two friends team up against an ancient Egyptian mummy/zombie that is hunting the grounds of the house to steal the inhabitants' souls.

Campbell does a gut-wrenchingly hysterical, and sometimes dead-on, impersonation of Elvis, and he already has the long chin for extra effect. The ridiculous humor shows the movie is just about having a good time and making people laugh.

"Robot Stories"

The festival touts the film as "one of the most award-winning films to be shown at the Wilmington Film Festival." Greg Pak's first feature film consists of four emotional vignettes dealing with robots and their interaction with humanity.

The first story, "My Robot Baby," is about a couple that must take care of a robot baby before they can adopt a real child. All their actions are recorded on the robot's hard-drive, which determines if they are suitable, loving parents. The second story, "The Robot Fixer," is about a mother who becomes determined to help her comatose son by bringing life to his beloved childhood robot toys. The third story, "Machine Love," poses ethical questions about life-like robots that are

programmed to work on computers. When a male robot becomes entranced with a female robot, their love cannot be ignored. The final vignette, "Clay," is about an elderly man that must decide between the new technology of eternal immortality or natural death.

"Robot Stories" is a gripping, thought-provoking film that shouldn't be missed. It will premiere at RitZ Theaters in Philadelphia on April 30.

"True Love, a Picnic and the Undead"

The 12-minute silent film by Delaware native Brian Wild asks a pertinent question: Are zombies really after blood? Or just female breasts? The title pretty much sums up the storyline, so there isn't much to

see FESTIVAL page B4

Senior citizens seek revenge in flick by Delaware natives

BY MEGAN SULLIVAN
City News Editor

Cussing, screaming, flirting with disaster and doing whatever it takes to stay sane and have fun — all in a day's work.

The life of an independent filmmaker alone can be complicated, but even more hectic when it involves working alongside a sibling.

While working together in hopes of reaping success, Wilmington natives Gordon and Greg DelGiorno have to remind themselves not to kill each other in the process.

Founders of Film Brothers Productions in 1999, the brothers hope their new film "Getting Even" will take them to the next level and earn more credit than just another crappy indie flick.

The brothers wrote the screenplay, along with Patty Blanchfield of Wilmington, and share roles as director and producer. The movie premiered March 25 at the Newark Cinema Center and was shown again last night.

"Getting Even" follows a group of fed-up senior citizens who seek revenge on people who have disrespected or forgotten about them.

"It should raise some eyebrows," Gordon says.

He describes the film as bizarre and twisted, but cute. The feature-length comedy segues back into the brothers' beloved comedy, without going overboard with explicit language and vulgarity.

Initially, the duo ambitiously attempted to morph Delaware into a mecca for tasteless humor. Inspired by John Waters, who has successfully written, produced and directed independent films ("Hairspray" and "Serial Mom") shot within his hometown of Baltimore, the brothers want to keep their biz in the First State.

Shooting all their scenes at various Delaware locations, the brothers include as many state natives within the cast and crew of volunteers as possible.

Surprisingly, the brothers never took any acting or film classes. Gordon, 36, studied sheet metal, and Greg, 34, studied welding, both at Delcastle Technical High School. They learned through trial-and-error and deluged themselves with people with filmmaking experience.

"I always believed," Gordon says, "that when you get into a field, you have to get beat up a little bit to really learn anything."

Although Gordon typically carries out odd jobs to make fast cash, and Greg owns a successful moving and hauling business, they hope to get their act together soon and concentrate solely on filmmaking.

"We want to get to a point where filmmaking is our full-time job," Greg says.

From waiting tables to building sets, Gordon claims he has done it all. He also recently worked as a gopher on the set of the 2003 film "School of Rock" starring Jack Black.

Unlike typical mundane jobs, he sees filmmaking as a constant experience and challenge.

"Just when you get cynical about your life and you think you've done it all and it's boring," he says, "filmmaking is the kind of thing that will stimulate it constantly."



Courtesy of Gordon DelGiorno

Wilmington natives Gordon DelGiorno (right) and Greg DelGiorno (center) created Film Brothers Productions. Their newest film, "Getting Even," features fed up senior citizens.

He recalls an electrifying experience that heightened his desire to get out of the norm and into a more creative field. While on the job as a sheet metal mechanic, he was electrocuted when he drilled into a unit that the electrician never turned off. He closed his eyes and saw the image of his X-ray, just like in the cartoons.

"I had 277 volts go through me. I screamed from the bowels of hell," he says, imitating his booming howl.

Luckily, he still had enough electricity surging through him to jump-start his film career in 1996. His first movie idea stemmed from personal experiences with bizarre roommates. From a retired couple with strict rules to a neurotic old lady, Gordon met enough weird characters to compel him to write a screenplay.

"I had the roommates from hell," he says. "I moved four times literally in one month. It was just disastrous."

He and his brother began writing the feature comedy in 1996, and "Franks and Wieners" debuted in November 2000 at the Newark Cinema Center. The movie, which the brothers produced together, was released on video (independent sale) soon thereafter and is currently being re-cut and re-scored for DVD.

Gordon, who also took on the role as co-director, bluntly explains how

see DARK page B4

BY LINDSEY L. LAVENDER

Staff Reporter

Local independent filmmakers Gordon and Greg DelGiorno of Film Brothers Productions, with the help of co-writer Patty Blanchfield, debuted their full-length movie, "Getting Even," to a packed house at the Newark Cinema Center March 25.

Even though the projector shut down 20 minutes into the movie, the delay was short, and the rest of the movie ran smoothly.

"Getting Even," filmed in Wilmington and Newark, is about a group of four pissed-off senior citizens who murder everyone and anyone who is mean, annoying or just plain rude to them throughout the course of the film.

Gordon DelGiorno makes a wacky cameo as a feminine masseur in the senior community home who dresses up in tight cut-off denim shorts, an Indian headband and not much else. He ends up getting whacked by the leading character, Bob Wickelstiff, played by Larry Hulack of New York City.

Characters Jean, Harold and Larry proudly reminisce about past murders they have committed. Jean's crimes include poisoning her entire family and stabbing a grocery store customer in the back with a carrot. Larry, played by Larry "The Captain" Parker of Wilmington, gives his ignorant optometrist a gory vision test, and Harold, played by Irv Gross of Wilmington, murders a cocky teenage pharmacy worker with his health insurance card.

Once news gets around in the retirement home, a private investigator is hired to get to the bottom of the gruesome murders — P.I. Dick Burns, played by Herbert Hernandez of Salem, N.J. One of the characters says, "Oh, you're Dick Burns?" To which Burns replies, "Yeah, but I'm on penicillin now."

At one point, Bob thinks his son and his Mohawked, aging love interest Jean, played by Barbara Wilhide of Wilmington, are having a secret affair and even tries to kill him.

Dry, dark and enjoyable humor are the prominent cutting-edge characteristics found throughout the movie.

"Getting Even" has the potential to appeal to more than senior citizens, as long as the audience is comfortable with the DelGiorno brothers' sense of humor.

Stay away from this 'boy'

"Hellboy"
Revolution Studios
Rating: ☆

Sneak Peek HOLLYWOOD

Director Guillermo del Toro's last outing was "Blade 2," an adrenaline-packed, over-the-top orgy of violence, action and humor that stayed true to its comic book origins without alienating audiences unfamiliar with the source material.

His latest film, "Hellboy," encompasses only one of these characteristics, namely, that it stays true to its comic book roots. Every other aspect is nothing short of an unmitigated disaster. From the special effects to the dialogue to the pacing of the story, there is not a single redeeming factor found within. Clocking in at slightly more than two hours, the film is a painful example of what happens when comic book films go terribly, terribly wrong.

In a movie so riddled with flaws, it's difficult to pinpoint the exact moment when things begin to go wrong, though it's reasonably safe to say that the introduction of Hellboy's character 10 minutes into the film is when it first becomes apparent that the ensuing two hours are going to be an excruciating experience.

The Gist of It

- ☆☆☆☆ Spider-man
- ☆☆☆☆ Batman
- ☆☆☆☆ Superman
- ☆☆ Hulk
- ☆ Punisher

Brought into our universe, dimension, whatever — it's never made clear exactly where Hellboy or the assortment of other monsters come from — by a group of occult Nazis (who, quite naturally, speak flawless English; many of them even lack a German accent) during World War II, Hellboy is but a young creature, half-human, half-demon and lured to the side of the allies with a few Baby Ruth bars. So poor is the CGI-rendered baby Hellboy that he looks even more cartoonish and out of place than Jar-Jar Binks.

The film then flashes forward to the present day, where Hellboy is a strapping young half-demon in the employ of the secret government agency known as the Bureau of Paranormal Research and Design and his "father," that is, the scientist who lured him with candy bars, is the much-aged Professor Brattenholm (John Hurt, "Dogville"). Brattenholm is slowly dying, and in his desire to find a suitable replacement, recruits a young FBI agent by the name of John Meyers (Rupert Evans II) whom, in one of the film's many clichéd moments, is described as being "pure of heart."

Meyers, of course, has only heard of the BPRD and of Hellboy through the supermarket tabloids, (which are utilized throughout as something of a running joke, though unlike in "Men in Black," they are neither funny nor clever). Although ostensibly serving as the lead human character in the film, and in spite of the movie's painfully long running time, he is woefully underdeveloped and remains blandly unlikely throughout.

In spite of this, he becomes embroiled in a love triangle with Hellboy and the prodigal BPRD employee and fire starter Liz Sherman (an enchanting and underutilized Selma Blair). Oddly enough, this seemingly important sub-plot is never brought to a satisfying conclusion, and is used mainly as a way of showing the soft underbelly of the otherwise aloof Hellboy.

The film's muddled plot centers around a group of undead Nazis bent on, what else, world destruction. Of course, it's up to the BPRD to put an end to this nefarious scheme, with Hellboy as the brawn, the odd half man/half fish Abe Sapien (played by the unknown Doug Jones, but with the voice of



"Frasier's" David Hyde Pierce) as the brains, Liz as the incredibly powerful backup brawn and Agent Meyers as the tag-along human.

Although the filmmakers attempted to inject a good deal of humor in the movie, the only two parts of "Hellboy" that generate any laughs are the terrible special effects and a pretentious, overly dramatic funeral scene; complete with an obligatory downpour and a plethora of black umbrellas.

Additionally, there are so many plot holes that one wonders whether those involved in the creation of this abomination were even paying attention during the filmmaking process. For example, Liz has a tremendously spectacular ability to incinerate anything and everything in her path, yet she uses her power only once; Hellboy is fireproof, and despite the noticeable wear and tear his outfits endure, they too seem to be able to endure the various explosions and fires he suffers through. Of course, these are minor quibbles when it comes to the giant gaps in the main story — such as where these monsters come from, why a

group of three Nazis appear out of nowhere after more than 50 years in hiding just so they can turn the earth into a scorched wasteland, and most importantly, why the audience is supposed to care about any of the characters or their various dilemmas.

"Hellboy" is an inexcusably terrible film, guilty of nearly every sin the sci-fi/action genre can commit — it's boring, the story makes no sense, the characters are unlikable, the special effects are horrendous and the ending encompasses the very definition of anticlimatic. With a number of much better films already in theaters ("Dawn of the Dead," "Eternal Sunshine of the Spotless Mind") and a good deal of promising ones on the horizon ("The Punisher," "Kill Bill 2") on the horizon, there's no reason for even the most avid of filmgoers to waste their time and money on this travesty.

James Borden is an entertainment editor for The Review. His past reviews include "Jersey Girl" (☆☆☆☆) and "Hidalgo" (☆☆☆).

"The Ladykillers"
Touchstone Pictures
Rating: ☆☆☆

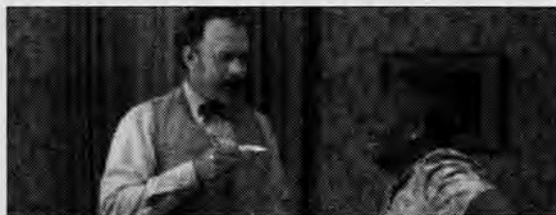
Whenever Tom Hanks stars in a film, the general consensus is he will please the audience and usually the movie will as well. But with a shaky plot and some dry and witty writing, "The Ladykillers" is just good at best.

The Coen Brothers, who wrote and directed "Ladykillers," give the film a cleverness for this generation by throwing in some humor audiences of the 1955 film version will not understand. However, there is still a lull in the plot, which drags on a little longer than needed.

Hanks' role is that of G.H. Dorr, a university professor who while on sabbatical decides to rob a river casino with his gang of experts who are supposed to make the heist go smoothly.

The best way to describe Hanks' look for the film is that of a 50-something Colonel Sanders. He is a southern caricature who speaks with a soft and intellectual accent that's used to charming the woman he's renting a room from, widow Marva Munson (Irma P. Hall).

However, she is unaware Dorr and his fellow criminals plan to tunnel through her basement all the way out to the vault of the casino. The group's cover is a group of musicians who play church music and need Ms.



Munson's basement to practice.

Instead of capitalizing on Hanks' presence as a source of laughter, the Coens resort to bathroom humor and a gratuitous use of obscenities by Gawain MacSam (Marlon Wayans) to get laughs. The Coen Brothers have their dry humor with Hanks and Hall's characters playing off each other creating a clear chemistry between them, but instead later they try to go to the type of language and writing which will please a younger crowd.

Even as the film's title suggests, the group of criminal masterminds will need to kill off Ms. Munson to succeed in their plan. For those who venture out to theaters for that reason, they will be severely disappointed as really, this becomes a small fraction of the film and makes "The Ladykillers" misleading.

— Kevin McVey

"Never Die Alone"
Bloodline Films
Rating: ☆☆

In his last film, "Cradle 2 the Grave," DMX starred alongside Jet Li, and before that, it was with Steven Seagal in "Exit Wounds." In his latest venture, "Never Die Alone," the actor with whom he shares top billing is none other than ... David Arquette, most memorable for his role in the 1-800-CALL-ATT commercials.

This film differs from DMX's last two outings. Arquette as co-star doesn't play a cop, a foreign intelligence agent or some other variety of law enforcement officer, DMX's character makes his entrance in the opening scene as a corpse at his own funeral and the story is more of a modern-day crime drama than a sub-standard action/adventure flick with plenty of explosions and over-the-top action sequences.

The movie is an adaptation of the 1974 Donald Goines novel of the same name, its story narrated mostly by the deceased drug dealer King David (DMX), who had the foresight to keep a journal via cassette tape, which upon his death he passes along to Paul (Arquette) an aspiring writer. The plot follows a sort of disjunctive narrative, the present constantly intermingled with flashbacks highlighting the doomed, violent life of King David.



The basic story, told through the flashbacks, is this: King David is a hardened criminal who after being released from jail returns to his hometown to pay off a debt to a drug kingpin. As his character oft-cites Tony Montana of "Scarface" fame, it seems filmmakers wanted to create parallels between the legendary 1983 De Palma morality tale of an unrepentant drug dealer and their own morality story about a cruel, unrepentant drug dealer. DMX, though in possession of a good deal of on-screen charisma, is no Al Pacino and this film's story never comes close to measuring up to the grandiose scale of "Scarface."

"Never Die Alone" is replete with clichés of street violence, drug dealers and misogyny, and as such brings little to the table in terms of innovation or viewer interest, but at the very least is better than DMX' last two outings, though this isn't saying much.

—James Borden



"Tempus Fergetit"
By: Todd Miyashiro

SAY WHAT?

The Review asks students:

How did you choose your screen name?

— compiled by Allison Clair



Jeff Price
Junior

"I just chose my favorite curse word and put my nickname with it."



Stefani Sargent
Freshman

"I'm in the process of getting a new one, because my last one included the word 'Stalin.'"



Jessica Mitarra
Senior

"I forgot my password so I don't go online anymore. I even forget the name."

"I just chose my favorite curse word and put my nickname with it." — junior Jeff Price



Amy Cruz
Junior

"Mine is part of a poem that my boyfriend gave to me."



Matt Smith
Junior

"It's a joke from high school, but I actually can't even remember the joke anymore."



Dave Venard
Junior

"Mine includes the word 'slacker,' so it's definitely something to do with my work ethic."

CONCERT DATES

THE ELECTRIC FACTORY — (215) 568-3222

Liz Phair

April 2, 8:30 p.m., \$20

THEATER OF LIVING ARTS — (215) 922-1011

The Darkness,

April 2, 8 p.m., \$15

THE NORTHSTAR BAR — (215) 684-0808

Carla Gio with Winston's Dog & James Harvey,

April 3, 7 p.m., \$8

VIE TIMES MOVIE TIMES

REGAL PEOPLES PLAZA
(834-8510)

Hellboy 11:45, 12:45, 2:30, 3:45, 5:15, 7:25, 8:00, 10:15, 10:45
Home on the Range 11:50, 12:30, 1:50, 2:40, 3:50, 4:55, 5:50, 7:20, 7:50, 9:20, 9:50
The Prince and Me 11:45, 2:15, 4:45, 7:15, 9:55
Walking Tall 12:15, 2:25, 4:40, 7:45, 10:10
Jersey Girl 11:55, 2:20, 4:50, 7:10, 9:40
The Ladykillers 12:05, 2:35, 5:05, 7:35, 10:05
Never Die Alone 12:20, 2:45, 5:20, 7:40, 10:20
Scooby-Doo 2: Monsters Unleashed 12:00, 12:40, 2:10, 2:50, 4:20, 5:10, 7:05, 7:30, 9:15, 9:45
Dawn of the Dead 2:45, 5:30, 8:10, 10:35
Eternal Sunshine of the Spotless Mind 1:05, 3:55, 6:50, 9:30
Taking Lives 12:55, 4:05, 6:55, 9:25
Secret Window 12:35, 3:05, 5:35, 8:05, 10:30
Starsky & Hutch 2:55, 5:25, 7:55, 10:25
The Passion of the Christ 1:00, 4:00, 7:00, 10:00

NEWARK CINEMA
(737-3720)

Scooby Doo 2 Fri. 5:15, 7:15, 9:15 Sat. 1:15, 3:15, 5:15, 7:15, 9:15 Sun. 1:15, 3:15, 5:15, 7:15, 9:15
The Passion of the Christ Fri. 6:30, 9:00 Sat. 1:00, 3:45, 6:30, 9:00 Sun. 1:00, 3:45, 6:30, 9:00
The Ladykillers Fri. 5:10, 7:30, 9:40 Sat. 12:45, 3:00, 5:10, 7:30, 9:40 Sun. 12:45, 3:00, 5:10, 7:30, 9:40
Rocky Horror Picture Show Sat. 11:59 p.m.

THEATRE N AT NEUMORS
(658-6070)

Osama Fri. 8:00, Sat. 8:00, Sun. 2:00

THE HITLIST

FRIDAY

Trabant University Center
Theater: "Last Samurai," 7:30 p.m., "Fight Club," 10 p.m., \$3

Deer Park Tavern: DJ Rick

Daring, 10 p.m., no cover

Stone Balloon: DJ Dance Party, 8 p.m., \$5, no cover with university ID

Klondike Kate's: Dynamite DJ Dance Party, 9 p.m., no cover

East End Café: Cliff Hills & The Knobs, 10 p.m.

SATURDAY

Trabant University Center
Theater: "Fight Club," 7:30 p.m., "Last Samurai," 10 p.m., \$3

Stone Balloon: Foam Party, 8 p.m., \$5, All Ages

East End Café: Apex Watson & Omnisoul 10 p.m., \$3, \$5 minors

Deer Park Tavern: Big Toe 10:30 p.m.

Klondike Kate's: Awesome '80s Night, 9 p.m., no cover

Director's interactions with children shape film

BY JAMES BORDEN
Entertainment Editor

In the film "The United States of Leland," opening today in select cities, Kevin Spacey portrays Albert Fitzgerald, an alcoholic novelist who has flown back from Paris for the sake of his estranged teenage son, on trial for the murder of the autistic brother of his ex-girlfriend. In one especially well-crafted scene, Fitzgerald is drinking alone at the empty bar of his hotel when approached by Pearl Madison (Don Cheadle), an aspiring writer and teacher at the juvenile correctional facility at which his son is currently incarcerated.

Assuming him to be nothing more than a struggling author, Fitzgerald bluntly rebuffs Madison, remarking that he has no desire to read over Pearl's presumably autobiographical and egotistically-driven first novel.

As the line was scripted by writer/director Matthew Hoge, who once held a teaching position at a California juvenile correctional facility and with "Leland" has created his first feature-length film, the comment is something of an ironic bit of self-depreciation.

"I think for me the movie was a way of talking about what it is to write, how to deal with the idea of exploiting your subject, and of course, there was that shameless autobiographical aspect," Hoge says with a grin.

Sitting in a plush lounge chair in the expansive foyer of his deluxe Philadelphia hotel room, the casually unkempt filmmaker hardly resembles what one would expect of the creative force behind a darkly introspective picture starring the likes of Spacey, Cheadle and a plethora of upcoming young actors such as Jena Malone ("Donnie Darko"), Ryan Gosling ("Murder by Numbers"), Chris Klein ("Election") and Michelle Williams ("Dawson's Creek").

"They were all my bridge chums, you know, so one day I said to Kevin, let's make a movie, and he said, 'Alright Hoge' ... truthfully I didn't know anybody, and when I was writing the script there were maybe three people in Hollywood who had read something I'd written or seen my film (1999's short comedy 'Self Storage') and liked it, so when I told them what I was doing they said, 'Call us when you're doing the next one,' so I just sort of stuck to it.

"Sometimes it's good to be writing in a bubble and not being worried about what people say or think so I wrote something that, well, I had no idea if there was a market for it, but it meant a lot to me, it was me working out my shit on the page."

Hoge, a graduate from the School of Cinema at University of Southern California, received the University's Abraham Polansky Award for "Most Outstanding Screenplay" for his senior script "Happy,"

and even though he filmed approximately 20 minutes of a feature film after graduation, did not immediately delve into the realm of Hollywood.

"I knocked around for a while, ran out of money. I had created something that was very flawed, and a few years later made a \$9,000 film ("Self Storage"), after which I was working a number of bad jobs to support the filmmaking habit.

"I stumbled into teaching, you know, I needed a way to pay the rent, and it was a really easy job to get, because there was such a need for it."

In "The United States of Leland," Cheadle's character Pearl becomes enamored with Leland Fitzgerald, an unrepentant murderer about whom he decides to write a book. As the story develops, Pearl comes to question the morality of exploiting one of his students for nothing more than personal gain and a shot at becoming an established novelist. As the film is inextricably intertwined with Hoge's own experience of working at a juvenile center, the question arises, did he feel he was exploiting the young men whom he was ostensibly teaching?

"I don't think I felt it then when I was writing the script, just because I was honestly working out my own shit on the pages, it wasn't like, 'I've gotta get this done because Paramount's gonna start shooting this movie tomorrow,' I didn't think that I was writing for anybody but my drawer. I didn't know where it would go.

"I think I feel it now, though, I mean I'm on this tour promoting the film and I'm going to Cape Town to do a screening, or I'm sitting in Northern France on a beach talking about it, and the kids who inspired me are, you know, in a cell a third of the size of this room, so I feel like the scales aren't even. I didn't give to them what they gave to me, so I hope the film does something to tilt the scales a little bit. So yeah, I do feel like I exploited that experience, and there's no contact with the kids, the relationships I had were really brief most of the time, I mean you're in for a while then you're off for the adult prison, trials happen very rapidly without a jury, so there was never even a kid I had a connection with like Pearl has with Leland, so I don't know if they'll ever know.

"It's sad to me, the reality is most of them are in the adult prisons and they're there for life, it is sad, the goofy white guy they knew for a little while turned out to make this movie because of them, and they don't even realize it."

One of the things the film intentionally fails to do is offer up an easy explanation for the murder. At no point does it offer the audience a specific reason, a true motivation for Leland's terrible crime.

"It's muddy, complex, there's not an easy answer to why these things happen, and I feel like that is sort of a statement in its own right, it's not about shrugging your



THE REVIEW/Name of photographer

Writer/director Matthew Hoge worked as a teacher at a juvenile correctional facility.

shoulders and saying these things just happen, to me it's when these things happen, it's about — how are we gonna write about them, how are we gonna talk about them, how are we gonna think about them, what kind of questions are we gonna ask?

"Because [the] way we're doing it now, I don't think it's working. Trying 14 year olds as adults, is that really helping? Building more prisons, is that really helping? Writing about Columbine the way we are, is that really helping with youth violence?"

"No," Hoge says with a sigh, dejectedly answering his own question.

"To me it's more about, maybe there's other ways to think about these things and talk about them, and not paint it in this polemical way of good and evil, of black and white, and accepting that it is something messier.

"[The character] Leland is drawn from me," Hoge adds, "he's connected with me, the idea had begun with the interactions I had with these kids. I mean people make assumptions about who they are.

"You read about it in the paper, 'Another gang shooting,' and people say, 'Get the monsters off the streets,' like those kids at Columbine or that kid up in Oregon, the response is always the same: 'This kid has crossed the line, we're gonna define a life based on one action, and it's in all of our best interests to come up with a quick answer to why it happened, and lock this kid up forever and pretend like we have no connection to him, and that we're not even of the same makeup at all.'

"And so seeing this reaction, I felt like it was sort of a privilege to meet and interact with kids who had crossed the line, and realize that there's still a lot of hope there, a lot of promise there, and see that they have a lot of virtues that I lack, to me that was really interesting, because it's something I don't think a lot of people get a chance to explore."

As the film aims to humanize someone who has been cast aside by society, Hoge says he had some trouble finding a production company willing to make the movie.

"People around Hollywood said 'Oh it's great!' And I said 'OK, so when can we start shooting?' But then they would say, 'I think you misunderstood, ohhh, it's great and all, but were not gonna touch it.'

"I think people saw it as being much darker than I did, and they saw me as being this guy who made a \$9,000 film, and they didn't see a track record there.

"But one day a guy named Harry Gittes, who produced 'About Schmidt,' he's this great kind of old stu-

dio guy, well his assistant got the script and liked it, so he gave it to my agent who a few months later wound up getting it to Spacey, so it was this really kind of a roundabout way, one person leads to another, the script kind of took on a life of its own."

Hoge says Spacey agreed to produce the film through his company Trigger Street Productions, though he didn't initially sign on to take a role in the movie.

"We didn't even use his name as an actor until we had the financing. It was important to him to get the money as a producer, plus he gave me immediate credibility. He really had a lot of questions, to see if I knew what I was doing and to some extent I did, evidently, and at the end of this meeting with him he said, 'We're making the movie and you're directing the movie, and anyone who questions it can fuck off.'

"And that's what I needed, that person to stand beside me and have their arm around me and say 'We're making this movie.' So when he called Don Cheadle and said 'Don, you've gotta read this script, trust me, this guy's OK,' well, that meant a lot more than when I'm calling Don and parking outside his house, you know?"

Following a warm reception at 2003's Sundance Film Festival, Paramount Classics picked up the film for distribution. The movie's success, he says, has opened some doors for him in Hollywood.

"I got some writing jobs from that, and I think those are still coming, it's kind of a couple of things, things I'm doing for myself is just where my head is, and what I'm doing next is a drama, but lighter in tone and spirit."

"And then with writing jobs, well I'm working on a script for Curtis Hanson about the world of competitive Scrabble, and its great to work with someone I can learn so much from, and I'm entering this world that is completely different from anything I've been in before, and it's fascinating, the people who are drawn to that, and part of the appeal of writing is a desire to get into different worlds."

But after more than half an hour of sharing his experiences about creating "The United States of Leland," Hoge's publicist calls up — it's time to leave. So is the former teacher headed for the late night talk-show circuit?

"I don't think Leno or Letterman care, but they like that Chris Klein, he's yummy I hear, delicious," he says laughing.

"You know, I'll go wherever they'll have me."

Don't leave Fido home this Sunday

Some churches allow pets at service

BY CHRISTOPHER MOORE
Staff Reporter

Anyone who may think religion has gone to the dogs probably never imagined the adage would ever become so literal.

Two churches in Connecticut and Florida, among others, are expanding on religious tradition by allowing members to bring pets to special monthly celebrations — a change receiving national attention.

Father Richard Mayberry, rector of St. Francis Episcopal Church in Stamford, Conn., says with a new facility, it only seems right to open the doors to the congregation members' beloved four-legged companions.

CNN's Paula Zahn and NBC's "The Today Show" both covered last week's Sunday services, in response to a piece about the church that ran in The Wall Street Journal.

He says last Sunday was a festival of dogs, cats, cameras and microphones.

"We have well-made wooden floors," Mayberry says, "so nothing can really be damaged."

Mother Molly McGreevy, assisting priest at the same congregation, says the idea sparked from seeing a church member bring her small dog to a service. This inspired another member to do the same.

After working out minor details, the church decided to hold a once-a-month service for the animals.

Although the idea may seem slightly unconventional, the premise is simple.

"We have a service once a year on Oct. 4 to honor St. Francis, the patron saint of animals," Mayberry says. "There was no reason why we shouldn't do this more often."

During the service, one priest gives the bread, a layperson gives the wine and another priest blesses the animals.

Slightly straying from religious protocol, however, has caused a stir among some conservatives.

"The Wall Street Journal reported that we were giving the animals communion," Mayberry says with a laugh. "That is not that case."

In response to the article printed in The Wall Street Journal, Mayberry says he received a number of strongly worded e-mails.

A correction has since been printed and the criticism has died down, he says.

"Coincidentally, after all the to-do about giving dogs communion, we had two large dogs at this service, a Newfoundland and a Bull Mastiff, that both let out these deep barks during the prayer of consecration," McGreevy explains.

"The dogs must have been protesting not being given the bread," Mayberry and McGreevy agree the services have become very popular.

"We attract a decent crowd," McGreevy says. "It's a slightly informal service."

Mayberry recalls a particular service drawing 75 people and 50 animals.

The parishioners are fine with the service because those opposed can opt to attend a more formal morning service, Mayberry says.

As can be expected, the positive feel of the services are also highlighted by moments of comedy.

"One dog chewed through his leash," Mayberry says. "He smiled all the way up the aisle."

"We also get three minutes of wild barking," McGreevy adds, "and then we move on."

A room full of members and their animals creates a serene mood, she says.

Char Vinik, communications ministry specialist for All Saints Episcopal Church in Fort Lauderdale, Fla., says their church offers a similar service, and the turn out has been impressive.



THE REVIEW/Kaitie Grasso

All types of pets are now included in some congregations.

"We have a park located next to our church and we would always see people out there walking their dogs," Vinik says. "They are already there, why not invite them into our church community?"

Like St. Francis' service, the setting is informal and provides a relaxing atmosphere conducive to the animals and their owners.

"People bring cats and dogs," she says, "but it's open to whatever pet people have."

There have not been any mishaps at the All Saints Episcopal Church.

"The animals really keep to themselves," Vinik says, "but we always keep a bucket close just in case there is an accident."

Ariel Gilbert with Guide Dogs For the Blind says she can completely understand the desire to incorporate animals into something as special as going to church.

"Animals tend to be the spouse, best-friend and child for some people," she says.

She is leery, though, of having different species of animals in the same setting for a period of time.

"I think it would be difficult, especially with cats and dogs in the same area," she says.

The fear of tempestuous animal tantrums has not fazed Mother McGreevy. She says St. Francis plans to continue holding the services as long as there is an interest.

"People tend to be at their best when they are with animals."

How to select an AIM screen name

BY GINA KAYE
Staff Reporter

American Online Instant Messenger screen name stories usually begin with the disclaimer that when first trying to think of a good, creative and unique name, nothing comes to mind.

Shawn Heacock solved that problem by turning away from his unimaginative thoughts and opening up the nearest magazine, hoping for some inspiration.

"I read an ad that said Pinnacle Integrated Networking, on page 146," he says. "That's how I got my screen name, PIN146."

Although Heacock has had his screen name for nearly 10 years, he says he has no real attachment to his AIM identity. However, he uses the title for any name needed in cyberspace.

Unlike Heacock, most people tend to follow AIM's recommendations for choosing a worthy name by combining part of their real name with words related to their city, favorite team, sport, hobby or profession.

Mallory Outten's current screen name combines part of her first name, "mal" with "luvs vw," for her white Volkswagen bug, with a nine at the end for her field hockey number. Outten has to say goodbye to "maluvsvw9," however. She says she is dropping her AOL account and must choose a new name because the company cancels old labels for three months before people can reuse them.

"My new one, 'wagout,' stands for my family nickname," she says. "My mom is wagout and my step dad is wagout2, so now I am wagoutmal."

The name combines the last names of her two families, Outten and Wagamon. Outten says she is excited about switching to the new title because "wagout" is on her license plate and people refer to her by this nickname all the time.

Other people feel promiscuity is more adventuresome than including given names or surnames in their AIM identities. AIM does not set rules about how vulgar or risqué a screen name can

be, but labels must be three to 16 letters and or numbers long and have to start with a letter.

IHAVEABIGCLOCK works just fine. Junior Josh Locke says the idea for his Internet personality started when he was sitting in his friend's old Monte Carlo staring at the car's large analogue clock. A big clock, however, is not the image this title conjures at first glance.

"I capitalized all the letters except for the 'I' in clock to make it more scandalous," he says. Locke uses Jocke1213 for his e-mail user name because he would not feel comfortable giving professors IHAVEABIGCLOCK for e-mail.

DaveHCYJ, also known as Dave Redard, says choosing a screen name can be very stressful. "It sticks with you forever," he says.

Redard feels quite attached to his AIM name because he has used it all four years of college and if he changes it people might think he disappeared.

"People from freshman year wouldn't be able to find me, even though I never talk to them," he says.

Sometimes creating an ingenious screen name comes from the obvious instead of the obscure as in senior Kurt Mueller's case. He says it all started in the ninth grade when creating a unique screen name would equal instant popularity. His first attempt at originality failed with the name KurtM516. When his 516 area code changed, Mueller knew it was time to get the creative juices flowing again.

He says available screen names were limited because of AOL's increased popularity, so he sat at his computer for endless hours typing in words as they came to mind only to be rejected because the identities were already spoken for. Finally, Mueller said to be original, he was unoriginal.

"My final try got me to where I am today," he says. "So I fulfilled AOL's request and chose my screen name to be 'Screens Name.'"

feature
forum

Laura Boyce

Features Editor

lboyce@udel.edu



Keep it behind closed doors

other's everything, and lips locked, they have now become the two people everyone is gawking at.

Some people are disgusted, while others are rather amused and the rest are annoyed because the couple has now become so preoccupied that they are blocking the doorway keeping anyone from getting through.

This sloppy show is hardly any sort of affectionate action between the couple. I highly doubt in the five minutes they've known one another that they have formed any type of meaningful connection for which these sorry sights might be mistaken. This is why I believe PDA under-the-influence has instead just become known as "hooking up."

Genuine PDA, by those actually in some sort of significant relationship, however, is hard to stomach as well.

While it is nice and somewhat inspiring to know there are in fact some people lucky enough to have found love, I don't need to come upon this understanding by observing a scene that can hardly be classified as G-rated.

Affectionate feelings should take place between two people, not two people and everyone who happens to be passing by at the moment.

Walking through campus and being exposed to one couple after another who feel they just can't keep their paws off each other makes me feel a bit uncomfortable.

It's like when you were younger, watch-

ing a sex scene on TV with your parents in the room. You don't know if you should keep watching — which you know you want to do — or turn away, and an uncomfortable situation inevitably results. Usually I would result to making up some stupid excuse just to get the heck out of the room.

The feelings that occur when coming across two lovebirds groping each other are reminiscent of these same emotions.

How do you not avert your eyes from the actions taking place right in front of you? But at the same time it is an intimate moment between the couple and so by watching, you become extremely uneasy. And once again I find myself trying to escape the situation as quickly as possible.

Why put everyone through agony just because you and your boyfriend or girlfriend feel the need to endlessly express, ever so publicly mind you, that you are the most in love people on campus?

It's not hard to realize there is a time and place for that stuff. Believe it or not, I actually have a class in which there is one couple guilty of committing PDA for the entire hour and 15-minute lecture. That's right, in class.

The guy is left handed, and I'm assuming it's his girlfriend is right handed, so they position themselves so that while using their writing hands to jot notes, their free arms are able to caress one another.

I've seen them cop feels of each other's legs, arms, heads and on a few occasions her hand move a little too far up his leg.



THE REVIEW/Todd Miyashiro

Seriously, give me a break.

How am I expected to be able to concentrate on what the professor is saying when I've got R-rated actions taking place in front of my face?

The love between two people does not need to be flaunted in front of everyone at a party or anywhere else, especially in front of people who don't even know you or especially care to see you swapping

spit.

While you may feel comfortable enough with each other to share bodily fluids, I'm not comfortable watching you. I'm not Peeping Tom, but that's what you make me feel like.

Be secure enough in your relationships to keep some things between yourselves. For everyone's sake, express your intimate actions behind closed doors.

Rock gets serious for the big screen

continued from B1

was a bunch of BS until with 'The Mummy Returns,' with that small role, and I didn't even speak English and I was in Morocco. It was like two minutes on screen and even then I was like, 'Wow, this is amazing. This is really, really cool.'

In "Walking Tall" The Rock gets to flex his acting muscle more so than in his previous films. The movie is a remake of the 1973 "Hixploitation" movie of the same name, which was based on the true story of a man named Buford Pusser who took on the corrupted law enforcers in his small town.

Growing up, The Rock says he was a big fan of the original film and found the opportunity to do "Walking Tall" exciting rather than intimidating.

"I actually went to the studio with this," he says. "They didn't seek me out. I went to them and said, 'Hey MGM, you guys have 'Walking Tall' and I would really be interested in doing it.'"

"And Kevin Bray, the director, Ashley Scott, Johnny Knoxville, Neal McDonough were all fans of the original 'Walking Tall.' The Pusser family has been great with their help and research and all their stories in helping me understand what [their struggle] was like."

Nonetheless, one of the many changes the filmmakers had to make in the new "Walking Tall" was the ethnicity of the lead character. Despite how far The Rock's acting ability has developed since his first film, it is still impossible to ignore his Samoan and black descent.

So the filmmakers chose to cast John Beasley, a black actor and Barbara Tarbuck, a white actress, for the roles of The Rock's parents and changed the name of the lead character from Buford Pusser to Chris Vaughn.

"For me, you would look at [my on-screen parents] and think, 'Oh

well, I guess they could produce ... The Rock,' " he says and laughs.

"Maybe it was the screen, maybe the color wasn't adjusted right, but Barbara's not that pale. She's kinda like red in the face. Maybe it's because I'm kind of darker ... coming from Hawaii."

Among the many action sequences in the film, the most alarming may be one in which The Rock's character plays a hard-hitting game of football with old friends. The scene may spark memories not of The Rock, but of Dwayne Johnson, the stud defensive lineman who played alongside Warren Sapp and Russell Maryland at the University of Miami.

So, with all of his success in the WWE and a promising career in the movies, does The Rock still have thoughts of pigskin glory in the NFL?

"Every day, yeah," he says.

"I think about what if I was a little faster and if I had better instincts? What happens if Warren Sapp didn't go from the offensive line to the defensive line? I think about what if I was a little bit better and I didn't get cut from the CFL. I'd be in the CFL now and be Dwayne Johnson, No. 74."

The timing of this is somewhat odd, considering The Rock's WWE colleague Brock Lesnar, also a former WWE Champion, has recently decided to quit wrestling to pursue the NFL.

"I just found out about that last night," The Rock says.

"I admire that. It takes a lot of guts to do something like that, to give up what he's giving up. But I admire that because he's 26 and he doesn't want to one day wake up one day and regret it. It's gonna be really, really tough because it's the NFL and they are the best athletes in the world."

One would guess, however, that The Brahma Bull wouldn't have too big a beef with his missed opportunity to play pro ball. His career in Hollywood already has well surpassed other wrestlers who have tried to clothesline their way onto film like Jesse Ventura, Rowdy Roddy Piper and Hulk Hogan.

Remember "Mr. Nanny?"

And unlike the geriatric Hogan, The Rock plain and simply just looks



like a movie star — sharp dressed, clean-cut and handsome. One can almost classify him as a metrosexual.

But that wouldn't be too wise. Despite how nice he may seem in real life, he's still got the physical ability to, with the quick raise of his eyebrow, spinebuster you onto the floor and drive The People's Elbow right onto your candy ass.

If you smell what The Rock is cooking.



Festival shortened to only 70 films

continued from B1

uncover, except for the ending.

According to Executive Producer Paul Long, inspiration for the film's ending came from an unlikely source.

"When we were in pre-production, we saw 'Freddy vs. Jason' and people went nuts for the boobs and the blood," Long says.

The crowd's overwhelming response to one of these features makes for a gratuitous ending scene in "True Love, a Picnic and the Undead." But telling which feature would spoil the best part.

Look out for screenings in the Philadelphia area in the near future.

"The Return of Peg Leg Pete"

From the Scottish directors of last year's festival favorite short film, "Cry for Bobo," comes the slapstick short about Peg Leg Pete, a pirate who encounters problems when he applies for non-pirate jobs,

such as window cleaning. The well-shot, clear piece is good for a few laughs during the 10-minute trail of Pete's mishaps.

"Signs of Undoing"

Rochester, N.Y., native Tom Taddeo directs his seventh feature film about three newly acquainted but unlikely friends that learn hard lessons about love and friendship. The film uniquely shows the perception from each characters' viewpoints, leaving the audience questioning the validity of what they are seeing on screen. "Signs of Undoing" is about different perceptions, and Taddeo does an excellent job at showing three viewpoints of the same events.

"The reason I wrote the movie was for the idea that everyone lives their own dreams. You can go through the same experience with three different people and everyone takes home something different. The idea is that your memories are your own," Taddeo says.

Dark comedy opens at Newark Cinema

continued from B1

"Franks and Wieners" has a lot of in-your-face humor and bashes all stereotypes.

Frank, the main character, meets a lot of "wieners" during his journey to find normal roommates. The movie takes a robbery caper twist when he joins bad-girl Jackie, after she holds him hostage, in a robbing spree of Delaware stores and restaurants.

"We were all over the map in 'Franks and Wieners,'" Gordon says. "It pushes the lines of good taste, but what is good taste?"

Gordon received a few hate e-mails from disgruntled "Franks and Wieners" viewers, but he did not let it faze him.

In one e-mail, a self-proclaimed straight woman complained the movie was extremely offensive to gays. The brothers agree the gay character, Jasmine the flamboyant queen, was over the top. They insist, however, they received compliments from gay viewers who enjoyed the character, despite the exaggeration.

Most of the viewer complaints involved the gratuitous vulgarity and tasteless humor. Regardless, the brothers simply hoped to catch people's attention. And they succeeded.

"It struck a vibe," Greg says.

Just like any other first-time filmmaker might experience a few disasters on the job, Gordon and Greg admit that disaster strikes daily.

Gordon recounts a heated disaster that took place on the set of "Franks and Wieners." The scene took place at Café Verdi, and the owner, Sylvio Garbati, allowed the brothers to film within the shop after hours.

"The big pizza oven was on, it was 650 degrees and it was on a Sunday," he says. "So I'm thinking, man, the place could burn down. So I turned the oven off."

He never thought that turning off the oven would cause the pizza dough to rise. Garbati came to work only to discover giant pizza pies and a cold oven.

"I thought he was gonna go 'Soprano' style," Gordon says. "I thought I was going to end up in the river or something."

Gordon and Greg admit that working together as brothers isn't always easy.

"Siblings together are generally clashing," Greg says.

Gordon agrees: "It's the one person you can depend on the most, but you also want to kill each other at times."

Greg, the creative energy of the duo, credits his ability to pack a punch with classic one-liners to years of performing skits and jokes on his tape recorder growing up.

"I've always had a flashy way of doing things," he says. "I always had to put on a show."

Gordon admires his brother's ability to take the script up a notch, but believes he functions as the driving force to keep the project moving. Although the brothers occasionally have their mismatched moments, they remain grateful for having such complementary personalities.

The raunchy zest of their first movie lin-

gered just long enough to create "The Franks and Wieners Show." These two half-hour bits debuted in November 2001 on Comcast and were comprised of goofy skits, à la "Saturday Night Live." Gordon and Greg acted in the skits as well. Once again, they received mixed opinions regarding their work.

One particular segment, "The Wife Beaters Club," generated a lot of controversy despite its disclaimer asking viewers not to take it seriously. The skit, which appeared to encourage spousal abuse, offended many viewers, including Gordon and Greg's mother. They even lost one of their show's sponsors, a local law firm.

"If the world was a perfect place, it would be pretty boring."

— Gordon DelGiorno

Gordon explains how domestic violence occurred within his family before. He realizes how awful it was while it happened, but they came out of it with grace. He sees comedy as the best outlet to overcome tragic experiences in life.

"Comedy gets us through to the next day," he says. "That's why we're not nuts."

After hooking a video camera up to his computer, the brothers play clips from the crude but humorous television show.

"Some of [the skits] are awful," Greg says shaking his head. Gordon simply laughs and agrees. "I know."

The brothers, sitting on the edge of their chairs, stare at the screen with wide eyes and ear-to-ear smiles and laugh as if they are seeing the show for the first time.

"It's some of the most fun we've had," Greg says.

Although they had their fun, the brothers realized it was time to take it up a notch while they had their audience's attention.

"We really wanted to make a tighter project than 'Franks and Wieners,'" Gordon says.

Their last film, a 30-minute black-and-white drama titled "Routes," premiered in November 2002 at the Delaware Center for the Contemporary Arts and recently won third place for best short out of 39 shorts at the 2003 Wilmington Film Festival.

Contrary to their first two projects, "Routes" took a completely different turn from

their initial tasteless humor kick and gave them more credibility.

"Routes," written by Whalie Reinhardt of Philadelphia, focuses upon free will and making choices. Gordon played an extremely active role as the movie's producer, director and a lead actor. Greg stepped down from the project because he had to focus on his moving and hauling business.

The film reflects experiences Gordon and Greg have had with their brother Christopher, a 32-year-old Born-Again Christian.

Gordon describes his character Tony as angry at life with views conflicting with those of his co-worker Tom. Tom lives life through God and constantly tries to convince Tony that his life will not change until he changes himself.

Growing up in Wilmington, Gordon and Greg, raised Catholic, learned from their father to have faith and live a good life on earth. Christopher developed stricter convictions and has never viewed any of his brothers' films because of his beliefs. Although he supports Gordon and Greg, he does not support the material within their films.

"God has given me a sensitive conscience," Christopher says, "and I can't partake in things that are unholy."

Christopher says he struggled when his brothers tried convincing him to watch "Routes" because he realized the film had somewhat good intentions.

On the night of the premiere, Christopher told Gordon he would be glad to see the movie if the cursing was taken out. Gordon says he sees Christopher's requests as somewhat arrogant because he believes the cursing makes the film realistic, and without it, the integrity of the film would be lost.

"If the world was a perfect place," Gordon says, "it would be pretty boring."

Greg and Gordon did not bother pushing Chris to see "Getting Even" because they knew it included some edgy content he would not approve of.

"Chris lives another life that he is happy with," Gordon says, "so we are happy with that."

The brothers hope "Getting Even" will take them one step closer to Hollywood success. In two weeks, Gordon plans to meet with a production manager he knows from Paramount Pictures to present him with a copy of the film to see how far Film Brothers Productions can go.

The brothers also received offers from the Wilmington Drama League and Three Little Bakers Dinner Theater to present "Getting Even," but nothing has been decided yet. They would like to have the film distributed on DVD and VHS, and hope they will get distribution other than the Delaware area.

No matter what, this ambitious Delaware duo plans on making their mark, even if it comes only in the form of a one-hit wonder.

"We'll have an impact," Gordon says. "People may not like the film, but we'll grab their attention. They'll remember us."

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Community Bulletin Board

Big Brothers Big Sisters of Delaware is holding its 23rd annual Bowl for Kids' Sake Community Day bowling event, in New Castle County on Saturday, April 17th. Corporate teams as well as individual teams are welcome to participate in any of the events that are planned for that day. Each team will enjoy free bowling, food, contests and prizes at the event. Call the Big Brothers Big Sisters' Wilmington office to get your sponsor sheets and put together a team of 5 or 6 people. You can schedule the time and location of where you would like to bowl. You and your teammates each sign up at least 10 sponsors or raise \$100 and you are ready to bowl. In New Castle County call 302-998-3577.

John Berendt, the award winning author of *Midnight in the Garden of Good and Evil: A Savannah Story* (Random House, 1994) will be the guest speaker at the Annual Dinner of the university of Delaware Library Associates on Tuesday, April 27, 2004, at Arsh Hall, University of Delaware, Wilmington. The April 27th evening will begin with a cash bar at 6:00 p.m., followed by dinner and the program at 7:00 p.m. Dinner prices are \$72 per person for members of the University of Delaware Library Associates, \$92 per person for guests. The event is open to the public via reservation. Additional invitations are available by sending an email message to UDLA@udel.edu or by calling the office of the Director of Libraries at 302-831-2231.

The Jewish Community Center Newark is offering a FREE 4-week course for adults to learn basic Judaism. The course is on Thursday mornings from 9:30 to 10:30 a.m., starting April 15 and continuing until May 6. This FREE 4-week Basic Judaism course is being facilitated by Connie Sugarman. She will teach belief in g-d, prayer, the Sabbath, Jewish observance and sexuality. Contact Lynda Bell at (302) 368-9173 to reserve a seat. Reservations must be made by April 12. The JCC Newark is located off I-95 on Route 896 going north, on the corner of West Park Place and South College Avenue.

Community Bulletin Board

The Australian American Society of Wilmington, Delaware is now accepting applicants for the 2004 Music Scholarship Competition. First prize worth approximately \$8000, is an expense paid trip to the International Academy Mozarteum in Salzburg, Austria, for a six week term next summer. Second prize is \$500 cash, and third prize is \$300. Applicants must reside in Delaware or within 25 miles of Wilmington and be active music students with a minimum of four years of classical training. Vocalists must be between 21 and 35, and instrumentalists between 18 and 30 years of age.

Are you a beginning cyclist or an avid enthusiast? Or neither? Whatever your cycling ability, there's a spot for you in this year's Mason-Dixon Ride for MS presented by Bank One scheduled for Sunday, April 25, 2004. The registration fee for this pledge-optional event is \$35 by March 31, \$40 April 1-24 and \$45 dollars on the day of the ride.. Call the Delaware Chapter today at (302) 655-5610 to register or volunteer OR register online at www.msdelaware.org (click on "Events").

The Jewish Community Center Newark is having an Antique Road Show on Sunday, April 25, 2004. The event starts at 11:00 a.m. Do you have some antique treasures stashed away and don't know the value or use? Bring your items to the "J" for appraisal. Its costs \$10 for the first item you get appraised and \$5 for each additional item. Contact Lynda Bell at (302) 368-9173 by April 22 for reservations, which are required, and for more information. The JCC Newark is located off I-95 on Route 896 going north, on the corner of West Park Place and South College Avenue.

Community Bulletin Board

Don't miss the Delaware Chili Cook-off Saturday, April 24, 2004 from 1:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. at St. Anthony in Avondale, PA (near Hockessin, DE). Featuring live music, prizes, great fun and all the chili you can taste. Hot dogs and beverages will also be available. Costs: \$7.00 per adult; \$15.00 per family; Children under 12 are free. Do you make a pretty good chili? Enter it in the cook-off! Call Reyn Cierniak for details at 302-239-5182. Sponsored by the Delaware Knights of Columbus to benefit Birthright of Delaware, Inc.

The Delaware Humane Association invites you and your 4-legged friend to the First Annual "Beach Walk for the Animals," Saturday, April 24th in Rehoboth Beach. This 2-mile walk along the Rehoboth boardwalk will begin at 11:30am. Registration and check-in begins at 11am. You can pre-register for \$15 until April 20...cost is \$20 day of walk. Kids ages 6 to 16 are just \$5, the walk is free for children 5 and under. This is a pledge-driven walk...participants are encouraged to raise \$50 in pledges. If you raise \$75 in pledges, you'll get a Walk for the Animals T-shirt. Form a team or walk as an individual...prizes will be awarded to the top two fundraisers as well as in the kids and team categories. Free refreshments for all walkers will be provided after the Walk. You are welcome to bring your leashed dog on the Walk. All proceeds from the Walk will go to help support the Delaware Humane Association's Spay/Neuter Van, which since it began operations in 2002, is responsible for more than 100 cats being spayed/neutered! To register or for more information, call 302-478-8172x301. Or register online at www.dehumane.org.



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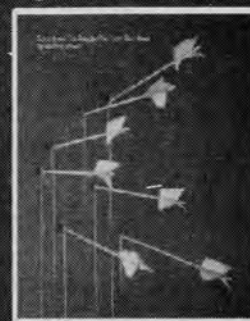
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Geis Student Research on Women Conference

April 3, 2004 • 125/126 Alfred Lerner Hall • University of Delaware

8:30am Registration and Refreshments

8:45am Welcome - Judith Gibson, Assistant Vice-President Affirmative Action & Multicultural Programs

*Social Issues, Undergraduate, Room 126

9:00 The Repercussions of the Ideology of Gender Spheres as Seen through the Language of the Moral Reform Movement, 1830-1860
Rachel Kassman, University of Delaware

9:20 Visions of Feminism, Islam, and the Veil
Kathryn McMahon, Bryn Mawr College

9:40 Beginning Again: Professional Wrestling as a Platform for Liberal Feminism
Andrew Miller, University of Delaware

10:00 Single Mothers in Poverty: Oppressed and Unaware
Kate Reiss, University of Delaware

10:20 The Committee of Soldier's Mothers: A Beneficial Organization
Hallie Bregman, University of Delaware

10:40 Revolutionary Sisters: Negotiating Gender Identity in the Black Panther Party
Rachel Burstein, Swarthmore College

11:00 Torture or Culture?
Krystal S. LeBlanc, University of Delaware

*Social Issues, Undergraduate, Room 125

9:00 From the Home to the Restaurant: Women in the Kitchen
Noah Smith, University of Delaware

9:20 "Is he not a man?": Masculinity and Sexual Deviancy in Memphis During Reconstruction
Dale G. Jennings II, Swarthmore College

9:40 Attitudes towards Menopause among Latina Women
Danielle Juan, University of Delaware

10:00 Eating Habits Portrayed in the Popular Television Shows Viewed by College Students
Carly Pellechio and Krysta Fox, University of Delaware

10:20 Punishment of Women for Illicit Substance Abuse During Pregnancy
Gabrielle Mulnick, University of Delaware

10:40 "We also have to find our own identity": Traditions and Change among Young Hindu Women in Nepal
Alice Cartwright, Haverford College

11:00 Does Make-Up "Make" the Woman?
Marcie Quintana and Danielle Dunn, University of Delaware

11:20 Has the "Thin Ideal" Gone Too Far?: Effects of Magazine Advertisements on Girls
Gena Cotugno and Chelsea Manks, University of Delaware

11:50 Lunch and Screening of Temple University Student Films, Room 126

"Where is There Room?" and "Barefeet"

"Phototropism"

"The Clock"

"Twenty Questions"

"Born"

"Sotah"

"Schuykill Dragons"

Sonali Gulati

Mary Sweeney

Amy Olk

Karen Carpenter

Bernadine Mellis

Inbar Gilboa

Melanie LaRosa

A short discussion with student filmmakers will follow the last film.
Moderator: Suzanne Cherrin, University of Delaware

*Social Issues, Graduate, Room 125

1:30 Asian American Women in Interracial Marriages
Wei Qiu, University of Delaware

1:50 From Slavery to Family Cap: An Exploration of Governmental Control of the Reproduction of Poor Women
Deianna L. Tyree, University of Delaware

*Undergraduate Humanities (Literary), Room 126

2:10 Combating Compulsory Heterosexuality
Danielle Todd, University of Delaware

2:30 Marriage and the Late-Victorian Woman Writer
Jane Marguerite Tippet, University of Delaware

2:50 Hearing the Unspoken: The Veiled Emotions of Virginia Woolf's Characters
Jennifer Tallis, University of Delaware

3:10 Despair and Domination
Maria DiMarzio, University of Delaware

3:30 South Asian Women in Britain: Sue Townsend's The Great Celestial Cow
Elizabeth Connolly, University of Delaware

3:50 Susann Receives New Context from Cixous
Jennifer Woolston, West Chester University

*Undergraduate Humanities (Historical), Room 125

2:10 Virginity and the Female Body in the Middle Ages
Lisa Griswold, Haverford College

2:30 The Du Pont Cavalcade of America: Adding Women to the Nation's Collective Memory
Katherine Demedis, University of Delaware

2:50 Lobbying for the Women's Vote in African-American and White Reform Organizations: A Look at the Careers of Ida B. Wells-Barnett and Ida Maude Wood Park
Alicia Oman, University of Delaware

3:10 Does Blonde Equal Dumb?: Why the Repugnant Stereotype Will Not Disappear
Kristen Lauerma, University of Delaware

*Graduate Humanities, Room 125

4:10 Mourning the House: The Sentimental Politics of Grief in Harriet E. Wilson's Our Nig
Christine Bayles Kortsch, University of Delaware

4:30 Fire: A Subaltern Existence?
Rujuta Chincholkar-Mandelia, Temple University

*Five-minute discussion will follow each fifteen minute presentation

4:50

Closing Remarks and Announcement of Awards

Rickie Sanders

Coordinator, Greater Philadelphia Women's Studies Consortium and Department of Geography/Urban Studies/Women's Studies, Temple University Reception

NFL scouts gauge Hens draft chances at Pro-Day

continued from page B8

4.43 second range.

According to Barbarino, the scouts were all commenting on how well Adams ran coming off of a broken fibula in November.

The senior safety, who red-shirted in 2002 due to medical reasons, was also extremely pleased with his workout.

"I feel like I have this big brick off my chest now," Adams said. "I was a little anxious going in because I knew I had a lot to prove coming off of these injuries."

Jason Nerys also showed he deserves much consideration after completing 28 reps on the bench press. The 6-foot-3, 310-pound guard followed that with a 32-1/2 inch vertical leap. His workout ended shortly after the agility drills due to injury.

"Jay had a good day, but he's been nursing a tender hamstring over the last couple of weeks," Barbarino said. "He'll finish his test and his 40 next week."

Barbarino also said that quarterback Andy Hall looked very sharp in his position work and tight end Rick Lavelle caught every ball thrown his way. Hall tweaked his right ankle during the agility drills and was unable to complete the running portion of the workout as well.

Two former Hens, Ricardo Walker and Butter Pressey, worked out as well, being labeled as free agents. Walker was a starting cornerback before

graduating in 2002, while Pressey graduated in 2001 after starting at halfback. Both players had good workouts and ran in the 4.5 range in to 40-yard dash.

Defensive backs coach Craig Cummings agreed, that Adams certainly made the most lasting impression.

"With the two injuries there were a lot of questions going in whether or not he could get back to top speed," Cummings said. "I give credit to the kid, he worked his butt off."

With the draft only three weeks away, there is an unusual excitement buzzing around Newark as the benefits of a near perfect season are continuing to help these seniors.

"I think Nerys, Adams and Johnson all have a legitimate shot at being drafted," Barbarino said. "Mike surely has a better chance after this workout now."

Coming into the pro-day, Adams knew only three or four of the dozen scouts there came to see him. He said Nerys and Johnson had about three or four scouts there as well.

Afterwards, almost every scout was asking for Adams' medical charts, signifying he is now on their draft board, he said.

"I used my boys Shawn and Jay as chum," the ex-captain said. "I was just feeding off of them. Now I just have to keep working hard."



THE REVIEW/Jon Deakins

Quarterback Andy Hall (left) throws a pass during Wednesday's workouts while Keeler spoke to NFL scouts who made the visit to Newark to evaluate graduating players.

Weekend Preview

Every spring sport is in action this weekend as most seasons near their mid-point.

• The **softball team** has lost six of its last eight and will look to break out of its skid when it travels to Drexel for an 11 a.m. doubleheader tomorrow and an 11 a.m. game Sunday.

The Hens (16-12, 1-2 CAA) are coming off their first conference series in which they dropped two of three to James Madison. In Saturday's doubleheader, Delaware took the first game 2-1 with senior third baseman Laura Streets driving in both runs. The Dukes came back to take the second game 4-3 and defeated the Hens Sunday 4-2.

• The **women's lacrosse** team faced the No. 1-ranked team in the nation Tuesday, losing 15-8 as Princeton was victorious for its 17th straight win dating back to last season.

The Hens (2-6, 0-1 CAA) host conference rival Drexel tonight at 7 p.m. at Rullo Stadium looking to halt a three-game losing streak. Delaware then travels to Hofstra for a 1 p.m. game on Sunday.

• The **men's and women's outdoor track** teams are back in action this weekend as they head to Maryland for the University of Maryland Invitational.

Freshman Mandy Stille was named CAA Co-Athlete of the Week for her performance last weekend when she broke two school records. Stille placed sixth in the heptathlon at the University of Florida Relays with a score of 4,696. The previous record (3,684) was set by Linda Mulaney in 1984. Stille also broke the school record in the 100 meter hurdles, registering a time of 14.71 on her way to a 25th place finish. Sheryl Hall set the old record of 14.79 in 1994.

• The **men's and women's tennis** teams open their conference schedules today when they travel to James Madison for a 5 p.m. match. The Hens will face UNC-Wilmington tomorrow.

The women (5-6) are coming off a 9-0 sweep of St. Leo, in which they took all six singles matches in straight sets and won the three doubles matches by scores of 8-1.

The men (8-6) have alternated wins and losses in their past five matches. They lost to Stetson last week 6-1, with Sanjay Khindri scoring Delaware's lone point with a 6-4, 6-3 win over Vittorio Fratta at the No. 1 spot.

—Compiled by Rob McFadden

Slump continues

continued from page B8

on the defensive end or offensive end."

After winning 13 games in a row earlier this season, the Hens haven't tasted victory since March 18 against Buffalo.

Van Note said Delaware must regain its focus if it wants to get back on the winning track.

"You have to get back to concentrating," he said. "A lot of the mistakes have been made on decision making. That was some of the stuff we were doing well three weeks ago."

Maryland touched Delaware pitching for 16 hits in the contest, six of which went for extra bases.

Offensively for the Hens, Rogers went 4-for-5 with three doubles and two RBIs. Batting leadoff for the first time this season, the sophomore doubled three times and scored a run in

the loss.

Also for Delaware, Valichka was 3-for-4 with a double and two runs scored and Graham singled and scored twice in the loss.

The Hens get a chance to

reverse its fortunes this afternoon as they open a three-game home stand with Colonial Athletic Association rival UNC-Wilmington. First pitch is set for 3 p.m.



THE REVIEW/Matt Basham

Sophomore Brent Rogers swings at a pitch during the Hens 9-6 loss to Maryland Wednesday. Rogers went 4 for 5 with RBIs in the loss.

NCAA Final Four-cast

The Review editors try once again to appear intelligent



Matt Amis - senior sports editor

UConn - After answering all the injury questions, Emeka Okafor has been the difference-maker everyone figured he'd be this tournament. And with Ben Gordon being as effective as he's been, the Huskies will be hard to slow down. Look for them to topple Oklahoma State in the national championship.



Dan Montesano - managing sports editor

UConn - Even with the question marks surrounding Emeka Okafor and his endless injury list, the Huskies are still the team to beat. Ben Gordon has been dominating games starting all the way back in the Big East Tournament. The re-emergence of Rashad Anderson gives UConn even more weapons from the perimeter and Josh Boone and Charlie Villanueva create problems inside. A less than 100 percent Okafor is still better than any big man left in the Tournament.



Bob Thurlow - managing sports editor

Duke - While I am not a fan of the Dookies, I have to respect them. Coach Kzyzhnevski, whatever his name is, can get his troops motivated and his team always seems ready to play. Freshman Luol Deng will be dominating down low and point guard Chris Duhon can run the floor with the best of them. The game against UConn will be a tough challenge, but I expect the final game to be tougher. OK State practices in football pads, but Duke will win.



Jon Deakins - sports editor

Georgia Tech - They surprised everyone in the preseason NIT and they will shock everyone again. UConn is the obvious choice because of all their talent, but I want to go out on a limb here. Besides, if Jarrett Jack can keep hitting his shots, Tech can pull it off. I think they'll beat Duke in the finals (another reach). It was actually a toss-up between the two ACC foes, but I just couldn't lower myself to pick the Dookies.



Rob McFadden - sports editor

Oklahoma State - Most people have already penciled in Duke or UConn as the champion of this tournament. But in a tournament that has seen its share of upsets, I think that's a mistake. Barring a miraculous 100 percent recovery by B.J. Elder, I don't see Georgia Tech being able to stop Eddie Sutton's Cowboys. The other semifinal game will be nothing short of a battle, but the shooting of Gordon and Anderson has made me a believer in UConn. Look for the gritty play of OK State's "little" big men to stop Okafor and the Huskies.



Julia DiLaura - executive editor

UConn - I'm here because the sixth sports editor with an informed opinion is in South Carolina. The sports guys that actually watch this stuff seem to be behind UConn, so that works for me. I never particularly heard that Georgia Tech or Oklahoma State were contenders until they played a part in my fall from 3rd to 21st in a certain office pool. If UConn does the noble task of removing ever-villainous Duke from the running in Maryland's stead, then they deserve to win it all. The end.

inside

• Weekend Preview
• Final Four predictions
from The Review staff
... see page B7
April 2, 2004 • B8

REVIEWSPORTS

Who popped out today?
Casanova - 1725 - mack daddy
Hans C. Anderson - 1805 - storyteller
Alec Guinness - 1914 - Obi Wan
Marvin Gaye - 1939 - Sexual healer
Don Sutton - 1945 - H.O.F. pitcher

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Commentary

BOB THURLOW



Sports serenity

Over the past few weeks, I have undergone a metaphysical transformation of sorts and have succeeded in reaching a peaceful unity of body and mind.

While I still love the sporting realm, I have also had the desire to reach out in a creative fashion, uniting my love of sports with my desire to express my peaceful internal union.

During one of my peaceful nirvana-seeking meditations under a bodhi tree, I had an epiphany: sports haikus.

What better way is there to spread my message than to express the happenings in the corporeal world in my chosen way.

Many love the New York Yankees and even enjoyed the visions of the rising sun to catch a glimpse of Bronx Bombers opening the season in Japan. While eating my breakfast of rice-cakes, the first haiku popped into my head:

*Pinstripes fall abroad,
Billions of dollars can't win,
So the Boss will cry.*

My most recent updates from George Steinbrenner's office show that his tissue usage has risen due to the "super teams" opening loss to the Devil Rays, but I for one congratulate the Boss for his ability to open up and share his feelings.

Other actions in the baseball world have also crossed my brain in recent weeks and the only way to release my brain from the pressures is to write down the thoughts:

*Barry and BALCO
Have joined to ruin the game.
Oh Barry, the shame!*

The pains caused to me by inflated egos and muscles of the major leaguers have caused much distress, leading me toward more meditation to pacify my mind, but in these thought sessions, my mind traveled toward another topic.

The world of collegiate basketball and the NCAA tournament tantalized my mind, raising questions that may never be answered:

*Upsets ruin brackets,
Duke and Huskies fight for crown.
Who will cut the net?*

My bookie wanted a more concrete answer to the question, so I pondered once again in order to solve the mystery, but yet again, my mind landed in another sport, this time it was football.

Not fond of narcissism, my mind thought about the Eagles' acquisition of Terrell Owens. While he will bolster the team, his self-love fest will draw attention away from the strong bonds of the team that so adequately fit with the city's motto — the city of Brotherly Love:

*T.O. practices
His pose in new outfit in
His bathroom mirror.*

My favorite team acquiring one of the best receivers in the game should have made me jubilant, yet my sorrows returned ten-fold.

To ease the pain, I once again set my sights on Enlightenment. As I ventured toward inner peace, a vision appeared in my mind.

It was a bald man. As his features became more and more clear, I realized it was neither a Bodhisattva nor the Dalai Lama, but Phil Martelli, the head coach of the St. Joes Hawks.

"What are you doing here?" I asked the folklily-challenged coach.

"I seek Nirvana, like you," he responded, "because I shall never find true happiness in my physical state. The Hawks will never again regain their glory."

As the final word left his mouth, he began to disappear and within seconds he was no longer visible, but his words of sorrow reverberated in my ears.

My quest on the Eightfold Path was futile as I realized it would be impossible for me to achieve Enlightenment. As I returned to consciousness, all that remained with me from my meditations was one final haiku:

*Don't wait until the
Last minute to do your work.
You'll look like a dope.*

Bob Thurlow is a managing sports editor at The Review. Send questions, comments and tips for healthier bonsai trees to bthurlow@udel.edu.

NFL visits Delaware Seniors work out for scouts

BY JON DEAKINS
Sports Editor

Ten National Football League Scouts flocked to campus Wednesday morning in search for a possible diamond in the rough.

Delaware went 15-1 in 2003 en route to a Division I-AA National Championship, but I-AA is considered by most to be a big step down from Div. I-A.

Nothing is more evident of this class structure than the 15-year absence of a Hens player in the draft between Rich Gannon in 1987 and Jamin Elliott in 2002.

This year, Delaware has a realistic shot of having three or four players selected in the upcoming NFL draft for the first time in 33 years.

Seniors Mike Adams, Germaine Bennett, Antawn Jenkins, Andy Hall, Jason Nerys and Rick Lavelle all displayed their strength, speed and quickness for professional scouts Wednesday with hopes of one day playing one on Sundays.

Senior defensive end Shawn Johnson

was unable to work out as he is still recovering from ligament damage in his right shoulder he sustained during the 2003 play-offs.

After three solid hours of measurements, stretches and stopwatches, one thing was evidently clear:

Mike Adams stole the show.

"Mike definitely turned a few heads today," said Russell Barbarino, the head strength and conditioning coach at the university. "The scouts were very impressed with his numbers and he obviously raised his stock."

Those impressive numbers include 19 reps at 225 pounds on the bench press, an outstanding feat for his size. The 5-foot-10, 192-pound safety also exhibited a vertical leap of 37-1/2 inches.

His most remarkable test of the day though, came during the heavily scrutinized 40-yard dash, which Adams ran in the 4.36-

see NFL page B7



THE REVIEW/Jon Deakins
Defensive back Mike Adams bolstered his stock in April's NFL draft by impressing scouts with a 40-yard sprint time below 4.4 seconds as well as 19 repetitions at 225 lbs.

Player suspended

BY ROB MCFADDEN
Sports Editor

Redshirt freshman running back Lonnie Starks has been suspended indefinitely from the football team for violating team rules.

Head coach K.C. Keeler announced the suspension on Friday, March 19 after speaking with the team the night before. Starks had not participated in either of the team's first two practices and will not practice for the duration of his suspension.

Keeler said he would not comment on the nature of suspension, other than to say that Starks had broken some of the team's rules.

"We're pretty firm and hard on the kids," he said, "but [the team] is a family and we keep it in the family."

Keeler said if Starks was in any legal trouble, he would not be allowed to comment on it.

Keeler said the length of the suspension will be determined by how Starks responds to what was asked of him.

"Indefinite is indefinite," he said. "[The suspension] could be for one day, it could be one

month or it could be one year."

After redshirting last season, Starks was expected to compete with converted defensive back Roger Brown and sophomore Niquan Lee for the running back position vacated by seniors Germaine Bennett and Antawn Jenkins.

With Starks' future uncertain, Keeler said the battle is now between Brown and Lee.

Bennett rushed for a school record 1,625 yards last season, averaging five yards per carry and 101.6 yards per game on his way to a second-team All-Atlantic 10 selection. Jenkins ran for just under 700 yards and 10 touchdowns.

Keeler said while the loss of Bennett and Jenkins is huge, he has been pleased with the effort he has seen so far from the prospective replacements.

Starks, a native of Newport News, Va., was named one of the top 25 juniors in the state of Virginia and was received first team All-District and second team All-Region honors his senior year. He was the only running back in Delaware's 2003 recruiting class.



THE REVIEW/Matt Basham
Sophomore Joe Coudon pitched a solid game in relief against Maryland on Wednesday, but the Hens lost 9-6.

Eighth straight loss for Hens

BY TIM NICHOLS
Staff Reporter

The Delaware baseball team dropped its eighth consecutive game Wednesday, falling to Maryland 9-6 at Bob Hannah Stadium.

The Hens (13-12) stranded 14 baserunners and squandered numerous chances to overtake the Terrapins and snap their losing skid.

Following the loss, Delaware head coach Jim Sherman stressed the need to recognize and seize every opportunity to make a play.

"We're kind of rolling in the wrong direction and the kids are trying," Sherman said. "There's no lack of effort, just a lack of focus on what you're doing prior to the ball being hit to you or what you're doing offensively."

Down 7-4 in the eighth, Delaware appeared it might finally get over the hump as sophomore centerfielder Brent Rogers stroked a leadoff double and senior first baseman Steve Van Note followed with a walk.

With two on and no one out, Maryland inserted relief pitcher Justin Hulse. The junior proceeded to strike out junior designated hitter Kelly Buber, junior right fielder Dave Harden and junior second baseman Brock Donovan in order to end the inning.

Terps head coach Terry Rupp credited Hulse with stamp-

ing out any threat of a Delaware comeback.

"Justin Hulse came in and did a great job," he said. "That was big because they were starting to get momentum there."

Maryland started the contest by scoring a run off Delaware freshman starter Billy Harris in each of the first five innings.

The lefty, making his first collegiate start, allowed five runs on nine hits in five innings of work to take the loss.

Despite falling behind early, the Hens chipped away at Maryland's lead.

With the Terps leading 5-2 after five-and-a-half innings,

Delaware scored a pair of runs in the bottom half of the sixth.

Sophomore catcher Brian Valichka led off with a double and later scored on junior third

baseman Ryan Graham's ground ball. Rogers then plated Graham with an RBI double to centerfield to cut Maryland's lead to one.

Delaware failed to keep Maryland off the board in the seventh, however, as the Terps scored a pair of runs to take a 7-4 lead.

"We needed to shut them down," Sherman said. "When you're going bad in this game of baseball it just happens that way. You can't follow a good backup with another good whether it's

see SLUMP page B7

BASEBALL

Maryland	9
Hens	6

No. 18 Hens try to down Pride

BY STEPHEN MANGAT
Staff Reporter

After getting their first taste of the national spotlight this year, the Delaware men's lacrosse team opens conference play tomorrow against Hofstra at 7 p.m. in Rullo Stadium.

The Hens national ranking rose to No. 18 after defeating two top-25 schools in a row. On March 20, the Hens upset then-No. 18 Air Force 7-6 behind two fourth quarter goals from senior midfielder Ryan Metzbower.

Going into the final period down a goal, Metzbower scored twice early in the period off feeds from senior attackman Matt Alrich and junior attackman Andy Hipple. The game-winner came with 9:35 to go as Delaware was in a man-up situation when Metzbower received Hipple's pass and fired a shot past Air Force goalie Jeff Moss.

Alrich was held scoreless by the Falcons defense, marking the first time he has not scored in 22 games.

Although Alrich could not find the net against Air Force, he more than made up for it a week later.

Against then-No. 14 UMBC, Alrich scored a game-high four goals and senior midfielder Ryan Overs scored the game winner with 2:04 left as the Hens pulled out a thrilling 11-10 victory in Baltimore.

"My scoring was more to do with how the two teams played defense," Alrich said. "Air Force had two

guys on my hands all day, but UMBC was a lot quicker with their slides so I was able to get my looks."

Alrich opened up the scoring 54 seconds in, but the rest of the first quarter belonged to the Retrievers, as they pumped in five goals in the final 14 minutes of the period.

The Hens awoke in the second quarter and quickly scored two goals in the first 40 seconds, redshirt freshman midfielder Jordan Hall off a feed from freshman attackman Cam Howard and Alrich getting his second off a pass from freshman face-off specialist Alex Smith.

Unfortunately Delaware could not keep up the pressure, and UMBC scored three more goals before Hipple scored a man-down goal with 2:09 to go in the half to bring the score to 8-4 in favor of UMBC.

Alrich said that he spoke with junior goalkeeper Chris Collins at halftime on how to get back in the game.

"I told Chris that if he took care of the defensive end then I would take care of the offense," he said.

Overs felt that the Retrievers' style of play rattled Delaware, which led to the halftime deficit.

"In the first half, they had a lot of possession and we weren't patient enough," he said. "They pretty much took us out of our rhythm."

In the third, Delaware again started the quarter strongly. Overs scored an unassisted goal to open the half, and Alrich tallied the next two.

UMBC scored immediately after Alrich's fourth goal, but Delaware scored the next two to tie the game. Howard grabbed the equalizer with 13:44 left in the game, but the Retrievers restored their lead when midfielder James Hyland scored his second of the game.

With 6:26 to go, freshman midfielder Dan Deckelbaum scored his first goal of the year to tie the score at 10 and set the stage for Overs' heroics.

"They ran a zone defense, so we ran our zone offense," Overs said. "I was open on the crease and Cam found me there."

Although the Hens were pleased with their success in the past two games, tomorrow's game against archrival Hofstra looms large.

The Pride (2-5) has had a lackluster season thus far. After consecutive wins over Loyola and Binghamton, Hofstra was hammered by Johns Hopkins, Princeton, and Notre Dame.

Winless away from home this season, The Pride travel to Newark needing a win after losing last Sunday to UMass.

"Hofstra is a rivalry game," Alrich said. "No matter how good either team is, it's always a tough game."

After a successful week that brought national recognition, men's lacrosse hopes to continue their stellar play and start CAA play off on the right foot.