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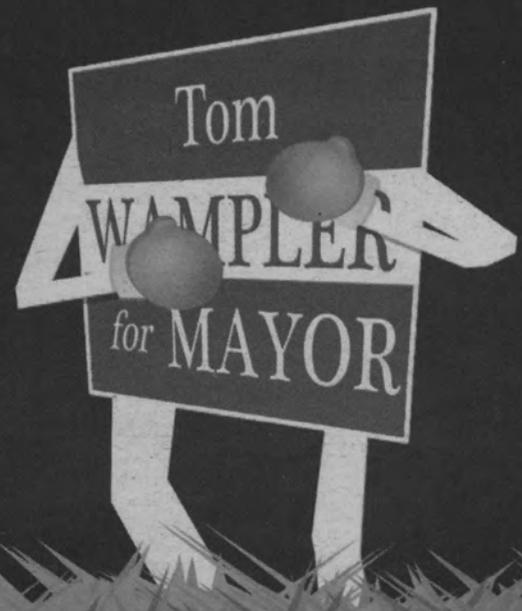
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THE REVIEW/Sara Davidson

Flowers are a sign of spring, but the April weather remains frigid in Newark.

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THE REVIEW/Meaghan Jones

Lynn Garafola finds a quiet place to study in Gore Hall.



THE REVIEW/Sara Davidson

The gloomy weather keeps students inside hoping for warmer temperatures.

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DEMS LOOK TO VETERANS FOR HELP IN RUNNING PRIMARIES

The Nevada Democratic Party is drafting veterans of Iowa's famous caucuses to direct its Jan. 19 nominating campaign, including building a new precinct-level organization and adapting a computerized tabulation system initially designed for Iowa.

The party plans to spend more than \$2 million as Nevada moves to second on the 2008 Democratic primary caucus calendar in an effort to reverse its largely irrelevant past role in determining the party's presidential front-runner. Organizers say they expect as many as 100,000 of the state's 494,000 registered Democrats to take part, an exponential increase over the 8,000 who turned out in 2004.

Nevada Republican leaders agreed informally last month to move their caucus to Jan. 19. The shift is expected to be ratified at the state central committee meeting April 21, during which new state leaders also are expected to be elected. Party officials have

begun raising the \$2 million they think their caucus will cost, but little organizing has been done yet.

The Democrats are well on their way, fueled in part by a growing sense of confidence that they can turn the state's five electoral votes — which President Bush won by approximately 20,000 votes in 2004 — from red to blue come November 2008.

The caucuses will be much more geographically spread out than in the past. Traditionally, the party holds all of a county's precinct caucuses at one central site. Come January, it hopes to run caucuses at scores of sites around the state, down to the precinct level in urban settings such as Las Vegas and in centralized locations in rural areas such as Elko County, which covers more than 17,000 square miles of northeast Nevada.

STATES REJECT FUNDING FOR ABSTINENCE-ONLY SEX EDUCATION

In an emerging revolt against abstinence-only sex education, states are turning down millions of dollars in federal grants, unwilling to accept White House dictates that the money be used for classes focused on teaching chastity.

Six states — Ohio, Wisconsin, Connecticut, Rhode Island, Montana and New Jersey — plan to drop abstinence-only programs, which is managed by a unit of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, by the end of the year.

The program does not allow the money to be used to promote condom or contraceptive use, and requires teachers to emphasize ideas, such as bearing children outside of wedlock is harmful to society.

Because states are walking away from such funding, abstinence-only groups, who insist that cutting off this source of revenue will close dozens of nonprofit sex education groups, will

undermine the progress they have made to fight teen pregnancy and curtail the spread of sexually transmitted diseases, are becoming increasingly alarmed.

States have used the money to help public and private schools start and run educational programs, develop classroom instruction for nonprofit groups and pay for advertising and other media campaigns.

To critics, the policy shift addresses growing concerns that sexually-active youth are not getting access to medically accurate information about use of contraceptives and disease prevention.

In an Oct. 3 report that surveyed abstinence programs in 10 states, the Government Accountability Office concluded that such programs have not proven to work, and at times teach kids medically inaccurate information about condoms and AIDS.

MORE EDUCATED WORKERS MAKE UP FEDERAL BUREAUCRACY

The federal work force has become more highly educated, increasingly clustered in professional and administrative jobs, with substantial numbers of employees switching agencies and occupations each year. With higher education levels and more complex jobs, average salaries have increased.

Those findings are drawn from a recently released report from the Congressional Budget Office, "Characteristics and Pay of Federal Civilian Employees." The analysis is based on data for approximately 1.4 million salaried, full-time government workers in December 2005.

Understanding federal work force trends has been increasingly important for the Congress. Projections show approximately 60 percent of federal workers will be eligible for retirement over the next 10 years, putting government programs at risk if agencies falter in hiring replacements.

In its review of the federal work force,

the CBO found full-time employees are clustered in two basic groups: those who remained in government after the downsizing of the 1990s, and those who were hired as part of the post-September 11, 2001 terrorist attacks buildup.

The newly hired employees are not especially young — 36 years, on average. The average age in the civil service is 47.

Because of their job experience and education, these new hires are joining government at higher grade levels than in the past. The CBO found 55 percent of new employees had a bachelor's degree, compared with 49 percent of all full-time civil servants.

Employees covered by the General Schedule, the largest federal pay system, received an average pay of \$63,000 in December 2005, the CBO said. The average professional employee earned approximately \$80,000, and federal executives were paid, on average, \$147,000.

GINGRICH CALLS FOR RESIGNATION OF ATTORNEY GENERAL

Former House Speaker Newt Gingrich urged Attorney General Alberto R. Gonzales to resign, saying the "self-created mess" over the firings of eight U.S. attorneys last year has hampered his ability to do his job.

Gingrich, who is believed to be considering a run for the 2008 GOP presidential nomination, is the latest prominent Republican to speak out against the attorney general, and Democrats said the remarks were evidence of waning support within Gonzales' own party.

Gingrich defended Bush's right to replace the federal prosecutors, who are all presidential appointees. But he said the administration and Gonzales had bungled the explanation of the moves and should be held accountable.

The ouster of the eight prosecutors

has touched off a political firestorm and become a test of the ability of Gonzales to manage the sprawling Justice Department and its 110,000 employees.

Gonzales has said he was not involved in the details of deciding which prosecutors were to be replaced, although his statements have been contradicted in sworn testimony by his former chief of staff, D. Kyle Sampson.

Gonzales is scheduled to appear April 17 before the Senate Judiciary Committee in what many view as a make-or-break opportunity to defend his handling of the controversy and try to save his job. The White House has said that Bush still supports Gonzales, a close adviser since the president's years as governor of Texas, but believes he has to repair his relations with Congress.

— Compiled from the L.A. Times and Washington Post wire reports

police reports

BULLET STOPPED BY REFRIGERATOR

A 23-year-old victim reported a bullet was shot at her home on Patrick Henry Drive in the neighborhood of Cherry Hill between 9 p.m. on March 31 and 6 a.m. on April 1, Cpl. Paul Feld said. Newark police responded to the scene and found the bullet had struck through the rear-sliding door and stopped after hitting the refrigerator.

Police conducted a search around the neighborhood and located a 54-year-old male suspect who also lives in Cherry Hill, Feld said. Police obtained a search warrant to search his home and found several weapons. A small-caliber hand gun shot the bullet that struck the victim's home.

A 26-year-old male was at the home when the bullet hit the refrigerator and told police he heard a shot at the time of the incident, Feld said.

The case is ongoing and police do not currently believe the incident occurred with vicious intent, Feld said. The crime is being filed as reckless endangering in the 1st degree.

BURGLARY ON NORTH CHAPEL STREET

An unknown suspect broke into a home on North Chapel Street Saturday between approximately 7 p.m. and 11 p.m., Feld said. The suspect knocked down the back door, entered the residence and stole sunglasses, an iPod and a Dell laptop.

The 22-year-old male victim came home at night and observed the damaged door and saw the inside of his residence had been disturbed, Feld said.

The total value stolen is reported at \$1,480, and the door is estimated to be worth \$50, Feld said.

There are no leads and the case has been handed to the Criminal Investigation Division.

— Kevin Mackiewicz

State police officer charged with rape

Ocean View officer accused of having consensual sex with a 17-year-old girl

BY WALLACE MCKELVEY
Staff Reporter

A Delaware policeman was arrested and charged with statutory rape after an investigation uncovered he had consensual sex with a teenaged girl, Delaware State Police said.

State Police spokesman Cpl. Jeff Whitmarsh said Walter Johnson, a 31-year-old Ocean View police officer, had sex with a 17-year-old Dagsboro resident twice between October and November 2006.

An investigation was launched after a third party reported the incidents, Whitmarsh said.

Police obtained arrest warrants for two counts of rape in the fourth degree on March 30, he said. Rape in the fourth degree refers to consensual sex in which

the victim is less than 18 years old and the suspect is more than 30 years old.

Whitmarsh said Johnson was apparently unaware of the victim's age. Police said the teenaged girl cooperated with investigators.

Johnson surrendered the same evening police obtained the arrest warrant. He was arraigned and released on \$40,000 unsecured bail.

Johnson was unavailable for comment.

"As a condition of his bail, he is to have no contact with the victim or any persons under the age of 18," Whitmarsh said.

Adam Gelof, deputy attorney general of the Rape Unit for the Delaware Department of Justice, said a preliminary hearing was scheduled for April 5 to determine

the future of the case.

"The sentencing range is all over — from probation to two or three years in jail," he said.

According to Ocean View town records, Johnson was hired in September 2005 and graduated from the Delaware State Police Academy in January 2006.

Robert Powell, public information officer of the Millville Volunteer Fire Company, said Johnson was appointed fire chief this January, but resigned voluntarily following the incident.

"He joined the company as a junior when he was 15 years old," Powell said.

During his time with the fire company, Johnson had also served as rescue captain and deputy chief, he said.

Birth control prices rise at colleges

Medicaid cuts cause contraceptive price changes

BY MATTHEW GALLO
Staff Reporter

For the typical college student money does not come easy. Accompanying a full load of classes, some students are forced to work long nights to help pay off their expensive college lifestyle. Recently, with the drastic increase in prices for birth control, college students are left looking for answers on how to stay safe without emptying their pockets.

Hugh Jessop, executive director of health services at Indiana University, said prices for birth control pills have seen drastic increases at university student centers across the country. The increase is a result of the Medicaid rebate law that ends an incentive for drug companies to provide discounts to colleges.

"It's very unfortunate this is happening because students are

affected in the pocketbook," Jessop said. "For students on tight budgets and working one or two jobs it has a significant impact."

The federal law dealing with Medicare and Medicaid — the main federal health insurance for the poor — no longer exempts health centers, he said. As a result, some pharmaceutical companies are no longer offering discounts to university health centers like they have for the past 30 years.

A spokeswoman for the American College Health Association who wished to remain anonymous said federal Centers for Medicaid and Medicare Services should have included health centers on the exemptions list. The ACHA is currently reviewing the proposal in an attempt to revise the bill.

Approximately 39 percent of

undergraduate women use oral contraceptives, according to recent survey done by the ACHA. Due to the increase in costs of birth control, the spokeswoman for the ACHA does not think the percentage of females who use birth control will cease to do so.

Sophomore Nicole, who wished to withhold her last name, said prices of certain brands of birth control pills have doubled and even tripled.

"It's unfortunate the prices went up because it was very convenient buying the pills right on campus," Nicole said. "Now I'm going to have to look elsewhere to try and save money."

Jessop said he does not think students will stop using oral contraceptives because of the increase in price. Birth control at the Indiana University Health Center has jumped from \$10 to \$40 per month.

"It's better safe than sorry, so I think students will turn to private physicians or other means to buy birth control," Nicole said. "Students should definitely think twice about paying the increase costs at health services."

Over the course of 12 months, students will see an increase from \$120 to \$480 or more depending on their brand, Jessop said.

Junior Jennifer Evans said the steep increase will not deter her from buying oral contraceptives from Student Health Services.

"Since my parents are self-employed, I don't have the same insurance benefits as other people," Evans said. "Outside of the student health center I could pay anywhere from \$40 to \$50 a month."

Evans, who paid \$12 per package last semester, said she was surprised by the recent increase. She

said originally she assumed the \$50 fee per month she pays on her tuition bill was the reason why students received discounts on campus.

"A lot of students will weigh their options and see if their insurance plans are cheaper than the health center," Evans said.

Joseph Siebold, director of the university's Student Health Services, stated in an e-mail message that SHS has no control over the pricing structure of pharmaceutical companies or their products.

"The ACHA, which is a national organization of university and college health services, offers a united response to help address the problem," Siebold said.

Towson University nurse Anne Royer said the university's student health center cannot control the prices it buys the contraceptives at from companies, but can control how much they sell them to their students.

"We are able to bump up the prices a few dollars, depending on the brand," Royer said.

Before the bill passed in January, Jessop said universities were able to bulk up on oral contraceptives at the original cost. The Indiana University Health Center is currently selling the remaining inventory at Medicaid-discounted prices.

"We are slowly running out of most of the brands at the old prices," he said. "When students come in prior to summer break, they are going to be disappointed at the increases."

Royer said only certain brands were affected at Towson by the new bill passed in January.

"Most our oral contraceptives are still priced at \$15 to \$16, depending on the brand," Royer said. "However, Ortho Tri-Cyclen and

A Closer Look

BIRTH CONTROL

- Birth control pills are the most popular form of contraceptives among women, with approximately 39 percent of undergraduate women using them.

- Approximately 70 percent of undergraduate women report having had one to four sexual partners.

- Out of the college-aged women who reported having sex within the 2005 to 2006 school year, 2 percent said they had an unintentional pregnancy.

— Compiled from the American College Health Association's Spring 2006 National CollegeHealth Assessment

Norinyl were two brands affected and have either been removed from our pharmacy or priced high starting at \$40."

She said the health center has seen a decrease in the number of students who previously purchased the two brands that have seen drastic increases in prices.

Students will be forced to pay higher prices until the ACHA is able to lobby successfully in getting an exemption that allows the college health centers to become entitled to the discount again, Jessop said.

"If no agreement is met, then prices will continue to increase," he said. "The only hope of prices leveling off is the introduction of generics."



THE REVIEW/Mike DeVoll

Birth control prices could increase fourfold on campus in the next year.

Green job market flooded by global warming

BY MATTHEW GALLO
Staff Reporter

Standing at the threshold of the real world, students often dream of making a difference in the world and gaining wealth immediately out of college. Students can achieve both those life goals, as the growing concern over global warming has more U.S. colleges offering careers focused on saving the environment.

Global warming, which may eventually lead to rapid increase in temperatures and astronomical flooding, has caught the attention of college students who are now seeking careers in alternative energy.

Energy conversion professor Steven Hegedus said classes in alternative energy are becoming popular among students from all sorts of fields, adding innovative capacity and further breakthroughs in research.

"With global warming becoming more of a concern every day, a new-found emphasis has been created in this field," Hegedus said. In the technical fields, careers such as electrical and mechanical engineering, wind energy and solar electricity are gaining more interest from seniors and graduate students, he said.

"This is a very exciting time to be getting involved in the area of safe energy," Hegedus said. "After years of low investment and inter-

est, political and public awareness is growing drastically."

The number of safe energy classes has increased in the past five to 10 years, he said. The university continues to offer classes in a variety of majors. Interdisciplinary classes on off-shore wind energy in the College of Marine Studies, renewable energy in the College of Engineering and classes in the Energy and Environmental Policy Department about sustainable energy systems are currently offered.

University of California Berkeley energy professor Dan Kammen stated in an e-mail message that enrollment in the energy and society classes offered has grown from 80 students in 2005 to an expected 150 students in 2007. Since 2000, the Department of Energy and Resources Group at U.C. Berkeley has tripled due to increasing global warming concerns.

Kammen said the growing interest in safe energy among students is important for the future of our environment.

"America's future leaders are finally getting educated on the key issue of our economy — energy," he said.

Success is evident in the field of alternative energy, as several of Kammen's graduate students have taken jobs as assistant profes-

sors at Harvard School of Public Health, Yale School of Forestry and University of Wisconsin's Environmental Center.

Hegedus said the career opportunities in alternative energy have improved over the past several years. Students with engineering degrees can immediately work at companies developing wind, solar and fuel cells right out of college.

"Companies are hiring graduate students as soon as they finish schooling," he said. "Sometimes, the companies even try and lure them into leaving school early."

While global warming continues to be an issue, Hegedus said a greater emphasis is now being placed on energy efficiency as companies are investigating efficient lighting, transportation and heating systems.

Utilities, large industries and municipal power regulators need to be kept informed about applying new technologies to meet regulatory standards or to implement clean energy programs, he said.

Sophomore engineering students Evan Kalbacher and Adam Perfit agreed that a career in alternative energy is a viable option since the market is growing in this area.

"There is a lot more research and jobs going into finding alternative energy sources," Perfit said.

Perfit said alternative energy classes, such as Green Chemistry (CHEM 667), are available at the 600-level for seniors and graduate students.

Many of our energy sources are decreasing due to population increase Kalbacher said, since not all of our resources are unlimited. "If we are going to stay on this earth much longer, then we need new resources of alternative energy and, more importantly, college student that can help," he said.

Although Perfit is currently focusing on chemical engineering, he said the transition to a career in alternative energy is easy. His engineering classes open the door to study nuclear energy, energy transfer or electrical engineering to help our environment.

While a career path in alternative energy looks promising, Hegedus said not all investment and start-up companies are going to be viable businesses in the long term. He said there will be a narrowing the playing field and technologies as new concepts and products are tested in the marketplace.

"Right now there is lots of optimism and cash flow in this area," Hegedus said. "But it is likely that winners and losers will start to separate in the next few years, which could influence the employment situation."

The Muslim experience on campus

Part one of the four-part student religion series

BY JOE ZIMMERMANN

Staff Reporter

A November 2005 headshot of Drew Marshall shows a boyish young man in transition. A wide smile and tasseled, chestnut hair offset the maturity of his sharp jawlines and strong chin. Clean-cut and clad in a blue striped shirt and silver tie, Marshall cheerfully poses as if he is on his way to a semi-formal dance or awards ceremony — nothing out of the ordinary for a handsome college student.

Fast-forward to the summer of 2006. Candid pictures of Marshall depict the rising university senior at the Outer Banks in North Carolina. He stands 50 feet away from a cap-sized luxury sailboat and sports a playfully knowing smirk. Though he has aged just six months, these shots reveal a different side of Marshall. His face seems drawn and weathered; instead of fleshy pink and freshly-shaven cheeks, he has sprouted thin sideburns that connect a patchy goatee and mustache over his taut skin.

Tunisia, January, 2007. Far removed from his Wilmington home, Drew Marshall is in a distinctly transformed world. It is in this sun-soaked strip of paradise called Sfax that Marshall, now going by the name Anzhu Ahmad, hopes to capture his true visage. A photo of Ahmad shows him once again flashing his toothy grin, but this time he is perched on a rug in the middle of a mosque. Clutching two frail men by the shoulders, known as Mu'adhin and Imam, he seems comfortable in this element. Ahmad is beaming with a happiness not seen in previous pictures.

He still has his facial hair, only now it is thicker, darker and more intricately styled — sure signs that the sideburns have grown up along with the man.

Ahmad has led a proud Muslim life for the past two years. Though the time in which he has been exposed to his new religion is limited, he has embraced the Arabic language and culture. And the typical Islamic greeting of "salaamu alaikum" — "peace be upon you" — comes as easily now as "hello."

As a recent convert to the

Islamic faith, which has 6 million followers nationwide, the political science and international relations major is one of hundreds of campus students balancing a life of academic achievement and devout religious adherence. For Ahmad and the other 30-plus members of the Muslim Student Association, pursuing both academics and religion in the university's homogeneous environment is not always an easy feat.

Junior Anum Mallick is Ahmad's peer in the MSA. She is the group's former president and current secretary, handling its public relations work. Like many of the university's Muslim students, Mallick has mixed feelings about how the university treats its smallest mainstream religious group, which represents less than 4 percent of the student body.

"Muslim studies here on campus are underrepresented," she said. "There is no Muslim Studies program. They just started an Arabic language program last year.

"Every day students learn new information through classes, and if the classes aren't offered students can't learn."

The university launched Arabic language courses for the first time last fall, but the program is still in its infancy. There are currently four classes offered this semester, all of them taught by the same professor.

Mallick gives credit to the university for starting the Arabic program and said she hopes it represents the school's initiative to broaden its offerings to Muslim students. What Mallick sees as a greater injustice is the school's lack of study abroad opportunities to predominantly-Muslim countries.

"I can understand the university avoiding going to countries in turmoil but I would think that at least we would have programs to Morocco or Egypt," she said. "I would love to go abroad to these countries and other students would, too."

Mallick's thoughts reflect a growing interest in study abroad in Muslim countries, and the university has expanded its offerings to include programs to Morocco and Tunisia in Winter Session 2008.

However, Mallick said it is currently easier for international Muslim

students to study at the university than vice-versa.

"We have a partnership with a program from the United Arab Emirates," she said. "They have students here but we can't send students there."

Some Muslim students feel other state institutions have made better efforts in reaching out to their Muslim populations.

Melody Khalifa, co-secretary of Rutgers University's Islam Society, said her school has actively sought to provide some Islamic courses but the number is still low. Rutgers' undergraduate student population is currently 8 percent Muslim.

Khalifa said many students who wish to study Islam in depth are not likely to pursue their goals at state universities such as Rutgers or Delaware, but instead may seek out specialized private schools in other parts of the country or abroad.

While not expansive, she said Rutgers' offerings are greater than that of Delaware, including religious-focused courses named Islamic Scriptures, Prophet Muhammad and Islam.

Although such coursework is not yet available at Delaware, the Muslim community built both within and around the college provides ample opportunities for those students who wish to explore their faith outside of a strictly academic setting. MSA is responsible for bearing much of that load, serving as the school's liaison to the area's hub of religious activity, the mosque on Ogletown Road just outside campus. It is there that Muslim students do the majority of their religious studies.

Mallick said her group does not partake in Quran studies on campus because its members do not feel they can interpret the Quran themselves. Instead, they turn to the teachings of their mosque's own imam, or clerical leader.

The imam holds daily Shariah classes, where he reads primary source material covering Islamic law from as early as A.D. 1400 to groups of students. Afterward, Mallick said, he interprets the reading by reflecting on his own experiences, which students follow for guidance.

Khalifa said by studying the Shariah, Muslim students can learn about all of the aspects of the world. "The Shariah is not only Islamic law but also the way of life for Muslims," she said. "Everything that we do must be in accordance with the Shariah."

"It deals with many aspects of day-to-day life, including politics, economics, banking, business law, contract law and social issues."

Not all Islamic events occur at the mosque, however.

"We hold halaqaa, or 'our circle,' here at Delaware where we read a book related to the Islamic faith and discuss it," Mallick said. "We also do a fast-a-thon for Ramadan in the fall and an inter-school Muslim Student Association basketball tournament in the spring where we invite students from all over the Northeast."

Montclair State University jun-



Courtesy of Anzhu Ahmad

Senior Anzhu Ahmad, middle, with Mu'adhin and the imam at a mosque in Sfax, Tunisia.

ior Ben Jaffe, a representative of the school's Campus Ministry Council, said he thinks the power of Muslim student organizations on campuses across the country is growing and in many places is putting pressure on school administrations to cater to their group's demographic.

"On many campuses, the Muslim student organization is very large, but I think that has to do with the nature of Islam itself," Jaffe said. "There are many 'casual' Christians and Jews who don't actively practice their religion, but I think that there are fewer 'casual' Muslims, and most Muslim students end up involved in religious student associations."

Even with a strong network of local spiritual support, many Muslim students face mounting social challenges at the university. Through recent events, world conflicts and cultural stereotypes, Muslim students are often viewed in an unfair light by their Delaware classmates.

"I personally feel very safe on campus, but I feel lonely and sometimes I feel like I don't fit in," she said. "In some classes, I feel like some people keep their distance, but on the other hand some people are very open and kind."

"Delaware can do better at promoting a tolerant atmosphere because the community itself feels secluded and it feels like high school."

The MSA is doing as much as possible to spread awareness and tolerance throughout campus, and Ahmad said the first step toward greater acceptance is to clarify the main goals of Islam to other students.

"Issues important to most Muslim students are informing the public about our manners, lifestyle, beliefs and chivalry," Ahmad said. "A vast misinformation campaign has been waged over the past couple millennia, largely due to the previous dominance of Islamic Caliphates over prime Mediterranean and Middle Eastern real estate, trade routes and resources."

"It is purely financial, with a bit of old religious conflict thrown in, but it is made out to be some nonsense like clash of civilizations in which we're all in dire need of taking sides."

Another way to gain acceptance among students, Mallick said, is to collaborate with other religious organizations on campus. The MSA held a prayer vigil for Lebanon with Hillel last fall after the 33-day Israeli-Lebanon war and the campus rabbi spoke to both groups. Although the experience was new for the Muslim students, it disproved the stereotype that Israelis and Arabs cannot get along, she said.

Ahmad said ultimately it will take many more years of hard work in building tolerance and unity before any tangible results will be seen. In the meantime, he hopes to stay true to the original teachings of Islam.

"Muslim students in the 21st century are being tested more than ever by an extremely comfortable lifestyle in the West, mixed with a society that is very familiar and open about activities that are shunned in Islam," he said. "The Quran warns us against falling into such a path, and it is important for Muslims to differentiate that from the teachings of Islam, because oftentimes the Muslims we meet may have been tempted away from representing righteousness."

"It is not that Muslims view American society as inferior, but it is perhaps that some are not yet comfortable with asserting their identities."

To further explain this idea, Ahmad used a metaphor.

"If our society is a soup, with many components, it is as if the Muslims are afraid to add their ingredient," he said. "If this happened, not only would the soup taste better, but the majority of the society would find that some of the more expensive ingredients that are considered haram — sinful and forbidden — in Islam simply aren't required to complete the delicious meal."



Courtesy of Anzhu Ahmad

Muslim students gather in prayer before participating in a 2006 Muslim Student Association basketball tournament.

who's who in Newark

Newark resident lives life 'in the past lane'

BY MOLLY MACMILLAN

Staff Reporter

The store is eclectic. The owner is animated. Main Street is a little more dynamic.

Newark resident Sandi Patterson fulfilled a lifelong dream when she opened her retro clothing store, Clothes in the Past Lane, approximately one year ago.

"I wish I'd done it 10 years ago," she said. "I just didn't have the time or the wherewithal."

Patterson, a Delaware native, said she finally found the time to begin her business after a series of lay-offs from human resources jobs, joking that employers cut staff so often that she began to take it personally. The idea of the store was always in the back of her mind as something she would like to do and, in 2006, she made it happen.

Her face brightens when she talks about Clothes in the Past Lane, a combination of retro pieces, name-brand clothing and items designed by interns, as well as jewelry and accessories.

Since it opened, the store has cultivated a loyal customer base of university staff and students, but Patterson said it also attracts customers across the county and in Newark.

"I chat it up with everybody," she said. "I get feedback from customers about what they'd like to see you carry."

Patterson is in the store nearly every day to welcome new shoppers and get to know her customers, developing a strong base of regulars, including university freshman Andrea Williams.

"It's my favorite store on Main Street," Williams said. "The collection is really eclectic and unique — a lot of stuff you can't find other places."

Her employees help customers put outfits together, blending retro pieces with the new clothing and accessories the store carries. Patterson said she has seven employees who are apparel design or fashion merchandising majors. She refers to them as her interns, though only one is officially recognized as an intern by university standards.

"All of my interns have a gift," Patterson said. "They do my windows and cases. They're all very creative."



THE REVIEW/Molly MacMillan

Sandi Patterson opened Clothes in the Past Lane one year ago.

She said the store occasionally carries clothing designed by her interns. In addition to crafting original garments, they repair the vintage and retro clothing. After repairs, the clothing is laundered or dry-cleaned and put on the shelves.

The store often acquires its older clothing in estate sales or from elderly owners who contact Patterson, she said.

Patterson said a lot of her customers are looking for garments for special events such as holiday parties or proms. Many of these customers are from affluent areas and desire

one-of-a-kind retro dresses or tuxedos. She said the store sells mostly retro garments for special events but also carries several new gowns.

Patterson keeps a stack of Polaroids behind the counter that feature the employees' favorite vintage pieces at the store, as modeled by the newest owners. These pictures capture gowns such as a dress worn in a "Miss Georgia Peach" pageant that was made out of an old curtain, much like Scarlett O'Hara's dress in "Gone With The Wind." Usually they only take pictures of the retro items, but sometimes they make exceptions, she said.

"A couple jeans are so darn cute, we just had to take a picture," she said. "We just have a ball."

Patterson said she aims to have the store offer a variety of clothing in all price ranges and feels the store needs to change constantly. Customers compare the store to shops on South Street in Philadelphia or boutiques in New York, which she said is a great compliment.

The store has become part of the fabric of Main Street. Patterson counts other business owners as friends and works with them on issues such as pushing for parking vouchers to make Main Street a more popular destination for shoppers.

Jerry Grant, a former city councilman and store owner, is among Patterson's friends from the Main Street business community.

"Sandi is one of the funny people in town," Grant said.

Patterson emphasizes Clothes in the Past Lane is a family affair. Her two daughters work at the store with the interns, and her husband has been a stabilizing force for her from the start.

"My husband was very supportive of my opening the store," she said. "I was so bent on doing it. It was so much one of my dreams. He could see how much it meant to me."

Her daughter, Stephanie, a university sophomore, said she reaps the benefits of her mother's business because most of her clothes come from the store.

"It's been really fun," Stephanie said. "People all over campus know my mom."

Internships prep students for the real world

BY SARAH LEWIS

Student Affairs Editor

Making Dean's List, taking a tough course load, participating in extracurriculars and getting good grades are not enough anymore. To be competitive in the job market upon graduation, students must also have an internship on their resume.

Dave Berilla, the associate director of Bank of America Career Services, said regardless of whether students hold a paid or unpaid internship, the experience is crucial.

"It is an absolute necessity in this day in age to have experience in your field before you graduate," Berilla said. "Employers value experience more so than GPA."

Students should utilize the tools offered at Career Services including eRecruiting.com and other search engines, he said.

"The No. 1 thing for all students, freshmen through graduate students, is to be part of the eRecruiting system," Berilla said. "Second of all, students should look at the direction they might want to go in life and start talking with people in that profession to get more information concerning that area of interest."

He said in recent years, more students have relevant job experience when they graduate.

"A vast majority of students, especially

after junior year have some type of experiential job depending on where they want to go," Berilla said. "There's been a big increase in the past five to eight years in students seeing the necessity in having experience in their field before they graduate."

Some companies and corporations will hold experience in the field in higher esteem than they hold GPA, he said. Employers look at academic records plus work and internship experiences.

"I had someone with a 2.4 cumulative GPA a few years ago," Berilla said. "He was a chemical engineer and had three summers of job experience. He was heavily in demand with companies after graduation."

Engineering is a field with a large number of students involved in internships — as high as 70 percent — especially among juniors entering their senior year, he said.

Junior Katie Keller, a civil engineering major, said internships are a good test for students to discover if they chose the correct career path.

"Textbooks are one thing," Keller said, "but doing it for real makes it fit, it's like putting five or six classes together."

She said students often worry about finding the perfect internship.

"There is definitely anxiety. People are worried about finding something," Keller said. "We will all find something, but it may not be our first choice."

Junior Ranjith Kolluri, an international

relations major, said she feels pressure to have an internship.

"There is internal pressure, pressure from parents and pressure to have an internship the summer of your junior year because then you won't be as likely to get a job when you graduate if you don't have one," Kolluri said.

University culture in general dictates that having an internship is important, she said.

"There's more pressure from the job market to have work experience than from the university," Kolluri said.

Especially with her major, she said an internship is essential.

"With liberal arts, having done things before you graduate, like internships, jobs and work experience are more important," Kolluri said. "Liberal arts doesn't necessarily translate you into a specific direct job or career."

Eric Lochtefeld, CEO of University of Dreams, said his company helps students get internships, as well as provides housing, meals and transportation to and from work. The company targets undergraduate and graduating students. The program costs between \$6,500 and \$9,000 depending on the city.

"When students apply to our program and get accepted, they get assigned to a placement agent and they get to choose from 2,000 internships and over 400 employers," Lochtefeld said. "Seventy-seven percent of participants get their first choice."

The company has internships in Chicago, San Francisco, Barcelona, London, New York City and Los Angeles, he said.

A Closer Look

INTERNSHIP TIPS

- All students should be a part of the eRecruiting system.
- Talk with people in a possible profession of interest to get more information.
- Use the two search engines provided by Career Services: CareerSearch and ReferenceUSA.
- Make an appointment with a Career Services counselor to get direct information concerning the area of interest of your internship.
— Dave Berilla, Associate Director of Bank of America Career Services

"We have close to 1,000 participants this summer, with 300 in New York City and 250 in Los Angeles," Lochtefeld said.

Included in the internship are weekend excursions and guest speakers, he said. Students live together as part of the experience.

"It's a lot more than just getting an internship," Lochtefeld said.

University of Dreams selects the employers students can work for, he said.

"When we look at companies we ask, 'If I was a college student, where would I be excited about working?' We make preliminary lists and contact employers," Lochtefeld said. "We're not a job board, we hand-pick employers."

Wampler challenges 'Funkytown'

BY SARAH KENNEY

Senior News Reporter

Today, Newark residents will vote between mayoral incumbent Vance A. Funk III and challenger Thomas Wampler to determine Newark's leader for the next three years.

Funk has served one three-year term as mayor and Wampler served on the city council for 10 years and was deputy mayor for two years.

Funk said the main issues Newark faces include the loss of jobs, presence of crime and traffic congestion.

He said he is focusing on residents' concern about the closing of the Avon Inc. plant and the difficulties facing the Daimler Chrysler plant. Yet he remains hopeful that the Chrysler plant will remain open, despite the announced closing.

"We will do whatever we can to

convince them to stay here," Funk said, "though we are working closely with the Delaware Economic Development Council and our senators to come up with a plan for Chrysler in the event that it does close."

Since the plant is not slated to close until 2008, he said there is still time to solve this problem.

Illegal activity is not an overwhelming problem in Newark, Funk said. He reviewed the crime figures for the first 12 weeks of the year and found that crime has decreased by 10 percent. The arrest rate is currently higher than in the past, he said.

"Our police department is doing an outstanding job," Funk said.

He gave credit to the "Burglary Task Force" — a unit of state, county and city police officers who worked together to respond to a surge of burglaries in late 2004. The team

reduced the number of burglaries in the area.

Although he has sometimes been blamed for the litigation involving the reservoir in Newark, Funk said he is not responsible because the lawsuit began before he became mayor. As it currently stands, the city owes the reservoir contractor \$37 million. The trial is ongoing and the city's lawyers expect to establish reduced figures.

Funk said he is proud of how he has contributed to Newark's festivals, friendly atmosphere and community. While in office, he initiated The Taste of Newark, the Food and Wine Festival and Restaurant Week.

"People want to be in Newark because of all the festivals," he said. "They attract people from a large area and once they come here, they like it."

The development of Newark as

a popular attraction has benefited the businesses on Main Street, Funk said.

"We've developed downtown as a strong destination," he said.

However, these festivals have been a point of contention for some people.

Wampler said he is running for mayor because he feels Newark is going in the wrong direction under Funk's leadership. He said Funk's main problem is that he focuses on social events rather than the crucial issues affecting the city.

"Vance sees himself as the social director of Funkytown," Wampler said. "Those sorts of ceremonial, social things are nice, but they are not the top priorities."

Wampler said the main issues are the loss of jobs and the crime rate.

With the closing of the Avon plant and potential closing of the Chrysler plant, Newark needs a long-term plan for future employment, he said. Newark is an ideal location for industry because of the university's presence and proximity to the railroad, but it may take time to come up with a comprehensive plan.

"We need to get our ducks in a row," Wampler said. "And it may take years to do that, but we can do it."

He said it appears crime is rising in Newark, despite Funk's claims it is decreasing.

"There seems to be a rash of burglaries, drug-related crimes and assaults," Wampler said. "This is an area where people are often confronted late at night."

He said as mayor, he would recommend outreach programs that would educate people about safety issues. He was unsure how effective Funk's efforts had been at reducing crime.

Another persistent problem in Newark is parking, Wampler said. He would recommend a moratorium on parking waivers. Engineers should redesign their building plans to

accommodate their own parking, he said.

The reservoir is an important issue in the campaign even though Funk was not mayor at the time of the alleged infraction, Wampler said.

"The fact that three years later it's still not resolved is a problem," he said. "He's a lawyer."

The settlement should be reduced to a sum the city could reasonably afford, Wampler said.

Funk and Wampler have gone out into the community to talk with people and promote their campaign.

Newark resident Paul Johnson said he is voting for Wampler because of Funk's stance on crime.

"Mayor Funk has accented some good things about Newark, but at the expense of a comprehensive plan and lack of attention, until very recently, to an increase in crime," Johnson said, adding that the Burglary Task Force was introduced after Funk's own house was broken into.

He said Wampler has a better plan for Newark, particularly as it pertains to the relationship between landlords and homeowners.

Resident Shirley Anderson said she supports Funk. Although she does not always agree with him, she thinks he is good for Newark.

"I think he's an honest man and a good mayor," Anderson said.

Though she wants Funk to be re-elected, she said she is glad there is an election. She said she was unhappy that no one contested the seats of the three council members whose seats were theoretically open this year.

The campaign began in mid-March, after Wampler announced his candidacy. If no one had contested Funk's seat, he would have continued another term.

Look for breaking news on the mayoral race at UDreview.com.



THE REVIEW/File Photo, Courtesy of Thomas Wampler
Newark Mayor Vance A. Funk III (left) is up for reelection today against challenger Thomas Wampler.

Profs travel abroad to address prejudice

BY TIM MISLOCK

Staff Reporter

Two university psychology professors will be traveling to Poland next weekend for a conference on prejudice at the University of Warsaw.

Samuel L. Gaertner and James M. Jones will be giving keynote addresses at the conference, which takes place from April 13 to 15. The conference, entitled "Victim/Perpetrator Relations in a Changing Europe: Prejudice Escalation and Prejudice Reduction," was organized by the Center for Research on Prejudice at Warsaw, according to Master Michal Bilewicz at Warsaw University.

Bilewicz stated in an e-mail message that Gaertner and Jones were chosen as keynote speakers because they are well-recognized researchers in the psychology of prejudice and racism.

"We are honored that they accepted our invitation to speak at our keynote session," Bilewicz said. "The presence of Professor Samuel Gaertner and Professor James Jones at the keynote session is part of our intensive collaboration project with the University of Delaware."

Bilewicz, a psychology professor, said this year's conference will focus on prejudice in groups with a victim and perpetrator relationship.

"The aim of the conference is to bring together social psychologists from different parts of the world whose interests encompass inter-group relations, stereotypes and prejudice," Bilewicz said. "We know that we should learn from experiences and studies performed in different parts of the world — this is the only strategy to be able to overcome prejudice."

Gaertner said he plans to discuss different ideas of group identity and ways of decreasing racial bias and aversive racism. Aversive racism is a subtle form of bias, he said, which occurs when well-intentioned people who do not believe they are racist find themselves uncomfortable when interacting with a member of a different race.

"By changing which groups people think they belong to and making them see they all belong to one group, the relationships will increase with others and it will decrease bias," Gaertner said.

"I am going to try to show certain instances of how blacks and whites can work together to create a better society."

— James M. Jones,

psychology professor

another," Gaertner said.

According to university psychology professor Michael Kuhlman, the university and Warsaw have arranged a formal agreement between their psychology departments. The arrangement was developed by

professor Thomas DiLorenzo, the chair of Delaware's psychology department, and professor Janusz Grzelak, the psychology chair at Warsaw.

The agreement consists of three general areas of activity between Delaware and the Warsaw: student and faculty exchange, the exchange of graduate students and faculty in terms of research development and the Delaware's assistance toward the Center for Research on Prejudice, Kuhlman said.

Warsaw's psychology department is located in a historically-prejudiced area, he said. The building is located within the former Jewish ghetto and the building itself was once a Gestapo headquarters. Across the street from the psychology building is a memorial on the site where Jewish residents were put on trains headed to labor camps.

Jones said his speech, entitled, "World's Apart: Diversion Experiences of Blacks and Whites in the U.S.," will focus on how the targets feel and respond to racism.

"I am going to try to show certain instances of how blacks and whites can work together to create a better society," he said.



Sen. Barack Obama, D-Ill., raised \$25 million in the first quarter of the 2008 presidential race.

Fundraising gives 2008 candidates early edge

BY ELAN RONEN

Staff Reporter

The early stages of the 2008 presidential race reached a climax last week as candidates reported their fundraising totals for the first quarter.

Sen. Hillary Clinton, D-N.Y., led the pack with a reported \$26 million in contributions, followed closely by Sen. Barack Obama, D-Ill., with \$25 million.

The former Governor of Massachusetts Mitt Romney gained media attention by raising \$23 million.

Despite recent popularity polls, former New York Mayor Rudy Giuliani and Sen. John McCain, R-Ariz., trail Romney in contributions, with \$15 million and \$12.5 million, respectively.

These figures shattered the previous record for first-quarter fundraising of \$7.4 million, set by Sen. John Edwards in a similar period prior to the presidential pri-

mary in 2004.

Damien LaVera, a spokesman for the Democratic National Committee, said the first-quarter results are a strong indicator of popular sentiments towards the George W. Bush administration.

"The energy is on our side," LaVera said. "The American people are clearly looking for a change in the White House."

The DNC has raised \$14 million thus far, \$6 million more than the same quarter in 2003. He said the success of the DNC is a result of the new "50-state strategy," a plan which provides resources to local democratic parties in every state rather than in only swing states.

"It is happening county by county, neighborhood by neighborhood and district by district, in every state in the country," LaVera said.

Members of the Republican National Committee could not be reached for comment, but a statement by McCain's campaign manager, Terry Nelson, downplayed the significance of the first-quarter fundraising victories of Democratic candidates.

"Fundraising in the first quarter is no more important than fundraising throughout the entire election campaign," Nelson said in a statement on MSNBC's Web site.

While the first-quarter results may or may not be a reflection of "Bush fatigue" or certain strategies employed by the two major parties, the sums aggregated by the pack of presidential hopefuls shed light on the importance of fundraising in presidential elections.

Political science professor Mike Wagner described the significant impact funding has in the early stages of the presidential race.

"At this stage in the game, it confers legitimacy on a candi-

date," Wagner said. "It also provides the media with data to handicap the race."

He said the news media and Republican activists treat Romney as a serious contender because of the money he has raised.

Although money is important, Wagner said it is not all-encompassing.

"Candidates still need to go out and meet the voters, especially in the early primary states," he said.

Statistics published on the Federal Election Commission's Web site demonstrate that the influence of money is pervasive throughout the presidential race and that its role has increased in recent years.

Scott McLarty, spokesman for the Green Party of the United States, said the party's platform on campaign finance conflicts strongly with the current system.

"We favor general reforms that make it possible to run without millions of dollars at the congressional and presidential elections," McLarty said.

He said the Green Party supports public financing, a system in which the government would fund part of the candidates' campaigns, but would put limitations on how much they could raise privately.

Wagner said the Green Party does not accept contributions from corporations because corporations are not individual people and should not be able to contribute additional money to a specific candidate.

He said money has become too integral to the presidential election process.

"It's almost as if the expected winner is the one that raises the most money," Wagner said. "The presidential race should not be a fundraising contest. People are getting elected based on dollars not on votes."

Men check out women's studies

BY ADAM ASHER

Staff Reporter

"I've never felt like a minority before," sophomore Ken Mazik said.

That all changed when he decided to take an introductory women's studies course (WOMS 201) last fall.

The university's women's studies program reaches an estimated 3,500 students per year by teaching a wide variety of topics in approximately 40 courses, according to Jessica Schiffman, assistant director of the department. There are approximately 60 students in the major and 150 students in the minor, but, on average, less than 10 students in each class are male.

"Whenever they got into the controversial issues I would sort of slouch down because I didn't want to offend anyone," Mazik said.

Although he was one of three males in a largely female crowd when he took his course, he said it was an experience he would recommend to any curious guy.

"It's definitely a good way to meet women while learning about their history in international society," Mazik said.

Schiffman said women's studies classes were first offered in 1974. The minor became available to students in 1978 and the major in 1994.

She said men may feel uncomfortable when they enter the classroom, but it is important to learn to be comfortable despite being different.

"These are the kinds of conditions that increase people's comfort," Schiffman said. "There is a level of comfort with whatever difference you identify with."

Sophomore Andrew Christy is one student who has been able to get comfortable. He said he was turned off by extremely liberal feminists in high school, but taking a course in women's studies during the fall of his freshman year changed his life.

"There's no reason for men to be intimidated," Christy said. "I've never met the stereotypical man-hat-

ing feminists in any of my classes." Mazik said despite his first impressions, he also found class surprisingly interesting and open to discussion.

"There was no stereotyping," he said.

Christy said he quickly made friends in his classes. He is now one of only three men in the major and has gotten involved in the community by counseling rape victims with the group Sexual Offense Support.

He said his classes have taught him that gender roles affect both men and women and by simply paying attention in class, men can learn about themselves as well as the opposite sex.

"A lot of people tend to sit in the back and complain for the whole class or don't even show up," Christy said. "They're so caught up in blowing off the curriculum that they are missing out on the point of the courses."

He is now enrolled in his eighth women's studies course and plans to continue this area of study in addition to his political science major. Schiffman said Christy and Mazik are good examples of how the program is growing to reach a more diverse audience.

"The numbers have more than doubled since I've been here," she said. "This is relatively new as a field and neither men nor women have any previous concept of it."

The women's studies program now spills into other areas, with faculty working in the music and film departments. Many students may have been affected by women's studies and did not even realize it, Schiffman said.

By reaching out to male students and increasing diversity in the classroom, she said the women's studies program can spread a message of equality.

"We have to understand where all of us fall and how it affects our lives," Schiffman said. "You have to reach out to people from all sorts of backgrounds and provide them with information that they didn't get in high school."



Willie Mobley is one of the few males in Women's Rights in American History (WOMS 367).

A Closer Look

■ In 1996, the total amount of money raised by all candidates in the primaries and general elections was \$478 million. In 2000, the amount was \$649.5 million and in 2004 the total reached \$1.02 billion.

■ In 1996, former president Bill Clinton raised \$42.5 million for the primaries while Republican candidate Bob Dole raised \$44.9 million. In 2004, President George W. Bush raised \$269.6 million for the primary race while John Kerry raised \$234.6 million.

— Compiled from the Federal Election Commission Web site

THE REVIEW/Meaghan Jones

R CSX train safety goes off-track

BY LAUREN DEZINNO

Senior News Reporter

The Federal Railroad Administration recently released a report stating the CSX corporation, the company which operates the trains that run through the university's campus, violated a series of safety regulations during its January inspection.

CSX, based out of Jacksonville, Fla., services 23 states and covers more than 21,000 miles. Although the FRA's inspection followed derailments in New York, Kentucky and West Virginia, Delaware has not yet incurred such accidents.

Michael Ward, CSX chief executive, stated on the company's Web site that the company is trying to eliminate safety concerns.

"Safety is our top priority and we welcome the FRA's inspections and insights," Ward said. "We are committed to working closely with FRA on all safety issues."

Mayor Vance A. Funk III said CSX's efforts in keeping the city safe has been stellar.

"Their involvement with the students at the university during the past two years is better than it has ever been before," Funk said.

He said members of CSX have set up booths at various campus events, such as last semester's Community Day and at basketball games. They hand out fliers and T-shirts encouraging the practice of railroad safety.

Sophomore Ciana Gingola, who lives in Ivy Hall Apartments, said she had no idea the CSX corporation was undergoing inspection for the failure of safety regulations.

"It makes me nervous, but I'm not going to move because of it," Gingola said.

She said the company needs to be more responsible.

"They obviously need to fix their trains and their tracks because it's just not safe for all the people who live near the railroad tracks," Gingola said.

Funk said CSX is doing everything it can to maintain a safe environment for residents whose homes are located near the tracks.

"I've been down on the tracks for different reasons periodically over the last five years and the tracks are in really good shape," he said. "They may have problems with the tracks in other areas, but I do not see any signs of that here."



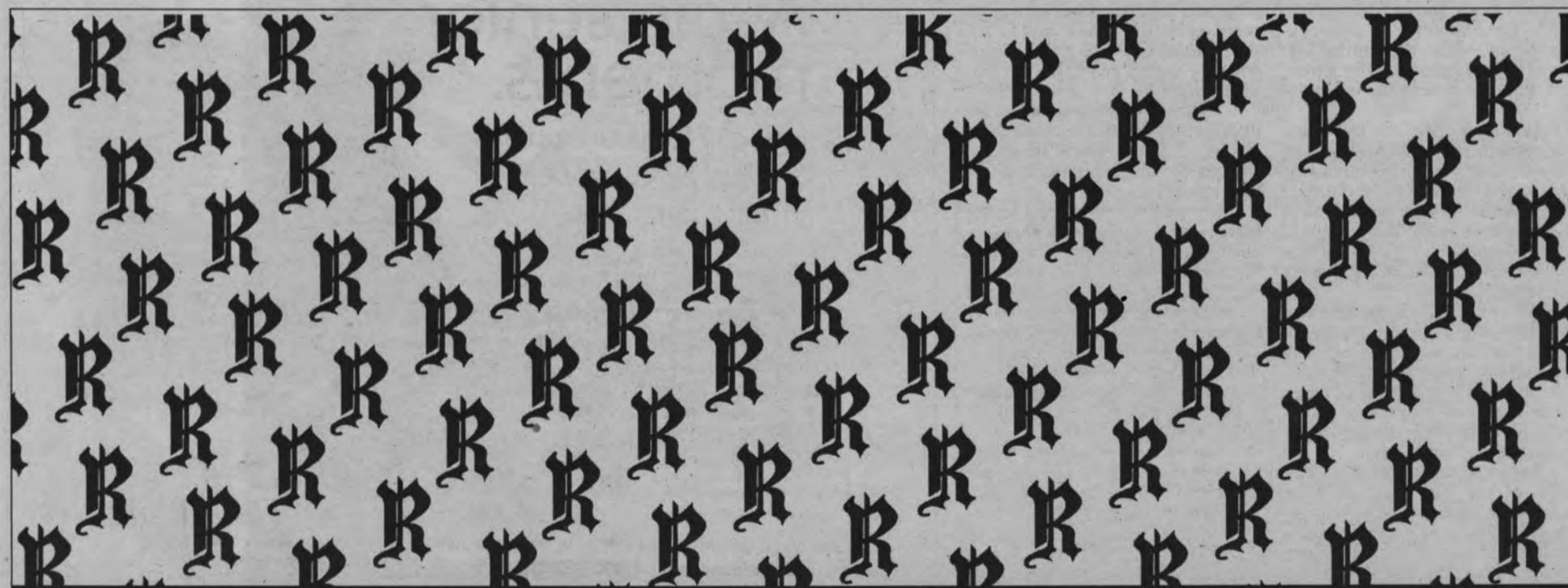
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THE REVIEW/Sara Davidson

The 2007 Class Gift Recycling Fund will allow alumni to continue to improve the university for years to come.

Seniors move to revamp recycling

BY MAGGIE SCHILLER

Sports Editor

After choosing a recycling program as the Senior Class gift of 2007, the committee is now collaborating with the university recycling program to devise a plan that will best benefit the university.

Heather Barron, the Delaware Undergraduate Student Congress adviser, said while the university does recycle, more can be done.

"In order to help the university, we must take baby steps," Barron said. "What can we do to supplement all that is happening here already?"

As the DUSC adviser, she facilitates the decisions the committee makes and helps direct them on how to get things done.

"I am experienced in fundraising and help the committee focus on the best strategies for fundraising," Barron said.

Senior Amanda Conforto, co-chair of the Senior Class Gift Committee, said instead of putting Class of 2007 on recycling cans around campus, the committee has named a fund after itself. In future years, when students are alumni and want to give back to the university, they can do so through the 2007 Class Gift Recycling Fund.

"This gift is a great way to keep alumni involved," Conforto said. "They will still feel like they are making a difference at Delaware."

This past week the Senior Class Gift Committee met with university personnel to create a plan of action.

Senior Jeff Haas, co-chair of the committee, said the work they

will be doing will be in a series of phases.

"Our first step will be to refurbish the three areas with large recycling bins," Haas said. "We want to make the areas more user-friendly, visible and easier for students to get to."

"Secondly, we want to place different paper bins around campus at different main locations, such as the major dorms, in order to promote recycling."

In addition to promoting increased recycling on campus, the committee is working to create a Web site, which will establish what the committee is doing and let students know what is currently happening, such as the locations of the new recycling areas and how they can help, he said.

"The Web site is an educational tool to get the word out," Haas said.

Barron said there are many ways that not only seniors, but undergraduate students can contribute to the fund.

"Underclassmen can give as well," she said. "They can give in honor of a senior or just to support recycling in general. Students who make contributions will get their name in the commencement program. Contributions can be made now on the university's Web site, at www.udel.edu/seniorclass, using check, credit card or FLEX."

The whole point of the fund is to create a long-term goal in which other classes will hopefully join in the future, Haas said.

"We are the pioneers of the programs," he said. "But the sky is the limit and it is just getting started."



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Program allows students to design unique majors

BY MAGGIE SCHILLER

Sports Editor

Freshmen browsing through the course catalog scan through the typical majors, such as psychology, political science and biology. They search for a major that they are passionate about, something that might spark their interest in 75-minute-long classes.

What freshmen might not know is that they are not limited to those already-selected majors.

They can design their own major — even if it is something as specific as steel drums.

Gretchen Bauer, associate dean of the Dean's Scholar Program, said many students are unaware of the program and its advantages.

"The Dean's Scholar Program is a wonderful opportunity for exceptional students to take one of the school's existing majors and craft it in such a way that they are able to study a topic in more depth than they would otherwise be able to do," Bauer said.

She said over the past few years, the department has received a variety of major proposals, such as American studies, science writing, sociology of disasters and environmental writing.

Sophomore Dave Fuhrman said he discovered the Dean's Scholar program due to his interest in steel drums.

"I've been playing steel drums for about a year now for a beginner group here and I was really enjoying it," he said. "It kind of hit me one day and I said, 'Wow I would much rather major in this.'"

"It's a really fun instrument. I feel like I found my calling with it, so I told the instructor here and he kind of did a double take on me and said, 'We will talk.'"

Bauer said the program allows students to start with an existing major and then modify it to meet their interests and focus on a specific aspect of the major.

"I would probably be withdrawn from classes that seem less relevant and substitute classes that would be more set up to this particular instrument," Fuhrman said.

"This can be a challenge because some of them don't exist yet and must be adaptable."

Senior Karin Burghardt, who went through the Dean's Scholar program, said she has been able to enhance her wildlife conservation major by incorporating elements from a variety of academic disciplines.

"Basically I am taking the same courses as a wildlife conservation degree," she said. "But I've incorporated a sustainable development portion where I am focusing more on the environmental economic side and environmental law and research economics and classes like nature writing and natural history courses."

By asking students to fulfill the "spirit" of the requirements of an existing major, though not necessarily every requirement, Bauer said students can be creative and design a specialized program for themselves.

In addition to meeting with six department advisers, Burghardt said the application process for the program included a description of her academic goals and the need for a separate major.

"Your application gets reviewed by a panel and then you then get three different advisers from three separate majors," Burghardt said. "It's cool because you don't usually get to create a relationship with three different departments in college."

Fuhrman said the panel's main concern is to ensure the students' proposal is as rigorous as the department curriculum so students do not use this program to avoid certain requirements.

Although getting to rock out on drums all day and dropping all other irrelevant classes may sound like a pretty cool course load, as it states on the program Web site, it is a program for "unusually talented and highly motivated students, driven by an overarching passion or curiosity that transcends typical disciplinary bounds and curricula."

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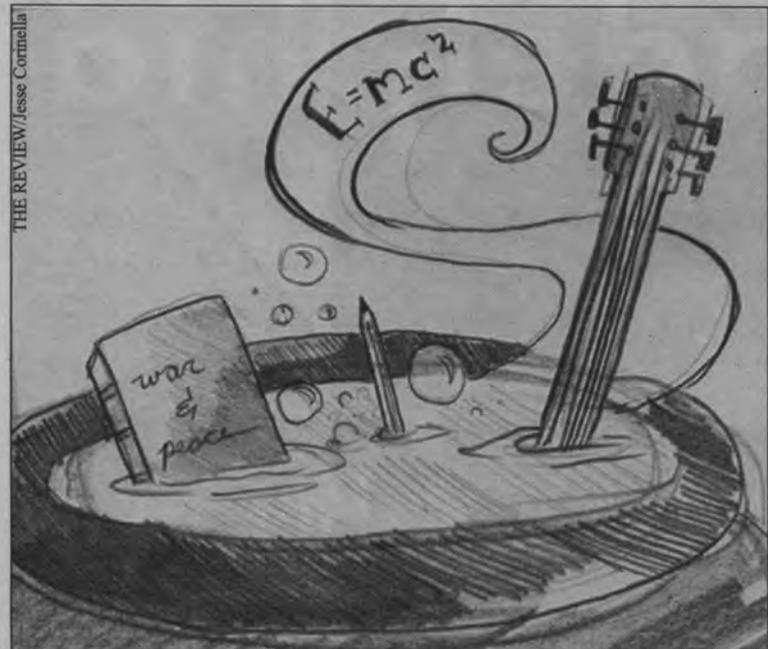
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The slippery slope of student debt

BY LIZ SEASHOLTZ

Staff Reporter

Every time junior Alyssa Spiegel swipes her shiny blue Visa card to purchase something, she cringes.

"I know eventually I'm going to have to pay off my credit card balance with money I don't have," Spiegel said. "There's just no joy in shopping anymore."

Spiegel is one of many college students dealing with the pressures of paying for basics such as food, clothing and rent, on top of paying off student loans for tuition. To deal with these payments, she admits to an increasing dependence on her credit cards, despite the mounting total she owes.

"I feel like I'll never be out of debt," she said. "The bills are just always piling up."

Robert Shireman, executive director of Project on Student Debt, said one reason many students are in debt is because of their need to pay off expensive college loans.

While tuition has increased, financial aid has decreased.

"Overall, the cost of college has gone up, particularly at public universities," Shireman said. "In addition, the government is putting less money in the system for grant aid."

According to the National Center for Education Statistics, in 2004, 66.4 percent of graduates had student loan debt, as compared to less than 50 percent in 1993.

A Closer Look

STUDENT DEBT

- Approximately two-thirds of students at four-year colleges and universities have student loan debt in 2004.
- Over the past decade, debt levels for graduating seniors with students have more than doubled from \$9,250 to \$19,200.
- More than 40 percent of college graduates do not pursue graduate school because of student loan debt.

— Compiled by The Project on Student Debt Web site

Student debt is made even more complicated by the convenience of credit cards and students' reliance on them, Shireman said.

"Credit card companies are aware they have a captive audience of newly-minted adults who are just getting into the credit scene," he said. "Like tobacco companies, they believe if you get students to go with your brand, you can hold onto them for a long time."

Whether in the form of credit card expenses or loans, Shireman said students are left paying for their college expenses years after they graduate.

Inability to pay can lead to a poor credit report, which according to Equifax.com, one of the leading credit reporting agencies, can be viewed by anyone from landlords to insurance companies to potential employers.

Will Meek, a predoctoral graduate intern at the university's Center for Counseling and Student Development, said being in debt or struggling to pay off loans can take a psychological toll on students.

"Students usually don't seek help for financial problems," Meek said. "But oftentimes, credit card debt and financial problems can become a big stressor not in our awareness."

Students may have trouble sleeping or focusing and may become tense and insecure due to financial stress, he said. More seriously, it can lead to depression or anxiety.

"Many times financial stress is due to premature affluence," Meek said.

Students are used to a certain standard of living before college, established by their parents, he said. Upon going to college they want to maintain this same standard, but their new financial independence does not always provide for it.

"Basically, our means don't match what we want," Meek said.

Despite the dangers associated with debt, Shireman said students should not worry about unpaid education expenses.

"If your debt is federal student loans only, I wouldn't stress about it," he said. "As long as that debt is helping you to complete your college education, then it is probably a good thing to have."

But for now, students such as Spiegel cannot help but feel deprived.

"I guess I'll just have to hold off on buying a new outfit for my birthday," she said.

"Credit card companies are aware they have a captive audience of newly-minted adults who are just getting into the credit scene."

— Robert Shireman, executive director of Project on Student Debt



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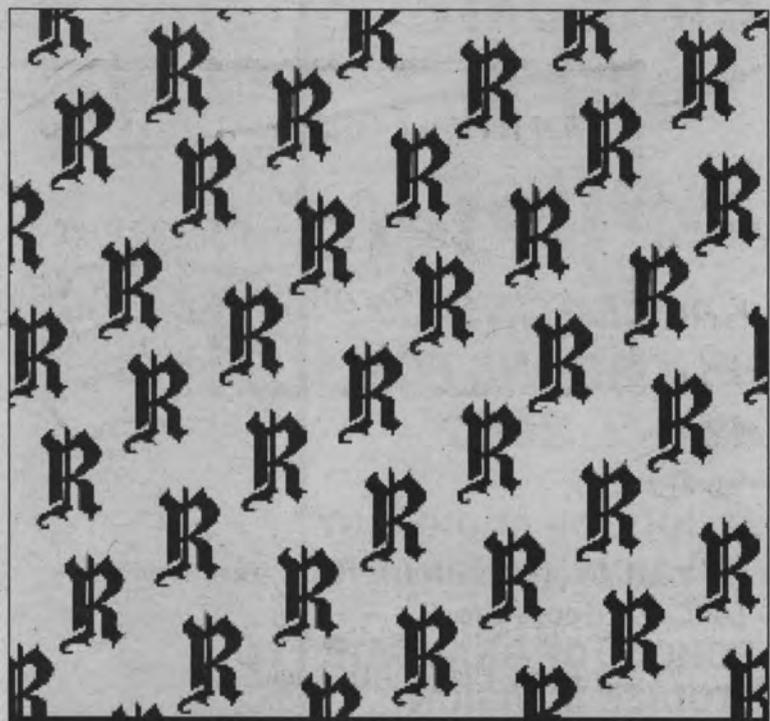
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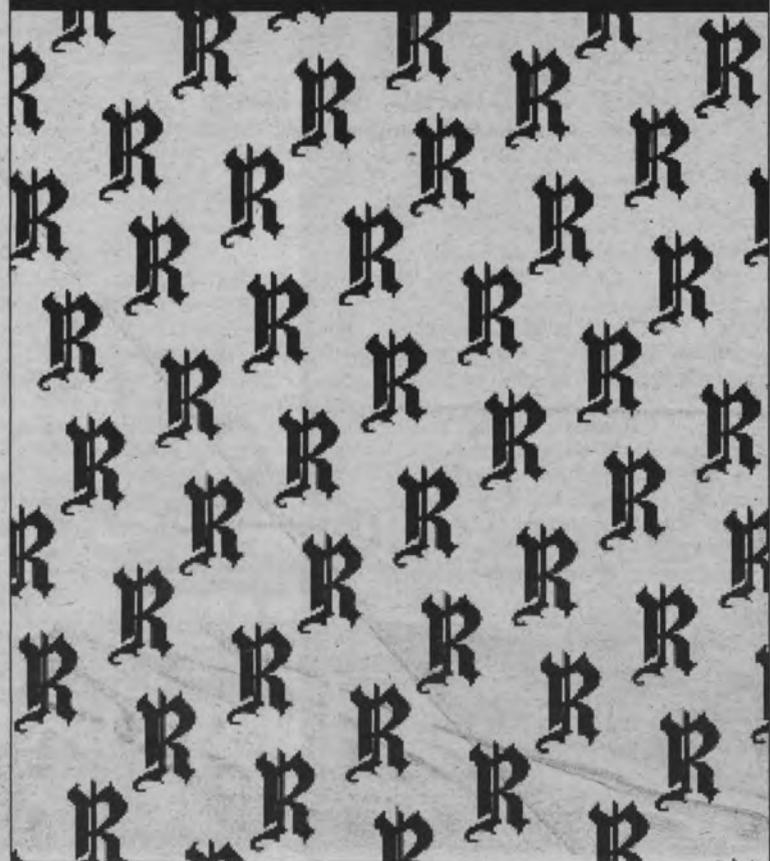
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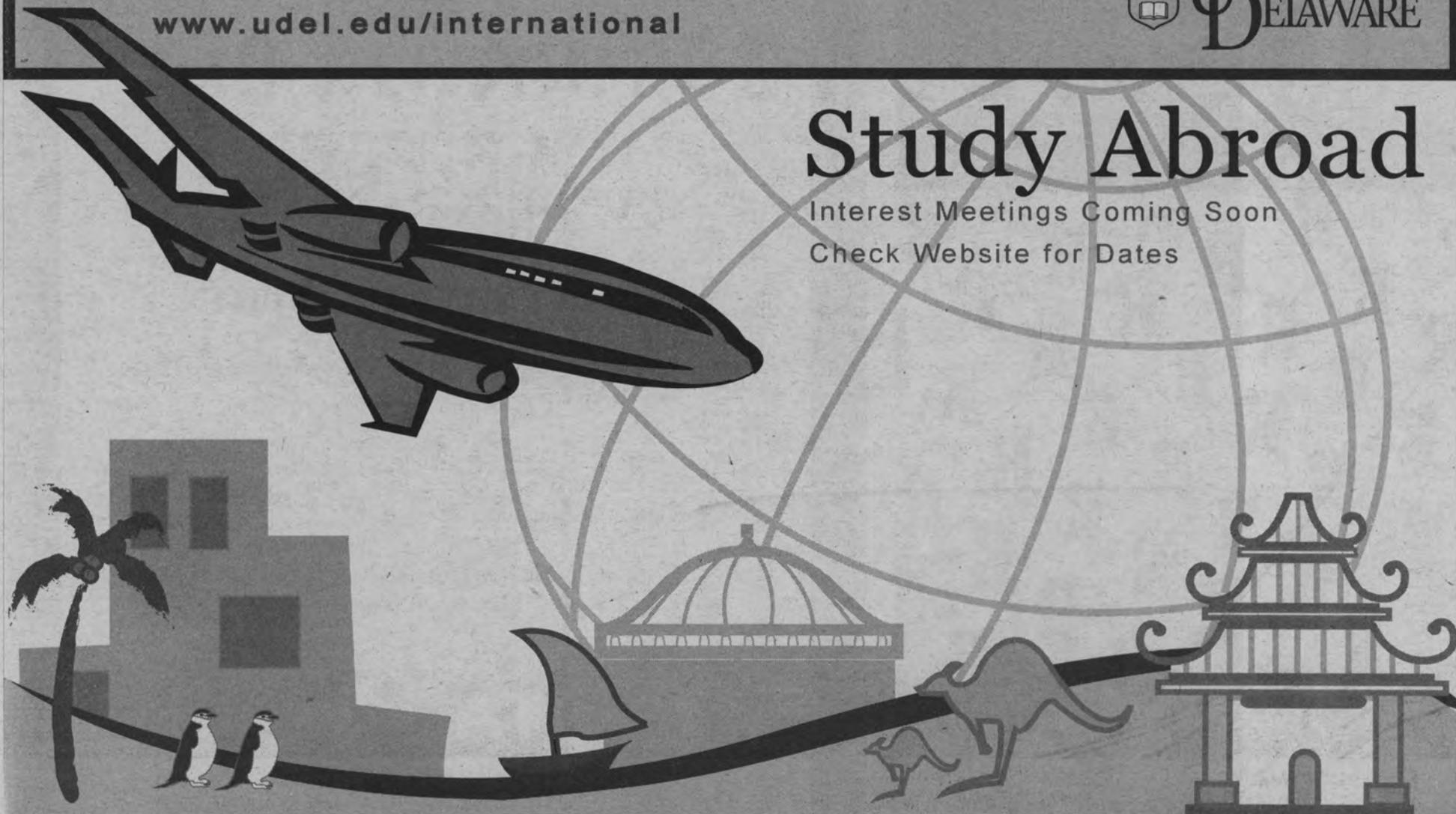
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ONLINE POLL

Q: Should Vance A. Funk III retain his position as Newark's mayor?

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editorial

Seniors vote for progression

Class gift helps clean up campus for the future

With the school year's end rapidly approaching, and seniors preparing to bid farewell to the university, the annual matter of the senior gift has been resolved. The results are far superior to that of last year.

As the class of 2006 strolled off campus last May, they left their legacy behind in the form of a series of clocks located around campus.

This would have been a sweet gift if it were for Flava-Flav or Captain Hook.

This year's class of seniors voted for their gift with their heads and hearts, creating a recycling program to collaborate with the university and help clean up campus.

Those who voted should be commended for their choice, because it shows this senior class cares about the beauty and future of our campus and environment.

A precedent has been set with this gift — it is time for our generation to stop being mouthpieces and start stepping up to clean up the earth.

With the gift, the senior class has hopefully started a trend for

itself and all other classes at the university to recycle.

It is one thing to vote for a program which is going to aid the university in helping preserve the environment. It is completely different to act on the vote you cast and help in the cause.

Voting for help, plain and simple, just is not enough. Personal actions are the solution to the problem.

Students need to take their vote a few steps further. They need to begin recycling in their homes, and encourage friends and family members to jump on board and follow their example.

This is how real change will begin. This is how we can truly clean up this planet.

With that said, the actions of this year's senior class are nothing short of extremely generous and caring. An important first step has been taking to help preserve our beautiful campus for years to come.

As for the clocks donated last year, well, maybe this year's gift can aid in cleaning the area around them.

Three more years of Funkytown

The Review chooses to 'adVance' the city a second term

The City of Newark needs three more years with Mayor Vance A. Funk III.

As a voice for students, The Review endorses the incumbent candidate and hopes the city residents that go to the polls and vote today feel the same way.

Funk has done a lot for the community in his three years at the helm. He has started parades and festivals which bring the university and city residents together.

The biggest struggle for a town with such a large student population is the student-resident relationship. Funk has made the involvement of students in the city a main priority. While his opponent Thomas Wampler is not anti-student by any means, Funk has shown more initiative to incorporate students into events and plans.

Wampler said he wants to bring a professionalism back to the office of mayor, but Funk's personality fits in well with the city. His

quirkiness brings a relatability to the office that a town like Newark needs.

At the same time, Funk's background as a lawyer does bring the needed professionalism to the office and to Newark.

One of the problems with his campaign has been his denial of the crime problem in the city. Funk needs to get his head out of the clouds and admit that there is a problem. He should be more proactive toward the situation.

Wampler's downfall is that he does not have a specific plan for the city. While he takes cheap shots at Funk's personality, he has not outlined any specific plans to improve the city.

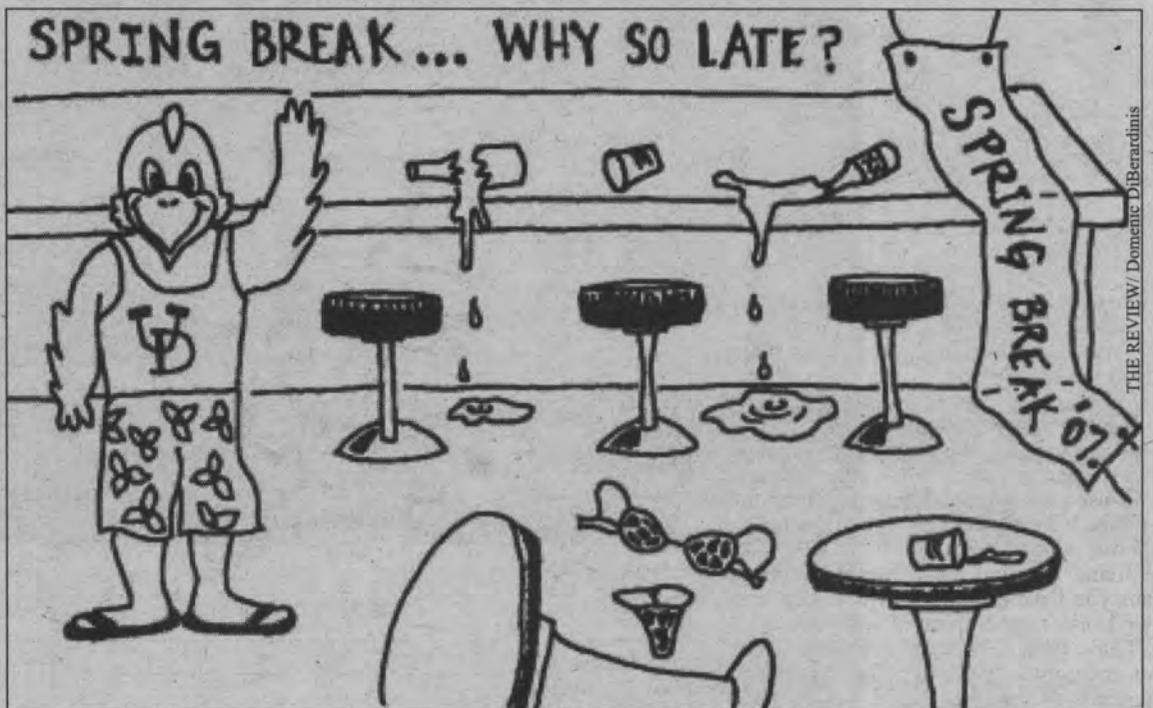
Funk has the proven track record and cares about the city immensely.

Tomorrow we hope Funk returns to his plush office on Elkton Road for another term.

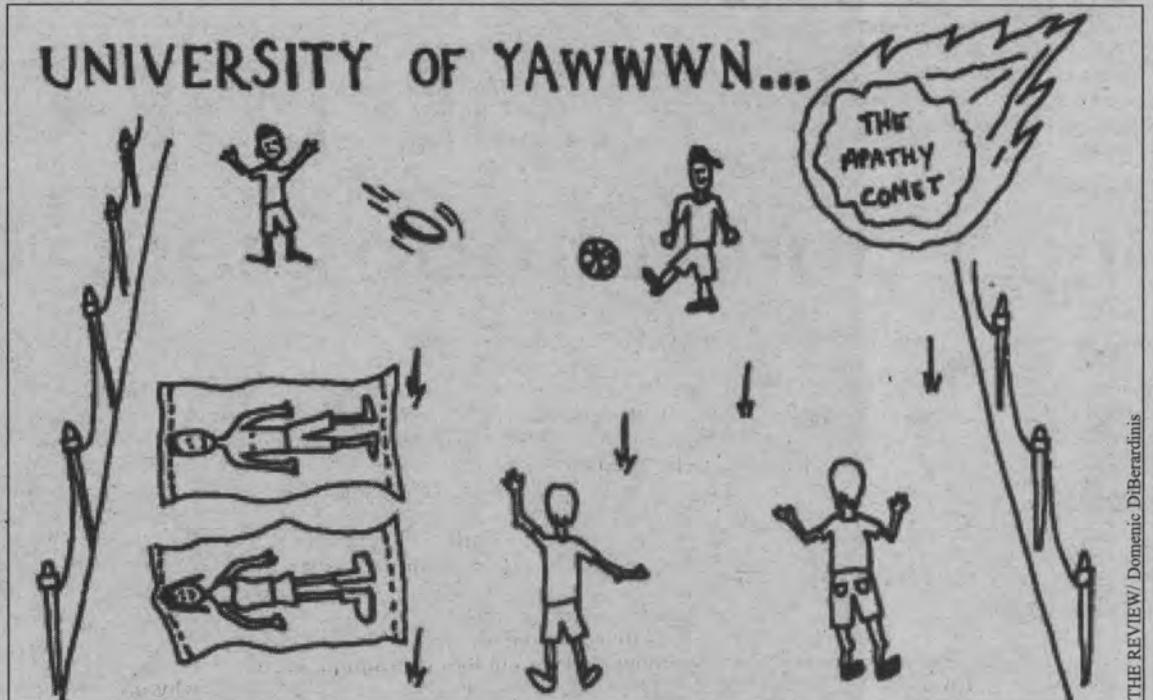
"People want to be in Newark because of all the festivals. They attract people from a large area and once they come here they like it."

— Mayor Vance A. Funk III

Throw some Deebz on 'em...



THE REVIEW/ Domenic DiBerardinis



THE REVIEW/ Domenic DiBerardinis

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Opinion

17

Last week's poll results

Q: Should James E. Cooke, Jr. be given the death penalty?

81% Yes
19% No

R

What ever happened to good manners?



Moral Compass

Meg Lobdell

You stole my favorite jacket...and I want it back.

I only have a few pet peeves with my fellow college students. It's funny, but the idea they were cold-blooded thieves never really crossed my mind. I was more concerned with the vast majority of away messages featuring statements like "out with my hot roommate!"

It absolutely blows my mind how many students spell the word roommate with one "m." I used to sit around thinking about this for hours. I'd reason, "well, either you have a room-ate, which I suppose is hungry Pacman-like living quarters, or a roo-mate, which means you have a friend who is a joey from Down Under...and I'm immensely jealous."

I have been so mistakenly fixated on students' inability to spell one of the most important words in college lingo, I have entirely overlooked the fact that some are more than horrible spellers — they are horrible people.

Well, maybe I shouldn't say horrible people. I am more referring to a horrible person. I am hoping that person is female, but I could be wrong and that brings a whole new level of awkwardness to this issue. Regardless, this is

for you, horrible person, and anyone who chooses to practice a lifestyle similar to yours.

Last week, a heinous human being deliberately dug behind an ATM machine at Klondike Kate's to snatch my favorite jacket from what I wrongly perceived as a clever hiding place. As I wandered home in the bitter, chilling cold, braving Arctic temperatures in short sleeves since I no longer had a jacket to keep my poor, frost-bitten arms toasty, I began to ponder: How had I not realized students' lack of concern for others before?

I began to ask around, and sure enough, almost every person I talked to has been robbed on or around campus. Many have been victims four or five times: jackets, bags, books, Sun Chips ... and the list goes on.

I realize one may think it is idiotic to leave anything of value lying around, but isn't

it sad that we live in a community where that is a concern? You expect to get things stolen in New York City, but shouldn't we feel safe here at school? You also might think I'm stupid for wearing a jacket I love out on a Saturday night. However, the value of a stolen object is insignificant. Everything that belongs to me is valuable because it's mine. Well, now it's someone else's.



THE REVIEW/Dominic DiBernardino

I remember when I first came to UD, I laughed at one of the buses that was plastered with information on how to be a good citizen. I thought, "Is that some sort of joke?" But now I understand why YouDee felt the need to spoon-feed morals to supposed young adults. These basic rules should have been laminated on your classroom wall in first grade. Apparently not.

Let's start with *stealing*. In case you were in the dark about this, stealing is mean and bad and just plain cruel.

Two wrongs don't make a right. I heard a girl at the coat-rack say, "It's not there! Ugh!

Then just grab another one!" Well if this is the accepted attitude, then beware because it is now my turn to steal something, and that something just might be yours.

Nobody likes a show-off. I should have seen the writing on the wall back in freshman year. A girl who lived two floors down decided it would be hilarious to steal all of my friend's clothes out of the Dickinson dryer. She then proceeded to sport the clothing around for the rest of the year, fully aware that the rightful owner lived under the same roof. Are you kidding me?

The golden rule: Please and thank you. I was never approached with a "please, may I steal your jacket?" or a "thanks for the free coat!" but I suppose I can at least have the courtesy to say "you're welcome."

There are consequences to your actions. I never participated in Mischief Night because it made me feel bad. You never know if the person's house you egged is an elderly person who lives by himself and has to clean up that mess. But then again people who steal jackets don't recognize personal actions affect others, like me and my naked arms walking home in a blizzard because of someone's selfishness.

Oh, and if you happen to have recently acquired a white cropped jacket with sweater trim and a rip on the inside, let me know. I'd really appreciate it back. No hard feelings.

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

Unprepared troops sent to Iraq's front line



I'm gettin' too old for this

Kyle Siskey

The President continues to place honest Americans in harm's way

This past week President George W. Bush visited Fort Irwin in California in hopes of cheering up troops about to be sent to Iraq.

As part of his public relations speech, Bush surrounded himself with troops while wearing his usual blue, button-down shirt, with rolled sleeves and khaki pants.

As newsfeeds of the visit poured into my television, littered with Bush's blatant lies to troops, I could not help but feel angry. Bush tried to tell troops that the Democrat's plan to leave Iraq would open America and its military to more danger and would only help its enemies in the War on Terror. The troops sat, speechless in their seats — they knew the truth before them.

The president is making the war unsafe for American troops.

I have no doubt that he cares about the young men and women fighting for democracy, but he cares more about publicity more. His training strategies outline his level of care more than his words in front of a few nervous troops.

This week, while implementing his planned troop increase, the president sent two combat brigades to Iraq without desert training. This means they will be risking their lives in a region that is primarily desert without ever setting foot in a similar terrain.

The Associated Press reported that the 4th Stryker Brigade of the 2nd Infantry Division and the 2nd Brigade of the 3rd Infantry Division will be rushed one month early into combat. Ironically, the 4th Stryker Brigade was stationed at Fort Irwin.

This is not the first time the president has forced American soldiers into war unprepared.

The funding crisis, while not as personal as the troop increase problems, has taken its toll on troop preparedness as well. Money is leaking out of the budget like water through a funnel. The AP reported that \$36.4 million for weapons, armored vehicles, body

armor and communications equipment are unaccounted for by government officials.

The money problems with the war stem from early war contracts given out by Bush and his advisers when the war began four years ago. DynCorp International, an engineering firm based in Texas, was responsible for building a \$43.8 million dollar camp in Iraq that is now uninhabited. Of course the camp includes everything an American soldier needs to fight terrorism — 20 VIP trailers and an Olympic-sized pool.

If the president has admitted that America is not ready to start rebuilding Iraq, why are we spending millions of dollars on unnecessary efforts? That money should go toward providing the body and tank armor missing from our military.

If I were fighting in Bush's war I would want to go to war with some semblance of safety rather than an Olympic-sized pool.

The Humvee situation in Iraq is even more disturbing. Because the government refuses to research and develop a better model, soldiers are reduced to providing "hillbilly" armor for their Humvees. The armor is basic patchwork made from random metal scraps and sandbags designed to provide protection from road bombs.

The fact that we have to use the word hillbilly to describe any method for protecting our nation's greatest citizens is pathetic. Where is the funding for better armor?

I guess Bush believes in former Defense Secretary Donald Rumsfeld's theory of going to war with the army you have, not the army you want to have.

Bush has not limited himself to just screwing over incoming troops, now he ignores atrocities for those troops coming home. In February, Americans learned of the horrible conditions occurring at Walter Reed Hospital in Washington, D.C. Thousands of wounded American soldiers were living in Third-World conditions alongside rats and cockroaches.

I think America should have the best army — one that is prepared, well-funded and safe as can be in a war situation. Right now, it seems as though Bush would rather have one willing to shake his hand during a press conference.

Kyle Siskey is Editorial Editor for The Review. His viewpoints do not necessarily represent those of The Review staff. Please send comments to ksiskey@udel.edu.

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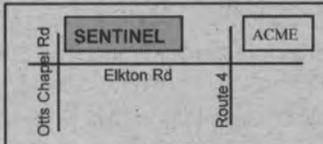
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Learning to listen all over again

Junior discusses her experience in the hearing world

BY LAURA DATTARO

Features Editor

The world of the deaf is not one into which the hearing-capable often venture. There, hand signals form words, lip movements cue understanding and sounds are lost in the break between the mouths of the hearing and the ears of the deaf.

Danya Lang is trying to bridge the gap.

Lang, a 21-year-old university junior from Somers, N.Y., was born almost entirely deaf. Her left ear, declared severely impaired, allows her to hear sounds such as loud bangs or screaming voices. Her right ear does not function at all — it is profoundly impaired, the worst level of hearing impairment.

Speaking with Lang does not immediately reveal her hearing loss. Her speech is bright and mostly clear, with soft “r’s” and “s’s” that occasionally prompt questions about the origin of her unusual accent.

It is not until one sees the two-and-a-half-inch battery, short, gray wire and small, round magnet hidden under the curly black hair above her right ear that he or she realizes there is something different about her.

The devices are the external portion of a cochlear implant, a relatively new technology Lang received in 2004 to improve the hearing in her right ear. Before her operation she wore a more traditional hearing aid in each ear, which she still uses for her left ear.

The combination of an implant and a hearing aid makes Lang unique in the world.

Receiving a cochlear implant requires an operation in which a small, tail-like device is placed into the snail-shell-shaped cochlear in the inner ear. The tail receives vibrations for the hairs that are supposed to collect sounds — in Lang’s case, the hairs have been broken since birth.

The internal and external magnets work together to send signals to the brain, allowing a previously-useless ear to function at 90 percent of its ability.

“I didn’t want it for the longest time,” Lang says. “I thought it was complicated for some reason, but I am so glad I got it. It’s so much better. It ended up that summer that I worked at a glass-blowing place and the machines are so loud. I realized if I didn’t have my cochlear implant I wouldn’t have been able to hear my bosses so well.”

When Lang was born, her parents, both from Israel, realized she was deaf immediately. They would make loud sounds or call her name from behind, but she would not respond.

Her doctors did not agree with the diagnosis.

“[They] did tests on me and I would react to the tests. Somehow, I don’t know, I must be a genius,” she says laughing, “but I would react.”

When an audiologist finally agreed to give her hearing aids at age 2, Lang’s capability to learn to speak was already dwindling. When a person is deaf, she says, the brain must be



Courtesy of Danya Lang

Junior Danya Lang talks about getting a cochlear implant to improve hearing in her right ear.

trained to work with the ear. The longer parents and doctors wait to place a child in speech therapy, the more of an impediment it will become later in life.

Lang realized that her early years were not unusual — many parents don’t know what to do when they first realize their child is deaf.

“You have to automatically choose if you want your daughter or son in the hearing or deaf world,” she says. “You have to choose one because you can’t be in between. If you’re in between, it’s not a good thing. You don’t fit in either one of the worlds.”

Lang’s parents chose to put her in the hearing world.

They made this decision again, 18 months later, when they realized their second daughter, Savyon, was profoundly deaf in both ears, despite the perfectly-capable hearing of both parents and their first child, Lavie.

Savyon, a freshman at Muhlenberg College in Allentown, Pa., has two cochlear implants. The two surgeries brought her into the hearing world in a way just as remarkable as her sister’s.

Those who choose to live in the deaf world, Lang says, are isolating themselves and their children.

Some deaf people believe that being deaf is not a disability and that deafness should not be corrected. They never learn to use speech, and instead rely on lip reading and sign language.

“I haven’t really decided if I view it as a disability,” Lang says. “I see it more as if you have a way of fixing something, then fix it. If you don’t have perfect sight, you get contacts or glasses. If you can’t walk, you use a wheelchair. You treat it. Deaf people don’t like it, and I don’t understand why.”

The lack of a connection between the hearing and the deaf inspired Lang and a hearing-impaired friend, Aaron Rose, who attends the University of North Carolina, to start planning a documentary which would assist others like themselves. The two met early in life and reunited two years ago at a Virginia camp for the hearing-impaired.

She cites a video she recently saw in which pedestrians were approached about the definition of a cochlear implant.

“If you had to choose,” the video asks, “where would you put it?”

“In your heart,” one respondent said.

“Up your nose.”

“In the back.”

“It’s an operation on your elbow.”

The filming and research for Lang’s video will begin this summer and will take, by her estimate, at least two years.

By visiting camps for deaf children and speaking with families with a hearing-impaired member, Lang and Rose hope to educate others on the world of the deaf and how its citizens can be brought into the world of the hearing.

“We want to make it more of a personal experience than an educational video,” Lang says. “We want emotions. We want parents crying, siblings angry, hearing-impaired kids happy. We want to go a way that nobody has ever gone before. There are so many documentaries out there, there are Web sites, there’s everything. But we want people to watch this and see that things turn out to be good. We want to give them an opportunity to see what goes on in that world.”

The future of the documentary is unclear, but Lang hopes it will one day be provided for children going through speech therapy, people who have just received a cochlear implant, adults who lose hearing after a disease or accident and any other members of either the deaf or hearing world who might need the information.

People like her parents, Lang says, who worked and fought for their daughters’ rights to a fair education.

Her high school was often reluctant to provide necessities such as a computer and interpreter in the classroom.

Now, she says, the university is eager to help.

Lang utilizes real-time captioning, a system in which a laptop on her desk is wirelessly connected to a computer in the back of the classroom. A university employee accompanies her to each class and takes notes on the professor’s lecture. The notes are then transferred to the screen on Lang’s desk.

“Some teachers turn around to write something on the board, and every once in a while I can’t get what they’re saying so I just look at the computer,” Lang says. “It’s funny because everyone in the classroom doesn’t pay attention to the teacher, they pay attention to my computer screen.”

Lang, a photography major, hopes to one day own a magazine that will serve as a home for underground artists and musicians. Her plan, like her documentary, simply serves to showcase her desire to cross boundaries between the mainstream world and those who live in its margins.

“I am who I am and that’s it,” Lang says. “I have a hearing impairment but I don’t see myself as having a hearing impairment. People are afraid to ask about my hearing impairment. Someone will be like, ‘You know, I’ve been wondering for a while, don’t be offended, but what is that? How do you use that?’ Or, ‘How does it work?’ And I’m like, ‘I would love to explain it to you, I don’t mind at all.’ I enjoy doing that. It’s part of me, you know? So I would love to share it with the people I know or people I’m getting to know.”



Courtesy of Danya Lang

The Mosaic Interview: Indigo Girls

BY CORINNE CLEMETSEN

Entertainment Editor

After 20 years, 11 albums and seven Grammy nominations, the Indigo Girls are still singing, performing and being as outspoken and racy as ever. Now touring for the duo's newest album, "Despite Our Differences," which features guest spots from Pink and Brandi Carlile, the Girls are simply looking to have some fun, make music and sell a few more albums (to date, the duo of Amy Ray and Emily Saliers has sold a total of 12 million records).

"Despite Our Differences," which was released on Sept. 19, 2006, reflects the Girls' inherent style and unique chemistry, but also incorporates several new components. With a new producer, Mitchell Froom, a new record label, Hollywood Records, and a whole new perspective on life in general as open lesbians, political activists and environmentalists in their 40s, the Girls' latest album is all about change.

The duo is currently on tour and played Wilmington's Grand Opera House on March 24. Saliers spoke with The Review on the duo's long history, exciting present and certain future.

How long have you two been together as a band?

We started in 1980 in high school professionally, then we started recording around '85 — people are calling it our 20-year anniversary, professionally, I guess. If you count playing open-mic nights, we've been around much longer.

How have you been able to stay together for so long?

We met in elementary school, went to the same elementary and high schools. In high school, we were both the girls who played the guitar and wrote songs. And we were in chorus together, and that's how we got close. Eventually we started just hanging out, playing and writing songs — we immediately started learning stuff together. Just one little step at a time. We had immediate chemistry.

Is it true that your high school tour performances were once banned? Why?

We set up a tour a few years ago — it was career days for high schools. A lot of the times the shows are underage shows and we thought it would be cool to talk to them about being in the music business. They were all free shows and eventually some conservative parent caught wind of it and knew we were gay. It became a domino effect of concerts being canceled because we were gay. I actually met and spoke with one student who protested and was expelled right before graduation.

In the end it was all very positive. It was at first said that it was because we said the F-word in a song, and then it

became obviously more than that. So, instead, we did a public concert and invited everyone to come for free, and that was really cool. And lots of people showed up — diversity is that empowering light that shines.

You recently worked with Pink for your new album. What was that like?

It was great. She's amazing. She invited us to do a song on her record, "Dear Mr. President," and that was great. We all had great chemistry. We found out that she's an Indigo Girls' fan, which really blew us away because I'm a huge Pink fan. While we were recording, she was around, so we invited her over and Amy just chanted her the lyrics she had never heard before and she just nailed it. She did it so quickly we ended up outside for the rest of the night talking politics.

What makes this album stand out from the rest? Do you feel that the two of you have matured since your beginning?

It's a drastic music departure. These songs reflect where we are in life — when you're in the 40s you're at a different point than you're at in your 20s — neither of which are necessarily better or worse than the other.

We also have a new producer, Mitchell Froom, which changed things. There's some energy infused in the record that hadn't been there before because of the change of who we're working with. Mitchell brought out the true essentialness of the songs. It's the fastest record we've ever made. There's a real energy on the record — I personally think it's our best record.

Being open lesbians, do you believe this has hurt or strengthened your fan base?

I think a little of both. I know we've been pigeon-holed as an acoustic folk band, but I think we're more than that. But people hook onto labels and it's hard to break away from that. The record labels let us make our records the way we want and our fans have stuck with us. There aren't enough gay people to fill the seats, so I know we have a great diversity. It's all about being true to who we are and being who we are and our fans have not felt the tension of us being gays. It's just about us being us and them being them and us all being together. It's about the music.



You're both in rather serious relationships, right? Are there any marriages in the future?

Amy is in a long-term relationship and I'm sort of in something. We'll see. I don't know if there's marriage in the future, to be honest. I believe in gay marriage and I believe in fighting for it. I would fight very hard for gays to win the right to marriage just as heterosexuals do, but that does not necessarily mean I would get married. It's about being able to have the legal and spiritual option.

Have you performed in Delaware before? What was it like and do you look forward to this performance?

We've performed in every state I'm pretty sure. I'm looking forward to Delaware — it's fun to be on the East Coast and the weather is getting warm, Spring is coming. It makes me feel grateful for our career.

Mess it up: why clutter might be beneficial

BY CAITLIN BIRCH

Copy Editor

It's lurking under the bed. It's bulging from the dark confines of the closet. It's creeping from the depths of the freezer. It's claiming every inch of desk and dresser space.

It's disorganization — the dreaded disease that regularly consumes countless businesses, homes and residence halls across the globe and, according to new research, its reputation may be in for a turn-around.

In "A Perfect Mess: The Hidden Benefits of Disorder," co-authors Eric Abrahamson and David Freedman argue that a reasonable amount of disorganization makes people more effective, efficient and, in many situations, creative.

"Usually people who are organized put a lot more into it than they usually get out of it," Freedman says.

The benefits of being messy, on the other hand, are too good to pass up, he says, which is precisely what he and Abrahamson hope to convey in the book that he fittingly describes as "a sprawling, messy collection of anecdotes."

For starters, Freedman says many people can spend hours each day organizing, tidying up and planning out their days, which is a waste of time. People who don't worry about these things have more time to enjoy life.

Also, messes aren't always as messy as they appear, and he says messy people can

often locate their belongings more easily than can neat people.

Sophomore Michelle Edmond identifies with this idea.

"Sometimes my organized mess is better," Edmond says. "When I clean up, every single time, I lose something and I think that I threw it away. There's no where else it could be. When everything's messy it's easier to find stuff. I know where it is in the mess."

Freedman says disorder also sparks creative thought.

"Messiness, at least a certain amount of messiness, can be stimulating," he says. "It can go hand-in-hand with creativity."

Freedman says in messy surroundings, people will rediscover forgotten items or make uncommon connections that wouldn't be possible in a neat environment.

Sophomore Brittany Yourinson isn't so easily convinced.

"I think when you're creative, your thoughts kind of fly in all these different directions," Yourinson says. "But I think the thoughts in your mind are possibly different than the clothes on your floor."

Freedman says he and Abrahamson base their findings on original surveys they conduct-



Courtesy of Amazon.com

ed concerning attitudes about messiness. They also incorporate hundreds of different studies across numerous fields of research, all examining different aspects of order and disorder.

He says his research began in 1993 when he interviewed Frank Moss, a physics professor at the University of Missouri at St. Louis at the time, who had discovered adding disorder to systems like electrical circuits actually made them work better. From that interview, he learned the idea of disorder as a beneficial element was catching on in several academic fields, including the study of the human brain.

"Wherever you stick a probe in a human brain," Freedman says, "you actually find a lot of noise and random signals. When you take those signals out and order it, it actually doesn't work as well."

The messiness of the human brain naturally led him to explore the messiness of the human room.

What initially interested him in other people's messes, he says, was the common feeling of shame everyone seems to feel when faced with his or her own clutter, despite the fact that clutter seems to be perfectly natural.

"When I asked most people what problems being messy caused them, they usually couldn't name a single problem other than feeling bad about it," Freedman says.

That guilt leads some people to dish out big money each year to get their rooms in order.

"You can spend a fortune on organizing, and some people do," he says. "It's very easy to go into the container store and spend a thousand dollars."

Rebecca Lang, CEO of Clutter Organizers, a professional organization company, says the average household will spend between \$2,000 and \$5,000 on professional organization, but she has worked on extreme cases in which clients spent more than \$100,000.

The goal, Lang says, is to help people find a method of organization that works for them.

"We create systems to meet your style," she says. "Everybody has a different style of organizing."

Organization is relative, Lang says, and what one person considers messy, another might consider tidy.

Freedman says students who are organized and messy both have it right.

"It's the level of messiness where it's not causing you any big problems," he says, "and if you got a lot neater, you wouldn't get many benefits from it."

And that is the perfect mess.

'Grindhouse': two directors thriving

"Grindhouse"
Dimension Films
Rating: ★★ (out of ★★★★★)

In this double-feature tribute to every '70s B-movie you never saw, you get two doses of beer-inspired, reckless, nihilistic mayhem in a raunchy, action-packed joyride.

Directors Robert Rodriguez and Quentin Tarantino join forces to bring a handful of dying genres back to life with new edge and style in two separate films — "Planet Terror" and "Death Proof."

Grindhouses were traditional urban theatres in the '70s and '80s that played non-stop, low-budget exploitation flicks, which is the sole source of inspiration for this collage. The formula for this juxtaposition includes fiery explosions, stomach-blowing guts, werewolves, lesbian hookers, wild car chases, nudity and flesh-eating zombies. Both films are cut in a style that fits the genre with scratched images, missing reels and several hilarious spoof trailers directed by Rob Zombie ("House of 1000 Corpses"), Eli Roth ("Hostel") and Edgar Wright ("Shaun of the Dead").

The first package, "Planet Terror," is Rodriguez's recreation of the traditional zombie film with more power than the Energizer Bunny. Think "Evil Dead" corniness alongside a parody like "Shaun of the Dead," but with more flavor, more camp and enough laughs to lose ten pounds.

The story follows Cherry (Rose McGowan), a go-go dancer who is reacquainted with her ex-boyfriend Wray (Freddy Rodriguez) in the midst of a virus outbreak that has turned everyone in a small Texas town into zombies. After getting her

leg eaten off, it is replaced with a machine gun to fight the spreading evil.

The film is laughable from beginning to end, with the exception of disgust extracted from splattering guts, popped eyes and flying testicles. But overall, Rodriguez packs a fun flick that has a good pace and raw humor.

In Tarantino's "Death Proof," stuntman Mike (Kurt Russell) is a somewhat likeable killer who stalks and crashes into girls in his mean stunt hot rod. After a drawn-out bar scene and the attack on a set of unlikable women, Mike starts to follow a new set of gals gone wrong — feminine stuntwomen with a high for highway recklessness.

In "Death Proof" Tarantino delivers much of his typical off-the-wall dialogue, artistic cinematography and meat-packed excitement that has many qualities of "Pulp Fiction" and "Kill Bill," but woven to fit the genre in a way that works and even admits to its 1971 predecessor "Vanishing Point."

This is one to catch in theaters, after you have chugged your beer, left the strip bar, put on your combat boots, picked up your girlfriend and bought a large bag of popcorn, because this is what action movies are all about.

— James Adams Smith, smithja@udel.edu



Courtesy of Rottentomatoes.com



Courtesy of Paramount Pictures

The clock ticks on Will Ferrell's career

"Blades of Glory"
Paramount Pictures
Rating: ★★ 1/2 (out of ★★★★★)

Another year, another "Frat Pack" offering. The term, coined by *USA Today*, describes a tight-knit group of actors that includes, but is not limited to, Will Ferrell, Ben Stiller, Vince Vaughn and Owen and Luke Wilson. The latest Frat Pack film is the figure skating ditty "Blades of Glory," starring Ferrell and Jon

Heder, and produced by Stiller. Unsurprisingly, the film runs like an extended episode of a favorite brainless sitcom: fast, shallow and, most importantly, instantly gratifying.

Ferrell, as Chazz Michael Michaels, and Heder begin as rivals. Michaels' skating represents fire — on the ice, he is emotional, unconventional and uses his sex appeal to draw in fans and high scores. Heder, whose acting can't stray far from the stale bread and butter that was "Napoleon Dynamite," plays Jimmy MacElroy, the ice to Michaels' fire due to his technical skating and statuesque personality. After their heated rivalry leads to their banishment from competition, a loop-hole is found: Michaels and MacElroy can perform as pairs. And while there are speed bumps, their skating improves, as does their relationship.

This is where the fun comes. Directors Will Speck and Josh Gordon are smart enough

to know the pacing of a film such as this is the No. 1 priority. Too often, dumb-funny films are bogged down by ill-advised plot turns, but not with "Blades of Glory" — the film is roughly 90 minutes and frequently stays on track, most likely because of the strong supporting cast.

The Van Waldenbergs, the brother-sister pair and main competition for Michaels and MacElroy, are played with pinpoint hilarity by Will Arnett ("Arrested Development") and Saturday Night Live's Amy Poehler, while Fire and Ice's choreographer is played by the always-consistent Romany Malco. While Ferrell and Heder will receive the comedic spotlight, it's these characters that make the film truly funny.

This only accentuates the film's gift and curse — Ferrell. Many scenes feel as if the directors allowed Ferrell free reign to ad-lib whatever was on his mind. On paper, this seems like a fine idea, as it's the what-will-he-say-next type of comedy Ferrell prefers. But he's a better actor than even he admits (proven by his heart-breakingly funny lead role in "Stranger Than Fiction").

Ferrell is at a crossroads. His left-field, talking head approach is waning, as his characters are having trouble carrying films ("Anchorman" or even his guest spot in "Wedding Crashers"). Luckily for Ferrell, "Blades of Glory" is a team effort and his support brought their bats. The film's efficiency lies in its simplicity — the jokes come fast, not giving the audience time to second guess what's funny and what isn't. But the Frat Pack, especially Ferrell, should be concerned — the audience can only bear the same punchline so many times.

— Wesley Case, wescase@udel.edu

In search of a clean soul

"Cassadaga"
Bright Eyes
Saddle Creek
Rating: ★★★★★ (out of ★★★★★)

According to Cassadaga.com, the town of the same name is located 45 minutes northeast of Orlando. In the Web site's "History" section, it reads, "This is a place that's out of the main stream, a place to relax and get back in touch with yourself." Or in simpler terms, it's a spiritual haven for those in search of assistance from "America's finest psychics."

Conor Oberst, Omaha's often-lauded, 27-year-old singer-songwriter behind Bright Eyes, must have inhaled too many Manhattan fumes. After his New York love letter, 2005's "I'm Wide Awake, It's Morning" and the electronically-spastic "Digital Ash in a Digital Urn," Bright Eyes returns with "Cassadaga" — a fully realized and satisfying album that is unafraid not only to ask far-reaching questions, but to live with its gray uncertainty.

Oberst isn't afraid to attack religion (the single "Four Winds") or war ("No One Would Riot For Less"), but mostly, the battle is within himself. Throughout "Cassadaga," Oberst sings like a nomad blindly walking to nowhere, all in search of something intangible. So then where is Oberst's source of disenchantment?

It could be the bad taste left in the singer's mouth from his high-profile relationship with actress Winona Ryder (Oberst sings on "Classic Cars," "If I get out of California, I'm going back to my home state / To tell them all that I made a mistake.") or his yearning for another woman (the gorgeously sweeping "Make a Plan to Love Me"). But it doesn't add up — this isn't the same sad-faced teenager writing pathetic break-up songs (2000's "It's



Courtesy of Amazon.com

Cool, We Can Still Be Friends") in his parents' basement. Apparently Oberst isn't sold either — he sings "Oh, I've made love, yeah, I've been fucked, so what?" on "Hot Knives."

While the songs are immediately beautiful (long-time Bright Eyes producer Mike Mogis is a likely reason), it's the tracks' desires for something greater than instant pleasure that solidifies "Cassadaga's" excellence.

The last two songs at least offer a shed of light: "I Must Belong Somewhere" is Oberst scribbling to leave things, both serene ("Leave the ocean's roar in the turquoise shell") and societal ("Leave the poor black child in his crumbling school"), behind only because they must, without explanation, have a place on earth. If "Somewhere" is Oberst's valiant attempt at reason, then closer "Lime Tree" is his acceptance of incomprehension. After a friend's abortion, Oberst is left with no answers but feels content by the song's end: "I felt lost and found with every step I took," proving that cleansing can only occur when you're ready for it.

— Wesley Case, wescase@udel.edu

"Timbaland Presents: Shock Value"
Timbaland
Blackground / Interscope
Rating: ★★ (out of ★★★★★)

Talk about a mess. There's no question whether Timbaland, the producer responsible for shape-shifting the Hip-hop and pop music worlds for more than a decade, is capable of crafting hits. He helped launch the careers of Justin Timberlake, Nelly Furtado, Missy Elliott and Aaliyah, but his latest solo album, "Timbaland Presents: Shock Value" proves he should stick to other artists rather than himself.

There are a lot of problems and not much redemption. The songs, although many feature the trademark manic-Timbaland sound, come off as lazy and trite. To boot, the artists featured on the album are past their prime (Dr. Dre rapping? Magoo?) or don't bring their A-

games (50 Cent, Missy Elliott). And let's forget about the unfortunate rock pairings (Fall Out Boy, She Wants Revenge).

Even when Timbaland and Co. hit the mark ("Give It To Me" with Timberlake and Furtado), it's quickly forgotten. But that's what happens when Mr. SexyBack sings a few songs later, "Bounce like your ass has the hiccup."

— Wesley Case



Courtesy of Amazon.com

"Santi"
The Academy Is...
Atlantic
Rating: ★★ 1/2 (out of ★★★★★)

It seems bands just aren't content with their sound for too long anymore. Artistic growth is encouraged, but when you're The Academy Is., the drawing board could have waited.

After releasing its insanely catchy debut in February 2005, "Almost Here," it seemed the Chicago act was destined for TRL stardom. But when it didn't come, the boys filled their sugar-induced cavities and replaced them with a straight-ahead rock record that yields

mixed results.

When the boys allow their former selves to peak through (the adrenaline-soaked "Same Blood,"

"We've Got A Big Mess on Our Hands"), the record soars. But when the group's new influences take over (the rockabilly-infused "Bulls in Brooklyn"), the actual players are lost in the shuffle. "Santi's" saving grace: "Everything We Had," the group's stab at a ballad, gushes with melodrama and would fit perfectly on a Hollywood

soundtrack. Although it misses, "Santi" offers a sense of optimism for the band's future.

— Wesley Case



Courtesy of Amazon.com

delaware UNdressed The rules of ex-attraction



Laura Beth Dlugatch
Columnist

Exes are exes for a reason. Once the flame is put out, both partners go back on the market, right?

Hell yeah — unless your friend was in that relationship.

Hooking up with your friend's ex could either be breaking every cardinal rule of friendship or just getting a little taste of your friend's former flame. So can you do it?

That's the problem with getting involved with your friend's ex, there isn't one simple answer. There are too many variables that go into the equation that will decide if you're doing something right or wrong.

I mean, you could just come out and ask. That, of course, seems like the most obvious and easiest way. But let's be real, you already know if your friend is still into his or her ex or not.

It's one thing for friends to admit they're still not over their ex, but it's another for them to admit they're holding onto a relationship that's over.

Even though you

asked, you may not get the real answer, which could later put your friendship on thin ice.

First, figure out if you can get a little taste without losing your friend. What kind of friend is this? Is it a best friend or is this one of those say-'What's up'-to-at-the-bar type of friend?

Assuming you're a smart college student, you already figured that out and you already know that it's so much worse

Tell me what you think:

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E-mail Laura:

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to step on the toes of your best friend rather than just an acquaintance.

Now, how about their actual relationship. Long, short, fought a lot, just a hook up, high school lovers? All that goes into the equation, too. If it was one of those freshman year hook ups and you're now a senior, you have better odds of not hurting your friend compared to if their relationship ended before Spring Break and now you want a piece.

But if it was one of those long, so-in-love relationships where they were "that couple" on campus, I wouldn't rec-

ommend getting into something like that.

Neither does Danielle, a senior.

"I've been dating Mike for four years," Danielle says. "If we broke up tomorrow and any of my friends tried to date him, I'd probably kill them. Well, not really, but you know what I mean."

You also have to consider the actual break up and who did the breaking up. If it was a messy break-up or your friend was dumped, don't add anymore weight to their already-crushed heart.

However, if they are real exes — like completely-moved-on-and-don't-get-nervous-butterflies-in-their-belly-when-they-see-each-other exes — your green light is flashing.

If you decide to go ahead and get some of what your friend used to have, be up front and honest about it. You don't want your friend finding out through the grapevine that you and his or her ex are getting close behind their back.

But if that's not your style, it's easier to ask for forgiveness than ask for permission.



fashionforward

Fashion philanthropy

For me, fashion is a selfish hobby. Aside from simply covering my body, I buy things that make me look and feel good. So it's nice when fashion can incorporate a little selflessness once in a while. Retailers offer "a-portion-of-the-proceeds" products all the time and they're smart for doing so

— stores look like martyrs and consumers feel like good Samaritans. But when charity becomes trendy, non-profits might benefit from people who know little about their cause.

But Anna Ciulla, chair of the medical technology department, says the reason you buy a charity product doesn't matter — what matters is that you bought it at all.

Ciulla sells beaded jewelry made by women of the Acholi tribe in Uganda and sends the profits back to their country. Members of the tribe were forced to relocate after the nation's civil war and, as a result, they live in life-threatening poverty. Ciulla says some people buy the jewelry specifically to support the cause, while others purchase it because they like the way it looks — and either reason is just fine with her.

"When the general public sees them they find them interesting and intriguing," Ciulla says. "But when people hear the story, it opens up their hearts even more so."

She says jewelry sales and other fundraising efforts in the past year have put 32 children in school. Ciulla says she sells the jewelry at craft shows, church fairs, lunches and by appointment.

The problem with charity however, is that it can demoralize people. Ciulla says of the Ugandan tribe, "They don't want a hand out." That's part of the reason why she and her niece make it a point to pay the Acholi women for their work, not just throw money at them. Big corporations can be guilty of the latter but, at some point, large donations are needed.

Take M·A·C Cosmetics for example. Since 1994, its VIVA GLAM lipstick line has raised more than \$86 million for the M·A·C AIDS Fund, an organization that supports people living with HIV and AIDS. Lipstick doesn't bear a brand name when you wear it, so VIVA GLAM supporters aren't advertising their charity as trendy — unlike the Bono's brainchild, PRODUCT (RED).

The (RED) campaign enlists major brands to sell a special product or line of products and donates 40 to 50 percent of the proceeds to the Global Fund, which provides treatment, counseling and testing for people in Swaziland and Rwanda. (RED) items are easily identifiable by their candy-apple hues or catchy Gap screen-prints like "ADMI(RED)" or "EMPOWE(RED)."

Gap made a globally-responsible move by employing workers in the African country of Lesotho to produce its PRODUCT (RED) T-shirt, made of 100 percent African cotton, according to the Gap Web site. The workers in Lesotho will receive wages, which will go into the economy and potentially do greater things than humanitarian aid could do alone.

The partnership between charities and retailers is a good solution for now. The non-profits get greater exposure and monetary support from people who wouldn't ordinarily get involved, retailers profit from increased foot traffic and hard-core advocates get to support their cause. But retailers should follow Ciulla's and Gap's lead by trying to invigorate the economies of impact countries instead of dumping money in their coffers.



Susan Rinkunas
Columnist

— rinkunas@udel.edu

concertspotlight Dancefloor euphoria

Girl Talk

April 6, 2007

The Ottobar - Baltimore, Md.

Gregg Gillis, the mastermind behind Girl Talk, is leading a double life. Last year, he revealed to *Pitchforkmedia* that he was a biomedical engineer by day and a performing artist by night. What Gillis does is simple and complex — he takes Top 40 radio hits and meticulously blends, crushes and pulverizes them into brand new compositions. Gillis' results are some of the most thrilling party music ever created.

His latest album, the masterwork "Night Ripper," fuses classic, universal pop and rock songs with contemporary Hip-hop choruses and verses. The album opener, "Once Again," pairs the Ying Yang Twins' "Wait (The Whisper Song)" with The Verve's "Bittersweet Symphony" only to transition to Noel Gallagher's acoustic strumming on Oasis' "Wonderwall" under Slim Thug's deep Southern drawl on "I Ain't Heard of That." This isn't child's play — Gillis isn't a "mashup artist" or a DJ (his T-shirts say so), but rather an artist creating something brand new with established material.

Gillis, who is a white, skinny, gyrating machine on stage, sold out Baltimore's Ottobar Friday night. The club is quaint — tiny floor space, small balcony area — and was a perfect house for the dance party waiting to commence. After drinking beer and dancing on stage to opener Dan Deacon, Gillis came out and tested the levels of his laptop. He quickly excused himself, telling the crowd he had to stare at himself in the mirror and think about what his life had become.

He didn't need much time. Within five minutes, Gillis transformed into the mythological Girl Talk and was on stage in Wayfarers and a gray hooded sweatshirt.

"Baltimore, are you with me," Gillis screams into a microphone.

Then the party began: an a capella version of Rich Boy's "Throw Some D's" hit the speakers over a thumping bass line. The crowd, a mixed bag of hipsters, drunk girls and everyone in between, imploded — from the top of the balcony to the bottom of Ottobar, not one person stood still. The dancing ranged from male-to-female grinding, stereotypical ecstasy-induced spazz outs and general rug cutting. It wasn't long before the party goes rushed the stage to dance and sweat next to Gillis.

This is the beauty of Girl Talk live. While concerts are exciting because it's an opportunity to see an artist perform his or her craft, a Girl Talk show is more stripped down — the audience is just there to dance. There were points where the show resembled an epic, Hollywood-produced house party rather than a small club in Maryland. So while it's hard to explain what Gillis does, the results are simple: those in attendance Friday lost themselves for approximately 75 minutes. They lost themselves in Biggie's "Juicy" verse over Elton John's "Tiny Dancer" piano part. They lost themselves in Three 6 Mafia's "Stay Fly,"



Courtesy of Joseph Mohan of specificobjects.net

Kansas' "Carry On My Wayward Son," Clipse's "Wamp Wamp" and The Breeders' "Cannonball," to name a small fraction of the samples used. It was a clear reminder of the power of music and the unadulterated joy that comes with it.

All credit is due to the half-naked, drenched-in-sweat man behind the laptop. Gillis is the ringleader while the rest of us dance, and he likes it that way.

"Any night can be the best show ever," he says repeatedly.

At least for that hour-plus in the smelly, disgusting pit of the Ottobar, it was the perfect battle cry.

— Wesley Case, wescase@udel.edu

Choosing charity over celebration

Junior attends MTV's Alternative Spring Break

BY ANDREW ABEL

Staff Reporter

While most college students spent their Spring Break at beach resorts or relaxing and enjoying their free time, junior Amanda Williams spent the week learning how to put a roof on the house of Mrs. Marva, a hurricane victim living in Louisiana.

"I could build you a roof now if I needed to," Williams says.

Williams, a 21-year-old education major, was part of a four-week project hosted by the United Way, aimed at helping those who are struggling in the wake of Hurricanes Katrina and Rita.

Williams has been involved in numerous community service projects in the past, but she has never taken one on as daunting as this.

After seeing an advertisement on MTV, Williams went online and filled out an application to be part of its "Alternative Spring Break."

She didn't think anything would ever come of it, but when she found out that she had been chosen out of the thousands of applicants, she says she was ecstatic.

"It was so awesome," says Susan Williams, Amanda's mother. "I couldn't wait to tell all my friends and family. We were so proud."

MTV picked 100 people for each of the four weeks the program ran. Williams chose to attend the fourth and final week because it coincided with the university's Spring Break. After paying her airfare, she flew to Louisiana to meet a group of 60 strangers.

Williams' group arrived at Lake Charles in Calcasieu Parish. Just 20 minutes to the north is Cameron Parish, an area located on the beach that was hit hard by Hurricane Rita approximately four months after Katrina. Cameron Parish doesn't get as much attention as other areas because there were no casualties, but the devastation was just as bad, Williams says.

Because of Hurricane Rita, children were kept out of school for four to five months. The Marsh Bluff Middle School was almost obliterated. All that remains is the gym. However, a new middle school has been built since then and the old one has been renovated and currently houses volunteers and aid workers such as Williams.

"Essentially there are two big rooms lined with bunk beds," she says. "One for the guys and one for the girls."

Williams spent the week getting up at 6 a.m., eating breakfast, traveling to the work site and working from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. She ate a bagged lunch in the middle of the day, but this was no picnic.

With alligators disoriented

from the flood waters dotting the sides of the road like speed bumps and small lizards running across white picket fences, Williams beared the 80 to 90 degree temperatures. The Louisiana humidity didn't drop below 92 percent either, Williams says.

"It's like walking through a pool the whole time," she says.

Everyday the people of Louisiana can be seen picking up debris and clearing yards. Many residents are forced to live with relatives, crowding into houses that haven't been destroyed or had their foundations carried off into the bayou. Others live in trailers parked in the front lawn while rebuilding their homes or waiting for government aide.

After seeing the state of disarray Louisiana was experiencing, Williams mustered her energy to make Mrs. Marva's house the way it was before the hurricanes.

"At week one, her house was nothing more than a concrete slab," she says. "But now it actually looks like a house."

In four weeks, contractors, plumbers, electricians and Williams' female crew managed to set Mrs. Marva's life back in the right direction.

Williams, with the help of two other girls, tarred and shingled the roof. Even though the sun was hot, knowing that someone in need is benefiting from the work made it so much better, she says.

But waiting for an advertisement to flash on the television screen is not the only way to get involved.

Junior Alexa Keane, a 20-year-old medical technology student made the trip to Louisiana through her church group. She is part of the Baptist Student Ministry and, like Williams, Keane is no stranger to community service. Once a week she spends her day at the Emmaus House, a homeless shelter in Newark.

Keane spent her week in Louisiana gutting houses and treating them for mold. She helped fix up the house of a nun who runs an after-school program. Keane is lucky enough to have helped out last year as well, so she can now see all of the progress that has been made. Last year she cleaned and gutted a house owned by a woman named Mrs. Betty, and this year she returned to see the significant improvements made since then.

"It's very rewarding to see a house at its worst and then to return a year later and see how much better it looks," she says.

Williams says, "It feels good helping people that don't have the advantages I do. If everyone took a week of their time to volunteer, there would be a lot less to complain about."

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Lupe Fiasco



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April 5th

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Directions

From the north: Take I-95 South to Delaware Exit 1-B; Route 896 North. Continue straight approximately one mile on 896 North. The Bob Carpenter Center will be on the right, across the street from the T.G.I. Friday's/Sleep Inn/Embassy Suites.

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COMING SOON TO THEATRES EVERYWHERE



Courtesy of Tiffany Scott

Tiffany Scott poses with actor Will Ferrell (middle), and fellow skating doubles Patrick Hancock (left) and Ethan Burgess (right).

Senior skates her way to Hollywood

BY MAGGIE SCHILLER

Sports Editor

While several university students saw "Blades of Glory" in theaters over Spring Break, senior Tiffany Scott, an applied nutrition major and coach of the university intercollegiate skating team, traveled to Los Angeles for the premiere of the movie, since she appears as the skating double for actress Amy Poehler.

In the movie, Poehler plays the competition for the two male pair skaters, Will Ferrell and Jon Heder.

Scott, a 29-year-old former Olympian, says because she is well known in the skating world, the movie choreographer suggested she play the role because of her physical resemblance to Poehler.

"They called me out last January and asked if it was something I would be interested in doing," Scott says. "I flew out to get measurements and to make sure Amy and I were a physical match. I went out again at the end of February for a week to meet the other skaters and the choreographer. In July, I went for seven weeks to film the movie."

Scott says although the days she went in to work were long — sometimes 14 to 15 hours at a time — it was interesting to see how the filmmaking process worked.

"When I went out in July, we practiced with the actors and had to study them and see how they moved and learn to move in a similar way, so that replacing our faces would be easy," she says. "They were able to take the skaters' faces off and put the actors' faces on, which was awesome."

Scott says there are parts in the movie where she cannot tell if it is her or Poehler, because it is Poehler's face but her own body skating.

While being able to spend seven weeks with actors like Ferrell and Poehler may seem unreal to several students, Scott says from being

around famous skaters in the past, she did not get too star-struck.

"I told them I admired their work," she says. "Then they would say to me, 'What! What about you? I can't believe how good of a skater you are.' So it was really cool that they felt the same way about my skating as I felt about their work."

Scott says they were all very down-to-earth and easy to talk to. She says she never got the sense they were uppity.

"All the actors are really funny in real life, too," she says. "Will is so talented. When you see him in the movies he is usually adding and coming up with his own lines. I don't know where he comes up with the stuff but they will film him and let him go off."

For an athlete who is used to being in the spotlight, the movie premiere was a different experience for Scott, as she says no one even knew who she was.

"I liked that I was able to sit back and take it all in," she says. "I liked not being in the spotlight, but taking part in it."

Scott says there was a blue carpet instead of a red one, to symbolize ice.

"I got to walk down the carpet, which was pretty neat," she says. "There were celebrities everywhere, and I was like, 'Whoa, I am among all of these famous people.' It was nice to feel like a nobody."

Aside from her movie appearance, Scott is a well-known figure in the skating world, competing in the 2002 Winter Olympics and, with skating partner Phillip Dulebohn, was the 2003 United States National Champion, six-time National medalist and went to the World Championships four times.

Scott says she would recommend "Blades of Glory" to all university students.

"It was so hilarious just to see Will on skates in those tight little outfits," she says. "I've seen it twice so far and I want to see it again."



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Allow the fee to be billed to your student account if permit registration is done early

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If you plan to live on campus next year, you do not need to know your residence hall assignment to register for a permit. Lots are assigned after housing assignments are completed.

Parking Services strongly encourages students living on campus to purchase permits for the FULL ACADEMIC YEAR to retain the closest lots and be placed in the queue for even closer lots as they become available. Lot availability is very limited by spring registration with most new lot assignments being issued for lots 1 and 88 (by the field house).

If you plan to commute next year, purchasing your permit for the full year is more cost-effective than purchasing for shorter periods of time.

If you plan to get a new car, register any family vehicle and update your web registration by August 1. If your car purchase is after August 1, contact Parking Services by e-mail at parking@udel.edu with the new vehicle information, and we will update your permit for you.

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Summer Session begins May 22

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Beer pong tables become 'a pride thing'

BY CORINNE CLEMETSEN

Entertainment Editor

No matter how decorated and clean students keep their living spaces, one thing can shout, "We have a nice place" better than anything else — the beer pong table.

Beer pong tables have become a status symbol across campus. Every party has a beer pong table. Even residence halls frequently utilize the easily-removable closet doors. Some are slabs of plywood resting on trash cans, some are unhinged bedroom doors or extra-thick cardboard, but others are painted, signed, decorated with enormous pictures and bordered with flashing lights — all saying something about the people and the house.

Senior Mike Bleinberger joined the world of beer pong artistry when he and three friends started a company called Last Cup Design last June. He says tables, although mainly used for the game, are now used as a form of expression.

"It says a lot, just like anything else now," Bleinberger says. "It says something about who you are. Like fraternities having tables with letters on it — that represents you and you represent that."

Last Cup Design began when friends noticed the expertise involved in the making of the table for their neighboring houses on Cleveland Avenue and asked the foursome, including Bleinberger, for help in making their own. The new business partners have gone on to help approximately 60 other clients.

The company quickly acquired its small business license and Limited Liability Company status, which Bleinberger says is for "if things break." The license hangs on the wall in the foyer of one of the two neighboring

houses — a proud display of the guys' part-time jobs.

Their communal table is lined with Astroturf and hangs by blue ropes at the front doors on the porch of their self-proclaimed "one house with two doors." The simple green table can be raised and lowered for weekends and casual weekday games, stowing away perfectly in the ceiling of the front porch when it's not in use.

With a pull of a string and the assistance of a roommate, Bleinberger lowers the green table with triangle cutouts at each end for the perfect cup placement.

"Hey! You guys playing later?" shouts a neighbor as he eyes the table that sways back and forth.

"Yeah, maybe later," replies a roommate with a shrug and a laugh.

Although expression and art are major components to an admirable beer pong table, convenience is another important asset in having a table worth

gossip.

Junior Lee Millstone, after realizing his talent in building when he constructed a bar for friends and received beer as payment, started his own one-man business. He designed a table that is connected to the wall — folding out with the pull of a string for game time and folding back together and resting up against the wall and out of the way when it's not needed.

Unlike Last Cup Design, when Education Essentials — the name Millstone gave his work for easy word-of-mouth advertising and a title for his self-made business cards — makes a table, it's left unpainted and completely customizable.

"I don't paint them," he says. "I think that's what people like. People want to paint their own table."

Senior George Jefferson and junior Ashleigh Walsh have done just that, and taken the idea of customization to the next level.

Jefferson's table is a replica of the university's basketball court in

the Bob Carpenter Sports building — down to the precise wood pleating and hand-painted YouDee emblem.

"It's a pride thing. We take special care of this table as you can see. No dust," Jefferson says, referring to the extra bed sheet used to cover the table when it's not in use.

Jefferson says when they first finished the table after a "ridiculous" amount of time and hard work, they were offered \$400 for it. Although they only paid approximately \$150 for wood, paint and other materials, he says the amount of hours in labor and emotional attachment couldn't amount to any monetary value.

"During parties I'm always around the table like, 'Get that beer can off of there,'" Jefferson says with a semi-joking, mostly-serious, don't-mess-with-my-table attitude.

Walsh's table is nothing less than what she calls the "extreme" example of beer pong table art. Plexiglas covers the Vegas-themed table containing dice, cards, \$100 bills, a roulette wheel centerpiece and the phrases "Hey there Big Spender" and "Are you feeling lucky?" in ironed-on lettering. All of this is surrounded by a string of flashing white lights and held up by stacked green, white and red poker chips.

Walsh says there's no ceiling to creativity with the beer pong table obsession.

"I love it," she says. "I guess it's because in a college apartment, what else can you show off, you know? Especially at a party — a lot of people have other nice things like guys having huge TVs, but at a party you don't really see that stuff. Especially at a party when it's dark in here, you can still see the lights going. I think it's also become like a competition — everybody wants to have the nicest one."



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Monday, April 16, 2007

Bob Carpenter Sports/Convocation Center

12- 3:30pm (meet the employers); 3:30-5pm (recruiters have the option to stay to conduct interviews)

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AFLAC	Enterprise Rent-A-Car	Navigators Insurance Company	Southwestern Industries Inc.
AIG American General	Erickson Retirement Communities	Nucar Connection Auto Group	Steve & Barry's University Sportswear
Amazon.com	Fastenal	New Castle County Government	Supreme Court of the U.S. Police
American Assn for Cancer Research	FBI	New York Life Insurance Co - DE/NJ	Synergy Direct Mortgage
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Aramark- Higher Education	Glen Mills Schools	Northwestern Mutual Financial	Tyson Foods Inc.
Aramark Sports and Entertainment	Happy Harry's, A Walgreen Pharmacy	Network-The Eady Financial Group	United States Marine Corps
Babies R Us	HealthCore	Nucar Connection Auto Group	University Directories
Baltimore Country Club	Hertz Equipment Rental	Oak Ridge Institute for Science and	U.S. Secret Service
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Barclaycard US	HostMySite.Com	On Assignment	Vanguard
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Blinds To Go	ICG Commerce	Pepco Holdings, Inc	Verizon
C4ISR Fort Monmouth	ICON Clinical Research	Peri Software Solutions	Volunteer Fireman's Assn/ Townsend Fire Company
Career Builder.com	ING Direct	PFPC	Waddell & Reed, Inc.
Cecil County Public Schools	Integra Realty Resources	Petsmart	Waste Management
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SPRING CAREER WEEK EVENTS

April 10-16, 2007

Don't miss these exciting career events – there's something for everyone!

–All programs are held at 401 Academy Street unless noted otherwise. –

TUESDAY, APRIL 10

Careers in Business for Non-Business Majors,
12-1pm

Whatever your major, the world of business welcomes you!

eRecruiting Orientation, 2-2:45pm

Get registered with Career Services to learn about jobs and internships!

Behavioral Interviewing, 4pm

Come learn about this relatively new technique used by employers.

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 11

Interview Preparation, 2-2:45pm

Learn how to prepare for and excel in an interview.

Job Search for International Students, 3pm

This workshop teaches International Students the skills to find and apply for positions.

Panel Discussion – Careers That Sustain Our World,

3:30-5:30pm,

Gallery, Perkins Student Center

Panelists will discuss careers that contribute to sustainability that provide all of us a better future and for future generations. They will include Dr. Carina Maria Alles (Dupont Company), Rose Garr (Penn Environment), Katy O'Connell (Dept. of Natural Resources), and Dr. Marsha Dickson (UD Fashion and Apparel Studies Department).

Taking a "Gap-Year," 6:30pm

Not sure if you want to take a "serious" job or go to grad school right after college? This program will outline short term options in the U.S. and abroad.

THURSDAY, APRIL 12

Panel Discussion – Careers in Federal Government,

1:30pm,
TUC MPR- B/C

Eight government agencies will briefly define their mission statement as well as give insight into the application process for federal jobs.

Networking Reception: Careers in Federal Government, 3pm,

TUC, Rm. 219

Resumes will be accepted at the Networking Reception that follows the panel discussion.

Developing a 30-Second Commercial, 3-4pm

Learn how to market yourself effectively to employers in 30 seconds.

Networking with Employers at Career Fairs, 4pm

Nervous about what to say to the employers who will be at Monday's Career Fair? Come hear tips from a corporate recruitment specialist about how to prepare, what to wear, and what to say and ask.

FRIDAY, APRIL 13

Employer Resume Reviews, 11am-2pm

Have a corporate recruiter review your resume with you! Call 831-2391 to reserve your appointment.

MONDAY, APRIL 16

Spring Career Fair, 12-3:30pm, Bob Carpenter Sports/Convocation Center

Come meet representatives from over 150 companies/organizations!

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Geis Student Research on Women Conference

April 14, 2007

125/126 Alfred Lerner Hall

University of Delaware

9:00 a.m. Registration and Refreshments, Atrium

9:30 a.m. Welcome, Room 125

Wunyabari Maloba, Assistant Vice President for Affirmative Action and Multicultural Programs and Associate Professor of Black American Studies and Women's Studies, University of Delaware

Social Science Undergraduate Division, Room 125

Moderator: Richie Holland, Women's Studies, University of Delaware

9:40 The Case of the Human Body: Literacy of Gender Signifiers
Bex Lawrence, Temple University

10:00 Black Women and a History of Rape
Shannon Coyne, Saint Joseph's University

10:20 Marxism, Feminism and Their Likely Yet Tense Merger
Lindsay Brooke Melotek, University of Delaware

10:40 To Rule with Men: Women in the American Federal Judiciary
Bill Russo, University of Delaware

11:00 NAFTA: Exploitation of Mexican Women
Katherine Gibson, University of Delaware

11:20 Organizing Wo(men)kers: Improving Transnational Cooperation in the Global Garment Industry to Address the Concerns of Female Workers
Dina Yarnus, Ursinus College

11:40 Towards a Counter-Hegemonic Framework: Studying Women in the Zapatista Movement
Sara Getz, Temple University

Social Science Undergraduate Division, Room 126

Moderator: Carolyn Bitzer, Women's Studies, University of Delaware

9:40 Prostitution in the Netherlands
Kelsey Addey, University of Delaware

10:00 The Need for Renovation: Reforming European Union Policy to Better Address Route Causes of Human Trafficking for the Purpose of Sexual Exploitation
Ashley L. Kobi, Drexel University

10:20 "First World" Sex and "Third World" Bodies: Caribbean Femininity, Eroticism and Internet Sex Tourism
Liz Zadnik, Temple University

Women's Health and Well-Being Division, Room 126

Moderator: Karen Rosenberg, Anthropology and Women's Studies, University of Delaware

10:40 Beyond "Baby Blues": Post-Partum Depression
Kathryn McIntosh, University of Delaware

11:00 Role of PKC and Regulation of Uterine Smooth Muscle Contraction
Amy Servas, University of Delaware

12:00 Lunch and Project Display, Atrium

Social Science, Graduate Division, Room 125

Moderator: Claire Rasmussen, Political Science and Women's Studies, University of Delaware

12:40 Adolescent Inhalant Use: A Gendered Perspective
Paul Ashton, University of Delaware

1:00 United States Policy on the Practice of Female Genital Mutilation
Russell Zehtab-Noghu, University of Delaware

Humanities, Graduate Division, Room 126

Moderator: Anne Boylan, History and Women's Studies, University of Delaware

12:40 What About the Women?: Classes on Women in Today's High Schools
Rebekah Buchanan, Temple University

1:00 "Home Influences" and "Home Joys": American Women in World War I and the Re-creation of America Overseas
Jennifer Vess, University of Delaware

1:20 "A Mediating Force": The Sympathetic White Male in Harriet Jacobs' Incidents in the Life of a Slave Girl
Tatum Petrich, Temple University

1:40 Healing a Woman's Past, Ministering to her Present: Contemporary Children's Biographies and the Construction of Florence Nightingale
Kathleen A. Miller, University of Delaware

2:00 Fairest One of Them All: The Role of Dolls in Beauty Culture in the Works of Morrison, West, Naylor and Shange
Michelle Filling, University of Delaware

2:20 Break

Humanities Undergraduate Division, Room 125

Moderator: Cristina Guardiola, Foreign Languages and Literature, University of Delaware

2:30 Evolution of Women's Sports at the University of Delaware
Lisa Medina, University of Delaware

2:50 Clothing as a Means of Expression: Romaine Brooks, Radclyffe Hall and Cross-Dressing
Katelyn Uehling, University of Delaware

3:10 Poetry as a Means of Expression
Antonia DeLuz, University of Delaware

3:30 Tori Wright, Cindy Sherman and Notions of Spectatorship
Lauren Bradley, University of Delaware

3:50 Reconstructions of Adam's Rib in Contemporary Women's Poetry
Alison Van Buskirk, University of Delaware

Humanities Undergraduate Division, Room 126

Moderator: Ann Green, English and Gender Studies, Saint Joseph's University

2:30 The Bridge between Heaven and Earth: Ecofeminists and Christian Conservatives
Alexandra J. Donargo, University of Delaware

2:50 Scheherazade and the Western Harem
Kate Kiefer, Saint Joseph's University

3:10 Women of Genius: Mabel E. Wotton's and George Paston's Approach to the Female Creator
Rosie M. Seagraves, University of Delaware

3:30 Arm in Arm
Julie Gilbert, Saint Joseph's University

3:50 1001 Nights of Abuse and Survival
Connie Steel, Drexel University

4:15 Closing Remarks and Announcement of Awards, Room 126
Monika Shafi, Director of Women's Studies and Elias Ahuja Professor of Foreign Languages and Literature, University of Delaware

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Friday, April 13
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 Hartshorn Hall Theatre, 7:30

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R sports



CBS's sappy golf coverage alienates young viewers.
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Going pro: Smith drafted in WNBA

Senior guard selected No. 18 by Phoenix Mercury

BY JOE ZIMMERMANN

Staff Reporter

When Tyresa Smith first walked onto the Bob Carpenter Center court a little less than four years ago, she left an impressive trail of high school accolades in her wake. 2003 Delaware State Player of the Year, as selected by Gatorade and the Wilmington News Journal. First team all-state as a junior and senior and a state champion at Polytech High School in Dover.

Still, despite her accomplishments, women's basketball head coach Tina Martin did not think freshman Tyresa Smith was ready for big time college basketball at first.

"A lot of kids come in here and they're not ready for Division I basketball," Martin said. "Tyresa was not ready to compete at that level when she got here."

Oh, how much has changed in four years.

Smith transformed herself from an unsure, lanky freshman into a chiseled, confident, scoring dynamo. In the 2006-2007 season, the 5-foot 10-inch Smith showed she was ready for the national spotlight, totaling 19.8 points, 7.5 rebounds and 2.5 steals per game — leading the Hens to their first NCAA tournament berth since 2001.

Smith's long journey from high school recruit to senior phenom finally paid off when she was selected 18th overall in the 2007 WNBA draft by the Phoenix Mercury on Wednesday.

"She's worked extremely hard to get better and this has been a progress four years in the making," Martin said. "She wanted to take



THE REVIEW/File Photo

Senior guard Tyresa Smith, Delaware's second all-time leading scorer, is the first Hen to make the WNBA.

her game to the next level but she did it. She belongs."

Smith has been on a rollercoaster ride since March 18, when the Hens fell to No. 5 seed Michigan State in the opening round of the NCAA tournament. The star Hen had little time to lament the loss, though.

"Playing in the tournament was a really good experience, but right after the game, Coach Martin said I had a chance to be selected to go to the WBNA pre-draft camp in Cleveland," Smith said.

The camp, which invites the nation's top 40 seniors to work out for WNBA coaches and general managers, serves a similar role as the NFL's Scouting Combine in Indianapolis. While Smith anxiously waited to see if she was selected to go to the camp, Martin already had a good idea that Smith would be invited.

"During the year, several WNBA scouts came to some regular-season games," she said. "I knew there were three scouts at the James Madison game when Tyresa scored 32 points, and that was big because [the Dukes] were nationally ranked at the time."

Martin and her coaching staff tried hard to shield Smith from the WNBA scouts for fear that the added attention would put her off her game. Martin said Smith only

became aware of the professional interest late in the season. Still, the fleet-footed guard was thoroughly shocked when she found out she was invited to play in the March 29-31 camp three days after the Hens loss in the NCAA tournament.

Smith said she was initially fazed by the prospect of competing against the nation's best in front of WNBA brass, but soon found her own groove.

"I was a little nervous going into the camp, but once we got going I settled down," she said. "There were assistant coaches and GM's there to watch us. I had a really great time and it was a lot of fun."

"At the same time, I wanted to show people that I could play with these kids because I felt I had something to prove."

Smith hit a positive chord with many coaches and general managers, especially after she scored 18 points on eight of nine shooting in a scrimmage game.

When she returned from the camp, Smith had just a few days to wait before the WNBA draft.

"Those were such tough days because you're just waiting and waiting for the draft, and it's hard not to think about it," Smith said. "Tuesday night [before Wednesday's draft] I couldn't sleep at all."

Smith would not have to sweat out the draft by herself, though. Martin threw Smith a draft party at Buffalo Wild Wings on Elkton Road. Smith said her family and team were there to cheer her on, as well as news reporters and the men's basketball coaching staff.

She said she was not exactly sure where she would go, but felt she might go to Detroit with the 11th pick or to Minnesota with the 15th selection. When North Carolina's Ivory Latta fell to the Shock at the 11th pick, Smith was bumped out of the first round.

"After the first round was over and they didn't call my name, I wasn't disappointed," she said. "The whole time I was nervous, but I had a feeling I might go at the end of the first round or the beginning of the second so I just had to wait."

Smith eventually landed in Phoenix at the 18th pick, which was a surprise to her because she said the Mercury showed her little interest at the pre-draft camp. Martin said an assistant coach from the Mercury commented to her during the camp how impressed the team was with Smith, but that was the extent of Phoenix's verbal interest.

After her name was called, Smith said the entire restaurant "went crazy" and her mom began to cry. Martin told her after the selection that it could not happen to a better person.

After the draft, Smith talked to the Mercury general manager Ann Meyers Drysdale. Drysdale said she was looking forward to coming out to Delaware to meet Smith and was excited to have her on the team.

Training camp starts April 22. Martin said Smith's work ethic will pay off in the WNBA, but she should also remember Martin's season-long slogan.

"I always say, 'It doesn't matter what's on your shirt, it matters what's in your heart.' And in Tyresa's heart, it's competitiveness."

A Closer Look

QUICK FACTS: TYRESA SMITH

- Started all 32 games during 2006-2007 season, First Team All-CAA and CAA Defensive Player of the Year in each of the past two seasons, led CAA in scoring for '06-'07.
- Averaged 19.8 ppg, 7.5 rpg, shot 44 percent from the field, 73 percent from the free-throw line, 19 total blocks, 82 total steals.
- Team's leading scorer in 26 of 32 games this year, including the last 17 games.
- First Blue Hen ever selected in WNBA Draft, No. 18 overall by the Phoenix Mercury. Will join the Mercury's Diana Taurasi, who led the WNBA in points per game with 25.3 last year.

Transfer's academic past questioned

Marc Egerson's high school grades puts Delaware in national spotlight

BY JASON TOMASSINI
Managing Sports Editor

Despite coming off its worst season in school history, the outlook for the men's basketball team has been unusually sunny so far this off-season. Head coach Monté Ross had enlisted two transfers and four freshman recruits to join the team for his second season at the helm.

But shortly after the season ended, yet another dark cloud moved in to loom over the program.

A March 30 report by Pete Thamel of *The New York Times* indicated one of the Hens' transfers, sophomore forward Marc Egerson from Georgetown, did not meet the NCAA's minimum academic requirements while at McKean High School and Glasgow High School in Delaware.

Because Egerson was unable to graduate from those public high schools, he went to a year of prep school at Lutheran Christian Academy in Philadelphia, a school with suspect academic integrity according to *The Times* report. After graduating from Lutheran, he gained eligibility for the NCAA and was given a scholarship from Georgetown.

The report was published during Georgetown's NCAA Tournament run to the Final Four and put the academic standards of its basketball program, as well as Delaware's, under fire.

Ross said Egerson met all academic requirements while at Georgetown and had no reason to question Egerson's ability in the classroom when recruiting him.

"No favors were done for me, for the basketball program, in regards to Marc," Ross said. "What happened was, he went to Georgetown

University and based on his grades at Georgetown, he was admitted to Delaware."

Egerson could not be reached for comment.

Ross said when recruiting a transfer, high school academic performance does not come into play. He looks at the player's academic standing at his previous university and determines if the athlete could compete in the classroom at Delaware.

"One of the stories that should be written that has not been written is about a young man who did not do well in high school, but turns himself around and got things done at a prestigious university like Georgetown," Ross said. "But, you know what? That will never sell newspapers."

Edgar Johnson, athletic director, echoed Ross' statements, applauding Georgetown for giving Egerson a chance and applauding Egerson for vindicating the institution's judgment and performing well.

Johnson also said it was unfair for *The Times* to leak Egerson's high school transcripts, which reported that he held a 1.33 GPA in core courses and scored in the 600s on the SATs.

"Georgetown University gave an individual a chance and the individual delivered," Johnson said.

As for Lutheran Christian, the school that

put Egerson in question, there are mixed opinions. *The Times* report in February 2006 quoted former Lutheran players saying that they were not expected to take classes and basketball was their only responsibility. On March 5, the NCAA announced it would no longer accept academic transcripts from Lutheran.

Lutheran head basketball coach Darryl Schofield said the NCAA's ruling was a result of *The Times* report and had no merit.

"There was so much made about me and the program that [the NCAA] felt it had to do something," Schofield said. "I'm always made out to be the bad guy. The statements that [*The Times*] took, they took from kids with no character."

He said *The Times* report was published before his evaluation from the NCAA and that he is confident his school has reached an academic status that will result in reinstatement by the NCAA.

Schofield said the school had 35 students before *The Times* report, but now they enroll only 12, nine of whom are basketball players.

The Times reported Lutheran lowered academic standards to lure high-profile basketball players and boosted their grades to make them eligible for the NCAA. The NCAA has a sliding scale for its eligibility requirements: a higher GPA can compensate for a low SAT score.

Schofield said the reports were erroneous and that Egerson, along with his other students, struggled in a public school system low on resources but shined in a more caring environment at Lutheran and at the university level.

"We have no dumb kids, some schools care more than others," Schofield said. "Public school teachers don't care, because of the way the system is. The system is not structured with any discipline."

He said Egerson spent two summers at Lutheran while enrolled at Delaware public schools, which helped him gain admission to Lutheran for a full year after high school.

"Had Marc stayed [at Lutheran], he would've been in a better position, but Marc went back and [the Delaware public schools] let him slide again," Schofield said. "But Marc is a great kid, a kid with a whole lot of character. He comes from a great family."

Schofield said many Division I basketball players have academic records worse than Egerson's records at McKean and Glasgow, but the NCAA and the media turn a blind eye when it comes to players that can generate revenue.

"If a fucking cigarette company comes in [to the NCAA] and says we'll give you \$10 million, they'll run their ass out and tell everybody to smoke," Schofield said. "If the kids are going to make money for them, it's OK, but if the kid isn't going to make money for them, then it doesn't matter."

Egerson is currently enrolled for spring semester at Delaware and will be eligible to play for the Hens when the 2007 Fall Semester concludes.

Check next Tuesday's issue for an in-depth look at recruiting at the university.

"One of the stories that should be written...is about a young man who did not do well in high school, but turns himself around."

— head coach Monte Ross on transfer forward Marc Egerson

NFL Draft watch: charting tight end Ben Patrick

UD All-American meets with Eagles coaching staff last week

BY BRENDAN REED
Sports Editor

If anyone could understand the phrase "calm before the storm" these days, it's Ben Patrick. The former Delaware tight end, projected to be taken on the first day of the NFL Draft (April 28-29, New York City) admits his life has slowed down a bit compared to a few weeks ago when he participated in the NFL Scouting Combine. But for someone who is going through this stressful process, Patrick seems relaxed and prepared to fulfill his childhood dream of playing in the NFL.

"For the most part, the middle of the day is just hanging out with friends," the 6-foot-4-inch 250-pound Patrick said. "Sometimes I go for runs on campus just to change up the scenery, but for the most part it's not too complicated right now."

If it is not too complicated now, it once was. Patrick has spent the past few months with other former college players at the NFL Combine and at their respective Pro Days. At Delaware's Pro Day, held on campus last month, Patrick worked out for NFL scouts, catching balls and performing other football-related drills.

But just because his scout workouts have ended does not mean his personal ones have. Patrick lifts weights every morning from nine to 11. Most

days after his lifting sessions he heads to the football field to sharpen his skills.

"Usually I'll go out to the guy's football practice, watch, and then afterwards I'll run some routes and catch some balls with [Delaware quarterback] Joe [Flacco] and a couple of the other receivers," he said. "I'm training to be ready for football camp instead of specific drills so the training is a little different."

He has now done everything he physically can to impress teams that might think about taking him in the draft. While he cannot run the 40-yard dash or improve his vertical leap, Patrick can improve his stock through personal visits with NFL coaches. Last week, Patrick met with the entire coaching staff of the Philadelphia Eagles. He said the meeting had the dual purpose of allowing the coaches to better assess his character — something that carries a lot of weight in the NFL these days — as well as determine his football IQ.

"I met their entire coaching staff on Wednesday," Patrick said. "Then on Thursday their position coach [Eagles tight end coach Tom Melvin] and I went over some of the things the Eagles do."

It is normal for draft prospects to go on multiple personal visits before the draft and there is no limit as to how many visits players can have. Patrick said his agent lets him know when the visits are, but did reveal he's meeting with the New York Jets tomorrow. Some players projected to go in the top 10 overall can visit as many as 20 teams.

Patrick will undoubtedly meet with more teams before the draft, but for now he said he will spend the next few days on campus and then head down to Atlanta to train with his brother.

"It's a game of speed in the NFL and I'm definitely trying to get faster," he said. "But at the same time, I want to maintain my strength. My brother has a little experience in personal training so hopefully he can help me out."

Part one in a three-part series about Patrick's preparations for the NFL Draft.



Gay athletes still face challenges

Three Hens speak out about dealing with sexuality at UD

BY JOE ZIMMERMANN

Staff Reporter

In the spring of 2003, Andrea Zimbardi was in a position that most college softball players can only dream about: she and the rest of the University of Florida Gators were on their way to qualifying for the NCAA playoffs. Zimbardi, the team's Southeastern Conference honor roll catcher, was a senior and a captain, a former walk-on that had battled through two knee surgeries to win the respect and affection of her teammates.

Zimbardi's senior season would be short-lived, however. She was kicked off the team in March of that year after her coach, Karen Johns, alleged that Zimbardi had started rumors about an assistant coach and about the program. The real reason she was booted from the squad, Zimbardi suspected, was because she was a lesbian. Outcast as a pariah by the devoutly Christian coach, she could only watch from the Gainesville grandstands as her team advanced in the playoffs without her.

Two years, a school settlement and coaching change later, Zimbardi — who came to the university last April to speak about her experiences — has put the past behind her. But her case lingers as a reminder of the hardships that gay athletes continue to face in the 21st century.

While a flurry of gay male athletes have made headlines over the past few years, most notably the mid-February announcement by former NBA player John Amaechi, there have been fewer publicized cases of female athletes coming out. Many of those have been tennis stars, perhaps the most famous examples being Billie Jean King and Martina Navratilova in the early 1980s.

However, for one Delaware athlete, the recent gay revelation of current tennis great Amelie Mauresmo has proved to be inspirational. Senior track and cross country runner Lauren Stephenson views Mauresmo as a personal hero.

"Here is Amelie Mauresmo, the former No. 1 tennis player in the world, and she's tough and muscular," says Stephenson. "And one of her competitors, Maria Sharapova, is about to face her and accuses Mauresmo of being a man when she played, but she stayed strong and did not let it affect her game."

Stephenson is also a gay athlete and is driven by that kind of strength and determination while she rehabilitates from nerve damage suffered last season.

The Long Island, N.Y., native came out to close friends during her senior year in high school and to track teammates during her freshman year at Delaware. For Stephenson, she has faced more challenges in dealing with her injury than as a gay athlete.

"I never felt any kind of pressure as a gay athlete," she said.



Courtesy of Lauren Stephenson

Senior track and cross country runner Lauren Stephenson came out to her teammates freshman year and called it "an extremely positive experience."

"When I came out to my teammates freshman year, no one made a big deal about it, they said 'so what?' I don't feel like I'm defined by my sexuality.

"It was an extremely positive experience and I've been lucky to have not had any bad experiences so far."

Stephenson attributed the lack of problems on her athletic teams to differences between male and female athletes. Females are warmer and seem more accepting than guys, she said, while a typical male athlete is supposed to be manly and macho. If a male athlete doesn't fit that profile, they're stereotyped by teammates as effeminate or gay and won't be considered as strong of a player, she said.

Stephenson also said her lean, fit cross-country runner body does not distinguish her as a lesbian to many people.

"I don't look like a stereotypi-

cal 'butch' lesbian," she said. "In some respects, it's to my advantage so people don't label me as something right off the bat."

Junior Stacey Furtado does not fit the common lesbian stereotype Stephenson references either. The 5-foot 4-inch club basketball point guard said she is all about ball handling on the court, and says many people think that lesbians are not supposed to be quick or agile or have finesse.

Furtado's hero is WNBA great Sheryl Swoopes, the 36-year-old three-time WNBA MVP who came out publicly in October 2005.

After a breakup with her boyfriend, Furtado came out to friends during the summer after her freshman year at Delaware. She claimed she was "still getting used to things" in the fall of her sophomore year at the start of the club basketball season.

"I didn't really make an announcement about [my sexuali-

ty], but I talked about it openly with my teammates," she said. "My teammates were great. Everyone knows about it now, and this year I didn't hide it from the freshmen. A few of the freshmen players are also gay and out about it."

Furtado said perceptions of gay female athletes vary sport-by-sport, but in general it's stereotypically assumed that many female athletes are gay.

"For men, the stereotypes aren't there, unless you count men's figure skating," Furtado said.

The Massachusetts native said her positive experience is most likely due to Delaware's liberal atmosphere. If she went to a school like Brigham Young University (a traditionally Mormon school in Utah), she said, things would probably have been different for her.

Not all Delaware lesbian athletes have had positive experiences coming out and dealing with team-

mates. One member of the women's rowing team who requested to remain anonymous said she has endured both good and bad times since she came out her sophomore year.

"In some sports, it's easier interacting with gay teammates because you're not traveling with them and sharing beds with them," she said. "In rowing, it's different. I don't want to say that some girls are ignorant, but that's what comes to mind when we travel. They're afraid that if we sleep in the same room I'll try to come on to them at night."

While she has many supportive teammates, many others were hostile toward homosexuality before word had surfaced that she was gay.

"My freshman year, before I even realized I was gay, a lot of the girls would talk about how they wouldn't want to live next to a lesbian or raise their kids next to a gay couple," she said. "After my sophomore year, they didn't really talk about it anymore."

She said she is friendly, but distant from most of the team and she's often uncomfortable when she hangs out with teammates socially.

"It's hard to hang out with the girls when we party because a lot of them are just focused on getting drunk and hooking up with guys and going home with guys and I can't relate to that. They see me hanging out with lesbians, so they think, 'If I spend time with her, and she likes girls, will I end up liking girls?'"

The rower said the only way for teams in all sports to accept gay members is through better education.

"Some people are just sheltered and there are things they need to learn," she said.

Education is one of the focuses of HAVEN, Delaware's lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender student organization.

Furtado joined HAVEN in the fall to better connect to other students in Delaware's gay community. She attended the first meeting with a teammate from the club basketball team who joined her to show her support. Since that meeting, she has become increasingly engaged in the organization and often works with Stephenson, the group's vice-president.

Stephenson has been trying to incorporate the Delaware athletic community into more of HAVEN's activities.

"As the vice-president of HAVEN, I'm really pushing for more recognition and awareness of gay athletes in the athletic community," she said. "I would like to do some sensitivity training for coaches and teammates. I want to let people know that being gay does not affect how you play, and some coaches need to understand this."

"I never want to see what happened to Andrea Zimbardi happen here at Delaware."

R Since you've been gone...

A look at Delaware athletics during Spring Break

■ **Men's lacrosse** — The Hens (6-4, 1-1 Colonial Athletic Association) went 1-1 during Spring Break, defeating Hofstra 6-5 on March 24 and losing 12-6 to No. 5 Duke just six days later. After defeating the Pride in its conference opener, Delaware moved up the polls from No. 14 to No. 12, but the loss to the Blue Devils dropped the Hens back to No. 14.

The game against Hofstra snapped the Hens' two-game losing streak and was their 13th win in the last 14 games at Rullo Stadium. The Hens were without senior attackman Cam Howard (knee injury), senior midfielder Jordan Hall (one-game suspension) and junior midfielder Vincent Giordano (foot injury) but were led by sophomore attackman Chris Hichborn who scored two goals. Senior midfielder Dan Deckelbaum extended his point-scoring streak to 17 straight games by adding a goal and an assist.

In Durham, N.C., a slow start resulted in a 12-6 loss to the Blue Devils. Delaware, which has not played Duke since 1989, scored five of its six goals in the final period. The loss to Duke was the third of the season to a top-10 opponent. Freshman Kevin Kaminski and sophomore Nick LoManto each scored twice for Delaware who was down 5-0 after the first period. Hall returned from his suspension and added a goal and an assist while Deckelbaum scored a goal.

Drexel shut out Delaware in the April 7 game's final 21 minutes giving the Hens their second-straight loss. The 7-11 loss had some bright spots as the Hens led in almost every category and Hall's point-scoring streak improved to 23 games and Deckelbaum's moved to 19.

The next game for Delaware is at Rullo Stadium against Towson on April 11.

■ **Women's lacrosse** — The Hens' three wins during spring break helped bring the sub-.500 Hens up to a respectable 5-3 and 1-0 in the CAA. The team, was on a four-game winning streak — its longest since starting the 2000 season 8-0 — was ranked No. 20 in last week's Intercollegiate Women's Lacrosse Coaches Association Top 20 poll. It was the first time the Hens were nationally ranked since May 1, 2005.

On March 23, junior Casey McCrudden scored the 14th hat-trick of her career as the Hens shut out Davidson in the second half, winning 11-3. It was the first time Delaware shut out an opponent for an entire half since 2002.

Prior to its next game, a 16-7 win against Virginia Tech, Delaware

head coach Kim Ciarrocca announced senior co-captain Stephanie McQuade would miss the rest of the season with a torn ACL. Against Virginia Tech, McCrudden and freshman Courtney Aburn each had four goals and two assists. Aburn became the first Delaware freshman since 1993 to tally six points in one game. Flego and sophomore Debbie Sloan each added three goals in the win.

Senior midfielder Katie Muth posted a career-high seven points in Delaware's CAA-opening 16-15 win against Towson on April 1.

Because of their play last week, Muth earned the CAA Player of the Week award and Aburn was named Rookie of the Week — making it the second time in school history Delaware has won both awards in the same week.

The No. 20 Hens beat George Mason 15-11, but lost 19-16 to No. 6 James Madison since Spring Break has ended.

■ **Baseball** — Spring Break for the Hens was a rollercoaster ride, starting out on a high with an 8-7 win over Hofstra, then dipping when Delaware went on a three-game losing streak, peaking again with wins over Delaware State and Georgia State, then crashing with two extra-inning losses to Georgia State.

The Hens (9-16, 5-7 CAA) used a four-run eighth to beat Hofstra in the first game of their series, but lost the next two 5-4 and 16-8. In the top of the ninth of the second game, Delaware shortstop Alex Buchholz turned an unassisted triple play — the ninth triple play in school history. Even though the Hens had six more hits than the

Pride, hitting into four double plays prevented many scoring opportunities. In the final game of the series, Hofstra struck early by scoring nine runs in the first two innings. For the Hens, Scott Shockley and Adam Tsakonas each had three hits and Ryan Jablonski added a home run and three RBI.

In the first round of the Liberty Bell Classic at Bob Hannah Stadium on March 27, the Hens gave up 14 runs over three innings late in the game, as Temple won 18-7. Five Delaware errors led to six unearned runs for the Owls.

A day later, the Hens faced cross-state rival Delaware State. The game was tied 1-1 until Delaware scored two runs in the bottom of the fifth. The Hens scored again in the bottom of the sixth and three more times the next inning,

going on to win 7-1. Delaware third baseman Ryan Jablonski had a career-high four hits.

Scoring two runs in the top of the second inning was enough to give the Hens a 2-1 win against Georgia State on March 30. Delaware pitchers Brent Gaphardt, Chad Kerfoot and David Slovak allowed just one run on five hits while striking out eight. In game two, with the score tied at seven after nine innings, Delaware went ahead by one in the top of the tenth inning. But in the bottom of the tenth, the Panthers answered back with two runs to win the game 9-8. In the rubber match of the series, the Hens were up 7-3 heading into the bottom of the ninth. A two-out grand slam for Georgia State tied up the game and for the second-straight game, the teams were headed for extra innings. In the 13th inning, Georgia State won the game with a walk-off single.

Two days later, Delaware beat La Salle 12-9. The Hens then lost 7-6 to George Mason, but won the next two games 6-2 and 12-0, taking the series.

The Hens are away to Delaware State today at 3 p.m.

■ **Softball** — The Hens went 4-4 during Spring Break. In their first game — a double-header at Drexel — Delaware scored once in the third inning and again in the fifth to cement a 2-1 win. Delaware pitcher Carolyn Sloat went seven innings, giving up just one run on five hits while striking out three. In the nightcap, Drexel scored the winning run in the bottom of the sixth and won 5-4, splitting the doubleheader. The three-game series concluded one day later with Drexel winning 6-5.

The Hens gave up four runs in the bottom of the seventh inning, allowing the Dragons to come from behind and win.

On March 26, the Hens swept Delaware State in a doubleheader. The Hens won the first game 2-1 with the help of strong pitching from Sloat. She went seven innings giving up six hits, one run and struck out five. Sloat's five strikeouts improved her career total to 555 tying her for the school record. In the second game, Delaware scored five runs in the top of the first inning and went on to win 8-0 in six innings.

In a three-game series at Towson, the Hens lost the March 31 doubleheader 1-0 and 3-0, but won the series finale 6-0. Sloat struck out two batters in the first game, giving her the Delaware career strikeouts record with 557. She started the finale and got her 58th win, tying the all-time school record.

In the series against UNC-Wilmington, Sloat got her university-leading 59th career win. The Hens swept the Seahawks 4-2, 5-2 and 9-8.

Delaware's next game is an April 11 home doubleheader against Rider.

— compiled by Mike LoRe

commentary



JASON TOMASSINI

A tradition unlike any other, and let's keep it that way

CBS is lucky I like golf so much.

They are lucky it is one of my favorite sports, they are lucky I am half-decent at it and they are lucky The Masters is one of my favorite weekends of the year. Because for all of the sappy, dramatic dweebery I have to put up with just to watch it, they probably should have lost a viewer by now.

From the floral names given to each of Augusta National's holes, to the broad, borderline-erie smile from Jim Nantz in Butler Cabin at the Green Jacket Ceremony every year, The Masters has cemented itself as the most pretentious event in sports. The fact that I have to capitalize "Green," "Jacket," and "Ceremony," should be proof enough of that.

I understand The Masters is, according to CBS, a "tradition unlike any other," but every tradition is unlike any other, that's what makes it a tradition — it is different from everything else. The Super Bowl is a tradition unlike any other, so is the World Series. Maybe if there were another golf tournament at Augusta National with the best players in the world called "Screw You, This Is The Masters," I could see a reason for CBS pointing it out.

After more than 70 years of the tournament that America loves so much, it should be time for CBS to stop acting like The Masters is some ballet that viewers are privileged to watch. Sure, no matter how they cover the event, CBS is going to get the same ratings, but for us college students who will be watching this tournament for the next 40 years, it's time to tone it down.

I recently found an interview of Jim Nantz conducted before last year's Masters. Even off camera he oozes with sappy, dramatic language. During the interview, it quickly becomes evident there is a reason why Robert Frost did not become a golf announcer, and there is a reason Jim Nantz is not a published poet.

When asked what he first saw at this year's Masters, Nantz's words rivaled Shakespeare's... well, maybe dinner-theater Shakespeare.

The first swing I saw was Ernie Els on the tee at the fourth hole. I was on my way to 15 and detoured over to see Ernie launch a two-iron that seemed to hang in the air for about 45 seconds. Draped against the sky, falling just

beyond the flagstick. Effortless, like everything else he does.

This is not British Literature; in the words of Shooter McGavin, "This is golf!" If Nantz came out to a local municipal course in Newark, would he still be talking like this?

Charles "Chuckwagon" Bratkovski steps onto the tee. His polyester polka-dot shorts are interacting beautifully with the brownish-yellow tee box. He's wearing his Sunday red shirt ... actually I'm hearing from Lamy it's a spaghetti stain, what a fearless competitor. He addresses his glow-in-the-dark ball at the 98-yard par-3 eighth. He hits a high towering shot — like only Chuckwagon can — heading right for the flagstick ... of the 13th hole. Effortless, just like everything else he does, including his job as mall security.

The bottom line is, coverage of The Masters, and golf in general, might be appealing to old farts, but it is alienating the future dads across America.

When the most popular golfer is a young, charismatic black man who appears in Nike commercials, has his own video game and is married to a supermodel, golf should not be restricted to middle-aged executives.

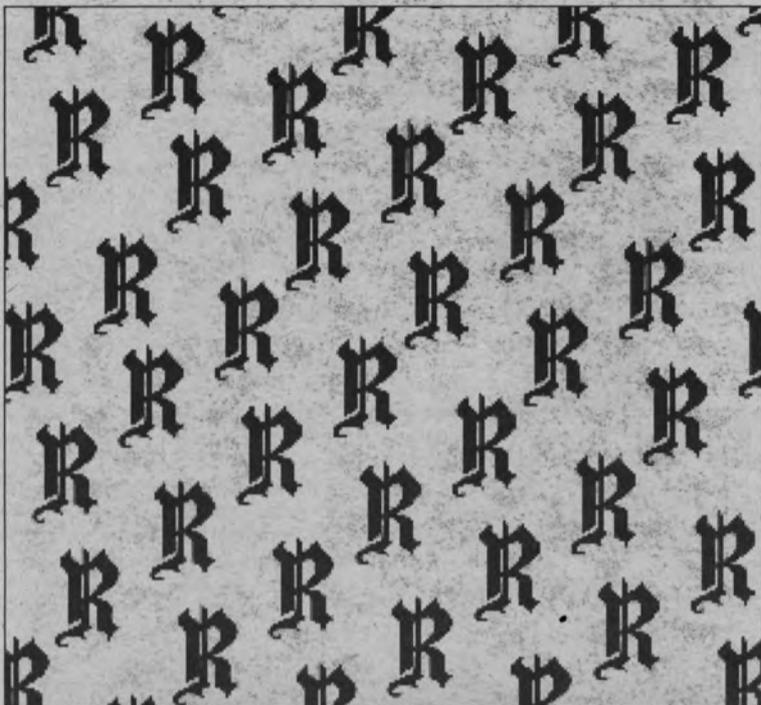
The inability to appeal to a younger audience starts with CBS's broadcast team. None of them are within a John Daly drive of 40 years old, and their inane, technical golf chatter is about as confusing as the IBM business consulting commercials aired during most tournaments. I'm not saying golf coverage should be turned into "Happy Gilmore," but dropping the cheesy puns ("Tiger roars again!") and the goofy jacket ceremonies (sorry, Jacket Ceremonies), would help keep the youth of today from changing the channel.

But possibly the most crucial step — a step that brings up a whole other set of issues in sports — is to add some diversity to golf. A 2003 study by the National Golf Foundation found that 15 percent of white adults were golfers. The NGF also reported that 97 percent of the golf courses that closed last year were public, the only tracks us college kids can afford to play.

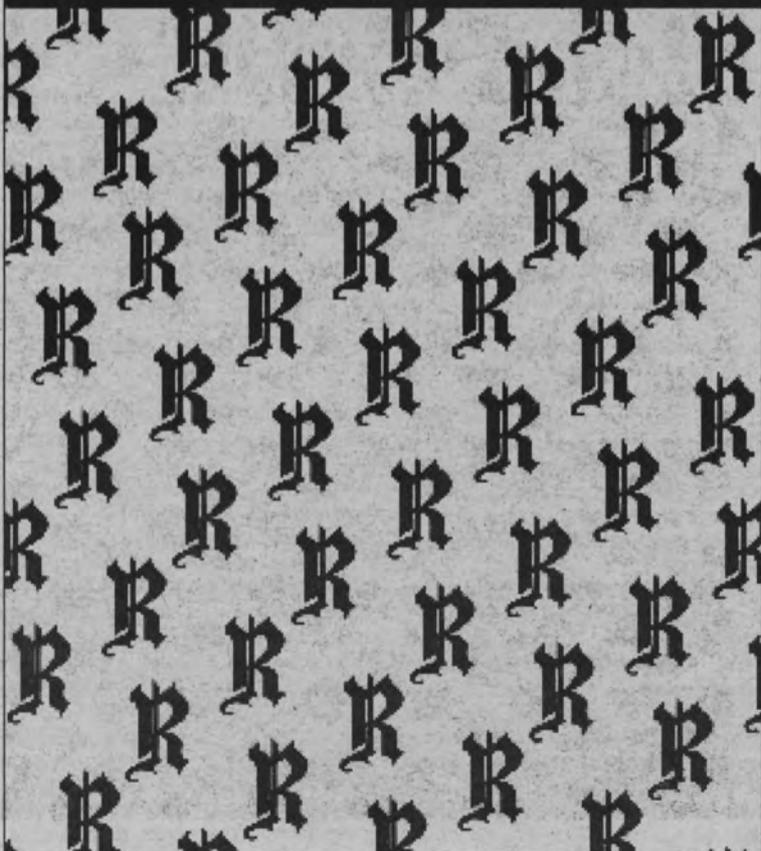
These statistics prove the whole focus of golf is based around old, rich, white men. Augusta National's history of not allowing women or African-Americans into its club screams "old rich white men" like the Republican National Convention. The way CBS covers the Masters and the way the PGA and its players market themselves to big name corporations does nothing to alleviate that bias either.

Once golf can get past these cultural boundaries, it can begin to expand its audience to a younger base. I'm a rare, 22-year-old golf fan. I estimate Tiger Woods has about 12 years left of competitive golf. The clock is ticking.

Jason Tomassini is a Managing Sports Editor at The Review. Send questions, comments and argyle socks to jtom@udel.edu.



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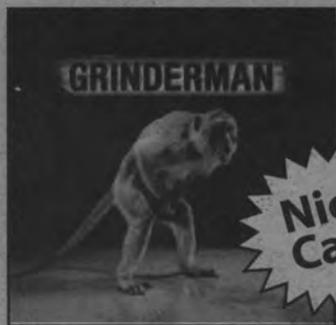
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