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Friday online edition.

The trial has begun

Accused murderer of Lindsey Bonistall
pleads not guilty by reason of insanity
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- **SENIOR HONORED FOR DISASTER RELIEF PLAN**
Jeffrey Engle will meet in Chicago with student leaders from around the world later this month
- **PLAY REFLECTS ARTIST'S STRUGGLE THROUGH HOLOCAUST**
Professor brings young woman's story to the university with one-woman show
- **VISTA LAUNCHED BY MICROSOFT**
New operating system hopes to challenge Macs' user-friendly applications



THE REVIEW/Mike DeVoll
Businesses on Main Street, such as Bloom (above), prepare for Valentine's Day with elaborate window displays.



THE REVIEW/Meaghan Jones
"With Dream Awakened Eyes" is a play coming to the Center for Arts on Feb. 20.



THE REVIEW/Meaghan Jones
Senior Jeffrey Engle has been chosen as a delegate for the International Youth Volunteerism Summit.

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in the news

DEMOCRATS LOOK TO BLOCK BUSH'S IRAQ PLAN

Three days of intense debate over the War in Iraq began in the House of Representatives on Feb. 12., with Democrats planning to propose a narrowly-worded rebuke of President George W. Bush's troop buildup while Republicans are girding for broad defections on their side.

Both parties will jockey for prime time before the C-SPAN cameras, with leaders claiming the best time slots and rank-and-file members trying to make the most of the five minutes each will be allotted. If all 435 House members use their five minutes, debate will last 36 hours. It is likely to begin by late morning and run until midnight Tuesday, Wednesday and

Thursday. A vote is expected Friday.

After watching their counterparts in the Senate disagree on ground rules for a debate on Iraq, House leaders are moving forward, determined to send a statement to the White House to condemn a troop buildup.

Democrats will file a nonbinding resolution against the Bush plan while Republicans will try to broaden the dispute and seed doubt in the Democratic approach. Senate Republicans were able to block debate on a resolution condemning Bush's war policies last week, but it will be much easier for Democrats in the House to bring a measure to the floor.

LAWMAKERS CRACK DOWN ON SUV EMISSIONS

For decades, Sen. Ted Stevens, R-Ala., has battled environmentalists, but he now finds himself in an unusual spot: pushing tougher fuel economy standards for cars.

Amid heightened concerns over global warming and U.S. dependence on foreign oil, Stevens is one of a number of lawmakers shifting gears in the debate over whether Congress should mandate stricter miles-per-gallon rules.

Cars and light trucks — including SUVs, pickups and vans — account for about one-fifth of U.S. carbon dioxide production. The better the fuel economy, the lower the emissions of carbon dioxide, which is blamed for contributing to global warming.

Stevens is sponsoring a bill to raise the standards for cars to 40 miles per gallon within a decade.

Legislation to require an increase faces strong opposition from the U.S. auto industry and its congressional allies, who contend it would lead to lighter, less safe vehicles, threaten auto industry jobs and limit consumer choice.

Bush, although calling for an increase in fuel-efficiency standards in his State of the Union address, opposes any effort by Congress to mandate stricter rules. House Speaker Nancy Pelosi, D-Calif., has made passage of energy and global-warming legislation a priority and has moved to establish a special committee to recommend legislation.

PRES. CAMPAIGNS EXPECT RECORD HIGH BUDGETS

Financial reports are beginning to document the underpinnings of a drive for dollars that is expected to make 2008 the nation's first billion-dollar presidential campaign. Candidates are hard at work courting wealthy political enthusiasts who can deliver scores of thousand-dollar donors.

Democrats competing for their party's nomination will face a rapid-fire succession of contests in Iowa, New Hampshire, Nevada and South Carolina in January. Republicans will compete in Iowa, New Hampshire, South Carolina and Michigan. A number of states — including behemoths such as California and Florida — are seeking permission to move up their primaries to early February.

This year, candidates will need to hire more employees to wage battles in the growing number of early primaries. They will make unprecedented investments in computer technology to unlock clues to voter behavior.

The 2006 expense reports released last week provide a glimpse at how aspirants have started spending their money. By the end of last year, budding contenders in the Democratic field had already written more than \$660,000 in checks from their federal accounts to fund activities in key states — more than twice what their counterparts spent in 2002 in the run-up to the 2004 presidential contest.

HEART STUDY FINDS NAPPING CAN SAVE LIVES

A large new study has found that people who regularly took a siesta were significantly less likely to die from heart disease.

The study of more than 23,000 Greek adults — the biggest and best investigation of the subject to date — found that those who regularly took a mid-day siesta were more than 30 percent less likely to die from heart disease.

Heart disease claims more than 650,000 Americans each year, making it the nation's No. 1 cause of death.

While more research is needed to confirm and explore the findings, there are several ways that napping could reduce the risk for heart attacks, experts said.

Researchers have long known that countries like Greece, Italy and Spain, where people commonly take siestas, have lower heart disease rates than would be expected.

The new study is the first to try to account fully for factors that might confuse the findings, such as physical activity, diet and other illnesses.

Naps appeared to offer the most protection to working men: Those who took midday naps either occasionally or systematically had a 64 percent lower risk of death from heart disease. Non-working men had a 36 percent reduction in risk. A similar analysis could not be done in women because too few died of heart disease.

Prosecution presents evidence to the court

BY SARAH KENNEY

Senior News Reporter

WILMINGTON, Del. — The trial of James E. Cooke, the 36-year-old Newark resident accused of the 2005 rape and murder of university student Lindsey Bonistall, continued yesterday with prosecutors presenting evidence, which included the sheets from her bed and the clothes found on her body. Cooke is additionally charged with arson and burglary.

In yesterday's proceedings, prosecutor Diane Walsh called Det. Thomas Maiura to the stand.

Bonistall, 20, was found in the bathtub of her burnt Towne Court apartment, Maiura said. There was a shirt around her neck and a shirt stuffed in her mouth. The shirt found in her mouth was imprinted with what appeared to be teeth-marks. Both the sweatpants she was wearing and the sheets on her bed were discolored, possibly from the bleach found in the bedroom, he said.

There were no fingerprints found at the scene, but there were impressions consistent with glove marks found on a railing outside

Bonistall's apartment. Similar impressions were discovered on a CD case found in the living room, Maiura said.

Other evidence presented included the guitar found on her body, an electrical cord found underneath her and a knife found in the kitchen.

A vent and a gas meter located outside Bonistall's apartment could have allowed the murderer entry, he said. The vent had been pulled away from the wall.

"It looked like someone had put some weight on it," Maiura said.

Det. Andrew Rubin from the Newark Police Department pointed out how close Bonistall's apartment was in relation to Cooke's residence and to Dickey Park, where a woman, who testified earlier in the trial, believes she saw Cooke on the night of the crime.

Rubin, who was involved in the Bonistall investigation, had authorized the warrant to search Cooke's residence.

Matthew Todd, a former university student and friend of Bonistall, also testified in yesterday's proceedings. At the time of her death, they were both employed by the Home Grown Café on Main Street.

He worked with her the night she died, Todd said. They both got off work at approximately 10 p.m. and went to his house. She told him she was going to her apartment to relax and play the guitar alone. When she did not show up for work the next morning, he called her cell phone, but it cut straight to voice mail, he said. He never saw Bonistall again.

Cooke was uncharacteristically silent in yesterday's session, except when he asked for a bathroom break, which resulted in a 20-minute recess. Last week, he was removed from the courtroom six times for interrupting the proceedings. He did not appear in court on Friday, claiming illness.

Yesterday morning, prosecu-

A Closer Look

BACKGROUND OF THE CASE AGAINST JAMES E. COOKE

■ April 27, 2005

Cheryl Harmon's Newark apartment is robbed of jewelry and DVDs

■ April 30, 2005

Amalia Chaudra, a 27-year-old student, is in her West Park Place home when an intruder demands her clothes and money. He leaves with her Visa card and cash.

■ May 1, 2005

Lindsey Bonistall's Towne Court apartment is broken into early in the morning. She is raped and strangled before being burned in her bathtub.

■ June 7, 2005

James E. Cooke is arrested in Wilmington.

■ June 13, 2005

Newark Police charge Cooke with murder, rape, arson and burglary in connection to the Bonistall case.

■ Aug. 10, 2006

Cooke's defense attorneys request a change of venue but are denied.

■ Jan. 23, 2007

Jury selection begins.

■ Feb. 2, 2007

The trial begins in the Superior Court in Wilmington. The defense enters a plea of not guilty by insanity.

tors gave jurors a tour of the Towne Court Apartments before returning to Wilmington to resume testimony.

The trial, which began Feb. 2, is being held at New Castle County Courthouse in Wilmington. Cooke faces the death penalty if convicted.



THE REVIEW/File Photo

James E. Cooke has been charged with first-degree murder, rape and arson in the May 2005 slaying of Lindsey Bonistall.

police reports

MAN ASSAULTED AFTER CONFRONTING SUSPECTS

A 18-year-old male from Connecticut was assaulted in the Newark Shopping Center on Saturday at approximately 1:30 a.m., Cpl. Scott Simpson said. The victim confronted four or five unknown suspects after he witnessed them damaging a PNC Bank sign in the parking lot.

An unknown male suspect from the group came forward and punched the victim in the face, Simpson said. The suspect caused swelling to the victim's face, but he refused to receive any medical attention.

The group fled the scene of the crime after the assault, Simpson said. The unknown suspect who punched the victim was described as being between 18 and 22 years old and weighing approximately 180 to 200 pounds.

ROBBERY AT HOWARD JOHNSON

An unknown suspect committed a robbery at the Howard Johnson front desk last Friday while a 75-year-old female clerk was working, Simpson said. The unknown male walked into the hotel and implied to the victim that he possessed a weapon.

The suspect held a plastic grocery bag and ordered the clerk to give him an undisclosed amount of money from the register, Simpson said. The female victim complied with the requests of the suspect, who then fled south on I-95 after taking the money.

The suspect wore a black scarf that covered his face and head during the time of the robbery, Simpson said. He was described as being 180 to 210 pounds and between the ages of 25 to 30 years old.

— Kevin Mackiewicz

Learning the letters: UD's Greek life

Part one of four: the Chapter Assessment Program

BY LEE PROCIDA

Web Site Editor

Greek organizations, by nature and design, are secretive. Founded as secret societies, fraternities and sororities maintain traditions and mottos their members guard closely. Outside of ritual, their activities are often only discussed in Greek circles — what are the new regulations on mixing, who had the best recruitment, what was the best act at Airband, etc.

But much of the work Greeks do is an important part of the university community. Their social activities attract more student attention, but their positive, non-social contributions take more time and effort while garnering less fanfare. Most non-Greek students only have a vague idea Greeks do anything non-social at all.

To improve the understanding of Greek organizations on campus and around the country, The Review begins a four-part series featuring various aspects of fraternities and sororities on campus. It will examine the goings-on of the Greek chapters, detailing their non-social activities, their positive contributions to the community, what they have done in their long history and what they plan for the future.

A good way to begin this effort is by presenting the newly compiled figures included in the most recent Chapter Assessment Program report provided by the office of Fraternity and Sorority Life at the university. The CAP is a system designed to analyze the non-social commitment of chapters and their social privileges are determined by this score. Based on a scale of Gold, Silver, Bronze, Satisfactory and Needs Improvement, the chapters are judged by their overall GPA, philanthropic work, community service and various other factors concerning member development such as leadership seminars, multicultural events and non-alcoholic member events. If you are at an event and 20 to 30 people walk in wearing similar Greek letters, it is probably a group working on their CAP.

Below is a compilation from the Fall 2006 Semester CAP report, highlighting the most recent significant achievements of Greeks on campus. This past fall marked the fifth year since the university implemented the CAP system, and, in each semester since its inception, chapters have steadily improved their performances. The statistics in this most recent publication are the best produced by the Greek community since the system started and serve as a comprehensive introduction into the accomplishments of the university's Greek Life.

The Pillars of Greek life

Highlights from the most recent Chapter Assessment Program report, detailing UD Greek achievements for the Fall 2006 Semester. More than half of the Greek organizations at the university have received national awards. Totals represent fraternities and sororities.

UD Greek Life			
MEMBERS	PHILANTHROPY	ACADEMICS	COMMUNITY SERVICE
20 fraternities, 15 sororities	\$54,000 donated in Fall '06	Sorority Avg. GPA: 3.27	3,940 hours performed in Fall '06
1,484 current members	\$135,000 donated for all of 2006	Non-sorority Avg. GPA: 3.07	Worked with 30 organizations
867 women, 617 men	Donated to 35 organizations	Fraternity Avg. GPA: 2.93	Most hours worked by one group: 388
91 percent of members pledged were initiated	Most earned by one group: \$10,638	Non-fraternity Avg. GPA: 2.84	

Racially-offensive parties in bad taste

BY SUSAN RINKUNAS

Copy Desk Chief

Junior Kristina Pedicone attended a party on Martin Luther King Jr. Day where a picture of the civil rights activist hung on the wall.

"I think it was just an excuse to drink," Pedicone said.

This party, however, was nothing like those held at Clemson University in South Carolina and University of Connecticut Law School.

Pictures from thesmokinggun.com depict a Clemson party over MLK Day weekend where students wore bandanas, had 40-ounce alcoholic beverages duct taped to their hands and put tin-foil on their teeth to suggest "grills." One female attendee wore padding under her sweatpants to make her backside appear larger and one male partygoer appears to have painted his skin black.

Joy Smith, dean of students at Clemson, said the party was brought to the administration's attention because of a dialogue about the photos on Facebook. The campus community has met to discuss the matter during several forums since the incident. The students who threw the party came forward and said they did not mean to upset anyone, but some students were hurt.

"The students who were offended were saying, 'How could you be so naive?'" Smith said.

Students at UConn Law attended a "Bullets and Bubbly" gathering, where partygoers drank either 40-ounce bottles of malt liquor or champagne. People in attendance posed for photos with a fake machine gun, gold foil teeth, long chains with large medallions and down jackets with fur hoods. One female pictured had fake paw print tattoos on her chest, referring to rapper Eve's trademark.

Michelle Helmin, director of communications for UConn Law, said the party was held approximately one week after the Clemson party. Students posted pictures on Facebook that were later removed. UConn Law is 75 percent white.

Kurt Strasser, interim dean of the law school, said he held a community forum in the week following the party, attended by approximately 200 people, during which he wanted to make three points.

"One, this party and posting the photos was really hurtful and has really torn the fabric of our community," Strasser said. "Two, this was bad judgment but not done maliciously. They were not trying to hurt other people. Three, that did not excuse the conduct, but it did tell us something about what we as a community needed to do."

He said the students who threw the party admitted they were insensitive, and the incident brings to light

the need for expansions and improvements in diversity education at UConn Law.

"We should be doing more things in our curriculum," Strasser said. "We're training professionals here, these people are going to be lawyers."

Smith said the party at Clemson is under investigation for alcohol violations by the office of command and ethical standards. Punishments regarding the nature of the party are not currently being considered because "dressing up like something, as you know, is a matter of freedom of expression."

Concerns about the incident have not fallen on deaf ears, however.

"Faculty and staff are using this as an opportunity to have classroom discussion, and I know they are because I hear them talking about it," Smith said.

She said less than 10 percent of Clemson's student body is black.

Cynthia Cummings, associate vice president of campus life, stated in an e-mail message that she saw pictures from the parties in question on the Internet.

"I do not understand how anyone can view this as innocent fun, as opposed to a destructive mockery of a people and a culture," Cummings said.

She said the university cannot prevent students from throwing private parties of this nature, but the administration can do its best to promote acceptance of other cultures.

"We must continue to educate students about diversity and encourage them to raise their level of racial and cultural sensitivity so that they will not want to participate in this type of travesty," Cummings said.

Senior Antonia DeLuz, president of the university's chapter of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People,

said these parties are, by nature, discriminatory.

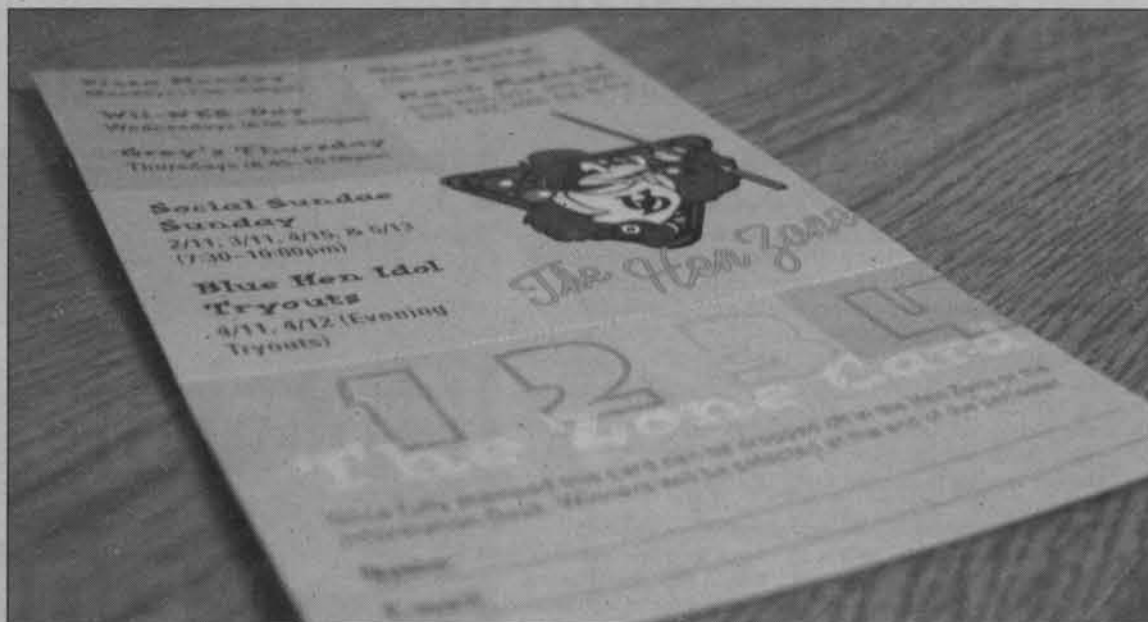
"From what I see I think this is definitely a form of racism," De Luz said. "I can understand if someone thinks it's a joke, but that's just way too far."

She said students are allowed to express themselves under the First Amendment, but they should respect their classmates.

"For a college student it's just not appropriate," she said. "They should be educated about those around them."

Junior Christine Faulkner said she has attended a "white trash" party and painted on a black eye and put stuffing under her dress to make herself look pregnant.

"If someone's going to dress up as Chuck Norris and say they're a cracker, that's funny," Faulkner said. "Honestly, I think people are getting way too P.C."



THE REVIEW/Harry Caulfield

The Office of Activities and Programs hopes to attract more students to the Hen Zone with the new Zone Card.

Card gets students in the zone

BY JOE ZIMMERMANN

Staff Reporter

For most of its history, the Hen Zone has been a quaint hangout in the basement of Perkins Student Center, a sometimes forgotten space housing ping pong tables, air hockey machines and billiards tables that only the university's most dedicated pool hall junkies could love. Luckily for the Hen Zone faithful, 2007 marks an improvement in promotion of the aging entertainment center.

Christina Eggenberger, graduate assistant in the university's Office of Activities and Programs, said central to this year's changes is the introduction of the new Zone Card program, which university officials hope will attract new attention to the Hen Zone.

Students can obtain the multi-colored stub in the Hen Zone itself or at the Trabant University Center information desk, and by attending any of the events scheduled on the card itself, receive special stamps of participation, she said. After four stamps, students can enter their card in a lottery for prizes.

Alex Keen, adviser to the Student Centers Programming Advisory Board, likened the Zone Card program to similar promotions happening on and off campus.

"The idea for a card is not a new one. For example, if you go to Peace-A-Pizza you can buy a slice and get your card punched," Keen stated in an e-mail message. "After 10 punches you get a free slice. In the case of the Zone Card, there is no purchase necessary, and we only require that you attend an event and participate."

"One of our missions is to provide students with social experiences outside of their residence halls and outside of their social circles."

While the only event SCPAB is directly sponsoring is April's Blue Hen Idol contest (a talent competition similar to American Idol), the university has several other events planned for the spring that will be part of the Hen Zone program, he said.

Eggenberger said new events include Pizza Mondays, which is a chance for resident student organizations to recruit new members and meet other RSOs to encourage co-

sponsorship; Wii-NES-days, during which students have an opportunity to play the new Nintendo Wii on Wednesdays and participate in related tournaments and Grey's Thursdays where students can watch Grey's Anatomy and play Grey's-related games.

Other events will feature a Casino Night, an Oscar party, March Madness and Social Sundae Sundays. Eggenberger said Zone Cards with four stamps can be entered into the prize drawing, which will take place at the end of the semester.

Keen said not all of the prizes have been settled upon yet but will definitely include a Nintendo Wii, gift certificates to the university bookstore and Hen Zone Magic Billiard Balls.

Both Keen and Eggenberger said they hope the Zone Card program will change the way students view and use the Hen Zone.

"I think students who know about facilities such as the Hen Zone do utilize them," Eggenberger said. "We are trying to increase the amount of students that know they are there and know what is offered. It's free for students and it's great space to hang out in and relax."

In addition to the Zone Card program, the Hen Zone has benefited from hardware updates as well, Keen said. A new, 50-inch 720-pixel high definition television was installed this year and he hopes to have a high definition cable signal installed this semester, the first of its kind on campus. The Hen Zone has also added a Wii and upgraded its existing Microsoft Xbox consoles to Xbox 360s.

"I'd like to see the Hen Zone as a social gathering place on par with the Scrounge and the Trabant Food Court," Keen said. "I think on-campus students take great advantage of entertainment facilities but sometimes get stuck in their rooms."

While the Zone Card program represents the university's new plans to change the way the Hen Zone is used, the target audience — the students themselves — has mixed opinions about the newly implemented programs.

Junior Phil Castellano, who lives in Harrington Residence Hall, said he does not visit the Hen Zone often, but what attracts him most to the space is the free use of the game tables. He said while he thinks the Zone Card program is a good idea, he would not use it unless he had a consistent group of people to go with him to the Hen Zone.

Tournaments of all sorts would bring the most students to the Hen Zone, Castellano said.

"I think ping pong and pool tournaments would be cool and Halo tournaments would probably attract a lot of people," he said. "So would poker tournaments. But if you couldn't do it for money then what's the point?"

Junior Emily Dourte, who lives off campus, said she spent a lot of time at the Hen Zone before she moved out of the residence halls. The Zone Card program seems like an attractive program to on-campus students, she said, but she is not sure how much use she would get out of it.

"I would definitely consider getting a Zone Card," Dourte said. "It seems like an easy way to do fun things and get prizes. Then again, I don't know how many organized events I would go to because as someone living off campus, I feel like those kinds of things are a little tougher to get to."

Junior Margaret Cahill, another off-campus student, said getting and using the Zone Card is probably a great tool for the Hen Zone's most frequent patrons but would be under-used for others.

Cahill instead had some other Hen Zone program suggestions she said would appeal to students.

"Food always works to attract kids," she said. "You could hold study breaks, 11 p.m. to 1 a.m., and sell cheap food to attract students or sell it on the weekends when the Scrounge is closed. Dance Dance Revolution tournaments or open mic nights would attract people, I think. The Hen Zone is a fun alternative to partying, and it's conveniently close to the dorms. I think with the right programs kids would really get use out of it."

who's who in Newark

Meet the Harkers: a look at UD's new president

BY MEGHAN LOBDELL

Enterprise Editor

It was just an ordinary night in the Harker home last December when the phone rang. Howard Cosgrove, chairman of the university's Board of Trustees, was on the other end. He had called with exciting news: to tell Patrick Harker he had been named the 26th president of the university — and so Harker celebrated the way anyone in his place would.

"I went to watch my daughter play basketball," he said. Harker, 48, is a regular family man who happens to balance a very busy schedule. He is both the dean of the Wharton School at the University of Pennsylvania and is preparing to become the next president of UD.

Harker said he is excited for July 1, when he officially takes his post.

"I've always wanted to be at a place where you wake up in the morning and you can't wait to get to work and face new challenges everyday," he said. "When this opportunity landed itself, I saw a new challenge. I saw a lot of opportunities there."

Harker first started his career at Penn as a civil engineering undergraduate and member of the football team. He then went on to earn two master degrees and a doctorate from the school, where he later became a professor and administrator.

Because of his history with the school, Harker said there is definitely some sadness over leaving Penn.

"I've been there a long time and have a lot of family ties there," he said, "but change is a good thing."

Harker said he will have no problem adjusting to being a Fightin' Blue Hen and especially looks forward to attending sporting events with his wife, Emily.

"But if Penn ever plays Delaware, like in women's basketball, I'm not sure what I'll do. I'll switch back and forth between sides," he said, then paused. "Nah, I'm here now."

Since being named President David P. Roselle's successor, Harker has been visiting the university approximately once per week to get acclimated with the school and to attend meetings, but is still working full-time as the dean of Wharton.

Harker said in preparation for his new job, he is trying to get to know a lot of people around the university.

"I've been listening to various folks, finding out what their feelings and aspirations for the university are — not just for now, but more importantly for the future," he said. "I'm starting to formulate a plan, an agenda."

Harker said Roselle, who has served as president since 1990, has been supportive throughout the entire process.

"You see the real character of a person and the love they have for an institution more than ever during a transition time like this," he said. "President Roselle has been



Courtesy of the Harker family

The new first family: left to right, son Mike, 17, wife Emily, son Tom, 20, Patrick and daughter Meghan, 17.

extraordinary in making the transition easy."

Harker said he never thought he would end up where he is today, but pieces fell into place along the way.

"There were no big plans," he said. "It's good to have a general sense of direction, but not to plan out your life. It's not practical. You have to be open to opportunities."

Harker said he has countless great memories from his time as a professor and misses being in the classroom.

"The most important job of all is the classrooms," he said. "We're here for academics."

Harker said he looks forward to working with the students at the university, as he did at Penn where he held town hall meetings and had students serve as consultants for school issues.

Last weekend, Harker performed in "Wharton Follies," a satirical show put on by the MBA students each year.

Harker said it is customary for faculty to make cameos in the production and in years past he has appeared as Elvis and "Bravehark," in which he sported blue face paint.

However, in his last production of Wharton Follies, Harker will be playing himself. This year's show features a song about him leaving Penn for Delaware.

"It's bittersweet," he said. "Some people at Penn are disappointed, but they realize change is inevitable."

Because of this attitude, Harker feels it is important to be active as both a student and alumnus.

"College is not just about a four-year experience," he said. "A guy once told me, half joking, 'Look, I can change my religion, I can change my wife, but I can't change my alma mater.' It's a lifetime investment."

Harker plans to officially move into the President's House during the summer. However, the Harkers will still keep their family home in Haddon Heights, N.J.

"That's where our kids grew up and where they'd want to go back to during breaks," he said of his three children.

His oldest, Tom, is a sophomore at Penn, while the younger twins, Mike and Meghan, will be starting at Penn and Columbia University, respectively, this fall.

Harker's wife will divide her time between Delaware and New Jersey, where she is a high school math teacher.

Harker said he grew up in New Jersey and his wife in Maryland, so moving to Delaware is not a drastic change.

When asked what his best memory of college is, Harker does not hesitate.

"Oh, come on," he said. "No. 1 has to be meeting my wife."

Harker was at a party hosted by his fraternity, Alpha Epsilon Pi, and met his future wife, a Chi Omega, while they were both sophomores at Penn.

Harker said although he was in a fraternity, it was more of the "laid-back jock frat" than an "animal house" one.

Harker played defensive tackle on the Penn football team as an undergraduate and described himself as, "much heavier then."

A turning point in his life was when he was injured during his junior year and could not play football, he said. A professor, John LaPore, asked him to do work in his research lab.

"I had no intention of going into academics but that experience really opened my eyes to it," he said. "You never know what life's going to deal you."

Harker said he is still in close contact with many of his friends from college and finds that e-mail makes staying in touch much easier. He recently reunited with fellow teammates at the annual Ivy Football Association Dinner in New York City where Harker was this year's honored recipient from Penn.

"The beauty of college is that you'll stick together with your friends throughout," he said. "That group you went to school with — you'll be friends all your life."

In Harker's limited spare time, he said he enjoys being with his family at their vacation home in Ocean City, N.J., listening to jazz music, watching "The Daily Show" and "House," woodworking and trying to take up new hobbies.

"I'm a terrible golfer," he said, "but I'm getting there."

2008 hopefuls take advantage of Facebook fad

BY SARAH LIPMAN

National/State News Editor

"Barack Obama for President in 2008." "Giuliani for President '08!" "ABC — Anybody But Clinton."

These are not the typical Facebook groups about unfortunate decisions made or the latest obsession among college students. Unless the upcoming 2008 presidential election is the lat-



Courtesy of WireImage.com

Presidential candidates, such as Sen. Barack Obama (above), target younger voters through social networking sites.

est obsession.

Facebook is no longer just a social networking Web site where students can find out about the next huge party or where they can post drunken pictures from the previous night's outing. It has become a place where students can converse about the presidential candidate they support.

Political science professor Mike Wagner said as the Internet continues to improve, more candidates and people who support them will continue to take advantage of its resources.

"Social networking sites have become more advanced since the last presidential election," Wagner said. "In college, everyone's on Facebook and candidates should have a 'for president' group where students can meet and get involved. It's free and they can find the types of people who will support and are willing to volunteer for them."

He said by using the Internet to get their messages out, candidates will reach more people who spend time surfing the Web and get more students excited about elections.

"It will keep the elections fresh in mind," Wagner said. "Candidates will keep talking about what students are interested in. So far everyone has made their announcements on the Web. They're appealing to Web-savvy people saying they are ready to run a modern campaign."

He said it is important for candidates to get their word out on blogs and sites like MySpace and Facebook because it is where they can reach tons of people, especially students, who statistically have had the lowest voter turnout.

Tobin Van Ostern, a freshman at George Washington University and the deputy director of the organization "Students for Barack Obama," said he agrees. He recently helped create the Facebook group "Barack Obama for President in 2008" and

organized a rally on Feb. 2 where Obama spoke to several thousand students at George Mason University in Fairfax, Va.

"We wanted to show everyone the enthusiasm we have for Barack Obama, which we easily accomplished," Van Ostern said. "By using Facebook, we made a fantastic first step into the real world and want to keep the movement going to other colleges across the country."

Van Ostern said once the Facebook group started gaining support, it was not too difficult to get into contact with Obama and organize his appearance at the rally.

"We were in contact with his people for about two weeks," he said. "We gave him the invitation to speak and he was very enthusiastic about the idea, so it worked out really well. Hopefully it will help us mobilize supporters in other colleges and get him to speak at many other campuses."

David Sophrin, president of the university's College Democrats, said candidates running for any type of office are looking for innovative ways to reach out to more supporters and the Internet is a great way to get students involved.

"The Internet is where people are spending hours everyday," Sophrin said. "It's unlike the '60s or '70s where people could organize rallies. Why not go where the people are?"

Sophomore Patrick Don said although he has not voted in the past, he would be more likely to at least take an interest in the election if candidates reached out to younger people through social networking sites.

"I feel bad not knowing anything about candidates and then making uninformed decisions," Don said. "I'm not the type of person who would go on a candidate's official site to learn about them. If they publicized themselves on Facebook and more teen-oriented sites, I would be more intrigued."

Therapists experiment with ecstasy

BY KRISTIN VORCE

Managing News Editor

They are rollin' on E, but there is no heart-pounding techno or blinding strobe lights and there are definitely no glow sticks. They are not at a rave — they are sitting in a licensed psychiatrist's office, receiving treatment for post-traumatic stress disorder.

Researchers in South Carolina are testing the effects of low doses of ecstasy during counseling sessions for PTSD patients.

Preliminary results indicate that the drug, clinically known as MDMA, poses no serious threat when administered by a psychiatrist, Dr. Michael Mithoefer, leader of the study, said.

"The idea is that MDMA can decrease the level of fear and defensiveness and increase a sense of trust and safety and allow people to revisit the trauma and express the emotions without feeling overwhelmed," Mithoefer said.

The Anti-Drug Campaign's Web site spouts long lists of the hazards associated with ecstasy, including confusion, depression, sleep problems, severe anxiety and paranoia.

According to the National Institute on Drug Abuse's Web site, MDMA can cause a spike in body temperature and on rare occasions lead to liver, kidney, cardiovascular system failure and death.

However, Mithoefer said the drug is misunderstood.

MDMA is a psychoactive drug that was first used as a therapeutic tool when it was cre-

ated in 1912. It was outlawed in 1970, and in the '80s and '90s it gained reputation as a rave drug. Currently there is no substantial evidence that MDMA is particularly harmful when taken in low doses, he said.

Mithoefer gives patients MDMA three times over a four-month period. Typically, during the session the subject's blood pressure rises, pulse quickens and temperature increases slightly. These conditions are all closely monitored, he said.

"It is true that ecstasy bought on the street and used in a rave setting certainly has significant risks," Mithoefer said. "But using it in a controlled medical setting, the risk is low."

Angela Hoag, a clinical social worker at the Dover Vet Center Outreach Office, said the idea of using ecstasy in treatment seems harmful.

"It sounds very strange," Hoag said. "There's dangers in reliving the trauma."

Hoag helps patients cope with symptoms through individual and group therapy. She said she sees World War II veterans who still have flashbacks of traumatic events.

"If you're going to open the door to all these horrible memories, you have to have all of these safety nets in place," Hoag said. "They'll talk about it when they're ready. You should never force the individual."

Mithoefer said he has never had subjects experience life-threatening problems, only mild side effects.

"Sometimes they feel tired and washed

up or even more anxious afterward," he said.

The Food and Drug Administration approved the research in 2001, but whether the administration will approve MDMA as a prescription drug in the future is undecided, he said.

In high doses, the drug is also known to damage memory. Rats exposed to MDMA in tests are more likely to develop problems with learning and memory, according to the NIDA Web site.

Dr. John Halpern of Harvard Medical School, who is testing the drug in cancer patient therapy, found memory loss was not an issue for those who take MDMA fewer than 50 times, Mithoefer said.

Dr. Sal Muleh, a psychiatrist of PTSD patients in Wilmington, said although he is unsure whether MDMA would be an appropriate treatment, psychiatrists should be thinking about new therapy methods.

"We need to be continually sharpening our tools and have a willingness to be open to other ways of helping even if they are different than what we are accustomed to," Muleh said.

If a traumatized person receives treatment within 90 days of the incident they have a higher rate of improving his or her condition. However, symptoms never disappear completely, Hoag said.

"Once you have PTSD, you have it for life," she said.

A Closer Look ECSTASY

■ MDMA is an illegal drug that acts as both a stimulant and psychedelic, producing an energizing effect, as well as distortions in time and perception.

■ MDMA increases the activity levels of serotonin in the brain. Serotonin is a major neurotransmitter involved in regulating mood, sleep, pain, emotion and appetite.

■ Approximately 60 percent of people who use MDMA report withdrawal symptoms, including fatigue, loss of appetite, depressed feelings and trouble concentrating.

— Compiled from the National Institute on Drug Abuse

MTVU plans to revamp college site

BY ANNEMARIE VALLI

Staff Reporter

Friendships among peers come with certain perks: sharing a first-kiss story, a secret handshake or an inside joke about last Saturday night.

Students trust students.

Students even trust students enough to influence their class schedules.

RateMyProfessors.com, a Web site designed for students to preview and rate college professors based on peer review, is a free online service available for college students looking to get a sneak peak inside the classroom before the first day of classes.

The college TV network MTVU purchased the Web site last month and plans to expand the current rating system.

Stephen Friedman, general manager for MTVU, said they have been conducting focus groups across the country in an effort to gain student input on areas of interest that would be helpful to include on the Web site in addition to professor evaluations.

"The more we have our audience creating the channel, the more relevant it becomes," Friedman said.

The focus group suggested the site add student ratings of the tastiest dining hall, the most accommodating residence hall and the best pizza place around campus, he said.

RateMyProfessors lists more than 6.6 million user-generated ratings of more than 900,000 professors, making it the Internet's largest listing of collegiate professor ratings, Friedman said.

"What we loved about this site was that it was 100 percent generated by college students," he said.

Friedman said RateMyProfessors currently attracts more than 10 million users per year and is the second most trafficked set of college-focused Web sites.

However, some professors doubt the site's credibility.

Psychology professor Beth Morling

said although she is supportive of the growing student voice that the site encourages, users should be hesitant to trust ratings generated from unknown sources.

"I've had professor friends doctor each others ratings," Morling said.

Dan Weile, professor of electrical and computer engineering, said as long as the site remains purely voluntary and self-selected, it will never be completely accurate.

"It's profoundly unfair," Weile said. "Students with an axe to crack are more likely to go there."

Sophomore Allison Monarski said she has used RateMyProfessors both before and after the registration period to preview her future professors in order to set course expectations.

"If there are three different sections and three different teachers for a class that I want to take, I want the better teacher," Monarski said.

Sophomore Joseph Miller said he uses RateMyProfessors because it remains the only source available for students to swap course evaluations and personal experiences.

He said the Web site should devote more time to establishing credibility for the posted public evaluations generated by members.

"Members should have had the professor more than one time or be a junior," Miller said. "Freshmen don't know what they're talking about."

Despite the site's mixed criticism, its 24/7 readability and relatable college language makes it an attractive source of information for students — for some, even better than meeting with a college adviser.

Junior Anne Brancati said she has experienced success with RateMyProfessors in that the site allowed her to filter out potential problems with future teachers.

"I've actually changed professors because they had a bad rating," Brancati said. "It said the professor didn't speak English well and I knew I couldn't deal with that."



Courtesy of MTVU

English professor Lois Potter has ignored the Web site's ranking system, including the professor hotness scale, which is indicated by a sizzling, red pepper.

"I didn't want to get into that chili pepper business and whatnot," Potter said.

Weile said he occasionally visits the site for a good laugh, but cites official course evaluations as a better indicator of a professor's performance because students are more inclined to take those assessments seriously.

"Students are more likely to be honest with the university whereas RateMyProfessors.com parades around with your head on a stake," he said.

Student opinion about the site's professor ranking credibility is mixed, but the general need for guidance is steadfast.

Friedman said MTVU's purchasing of

RateMyProfessors is an effort to further connect with their audience and by implementing these new ratings on dining halls, residence halls and local restaurants, the college student will benefit from getting a second opinion.

Brancati said the new additions are likely to be most beneficial to incoming students with no previous experience to draw from.

"I already know where I like to eat, so that wouldn't be helpful, but it would be helpful for freshmen or transfers," she said.

Weile said the new additions are apt to attract the same biased sample group of students.

"Someone might go on there to flame the dining hall because they gained the freshman 15," he said. "If they're pissed, they're going to be pissed across the board."

Red state mandates HPV vaccine

BY DANIELLE D'ALESSANDRO

Staff Reporter

An executive order issued in Texas on Feb. 2 mandates girls entering sixth grade to receive the vaccination for human papillomavirus and has fueled debate regarding cost and family rights issues.

HPV is a sexually-transmitted disease known to cause cervical cancer, which is now preventable with the Food and Drug Administration-approved vaccine, Gardasil, according to the Gardasil Web site.

With the recent release of the vaccine, Gov. J. Richard Perry of Texas bypassed legislature and filed an executive order to make the vaccination mandatory for 11 and 12-year-old girls.

So far no other states, including Delaware, have issued a similar mandate.

Albert Shields, a representative for Lt. Gov. John C. Carney said the Delaware Health Care Commission launched the "Ending Cervical Cancer in our Lifetime" campaign in October 2006 in an effort to raise awareness and prevention of HPV.

"The Lt. Governor believes the issue regarding the decision to receive the vaccination largely a family decision rather than a governmental one," Shields said. "I can't say for sure that there won't be a bill passed. I have not heard of anything as of yet."

To help with the cost of the vaccine, Lt. Gov. Carney is setting aside \$800,000 for those who do not have health insurance as part of his campaign, he said.

"The Lt. Governor's main goal in his campaign is to edu-

cate women," Shields said. "All women should know that HPV is the main cause of cervical cancer and can be avoided in a number of ways: abstinence, safe sex and the new vaccine."

Gardasil is administered in a series of three shots over a six-month period and has been proven to be 100 percent effective in preventing the contraction of strains 6, 11, 16 and 18 of HPV, according to the vaccine's Web site.

Insurance company Horizon Blue Cross Blue Shield covers the complete cost of the vaccine, spokeswoman Cynthia McShore said.

"The vaccine costs \$150 per shot and is given in a series of three," McShore said. "The total, \$450, is covered by insurance for females in the approved age range."

According to the executive order passed by Perry, the vaccine is an opportunity to target and prevent HPV.

"Requiring young girls to get vaccinated before they come into contact with HPV is responsible health and fiscal policy that has the potential to significantly reduce cases of cervical cancer and mitigate future medical costs," Perry stated in the order.

Texas resident Stephanie Barajas, a mother of five, said she was pleased with the quick passing of the law.

"I was actually surprised the law was passed here in Texas because it is such a

conservative state," Barajas said. "A lot of families in Texas are extremely religious and want to believe that their children are never going to have sex. They think that if their child gets the vaccination, they are going to be more likely to have sex."

Jo Chasse, another Texas resident and mother of one girl, said she does not view the vaccination positively.

"I am not going to get my daughter vaccinated with a drug that is so new and has not been around long enough to know what the long-term side effects are," Chasse said.

She said Perry may have acted too soon in enacting the order.

There is, however, a loophole for those who do not wish to get their daughters vaccinated and is stated on the Texas governor's Web site. Parents can submit a request for conscientious objection through the Internet.

Kristen Moody, spokeswoman for Perry, said the loophole is offered for parents so they still have control over their children's health.

"Parents need to know that they have the final decision about whether or not their daughter is vaccinated," Moody said. "The governor is a strong believer in protecting parental rights, which is why his executive order allows them to opt out their child if they choose."

A Closer Look HPV

■ HPV is the most common sexually transmitted disease in the United States and can lead to cervical cancer.

■ Approximately 20 million Americans are currently infected with the disease.

■ Texas has the second highest number of women suffering from HPV in the nation.

— Compiled from Gov. Perry's Web site

Winter Session sees a freeze on crime

BY BRITTANY TALARICO

Staff Reporter

After the Fall Semester's high rate of criminal activity, law enforcement and university officials have urged students to be extra vigilant and conscious of their surroundings, serving as a constant reminder that anyone can be a victim.

Lt. Tom Rahmer of the University Police said there seemed to be a drastic decrease in criminal activity on campus during Winter Session.

"It is traditionally much quieter," Rahmer said. "About 40 percent of students come back for winter which reduces the requests for services and level of action."

Kirsten Brown, room assignment coordinator for the housing department, said 7,033 students lived on campus during the Fall Semester and approximately 40 percent of the student population is on campus for winter. However, there were only 2,505 students, or 28 percent, on campus this winter.

Rahmer said the department attributes the decrease in crime rate in Newark to the fewer number of students present in the area.

Burglaries and robberies occur throughout Newark and it is estimated that in 50 percent of robberies or assaults, university students are the victims, Rahmer said.

"Students are the prime victims," he said. "They are the people walking around between 10 p.m. and 3 in the morning."

University Police work closely with the Newark Police Department whenever asked to assist with cases, Rahmer said.

Newark Police and University Police worked together on 29 incidents during Winter Session and 73 during the Fall Semester, he said.

When two rapes occurred last semester, detectives from both police factions continuously collaborated, Rahmer said.

Cpl. Scott Simpson of the Newark Police said when someone calls the department to initiate a complaint, it is considered a "call for service."

The total number of calls received for



THE REVIEW/File Photo

University Police noticed a significant decrease in criminal activity over Winter Session.

incidents in September 2006 was 1,565 in comparison to the 1,204 calls received this past Winter Session, Simpson said.

"I would say that the lower number of calls in January is very much attributed to a lot fewer students in town," he said. "Without doing a comprehensive victimology, I cannot say whether or not students are more often victims of crime as opposed to full-time residents."

Sophomore Alyssa Forsell said she noticed a significant decrease in the number of e-mail messages she received from the resident assistants during Winter Session. There was less of an emphasis on crime during Winter Session.

Forsell said she felt safe going out with her friends at night because the option of Public Safety is always available.

The police presence elevated during the Fall Semester, she said. During Winter Session, police were not seen nearly as often.

With all of the crimes that occurred during the Fall Semester, Forsell said her awareness has been heightened.

"If I need to walk home by myself, I'm very cognizant of my surroundings," she said.

Looking for an easy 'A' Study shows evaluations disregard professors' teaching methods

BY KATIE BURTON

Copy Editor

An "excellent" student evaluation rating might mean a professor takes attendance, has an enthusiasm for the subject and creates challenging examinations.

It could also mean the class is an easy "A."

In January, Bruce Weinberg, Belton Fleisher and Masanori Hashimoto, three Ohio State University economic professors, published their research titled "Evaluating Methods for Evaluating Instruction: The Case of Higher Education." This study found students were more concerned about getting good grades than actually learning anything.

The three professors became interested in how students were evaluating them in part because of job security, Weinberg said.

He said evaluations are being used for promotional purposes and hiring and they wanted to see if professors who were teaching the most were receiving the most credit.

The bigger issue, however, is if students are getting the most out of college. OSU, like the University of Delaware, is a publicly-subsidized institution and is supposed to serve the greater good, Weinberg said.

The research, published at Bruceweinberg.net, shows evidence that many students who received a good grade and rated the professor highly went on to do poorly in follow-up courses. They found that a good grade in one kind of class was not related to students' interest in the subject, since many times they did not enroll in similar courses.

While English professor Christopher Penna said he does not think student evaluations should be the only factor in gauging how effective a professor is, he recognizes their

importance.

"Evaluations can be useful if students really look at the big picture about what the course is trying to accomplish," Penna said.

Spanish professor Stacey Hendrix said specific compliments and suggestions can improve professors' teaching.

"It is really a wonderful feeling to learn you have done something for someone and see it in writing," Hendrix said.

Sophomore Jillian Finkelstein said she takes these evaluations seriously.

"I think it's important that the teacher knows what the students think of them for future years," Finkelstein said.

"Evaluations can be useful if students really look at the big picture about what the course is trying to accomplish."

— Christopher Penna, English professor

Some students are more serious about submitting reviews online to RateMyProfessors.com. The option to rate the professor's "hotness" is written in red in all capital letters and teachers can be searched based on this quality.

Junior Stan Fronczkowski is a faithful contributor to this Web site. At the same time, he recognizes the site's faults.

"I wrote about a teacher from Del Tech," Fronczkowski said. "It was

the only class there that made me do work. It was my hardest class, but I learned a lot. No one there wanted to do anything, so I was the only one to give a good review."

Weinberg said he checks his ratings on the site.

"When I look at my ratings, a lot is based on how to get a good grade on the exams, more than if you learned anything and suggests that's what students are evaluating," he said.

Weinberg recognizes that students are mainly just concerned with grades, but does not necessarily think this is a bad thing and is due in part to the competitive pressures of getting into graduate schools.

Streaming sermons

Religions reach masses online

BY GEORGE MAST

Senior News Reporter

As technology continues to propel our fast-paced society into a swirling cloud of electronic gizmos and gadgets, it has not only transformed the marketplace, but also religion.

While the teachings of the world's major religions have changed very little in the past 2,000 years, the method of teaching and sharing those sacred doctrines has followed the wake of the changing technology.

Large, mainstream Protestant churches are at the cusp of this revolution.

With 13,000 worshippers, one established satellite location and eight others in the works, Northern Virginia's McLean Bible Church is a prime example.

By using the latest technologies, Mike Hurt, director of community campus, said the plan is to keep the 10 campuses united by broadcasting pastor Lon Solomon's sermons to the different locations.

"One of the reasons people come to the church is because of the teaching," Hurt said. "Being able to keep that as a very unifying factor is significant for us."

He said he believes this is an ideal time for the church to make these changes.

"People are embracing mobile technology all over the place, whether it's a video iPod or other things to take media in places where it once wasn't," Hurt said. "So for us to extend that same use in a church service doesn't seem like too far of a stretch."

Senior Nate Merritt, a student president of Intervarsity Christian Fellowship, said while he can see advantages of this type of technology in reaching large numbers of people with the gospel, he would not choose to attend a church whose sermons were beamed in.

It is much different when a worshipper is not physically in the same room as the person who is talking, Merritt said.

"You might as well watch it on TV at your house," he said.

While video casting services from one location to another may still be fairly new, other churches have taken advantage of television broadcasts and Internet capabilities for years.

The Word of Faith Christian Center in Philadelphia, with a satellite location in Newark, has televised its services for the past two years, Minister Janice Gillyard said.

Broadcast was a part of the church's vision from the beginning in order to accommodate those who could not make the service, Gillyard said.

"We have been able to reach far more people

with the message than we would have been able to reach otherwise," she said.

While Gillyard said watching the service on television is less personable, it actually encourages viewers to come out to the live service and also helps to spread the name of the church.

"It makes it a lot easier to go out into the community and be a help to people because we're not strangers," she said. "People are far more receptive because they know our name. It kind of makes them feel connected and they're like, 'Oh, you're the guy on TV.'"

Many local churches do not have the same amenities as these larger ones, but a significant number, such as Ogletown Baptist Church in Newark, use Web sites that allow viewers to download sermons and see upcoming events.

While the nature of Protestant services allows them to be broadcast or beamed successfully to other viewers, religious leaders said it does not work so well with the services of different faiths.

Because of the importance placed on actually partaking in certain customs, Bob Krebs, spokesman for the Catholic Diocese of Wilmington, said it is hard to use all of the advantages of modern technology in the Catholic service.

"The blood and body of Christ are distributed in what we call Holy Communion, or the Eucharist, to the people in the congregation," Krebs said. "That is very difficult to do if you're doing something over a fiber-optic cable."

Vaqar Sharief, of the Muslim Center of Wilmington, said he uses technology through Web site teachings on the practices of the faith, including translations of the Koran.

While, worship is usually done at local mosques, Sharief said during the month of Ramadan, the ninth month of the Islamic calendar, many followers make a pilgrimage to the holy city of Mecca. During this time he said there are special services held every day that are broadcast all over the world.

Rabbi Eliezer Sneiderman, leader of the Jewish organization Chabad, said Judaism is another faith steeped in physical elements of worship that does not allow room for much advancement.

Sneiderman said what has changed is the marketing and teaching aspect of the faith. Some friends of his even advertise their programs on the popular video sharing Web site YouTube.

Another example, he said, is the official Web site of his faith. It is fully equipped with thousands of pages, including streaming video lectures and the complete text of the Torah.

"Let's say there is a text you want to read in Hebrew. You can find it on streaming audio, where before you would have to find a teacher or someone who was well schooled in the information," Sneiderman said.

For Blake Hardcastle, staff leader of the Baptist Student Ministry, this ease in amassing information and teachings is the greatest good that has come out of the technological shift.

"Previously people who wanted to receive some type of theological education had to travel to a location of the few schools that offered it, where now they can have the same professors via CD-ROM or video conference," Hardcastle said.

While this transition to a less personal yet more accessible means of faith may appear to be an endless slope, he said because of our human nature he does not believe technology will ever cause religion to become completely impersonal.

"We are wired too relational and there is too much good in the face-to-face stuff," Hardcastle said.

Hurt said the typical future Sunday church service will still consist of people coming together to worship as a group.

"Flesh and bones still matter and being in community with others still matters," he said. "But if we are able to leverage technology to reach more people, that matters too."



THE REVIEW/Mike DeVoll

The Avon Products, Inc. plant on Ogletown Road will be shut down within the next two years.

Avon calling... it quits in Newark

BY LIZ SEASHOLTZ

Staff Reporter

Avon Products, Inc. announced its plans to shut down its Ogletown Road plant by 2009, which will result in the loss of 350 jobs in the Newark area. The company has begun cutting jobs by using a phasing-out process.

Avon spokeswoman Sharon Samuels said in addition to phasing out employees of the Newark plant, Avon also plans to close the plant based in Glenview, Ill.

"By restructuring distribution centers, Avon can improve service to representatives, increase operating efficiency with new technologies and attain other cost savings that can be re-invested in the business," Samuels said.

With the closure of the Newark plant, she said Avon will use the extra funds to construct a new distribution center in the Midwest, which will have the capacity to ship out 50 percent of U.S. sales volume.

The Newark-centered company will gradually phase out jobs which will take place over the next two and a half years, Samuels said.

"It is important to note it is a phaseout, and not an immediate closure," she said.

"We are working with associates and allowing adequate time for the phaseout, as well as providing outplacement services, career counseling and severance packages to our employees," Samuels said.

Elizabeth Smith, executive vice president and president of North America and Global

Marketing, stated in a press release the decision to close the Newark plant was difficult.

"We are confident that the actions we are taking are the right long-term decisions for our business and our representatives as we fortify our leadership in direct selling," Smith said.

Roy Lopata, planning director for Newark, said Avon is not actually within the city limits of Newark. Avon's employees come not only from Newark, but also from surrounding towns.

The city should not directly suffer economically when Avon is shut down, Lopata said.

"We are always concerned when a company leaves," he said. "But Avon is a small plant and not a major hit."

Avon, a cosmetic company, promotes beauty, health, fitness and overall empowerment for women. The plant on Ogletown Road has been in existence since the early 1950s, Samuels said.

Avon has been selected by Businessweek as one of "The Top 100 Global Brands," and honored as one of Fortune's "50 Best Companies for Minorities."

It is difficult to speculate exactly the impact the loss of jobs will have on the Newark economy, since the closure is still two and a half years away, Samuels said. Avon is currently concerned with securing its employees' futures.

"It is of utmost importance to work with employees to help them transition to a new phase of their career," she said.



THE REVIEW/McGraham Jones

Broadcasting religious sermons is becoming more common.

Are humans to blame for global warming?

BY WALLACE MCKELVEY

Staff Reporter

The Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change concluded that the existence of global warming is "unequivocal," with human activity as the likely culprit of rising temperatures and increasing sea levels.

Geography professor Dan Leathers explained the generally accepted definition of global warming.

Global warming is the theory that the release of greenhouse gases, such as carbon dioxide and methane, absorb and trap heat energy in the atmosphere. As society releases more gas into the atmosphere, there is concern the Earth will warm, Leathers said.

The IPCC report did not explicitly recommend courses of action to slow the progress of global warming, but did indicate the consequences of inaction.

Frequent heat waves and heavy rainfall is 90 percent likely in the next century, reported the United Nations-affiliated group. Droughts, increasingly powerful tropical cyclones and higher tides have a 66 percent probability.

In the report, which was released in early February, the IPCC predicted worldwide air temperatures would increase between 2 and 11.5 degrees Fahrenheit and global sea levels would rise between 7 and 23 inches.

International Society of Biometeorology president Laurence Kalkstein, who contributed to the 1995 and 2001 IPCC reports, said broad predictions are expected.

"No one really knows," Kalkstein said. "They are only estimates of what we think the weather will be."

He said the IPCC scenarios are contingent on changes in greenhouse gas emissions made by governments and the public.

Kalkstein's research in heat-related illness has ties with climate change.

"Heat is the leading weather-related killer of people," he said. "More than hurricanes, earthquakes and tornadoes combined."

Kalkstein said heat-related fatalities are tied to the variability of climate.

"If the earth warms and our weather becomes less variable, heat-related mortality may not increase," he said. "But if just the extremes are warmer and weather is more variable, there will be many more deaths."

Reactions to the IPCC report, a summary of the forthcoming full-length assessment, have been mixed.

President George W. Bush's administration endorsed the group's findings, with Secretary of Energy Samuel Bodman calling the report "sound science" during a news conference.

"As the president has said, and this report makes clear, human activity is attributing to changes in our earth's climate and that issue is no longer up for debate," Bodman said.

Political science professor Michael Wagner said Bush has been unwilling to support legislation which scientists have suggested in the past.

"The proof will be in the sorts of

policies supported by Bush in his last two years in office," Wagner said.

John Van Stan, an environmental science graduate student, said the IPCC's findings failed to address the shortcomings of climate data.

"Our observed climate data since the late 1800s is skewed," Van Stan said. "Weather stations were initially located primarily within the colder northern hemisphere, neglecting the warmer equatorial regions."

Kalkstein, a global warming advocate, pointed to problems within the structure of the IPCC, as well as the media's treatment of global warming.

"A majority of the scientists contributing to the IPCC are not skeptics," he said. "It is probably not the best cross-section of scientists."

The American media projects a liberal perspective and assumes that there is little doubt as to the veracity of global warming, Kalkstein said.

"Skeptics are not heard very loudly," he said. "I am not a skeptic, but if I were I would be very frustrated."

Leathers said the IPCC report is as good a prediction as possible, but more research is necessary. There are other potential causes for global warming, including land use changes and variations in solar energy reaching the Earth.

Any limits to the use of carbon dioxide-producing fuels are beneficial, whether or not greenhouse gases are causing global warming, he said.

"We're going to run out of coal and oil someday anyhow, so we need to look into renewable energy sources," Leathers said. "It also helps make us less dependent on foreign oil."

Global warming has become a politically divisive issue since it entered public consciousness a decade ago.

In 1997, the Kyoto Protocol was drafted with the objective of stabilizing greenhouse gas concentrations to a level which would prevent major human-related effects on global climate.

The international treaty has been signed by 169 countries. Though the United States has not ratified the treaty, there are 369 cities and eight states which have, including Delaware.

Wagner said the United States does not make public pronouncements because policy change would then be demanded.

Scientists who have dissenting opinions on global warming are often shouted down or harshly criticized, Kalkstein said.

Leathers said the politicization of global warming deters scientific research.

"I try to stay away from research in this issue because I want to stay out of the hollering that goes back and forth between the two camps," he said. "It is an important issue that should be studied in a rational and diligent way."

There has been so much controversy over the issue that Leathers said he is careful what he says publicly, since anything could be taken out of context.

"It will reach a point where no one will want to discuss this issue," he said.

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SUMMER INTERNSHIP

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What is Rape Aggression Defense?

RAD is a Female Self-Defense program designed to combat against sexual assaults and rapes. This program is designed for the average woman who chooses to use the option of physical self-defense. This program is free to all female students, faculty, and staff employees (full or part-time).

RAD is taught by certified instructors and is endorsed by the International Association of Campus Law Enforcement Administrators. The course is physically and mentally challenging, however, it is also taught in a fun and friendly atmosphere.

The following areas are covered in class:

Awareness - Awareness and risk reduction discussion covering such issues as home and personal safety, date rape, carrying mace and/or other weapons.

Technique - Self-defense techniques that can be used in a variety of confrontational situations.

Simulation - Realistic simulation scenarios where officers are dressed in padded equipment to give class participants the opportunity to practice their techniques. The University of Delaware Police Department is committed to providing the safest environment possible.

2007 Spring RAD Classes - locations to be announced

Basic RAD (15 hours - must attend all classes)

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6-9 p.m.

Tuesday/Thursday

February 20, 22, 27, March 1, 6, 2007

6-9 p.m.

Wednesdays

April 4, 11, 18, 25, May 2

6-9 p.m.

Advanced Rad

(15 hours - prerequisite: Basic RAD)

Mondays

April 2, 9, 16, 23, 30

6-9 p.m.

E-mail Officer Hedrick: janjan@udel.edu at the Department of Public Safety to register (no phone calls please); **Registration is REQUIRED.** Please include your class choice and your university affiliation (faculty, staff, student).

R Classrooms find a 'Second Life'

BY ELAN RONEN

Staff Reporter

Thousands of university students begin their day by waking up, getting ready and taking a 15-minute walk to their first class. For many students in other universities, the journey to class is much simpler. All they need is a computer program called Second Life and they can teleport into a virtual classroom.

No pants, no makeup and no frigid February treks across campus are required.

Second Life is a 3-D virtual world created by the company Linden Lab. Users of SL create personal characters called avatars whose looks can be customized. Like an online version of The Sims, users can entertain themselves with countless virtual activities, including building objects, dancing at nightclubs or shopping at stores using Linden dollars.

SL is becoming much more than a game for the professors and students of more than 80 educational institutions for higher learning, including Harvard, Columbia and Stanford Universities, according to its Web site.

For Charles Nesson, a Harvard law professor, SL has become the medium through which he has taught several courses, including Cyberlaw: The Court of Public Opinion.

Nesson said one of his most successful experiences with SL was a virtual mock trial held in the winter where a large population of non-student SL members attended and acted as the jury.

He said mock trials do not work in real life. In 30 years of teaching the same course in real classrooms he has found students tend to speak too long. In contrast, Nesson found the mock trial ran smoothly in SL due to the use of typed chat.

"In Second Life you have to be concise or you lose your audience," he said. "Your answers become crisp."

Class discussions in SL can be easily saved, generating a transcript that becomes a useful reference for students, Nesson said.

He also mentioned some of SL's

limitations.

"The server can only support about 40 avatars before things start to slow down," Nesson said.

Despite server problems, he said the student reaction to SL was overwhelmingly positive and he does believe problem-based courses are completely possible in a virtual environment.

Sophomore Doug DeSario is familiar with SL as well as many other online games. He recognizes SL's potential but said he does not believe most students would consider it to be a substitute for a real education.

"For all intents and purposes, it is still a game," DeSario said. "Students who are computer-oriented would appreciate it. Students who are not familiar with online games would not be familiar with the interface."

He said SL could allow students who feel sick an opportunity to attend class without having to travel or risk infecting fellow students. He also mentioned the advantage of having a computer handy to take notes.

DeSario said it is difficult to express oneself through typed chat.

"You can only type so fast," he said.

Wildlife conservation professor Dewey Caron, who teaches several online ecology courses, stated in an e-mail message he is a supporter of distance learning and although he had no previous knowledge of SL, recognized its potential utility as an educational tool.

"I do think it is a way to learn," Caron said. "It resembles a lab course of discovery in science which is very effective because students are not passive but must be active learners. You get back what you put in."

Since SL's opening to the public in 2003, it has attracted more than 3 million people. It is unclear whether the standard for distance learning will be influenced by SL's popularity. Its potential as an educational tool may be significant, but just like Nesson's virtual mock trial, the verdict on Second Life will ultimately be decided by its users.



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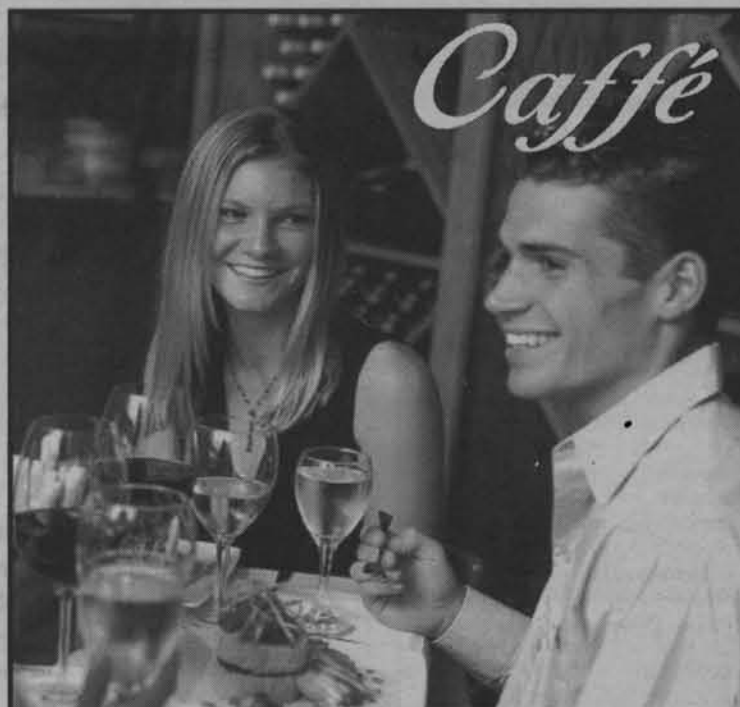
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Principal criteria include academic achievement (with a minimum index of 3.25) and leadership in volunteer service, not only on campus, but also for the greater Newark area or her home community.

Applications are available in the Office of Women's Affairs (305 Hullihen Hall), on the web at [www2.lib.udel.edu/ref/aauw/] or by e-mail to Sandra Millard at [skm@udel.edu].

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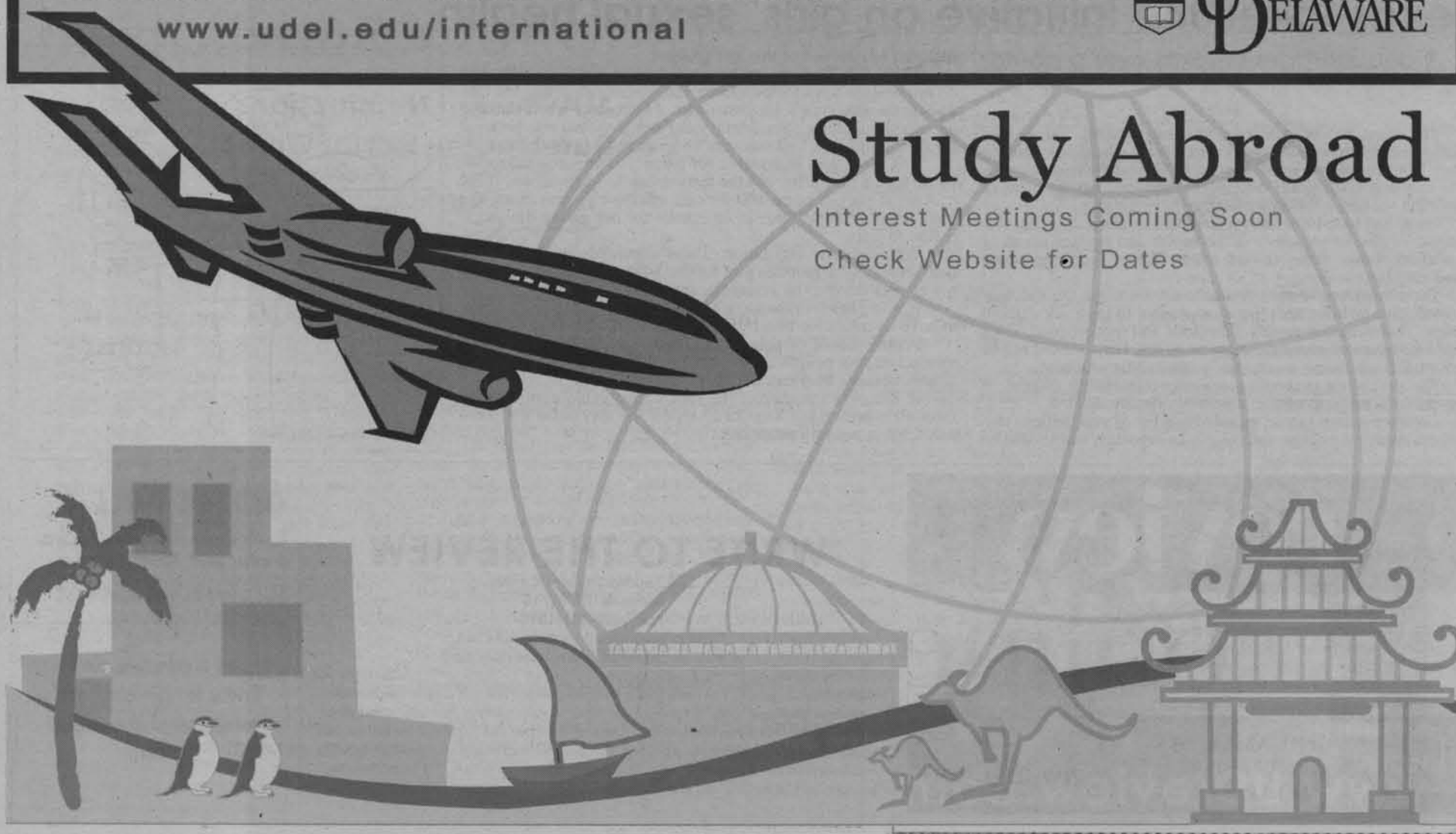
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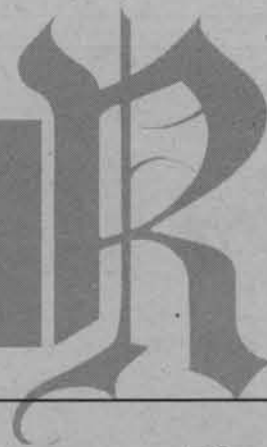
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editorial

14

Theme parties, new form of racism?

Parties themed toward impersonating groups or stereotypes are becoming less of a good time and more of a racial insult.

As theme parties continue to gain popularity with college students, the question has been raised as to where to draw the line between having a good time and being offensive to a culture.

This past January, theme parties were held at both Clemson University and the University of Connecticut Law School mocking black stereotypes.

When theme parties go from targeting an impersonation of a group of people, like pirates or cowboys, to blatantly mocking an entire race, a line has certainly been crossed.

Whether these students knew it, their actions were racist. Intentions may not have been aimed toward racism but ignorance is no excuse for a group of young adults who, at this point of their lives, should be able to distinguish between right and wrong.

Throwing fuel onto the already raging fire, the students at the two schools held their parties within days of Martin Luther King Jr. Day, adding to the disrespect these parties represented toward an entire race.

Having a party that targets and disrespects a race's culture near the day that honors arguably the most important figure in the culture's history is not an accident, it's obvious racism.



The Review/ Dominic DiBernardinis

When having these parties, it is up to students to use common sense and good judgment. If you cannot realize that throwing a party mocking a racial stereotype is racist by the time you reach college, maybe college, or life, is not the place

for you.

In defense of the students who partook in throwing these parties, they absolutely participated in a racist act, but that does not make them cold-hearted racists.

What these students did was an act of ignorance, not hatred. It is not their racial attitudes that need to be re-examined, but their individual stupidity that needs to be corrected.

Sadly, these two incidents are not isolated. A popular theme for campus parties even here at the university is a "pimps 'n hoes" party, where participants dress the part of the current Hip-hop culture.

As long as these kinds of parties steer clear of insults toward stereotypes, there is nothing wrong with them. Dressing as a pimp, as everyone should know, is not mocking a profession delegated to one race.

Certain drinking games have also been targeted as racial in light of these parties. A game known as Edward 40-Hands has been pointed out as being particularly racist because it is a black stereotype to drink 40-ounce beers.

The game is played by duct taping a beer into each hand of a participant, and that person's not allowed to free their hands for anything, including using the bathroom, until they finish their drinks. If played outside a racially disrespectful setting, the game is simply a challenge to drink more at a faster pace.

As long as students are careful in their distinction between fun and disrespect, there is no reason not to continue on with these enjoyable college traditions.

Texas takes the initiative on girls' sexual health

A debate rages in Texas over a potential life-saving vaccination for sixth grade girls.

The most recent developments surrounding the human papillomavirus comes as a surprise to most in The Review newsroom. Not because we are in some way against the mandates for girls entering sixth grade to get the vaccine, but because of where the vaccine is being mandated.

Texas has long been known as a conservative state, but this measure is clearly proactive in the health and science realm of legislation. Other states should follow Texas' lead and begin mandating the vaccine.

The controversy comes from those who think the vaccination will give girls the idea that they are free to have sex without danger. That debate is simply ridiculous and unwarranted. Girls should be educated about the dangers of sex. Girls should not be prevented from having a potentially life-saving procedure.

The procedure prevents a sexually-transmitted disease. It also prevents cervical cancer, a possibly deadly disease.

The vaccination can be included in a list of vaccinations that includes measles, mumps and rubella or hepatitis, and should be

required for women of this age group.

There is a loophole in the legislation in which parents who do not wish to have their children vaccinated can avoid the law. The Texas governor's spokeswoman was correct when she said parents should have a final decision. Parents should also look out for their children's best interests and vaccinate their children.

It is more than reasonable for parents to question the validity of such a new drug, but the facts speak for themselves. If the vaccine is proven to be 100 percent effective in preventing the contraction of HPV, there is no excuse for not giving the vaccination to girls.

With the new legislation, Texas should design a program that helps poorer families pay for the \$450 vaccination which is not always covered by insurance companies.

It is one thing to mandate a vaccine but it is hypocritical not to have an outlet for less-fortunate people to afford the vaccine.

People should be able to pull their children from the vaccination line, but people should not be forced to use the loophole simply because they can not afford the procedure.

In theory, a mandate of the vaccination could eliminate the virus all together, and it could disappear the way polio and small pox have in recent generations.



The Review/ Dominic DiBernardinis

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Opinion

15

College romance, fact or fiction?

Why has chivalry dissipated?



**Smack that and
I'll smack you**

Meghan Lobdell

I hate Valentine's Day. It's horrible and should be referred to as Black "Whatever Day of the Week it Falls On." This year, it happens to be Black Wednesday.

Now I love holidays and adore pink hearts and kisses and cupid, but something about this whole ordeal really rubs me the wrong way.

I've hated it since the beginning of time. I hated Valentine's Day in elementary school when I was awkwardly forced to give a valentine to everyone in the class, even the boy who picked his nose. I hated it in middle school when pre-teen hormones were first raging and it was an excuse for everyone to play tonsil hockey in the back of the bus.

More than anything, I hated, even loathed, Valentine's Day every time I actually had a "valentine." I cannot think of anything lamer than sitting around waiting for some grocery store-bought flowers, a deflating mylar balloon and one lousy dinner date.

It doesn't impress me that boys can get their mojo up to do something pseudo-romantic once per year. Big deal. The whole ordeal is entirely manufactured and superficial.

Yes, it is possible that I have a serious "hopeless romantic" problem from watching too many musicals and Disney movies when I was little. I get that, and constantly make an effort to overcome it.

I have accepted the fact I'm not Sleeping Beauty and Prince Phillip isn't going to dance with me in the woods to "Once Upon a Dream," and then sweep me away to my castle.

I am not even asking to be treated like a princess — but every time I get a door slammed in my face because the prince in front of me was too important to hold it open, I get a little discouraged.

I really try to go with the present-day flow and give these modern gentlemen a chance. As Nelly Furtado puts it so tactfully, "Chivalry's dead but you're still kinda cute." But then I realize, no, you're not that cute. I mean, you just shoved me over, grabbed my butt without reason or invitation, spilled your beer in my hair, looked at me like it was my fault, called me an asshole, put a pill in my drink in front of me and punched my roommate in the face (all true stories).

I know romance existed once upon a time. My grandparents fell in love in the '40s while swing-dancing at a beachside pavilion.

Wow. I love that story. I can't wait to someday share a similar tale with my grandchildren of the night I met their grandfather — while he groped me from behind to a song with a title like "Smack That."

Gram and Pop also love to show me letters they wrote to one another and have kept for more than 50 years. I am hoping to preserve a digital archive of the "what r u doing? u should come over" text messages my friends and I

have received circa 3 a.m. these past four years.

On second thought, I should be happy with a text message like that. It is showing some initiative, a foreign concept to most college boys. That kind of invitation should practically be considered an engagement proposal.

Consider this: If you ask any college couple how they met, they'll respond, "Oh, yeah, we hooked up for like 8 months, then started going out." Well, try explaining to Gram and Pop what this "hooked up" entails. People don't date — they hook up. This roots from the increasing immaturity of 18-22 year-old males.

When it comes to romance, boys have regressed since high school. Back then they had to approach you sober. Imagine that. Then they had to ask for your phone number, and since this was before the age of cell phones, they had to call your house and run the risk of your father answering.

They had to pick you up at home, meet your parents, drop you off and smooch goodnight outside your house — all with the threat of facing your big brother armed with a shotgun.

These young men did not have the luxury of hooking up for a year before making a commitment because it was much harder to do — it involved sneaking in basements and cop-controlled carparks. Very, very, risky.

Because of the risk factor, boys had to decide if they actually liked girls based on personality and not willingness to strip off their clothes on the first night.

In college, it is infinitely easier for boys. He gets your cell phone number, a direct line to you, then walks you back to your apartment where the only threat awaiting is your drunken roommates.

High school boys were brave, noble and unbelievably creative. They took girls to places college guys have never heard of like — gasp — the movies and — double gasp — restaurants. If my fingers got shut in an elevator door and the majority of them fell lifelessly to the floor, I might be able to count the number of dates I've been on in college on both hands.

I know this is the 21st century and times have changed. But maybe this Black Wednesday we can re-evaluate and makeover our romanceless generation so someday we have love stories we're actually proud to tell our grandkids.

Meghan Lobdell is a Enterprise Editor for The Review. Her viewpoints do not necessarily represent those of The Review staff. Please send comments to mlobdell@udel.edu

Why do nice guys finish last?



**Yo, I'll
smack that**

Steve Russolillo

I love Valentine's Day. It's one day each year where nice guys get a chance to shine.

Valentine's Day is a superficial Hallmark holiday — but hear me out. I don't mind showing up to a girl's place with a bouquet of flowers, taking her to a nice restaurant and watching a movie.

Let's be realistic. Dinner and a movie is rare these days, especially in college. Society has changed through the years, there is no denying it. Students are more interested in getting wasted with their friends at Shaggy's on a Thursday night or hitting up '80s night at Kate's.

So what has happened to the art of dating?

After sitting around and talking to my roommates about this issue, we've come to the conclusion that technology, media and culture are the three reasons for making dating yesterday's news.

Cell phones, AIM and Facebook have revolutionized interactions with other people.

Calling a girl's house phone and risking speaking to her father is obsolete. Who doesn't have a cell phone today? It doesn't make men of our generation cowards. Times are different.

AIM and Facebook — same thing. Are you telling me I should mail a love letter with rose-scented potpourri to the girl I am attracted to? Hell no! She would either get freaked out and call the cops or hang it on the refrigerator for all of her roommates to mock.

We have become a product of our own technological vices and forms of media. Everyone thinks the time period from college up until our 30s is a never-ending MTV party with free drinks, promiscuous sex and flashy clothing. Everyone is selfish, concerned with "me" before anything else.

Someday in the not-too-near future, we all lose our looks. Who is going to love you when your looks are gone? You can fool

yourself and get plastic surgery and Botox. But you know what, we were hardwired to age — and changing one's age isn't healthy or natural. You have to love someone for what's inside them, not how hot they look at a bar.

But that's part of the problem. People are caught up with their looks, causing nice guys to finish last. It's a stereotype that we can't escape, especially in college.

Girls love the chase. They are attracted to the good looking player who will work some cheesy lines at a bar and buy them a few drinks with hopes he will call the next day. When the guy doesn't call, the girl gets upset and wonders why he is an asshole. The cycle repeats itself and the girl gets more frustrated, claiming all guys suck, even though she does nothing to change her own situation.

Nice guys cannot show up to the bar and say, "Excuse me miss, can I please take you out on a date?" We would get laughed at in a second.

So why do girls go for players and assholes when they know their goal is to end up with a nice guy eventually? Why waste precious time in college striving for something that is not realistic and rather counterproductive?

We live in a different society compared to our parent's and grandparent's generations. This isn't the '20s, or even the '50s, for that matter. Courtship does not exist anymore. Women's rights play a central role in the dating world and current lack thereof. Girls have equal power as guys, exercising it freely in various realms — dating among them.

So, now you have two sides doing whatever they want, which causes confusion. Both parties are left in limbo, taking a holiday like Valentine's Day to force people to go on a date.

I still love Valentine's Day. Whether the holiday is superficial or not is moot. It causes people to finally be real with one another. It forces our generation to turn off MTV, sit down to a nice meal and truly get to know one another.

Technology and culture have ruined the dating scene, there's no denying it. And there is no need to blame guys. Both men and women are focused on playing the game and love blaming the opposite sex for society's malfunctions. But we need to have faith. There has to be hope for our generation.

Let's start creating a positive hope with this year's Valentine's Day.

Steve Russolillo is a Managing Sports Editor for The Review. His viewpoints do not necessarily represent those of The Review staff. Please send comments to srusso@udel.edu.



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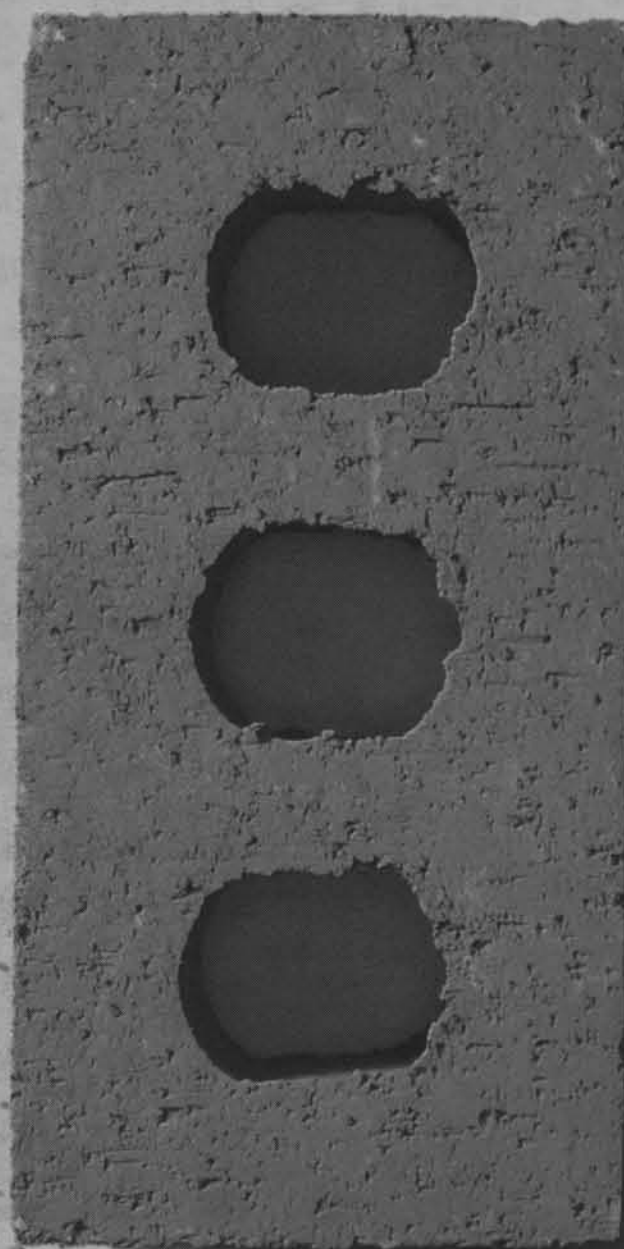


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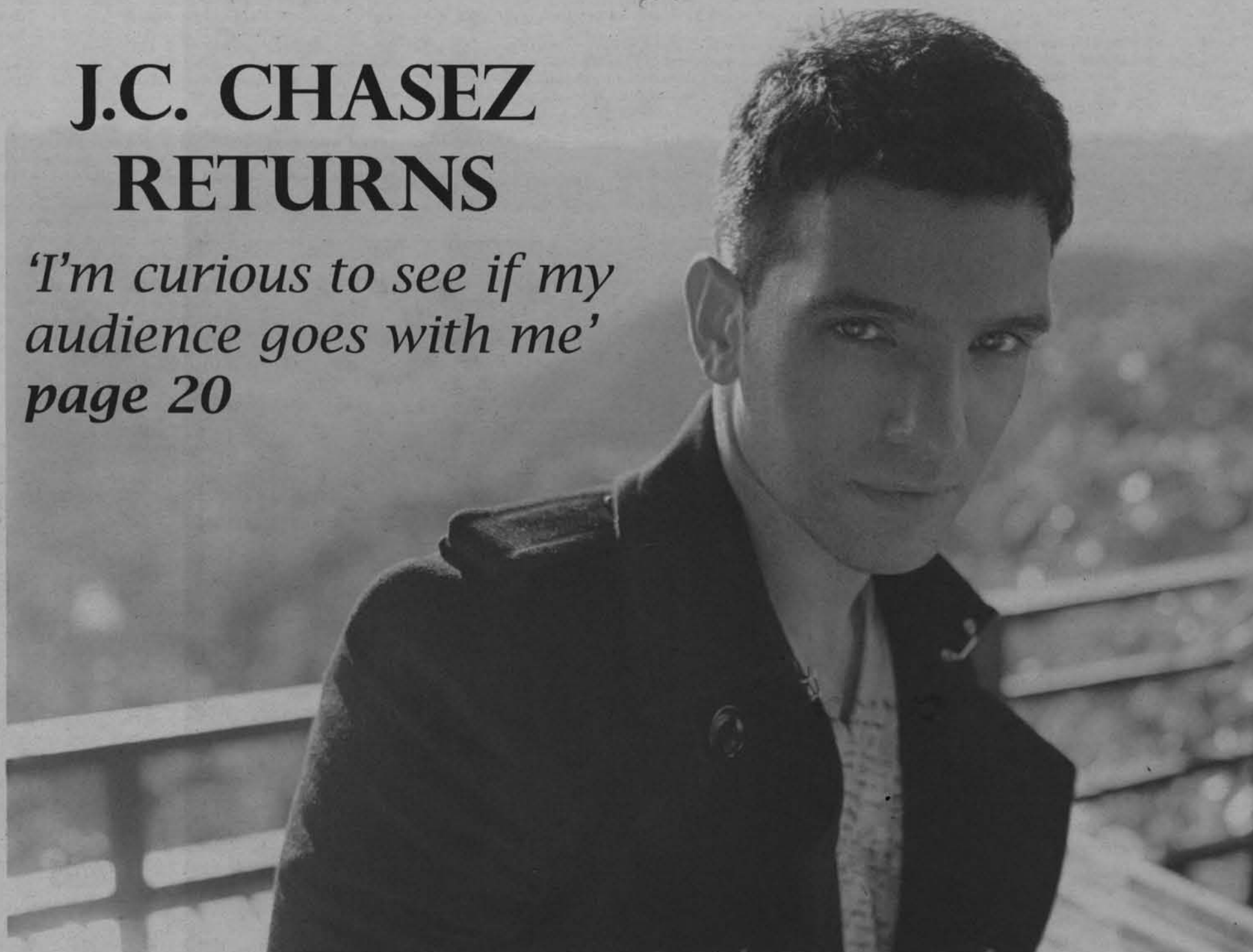
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J.C. CHASEZ RETURNS

*'I'm curious to see if my
audience goes with me'*
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The Mosaic Interview: J.C. Chasez

Former boy-bander discusses new sound, new attitude

BY KIM DIXON

Managing Mosaic Editor

He's not bringing sexy back. He didn't just come out to the American public. He's not putting together a boy band for VH1. He is, however, a former member of *NSYNC and he has an agenda all his own — his unique brand of music.

J.C. Chasez stands rather tall and sleek in jeans, a black-and-white-striped Oxford layered under a black T-shirt and a grey tweed jacket. He's visiting the WSTW radio station in Wilmington on Jan. 30 to promote his newest single, "Until Yesterday," which was co-written and produced by fellow former *NSYNC member Justin Timberlake.

Chasez, sporting a shorter haircut and a seasoned disposition, is unassuming and personable. Although he's performed around the world and has been linked to celebrities like Eva Longoria and Tara Reid, Chasez makes it clear fame and gossip aren't on his list of things to generate. At this point, he says his focus is recreating his sound and his new album, which is due out in March.

The single, "Until Yesterday," seems to be creating the buzz Chasez is looking for. It tells the story of a man who finds out his girlfriend cheated on him after the DNA test of the child she said was his proves otherwise. Critics across the board are reacting to the song's in-your-face lyrics and intense backdrop, saying it's an edgier, more seasoned sound than his first album, "Schizophrenic."

Chasez says the new album, tentatively named "Kate," will be a record for music-lovers, and will feature big-name producers like Timbaland (Nelly Furtado), Dallas Austin (Pink, Gwen Stefani) and Billy Steinberg (Madonna, JoJo). Before the album is released, however, he's keeping himself busy by visiting radio stations across the country because, as he says, "music is made for the radio."

Was there a reason you wanted to write about the specific situation in "Until Yesterday?"

Not the specific situation, what I wanted to do was to create some drama. I had the idea for the tagline first, "I loved you all the way, until yesterday." I just found it to be an interesting line. It was a colorful way to make a statement that everybody kind of goes through. We've heard a million break-up songs and this is a unique way to say it.

It's still a fun song. It doesn't have to be necessarily a negative song, it's more of a "I'm getting past everything" song, not like "I hate you to death."

I think it's entertaining. I think a lot of songs nowadays are so oversimplified, in fun music anyway. I think smart music is way too serious. I wanted to find a hybrid. I wanted to make a smart record that could be fun.

What was it like working with Justin again?

It was great. It was a lot of fun because we're obviously great friends but we hadn't been in the studio for years at that point. It was refreshing to come back and be like "I got a new idea for you" and [him] have no idea what [I] was talking about. Who we are as people hasn't changed, but we've

gone through experiences separately, which sparks creativity. And because we didn't do it at the same time, we're not really coming from the same place. We're interested in each other's stories.

What separates your solo career from your time with *NSYNC?

The music that I make. When you're in a band situation, it's not about your point of view, it's about everybody's point of view, and that's five points of view, and so there's always compromises involved...I can't speak for myself when I'm writing those kinds of records. Now if I feel strongly about [something], I can really push it to the limit and really see the idea through. I can complete a thought without being compromised at all.

What's the new album about?

It's a weird thing to explain to people. This album is based on a fictional character I created. The tentative title of

the album is called "Kate," and Kate is a fictional character that I made up as a muse because everybody always asks me, "Did you write that song about someone in particular," and that's not usually how I write songs. Usually how I write songs is just how I'm feeling emotionally, and I can draw back on an instance but it's never just one because I've been through more than one break-up. It's like there are pieces of each one that pertain to me and make me feel a certain way that I draw on, so I couldn't really just make it about one person.

So, Kate became all these experiences and other parts of my imagination that aren't true to me or whatever, and I molded this character and ended up giving her a name.

You and Justin have both dated some high-profile ladies. What's it like having your personal life splashed all over the media?

Some people don't mind it, there's nothing really you can do about it. I just don't really care. It bothers me if it's a lie, obviously...especially if it's something their family has to read, or my family has to read. But, I just really don't care. It is what it is. **So you're from Maryland, not too far away. What's it like to travel the world and then come back here?**

I've traveled, and I've seen a lot of things, but it's familiar to me. It feels like home, the trees and the long roads. It's absolutely a positive thing. I'll always have a home in this area because most of my family is still here. This is a fantastic place to be. Everybody loves New York City and everybody loves L.A. but that's just entertainment. New York City, yeah, that's where things are happening, but this area is just as much an intricate part of what's happening as anywhere else.

How did you feel about your last album, was it what you wanted to be?

It was exactly what I wanted it to be. I'm very proud of that record. I think maybe the timing wasn't right for it. My label was literally being bought out. The FCC was cracking down after the Super Bowl, and I had some songs that dealt with some sex issues, you know. The stars didn't line up for that record but it's '07 and I'm feeling lucky. I really do. I feel like it's going to be a great year. I've got a positive attitude. I think it's the right group of songs at the right time, and I think the audience is ready for a smart pop record.

Do you think your audience has changed at all?

Of course, nothing remains the same. I think people that were fans of mine before have grown up and they have to figure out if they're going to like this new sound or not. I don't think anything is a given. I feel I have to earn it every step of the way. And if you're a fan of mine and you've never heard this record before, I think you're going to be surprised. People even say about the first single, "That's not what I expected." But, that's where my head is at right now and I'm curious to see if my audience goes with me. I feel like if you like music, you're going to like this record.



Courtesy of Dan Klores Communications

The best bang for your Valentine's Day buck

BY ADAM ASHER

Staff Reporter

Gentlemen, start your wallets! And empty your bank accounts while you're at it. Valentine's Day is coming and it isn't coming cheap unless you know what you're doing.

Think your idea is great and original? It probably isn't.

How about a romantic dinner? At least \$70.

All girls love red roses, right? \$65-80 for a dozen.

Then you've got chocolates, gifts and anything else that might make her say, "Aww."

Feb. 14 isn't just any date night — it's the biggest date night of the year. An ordinary date has to be extraordinary, but never fear, there's always a way to make your date feel special without taking out loans.

The upcoming festival of pet-names, gifts and public displays of affection probably hadn't even crossed your mind until a few weeks ago, which is O.K.

Ladies, you have to understand, it's not that we don't care about you — we are just lazy and work better under pressure.

Junior Jill Crowe has been thinking about it since January. She hadn't made definite plans with her boyfriend of five years who goes to another school, but it had certainly crossed her mind.

"It doesn't help that they put out all the Valentine's Day candy and cards like a.s.a.p. after Christmas," Crowe says.

Junior Jay Marino has been seeing his girlfriend for around three years and he says he prepares approximately a week in advance, but had no problems last holiday.

"Last year I spent about \$100," he says. "I even got her a five-pound chocolate bar."

That bar of chocolate, by the way, was from 7-11. It just goes to show the sentiment can be translated without the word "Godiva."

There are plenty of options on Main Street. Caffé Gelato is having a live violinist, candles on each table, literally 1,000 roses and a special five-course meal by reservation only. The meal is predetermined so waiters don't have to interrupt your romantic dinner. Unfortunately, this deal pulls on the purse strings a bit at \$109 per couple.

Homegrown Café is also reservation only and offers a five-course meal, with vegan and vegetarian options of course, and wine specials. This deal goes for \$35 per person.

Klondike Kate's has an alternate



THE REVIEW/Mike DeVoll

menu where appetizers have been replaced with "first dates," for approximately \$10, the entrees, or "second dates," run for \$17-22 and the dessert menu, between \$5 and \$6, is deemed the "honeymoon" menu.

In addition, you may want to check out Gamble's on Main Street where you can get flowers, chocolates and teddy bears in one stop. Don't forget, roses aren't the only things out there — tulips, lilies and orchids are also nice options that don't cost as much.

Main Street Florist has similar options, but, while they do have a life-sized teddy bear for \$200, their roses are approximately \$15 more expensive than those from Gamble's.

Unfortunately, a stereotypical Valentine's Day date may not be the right course of action. After all, most guys have no idea how to decipher the female mind. What if you are totally wrong about what she wants?

"It's not at all about the money," says junior Melissa Rogers, who has been with her boyfriend Tom for approximately four months. She says it should be more about spending time together than what kind of presents you get. Rogers also had a handy piece of information.

"A lot of girls think it's the guy's responsibility to do something, but I don't think so," Rogers says.

However, others disagree. Juniors Courtney Bailey, Kaitlin Mayhorn and Catherine Stier all agree that it's the guy's responsibility. But don't worry, fellas — you don't have to go overboard. The general consensus is quality is better than quantity. Something sentimental is best.

So how do you get the most bang for your buck this Valentine's Day? Be creative.

Dinner is all well and good, but the thing that matters is effort. If you can show her how much you care with expensive jewelry, then do so, but it's not necessary. If you're a musician, write her a song. If you're an artist, paint a picture. Use your brain, not your wallet. Although, flowers and candy certainly don't hurt.

Feb. 14 horror stories: Proving Cupid's mark is not necessarily true

BY ALEX HONEYSETT

Staff Reporter

Senior Annie Wyszomierski spent 2005's Valentine's Day calling her boyfriend — 40 times.

"On that lucky last call he answered," Wyszomierski says. "I said, 'Do you know what day it is?' He said, 'Yep, it's Valentine's Day.' And then he dumped me."

She spent the remainder of the night wallowing with "Danke Schoen" on repeat.

"No chocolate hearts for me," she says. "Not even a little bit close."

Valentine's Day horror stories are neither few nor far between. While giggling girlfriends spend the day literally smelling the roses, single girls gag and moan, plotting its demise — and often get into trouble while doing so.

Senior Megan Fulmer spent the Valentine's Day of her freshman year throwing a "Singles Slosh" party at her brother's house.

"You had to be single and willing to drink your ambitions away to come," Fulmer says.

The night progressed in said fashion, and Fulmer awoke to find vomit on the floor, two shattered lamps and a half-naked boy asleep on a car in the garage. Still dressed in her fishnets and a fuzzy bright red hat, she stumbled upon a tour group.

"Actually, I stumbled on the curb and fell in the road, directly across from the tour group," Fulmer says.

When the mother of a prospective student crossed the street to help her, Fulmer turned and ran.

"I can pretty much assure you that kid does not go to school here," she says. "Getting single people together to remind them they're single on a holiday devoted to loving each other — what were we thinking?"

The anti-Valentine's Day campaign is one for the bitter and brutal. Web sites such as LoveSucks-KillValentinesDay.com and ValentinesDayAK47.com illustrate the extent of disgruntled Valentine's Day protesters. The Alt.Suicide.Holiday.com Web site even compiled a list of ways to get through Feb. 14, including firebombing Hallmark stores and gouging your eyes

with rusty scissors.

The animosity may stem from Valentine's Day's less fortunate. For senior Chloe Gallo, Valentine's Day was ruined in high school when the boy she was in love with showed up at her classroom with a dozen roses, and asked the girl sitting next to her to be his girlfriend.

"I forever hate Valentine's Day because of it," Gallo states in an e-mail message.

Sometimes, even the lucky in love are



THE REVIEW / Domenic DiBerardinis

fair game for torturous mishaps. Senior Christine Maguire cooked a romantic dinner with her former boyfriend on Valentine's Day. The two spent more time canoodling and less time cooking, and they were soon struck with food poisoning. Instead of hugging one another, they turned their affection to the toilet.

And then, for those who Cupid has struck, sometimes Valentine's Day turns out just right.

Tara Jakeway's boyfriend surprised her with two-dozen white roses and cooked her dinner, dressed in a white suit. Later, he blindfolded Jakeway, and led her to a hotel room covered in white roses and candles.

"It was pretty awesome," Jakeway says.

Lindsey Kopson's boyfriend surprised her at a friend's house outfitted in a tuxedo and carrying a boom-box. Since they were not on the best of terms, he spent the remainder of the night performing love songs and embarrassing himself to the point of forgiveness.

For Wyszomierski, this year's Valentine's Day is looking far superior to the drama-laden one from two years prior. After being apart for more than a year, her ex-boyfriend got back in touch.

"He couldn't resist me any longer," she says.

They worked through their issues and have now been happily together, again, for seven months.

As for their V-day plans? "I gave him a list of things to buy me," she says. "And if you happen to see us at Cucina Di Napoli, I'll probably be drinking. For old times sake."



THE REVIEW / Domenic DiBerardinis



Another win for 'Hannibal' series

"Hannibal Rising"
Dino de Laurentiis Company
Rating: ★★☆☆

"The Silence of the Lambs," once considered an epic movie, can now take a backseat to the newest Hannibal film, "Hannibal Rising."

Gaspard Ulliel, who played the part of Hannibal Lecter, is a French actor with an eerie scar on his left cheek and a forced pronunciation of the English language, all of which contribute to his spectacular performance. Although he is no Anthony Hopkins, so steadily terrifying and believable, Ulliel's coming-of-age personality and tendencies truly epitomize those of the growing monster, Hannibal Lecter.

The movie begins beautifully with rolling green fields, a forest alive with spring birdsongs and playful laughter from Hannibal and his sweet little sister, Mischa. The Lecter castle is grand, standing over peaceful waters in Lithuania. The calming moment is interrupted with the first of many war sounds in the movie — the Nazis are coming.

The Lecter family quickly packs and retreats to its cottage in the woods. Shortly after arriving, Russians arrive to take water from the family's well. Planes quickly find the Russian tank and shoot relentlessly. The massacre leaves only two survivors — Hannibal and Mischa.

They are soon discovered by other soldiers, starving and searching for shelter from the winter. The hungry soldiers come to the conclusion that they must eat the children in order to survive.

The movie then jumps to a troubled, mute and obviously scarred Hannibal eight years later.

The rest of the movie follows the almost likeable Hannibal as he tracks down,

one-by-one, the men who ate his sister. As he commits the murders, the act becomes easier and easier for him, the torture, a game, and the eating of his victims, a pleasure.

Even still, the murders, the torture and his blood-splattered face all feel acceptable and understandable, for every 15 minutes, the audience sees Hannibal's reoccurring dreams of his sister's cheeks being pulled by the soldiers and her tiny mouth calling his name before being taken to her gruesome death.

Ghastly murder and cannibalism may not be acceptable, but in Hannibal's case, when seen from the beginning, the pitiful man may have no other choice.

The writer, Thomas Harris brilliantly balances the horror with the beauty — nature scenery, calming lullabies and Hannibal's kind nature toward his aunt make him forgivable, contrasting his monster character in the other chilling films. Ulliel's portrayal of this corrupted individual only makes his innocence even more believable.

— Corinne Clemetsen, cclem@udel.edu



Mother-daughter flick for CW fans

"Because I Said So"
Universal Pictures
Rating: ★★☆☆

It's "Gilmore Girls," "7th Heaven," and 21st-century humor all wrapped up.

Maybe you think "Gilmore Girls" because of Lauren Graham's role as the oldest, married-with-child daughter of Diane Keaton whose personality matches her superstar TV-series character.

And maybe it's Stephen Collins who brings the "7th Heaven" feeling, but the problem-solving, let's-all-work-this-out plot does eerily resemble the resolution-oriented shows of Collins' past career.

Either way, the fast-paced dialogue, clashing personalities and happy ending make this movie a perfect choice.

And no, not just for the ladies.

Grown men will laugh at the bickering four-way cell phone conversations about the youngest daughter's love interest among the mother, Daphne (Diane Keaton); Milly, the youngest, single daughter (Mandy Moore); the peppy middle sibling, Mae (Piper Perabo); and the oldest, Maggie (Lauren Graham).

The boys' jaws drop in delight when Mandy Moore acts out an orgasm for a

painfully long 30 to 40 seconds.

Other than the sex appeal of the young and innocent Milly and older, but beautifully aged Daphne, the movie's true value is its familiar plot.

The movie opens with a wedding scene where Daphne coaxes Milly to talk to a dreamy distant relative's something or other. She turns toward her prospect with a shrug to reveal her partially-unbuttoned dress and after 10 words of conversation with Mr. Perfect, Daphne and sisters hear Milly's laugh of doom — some nonsensical combination of wheezing, snorting and choking.

Daphne takes Milly's man-less dilemma upon herself, living by the Hallmark Mother's Day card quote her daughters once gave her — "God couldn't be everywhere so that is why he invented mothers." She sets up an online classified ad, "Mother seeking lifetime companion for daughter."

She chooses a winner, Jason (Tom Everett Scott), a wealthy architect who showers Milly with jewelry. But an innocent musician playing at the same location of Daphne's dating game, Johnny (Gabriel Macht), decides himself to win over the mystery daughter.

The easily-predicted plot continues as Milly juggles the two relationships. One is full of high-class dinners and beautiful cityscapes from the tops of buildings built by Jason, the other of silly games with Johnny's hyperactive son, Lionel (Ty Panitz), home-cooked meals and playful jokes.

It's light, entertaining and fun — the kind of movie to relax and enjoy, not think, ponder or even cry. The film provides a hearty laugh and a satisfying story. It's a lot like watching an episode of "Gilmore Girls" or "7th Heaven." Go figure.

— Corinne Clemetsen

Only background music

"Not Too Late"
Norah Jones
Bluenote Records
Rating: ★★☆☆

She entranced the music scene with her sultry, sexy tone when she released her first album and kept them interested with the second. But, unfortunately for Norah Jones, that voice is the only thing keeping her third album "Not Too Late" afloat.

So what went wrong with Jones' third album, the only one in which she wrote or co-wrote every song?

"Not Too Late" lacks the unforgettable lyrics of her previous two records. Lyrics such as those of "Turn Me On" or "Don't Know Why," which lodge themselves into your mind and refuse to budge. "Not Too Late" is simply missing the words to back up that irresistible voice.

It is clear, however, that Jones has attempted to add some meat to her lyrics with more self-revealing or politically-progressive songs. For example, "My Dear Country" speaks of the horrors of elections and in "Sinkin' Soon," Jones makes a reference to Bush and his failing administration by saying "We drifted from the shore / With a captain who's too proud to say / That he dropped the oar."

Yet, the monotonous mid-tempo manner in which every song was recorded makes them so indistinctive that it is hard to tell where one ends and another begins. The instrumentals are simple and forgettable, and when she begins her awkward, chummy,



skip-down-a-dirt-road whistling sequence in "Little Room," it's hard not to hang your head in embarrassment.

While the simplicity of her songs have the potential to create a relaxing album fit for background music in the local coffee shop, it's not really good for anything else. There is absolutely nothing that would grab one's attention, causing him or her to look up from the Sunday paper to catch what was playing.

The lack of spark may be attributed to Jones writing or collaborating all the lyrics or that it was recorded in a home studio with producer, bassist and boyfriend Lee Alexander. Whatever it was, "Not Too Late" lacked the chemistry that propelled her other work.

— Andrea Ramsay, aramsay@udel.edu

"Alright, Still"
Lily Allen
Capitol
Rating: ★★☆☆ 1/2

Although many like to label girls with a red streak in their hair or a lip piercing as "spunky," it's usually unwarranted — the interior never matches the exterior.

For those looking to truly piss off their ex-boyfriends, family or society, take notice of Lily Allen — she's the real deal.

Allen's debut "Alright, Still" is 13 songs of tersely-crafted pop songs that dabble with ska, reggae and British sass. And it's the 21-year-old's middle-finger attitude, not her monotonous voice, that makes "Alright, Still" work.

While other artists sing about failed relationships with a sense of dejection,

Allen spits on the format, slyly singing lines such as "Alright, how would it make you feel if I said that you never made me cum? / In the year and a half that we spent together / Yeah, I never really had much fun."

Even her MySpace-to-mainstream-crossover hit single "Smile" is an unapologetic kiss-off to a former lover. But when Allen airily sings, "At first when I see you cry / Yeah, it makes me smile," it's hard not to fall in love — scorn and all.

— Wesley Case, wescase@udel.edu



"A Weekend in the City"
Bloc Party
Vice
Rating: ★★☆☆

Bloc Party makes no apologies for taking themselves seriously — the opening track to its sophomore album, "A Weekend in the City," is a literary allusion to Bret

Easton Ellis' disillusionment-filled novel, "Less Than Zero." Although the group was quickly



labeled as a post-New Wave, dance-inspired indie-rock act, Bloc Party's isn't for mindless two-stepping.

And let's be thankful for that. Although the East London act garnered critical acclaim with its debut "Silent Alarm," thanks in part to its genre-defining single "Banquet," "Weekend" is not its predecessor revisited — it's bigger, anthemic and, for the most part, better.

"I Still Remember," the first single, is the best song the band has written to date. It's the group reaching, which it does through "Weekend" with mixed results, for something emotionally and sonically deeper than it has entrenched before.

"Weekend" is a better album than "Silent Alarm" for a simple reason — it's the product of a band willing to fail and succeed in order to grow.

— Wesley Case

delawareUNdressed Porn: Don't sweat it



Laura Beth Dlugatch
Columnist

You bust open the door expecting to expose him for the cheating liar he is.

But there's no one there except him-sitting at his computer giving you the deer-in-head-lights look.

The moaning girl is Jenna Jameson. "Hey, give me a minute babe," he manages to say. "I'm busy online."

Porn is everywhere and guys are hooked.

It's easy to delve into the dirty world of porn from the comfort of your own home without anyone knowing.

No longer do you have to hide your face as you enter in the seedy dark corner of the video store. It used to be that porn was just for dirty truck drivers or guys that can't get a date because they're sitting in their basement playing Xbox on Friday nights.

But not so much anymore. It's the boys we know. And yes, that includes your guy.

The greatest invention to feeding a guy's love for naked boobies on his computer screen

is the same thing that makes writing term papers easy — high-speed Internet. He can go from studying the Cold War to checking out how far Tera Patrick's legs can stretch behind her ears, all with a few words and the click of a mouse.

But really, is there anything wrong with your guy watching a little porn? I say no.

What harm does it really do? Maybe it gets him fired up, maybe you left him

whatever, wherever.

But that's where you run into some problems. The situation gets sketchy if your boy can't sleep with you unless you strap on black leather thigh-high boots. You're really in trouble if in the heat of the moment he starts calling out, "Ginger, oh, Ginger" and your name is Sara.

Porn can give guys a wrong impression that women are always down for crazy sex. It sends a false message that all women like it rough or want to wear a pearl necklace. A lot of pornography represents women negatively, and it's important for men to know the difference between fantasy and reality. But remember, it's not a problem if he separates you from the girl on screen.

Emily, a freshman, says as long as she's the main squeeze in her man's life there's no need to get upset about him watching porn.

"At least he's not with other girls," she says.

So the reality of the situation is your boy will watch porn. Jenna Jameson is a household name. You don't need a plane to spend a night in Paris. And, consider yourself good as long as his homepage isn't freedailyporn.com.

Tell me what you think:

Having problems in bed?
Issues in your relationship?
E-mail Laura your questions.

delaware_undressed@yahoo.com

hanging or his thumbs got tired from playing all that Halo.

Think of porn as education for a male.

The extent of your high school sex-education is putting a condom on a banana. So if anything, he can catch a few pointers from Ron Jeremy that he can pass on to pleasure you.

It's possible he's intimidated by girls because he's no Brad Pitt. Porn could be his way to get over the fear. At least with porn, guys can watch girls do



fashionforward Why snowmen are not cool

With wind-chills in the teens this week, dressing for class has become a matter of survival, not a fashion show for the new duds you got over the holidays.

C'mon, you remember the thought that went into picking out your first-day-of-school (or semester) outfit. But how on earth can you look good when the temperature dips to bone-chilling levels?

It's not easy. You can risk looking like Ralphie's little brother in "A Christmas Story," whose mother layered him until he waddled out the door like the Michelin Man.

Sophomore Megan Keenan says she piles on four or five layers if necessary, but the result is not pretty.

"I look like a big snowball walking to class," she says.

Don't get me wrong, layering could keep you frostbite-free, but you have to know what items to choose. My tip: layer a sleeveless top under a T-shirt under a sweater. You'll keep your core warm and you'll have greater mobility than if you wear three long-sleeved layers. Multiple long layers will be too toasty in class — you want to avoid doing a 10-minute strip tease in Gore while you remove each of your five sweaters (unless that's your idea of fun).

You're going to need a hat and gloves, too. Michelle Provost-Craig, health, nutrition and exercise sciences professor, said the body shunts blood away from the skin to its core in cold weather, which can make your ears, hands, nose and feet cold.

"They have very little metabolic tissue, rely on your own blood for heat," Provost-Craig said.

For truly bitter cold, she recommends using adhesive warming packs for hands and feet available at www.handwarmers.com and www.toewarmer.com.

My feet-warming advice? Choose boots instead of sneakers or other low shoes. Most running shoes are made with materials that breathe during your workout, so cold air has nothing in its way. (Ladies, I suppose those furry boot-things from Australia are allowed, but you're all sheep for owning them).

Don't forget about your legs! You'll regret neglecting them when your skin gets red and itchy from the wind that went right through your jeans like you go through your beer money. Wear a long coat — at least mid-thigh length — and, if you don't have a long coat, consider adding a layer under your pants. Guys, opt for long johns, and girls, dig out your leggings (gasp! They're still functional!) But please, oh please, do NOT wear leggings as your only bottom layer unless your name is Gisele or you have her body. She gets paid to be that skinny and they won't keep you warm anyway.

Dreary winter weather can sometimes get people down, so it's a great time to sport that really bright scarf you got from grandma or to sport a coat in a non-traditional color. Think red, kelly green or orange. You'll look different from everyone in black (a particular vice of mine I'm working on).

Whatever you do, just be happy you don't go to school in Minnesota, where temperatures with wind chill are expected to be below zero.

— Susan Rinkunas, rinkunas@udel.edu



Susan Rinkunas
Columnist

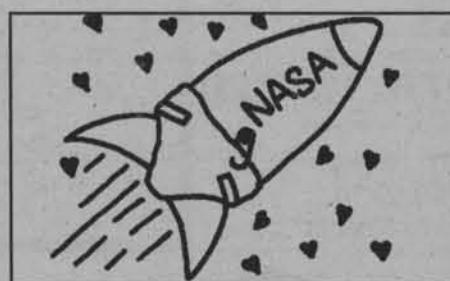
mediadarling Out of this world love

Valentine's Day. It's a time for chocolates, roses, champagne and more than a few single ladies to voice their hatred of the Hallmark holiday. However, with the recent news that astronaut Lisa Marie Nowak is facing attempted murder charges for allegedly trying to kidnap and kill off the other woman in love with her crush, it's also a time for lunar love triangles to go horribly awry.

Crushes often seem innocent enough — I was in love with several student teachers back in elementary school, and frequently found myself fighting for the attention of my male superior alongside innumerable pre-pubescent co-ed colleagues. Those with the most obnoxiously-sized chest for their age always clawed their way to the top of the look-at-me ladder. Big boobs won. Always. I lost. Always.

So think about that time in your life when you really liked someone, but someone else really liked them, too. Think about how you had a voodoo doll of your rival and stuck it with pins on a nightly basis. Think about how desperately you wanted that person to be struck down with a bad case of the bird flu. Or constipation. Then think about actually driving 900 miles to meet their flight and attempting to kidnap and kill them. Totally bogus, right? Not for Nowak the space cadet, who did just that.

Nowak is a 43-year-old married mother of three. She's also a Navy commander and highly accomplished member of NASA, an organization that in no way condones its astronauts to be certifiably insane. Apparently Nowak was involved in a love triangle between fellow astronaut Colleen Shipman



and Navy Commander William Oefelein. She became so obsessed with having her Hubble-hunk all to herself that she drove 900 miles to an airport in Orlando, stopping only for gas, to meet the plane of the woman who was inching in on her man. One would think to remind Nowak that she's not in grade school anymore, but judging by the fact that she wore a diaper on her jaunt so piss stops were eliminated, I don't quite think the "you're a big girl now" argument would be effective.

After Nowak arrives at the Orlando airport, dressed to the nine's with a trench coat, wig, BB gun and adult diaper, she follows Shipman to her car and bangs on the window. When Shipman — and quite obviously, I may add — refuses to open the car door, Nowak pulls a fake crying act. Perhaps she needed to be changed? Well, Shipman naively shows some sympathy and cracks the window. Nowak immediately nails the woman with pepper spray. Oh, snap! Do I smell a celestial smackdown?

Shipman flees from the middle-aged, diaper-wearing, pellet gun-wielding psychopath and calls the cops. Smart move, lady. Nowak is then seen throwing a bag into a

trashcan. And the contents of the bag, you may be wondering? Along with the shoddy disguise were a steel mallet, a four-inch knife and some rubber tubing. I'm guessing there was a wet diaper somewhere in the mix, too.

My gut would tell me that Nowak had a little more in mind than just "talking" to Shipman. In fact, that rubber tubing pretty much seals the deal that Nowak wanted her rival put in detention — permanent detention.

I'm sorry, honey, but here on earth we leave the petty catfights to the 12-year-olds. We also leave the Pampers parties to the infants, so perhaps a bit of potty-training is in order.

As far as your love triangle goes, I don't think you've got anything to worry about — my guess is Oefelein prefers the look of a woman in a space suit, not a straight jacket.

What troubles me most is the rigorous mental testing these NASA folks apparently have to undergo. Perhaps it's even scarier that Nowak managed to slip under the radar and stay in the space program, even though she is quite obviously both crazy-in-love and in the head. Yes, according to NASA she's still on active status, and you may see her shuttle parked at your local Wal-Mart, where rubber tubing is always cheap and Huggies — this week only! — are buy one, get one free. So stock up ladies, it's Valentine's Day and you know what that means — time to get rid of the pesky crowd who's closing in on your man. And don't worry about consequences, as Lisa Marie Nowak will tell you from her jail cell:

You live, you learn and then you get Luvs.

— Becky Polini, beckyp@udel.edu

Following in his footsteps

Singer-songwriter draws from real-life loss, experiences to feed his artistic ambitions

BY DANIELLE D'ALESSANDRO

Staff Reporter

With his bright red hair and charismatic personality, it's no mystery why senior Chris D'Esposito lights up the stage while playing his own colorful tunes for his peers.

Performing live for large crowds of students in local bars is not something you would expect of a health and physical education major.

Between his studies, D'Esposito, of Springfield, Pa., plays for audiences all over campus. He pursues his love of music by writing, recording and performing at Shaggy's on Main, East End Café, Bacchus Theater, Brew Ha Ha! and The Scrounge.

The 21-year-old sits onstage at the Grape Street Pub in Philadelphia, holding his gleaming wooden guitar, which matches the auburn tints of his hair. He gently strums to the beat of his song, "Mysteries."

His guitar rests comfortably on his lap and his fingers glide easily up and down the strings as if they have a mind of their own.

As he begins to belt out the chorus, "And I believe in you," you can see the starry-eyed teenage girls imagining that he was singing directly to them.

D'Esposito says "Mysteries" is one of his favorite songs to perform, as well as a fan favorite because of the calming melody and relatable lyrics.

"Mysteries" is about the beginning of relationships, and the connections and awkwardness," D'Esposito says. "There's a special vibe that everyone gets, but as you get to know each other longer the vibe changes, but deep down inside, those mysteries are still there."

The audience watches D'Esposito on stage recording himself with a loop pedal, tapping a base beat on the outside of his guitar in the beginning of the song.

He continues recording different beats and then overlaps the tracks to create a rhythmic cadence, to which he then sings.

In a process that takes a few minutes, D'Esposito uses the loop and delay pedals to acquire the sound he needs to set the song up and give it a base beat.

"The delay pedal adds an echo," D'Esposito says, "so when I hit the guitar, you hear more than one hit. I make a beat and push the loop pedal and this records what I want to record."

"Mysteries" is on D'Esposito's first self-produced album, "Waiting for This Time to Come." The album title was inspired by another track, "Colors," which he says is his all-time favorite song because of its personal meaning.

"After I wrote 'Colors,' I kind of thought that I could do this for a living," D'Esposito says.

It's no shock that he has acquired a fan following with his sparkling blue eyes and his boy-next-door charm. During a performance at the Battle of the Bands on campus, D'Esposito's fellow soccer players decided to show their support as well.

"My soccer teammates decided to throw some underwear on the stage at the end of my performance," D'Esposito says with a bashful smile. "No female underwear yet."

As a 12-year-old, D'Esposito followed his father's lead and picked up his first electric guitar. He claims this is when his love for music began.

Instead of taking the typical route of formal guitar lessons, D'Esposito decided to uncover the mystery of writing music and playing on his own.

"I learned to play some cover songs by ear, but I mainly learned from this stuff called tablature," he says. "I found it on the Internet and it's a way to read music without using notes."

D'Esposito learned to write his own music in a similar way.

"I just listen to a lot of music and learn a lot of songs," he says. "I use some ideas that other artists have used to try to create my own sound."

D'Esposito finds inspiration in the sounds of Dave Matthews, Howie Day, Matt Nathanson, Gavin Degraw and Elton John and incorporates their sounds into his own music.

The emotional quality of his lyrics, combined with his catchy tunes and soothing voice, give D'Esposito a unique acoustic pop/rock sound.

He says a lot of his inspiration comes from his own life — through relationships and experiences.

Within the past year, D'Esposito has dealt with the passing of his father, Don, who had been struggling with cancer. During the hard times, he turned to music to help him cope.

"I can really just sit down and calm myself just by playing for a couple of minutes," D'Esposito says.

Writing music also helps him express his pain and grief.

"I wrote one song for my father when he was sick and I was so happy for him to hear it," D'Esposito says. "I just wrote a new one which will actually be the first song on my new CD ['Wide Awake and Dreaming']."

The song, "Back Home," written for his father begins:

"So I close my eyes again / Now I've found my only friend / He was somewhere in between / Now he's deep inside my dreams / And I find it hard as the days go by / I find it hard to even try to live the life of a good man / To live a life like he did."

D'Esposito's girlfriend, Leslie Wason, was by his side while his father was sick and supported him in his decision to keep performing.

"For a while [performing] was one of the only things that would make him feel good," Wason says. "His dad was his biggest fan and wanted him to go far with his music, so that in itself made Chris feel better anytime he played. One of the nights his dad was in the ICU, Chris played a show anyway, because he knew that's what his dad would have wanted."

Friends of D'Esposito noticed his courage and determination during this time of struggle as well. Stephanie Fretz, a close friend, says D'Esposito continued to play shows while his dad was in the

hospital.

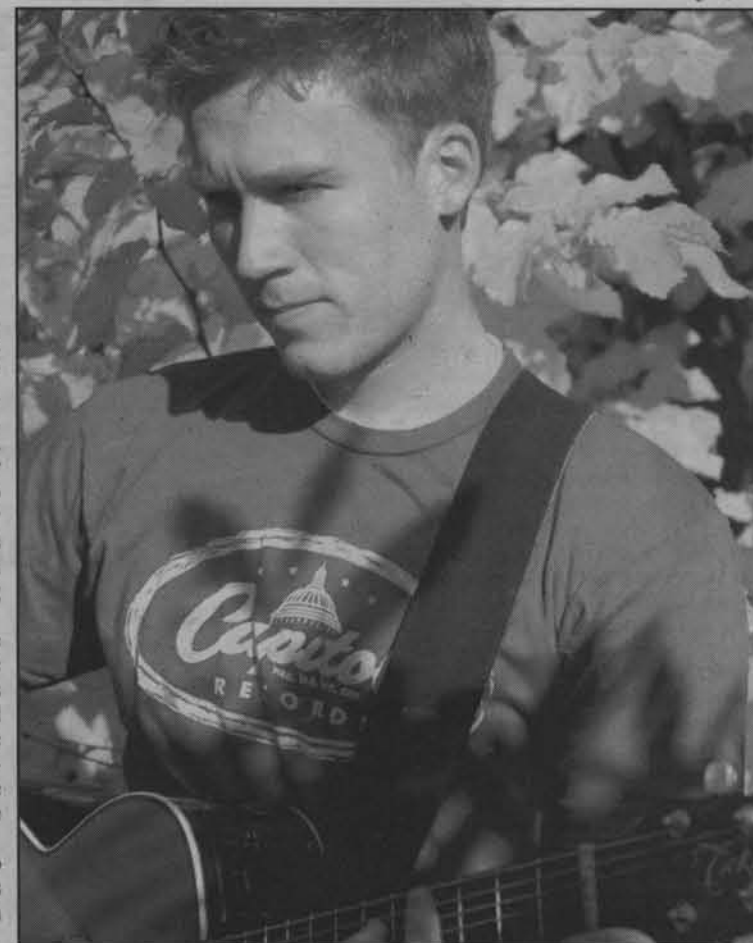
Fretz says after attending a show at The Coffee Club in Springfield, Pa., "I really admired his strength for being able to do that. I was really impressed he was able to perform without showing his pain."

Although he is not a music major, he intends on recording and getting his voice out there by continuing to make music and pursue his dream.

D'Esposito says he enjoys studying health and physical education and plans to use it as a back-up to his music career.


"My goals are to just become a great musician, travel the world and spread my music to anyone who wants to listen," he

says. "It's just something that I love doing and something that I want to do the rest of my life."



Courtesy of Chris D'Esposito

Senior Chris D'Esposito writes music and performs locally.



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Courtesy of Clifton Biddle

New Castle resident Clifton Biddle tried out for 'American Idol.'

Local 'Idol' tryout has 'John Popper vibe'

BY MOLLY MACMILLAN

Staff Reporter

Clifton Biddle plays the harmonica like it's a character, which at times he uses to express his emotions. During his audition for "American Idol," which aired Jan. 31, the 24-year-old New Castle native hoped to make it one that would save his sinking audition.

The character fell short.

Though his harmonica wasn't successful in saving the audition, Randy Jackson, one of the judges, told Biddle he had a real "John Popper vibe."

The harmonica player was just one of the many hopefuls cut from the show before the main competition, but Biddle hasn't let the cut stand in the way of his dream of pursuing a career in music. He decided his song choice for the audition — ZZ Top's "Tush" — wasn't the best for displaying his talent, and if he could do it again, he would choose a ballad.

"I do want to try 'American Idol' again. I do want to prove them wrong," Biddle says. "I would like to get professional voice lessons."

Biddle says he isn't angry about being featured as a reject of "American Idol." In fact, he remains hopeful when recounting his audition, despite the nature of his segment. Biddle says he is consumed by his love of music and determined to find a way to pursue it.

"I'm not trying to say anything bad about anybody," he says. "I want to be known as an artist in my own right."

Biddle says he is determined to find his place in the music world, despite his humble beginnings and current skeptics.

He says he spent his early childhood in a trailer and describes New Castle as a blue-collar town that often required him to back up his words with physical strength. The "American Idol" tryout, who was diagnosed with autism at an early age, and says he could barely speak until he was four years old. He attributes overcoming his personal battles to schooling.

Today, Biddle is well-spoken and well-intentioned, in addition to being passionate and knowledgeable about music. He began

singing by imitating commercials and says he has always used the harmonica as a way to express himself.

"Harmonica just became like a character to me," Biddle says. "If I'm having a bad day, I can put that through the harmonica."

Biddle used to perform around Newark and the university and frequented the East End Café for karaoke. He still performs at area bars and regularly attends church services to sing gospel.

Biddle says performing gives him the ability to showcase his personality, whether it is through singing or playing his harmonica.

"I used to play it around UD at night time," he says. "People really express themselves musically out there."

Biddle, who shelved his instrument last week after wearing out the reeds, found more fans of his skills than just Jackson during the audition — university students, including junior Rachel Achuff, were impressed as well.

"He was awful, obviously, singing, but he played the harmonica really well," Achuff says.

Though most students who admit to watching "Idol" also admit to laughing at the early episodes of each season, some students, such as sophomore Jill Vernon, are tired of the format and same old joke at the beginning of each season.

"I used to watch, until it started sucking," Vernon says. "They only show you who is bad because they still think it is funny, four years later."

Biddle's "Idol" experience hasn't turned out to be a complete bust, despite being featured on one of the reject episodes. He says it was the best thing to ever happen to him. He has also landed a running gig with a radio station because of the exposure he received, providing commentary on "American Idol" for "Sunny 95," a Columbus, Ohio radio station.

Now, Biddle is home in New Castle and back to his job at Bank of America. Nevertheless, Biddle remains upbeat.

"You've got to have faith in yourself," he says. "I have nothing to lose and everything to gain."

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A how-to guide on relationships

'Housewife's' new book offers tips for both sexes

"A Practical Handbook for the Boyfriend"

Felicity Huffman and Patricia Wolff

Rating: ☆☆ 1/2 (out of 4)

"A Practical Handbook for the Boyfriend" by Felicity Huffman and Patricia Wolff is a self-proclaimed "AAA guide to love." Love, maybe not. But it will help the men and boys who read this to stay out of trouble, get back on the good side of their girlfriend or just get her into bed.

The main concern of the book is how to get into her pants and still be invited back. The female authors give men an inside look by advising them on what pick-up lines they should never utter again, how to treat a girl on a date and how not to kiss her like a fish — you know, the important things.

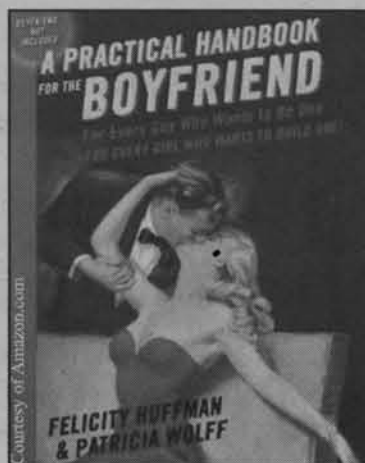
The best advice the book offers in the area of pick-up lines: "Save your creativity for the bedroom, not the check-out line." The worst, however, is their advice of what pick-up lines you should use. Warning: Do NOT use the given pick-up lines. They will make the girl cringe and walk away. The advice should have been: Never use pick-up lines.

Now for the English majors out there, this book may contain the first abuse of printed AIM language. The authors don't type "girlfriend" or "boyfriend," they write "GF" and "BF." This is not cute and not "hip," it's annoying. However, the artwork used to start each chapter is fabulous. It's reminiscent of old romance novel covers mixed with pin-up girl posters.

Huffman and Wolff's handbook is actually entertaining for men and women alike. It's a quick read, and if you can't get through the whole thing, just flip through and read the highlighted sections. These consist of "Be Prepared" statements — mainly giving the boyfriends out there a little foresight of what will happen if you commit certain errors. Then there's the "GPS: Girlfriend Positioning System," which explains what your girlfriend is likely feeling in reaction to whatever stupid thing you've done.

Using actual medical studies to point out the differences between males and females gives a bit more credence to the book. The fact that it's written by two women for men gives it even more. Although they use over-the-top stereotypes, most of the time they get it right.

Ladies, not only is it entertaining to see the metaphors the authors use to explain the oh-so-complicated nature of the female sex, there's advice for you, too. Check out the "Girl on Girl" sections. Guys, don't get too excited. These sections are sprinkled throughout the book and it's when the authors take a moment to address girlfriends everywhere with some friendly advice just for



females.

But the must-reads, for both men and women, are the sections that contrast male and female points of view. Sometimes it will be decoding what she says and what she means — which sounds like a bad spam e-mail, but is truly funny. Then there are the interpretations of what the boyfriend sees and what the girlfriend sees. Boys, you might never look at your apartment the same after you find out what girls really think of it.

The book uses the first 15 short chapters to get to the one that most readers probably flip right to — Chapter 16: "Sex." This chapter should be read and re-read for clarity and complete understanding. A complete detailing of the female erogenous zones not only tells you where they are, but how to make them happy. Girls, if you're wondering (and of course you are), they got 'em all, although they did lump many of them into the category of "secret spots."

It must be said that the two female authors have missed something. In Chapter Six: "Do I Look Fat?" they outline different types of eaters. While it's definitely fun to read about "The Nothing for Me, Thanks Girl" and "The Starbucker," there's something missing — the normal eater. Not all girls have unhealthy, irrational eating habits and the writers of this book must be misinformed in this area.

Overall, the entertaining, funny manner of the book makes it easy to read. It's one of those books you can read with the TV on in the background or while working out at the gym.

This book is not only for those currently in a relationship. It's for anyone who thinks they might be in one again. Girls, maybe it's just something you can have lying around next time your boy comes over. He might take the hint and at least skim it.

— Kendra Acker is a staff reporter for The Review. Her most recent book review was "Slam Dunks and No-Brainers" by Leslie Savan (☆☆☆).

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Apple products set to take over world

BY SAMMI CASSIN

Staff Reporter

The Apple revolution. Add a booming voice, a flash of light and a flick of the wrist and it sounds like a magic trick involving the launch of hundreds of granny smiths into an audience of thousands.

Although the Apple revolution doesn't involve actual fruit or a grand illusion, it's a fairly new movement that has been sweeping the nation for the past few years. The hip, sleek and technologically-advanced Macintosh computers are slowly but surely making their way into the homes of lawyers, graphic designers, doctors and students.

It's a common story — many Mac owners start out as happy and content PC users, scoffing in the face of Mac users when they brag about the superiority of their computer.

But around 2004, the Apple Company suddenly resurfaced after what seemed like years underground, ready with new and snazzier products.

Apple products received a huge face-lift, and products like the iPod were selling like hot-cakes. They were small, organized and looked cute and cool. Soon everyone walking down the street was sporting a pair of white ear buds that would disappear down into a jacket pocket.

At first, converts may be intimidated by the drastic differences between the PCs and Macs — there is no start bar, no Internet Explorer and AIM is on the left side of the monitor.

However, many don't find the transition as difficult as expected and several groups on the university's campus and on Facebook have sprung up for Apple enthusiasts.

University of Delaware Mac Users Group, or UDMUG, is an on-campus club for people who love any products made by Apple, specifically Macintosh computers. It's a place where Mac users can talk about computer problems, the latest Apple software and get advice from someone who knows what they're talking about. They also offer workshops on how to use the Apple software for those who have recently switched over from a PC.

Dominic Serio, the president of the Mac Users Group, says that UDMUG is a way to get help or talk about computers with other people who know a lot about them.

"UDMUG is just a great way to get in touch with other Mac users and our Mac representatives to get questions answered or seek advice," Serio says.

Serio is a Mac convert himself. He switched over recently after the company's new products were released.

"I never really considered owning a Mac until OS X came out," he says. "It was so much more beautiful than Windows and it immediately

caught my eye."

The Mac OS X is the operating system that all up-to-date Apple computers employ, comparable to Windows on a PC.

Serio says at first his reason for buying a Mac was mostly superficial, but soon realized how much more it had to offer than the PC.

"I don't have to worry about taking care of the system, make sure it's up to date or deal with junk files that slow down my computer," he says.

Serio says after using a Mac he could never go back to using a PC.

So what, according to Serio, is the downside to Macs?

"For the longest time it was the price," he says. "But that's just not the case anymore."

In fact, one third of the computers offered to incoming freshmen through the university in fall of 2006 were Macs, which were cheaper than the comparable Dell computer.

According to Carol Anderer, a manager at IT-User Services, more university students than ever are using Macs, and their popularity is definitely growing among younger generations.

"It's more a result of Apple's marketing," Anderer says. "As a result of Apple pushing iTunes and iPods, the Apple brand has been favorably viewed by high school and college students for the past several years."

Macintosh computers are popping up all over campus, including the new multimedia center in the basement of Morris Library. It's equipped with an all-Mac classroom of 18 computers for all different purposes, which include video producing, editing and burning.

Shelley McCoy, the department head of the multimedia center, is excited about the new space and thinks it's a great opportunity for students of all majors to experience the Mac software.

"We chose Macs because they are the best possible technology we could have gotten," McCoy says. "YouTube is really popular right now, and we know that kids like to take videos of themselves and post them on the Internet. This is an opportunity for them to use editing software that they might not normally have access to, to make their video really cool."

Now more than ever, technology changes faster than the click of a mouse, and it's hard to know what are the best products on which to spend your money.

After finally learning how to load movies onto the newest video iPod, the supersonic-supersmall-three-and-a-half-inch-video-music-phone-popcorn-dispenser Nano is released, and one must learn all over again. But regardless of often high prices and constantly changing merchandise, the Apple products continue to be a popular option.



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Wednesday, February 14
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Thursday, February 15
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Trabant Multipurpose Room, 5 pm.

Thursday, February 15
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Bob Carpenter Center, 7 pm

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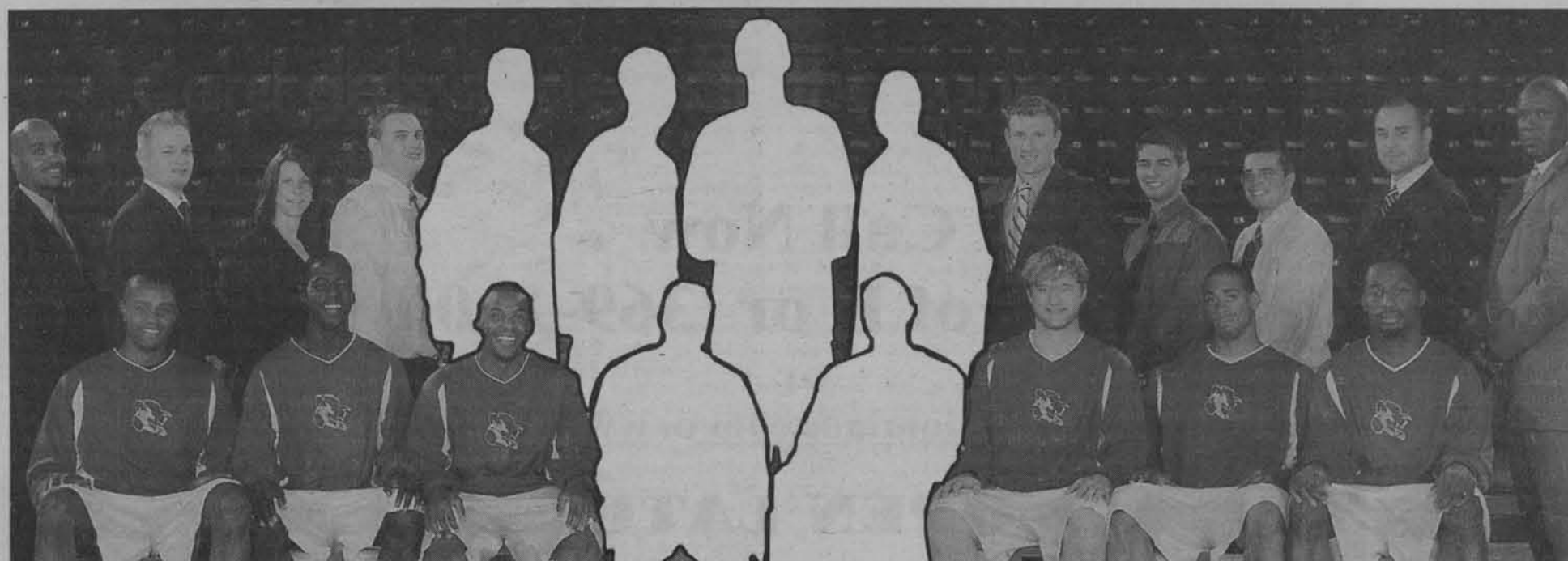
R sports



Men's lacrosse wins its season opener 23-6 over St. Joseph's Saturday afternoon at Rullo Stadium.

32

Men's basketball standing tall despite rapidly-shrinking roster



Six players have left the team this season because of injuries, suspensions and personal reasons. The Hens are left with six scholarship players for the remainder of the season.

BY JASON TOMASSINI
Managing Sports Editor

Sam McMahon walked back to the bench with his head down after head coach Monté Ross called a timeout to help stifle a 12-2 Drexel run that had the Hens suddenly trailing 64-51 with 5:35 left Saturday.

The Hens had battled back from a 16-0 Drexel run earlier in the half to come within three, but it was clear from McMahon's demeanor they did not have another run in them. Not because they thought the game was over or because they felt sorry for themselves, but because after 35 minutes of giving everything they had to stay in the game, five more minutes of that energy was not physically possible.

For those that have seen the Hens (5-21, 3-12 Colonial Athletic Association) plight this year, Saturday's game might be filed under yet another "moral victory," but for McMahon and the Hens, moral victories are not enough.

"It's a small margin of error but we have to put those easy buckets in," McMahon, who had a career-high 27 points, said of the Hens' missed opportunities in the second half. "We missed a lot of easy layups tonight and we usually don't do that."

While they will not make the excuses that most have already made for them, Delaware played its second-straight game with just seven players Saturday, in a 77-62 loss to Drexel (19-6, 11-4 CAA).

Earlier in the week, after learning that senior guard Calvin Cannon was suspended indefinitely for academic ineligibility, the Hens beat UNC-Wilmington 78-69 with just six scholarship players. One of the seven players who dresses for games is sophomore Deon Goodman, a team manager last year who has played just one minute this season.

"All the credit goes to these guys because they could have very easily stuck their head in the sand and no one would have blamed them for it," Ross said before Thursday's practice. "They haven't done that and the coaching staff hasn't done that. They just keep trudging along."

While the effort the Hens showed Saturday has not wavered as a result of the hard times, Ross acknowledges the adjustments everyone in the program must make are staggering.

Ross said he now conducts practices far differently because he does not want to fatigue his players before games. Although it helps that transfers Marc Egerson (Georgetown), Jim Ledsome (Nebraska) and Bryan Young (Lafayette) can now practice with the team, Ross said the emphasis has switched from team drills to a focus on individual instruction.

Ross said even he had to suit up Friday to make practice go smoother.

"And he can't play so I don't know why he thinks he was practicing, he was just out there," Drexel head coach and Ross's longtime friend Bruiser Flint joked after the game. "To be honest with you, I'd give him an A plus. He's got seven guys? He has to put his son on the bench to make it look like he has people out there."

"But the guys play hard. They easily could've quit a long time ago."

In addition to the changes in Ross's coaching, the players

have had to adapt to dramatic increases in minutes. Junior forward Herb Courtney is sixth in the CAA in minutes at 36.2 per game and played 38 against Drexel. Freshman point guard Brian Johnson, who Ross did not sign to play this year until last April, is third in the CAA in minutes per game at 38.2.

Johnson played 39 minutes Saturday only because he fouled out with one minute left. The freshman has only been on the bench for a total of four minutes in the last 10 games.

With substitutions held to a minimum, both McMahon and Ross acknowledged changes in strategy in order to preserve energy. The Hens played a 2-3 zone for almost all of the Drexel game in order to keep their few players relatively fresh and out of foul trouble. Johnson has also made an effort to slow the pace down as evident by Drexel's 16 fast break points to Delaware's zero Saturday.

"We can't push it that much," McMahon said. "Only in spots we can. We'll just run out of gas if we push it every time. We've only got one sub, so Brian has to slow it down."

Through all the turmoil, Ross still maintains the season is not lost. He knows the lessons gained from the losses, the discipline problems and, more importantly, the strengthened team unity will be a big part of next year's team's resolve.

Of the six scholarship players, only guard Chris Prothro, who is both the team's sixth man and second-to-last player off the bench, will graduate, leaving five players that have been through the toughest of tests not only in Division I basketball, but in life as well.

"This will definitely make us a better group," Ross said. "Not only on the basketball court, but if you can get through this, there is nothing in life that will come up that you feel like you can't get through. We've been hit by boulders all along the way, but in life, things happen. Everything is not always peachy keen."

"You have to deal with it, you have to adjust and you have to overcome it."

A Closer Look

MISSING IN ACTION

- Rafael Madera — Suspended Dec. 1.
- Matt Hewson — Left the team Dec. 1 to transfer.
- Zaire Taylor — Left the team indefinitely Jan. 8.
- DeSean White — Dismissed Jan. 8 for academics.
- Pau Geli — Out for season Jan. 9 with lung ailment.
- Calvin Cannon — Suspended Feb. 7 for academics.

R Standout tight end preps for NFL

February 13, 2007 33

Ben Patrick looks to be highest-drafted Hen in school history

BY BRENDAN REED

Sports Editor

For most of us, the thought of graduating can be nauseating. Talk of post-collegiate plans, whether it is finding a job or going to grad school, is normally shunned away by us undergrads. Many of us prefer to bask in the time we have left because, after all, these are the best years of our lives. That is, unless your name is Ben Patrick.

A standout tight end for the Hens last fall, Patrick has spent the past few months preparing for a career in the National Football League.

Patrick's goal of reaching the NFL officially began last month when he was invited to play in the Senior Bowl in Mobile, Ala. The Senior Bowl is typically the beginning of the offseason for most NFL teams as they send scouts to the game to get a first look at the prospects for the spring draft.

Among Patrick's teammates were Heisman Trophy-winning quarterback Troy Smith from Ohio State and Paul Posluszny from Penn State, who won the Butkus Award for the best linebacker in the country. Patrick admits he was taken aback at first with the amount of talented players on his team, but said their elite level of play only helped to elevate his own.

"Once you get over that first point of seeing all the great players, you start focusing back on the football aspect of it," he said. "You know that everyone out there is an exceptionally good athlete so you gotta bring your 'A' game every practice, every play pretty much."

This year, Tampa Bay Buccaneers head coach Jon Gruden and his staff coached Patrick's North Team, which won 27-0 over the South Team, led by San Francisco 49ers head coach Mike Nolan. Patrick said Gruden, known throughout the NFL for his menacing scowl and similar personality, connected with the players and showed them what an NFL coaching staff was like.

"[The coaching staff] was a very professional bunch," Patrick said. "We definitely had a good time with Coach Gruden and the rest of his staff and it's always fun to learn from someone of that caliber as well."

Patrick is currently training along with other NFL prospects at the Home Depot Center in Carson, Calif. The complex is home to many athletes, not just football players, who train there year-round. International soccer star David Beckham has his soccer academy there and Patrick said he saw Los Angeles Dodgers' first baseman Nomar Garciaparra training there recently.

Over the next few months, Patrick will have plenty of opportunities to showcase his talents to numerous NFL scouts and general managers. The NFL Scouting Combine will take place Feb. 21-27 at the RCA Dome in Indianapolis. Patrick and the other invitees will participate in drills including the 40-yard dash, bench press and vertical jump. Players will also interview with NFL teams and take the Wonderlic exam, widely considered as an IQ test for football players.

Patrick is not lost on scouts' radar by any means. He is currently ranked as the fifth-best tight end in the draft according to ESPN's draft guru Mel Kiper, Jr. Scouts are raving about Patrick's ability to catch the ball, something he proved by leading Delaware in receptions last season.

"He has very good hands and knows how to shield defenders from the ball with his body," said Rob Rang, a senior analyst for NFLDraftScout.com. "After the catch,

Patrick is a secure ball carrier and can move the chains."

Catching the ball has always been something on which Patrick prides himself. His training methods will likely help with so much riding on his workouts in the next few months.

"Whenever I don't make a catch that I know I should have made or think that I could have, I kind of punish myself," he said. "Whether it be extra running after practice or doing pushups or something, just little reminders to remind me that every ball is important."

Scouts are also talking about Patrick's size. Listed at 6-4, 270 pounds, he is a part of a recent group of tight ends who have found success playing by using their rare combination of size and speed.

"When it comes to Patrick, the intrigue is the combination of his size, speed and ball skills," said Chris Horwedel of NFLDraftBlitz.com. "He's a classic new-wave NFL tight end prospect who can stretch the field and open up an offense."

If he is to be successful in the NFL, Patrick admitted he needed to work on his blocking. Some consider him to be more of an over-sized wide receiver as opposed to a true tight end right now because of his lack of true blocking skills. However, blocking can be taught, and with the way offenses in the NFL are incorporating tight ends more into their offensive scheme, players like Patrick are becoming more in demand.

Horwedel said he thought Patrick's immediate playing time would depend on how well he can improve his blocking skills.

"If he can improve his blocking, he can significantly improve his draft stock," Horwedel said. "Right now he can help a team out in the passing game, but his limited blocking skills will limit how much he can play off the bat."

While he will have time to improve his skills on the field, Patrick has already completed a task off the field that has posed huge problems for previous NFL prospects — hiring an agent. He said his brother and uncle helped him screen through potential agents in a long process that finally ended a few months ago when Patrick selected Harold Lewis of the National Sports Agency.

"It took about eight or nine months in all for the selection process," Patrick said. "It bore down to a couple of final presentations with a couple of guys and I decided who I liked the best personally. Then my brother and my uncle did some background checks and I was able to select an agent in December."

As for when Patrick will be selected — and by which team — remains to be determined at the Combine, as well as in personal workouts, in which teams fly in players for an additional evaluation. Kiper predicts Patrick will be selected somewhere in the third or fourth round.

There are many teams in need of a sure-handed tight end, but at this point in the offseason with free agency looming, it is difficult to determine exactly which teams would be vying for Patrick's services.

"Any team looking for a sure-handed, mid-range target for the middle will be interested," Rang said.

Patrick said he would be fortunate and blessed to play for any NFL team but if he could choose which team to play for, he would select New Orleans or Carolina. Both franchises are located close to where his family could come watch him play.



THE REVIEW/File Photo

Tight end Ben Patrick had 64 receptions for 639 yards and six touchdowns last season.



THE REVIEW/File Photo

ESPN's draft guru Mel Kiper, Jr. ranked Ben Patrick as the fifth-best tight end in the draft.

Much of Patrick's NFL future will be determined in the next few months and the thinking is that he can only improve.

"After a year or two of acclimating to the NFL, where he'll need to work on devel-

oping more speed, as well as more strength and tenacity in his blocking, Patrick should be competing for significant playing time," Rang said. "He has the potential, within a few years, to be a starter in the NFL."

Men's lacrosse beats Hawks in opener

After losing in 2006 title game, Hens picked to win CAA

BY MICHAEL LORE

Sports Editor

With little clumps of snow surrounding Rullo Stadium and the temperature in the 30's, the men's lacrosse team (1-0) began its season Saturday with an emphatic 23-6 win against Saint Joseph's (0-1).

For the fifth-straight season, the game marked the start of the Division I men's collegiate lacrosse season. Saturday's game was

also the earliest Delaware has ever begun its season.

After finishing their 2006 campaign with a 12-5 record and a second-straight appearance in the Colonial Athletic Association Tournament championship game, the Hens' accomplishments were recognized in the offseason by coaches and the media.

Delaware was ranked No. 1 in the CAA

Men's Lacrosse Pre-Season Coaches Poll, No. 13 in the Lacrosse Magazine NCAA Division I Poll and No. 19 in the LAXNews.com poll.

Consequently, head coach Bob Shillinglaw said expectations are high for his 29th season at Delaware.

"Being ranked like that, we have to prove it and live up to it," Shillinglaw said. "And it's one of the goals of the team to accomplish."

Returning to the squad are seven starters, 20 letterwinners and the top seven scorers from last season's team. Included in those returning are seniors Alex Smith, the nation's top faceoff specialist, 2005 CAA Player of the Year Jordan Hall, All-CAA midfielder Dan Deckelbaum and All-CAA attackman Cam Howard.

Shillinglaw said the team is improving on a daily basis and this year has a little more balance across the board, which can be attributed to the upperclassmen leadership. Smith, Hall, junior goalkeeper Tommy Scherr and senior defender Brian Calabrese were named team captains in the middle of December.

Another influential upperclassman returning this year is junior midfielder Vincent Giordano. He almost missed this season because of an arrest, due to mistaken identity, this past August in New Jersey. He was charged with aggravated assault, possession of a weapon and bias intimidation following the assault of an off-duty police officer. All of the charges were dropped in December and Giordano was re-admitted to

the university.

"Vince came back in great shape," Shillinglaw said. "He's just delighted to be out there. We're glad to have him back."

Giordano proved his readiness Saturday by scoring a hat trick and recording an assist in the victory against St. Joe's.

The upcoming season for the Hens will not be an easy one with nationally-ranked opponents like Georgetown, Duke, Towson and Hofstra all on their schedule. The game in Durham, N.C. on March 30 against Duke has gotten much attention after the recent scandal hit the college.

Shillinglaw said he is not singling out Duke from any of the other schools the Hens will face this year.

"They're a group that's gonna be on a mission, but there's a lot of teams that wanna make it happen," he said. "Every game is tough. No matter what happens out of conference, it's all about the conference."

"You don't have people calculating your strength of schedule, RPI and stuff like that if you win your conference."

He said the team is focused on doing its best during the regular season conference portion of the schedule with hopes of having home-field advantage in the CAA Tournament.

The team's ultimate goal is to make the NCAA Tournament, like it did two years ago after receiving an at-large bid. Even though the Hens have these hopes for the end of the season, Shillinglaw said Delaware has a timelier target — to keep improving throughout practice.



THE REVIEW/Mike DeVoll

Sophomore attacker Chris Hichborn scored two goals in Saturday's victory over St. Joe's.

Volleyball players volunteer abroad

Student-athletes do humanitarian work during winter break

BY LOUIS THIBAUT

Staff Reporter

While most university students spent January either relaxing at home, studying for winter session courses or traveling abroad, junior volleyball players Colleen Walsh and Megan Welch decided to travel to Trinidad and Tobago and do humanitarian work.

Over the course of their 12-day trip, the group — all members of the InterVarsity Christian Fellowship — provided help for the local population. They went to schools and orphanages to meet underprivileged children several times and also helped with work on church grounds. The group helped clean up parts of a church so the parish could install a free clinic for locals.

One of the families living in the church compound home-schools its children along with four other children from dysfunctional families. One of the children's parents are drug addicts and the other three have excessively large families. The girls spent a lot of time with these kids swimming in the pool, talking and simply paying attention to them.

The group spent the month in the compound, which was just outside the capital, Port of Spain.

"It was more of a community than just a church, which was cool because we really got to know the people there," Walsh said. "It was cool because in Trinidad the culture is so different. People aren't so business-oriented. They just kind of work to live and after they do that they just hang out, so there were always people to talk to."

The locals were so laid back that bus schedules were only loosely defined. When asked if this caused any problems, Walsh seemed to have taken in some of the relaxed

atmosphere of the island.

"It didn't really cause any problems," Walsh said. "But I was used to volleyball. If the bus leaves at 3:30, be ready to go at 3:25, but here we were getting ready to go at 3:45. I don't know. I kind of liked it. They call it Trini-time. It's just whenever you get there."

Walsh said the city is strikingly similar to New York City.

"It was on a much smaller scale," Welch said. "Trinidad and Tobago is known as the business capital of the Caribbean."

In their free time, the girls did what the locals did. They lounged by the pool or on a beach. They also went swimming in the famous Maracas Bay where they ate shark sandwiches.

Both girls said they believe athletes do not usually go on humanitarian trips, but Walsh said the volleyball team tries to stick out from the crowd.

"Last year we raised all this money for Katrina," she said. "We want to start doing more stuff like that."

The team certainly has a reputation for social volunteering. Last year, the team went to several nursing homes and spent time with the elderly, many of whom had not seen relatives in months.

The impact on both the group and the locals seems to have been very significant. Walsh described the kids in an orphanage they visited as, "being so happy that people were there to love them."

"It makes you think. We have orphanages here too, but we don't have enough time in our life in our day to plan to go visit kids."



Courtesy of Colleen Walsh

Megan Welch (left) and Colleen Walsh (right) with their friend Habassa in Trinidad and Tobago.

While you were away: dance team finishes second in Nationals

BY MAURA BRADY

Staff Reporter

They practiced for 81 demanding hours during the three weeks prior to the event. They dragged themselves out of bed before sunrise two days each week for early-morning lifting to ensure they remained in peak shape. The team of 14 female student-athletes sacrificed both Thanksgiving and winter breaks in order to perfect its performance.

The Delaware dance team's dedication and hard work paid off in January when it placed second in the Division I hip-hop category and fourth in Division I dance at the Universal Cheerleading Association/Universal Dance Association (UDA) College Cheerleading & Dance Team National Championships in Orlando, Fla.

"They have developed into great performers and dancers," head coach Nicole Daliessio-Zehnder said. "They are a true team and family and through that cohesion their efforts turned into successes."

Prior to nationals, the team was ranked fourth in the nation, Daliessio-Zehnder said. Teams can qualify for the competition by submitting a video of a jazz dance routine in the fall to the UDA. Two weeks and dozens of hours of taping later, the video was ready to send in.

"We pushed ourselves as hard as we could until the routine was perfect," junior Nicole Pasceri said.

The team's versatility and ability to thrive under pressure helped the dancers become the only team in Division I to place in



Courtesy of the dance team

The dance team finished second in hip-hop at nationals, which will air March 17 on ESPN2.

the top five in both dance and hip-hop categories. Delaware competed against 22 teams in dance and 15 teams in hip-hop.

Of the 14 athletes that comprise the team, only four had ever stepped foot on the dance floor at a nationals competition prior to the Jan. 12-14 event. The team won the 2005 National Championship in the hip-hop category.

"We lost solid leadership after five seniors graduated last spring," sophomore Nicole Gentile said. "A lot of people emphasized that this would be a rebuilding year for us."

"It was refreshing to have new, impres-

sive faces and positive attitudes to help us represent the school in a good light," Gentile said.

Junior captain Nicole Yuzuk said the loss of older dancers motivated the team to work even harder. "We had so much to prove," she said.

While it may have been a rebuilding year, the team — regardless of its youth and inexperience working together — certainly showed they could compete and excel among the nation's top collegiate dance programs.

The team's ability to work together under pressure was tested the night before the dance

category finals after junior Deanna Tookmanian hurt herself during the hip-hop final and was unable to compete the next day.

"We had to change a significant part of the choreography and all of the forms the night before the jazz finals," Pasceri said.

Daliessio-Zehnder said she hopes to continue the team's development so they can become national champions.

"We want to step up the expectations next year," Gentile said. "We want to set the bar of creativity, innovation, strength and technique for other teams."

While the student-athletes on the dance team dedicate countless hours each week working out, practicing at the Carpenter Sports Building and performing at basketball games, they also dedicate time and effort to stay involved in the community.

"You'll see us running in the snow together," senior captain Chelsea Stroud said. "And you'll see us picking up trash together."

This unity and commitment, both on and off the dance floor, has helped the group grow and develop to become a nationally successful team.

Students and members of the community can see the dance team perform at Delaware men's and women's basketball games at the Bob Carpenter Center. In the fall, they perform at all Delaware home football games.

The national dance team competition will be aired on ESPN2 March 17 at 7 p.m.

"I grew up watching college dance teams perform on ESPN," Stroud said. "It was surreal to be there on the same floor."

commentary



STEVE RUSSOLILLO

A recipe for CAA success

It was tough to watch the women's basketball team struggle as mightily as it did against Old Dominion on CN8 Sunday afternoon. Just when we all thought ODU's dominance of the Colonial Athletic Association may finally be coming to an end, the Lady Monarchs' strong 63-47 victory over the Hens reminded the world of women's basketball how good they have been and how good they still are.

Old Dominion (15-8, 11-1 CAA) is the 15-time defending league champion, has lost only 16 conference games in the last 16 years and holds a 149-2 all-time home record against CAA opponents. One of those two home losses came two years ago when Delaware marched into Norfolk, Va. and

defeated ODU 73-70 in overtime.

But there was no dramatic comeback on Sunday. Two nine-minute scoring droughts and only 24 percent shooting for Delaware were the difference in Sunday's game.

While the Old Dominion game was tough to swallow, the Hens (20-4, 11-2 CAA) have certainly had a positive season to this point. Head coach Tina Martin will make sure one regular season loss does not spoil her team's success.

There is still a lot of time left before the Hens host the CAA Tournament March 8-11 at the Bob Carpenter Center. There is also much they need to improve on if they have any chance of dethroning Old Dominion.

Here are the three keys to Delaware claiming its first CAA championship:

1.) *Defense* — It is no secret that Martin's squads always showcase tenacious defense. This season is no different. Delaware is ranked 22nd in the nation and first in the CAA in scoring defense, allowing only 55.7 points per game. Opponents only shoot 41 percent from the field and Delaware forces 23 turnovers per game.

The defense has fueled the offense for the entire season, but Sunday's loss exposed Delaware's lack of an interior presence on the defensive end, a deficiency that has been covered up for a majority of the

season.

As great as Delaware's defense has been, it has struggled against the top teams it has faced. Boston College, Bowling Green and James Madison have all shot more than 50 percent against Delaware this season. The Hens have shown they can dominate the mediocre teams, but now they must prove they can shut down the elite of the CAA.

2.) *Spread out the scoring* — Only three players recorded field goals for Delaware during Sunday's game — senior standout Tyresa Smith, senior forward Chrissy Fisher and junior forward Courtney Irving. Smith finished with a game-high 25 points, but ODU's double and triple teams forced her to shoot 7-23 from the field, well below her 47 percent shooting this season. Fisher had 14 points but no other player scored more than four points. The starting backcourt of Alena Koshansky and Kyle DeHaven combined for three points on 0-12 shooting.

If the Hens are going to be successful, they need a more balanced scoring attack. Koshansky is shooting 35 percent from the field and 26 percent from three-point range this season, well below her career averages of 40 and 39. While DeHaven is a spark plug on the defensive end, she is only shooting 33 percent. Both players need to improve their shooting and get more involved in the

A Closer Look

DELAWARE ON THE BUBBLE: TOURNAMENT RESUME

- Key wins — Kentucky (neutral), at Hofstra.
- Key Losses — at No. 25 James Madison, at Old Dominion, at No. 18 Bowling Green.
- Key Games Left — James Madison (Feb. 22).
- Ratings Percentage Index (RPI) — 35.
- Strength of Schedule — 110.
- Last 10 games — 8-2.

scoring attack for Delaware to advance far in the tournament.

3.) *Adjust to Melissa Czorniewy's injury* — The starting junior guard will miss the rest of the season because of a bulging disc in her lower back. She has dealt with the injury all season, but the pain became too unbearable and she decided to shut it down for good last week. She was averaging 7.4 points and 2.4 rebounds in 25.8 minutes per game this season.

Her absence hurts Delaware's depth and forces other players to play extended minutes as well as to play out of position.

Before Sunday's game, redshirt freshman center Farrah Ferguson played more than 20 minutes only seven times this season. But she saw 34 minutes of action against Old Dominion and will see extended

time for the remainder of the season. She is only averaging 2.5 points and 2.5 rebounds per game.

Czorniewy's injury has forced DeHaven into the starting lineup and created more minutes for junior forward Courtney Irving. DeHaven's energy off the bench was missed as the second unit scored only four points against Old Dominion.

There are only five games and 23 days remaining until the CAA Tournament. If the Hens can improve in these three categories, they have a great chance to end Old Dominion's championship run and claim the title on their home court.

Steve Russolillo is a Managing Sports Editor for The Review. Send questions, comments and Tina Martin's Valentine's Day plans to srusso@udel.edu.



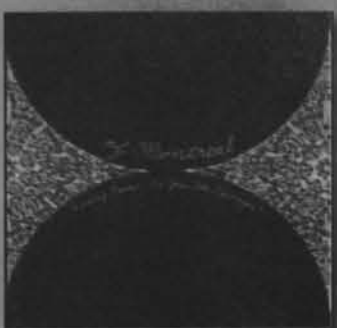
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