

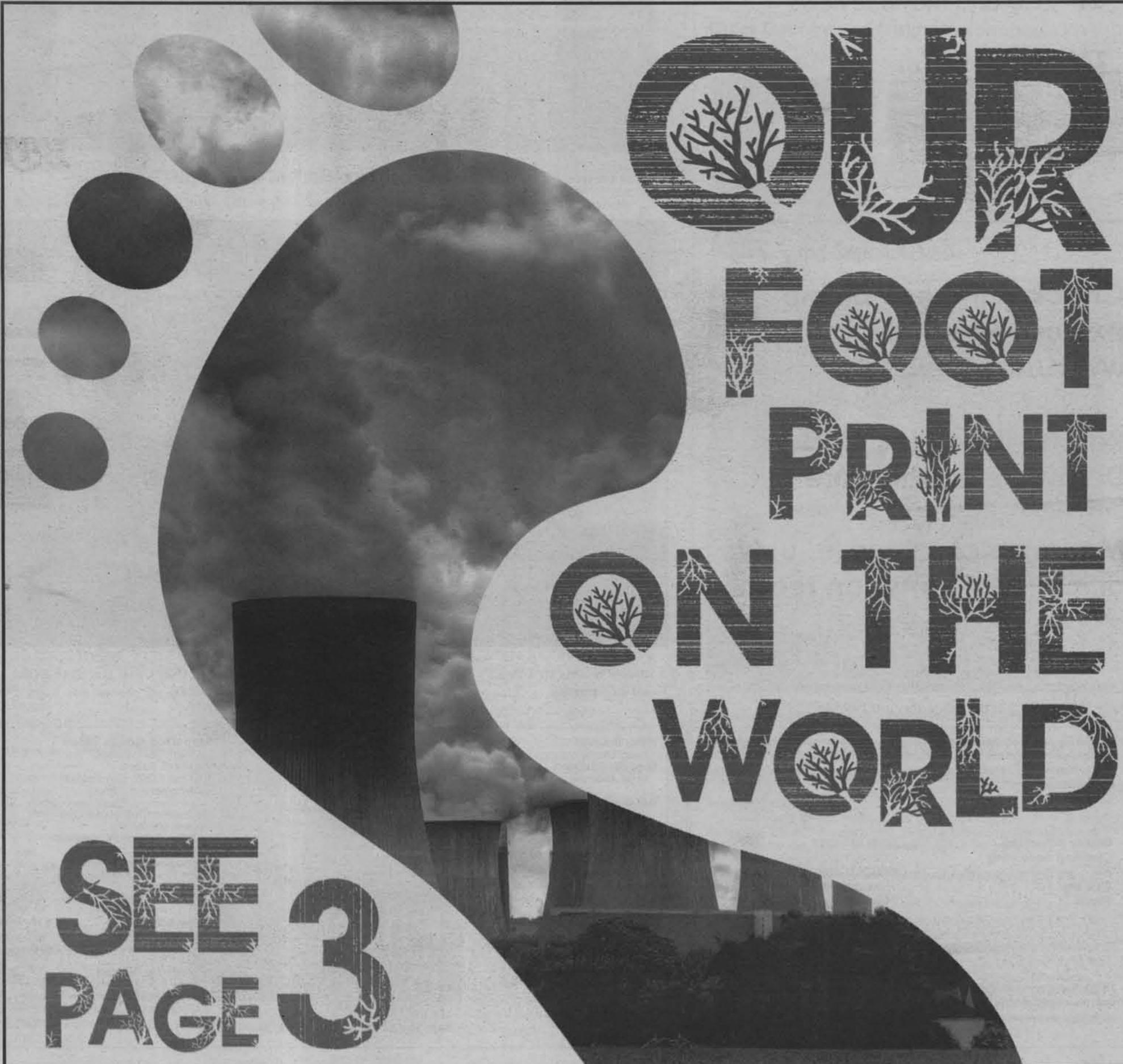
# the review

The University of Delaware's Independent Newspaper Since 1882



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# OUR FOOT PRINT ON THE WORLD

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THE REVIEW/Steven Gold  
Fans brave freezing temperatures to cheer on the football team at the last game of the season.

Check out these online exclusives at [www.udreview.com](http://www.udreview.com)

Racial disparities exist in Delaware health care

Markell picks Roselle, univ. officials for transition team

Cover photo courtesy of Bruno D Rodrigues — <http://www.flickr.co/potos/davipt/299545533/>



THE REVIEW/Justin Maurer  
A student models for UDress's Fall Fashion Event on Saturday.



THE REVIEW/Steven Gold  
The Deltones sing at the Gulf Coast Hurricane Relief Benefit Concert on Sunday.

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# Univ. releases carbon footprint study

BY SAMANTHA BRIX

Staff Reporter

The revealing of the university's carbon footprint sparked interest and input among the community at a town hall meeting Nov. 18, identifying the main sources of carbon emission and areas for reducing energy consumption around campus.

The carbon inventory study by the Carbon Footprint Initiative was supervised by John Byrne, director of the university's Center for Energy and Environmental Policy.

Drew Knab, business and project analyst in the office of the executive vice president, said the study's \$60,000 cost was a gift from the Class of 2008. He said 1,300 students voted on giving their gift to this project, following a trend of the last two classes that donated to environmental projects.

Ralph Nigro, policy fellow at the Center for Energy and Environmental Policy, led a group of students into buildings and heating and cooling plants at the university for two months during the summer. They set out to determine the university's carbon footprint by calculating carbon emissions from energy and to identify opportunities to reduce that carbon footprint.

According to the carbon inventory study, the university's carbon footprint is made up of carbon emissions from buildings, transportation, waste, landscaping and food services. Buildings disproportionately emit the most carbon, making up 78.1 percent of the carbon footprint, or 120,450 metric tons of carbon dioxide.

Nigro said the three biggest energy consumers in any building on campus are heating, cooling and lighting. He said the students he oversaw conducted tedious work, counting light fixtures, recording areas of windows and inspecting heating and cooling equipment.

The students identified two measures to reduce the carbon footprint at the university, one being increasing energy efficiency. The plan includes efficiency upgrades of the university's boilers and energy recovery, which is reusing air that is heated and cooled.

Another way to reduce carbon emissions is using alternative energy sources, like solar and wind. Nigro said these renewable sources are collected through photovoltaics, a technology that generates electricity directly from sunlight. He said although photovoltaics are fairly expensive, when combined with other energy efficiency measurements, the technology can be cost-effective overall.

Nigro said there are approximately 25 distinct measures to reduce and eliminate carbon emissions in university buildings,

mainly targeting windows, lighting and ventilation. New buildings should also be designed with energy-efficient measures from the start, such as window placement for the most effective natural daylight distribution.

"How you orient the building and how you distribute natural light inside is important in new buildings — where you put windows, where you put people with respect to windows," Nigro said.

He said blueprints of new buildings will have these energy-efficient measures, and old buildings will undergo essential changes, but will never be destroyed.

"We wouldn't destroy old buildings for the purpose of putting in energy efficiency," Nigro said. "Those buildings are part of the university's heritage."

Nigro said the university will also implement smaller measures to mitigate energy use, such as monitoring vending machines. He said vend misers turn off the lights and lowers the temperatures of vending machines when they are not being used, which reduces power consumption.

"These things seem trivial, but with hundreds of vending machines, the little things add up," he said.

The carbon study also dissected transportation, the second largest contributor which makes up 21.5 percent of the footprint. Nigro said programs will be enacted that will encourage mass transit, bicycling and walking.

He said individual action can play a huge role in energy consumption. As a collective effort, simple acts like turning lights off in unoccupied rooms, taking shorter showers and turning the thermostat down in the winter can greatly impact energy reduction.

"We take energy for granted in this country," he said.

Byrne said students' interest in the project was highlighted by representatives from the Student Government Association, the Graduate Student Senate and the Resident Student Association. He said the environment is a fairly prevalent issue for students, continuing to rise in importance.

"I think President-elect Obama received a lot of support from university-age individuals in part because he represents such a strong green position," Byrne said.

He said the green movement overlaps with other issues important to college students, such as human rights conflicts in Africa. Crises like the genocide in Darfur are exacerbated by environmental problems.

"Sub-Saharan Africa has suffered extended drought, and climate change may play a role in that," Byrne said.

A major recommendation from the town hall meeting was a larger awareness effort among students and administration. Byrne said improved communication on environmental issues will be facilitated through a future interactive Web site.

Knab said student support is essential in future action plans to reduce carbon emission.

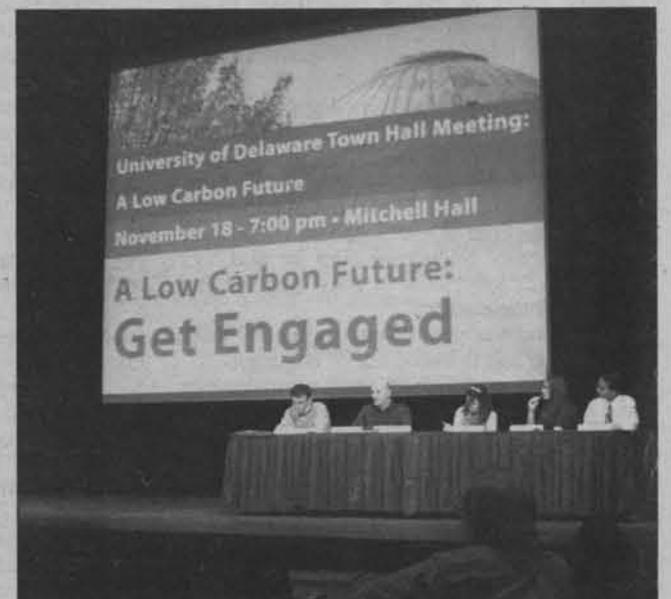
"Going forward, student involvement is very important in shaping our action plan," he said.

Senior Tim Cribbin said although many students seem interested in energy and the environment, few people he knows actively attempt to save energy.

"Not many people cut down their emission or even think about renewable energy on a day to day basis, and they should," Cribbin said.

He thinks students living off campus should be especially wary of their energy use since they have to pay electric bills.

"You should want to save electricity," Cribbin said. "Save your money by using less energy."



THE REVIEW/Steven Gold

The university's carbon footprint was announced at a town hall meeting Nov. 18.

# College dean named finalist for Auburn University provost

BY SOPHIE LATAPIE

Staff Reporter

Tom Apple, the dean of the College of Arts and Sciences and professor of chemistry and biochemistry at the university since 2005, has been nominated for the position of provost at Auburn University in Auburn, Ala. Apple is one of three final candidates being considered for the position.

Auburn University's new president, Jay Gogue, invited applications and nominations to fill the position of provost, for which Tom Apple was nominated.

In his cover letter to Auburn University, which is available on Auburn University's Web site, Apple expressed interest in the position.

"Thank you for your letter informing me of my nomination for the position of provost at Auburn University," Apple said. "Your letter prompted me to investigate Auburn University via the Web, and I find myself intrigued and impressed. I would be happy to be considered for this position."

Apple visited Auburn University from Nov. 11 to Nov. 14, when he met with the current provost and other members of the search committee.

In his cover letter, Apple listed his responsibilities and duties as the dean of the College of Arts and Sciences as qualifications for the position of provost at Auburn University.

"As dean, I lead the efforts to improve faculty and program quality, direct space and infrastructure utilization and renovation, lead development and alumni relations for the college and work to further partnerships and global initiatives," Apple said. "I feel I have been particularly successful in diversity issues (for which I have been recognized and for which I have garnered external funding) and in bringing great new faculty to the college."

According to the Auburn University Web site, if chosen

provost, Apple would report directly to the president and act for the president on behalf of the university when the president is not available. Apple would also be responsible for all academic matters, including budget and space, which he handles in his current position as the dean of the College of Arts and Sciences at the University of Delaware.

On the Web site, Auburn University also posted a list of qualifications for the job, which included being distinguished scholar-teachers with records of successful and responsible leadership at a large, multidisciplinary institution and are also expected to have a thorough familiarity with the philosophy and responsibilities of a large land-grant institution with teaching, research and service missions. The Web site also states the candidate must understand the issues that face large, public universities.

John Heilman, the current provost of Auburn University stated in an e-mail message, "The provost search is indeed in full swing here at Auburn, with finalist interviews to be completed this week. I very much enjoyed the meeting with Dean Apple, but given where we are in the process, do not feel it appropriate to comment beyond that at this time."

The Web site states Jan. 1, 2009 is the projected date a new provost will be chosen.

Apple declined to comment on his nomination.

David Brond, vice president in the Office of Communications and Marketing, stated in an e-mail message "Officially we will not comment on his candidacy at another institution at this point, during a search process, beyond

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AU Home > Office of the President > Provost Search

Finalists for the Position of Provost and Vice-President for Academic Affairs

 <b>Tom Apple</b> Dean College of Arts and Sciences University of Delaware <a href="#">Cover Letter</a> <a href="#">Vita</a>	 <b>Mary Ellen Mazey</b> Dean Eberly College of Arts and Sciences West Virginia University <a href="#">Cover Letter</a> <a href="#">Vita</a>	 <b>J. Bruce Rafert</b> Vice Provost and Dean of the Graduate School Clemson University <a href="#">Cover Letter</a> <a href="#">Vita</a>
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Courtesy of Auburn University  
 Tom Apple's picture (left) and cover letter appear on Auburn University's Web site.

indicating that it is always a compliment whenever another university expresses interest in a member of the UD family."

In the conclusion of his cover letter, Apple indicated his anticipation about the outcome of the search process.

"I look forward to hearing from you soon about this exciting possibility," he said.

# Crime Web site unhappy with university

BY LYDIA WOOLEVER

City News Editor

UCrime.com, a crime-tracking Internet database, reached out to the university's administration earlier this month, asking them to share their crime data. The university responded by stating that it was not interested.

UCrime.com currently offers data from the university, which comes from a combination of software that combs the Internet for related information and manual labor.

Drane attempted to contact university President Patrick Harker early in November to start a conversation about the site and the possibility of sharing real-time data. He was referred to the Department of Campus Safety.

"This was back when the home invasions were occurring and a few shootings happened," Drane said. "In order to get to the campus' chief of police, you have to go through three levels of people."

For the most part, the university did not seem interested, he said.

"The verbatim comment I got was, 'The university does not need a map because students know where the buildings are,'" Drane said. "It basically said, 'No, go spin a wheel. We're going to create something ourselves.'"

UCrime.com is a descendant of Drane's larger company, SpotCrime.com, he said. The company tracks crimes in most major cities throughout the country.

UCrime was created approximately three months ago and is based out of Baltimore.

Currently, it works with nearby universities such as University of Maryland: College Park, University of Maryland: Baltimore County and American University in Washington, D.C. It is a free system and survives by the advertisements run on its pages.

The crime deployment system offers a map, an RSS feeder, e-mail alerts, cell phone alerts, an iPhone optimized page, an iPhone application and a Facebook page.

The site also stemmed from the Clery Act of 1990, which requires all universities to disclose information about crimes on and around their campuses.

The legislation stemmed from the rape and murder of Jeanne Clery, a 19-year-old Lehigh University freshman, in her campus residence hall in 1986. Universities can now be fined large sums for not abiding by these

rules, Drane said.

He said Eastern Michigan University recently got fined \$35,000 for not reporting their crimes.

Drane said some universities do not offer crime information to the public because it deters prospective students.

"It's bad press," he said. "There is no incentive to accurately report the crime and there's more than enough incentive to under-report or report in different formats."

"There's plenty of evidence where universities have not reported efficiently. I'm not saying it's done deliberately but it's done with a high enough frequency. Universities have an interest in not reporting crime on campus."

The University of Virginia was fined for reporting the crimes at a lowered level of severity.

Skip Homiak, executive director of campus and public safety, stated in an e-mail message that there was no need to discuss the inquiry from UCrime.

"I routinely receive several calls and e-mails from various vendors regarding a product they are trying to sell; I evaluate the merits of each product and decide whether there is value to the university, students and staff," Homiak said. "In this case, the vendor is trying to sell a product that provides crime information and alert services."

He said the university currently utilizes various means to publish crime data, including the Public Safety Web site and UDaily.

"We strive to be very transparent; feeling that informed citizens are a part of the crime-fighting strategy," Homiak said. "Campus and Public Safety is also in the process of revamping its Web site and we are looking at leveraging internal UD resources to possibly provide a crime-mapping component to the site."

Additionally, the university has several means to provide instant messaging in case of a significant incident, he said.

"All of this information was provided to Mr. Drane from UCrime," Homiak said. "Unfortunately, it appears he is trying to apply pressure to purchase his product by utilizing the media."

However, Drane said for a university to recreate his technology, it would cost millions.

"When I talk to universities who work

with us, if they had to do it in-house, because we classify the buildings and their locations, it would cost millions of dollars," he said. "We are giving it away for free."

From a business perspective, it does not make sense for universities to create their own systems, Drane said.

"I can't say we'll never charge for it, but for now, if a university doesn't like it, they can go build their own or build their own while still utilizing ours," he said.

"Ultimately I want to work with the university, so I don't want to insult them, but I do have a motive. My motive is to create a working business and to help your university and all universities to be safer by delivering timely and accurate crime information so people can make better decisions."

"They continue to control the information because as soon as you give it to me, it becomes an independent source and they lose control of that. It's still yet to be proven, but I am a strong believer in if you put this information in the public's hands, they're going to help the police solve crimes and prevent them."

SpotCrime has faced similar problems, Drane said.

"If you looked at most cities a year ago, none of them felt comfortable giving away their data," he said.

However, across the country, cities have become more open, Drane said.

He said with the exception of New York City, Detroit and Omaha, U.S. cities directly feed data to SpotCrime.

While UCrime.com does not get its information from the university, it also is not affiliated with the Newark Police Department.

"Up until now, we have actually not heard of the Web site," Lt. Brian Henry of the Newark Police Department said. "They do not get their information from us, but our reports are public, so they could have found them by some other means."

The site's most recent crime is dated back to Nov. 6. Henry said the data is not up-to-date.

Homiak said the university is currently looking into creating an in-house system similar to that of UCrime.

"We just began discussing this a few

weeks ago during our discussions with improving our Web site," he said. "We have not gotten to the point of laying out the structure or identifying the internal sources yet, but it is a direction we are going."

As students have seen in recent months, campus security is taking stringent measures to increase safety on campus.

"We are in favor of any measures that would promote transparency and safety," Homiak said.

In the meantime, Drane said he does not think it's possible for a university to create their own system without spending exorbitant amounts of money.

"I've been working with UMD so I know the difficulty of a university to create the map that I created," he said. "I bet \$100,000 that your university cannot create a map as good as mine within six months."

## A Closer Look

Newark's crime index has been higher than the national index every year since 2001, the most recent year for which data is available.

There were 14 rapes, 10 arsons and 91 assaults in Newark in 2006.

There have been two murders in Newark since 2001.

— compiled from [www.City-data.com](http://www.City-data.com)

In 2007, there were no reported incidents of arson or non-forcible sex offenses on campus or in the residence halls.

Arrests for liquor law violations by university police far exceeded all other arrests in and around campus in 2005 (133), 2006 (153) and 2007 (146).

Public Safety provides daily crime updates on its Web site, with archived reports since 1997. Crimes at off-campus student organizations are monitored and recorded by the Newark Police.

— compiled from *Public Safety's Web site*

## Speaker discusses living with AIDS

BY DANIELLE ALLEN

Staff Reporter

Scott Fried, a motivational speaker and staff affected by AIDS, delivered a presentation titled "AIDS, Love and Staying Alive" to the university on Wednesday and Thursday in the Trabant University Center's Multipurpose rooms.

Fried's visit to the university was sponsored by KOACH, a conservative Jewish Registered Student Organization on campus.

Janice Neiman, social chair of KOACH, said she believed Fried could bring a message to the university that no one else could.

"He relates to every student, Jewish or not, and he makes us all realize there are stories behind the AIDS disease," Neiman said.

Fried also spoke to classes at the university and at a service at the Kristol Hillel Center on Friday night.

Fried contracted HIV on Nov. 30, 1987 in his first and only unsafe sexual encounter.

He has been speaking around the country at schools, churches and synagogues for 17 years about topics ranging from AIDS to college life to Tikkun Olam, a Jewish idea of making the world a better place. In all of his presentations there is one prevailing message — "You are enough."

Fried began his presentation by asking the audience three questions: "Who are you?" "Whose arms do you fall into?" "Are you enough without those people?"

He told Old Testament stories about Abraham, Isaac and Jacob. In all of the stories, the central question was, "What is

your name?"

Fried focused on this question because the man who gave him the disease did not know his name.

He said he believes the reason he now has AIDS is because in a way, he thought he deserved it. Fried said he did not fight hard enough not to contract the disease.

"I didn't have a death wish," he said, "but I didn't have a life wish either."

Fried told the audience to realize they are worthy of love no matter what clothes they wear or what grades they receive. He also stressed the importance of being able to reveal one's secrets to someone who actually sees oneself.

"Everyone has a closet of secrets," Fried said. "Closets are not just for the gay community."

All people long for the moment they can come out of their closet and have a loving other see them for who they really are, he said.

Fried said practicing safe sex is one way for people to love who they are. He discussed different scenarios in which college students could find themselves in on a regular basis. He had one main piece of advice.

"Just wear a condom," Fried said.

Sophomore Ivy Cohen said she realizes casual sex acts are not as stigmatized as they were in the past, but it is still important for people to protect themselves against diseases.

"Students do not take safe sex seriously enough," Cohen said. "They need to put more effort into making the right deci-



THE REVIEW/Steven Gold

Scott Fried contracted HIV 21 years ago.

See LECTURE page 13



THE REVIEW/Melanie Hardy

Job growth in Aberdeen, Md., may provide relief for displaced Chrysler plant workers.

## Newly elected officials make Chrysler plant priority

BY NICOLE BECKER

Staff Reporter

The Newark Chrysler assembly plant will close on Dec. 31, nearly a year before it was originally slated to close. A number of newly-elected and re-elected officials are putting forth effort into finding a future owner for the site as well as providing aid to the estimated 1,000 people who will lose their jobs a year earlier than expected.

State Sen. Liane Sorenson, R-Hockessin, said the early closure of the plant came as a shock to many state officials. The plans for the future of the site remain indefinite because the plant expected to have another year before the closure left more than 1,000 people unemployed.

"It is absolutely a real top priority," Sorenson said. "We have traditionally had a relatively low unemployment rate compared to the national average and now there's definitely going to be a significant increase in that number due to the significant amount of people who are going to be losing their jobs."

State Senator-elect Bethany Hall-Long, D-Glasgow, currently a state representative, said she recognizes the imminent need to determine the future of the site as well as the 1,000 people who will lose their jobs.

"I plan to actively work with the city of Newark, as well as other elected officials to make sure that property be utilized to the greatest benefit to the community," Hall-Long said. "Over the last few months I have been pleased to meet with several of the local and national officials of Chrysler to discuss several severance packages for the employees who will be losing their jobs."

Dina Reider, director of marketing and communications for the state of Delaware, said the Delaware Economic Development Office has recently founded the Intellectual Property New Business Creation Program, a portfolio of 258 patents and emergent technology packages donated by DuPont and Hercules. The program is designed to encourage and aid people in starting their own entrepreneurial enterprises.

"The patents are available to those who are looking to start their own businesses," Reider said. "Now, why is this important to Chrysler? Because a number of these packages open themselves to those people who already have the necessary skill sets, like those familiar with automotive coding."

State Rep. John Kowalko, D-Newark South, said the control that state officials have over the site is limited because it is privately-owned land. However, officials continue to formulate the options they feel would be most beneficial to the community as a whole.

"Certainly we haven't given up hope as to the possibility of its future as an auto plant," Kowalko said.

He said there was a talk at the university Friday about the possibility of creating electric cars.

State officials also continue to hold a great deal of concern for who will inherit the site. Among those interested is the university. However, while many feel the land may be beneficial for the university, it may not be as beneficial for the state and city, Kowalko said.

"I think the problem facing some of the community is if the university takes over that entire piece of land, it becomes a non-taxable item," Kowalko said. "The city certainly has an interest in what is going to happen to that site."

He said before anyone can move onto the site, it must first be tested for contamination. Due to the nature of the plant and the longevity of its existence, there are reservations regarding the safety of the site.

"There is suspicion that a plant has been there from the World War II days that has had extensive dealings with paint, that there could be some sort of potential in-ground contamination," Kowalko said. "I don't know that there is anything, but it would be inappropriate not to investigate and conduct studies. Then we would have to determine if either the buyer or seller would be responsible for that clean-up before a final move for the site."

In order to help the recently displaced workers of Chrysler, a task force has been proposed to help take advantage of the Base Realignment Commission, Kowalko said. A nationwide realignment of military equipment and personnel will bring enormous growth to the base in Aberdeen, Md., approximately 30 miles from Newark. With it will come many companies that provide the base and its employees with various support services.

"There is an estimated job growth in Aberdeen of somewhere around 12,000 immediate jobs as a result of base closures and the move there," Kowalko said. "There can be as many as another 20,000 to 30,000 support jobs, such as satellite businesses, which will extend into our area as well."

Governor-elect Jack Markell said last week he will meet with representatives of the automakers to see what the state can do to help.

Sorenson said while there are a number of rumors surrounding who will take over the site of the Chrysler plant and what will become of the 1,000 displaced workers, nothing is known for sure.

"I hope that we can get something in the sight that is good for the economy and the community as well," Sorenson said. "There are some rumors as to who is going to take over the site, but nothing is certain yet."

## Panel brings light to death penalty issues

BY MARINA KOREN

Staff Reporter

Professionals in the fields of law and education raised an important question at the death penalty panel discussion held Wednesday in the Trabant University Center, spurring long-winded discussions from both sides: What is just? Presenters and students discussed for more than two hours the way society views capital punishment and its justification today.

The American Civil Liberties Union, Students in the Public Interest and Amnesty International, organizations whose goals are to raise awareness about human rights, organized the panel discussion. The event attracted approximately 30 undergraduate and graduate students and featured four panelists, one for the death penalty, one against it and one moderate who is currently against.

The panel addressed such matters as the deterrence effect of the death penalty, the difference between retribution and revenge by families of the victims, the financial cost of housing criminals, the effect of capital punishment on society, and whether life in prison without parole is a better option.

Steven Wood, state deputy attorney general and prosecutor of more than 20 homicide cases, said he did not come to the panel to try to convince anyone of what is right or wrong, but said the matter of the death penalty and its use is an important topic.

"This is a serious issue in contemporary America," Wood said. "I used to be against the death penalty because I thought it was wrong for the government to have that level of authority over people."

He said he has come to believe the death penalty is justified if the crime committed is "awful enough."

"It's the only way society can protect itself with such a level of certainty," he said.

Wood was the prosecutor in the 2007 trial of James Cooke who was convicted of murdering university student Lindsey Bonistall.

Wood presented statistics and legal information about the death penalty but said that in the end, statistics do not matter.

"It's not about the stats," he said. "It's about if you think it is ever right for the government to take someone's life in your name."

Eric Rise, associate professor of criminal justice, said he does not have moral objections to the death penalty. Rise brought up the question of whether or not the existence of a death penalty would prevent people from committing murder.

"I think the death penalty must have some deterrent effect," he said.

Kristin Froehlich, a hospice social worker, said she is fully against using the death penalty.

"The death penalty involves moral, practical, financial and social aspects," Froehlich said. "I don't think it makes us safer. There should be

other ways to keep us safe."

Kevin O'Connell, associate public defender, said he agreed with Froehlich about the lack of any clear benefits provided by the use of the death penalty. O'Connell has met individuals who have committed heinous crimes and said there is more to those people than their actions, he said.

"It diminishes them all when we take their lives in the name of justice," O'Connell said. "It diminishes us all."

O'Connell said capital punishment endorses violence as a solution to social problems. Rise said that is not the case. The death penalty provides retribution, he said.

"If anyone deserves retribution, it's society," Rise said. "It's justice for society."

The panel discussion was seen by students in attendance to be informative.

Graduate student Sean Jacobs said he learned from the forum.

"While it reinforced my beliefs, it did not change my opinion," Jacobs said. "It makes more sense to me though."

Senior Kate Mallary said she enjoyed the panel and listening to the members featured.

"I feel like I'm pretty confident about what I think about the death penalty, but Steven Wood definitely raised some points that made me think," Mallary said.

Sophomore Max Davis said the topic of the death penalty is very complex.

"I think compassion is a very big aspect when it comes to the death penalty," Davis said. "It's good to see people still have compassion."

Freshman Orion Kobayashi said he enjoyed listening to the variety of points brought up by the panel members.

"I thought the panel was great," Kobayashi said. "All of the members had great backgrounds and strong opinions."

He said he thought the points raised throughout the night about the issue of the death penalty were both interesting and complicated.

"The question of the death penalty isn't as simple as you might think," Kobayashi said.



THE REVIEW/Steven Gold

The death penalty panel was held on Wednesday in Trabant.

## a peck above

Each week, *The Review* will feature a professor, employee or staff member at the university. Know of someone noteworthy? Send your idea to [theudreview@gmail.com](mailto:theudreview@gmail.com).

# Prof. communicates life lessons to students

BY KATHERINE GUINEY

Staff Reporter

When he's not coaching his son's LEGO league or trekking through White Clay Creek State Park, communication professor Steven Mortenson can often be found doing one of the things he loves most: teaching.

What Mortenson refers to as teaching, Dana Arschin, a senior communication major, refers to as therapy.

"When you're in the class, you feel like it's a therapy session," Arschin said. "He really uses a lot of personal experiences, and that makes you want to share."

When teaching, Mortenson, who is up for tenure this year, his sixth at the university, likes to prod his students with questions trying to get them to both learn and grow personally.

Susan Reeser, assistant to the communication department chairperson, said although Mortenson's teaching style may be different, students keep coming back for more.

"When students come in, they just say, 'I love him as a teacher — I want to take him again,'" Reeser said. "He has a wonderful personality, is very clever and very funny."

Arschin, who took Principles of Communication Theory (COMM 256) and Theories of Interpersonal Communication (COMM 341) with Mortenson, said his teaching is the reason she concentrated in interpersonal instead of mass communication.

"I want to be a TV news reporter and that's mass comm," Arschin said. "He's basically the sole reason I am an interpersonal comm major. So I can take more classes with him."

She said she is not the only student who feels this way.

"I think students like him because he's funny, but at the same time he's really great at getting the points across," Arschin said.

This fall, Mortenson is teaching Principles of Communication Theory, with approximately 300 students, and a graduate course, Epistemology and Theory in Communication (COMM 601).

Bridget Leahy, a sophomore in Mortenson's COMM 256 class said she enjoys having him as a professor.

"I think he's really nice and a lot of the things he said in class I find myself telling my friends," Leahy said. "His stories are just so funny."



THE REVIEW/Molly Yborra

Professor Steven Mortenson originally wanted to be a psychologist.

The stories, Mortenson said, keep students interested in class.

"If you want 100 out of 300 people to pay attention or even consider paying attention, you've got to throw down the theatrics," Mortenson said.

One of the stories, Leahy said, revolves around Mortenson's time in Sweden.

"He says he went into a bar and started asking Swedish people how they date," she said. "He told them that in America, we go out for pizza together. But the Swedes looked at him funny

and said something like, 'No, we just move in together.'"

He related that story to cultural differences and it makes students remember the lesson, Leahy said.

"In a lecture hall of the size that I'm in, there's like 300 people," she said. "It's really hard to teach, but he does a good job. If you didn't come to class, you'd probably miss out."

"It's my only class on Monday, Wednesday, Friday, but I still go," Leahy said.

Despite the positive reception as a communication professor, Mortenson had not originally planned on going into the communication field.

He said he originally thought he was going to be a psychologist. But, as he got into it more, he realized playing with rats and exhausting his energy jump-starting other people all day long was not for him.

The interpersonal communication course he took at Golden West College, the junior college he attended for two years, put Mortenson on the path that led him to communication.

"What I liked about it was that I could use the theories when I walked right outside," he said. "I thought, 'This is what I want.'"

After getting his doctorate at Purdue University, Mortenson went on to teach at Georgia Southern University for four years. When it rained, the light fixtures would fill up with water.

"We taught in this trailer building," Mortenson said of his time in Georgia. "We said working there was like Mother Theresa in the ghetto."

Although he enjoyed the experience in the South teaching what he calls some of the most openly curious students he has ever encountered, Mortenson moved to Delaware in 2003 after he got his current position in the communication department.

"My wife couldn't live in the South — she's too much of an emancipated woman," Mortenson said.

Since beginning at the university in 2003, Mortenson has tried to transform, as well as inform, his Delaware students.

"They are the smartest, most driven, disciplined students I've ever seen," Mortenson said. "There's a very low bone-head quotient. But, there's an addiction to perfection that I try to make them aware of."

This approach to teaching makes some students question whether they are sitting at a desk in class or lying on a couch at a therapist's office.

"Some students say, 'Is this class like therapy?' I'm like, 'No, it's called personal growth,'" he said.

## Grant to help expand single-stream recycling

BY ANNA CRAMER

Staff Reporter

The university was awarded a recycling assistance grant of almost \$5,000 from the Delaware Department of Natural Resources and Environmental Control to improve upon the single-stream recycling system, which allows people to combine all their recyclable goods in one container instead of having to separate them.

Andrew Knab, a business and project analyst for the executive vice president, said the university decided to start a pilot single-stream program beginning this past summer after the Faculty Senate confirmed students had expressed issues with the lack of recycling around campus.

The pilot test included 2,200 desk bins and 200 hallway bins throughout Laird and South Campuses.

Single-stream recycling also helps improve the diversion rate, Knab said. The university hopes to reach a 30 percent diversion rate this year, as opposed to last year's 17 percent. Diversion rate refers to the amount of waste that is recycled rather than sent to a landfill.

The grant money will focus on expanding the number of small and large bins

throughout the core of campus, specifically the Green, Knab said.

"Four thousand dollars is a lot of money, it can provide enough containers to improve recycling on the Green, as well as in all of the buildings on the Green," he said.

Knab said there is more to be accomplished with the grant money. The original goal was to give students and faculty the opportunity to recycle, by expanding access. Another important aspect of this goal however, Knab said, is to educate the campus on why it is important to recycle and how easy it is.

"This is a starting point for people to understand their impact on environment," he said. "Even on a small scale, recycling shows greater awareness."

Bill Miller, environmental scientist at the Solid and Hazardous Waste Management Branch of the DNREC, helped decide the winners of the grants. Miller said there were a total 19 applicants for the fiscal year of 2009 and 11 of these were chosen to receive funding, nine with full funding and two with partial.

The recycling assistance grant is seven years old and comes from state funding. The program was established with the help of the

DNREC and the Recycling Public Advisory Council (RPAC).

Miller said the chosen organizations chosen were ranked and scored on various criteria and then the \$50,000 state funds were divided between them.

"The impact in terms of numbers of students in any recycling program is great, but a recycling program in an educational environment, where it can become part of the habits of students, really has a larger impact," Miller said.

The university is required to show some forms of progress throughout four periods of the fiscal year, Miller said.

According to the DNREC, other recipients of the grant included organizations such as Midway Little League, Arbor Park Civic Association and Wilmington Montessori School. These organizations all aim to not only improve their recycling techniques, but also to educate others about the importance of the environment.

Iron Hill Museum, located on Old Baltimore Pike, just south of Newark, received a \$7,000 grant from the DNREC, the largest grant awarded in the Newark area. The grant will go toward the museum's three year old program, "Whose Trash is it

Anyway?"

Katherine Larrivee, executive director at Iron Hill Museum said the program educates various schools throughout Delaware about recycling. It is designed to teach children how to recycle, what to recycle and the benefits of their actions.

Larrivee said the program is helpful because it helps educate younger generations in hopes that they will build a brighter future for themselves and others, and gets the information out to families all across Delaware who would not normally hear it.

"We have to take care of our world, our earth, because, if we don't take care of it, we won't have it much longer, by educating younger generations we'll teach them how to live a good life," Larrivee said.

Knab and Larrivee both said they believe their organizations were chosen for he grant because they represented a real change and potential to improve not only as a campus or museum, but as a community.

"We're producing students and citizens that will be living in the environmental century," he said. "Our generation is bound to have environmental challenges, but we can do easy things on a daily basis and greatly reduce impact and influence the future."



THE REVIEW/Katie Smith

## Economy's effect on foreign students unclear

BY JONATHAN BLEIWEIS

Staff Reporter

Although the United States is going through an economic crisis, international students are still competing to come to the university to get a higher education.

Susan Lee, from the Office of Foreign Students and Scholars, said enrollment numbers for the 2009 Spring Semester have increased and the country's economic crisis has not been a detriment or reason for decline in applications submitted.

Lee said the number of international applicants for the semester increased from 10 in spring 2008 to 219 in spring 2009.

The deadline for undergraduate applicants to submit an application for the Spring Semester was Nov. 1, during a time when the United States' economy was a concern.

Lee said she cannot see any issues in the future regarding the number of foreign applicants at the university.

"I still think it's a good bargain for the kind of education and the quality of education that we provide," Lee said.

Junior Neetika Verma, from West Moorings, Trinidad and Tobago, said she thinks the U.S. economic situation impacts all countries in the world.

"It's like, the dominating country," Verma said.

Junior Manuel Rafael Jimenez Diaz, from Mexico City, Mexico, said as a result of the economic collapse of the United States, Mexico's economy has been affected because of the close ties between the two countries. He said a typical college education in the United States costs nearly four times as much as it does in Mexico.

After considering his scholarships, Jimenez Diaz said a college education in Mexico would cost 50 percent less than it would in the United States, but like many foreign students here, he wanted to have an education abroad.

Verma said the United States offers better educational and job opportunities for students from developing countries, and they are aware of this.

"For a lot of foreign students, the United States is the place to be," she said. "Because we come from less, we know the value of

what the United States has to offer."

Although the U.S. economic situation has been a financial strain for international students, Verma said she thinks the situation will not hinder international students from seeking a higher education in the United States.

Lee said one of the ways costs can be covered for international students is through scholarships. The university does not offer financial aid to international students on the undergraduate level. Students can apply either for merit or athletic scholarships.

"Foreign students will work their asses off to get a scholarship," Verma said.

Lee said international students come to study at the university purely by reputation and word of mouth because the university does not do any international recruiting.

Both Verma, an accounting major and management information systems minor, and Jimenez Diaz, a chemical engineering major, said they discovered the university because of the strong academic programs it has to offer in their respective fields.

Jimenez Diaz said he would not be surprised if the number of foreign students at the university decreases because the students may not be able to support themselves financially.

"The economic impact would be too large for foreign students to come to the USA even if they want it more," he said. "Even if their efforts to get the necessary resources increases, they will not be able to get enough of them to get a higher education in the U.S."

Louis Hirsh, director of admissions, stated in an e-mail message that while he is seeing an increase in the number of applications to the university, overall, he is unsure whether the number of international applicants will change in the future because of the economy.

"At this early stage, I cannot speculate on that," Hirsh said. "We need to know more about how severe the recession will be and which countries in the world are most likely to be affected by it."

Verma said she thinks foreign students will continue to pursue higher education opportunities in the United States.

"Foreign students will face the financial strain to get here," she said. "The financial payoff is bigger in the end."

## International fair celebrates world cultures

BY KATHERINE GUINEY

Staff Reporter

With Middle Eastern music blaring and people in ethnic garb pouring in and out of the doors, students passing by Trabant University Center's Multipurpose rooms on Friday could not help but look inside. An international cultural fair, sponsored by the university's English Language Institute, was taking place. Approximately 200 ELI students from 20 nations manned tables with information about their homeland and shared their culture with everyone who walked through the doors.

Deb Detzel, assistant director of the ELI, said the event is the best kept secret on campus.

"It's incredible," Detzel said. "When you come, it's truly like stepping into another world. When you go around to these tables, it's like taking a world tour."

She said the students in the ELI program have a passion for their native culture. The ELI at the university offers English programs to foreign students and business professionals, as well as others who want to prepare for an American university or further their careers.

The cultural fair, one of the events of International Education Week, featured entertainment including a lion dance, the performance of a Chinese song, a Tai Chi demonstration, a Korean drum performance, a Turkish wedding dance, a fashion show and a Colombian dance troop.

The fair, in its fifth year, was one of 15 events showcased in International Education Week, a week of global programs geared toward sharing international culture and an initiative of the U.S. Department of State and the U.S. Department of Education.

ELI students at the Taiwan table passed out a drink called milk tea and salt water taffy-like green tea candy. Students from the United Arab Emirates had people lined up at their table to get Henna tattoos. Those at the Colombian station piled fruits together, stacked sugar blocks and passed out Juan Valdez coffee.

Saad Al Ahmari, an ELI student, said he attended the fair to represent his country of Saudi Arabia.

"We are happy to present our countries and our cultures," Al Ahmari said. "There's a lot we're proud about."

While celebrating their native back-

grounds, some students observed the differences in the American way of life.

Al Ahmari, who entered ELI four months ago from Saudi Arabia, said he has noticed the cultural differences.

"The very common thing here, in America, they're very honest," he said. "They say, 'I don't want this or I hate this.'"

Aside from their honesty, Americans, Al Ahmari said, seem to treat their senior citizens differently.

"The difference is the old people here that are homeless. I see so many," he said. "I wonder, 'Where's the organization?' We do care." Felipe Ospina, a native of Bogotá, Colombia, said he sees both good and bad things about the American lifestyle.

"The American people spend a lot of time moving, traveling from house to university or jobs," Ospina said. "In Colombia, everybody lives near their jobs. We're very close."

"In America, the people love to drive," he said. "You spend a lot of time in your life in your car."

Even though Americans spend so much time in the car, Ospina said that they have more time to give in general.

"A beautiful thing about American culture is their longevity — in mind and body," Ospina said. "The people in Colombia work until 50 years, maybe less. Then they don't do anything. People die in Colombia very young."

Ospina used the example of Sen. John McCain to illustrate his point.

"A guy 72 years old wants to be a president for the next four or eight years," he said. "He shows a big wish of life."

Sophomore Mike O'Donovan said he thinks events such as the cultural fair are important because they show Americans the way other cultures live.

"It opens up people's eyes and their minds," O'Donovan, whose Bosnian roommate was part of the fair, said.

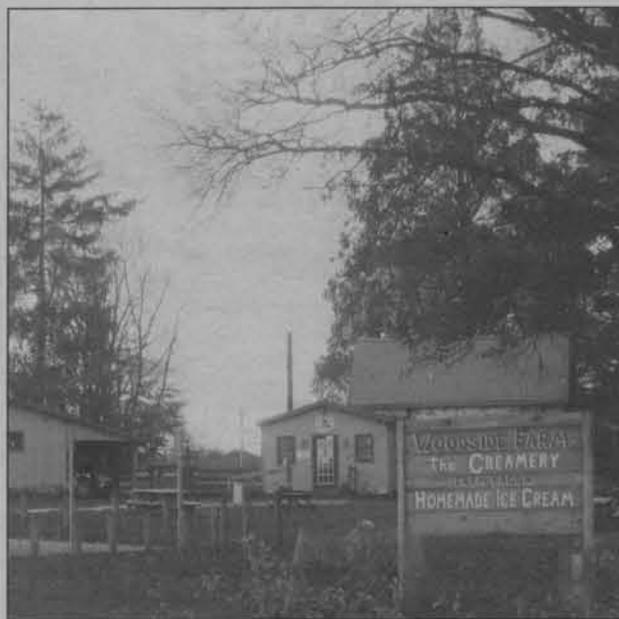
Lesa Griffiths, director of the Center for International Studies, said she hopes students understand the extent to which globalization has occurred and that people have to know how to move in between cultures.

"I think if students wander into one of these events and think about that," Griffiths said, "then it's been successful."



THE REVIEW/Steven Gold

Approximately 200 students worked at the International Fair on Friday.



THE REVIEW/Melanie Hardy

The solar power system at the Creamery at Woodside Farm will take approximately seven years to pay off.

## Ice cream shop runs on the sun

BY JONATHAN BLEIWEIS

Staff Reporter

The Creamery at Woodside Farm is becoming one of the largest solar powered systems for commercial ventures in the state of Delaware. A solar power plant being installed on the farm will generate 85 percent of the farm's total electricity.

Jim Mitchell, owner of The Creamery at Woodside Farm in Hockessin, said he wanted to produce his own power independently.

"We liked the idea being able to generate our own electricity and cover our own needs here on the farm," Mitchell said. "It kind of goes with the sustainability of a farm, where we recycle our nutrients here, and now we are able to produce power right off the farm, so it all works in together."

The solar power plant, located on the south side of one of the barns on the farm behind the creamery, consists of 8,500 square feet of panels, he said.

Scott Lynch, green energy program planner at the Delaware Energy Office, said as a whole, the 112-kilowatt-hour plant is the second largest series of solar paneled systems in the state.

Mitchell decided over a year ago to power his farm with solar energy. Installation of the panels started in August, by Sun Technics, soon to be known as Conergy Inc., an international sup-

plier of renewable energy systems.

The installation process was held up for more than one month because components of the framework were on back order due to an increasing demand to transition to solar power, he said.

Mitchell said the system should be able to start functioning as soon as the end of December or early January.

While it will take seven or eight years to pay off, Mitchell said the solar power system should function for 25 years. He said the transition to solar power is a good investment because after the system is paid for, power for the farm will be produced for free. He said, in the long run, paying for refrigeration without solar energy is much more expensive.

Part of the cost of installation is covered by the Delaware Green Energy Fund, he said.

Lynch said the Delaware Green Energy Fund acts as an incentive toward the installation of renewable energy systems. The fund is accumulated by a collection of public benefit charges that are attached to every kilowatt-hour used in a power provider's jurisdiction. The power provider takes out these charges and sends it to the state of Delaware.

"We needed to have their cooperation to make it financially

See CREAMERY page 13

## Safety of commonly used plastics disputed

BY MADDIE THOMAS

National/State News Editor

Lining the refrigerated cooler shelves at the Trabant University Center and Perkins Student Center are rows of perfectly chilled sodas waiting for the next student in need of a sugar or caffeine fix to pluck from the rack. While these personal and portable plastic bottles may be convenient for students on the go, emerging research suggests these beverages may be becoming contaminated with toxic chemicals leaching from their plastic containers. Depending on the plastic involved, the health effects of consuming contaminated plastics include dizziness, nausea, depression and reproductive and hormonal defects.

At Trabant, there are many products that are packaged in PET and PETE (polyethylene terephthalate) plastics — plastic products labeled with a No. 1 on their container. The safety of No. 1 labeled plastics is disputed. According to *Natural Solutions Magazine*, reuse of these bottles is not recommended due to their potential to release toxins into food and beverages.

Trabant's PET and PETE plastic products include all Minute Maid juices, Coca-Cola brand sodas, regular and diet Dr. Pepper sodas, Powerade and Dasani water. Food choices packaged in PET and PETE plastics include salads and fruit and yogurt parfait containers.

Paul Foster, acting chief of the toxicology branch of the National Toxicology Program, part of the Department of Health and Human Services, said phthalates are one type of chemical found in PET and PETE plastics and are used to make plastics more flexible.

He said in some experiments in which animals were exposed to high amounts of phthalates, the occurrence of birth defects increased.

"You can use levels of phthalates where you can get almost 100-percent levels of birth defects," Foster said.

There are more than 30 to 40 different types of phthalates, he said, and not all of them are linked to causing developmental effects in humans and animals. Foster said consumers are more likely to be exposed to phthalates through mixtures of chemicals, rather than from individual chemical exposure.

In 2006, a study conducted by professor William Shotyk and co-workers at the Institute of Environmental Geochemistry at the University of Heidelberg discovered the heavy metal antimony also leaches out of PET and PETE containers, according to Elizabeth Royte in "Bottlemania: How Water Went on Sale and Why we Bought It."

According to the book, ingestion of small doses of antimony can result in dizziness and depression. Ingestion of the metal in large doses, on the other hand, can inflict nausea, vomiting and death.

Shotyk discovered the longer fluids remained in PET and PETE containers, the greater the increase in the amounts of antimony present in the liquids. After three months, antimony levels doubled and after three additional months, they doubled again.

Scientists are also in the middle of a debate pertaining to the safety of No. 7 plastics — most specifically, whether the chemical bisphenol A poses any dangerous threats to humans.

Plastics containing BPA, labeled with a number seven on the bottom of the container, are used in food and drink packaging including baby bottles, compact disks, medical devices and reusable water bottles, according to the National Toxicology Program's Web site.

According to the 2003-2004 National Health and Nutrition Examination Survey conducted by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, 93 percent of 2,517 urine samples from people ages 6 years old and older had trace amounts of BPA in them.

Researchers are concerned about the safety of BPA exposure for humans because the chemical is a known hormone disrupter, Foster said. Hormone disrupters affect the development of reproductive systems and cause birth defects.

The National Toxicology Program Web site states BPA is also used in the production of polycarbonate plastics and epoxy resins. Epoxy resins are used as lacquers to coat metal products such as food cans, bottle tops, water supply pipes and some dental sealants.

John Brennan, director of public and media relations at the office for communications and marketing, stated in an e-mail message that Dining Services is aware of the issues surrounding the safety of some plastics.

"This academic year, we discontinued utilizing plastic #5, which contains biphenol-A, for our refillable jugs," Brennan said. "The studies we have reviewed on polyethylene terephthalate and antimony indicate that the amount of antimony that is leached into the beverage is far below limits set by regulatory agencies around the world. Dining Services will continue to monitor research in this area."

Nalgene, one company that manufactures water bottles with BPA, recently announced its transition away from polycarbonate plastics in its products, according to the Nalgene Web site.

Diane Spencer, representative from the Center for the Evaluation of Risks to Human Reproduction of the National Toxicology Program, said diet is the primary means of exposure to BPA.

BPA can leach into food from the coatings of canned foods and from the plastic containers of food storage containers, Spencer said. A container is more likely to leach more or less BPA depending on the age and temperature of the plastic.

To reduce exposure to BPA, she advises consumers to avoid microwaving and dishwashing products with a number seven on their label, reducing the use of canned foods and using products that are either BPA-free or made of stainless steel, glass or porcelain when handling hot foods and liquids.

"If I had a Nalgene bottle I used everyday and put it in the dishwasher, I would get rid of it," Spencer said. "Don't reheat things in plastics. I don't reheat plastics anymore. For anything that's labeled a five or a seven, I don't even reuse it."

Steve Hentges, executive director of the polycarbonate/BPA global group of the American Chemistry Council, a trade association for U.S. chemical companies, said plastics made with BPA are safe for human use because they contain only trace amounts of the chemical. He said because of BPA's short half-life of four to five hours, the chemical is quickly excreted from the human body.

"There really aren't any products that you can buy that contain more than trace amounts," Hentges said.

National Geographic Society's *Green Guide* magazine states another plastic of concern for many researchers are products labeled with a number three. These vinyl or polyvinyl chloride products are known to leach phthalate plasticizers, another hormone disrupter similar to BPA, into foods and

liquids.

Foster said avoiding exposure to phthalates can be difficult, as there are no requirements by the Food and Drug Administration under the Fair Packaging and Labeling Act requiring the listing of phthalates in certain ingredients, such as fragrances.

"It's really difficult to avoid exposure because on many products, there is no requirement to label," he said.

According to *Green Guide*, another plastic consumers should avoid are products labeled with a number six, as these plastics can leach styrene, a possible carcinogen.

Brennan said as of now, there is no alternative packaging of products available for students to purchase on campus and that most major manufacturers of bottled beverages currently do not offer any alternatives, such as corn by-product packaging, a safer plastic alternative.

"Students have the option to purchase fountain beverages and utilize refillable mugs and jugs," he said. "Dining Services will evaluate any alternatives when they become available."

There are three plastic types safe for human interaction *Green Guide* states. These are plastics labeled with a two, four and five.

Number two bottles are known as high-density polyethylene plastics and include milk bottles. At Trabant, the only beverage option available to students made with this type of plastic is Hy-Point Farms milk.

Number four and number five bottles, low-density polyethylene and polypropylene plastics, include some food wraps and food-storage containers. All of these plastic brands are recyclable as well, according to the magazine.

Senior Jennifer Warren said it is important for consumers to be educated on the potential hazards of some plastic products and to know which types are safe to come into contact with.

"It's part of the whole movement toward eating healthier and removing chemicals from the environment," Warren said. "As we get more knowledge, we should try to improve our quality of life."

THE REVIEW/Katie Smith



# Prof. Pika distinguished as named professor

BY ELLEN CRAVEN

Staff Reporter

On Nov. 17, approximately 70 university students, alumni and faculty assembled to hear Joseph Pika deliver his inaugural lecture as the university's first James R. Soles Professor of Political Science and International Relations.

Audience members at the Louise and David Roselle Center for the Arts were treated to what Pika called "Joe the Professor's view, not Joe the Plumber's view," on the 2008 presidential race, in his lecture titled "The 2008 Presidential Election: What Have We Seen and What Does It Mean?"

Julie Demgen, assistant to the dean of arts and sciences, said usually a named professor would not be expected to give such a presentation until one year after being named, but because the election coordinated well with Pika's area of expertise, the lecture was scheduled early.

A named professorship is the highest ranking a professor at the university can receive. On Sept. 1, Pika became one of three named professors in the department political science and international relations. The university Web site lists 44 named professors in the college of arts and sciences and 97 named professors throughout the entire university.

Gretchen Bauer, chair of the political science and international relations department said this particular professorship was created in honor of James R. Soles, alumni distinguished professor emeritus of political science and international relations, who attended the lecture on Monday. A few years ago, several university alumni and faculty members raised donations to create the James R. Soles Undergraduate Citizenship Endowment.

The endowment funds undergraduate citizenship stipends, graduate fellowships and the professorship in political science to



Courtesy of Joseph Pika

Joseph Pika is the university's first James R. Soles Professor of Political Science.

recognize those who demonstrate the same dedication to public service Soles did throughout his career.

Invitations for the Nov. 17 event were sent to out to faculty, alumni and Pika's friends and family. The event was also open to the public. Pika said speaking in front of a group so familiar to him was a novel experience.

"Some of the members of my family have never heard me lecture before, so that was a little unusual," Pika said in his lecture. "It was nice to have former students there. I don't think my

colleagues have heard me lecture, so it was a little bit intimidating."

The lecture drew a crowd of those who knew of and wished to celebrate Pika's distinction, as well as political enthusiasts unfamiliar with the speaker himself.

Sophomore Andrew Meltzer said he was not a student of Pika or familiar with the professorship Pika had received, but the topic of the lecture lured him to attend the event.

"I learned what he specialized in and I saw him on Election Night at Trabant giving a talk," Meltzer said. "Judging from the lectures I've seen, he seems to be an expert. I love presidential politics and I think he did a great job breaking down all the categories and themes."

Bauer said she enjoyed the "illuminating" lecture. She appreciated Pika's perspective on the 2008 election campaigns.

She said since many university professors and students closely followed and were involved in the 2008 campaigns, his lecture was fitting.

"It was nice for someone to kind of summarize and analyze the campaign and offer a few thoughts about what the future holds," Bauer said.

Pika told his audience that Soles was the first person he met on campus on his first day of interviewing at the university. He said he hopes his work will live up to the legacy Sole's public service has set.

Paraphrasing Lloyd Bentsen speaking of Jack Kennedy in a 1988 presidential debate, Pika described the honor he feels in being named the James R. Soles Professor and the challenges it presents.

"I know Jim Soles; Jim Soles is a friend of mine, and I'm not Jim Soles," he said.

## Students learn about election in new ways

BY ERICA NARDELLO

Staff Reporter

On Wednesday, students in this semester's Road to the Presidency (COMM/ENGL/POSC 467) class made presentations about the 2008 election. An undergraduate course that requires a group project may seem common, but few classes open those presentations to the public, require students to contribute to a wiki page and are taught by two professors in one section.

Road to the Presidency is a class co-taught by Ralph Begleiter, Rosenberg Professor of Communication, and Joseph Pika, James R. Soles Professor of Political Science and International Relations. The students focused on the developments of the presidential campaigns and the role of the media throughout the 2008 campaign process, Begleiter said.

Pika and Begleiter also taught the class in 2000 and 2004.

Senior Chelsea Sizemore, a student in the class, said Road to the Presidency made her feel as though she was included in the learning process.

"It felt not like the professors were teaching us a set thing, but like I was more involved in the class," Sizemore said.

While the first part of the class contained the traditional elements of a university course, concentrating on assigned readings and lectures, in the second part, the course turned to discussion as the students become more entrenched in the election and the campaigns, Pika said. After the election, the class turned its focus to what happened in the election, why it happened and what its implications are for the future, he said.

"We really kind of migrate over the course of the semester from more traditional to less traditional," Pika said.

Begleiter said the course is fairly traditional in that it contains a midterm and a final exam, as well as quizzes. But that's where much of the customary teaching style ends and the innovation begins.

The two professors work together to create a unique learning experience for the students — Pika puts the election in historical context, while Begleiter helps the students understand the role and behavior of the media in the campaign process. Students are required to follow the campaign closely to get a sense of what is going on while contributing to a wiki, a Web page that allows users to change or add to the content, Begleiter said. Finally, the students are organized into a think tank to present their findings on different aspects of the election and give recommendations in public group presentations, he said.

"It was really an opportunity for students to learn from each other, not the fountain of knowledge or the professors in the class," Pika said.

Begleiter said the students, from various majors including political science, communication and English, have gained an understanding of different learning styles, different points of view and different ideas by working together and discussing their findings. All of the students had a general base of knowledge from their close following of the election, but through the group projects were able to acquire more specialized knowledge about certain aspects of the campaign, Pika said.

Although these alternative teaching styles — having multiple professors, making presentations to the public, analyzing current events in historical context and relating it to what is going on in the media — may be beneficial to students, Begleiter said conventional styles of teaching remain relevant.



Courtesy of University of Delaware/Duane Perry

Students in Road to the Presidency (COMM/ENGL/POSC 467) presented to a public audience as part of their grade.

"There are a lot of traditional things about teaching that are important," he said. "You have to have lectures — how are they going to be able to talk about things that they've never had access to?"

Hence, the first one-third of Road to the Presidency is focused on lectures and giving the students a broad base of knowledge to build upon over the course of the semester. It would be difficult to teach introductory level classes in this way, and no matter what level the course is taught at, it's costly to the university to do so, Begleiter said.

Sizemore said the teaching style was beneficial for a class focusing on the election, but perhaps not the best for all students and settings.

"I think it works well for this one because it wasn't like history — it was what's happening now," she said. "I think it worked with this topic, but I'm not sure if it would work in other kinds of classes."

The public presentations also add an ele-

ment of pressure to the students, Begleiter said. Their findings must reflect an accurate understanding of the material, a unique perspective on the election and a way to draw in the attendees, he said.

Emerson Rana, a junior accounting and management information systems major who attended the presentations, said he appreciates unconventional methods of learning.

"For me, learning different points of view and different teaching styles is important to learn how to adapt in different classes," Rana said. "I wouldn't want to go to a class that's the same old boring lecture."

Rana said he immediately realized the students had great public speaking skills and knew the material well.

Begleiter said he hoped attendees were able to see the impact of having a number of different student perspectives in the classroom.

"I wouldn't mind if people walked out saying, 'Damn, those students are good,'" he said.

# Finding a safer manicure

Nail salon employees at risk from chemicals in commonly used products

BY MADDIE THOMAS

National/State News Editor

The manicurist's station is neatly arranged with little glass bottles of nail polish labeled with names like, "Orange You Cute," "Berried Treasure" and "Ru-by or Not to Be."

She takes her customer's hand gently in hers and dips the brush carefully into the bottle of polish, using the lip of the bottle to remove the excess color. Hunching over so she can get a closer look of the nails that await painting, she delicately applies the first stroke of vibrant color in one smooth sweep. Little does she know, the fumes she is breathing in and has been breathing in for the past few hours throughout her shift may be slowly damaging her health.

Despite high levels of intellectual disabilities and birth defects occurring among the children of nail salon workers, very little research has been conducted on the effect of the toxic chemicals found in nail polish on reproductive health.

Nancy Chung, reproductive justice and public policy fellow for the National Asian Pacific American Women's Forum, an organization dedicated to advancing the social justice and human rights for Asian-Pacific American women and girls, said a group gave the forum information concerning a number of Vietnamese nail workers who have given birth to disabled children.

Out of confidentiality, she could not name the group who came forth to the forum.

"We recently came across someone who came to us from a Vietnamese community center," Chung said. "We interviewed a bunch of women and about half of those women who had worked in nail salons have children with mental retardation and with birth defects."

She said many Vietnamese women are unwilling to come forward about their children's disabilities due to cultural and immigration reasons.

At The Nail Stop salon on East Main Street, manager Le Banh said he gives his employees leave if they become pregnant.

"If we find out the lady is pregnant, we ask them to leave and then come back because the chemicals are bad for the babies — they are killing the babies," Banh said.

The ingredients found in nail polish, including formaldehyde, toluene, phthalates acetone and methacrylates, are some of the most toxic chemicals listed in the Skin Deep database, the nonprofit Environmental Working Group's safety database of toxic ingredients in cosmetic and personal care products.

According to the book "Not Just a Pretty Face: The Ugly Side of the Beauty Industry" by Stacy Malkan, the toxic trio of nail product ingredients are the chemicals dibutyl phthalate, toluene and formaldehyde.

Although employees of nail salons are required by law to receive a material safety data sheet outlining the chemicals used in nail products and the hazards associated with them, the sheets may or may not be translated into other languages, even though 40 percent of all nail salon workers are Vietnamese immigrants.

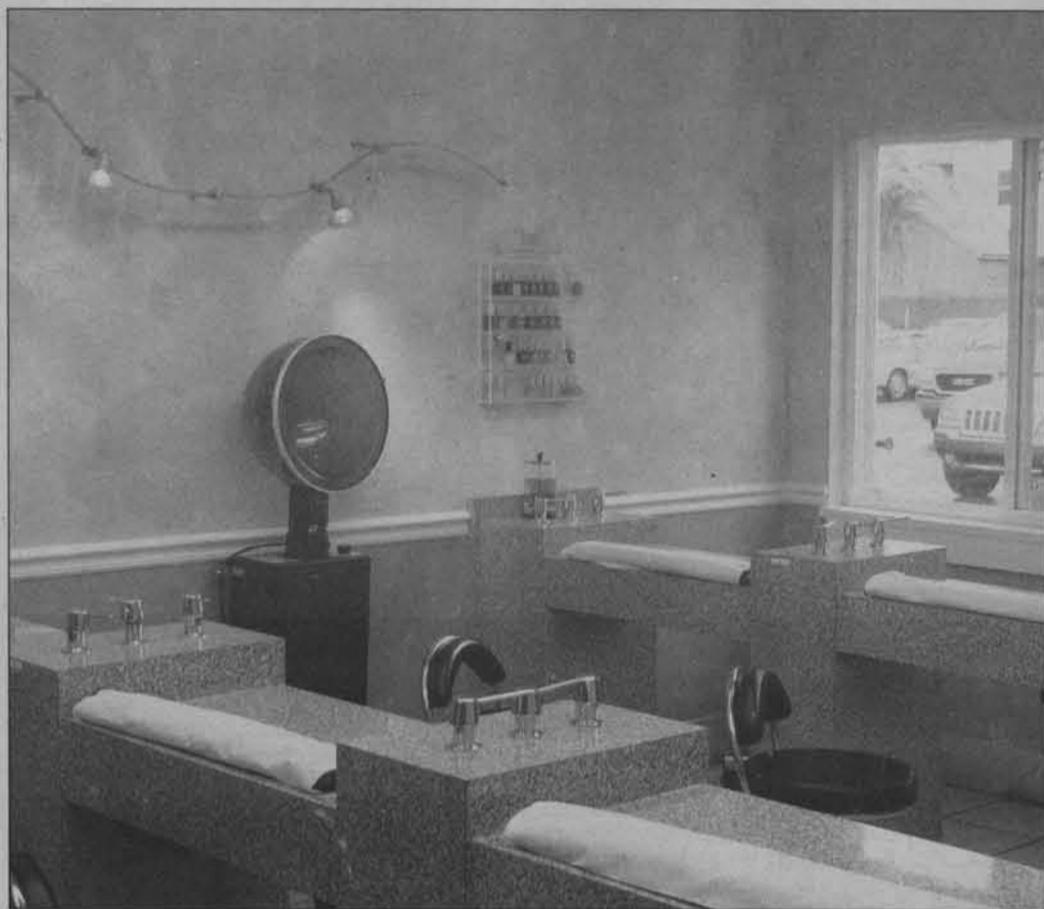
"The question is, are they available in other languages and whether all the bad chemicals are listed on them," Chung said. "We don't know if that's a complete list."

James Collins, director of professional regulation of the Department of State's Division of Professional Regulation, said material safety sheets as well as licensing exams are often not translated from English because the state wants nail technicians to be proficient in English.

"I've heard the board discuss the language issue, and they prefer the exams to be given in English," Collins said.

According to the Silent Spring Institute Web site, an organization that studies the links between the environment and women's health, dibutyl phthalate, the most toxic chemical of the phthalates group, has damaging reproductive effects.

"Dibutyl phthalate, for example, which is used to keep nail polish from chipping, has been found to increase the likelihood that laboratory animals will give birth to offspring with birth defects, especially of the male reproductive system," the Web site states. Dibutyl phthalate blocks male hormones, called androgens, and results in the "demasculation of male babies, according to "Not Just a Pretty Face."



THE REVIEW/Steven Gold

The Shilling-Douglas School of Hair Design on Amstel Avenue teaches nail care to its students. The safety of chemicals in some nail products is being questioned, but an employee of the Shilling-Douglas School says theirs are approved by the Nail Council of America.

Demasculation can include symptoms such as lower sperm counts, testicular atrophy, undescended testicles and other birth defects of the penis including hypospadias, where the opening of the urethra occurs on the underside of the penis instead of the tip.

Toluene, another chemical component of the trio, is a colorless liquid that acts as a solvent. It is used to suspend the nail pigment throughout the polish and is responsible in creating a smooth finish, according to "Glossed Over: Health Hazards Associated with Toxic Exposure in Nail Salons," a report by Alexandra Gorman and Philip O'Connor, for Women's Voices for the Earth, a grassroots environmental justice organization.

"Toluene is volatile and evaporates into the air as nail polish dries," the report states. "Exposure to toluene can affect the central nervous system with low-level symptoms such as headache, dizziness and fatigue. Toluene is also an irritant to the eyes, nose and throat. At very high exposures, toluene has been found to be toxic to the kidneys and liver, and is a possible reproductive or developmental toxin."

At The Nail Stop, Banh said he and his employees often smell strong odors of fumes and chemicals in the salon. Banh said he and his staff worry about how their health is being impacted by their work environment.

"Yeah, we do have concerns sometimes," he said. "Sometimes we get headaches. In the summer, the heat gives us headaches because of the fumes."

Among headaches, nail salon workers have been documented to be frequent sufferers of asthma and skin problems and are prone to decreased attention and processing skills compared to women who do not work in salons, "Not Just a Pretty Face" states.

Banh said he often keeps an air ventilation system running in his salon in order to keep the smell of fumes at bay. He also requires each of his employees to wear masks when working with customers.

"They wear masks to protect their health,

protect from cancer and to protect from the chemicals killing their lungs," Banh said.

He said he often receives complaints from neighboring offices about the smells of chemicals drifting in from his salon.

Formaldehyde, the final chemical of the trio, is a known carcinogen, according to the Silent Spring Institute's Web site. Used as a nail hardener to create a smooth finish, formaldehyde is an irritant to the eyes, nose and throat, and exposure can lead to skin irritations such as dermatitis.

Certain manufacturers of nail products have removed components of the three chemicals from their products. Nail product manufacturer OPI, for example, eliminated dibutyl phthalate from its nail lacquers, nail treatments and nail hardeners in 2006, according to the company's Web site. In 2007, it removed toluene from its nail lacquers, nail treatment and nail hardener products.

"Toluene-free formulas have been approved for all of our nail treatment and nail hardener products; some of these formulas are already being manufactured, and the others will be on the market in the next few months," OPI's Web site states.

Newark Natural Foods offers several non-toxic nail products from Honeybee Gardens, including nail polish free from odors, toluene, formaldehyde and dibutyl phthalate, and an odorless nail polish remover.

Secret Charles, community outreach consultant for the Community Coalition for Environmental Justice, a coalition whose mission is to achieve environmental and economic justice in low-income communities and communities of color, believes nail technicians should continue to receive education about toxic chemicals in nail products after they receive their licenses.

"They should create a mandate to go back for continuing education every six months to a year to show they are aware of the environment," Charles said. "They want to stay healthy themselves."



THE REVIEW/Ricky Berl

# R

## in the news

### Bush holds last meeting with Russia

President Bush held his last meeting with a Russian leader on Saturday, saying he had worked to forge a "cordial relationship" with President Dmitry Medvedev and to be "respectful" when they disagreed.

Attending the annual Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation summit in Peru, Bush also won pledges to keep Pacific Rim markets open during the financial crisis and made modest gains in stalled negotiations over North Korea's nuclear weapons program.

The meeting between Bush and Medvedev came at a time of deepening tension between Washington and

Moscow over the Georgian war, missile defense and other intractable conflicts. Their private session took place hours after Bush issued a statement hailing the fifth anniversary of the "Rose Revolution" in Georgia.

At the summit, leaders of the 21-nation group endorsed an agreement reached at an earlier Washington summit to adhere to free-market principles while enacting tough financial reforms. The APEC nations also vowed to "refrain within the next 12 months from raising new barriers to investment or to trade," and pledged to move ahead next month with a global trade pact.

### Iraq urges U.S. troops to stay three more years

Iraq's defense minister warned Saturday the government would declare a state of emergency if there was no agreement to keep U.S. forces in the country past the end of the year.

The threat by Abdul Qadir Muhammed Jassim appeared aimed at pressuring parliament to approve a security accord allowing U.S. troops to stay three more years.

Jassim has been a strong supporter of the agreement, which would replace a United Nations mandate that expires Dec. 31. But

his language Saturday was unusually stark. He said at a news conference that if there was a sudden U.S. withdrawal, "we shall wait for a strike against us, in our midst."

The vote on the agreement was originally set for Monday but was moved to Wednesday because parties wanted more time to review it, officials said. Parliament is scheduled to adjourn this week to allow lawmakers to make the hajj pilgrimage; they are not expected to reconvene until mid-December.

### Obama begins plans for country before entering office

With a series of forceful actions in recent days, amid an almost unprecedented set of challenges, Barack Obama has taken an unusual step for a president-elect: attempting to alter the country's perilous course even before he takes office.

The most dramatic example came Saturday, when Obama announced a far more aggressive economic stimulus plan than previously promised — a two-year program to add 2.5 million jobs that he said represented "an early

down payment on the type of reform my administration will bring to Washington."

Obama has moved with unusual speed to fill most of his top White House staff positions. And in recent days, he settled on a number of key Cabinet appointments designed to remove the uncertainty that has sparked turbulence in the financial markets and replace it with a sense of confidence in the administration-in-waiting.

— compiled from the L.A. Times and Washington Post news wire

## police reports

### SCOOTER STOLEN ON WEST MAIN STREET

A motorized go-ped scooter was reported stolen off the porch of a house in the 100 block of West Main Street on Saturday, Cpl. Gerald Bryda of the Newark Police Department said.

The victim, a 21-year-old male university student renting the house, was not home at the time of the incident. The victim's roommates hosted a party during the timeframe in which the incident occurred, sometime between 10 p.m. Friday and noon Saturday.

The scooter cost approximately \$600 and had no distinguishable marks on it.

There were no witnesses present during the theft and there are no leads at this time, Bryda said.

### STUDENT INVOLVED IN ALTERCATION

A 21-year-old university student and a 19-year-old employee of Margherita's Pizza got into an altercation on Main Street on Saturday at 2:26 a.m. at the business, Bryda said.

The student suffered a severe laceration on the back of his head and was taken to Christiana Hospital by Aetna Hose Hook & Ladder Ambulance.

It appeared that the student and his friend went into Margherita's and made comments and/or compliments to their female waitress, Bryda said. The waitress then told her boyfriend, an employee at Margherita's, about the comments. As the student and his friend were leaving the restaurant, several employees confronted him and his friend, leading to a pushing match that resulted in the suspect punching the student in the face.

The student hit his head on the curb outside and received a golf-ball-sized laceration that was bleeding profusely, Bryda said.

The assault is being investigated as to determine who pushed whom first.

— Elisa Lala

# Not a warm holiday season for Main Street businesses

BY PAT MAGUIRE

Sports Editor

Roz Maeuro and Pamela Losey perused through Grassroots Handcrafts last week, interested in what the Main Street store had to offer. The women were in Newark visiting their daughters. Maeuro, from Georgia, and Losey, a New York native, were enticed by the large sign outside that said, "SALE." With a hurting economy and tighter budgets, the women knew that holiday shopping was going to be different this year.

"I'm not doing as many details as I used to, meaning I would have a present then I would wrap another on top of it or something," Losey said. "I'm just not doing all of those extras."

Losey and Maeuro aren't the only ones cutting back as a result of the economic downfall. The drop in holiday shopping is concerning the owners and managers of some Main Street businesses, and the drop in sales is already beginning to show for some.

"We're extremely, extremely concerned," Kristin Short, the company manager at Grassroots, said. "We've already laid off two managers, and we're possibly closing a store of our four locations."

Grassroots has stores in Wilmington, Newark and Hockessin. The layoffs were the first for the chain in its 34 years of existence.

"That just speaks to the seriousness of the economy right now," Short said. "It's scary. It really, really is. We're doing everything we can just to weather it and get through it."

Stores on Main Street have felt the sting of the economy for months now. While the last quarter usually generates half of the business in the whole year, Short said, stores like Grassroots are already taking precautions.

Chris Avino, the owner of Rainbow Records, saw sales drop at the end of the summer. The decline has not stopped since.

"It started at the end of the summer because people were paying \$3.50, \$4.00 for gas," Avino said. "Now people are just holding onto their money."

In addition to a decrease in sales, Short said it has been difficult to get people to just walk into the store and shop. While some owners said they did not plan on adjusting their prices, other managers are using different strategies to entice shoppers.

Sandi Patterson, owner of Clothes in the Past Lane,

was confident her marketing methods would keep sales up as the holidays came along.

"I'm not worried, and maybe I should be," Patterson said. "Things have been pretty steady and I think I'm not worried because of my price points."

Patterson's "Price Points" is a system in which shoppers can buy slightly damaged items for a cheaper cost. The system is working well for the store so far, she said.

With business remaining steady for Patterson, she does not plan on significantly changing her methods.

"I think I'm probably going to do a couple of sales to entice people to come in," she said. "I think that's the par of the course. You always have your sales and things like that."

While Patterson said she has not noticed a significant difference, Short said Grassroots' sales are on a swift downfall.

"People aren't coming in the store," Short said. "You really don't have a chance if they don't walk in the door. We're marking things down. We're running sales every weekend. We just have to get people to come in."

Avino said Rainbow is taking slight precautions to adjust to the downfall as well. While the store has not had to lay off any employees, it is taking steps to make sure the situation does not get significantly worse.

"We're being really, really tight," he said. "Keeping the payroll down, adjusting store hours — stuff like that."

Rainbow has reduced its hours by two hours per weekday, opening at 11 a.m. and closing at 8 p.m.

Short, who said Grassroots' sales usually nosedive between mid-January and Valentine's Day on a typical year, does not see a bright future for her store with the economy's current state.

"We are not projecting it's going to get better," she said. "We don't think it's going to get better through the end of the year, and we're actually worried about next year."

While store owners work hard to try to attract much-needed customers during the holiday season, shoppers like Maeuro and Losey continue to browse stores, making sure they are meeting the needs of a tight budget.

However, for the women, it could be worse.

"I think about the people who are really strapped for money," Maeuro said. "It's so hard — it's a really hard time of year."



THE REVIEW/Justin Maurer

Grassroots Handcrafts has had to lay off two managers because of the economy, the first in the company's 34-year history.

# Christiana Mall battles economy with new stores

BY ERICA FLORENTINE  
Staff Reporter

The recent downturn of the economy and billions of dollars worth of financial debt may prove to squash spirits at Christiana Mall this holiday season. This year, the shopping season presents many questions about sales and employment.

Tyler Tejada, an Abercrombie and Fitch employee at Christiana Mall, said he expects shoppers will buy less compared to last year.

"Because of the economy, I can't imagine sales won't be worse than last year," Tejada said. "Even my manager thinks it'll be worse."

Tejada, who has worked at the store for more than a year, said Abercrombie has been cutting back when it comes to employees. He said there used to be one person working each room of the store at a time. Now, the store uses the least amount of employees that it can at any given time.

Tejada said from what he has heard, there will be some interesting new additions to Christiana Mall.

"I know they're building a new food court," Tejada said. "I think they're adding a big department store too."

Officials declined to comment on exactly what stores will be added or when they plan on finishing the project.

Jim Graham, senior director of public affairs from General Growth Properties, said his company is a joint-owner of the Christiana Mall. The company is currently billions of dollars in debt, he said, but he insists the mall has not contributed to it.

"We have a lot of money due before the end of the year, and additional money due next year," Graham said. "It's not associated with the Christiana Mall."

The renovations currently being done on the mall are not contributing to the debt that GGP has accumulated, he said. The majority of the company's debt is due to properties it owns in Las Vegas.

"Our debt's major association is with The Shoppes at the Palazzo

in Las Vegas," Graham said.

He said he is not sure how that project is being financed. He said he strongly feels the mall will continue to do well even with the company's financial burdens.

"Christiana Mall is performing very well," Graham said. "We expect a busy and profitable Christmas."

Sophomore Michaella Tassinari said she expects the Christmas shopping season will not be the same as it has been in the past years. She said she is not planning on spending nearly as much on gifts as she used to.

"Last year I spent \$600 on my family for Christmas presents," Tassinari said. "This year, I don't think I'll be buying anything."

Tassinari said she does not think she will be receiving as many gifts this year. Instead of telling her parents what she wants for Christmas, they are giving her a dollar amount. She can choose her own gifts up to that amount, she said.

"I think sales at the mall will be a lot worse this year," Tassinari said. "Everyone is being much more careful with their spending."

Tejada said he has not noticed much of a change in sales at Abercrombie and Fitch. He said the store has been selling the same amount of items as it always has.

"I don't think there's been a decrease in sales," Tejada said. "Our prices have changed though." Tejada said the prices of their items have increased and most of them bumped up to the next even number. Some items have increased by a significant amount, he said.

Salespeople from JCPenney's, Macy's and Coach refused to comment on their recent sales.

Graham said he feels with the addition of new stores to the Christiana Mall, sales should be good during this holiday season, even with the problems with the economy.

"With some new stores for this season, there are even more reason to go shop than there were before," he said.



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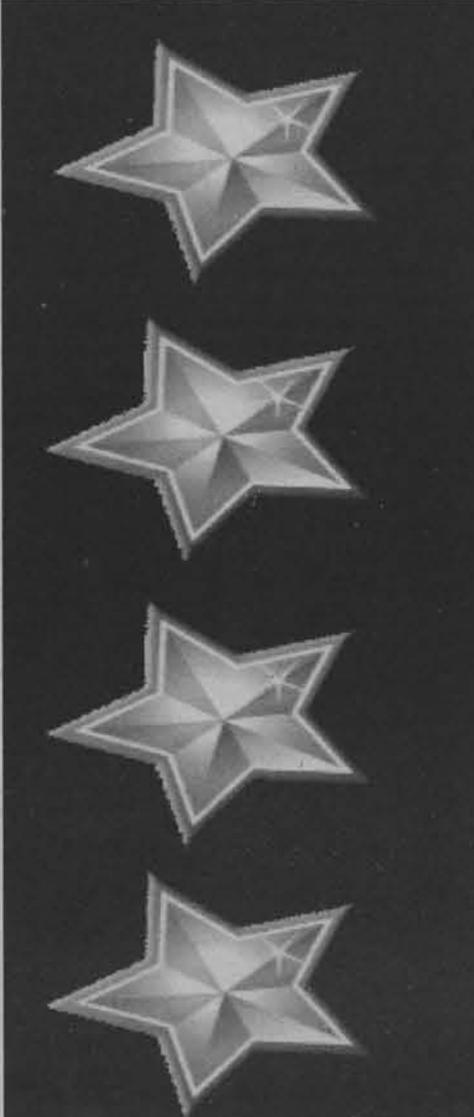
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THE REVIEW/Melanie Hardy

Despite financial problems within the Christiana Mall's parent company, the mall itself is stable going into the holiday shopping season.



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## Lecture stresses safe sex practices

Continued from page 4

sions."

Fried lives with the consequences of not using a condom on that November night 21 years ago. He goes to the doctor every three months, gives 11 test tubes of blood and waits for his T-cell count. At his last appointment, he said his T-cell count had doubled.

Until two years ago, Fried only took vitamins, herbs and other supplements to reduce his AIDS symptoms. He brought 45 pills with him to his presentations and swallowed them three at a time.

Freshman Eric Oppenheimer attended one of Fried's presentations in high school and was amazed by what he saw. It was the first time he realized what someone with AIDS went through.

"It was heart-wrenching," Oppenheimer said.

Fried has now started taking prescribed medication to fight his disease. He appears healthy, but said he feels nauseous every morning from the drugs.

Fried finds strength in his AIDS support group based in New York City, where he lives. The group provides a place for those with the disease to talk, but Fried's group also has a special place in Broadway history.

The Broadway musical "Rent," is based partly off friends Fried met in his support group. He said one of his friends always mentioned how he measured a year in cups of coffee and that was the inspiration for the song "Seasons of Love."

Fried's favorite connection to "Rent" comes from one of his best friends. The producer wanted to write a song about a blessing, but his friend refused to hear it.

"She said that people with AIDS would never bless the disease," he said, "and the producer went back to the drawing board."

Fried honored his 138 friends who have died from AIDS at the end of his presentation. He displayed a video he composed of snapshots and voices from his answering machine of his friends who have passed away.

"I was blessed to have known them," Fried said.

He said he was always very religious and family-oriented as a child and young adult, but his bonds with his family and perception of God have changed since he found out he had AIDS.

Fried's greatest accomplishment in the past 21 years has been his relationship with his father. His disease opened up the loving and healing relationship both had always wanted. Fried has also found new meaning in the Jewish holiday Sukkot since he was diagnosed with AIDS.

"The sun shining in the stained-glass window is brighter," he said. "The prayers touch my heart in a way they never did before."

Fried said his main purpose in delivering speeches about AIDS is to educate people of all ages.

"I want people to not feel distant and shut off," he said. "I want to make people feel less alone in their lives because there are others like them."

## Creamery converts to solar power

Continued from page 8

viable to do it," Mitchell said. "We're able to get that cross-share from them to help with the system."

Solar panels are primarily made of crystal and wafers that allow them to absorb sunlight, even when it is cloudy, Lynch said. The panels convert the sun's energy into free-flowing electrons, or direct current electricity, similar to the energy used by batteries. An inverter then converts the direct current electricity into alternating current electricity, the most widely used form of power.

Mitchell said the farm will be using a net metering system. This will allow the farm to produce more electricity than needed during the day. The farm will receive credit for any extra power that is stored on the grid. At night, the farm will be powered from energy stored on the grid, as well.

Bridget Shelton, company spokeswoman for Delmarva Power, said power for the farm is provided by Delmarva Power. She said Delmarva serves as the interconnection point between Woodside Farm and the power grid. The company ensures the farm's solar generation is connected to the grid.

Shelton thinks other businesses should use Woodside Farm as an example and transition to solar power if they have the means to do so.

"Every business owner, every resident, needs to see if it's financially feasible for them to pursue this new technology that is certainly on the cutting edge in terms of produc-

ing the cleanest energy we know of," Shelton said. "It's a huge financial undertaking."

Junior Stephan Labelle said he supports Woodside Farm using a renewable energy source and that more businesses should do the same.

"We need to find a way to harness the solar energy so that businesses can potentially run how they normally run without it," Labelle said. "If that is possible, then I believe all businesses should run on solar energy."

Graduate student Patrick Hauske said he appreciates the farm taking the initiative to install solar energy panels independently.

"I think it's great that a small business is pursuing alternative energy without compulsion or mandate from the government," Hauske said.

He said pursuing solar energy is important, and there should be ways for it to be economically viable for businesses.

"Despite the fact that solar energy is the most expensive source of renewable energy, the sheer magnitude of solar insolation makes it a worthwhile endeavor to study and find solutions that will lower its cost," Hauske said.

Mitchell said while he is happy with Woodside Farm being one of the largest solar panel powered ventures in the state, he predicts larger solar power endeavors will emerge soon.

"I think it's kind of neat," he said. "I was a little surprised to learn that, but I think you're going to be seeing more and more solar power all over the state, and I suspect we're not going to be the largest for very long."

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# editorial

## Proposition 8 passage is disgrace

In a time of hardship, let people love who they want

America owns the reputation of being the pinnacle of human rights and equality — right? But on Nov. 4, one of the greatest moments in this country's history occurred when the first black man was elected president. This was a proud moment for every American — regardless of color, gender and sexual orientation.

However, while celebrating President-elect Barack Obama's victory as a win over negative race relations and stereotypes, Nov. 4 also stood as a giant step back for another group that has been experiencing prejudices. Proposition 8, an amendment banning gay marriage in California, was passed.

In a time when acceptance should be the norm, this is an outrage. There shouldn't have to be another civil rights era for a group that is being oppressed. This banning stands for all groups, current and future, who have faced injustice and have been ignored.

Homosexuals are the same as anyone else — we all breathe the same air, eat the same foods, share the same earth. There isn't any reason why a gay person can't have the same rights as a straight person.

Civil unions are not an appropriate match in comparison to marriage. Everything from taxes to medical rights, insurance to health care, is

included with a marriage certificate. When two people in the United States get married, they have the ability to share these things with their partner. Without these, a civil union is a small step above a piece of paper saying two people are involved in a relationship.

Separation of church and state was created to do just that. If a particular religion does not believe in gay marriages, then it doesn't have to allow them. After all, there is a difference between civil marriage and religious marriage. A simple definition of "marriage" should not involve whether the person is a man or a woman. It should be based on the one thing that makes a union survive — love.

This is a frustration in a country that is fighting two wars, seen an economic recession and experienced the worst terrorist attack in history. Instead of arguing over basic civil rights and denying happiness to those who desperately want it, we need to focus on the issues that are causing problems for every American. With the passing of Proposition 8, the time has come to stand up and support those who don't have equal opportunities and futures simply because of what they do behind closed doors. It's clear that the time has come finally to say, this is wrong.

## Public Safety rejects help from site

University refuses to collaborate with crime Web site

Before the semester even began, the number of crime reports called in to the local police department was unusually high. As students returned to campus to start the new school year, many weren't even aware of the rising crime rate on and around campus, or didn't take it seriously. After several robberies at gunpoint in areas heavily populated by students, the problem became more serious and top officials at the university made statements assuring its students that they were doing more to ensure safety.

UCrime.com, a free Web site where users can view a map of their college town and see the exact spot where various crimes have taken place, is a helpful tool in informing people about the safe and dangerous areas in their town.

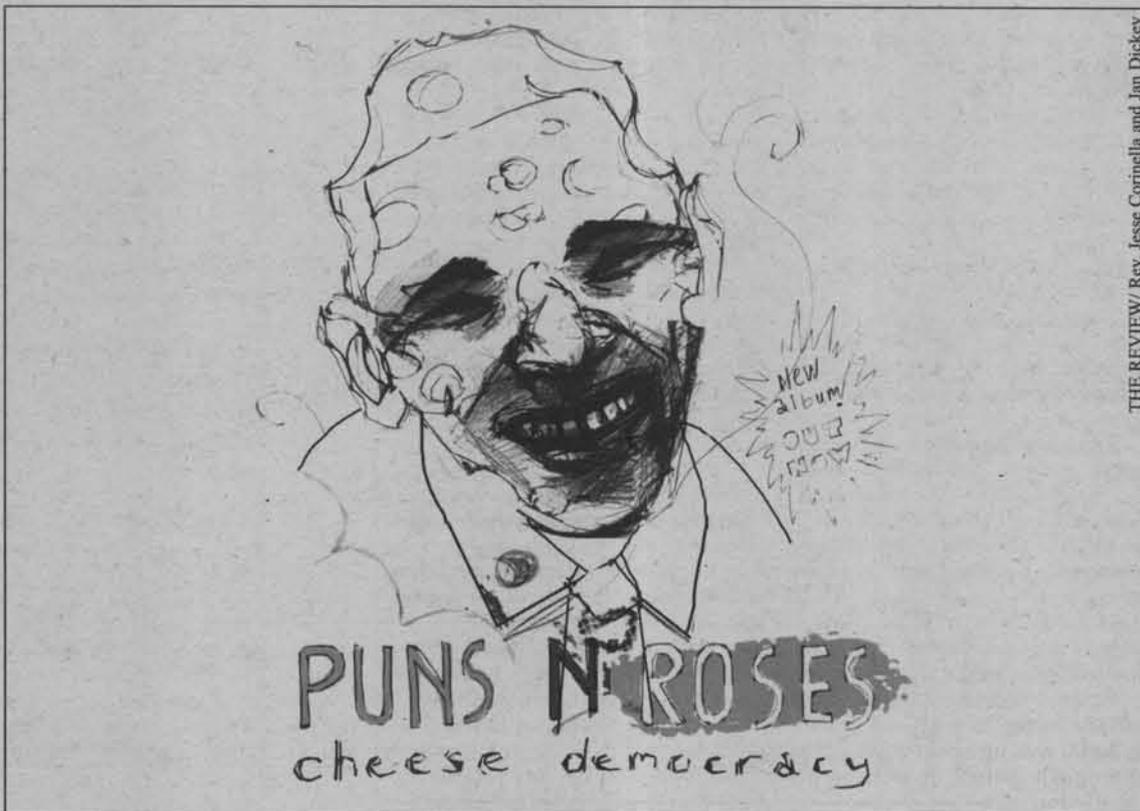
Many colleges are members of UCrime, meaning the site will receive daily crime updates and post them on a map of the campus. With the surge of crime on the university's campus this year, it would make sense for Executive Director of Public Safety Albert Homiak, to join forces with any person, program or organization whose goal is to help students feel safer.

That's not what happened. When the creator of Ucrime.com approached Homiak to put the university on the site, he refused to cooperate. When asked to comment on the decision, Homiak again refused and gave no clear reason for his decision.

Creating an in-house program, which Homiak said he would rather do as an alternative to joining UCrime, would require a significant amount of time and money, as opposed to the Web site, which is already up and running. Furthermore, UCrime is Facebook and iPhone compatible, which would allow students to readily access and utilize it.

There may be legitimate reasons for Homiak's negative feelings toward joining the UCrime network. Nevertheless, it seems like the right thing to do on the surface and at first glance there don't really seem to be any drawbacks to joining the site. Until Public Safety or the university gives a reasonable explanation for not cooperating with the Web site and providing students with another tool to encourage safety, Homiak's decision will remain questionable.

## Shrub Toons



"The big cheese."

THE REVIEW/Rev. Jesse Corniella and Jan Dickey

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

### Harker's letter contradictory

In a recent e-mail to all university students, university President Patrick Harker said the following. "Our challenge is clear. We must work together now to reduce non-essential expenditures, build reserves, increase efficiencies and innovate — and continue to ensure that the first and foremost priority remains the success of our students."

I am in utter shock. My freshman year, I was compelled to participate in the Life program, which consisted of little more than pseudo-pedagogical activities like talking about self-esteem. As I recall, we were also

provided with a \$1,000 budget, which we spent taking President Roselle out to dinner at the Blue & Gold Club. Multiply that \$1,000 by however many Life clusters exist, and that sum quickly becomes astronomical, not to mention the rest of the funding involved — the end-of-the-semester "Life Fest" held at the Bob Carpenter Center comes readily to mind.

My sophomore year, I lived in Gilbert and around Thanksgiving time, the Resident Assistants from my building got together and had our building make construction paper turkeys. As far as I know, they used Residence Life funds to do so. At football games, students are given

free inflatable blue and gold tubes to slap together in applause. At floor meetings, useless fliers, questionnaires and packets are handed out by the ream. I literally got a flier that told me I could get killed if I passed out on the railroad tracks. Thanks ResLife. Examples of reckless and whimsical spending are to be found at every corner of campus and frankly, I'm offended that Harker would ask me to be more frugal after the university metaphorically wiped itself with my hard-earned money.

Louis Thibault  
louist@udel.edu  
Senior

### Corrections

In last week's article "The Mosaic Interview: O.A.R." The Review neglected to mention that the event was hosted by the Student Centers

Programming Advisory Board. We apologize for the oversight.

Last week's article "Bats endangered by offshore wind farms"

misquoted a study as saying "3,830 bats were killed over the sea." It should have said, "3,830 bats which were in danger of being killed over the ocean."

## WRITE TO THE REVIEW

250 Perkins Student Center  
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E-mail: [theudreview@gmail.com](mailto:theudreview@gmail.com)  
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The Review gladly welcomes readers to write in for letters to the editor and guest columnists. If you have any questions feel free to contact us at [theudreview@gmail.com](mailto:theudreview@gmail.com)

## LAST WEEK'S RESULTS

Q: Do you think sex talks help students learn more about having safe sex?

71% Yes  
29% No

# R

# Opinion

15

## Writing isn't as much fun as it used to be

### Guest Commentary

Sean Mis

Writing was fun when imagination took over

The problem I have with writing is that it's not fun. It's not a pastime for me anymore. I keep hearing that putting your thoughts down on paper is the hardest thing anybody ever has to do. "God, it's like pulling teeth." And it is. It's like pulling brain-teeth from the jaws of the cave in your mind.

I do not accept the fact that whatever I can think I can write. That is not even a fact.

When I was a kid, writing was fun. I remember lying in my bed after homework was done, writing about parts of my dream I had the night before. It wasn't easy because by that point all of my dream-memory-teeth were almost shut tight. I recalled enough of the magic, however, and wrote some of it down. Writing made it feel like I was just re-dreaming it all. It wasn't work and I liked it. Other times I would pick up a notebook — writing something like this, just less, um, uptight — and just fill page after page with nothing in particular.

Damn — where did this part of me go?

I get excited when I have an idea for a paper topic. It feels like some shockwave or surge of energy happens in my head. In my notes I enter a space of timelessness. I try to capture details from the farthest point of where I can go with my writing. Somewhere, though, I lose it. It turns mechanical.

**My stream of consciousness writing turns into "point A connects to point B," and so on. I have been trained to do this, and I know I can explain and elucidate as to why I reform my unguided thoughts into a structure, but I cannot explain where the child in me went.**

In fifth grade, at my prestigious Roman Catholic grade school, I wrote a book. It had pictures — more pictures than words — and was a work of fantasy.

"The Search for the Fountain of Youth," I called it. My teachers were impressed, and they decided to let me give a reading at one of the school's open houses that year.

"Now, Sean, make sure you answer any question with some detail about your story and how you came up with it, OK?" "Alright," I thought. But what was there to explain? I wrote something and the explanation is in the book, isn't it?

The night of the reading — the seminal

fifth grader's book reading and discussion, one night only — one of my classmates, and I sat vulnerably in front of dozens of parents, both of us in dress shirts and ties, ready to sweat through our books. His was about a soccer match and how he scored the winning goal. Mine had a two-page illustrated spread of a Utopian island that secretly held the key to immortality. So, as you might expect, I was asked a lot of questions.

"How did you come up with an idea like this?"

"I really have no idea." Aw, man. I was doing exactly what I was asked not to do. Before the reading I remember thinking about how I would explain where this idea came from. Of course someone would ask me this question. I tried to think about when I had the initial thought as I sat at my desk, but I really didn't have any plan for what I was about to write. "It was diabolic inspiration." No, no — I couldn't say that in a Catholic institution, and plus, I didn't know much about Satanism in the fifth grade. Well, maybe divine then. Nope, I couldn't explain that one either. It was just my imagination.

If this was 10 or 15 years in the future and I was explaining a piece of fiction or creative non-fiction that I wrote, I would bring together what part of my life experience I included, what theorists I was reading at the time, what film's central dialogue I dissected and expanded. But this was me as an 11-year-old, untainted by any formal discourse.

Where did that part of me go?

Writing in college isn't fun. I always say that I'd rather write four or five papers for a course than have to take three exams. I hate tests, and I hate the word hate. But mulling over your ideas, putting them into charts and grids, making a systematic story that is stale the second I press Control-P, is no fun.

When I was a freshman and taking a composition course, my professor tried to help. He told me about the only tools he needs to write — pen, paper and scotch. He knew I was 21 at the time, so maybe he thought he was removing a blindfold for me. Alcohol, eh? You sit down at night, pour yourself a glass and with the warm light of your desk lamp, let your thoughts become words and the rest will follow. But don't forget to look it over in the sobering morning light, just to make sure you didn't get off track.

I never explicitly tried this, though unconsciously I am sure I have, but I would undoubtedly trade any single malt scotch — however long it's been aged in oak-casting — for my youthful naive imagination, now lost in songs of experience.

Sean Mis is a guest columnist for *The Review*. His viewpoints do not necessarily represent those of the *Review* staff. Please send comments to [smis@udel.edu](mailto:smis@udel.edu)

## Why I'm afraid of a few gray balloons



### Pint-sized Perspectives

Laura Dattaro

We're really not all the same color.

I've always wanted a hero, and I think I found him — on "The Colbert Report," of all places.

On Nov. 20, Newark, N.J., Mayor Cory Booker appeared on the show to talk about his hopes for the future of the country, including his desire to "luxuriate in the racial deliciousness of this country."

Fabulous word usage aside, Booker is my hero for voicing on a huge public stage thoughts that have been fermenting in my head since high school. Prior to his appearance, Colbert opened the show by declaring racism (b. 1776, d. 2008) to be over amidst a swarm of drab, gray balloons — "with racism over, this is the color we all are now," Colbert declared.

Booker disagreed, and so do I. I went to high school in Columbia, Md., in the heart of Howard County, a mysterious land where valedictorians don't exist and students are given "E's" instead of "F's" because no one is a failure. The word "Christmas" was replaced with "holiday," and later with "Winter," whenever used in front of something like "concert,"

"party" or "dance." While most schools have ESL programs (English as a Second Language), mine had ESOL — English for Speakers of Other Languages, a difference I only recently discovered and one I can only conclude exists to avoid offense. My school had one of the most diverse student bodies in the county, and yet we weren't allowed to acknowledge it.

Our country is constantly living a monumental oxymoron — in order to embrace diversity, let's make everyone the same. Don't celebrate birthdays, because it might offend the kid whose parents are Jehovah's Witnesses. Stop playing Christmas songs at band concerts, because there aren't enough Chanukah songs (and close to zero for Kwanzaa or Ramadan) to make it fair.

Rather than squelching our differences — racial, cultural or social — we should be celebrating them. Eradicating Christmas parties is an easy solution to calm minorities who feel (rightfully or not) that they are underrepresented, but its devastating consequences are twofold: one, it silences important conversations from which everyone would benefit; and two, it cements the divides that exist between the multitude of cultures living in strained quasi-harmony everyday across the country.

Booker offered up a number of metaphors to support his ideals. A concert is entertaining because it is composed of many instruments playing together. A rainbow is beautiful because of its many distinct colors — a quali-

ty, he notes, that also applies to our own American flag.

The best part of it all is that Booker isn't

**You and I both enjoy Irish bagpipes, he tells Colbert, and aren't we fortunate to live in a country where we can find people who play them.**

just a philosopher preaching his lofty ideologies to a scorned, divided public. The fundamental idea seems sound, you might say, but how can we actually make it work? (The *Review*, for the record, addressed this issue in an October editorial criticizing the university for making "diversity" its buzzword without presenting any solid plans for how they plan to "embrace" and "promote" it.)

According to the Disaster Research Center, Newark, N.J. had more than 1,000 violent crimes per 100,000 people in 2005, the most recent year for which statistics were available. Nationally, the rate was slightly under 500. Booker, though, has been able to reduce murder and shooting by 40 percent, which he told Colbert was accomplished through encouraging differences in the form of new businesses, from soul food restaurants to health care programs. "People have come together," he said, "each contributing their uniqueness to the common pot."

We need to stop being scared of offending, and instead learn about cultures and prac-

tices we might not understand. Racism isn't over, Colbert, and it probably won't be for decades, but we can't start truly battling it until we fully acknowledge its existence. I'm a religiously ambiguous white girl with a comfortable middle-class upbringing. I know I don't have much in common with a first-generation immigrant whose parents can't communicate with his teachers, or a kid who grew up in Harlem who can't afford college. But instead of pretending this disparity doesn't exist — America is the land of opportunity where everyone can win! — let's acknowledge it, and more importantly, learn from it, before we all end up like the bald, genderless, mud-brown Goobacks the writers of "South Park" predicted back in season four (thanks, Trey Parker, for the month's worth of nightmares).

At the end of the interview, Colbert recalled Booker's inauguration day, in which he personally chased down a robber and put him in jail, asking him, "Are you, in fact, The Batman?" Booker just laughed, but I think Colbert might have him pegged — he's a regular vigilante, purging the streets of blind-eye turners everywhere. To me, at least, a true hero.

Laura Dattaro is the editor in chief for *The Review*. Her viewpoints do not necessarily represent those of the *Review* staff. Please send comments to [ldattaro@udel.edu](mailto:ldattaro@udel.edu)

UD Students:

# Need a late-night place to study for final exams?



- Daugherty Hall (located in the Trabant Center)
- Kent Dining Hall
- Morris Library
- **Morris Library Commons** (The Library Commons contains tables, chairs, vending machines, and restrooms and is located directly inside the Morris Library entrance on the right. The Commons has wired and wireless Internet access.)

### Before Exams

Location	Friday December 5	Saturday December 6	Sunday December 7	Monday December 8	Tuesday December 9	Wednesday December 10
Morris Library	8 a.m. to 10 p.m.	9 a.m. to 10 p.m.	11 a.m. to 2 a.m.	8 a.m. to 2 a.m.	8 a.m. to 2 a.m.	8 a.m. to 2 a.m.
Morris Library Commons	Open 24 hours	Open 24 hours	Open 24 hours	Open 24 hours	Open 24 hours	Open 24 hours

### During Exams

Location	Thursday December 11 <i>Reading Day No Exams</i>	Friday December 12 <i>Final Exams Begin</i>	Saturday December 13 <i>Reading Day No Exams</i>	Sunday December 14 <i>Reading Day No Exams</i>
Daugherty Hall in the Trabant Center	7 a.m. to 2 a.m.	7 a.m. to 2 a.m.	9 a.m. to 2 a.m.	9 a.m. to 2 a.m.
Kent Dining Hall	9 p.m. to 2 a.m.	9 p.m. to 2 a.m.	9 p.m. to 2 a.m.	9 p.m. to 2 a.m.
Morris Library	8 a.m. to 2 a.m.	8 a.m. to 2 a.m.	9 a.m. to 2 a.m.	11 a.m. to 2 a.m.
Morris Library Commons	Open 24 hours	Open 24 hours	Open 24 hours	Open 24 hours

*Beginning Sunday, December 7, the Morris Library is open every night until 2 a.m. until the last day of exams! The Library Commons is open 24 hours.*

### During Exams

Location	Monday December 15 <i>Exams</i>	Tuesday December 16 <i>Exams</i>	Wednesday December 17 <i>Exams</i>	Thursday December 18 <i>Exams</i>	Friday December 19 <i>Last Day of Exams</i>
Daugherty Hall in the Trabant Center	7 a.m. to 2 a.m.	7 a.m. to 2 a.m.	7 a.m. to 2 a.m.	7 a.m. to 2 a.m.	7 a.m. to 5 p.m.
Kent Dining Hall	Open 9 p.m. to 2 a.m. <i>PJs &amp; Pancakes 10 p.m. to Midnight!</i>	9 p.m. to 2 a.m.	9 p.m. to 2 a.m.	9 p.m. to 2 a.m.	
Morris Library	8 a.m. to 2 a.m.	8 a.m. to 2 a.m.	8 a.m. to 2 a.m.	8 a.m. to 2 a.m.	8 a.m. to 7 p.m.
Morris Library Commons	Open 24 hours	Open 24 hours	Open 24 hours	Open 24 hours	Closes at 7 p.m.

1100



Got a secret? Tell it to the  
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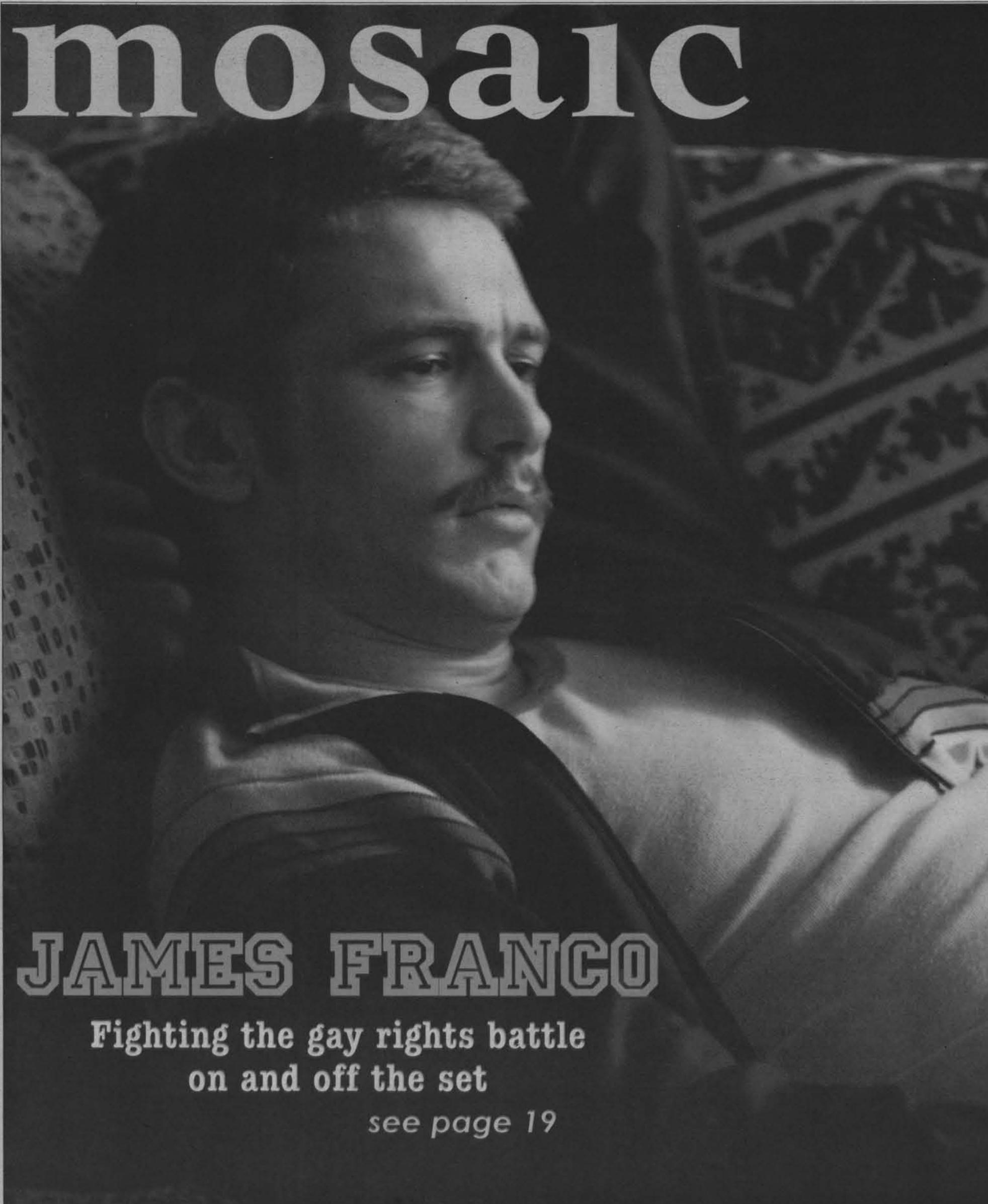
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# mosaic



## JAMES FRANCO

Fighting the gay rights battle  
on and off the set

*see page 19*

# Breaking the code: parents learn to text

BY ALLISON RUPPINO

Staff Reporter

As I open my book in my British Literature class, I see the screen from my cell phone illuminate. I refrain from opening it, but then realize I have six new messages waiting for me. I use the height of the girl in front of me to block myself from the professor's inquisitive glare.

They are all from my mother, who wanted to know which shirt she should get me from Kohl's. She had sent me each option in a separate picture message.

When speaking to her on the phone after class, I found she was enjoying her text message success.

"I bet you thought I wouldn't know how to do that, huh?" she says.

She was right — I was shocked that she finally learned how to do it.

Today there are more parents who text their children than ever before. According to an April 2008 article from *The Washington Post*, a Seattle market research firm, M:Metrics, did a study that found in the past two years, the use of text messaging for people ages 45 to 54 has increased by 130 percent.

According to the article, a text can help parents communicate with their children. For parents with college-aged students, texts enable communication in the least convenient places — in a movie theater, in class, at work or even at a weekend party. Texting proves to be efficient and works best with the busy schedules of both the parent and the student.

As hard as it might be for them, parents are trying to adapt to these new modern advances. The accessibility and instant nature of texts serve to be the most convenient form of communication — and the easiest.

Gail Witt, junior Amanda Witt's mother, says she started texting because it increases her ability to talk to her daughter.

"I can talk to her wherever she is, even if it is something small," Witt says. "One time I texted Amanda while she was seeing 'The Dark Knight,' just to see what she wanted for dinner."

Although parents are learning about this new technological phenomenon, sometimes they don't understand how to apply the modern language of texting. Witt's daughter says she makes fun of her mother for texting in "proper English with complete sentences and correct punctuation."

Junior Patrick O'Hara says his parents, who text him "all the time," don't send him simple text messages.

"My mom uses extreme abbreviations and never gets out a full sentence, while my dad just writes book-long paragraphs," O'Hara says.

Junior Steph Kraus says her parents never used to know how to text, but once it became increasingly popular, they wanted to learn how.

"I figured if I taught them to text they wouldn't call me as much," Kraus says.

Unfortunately, Kraus' plan blew up in her face.

"They text me all the time now and it's not like normal texting," Kraus says. "It's like a cave man or something."

This "cave man" style of texting is familiar to many students. An example of a "stone age" message includes, "How is day going? Good luck with busy school," which is a message that Kraus' mom once sent to her.

"My mom uses her own specialized texting language, and I just wind up ignoring it," Kraus says.

Some parents have a hard time understanding the concept of a text message, and now they and their children are swapping roles. Parents, who usually are known for teaching their children lessons, manners, what to eat, how to stay healthy and much more, are now sitting in the student's seat. And now the students — the parents' children — have suddenly become the teachers.

Several aspects of text messages can be confusing for parents who haven't used the feature before, but one unforeseen complication for some is the startling, unfamiliar beeping noise of an incoming text message. Junior Suzanne Thayer says she had this experience with her mother before.

"I tried texting my mom once because I thought it would be easier," Thayer says, "but she called all confused about her phone making a weird noise it never made before."

The text's foreign noises were followed by a different hurdle — opening the message.

"She didn't even open the message because she didn't know how," Thayer says. "That's the last time I tried that."

Some have successfully taught themselves how to send a common text that our technologically-savvy generation would consider cool. Others, on the other hand, still need time to defeat this technological beast, like junior Andrea English's mother.

"I've had to show my mom like at least five times how to text," English says. "I even made her a how-to-text for dummies thingy. She also signs all of her texts with 'Love, Mom,' like I don't know it is from her or something."



Courtesy of Amazon.com

"Twilight" is based on the first book, published in 2005, in Stephenie Meyer's series.

## A new day dawns for 'Twilight' fanbase

BY KATIE SPEACE

Staff Reporter

Regal Cinema at People's Plaza was packed Thursday night with dedicated fans. Moms and dads were waiting in line with their swooning teenage daughters, along with a significant amount of anxious university students.

The reason for all the craze — Edward Cullen.

If the name rings a bell, it's because it's the heartthrob main character in the movie "Twilight," which premiered Nov. 21.

"Twilight" is the story of Bella Swan, a teenage girl who moves from Phoenix to the dreary little town of Forks, Wash., where she meets her soulmate, the irresistible Cullen. In all his perfection, he saves her life a few times, but there's a catch — he happens to be a vampire.

The film is based on the first book in Stephenie Meyer's series, published in 2005.

Since it was made known that the story would be adapted to film, "Twilight" has received a great deal of attention.

The craze even caught the attention of "South Park" writers — days before the movie came out, the satirical animated series parodied it in the airing of its 12th season finale, which was about teen vampires.

A Facebook search for the word "Twilight" returns more than 500 interest groups — the one with the most membership, "Because I read Twilight I have unrealistic expectations in Men," had a whopping 107,878 members Monday.

The success of the "Twilight" soundtrack is also a result of its strong fan following — it topped the Billboard charts two weeks before the movie's release.

According to John Corradin, owner of the Main Street game shop The Days Of Knights, the book's popularity has inspired a slew of merchandise surrounding the movie. His store isn't selling any "Twilight" merchandise at this time, but he says it will most likely carry a "Twilight" video game if there is one produced.

"It's just like the 'Harry Potter' craze," Corradin says. "It's a mass media project that gets picked up by stores in the malls."

Hot Topic released a line of "Twilight" apparel in response to the movie, along with posters and items like key chains and pins.

People of all ages donned fan apparel at Regal Cinema. The movie theater, approximately six miles south of campus off Route 896, held three midnight showings of "Twilight" — two of which were sold out by 10:30 p.m.

Sporting their "Twilight" tees, sophomores Lauren Zaremba and Melissa Howard attended the midnight showing with two of their friends.

Zaremba became a fan when she first discovered the series last summer.

"Everyone at my work was reading them, so I thought I'd check it out," Zaremba says. "I read the first one in like 16 hours and then went out and got the other two. I finished all three of them in like three days."

In the fall, Zaremba passed on the infatuation to her roommates.

"She was obsessed with it when she came to school," Howard says. "I was making fun of her and picked it up, but then I just got sucked in."

The girls in line unanimously agreed on what makes the novel such a page-turner.

"Obviously Edward Cullen," Zaremba says. "Everyone wants to meet that perfect guy. You just fall in love with the story. It's an escape from everyday life — reading it lets you live in the 'Twilight' world for a while and Forks is better than Delaware any day."

It's hard to understand how teenage girls can fall in love with a fictitious vampire, but Corradin says the idea is rather obvious. He says the vampire genre is always about young, beautiful people.

"The mythological vampire is the ultimate gentleman," he says. "Even though he'll eventually do something nasty, the victim often enters it knowingly."

The craze that "Twilight" has brought on isn't just for female readers swooning over the suave and debonair vampire. English professor Kainoa Harbottle, who looks forward to eventually reading the series, says the genre has a lot to offer for a variety of people.

"Sure, 'Twilight' has all the classic elements — romance, teenage angst, a love that is dangerous to fulfill," he says. "But dark fiction is ultimately about power and how you use it. This vampire does good. We like fallen heroes — they take what they've been given as a curse and use it to help others."

# In wake of Proposition 8, James Franco takes action

BY JAMES ADAMS SMITH  
*Entertainment Editor*

Since his first big debut as Daniel Desario on the show "Freaks and Geeks," James Franco has played a number of diverse roles, including James Dean, Spiderman's best-friend-turned-bad, and Saul Silver, a fun-loving drug dealer in "Pineapple Express."

In the upcoming Gus Van Sant film "MILK," Franco plays the lover of Harvey Milk, who became the first gay elected official in San Francisco in the 1970s. The film — which includes the gay rights battle against Proposition 6, a proposed ban on gays working in public education — will be released on Dec. 5 in the shadow of the recently passed Proposition 8, a law against gay marriages that has caused uproar in gay communities of California and nationwide.

In a conference call from New York, Franco says he first heard about the role through his agent two summers ago, while studying literature in London through the University of California, Los Angeles. He had long been a fan of Gus Van Sant films like "My Own Private Idaho," "Drugstore Cowboy" and "Good Will Hunting" even before he started acting, he says.

"Van Sant's been trying to make this movie for 10 years," Franco says. "I figured this is going to be an amazing movie, just because of what the story means to him and especially when Sean Penn got involved."

Franco's character in the film, Scott Smith, meets Milk in a train station, and then helps him throughout his career. Because Smith was an actual person who wasn't as publicly known as Milk, Franco had to find media materials documenting what he was like.

"The film is a telling of the life of a figure who meant so much to a lot of people," he says. "I felt like it was a huge responsibility to get it right. I had to research the time and place in general. Scott was there for a lot of big moments. After Milk was assassinated, he was one of the main people who helped carry on his legacy."

Franco says he found a book called "The Mayor of Castro Street," as well as an old undocumented-reel of an interview with Scott Smith, to get an idea of his character to prepare for his role.

"I think the real function of Scott in this movie is to show a real loving relationship with Harvey," he says.

Franco relates the film to the recent riots over Proposition 8. Franco, a Californian who grew up in the Bay Area, says he voted against Proposition 8 through an absentee ballot. He, Van Sant and Penn attended the recent protest marches in San Francisco following the making of the film.

"I didn't know much about Harvey Milk growing up," Franco says. "The story involves a lot of issues regarding basic human rights. I hope the film will influence a lot of people. If it came out earlier, maybe it could have swayed the vote on Prop 8 a bit. A lot of people are already fighting it."

From watching the footage on the documentary of Milk, Franco says Milk seemed very charismatic and loving.

The film includes some kissing scenes between Franco and Penn, which he says were new for both of them. Franco says even with female actresses, there isn't much rehearsal or talk before kissing or sex scenes.

"We both knew it was coming in the script, so there wasn't a lot of discussion about those scenes," he says. "Most people know how to kiss. We just came on set and we did it. We didn't discuss it. You just got to do it and move on."

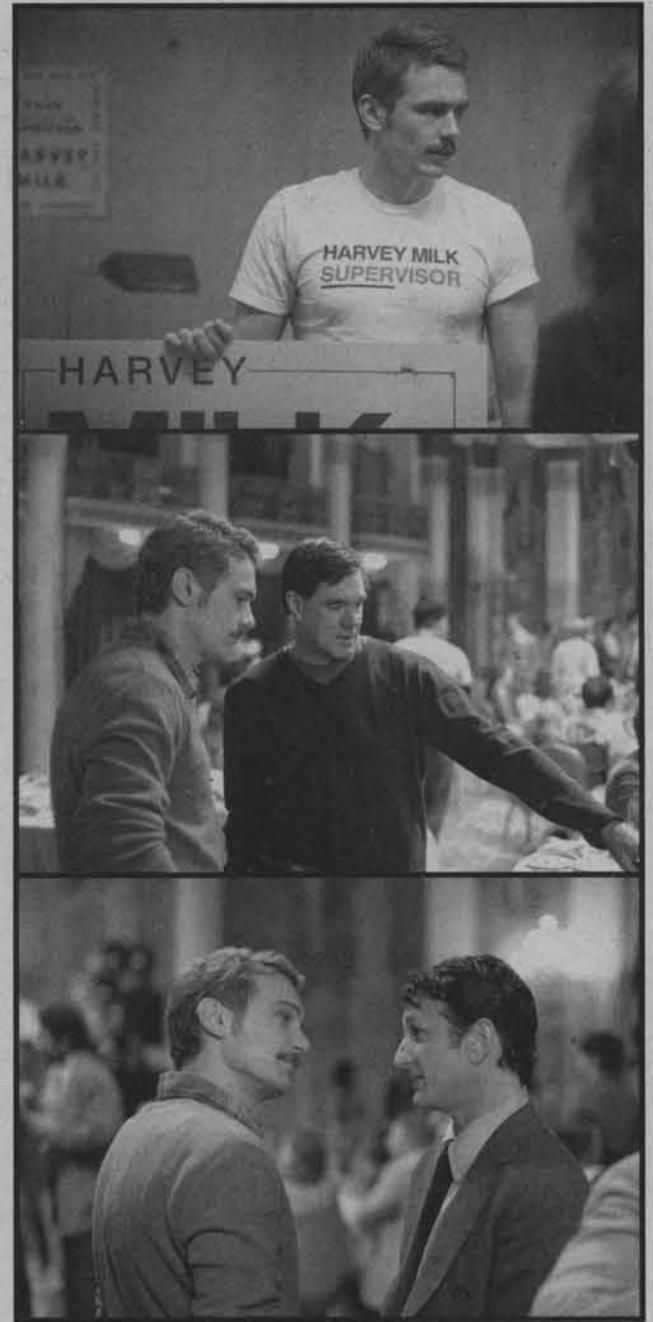
Franco says Milk's story is important to the gay rights movement and includes themes that are applicable to society. It's a story that should be told more in colleges and schools, he says.

Milk's example shows that change doesn't just roll in, Franco says. It takes people to stand up and make change happen.

"Just look at the way gay life has changed," he says. "In the '80s someone could call someone a 'fag' in movies. These days, you don't really find that anymore, but changes still need to be made."

After marching with more than 10,000 people in a protest against Proposition 8 two weeks ago, Franco says it was great to see so many active young people. He encourages young people to learn more about the gay rights movement and what it has accomplished.

"With Prop 8, I see it as something that isolates one group, and it says you can't have the same rights as everyone else," he says. "I don't care who the group is — that's wrong. Playing in this movie inspired me to fight against that kind of discrimination."



All photos courtesy of Phil Bray

Franco stars as real-life gay rights activist Scott Smith in director Gus Van Sant's "MILK," a Focus Features release.

# Effects of Proposition 8 ripple across nation

BY SARAH HUBBS  
*Staff Reporter*

Jess Diffendall, a former university student, always dreamed of her wedding day — flowers everywhere, a white dress, seeing friends and family together and hearing "Here Comes the Bride" as she walks down the aisle to the woman of her dreams.

"I think that as a human being, not necessarily a gay woman, I deserve to celebrate marriage with my partner," Diffendall says.

The passage of Proposition 8 on Nov. 4 in California, one of the most liberal states in the country, banned gay marriage and left uncertain approximately 18,000 gay couples who married in the past months when gay marriage was legal.

Diffendall says she feels hopeless and unsure of her future with her current partner. They met when she moved to Colorado, and started dating soon after.

"All I want is to be able to share a life of love and care with my partner and to have a family," she says.

Senior Chad Brown isn't in a relationship, but he says he is worried about the vote's impact on his hope for a family in the future. To voice his concern, he attended a rally in Philadelphia two weekends ago where several thousand people gathered peacefully in the rain

to protest Proposition 8 and demand equality under the law.

The most striking moment for him during the rally was when an angry Mormon began preaching against gay people, Brown says. But the only chants surrounding the man were ones of love, tolerance and urges to be more open-minded.

"I also saw a lesbian couple with their two very small children, which was really moving for me," he says. "Their family's very existence is being challenged."

Brown says the rally was a peaceful congregation of many different people — black, white, gay, straight, young, old. Crowds of people marched, chanted and held signs aiming for equality under the law. And before the arguments for civil rights or religious tolerance was the call for love, he says.

California is one of the major states that would help boost the courage of other states to join in legalizing same-sex marriage. However, Proposition 8 stripped the gay community of that right, Diffendall says.

"People who voted for Proposition 8 believe that the gay community is going to take away the sacredness of marriage," she says. "But how are we to know the outcome of

See COUNTRY page 24



THE REVIEW/Kaito Smith

## Vamping up the big screen

**"Twilight"**  
Summit Entertainment  
Rating: ☆☆☆ (out of ☆☆☆☆)

"Twilight" is dark and delightful, or maybe just delightful. The movie's cold-blooded killers are several notches below terrifying, somewhere on the level of a new kitten. It might bite you, but it's just too cute to care.

Catherine Hardwicke directs the movie — based on the first of four books in Stephanie Meyer's top-selling "Twilight" series — which has been popular enough among teenage girls to rival J.K. Rowling's "Harry Potter" books. Meyer's first book tells the story of Bella Swan, a girl who moves from Phoenix to the small town of Forks, Wash. When she gets to Forks, Bella meets incessantly rainy skies as well as a family of "vegetarian" vampires who live only on animal blood rather than human blood.

Bella (Kristen Stewart) falls in love with the vampire Edward Cullen (Robert Pattinson), who in the film is charmingly awkward rather than annoyingly perfect as he is in the book. The Cullen family begins to accept Bella as one of their own. Yet, three rogue vampires intrude — killing several Forks residents in scenes that are neither believable nor frightening, with their poor angles and semi-witty banter. One of the rogue vampires, James, discovers Bella and resolves to hunt and kill her. Edward and the rest of the Cullens agree to do whatever it takes to keep Bella safe, providing several fast-paced scenes and suspense to mix in with the romance.

Besides Stewart and Pattinson, the cast consists largely of unknown or newfound actors. However, this isn't detrimental to production. If anything, it adds to the movie's illusion. The acting is by no means a flawless deliv-

ery — at times it is downright gawky, but this gives the movie a sense of charm and honesty. Even more importantly, it provides well-intended humorous scenes, which are a welcome surprise to audiences expecting pure romance and drama.

The movie only slightly downplays the "love at first sight" cliché — or rather "at first smell" — presented in the book. The lack of "I love you's" actually makes Bella and Edward's relationship more plausible. The intensity is portrayed through their actions rather than their words.

The only downside to the film is the special effects, which are cheesy and cheap. The filmmakers compensate in the pivotal ballet studio scene, in which James ensnares Bella and is centimeters away from killing her. The floorboards are demolished and mirrors are shattered as an action scene ensues.

The film delivers an impressive and believable performance. A lot of loving with a little biting and some great awkward moments make "Twilight" the new teen hit.

— Jordan Allen, [jea@udel.edu](mailto:jea@udel.edu)



## Disney strikes with new film

**"Bolt"**  
Walt Disney Pictures  
Rating: ☆☆☆ (out of ☆☆☆☆)

Ever since "Toy Story" hit the big screen, animated films have gone through a massive overhaul in style. "Bolt" continues this trend, making its mark while avoiding being lost in the shuffle in its genre.

"Bolt" delivers 96 minutes of Disney magic. The characters are likeable and have the audience emotionally attached from the start. The movie targets a younger demographic with a tale of children and their beloved pets, but as with most Disney films, the movie's heart and storytelling leave older chaperones content with their trip to the theater.

The film takes viewers into the life of Bolt (John Travolta), a canine TV star who is convinced life on his show is reality. After being separated from his co-star and owner Penny (Miley Cyrus), man's best friend needs to bolt into action to be reunited with his owner. Travolta does a satisfactory job voicing the German Shepherd, but doesn't deliver much more after that. Bolt meets up with Mittens

(Susie Essman), a stray cat, and Rhino (Mark Walton), a hamster, who both aid in his journey to find Penny.

The characters are expertly developed, which makes them enjoyable to watch. The chemistry between Bolt and Penny brings a sense of excitement and compassion throughout the film. Walton, a virtually unknown actor, brings a much-needed comedic act and evokes laughter every time his character speaks. Essman voices the dog's counterpart quite well and delivers great emotion through her relationship with Bolt.

The downfall for most Disney films is their predictability. The Disney formula has been reused time and time again which puts a ceiling on the originality of the movie. Thanks to a talented cast, the delivery of the personalities outshines the shadow of obviousness, and "Bolt" is left with a fresh feel. Although the animation is ordinary and fails to impress anymore than its underwhelming predecessor "Shark Tale," with the addition of bright colors and characters, the film ends up being aesthetically pleasing enough to leave viewers in a cheery mood.

"Bolt" excellently explores the depth of relationships between living things. The length of the film works perfectly as it ends before the moviegoer checks his cell phone for the time. It has a typical Disney plot but a great cast makes the audience truly care about the characters. The film will keep a smile on anyone's face, as "Bolt" marks another success in Disney's illustrious animated legacy.

— Bryan Berkowitz, [bberk@udel.edu](mailto:bberk@udel.edu)

## A modern love story

**808s & Heartbreak**  
Kanye West  
Roc-A-Fella Records  
Rating: ☆☆☆ 1/2 (out of ☆☆☆☆)

*808s and Heartbreak* is a tale of love and loss. Kanye showcases his love for the Auto-Tune, but not without losing his swagger. He takes a liking to singing and sensitivity, but not without sacrificing the signature Kanye soul beats and witty rhymes.

Always one for the dramatic, West doesn't lose his ear for elaborate song structure and orchestration, and that's what's to love the most in this story of *Heartbreak*.

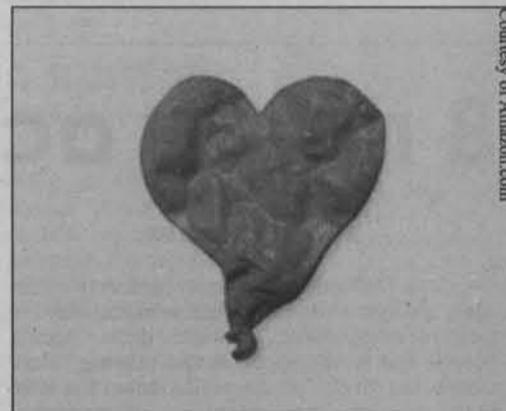
After breaking up with his fiancée and losing his mother in the same year, there's certainly emotion for West to pour out. He dismisses convention and his typical invincible bravado to offer the most sincere sample of soul that West has ever shown. This is not a "Stronger" Kanye, but a weaker one.

Unfortunately, that emotional candor is exclusively accompanied by Auto-Tune, a device West uses with quality results, but its excessive use clouds the disc's tone and sound with strained and muffled vocals.

But heartbreak is only one half of the equation. The booming drums — provided by the 808 drum machine — elevate songs like "Love Lockdown," which would otherwise be a failed attempt at emo-electronica.

On "Welcome to Heartbreak," drums pound like a heavyweight metronome, as West sings a bridge of "I've seen it, I've seen it before," with perfect placement and timing.

It's easy to get lost in West's Auto-Tune and harp on his reliance on it. However, anyone with an appreciation for the instrumentation West has provided will be able to see through the robotically hazy vocals and pick out the dramatic contrast



and excellence in the soft, subtle keys and the choppy percussion on "Amazing."

Elsewhere, West is caught between strobe and laser lights, as "Robocop" and "Paranoid" have sounds of futuristic dance-floor pop — the irresistible, insanely well-written kind.

On the disc's final track, "Coldest Winter," West sings of his mother, saying, "Goodbye my friend, will I ever love again?"

With his new style being somewhat off-putting, the question is will West's fans ever love again? From the artist who has done no wrong, Kanye's new CD is more polarizing than universal. While Kanye gets his point across singing into his Auto-Tune, it's still not what he does best.

Instead, *808s* is a rare example of an international pop-star baring his vulnerability and sharing himself with his audience. Sure, the means by which he shares can be irritating, unauthentic and some may even say wrong, but there's no denying that Kanye put his heart into this album, and that's something every fan can love.

— Ted Simmons, [tstim@udel.edu](mailto:tstim@udel.edu)

**Everything That Happens Will Happen Today**  
David Byrne and Brian Eno  
Self-released  
Rating: ☆☆ (out of ☆☆☆☆)

It's been almost 30 years since the release of *My Life in the Bush of Ghosts* — a groundbreaking collaboration between music pioneer Brian Eno and Talking Heads frontman David Byrne. Since working with seemingly everyone else — David Bowie, U2, and more recently, Coldplay — Eno has returned to Byrne to give it another shot.

Rather than dark electronic loops and world instruments, the album works with acoustic guitars and catchy hooks. The folk songwriter genre is backed with digital ambient sounds, all the while remaining upbeat.

While the sound is warm and humble, it's not necessarily for the kids. In "Strange

**Theater of the Mind**  
Ludacris  
Disturbing Tha Peace / Def Jam  
Rating: ☆☆☆ 1/2 (out of ☆☆☆☆)

*Theater of the Mind*, Ludacris's sixth studio album, begins by telling listeners to "Get your popcorn" because Ludacris is about to put on an extravagant show. Each song is grandiose and over-the-top, but the Atlanta rapper proves once again that he knows how to take listeners for a ride.

The album is a typical Ludacris production — it features his creative wordplay and unique flow as he raps about girls, sports and his impact on rap culture. Throughout *Theater of the Mind*, he's joined by some of



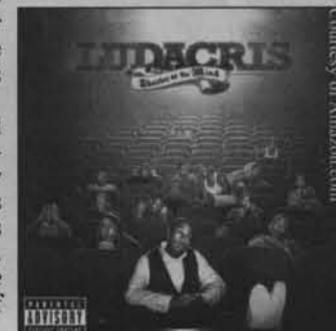
Overtones," Byrne sings "This groove is out of fashion / These beats are 20 years old." The album winks at the aging professors and businessmen who were there the first time around. It may be mediocre, but nothing can stop these gurus from a bit of fun reminiscing about the good 'ole days.

— James Adams Smith, [smithja@udel.edu](mailto:smithja@udel.edu)

the industry's biggest names, including T.I., Rick Ross, Jay-Z, Lil' Wayne, Common and T-Pain. These co-stars may seem overbearing at first glance, but they actually complement Ludacris, rather than take over the album.

*Theater of the Mind* starts off strong with songs like "One More Drink" and "Call Up the Homies," but the end of the album is a let-down — the act wears thin and drags on too long. Despite this, Ludacris uses his wordplay and flow to give listeners club-bumping beats and head-nodding songs that won't disappoint.

— Brian Anderson, [bland@udel.edu](mailto:bland@udel.edu)



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Alicia Gentile  
Columnist

"I just wanna go to the rooftops and scream, 'I love my best friend, Evan.'" This quote from "Superbad" is an example of the wave of man-to-man relationships called "bromances."

A bromance is a loving relationship between two straight, male best friends. We all see these kinds of relationships among women, but with men it's more interesting.

It's time we gave a shout-out to all those guys who just love their best friends. It's adorable and nice to have a special someone who you can tell anything and who can provide you company all the time.

The other day, I was at a party and overheard a conversation that ended in, "My boyfriend is off for some bromance with his best friend tonight." I couldn't help but laugh, because that sentence is, I'm sure, very true and happens more often than not.

Guys that are in bromances are inseparable. They are the kind of guys that received

"Most Inseparable" on the superlatives page of their high school yearbook. They are the kind of friends that go to breakfast and sit across from each other gazing into each other's eyes while reminiscing about the night before. These are signs of a healthy, loving relationship between two heterosexual men.

A "man crush," on the other hand, is a little different. It's when a straight man has a crush on another straight man without any sexual attraction. Most guys

### Tell me what you think ...for next week:

1. Are you bringing your significant other home for the holidays?
2. How do you decide when your relationship is ready for that step?

Respond to [aliciarg@udel.edu](mailto:aliciarg@udel.edu)

experience a man crush at one point or another. It only makes sense — some men are just too good-looking for even guys to disagree.

When men just blatantly think other guys are attractive, is that just admiration? No way, that's a simple man crush. If you're being honest, Ryan Reynolds has the body of a Greek god and David Beckham is a total babe regardless of your gender.

For the most part, girls tend to need more companionship. That's why when you see two girls exhibiting similar actions, you don't think twice about it.

It's universal for women to want camaraderie more than men. Often, girls are connected at the hip — my roommate and I are constantly doing things together and if we aren't together, chances are we just left one another or are about to meet up.

Girls usually want company when it comes to most things. Guys seem to be more independent than girls.

For example, when was the last time you saw a guy go to the bathroom with another man for a "party pee?" Or when it comes to sleepovers, it's rare that guys cuddle up with each other in a bed like most girls do.

The fact is guys are becoming more comfortable showing off their bromances — either that or they aren't doing as good of a job hiding them.

It's cute that guys can be such good friends, and amusing to witness the emotional attachment without the physical attractiveness, and it definitely is refreshing to see many guys open up to other men. Even guys need that person to go to, and a brofriend only makes sense.



## fashionforward

## A face for the fans

There's this one episode of "Friends" I remember where Joey is featured in a Japanese advertisement for lipstick — for men. The parody highlighted the foreign celebrity advertisement movement that was popular in the early



Sabina Ellahi  
Columnist

2000s. Famous Hollywood actors and actresses would appear in ads ranging from designer clothing to jewelry to cosmetics and fragrances in Asia, Eastern Europe and Latin America.

Today, foreign celebrity advertisements aren't foreign anymore and are finally making their way to U.S. and Western European soil, thanks to that fancy tool we call the Internet. Prior to this, American and British actors were reluctant to appear in widespread advertising campaigns, due to the fear of selling out or losing respect if they were in an ad deemed tacky by critics.

On the contrary — and to the celebrities' delight — most of their ad campaigns seem to be well-received, especially by fans. As a result, design houses are embracing this marketing tactic. Instead of subtly promoting their clothes by having a celebrity wear their gowns to award shows, they are giving models the shaft — to some extent, at least — by recruiting big-name stars to be the face on magazine spreads and billboard advertisements for their coveted brand, but not without a big price for designers to pay.

This year, Gucci recruited James Franco for its men's fragrance line and Rihanna for its UNICEF holiday campaign, where 25 percent of the sales from the UNICEF Tattoo Heart collection will be used to raise funds for global poverty projects. Vivienne Westwood recently hired Pamela Anderson to be the face of her Spring 2009 advertisements, which is supposedly to be shot in a trailer park. Other famous names include Angelina Jolie for St. Johns, Scarlett Johansson for Marc Jacobs, Kanye West for Louis Vuitton and so on.

The big question, however, is how public relations teams and marketing strategists of a designer house decide on whose face would best represent their product and the image they're trying to convey. I find myself wondering whether PR teams who recruit Kate Moss think about her hard-partying, drug-infested lifestyle that could potentially be associated with their company, or what Marc Jacobs' PR group thought of Winona Ryder after her shoplifting debacle that tainted her name in Hollywood.

Surely, designers would think of whether their image is at risk, but when thinking about the big picture, all these celebrities — whether they face a positive or negative spotlight — have a strong fan base that would be willing to purchase the clothing and accessories they promote in order to build a connection with them.

As proven over the years, celebrities have substantial power when it comes to influencing trends in the fashion industry. The trends they create with the products they use or represent create an "it" item appeal. Whether they are in a multi-million-dollar ad for a power-house designer or on the pages of *US Weekly* sporting a bag, consumers will feel compelled to have that item as a way to boost their self-confidence or associate their image with the celebrity. It just goes to prove that the public will always have a continuing fascination with the rich and famous, regardless of their behavior — and the marketing teams of designers are reaping the benefits.

— [sellahi@udel.edu](mailto:sellahi@udel.edu)

## mediadarling Million-dollar babies

She's beyond famous, and she can hardly even speak. If her name is Google searched, more than 2 million results come up. During the mere two years she's been on planet Earth, her face has been slapped on the cover of magazines like *Vanity Fair*, *Star* and *Us Weekly*. And now, the angelic Suri Cruise has exceeded the level of fame for which tons of aspiring actors shoot, by being crowned "Hollywood's Hottest Tot" by *Forbes.com*.

As if referring to a "tot" as "hot" isn't strange enough — not to mention slightly perverted — the kiddy-obsessed "professionals" at *Forbes* state on their Web site that they observed press clippings and Web presence for more than 50 celebrity spawns of 5 years of age and under during the past year. In addition to stalking, they also "reached out to Encino, Calif.-based polling firm E-Poll Market Research for both awareness data for the kids and consumer appeal rankings for their celebrity parents." Whatever that means.

It used to be tiny dogs like Paris Hilton's Tinkerbelle who were the "latest accessory for celebrities." Now, it's tiny human beings. It's hard not to feel bad for the children of superstars like Tom Cruise, Katie Holmes and "Brangelina" — who had half their litter on the top 10 list — because they never asked for all

the attention, nor do they have a say in the matter, considering half of them haven't even developed the ability to communicate yet.

The celebrity children craze is getting out of hand — Brad and Angelina recently sold pictures of their new twins to publications for more than \$10 million. While the money went to a good cause, it's still hard to see how an offer like that is OK. While no celebrity's personal life remains private, the children involved whose faces are all

over the world obviously never chose to be the son or daughter of someone famous. Forget family photos and baby pictures — when the children are all grown up, all they need to do is Google search themselves to pull up some past memories. Is Suri going to be OK with this when she's finally old enough to comprehend?

The saddest part of this whole strange obsession with celebrity children is that some of the toddlers on the list are on there because they were the center of a controversy. Exhibit A: coming in at No. 7 is 3-year-old Matilda Rose Ledger, who won her title because her "hardship" was "well covered by the media" when it came to what *Forbes.com* refers to as, "her short life story that reads like a soap opera script." Congratulations to *Forbes* — you have managed to give a rank to a little girl's tragedy.

I get it, babies are adorable. Perhaps with all the problems going on in the world right now, people could use something cute and endearing to focus on, like a celeb's child. But this focus is becoming a creepy obsession, and almost like a franchise. Maybe Brangelina could just quit acting, adopt more kids and make mad bank off of some family portraits done at Sears.

— Amy Prazniak,  
[amypraz@udel.edu](mailto:amypraz@udel.edu)



Courtesy of Poeny Wood — <http://poenywood.deviantart.com/art/Suri-Cruise-95436760>

# Book conveys Newark as college town

BY PAT MAGUIRE  
Sports Editor

The 1970s were a time of political and social change and "coming of age" for the average college student's parents. In Newark, however, the '70s meant streaking.

Back in the '70s it wasn't uncommon to see a display of nude antics while strolling down Main Street. For Blake Gumprecht, author of "The American College Town," the displays of young inhibition are typical of a college town such as Newark.

"My book is intended to be a general introduction to college towns," Gumprecht says. "A portrait, if you will."

Gumprecht, a Wilmington native and chair of the geography department at the University of New Hampshire, says Newark perfectly fits the mold of a normal college town because of the population's diversity.

"Most of the differences between college towns and other places really derive from their basic fundamental differences," he says. "The fact that you have a high concentration of people in their college years, and in addition to that you have an unusual density of highly educated adults, college professors and graduate students."

In his book, Gumprecht profiles Newark as one of his eight case studies. Each town profiled was meant to exemplify a typical college town.

"I was looking for a town where the tensions were present, and Newark certainly is a place that

has had its share of town-gown friction between students and non-students — between the university and the town, between students' housing that has impacted the larger housing landscape of the town," Gumprecht says. "It certainly fit the bill of what I thought typical."

The chapter about Newark, titled "Town vs. Gown," maps out tensions that exist as a result of the extensive student and professor population living in a larger community, he says.

"Town vs. Gown" is Gumprecht's way of describing how professors, students and the university as a whole can often find themselves squaring off against the townspeople because of differing viewpoints.

"Town-gown relations look at the kind of tensions that exist in a college town when you have so many young people, or because you have a student-dominated housing district or because you have universities that are such large institutions relative to the town," he says.

Gumprecht says although such a melting pot often results in friction, it could cause the town to be more free-thinking.

"The demographic differences also affect politics of college towns," he says. "College towns tend to be more liberal and open-minded than other kinds of places."

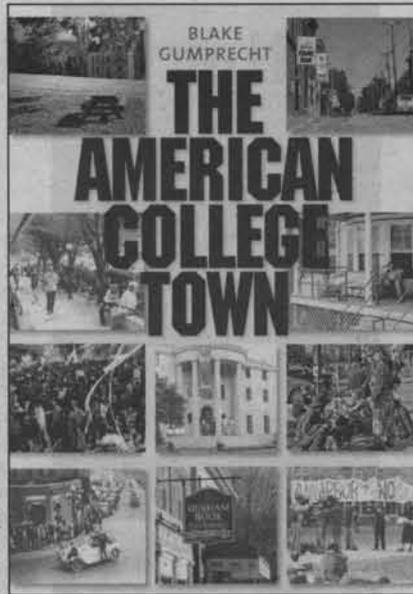
Gumprecht recalled growing up around Newark, which made it easy for him to write about it in his book. Since moving to Durham, N.H., Gumprecht has noticed many subtle differences between the two places — the town of Durham is composed mostly of college buildings with a smaller downtown than Newark.

The two share many similarities in the fact that, as with most college towns, they have unavoidable problems, he says.

"Durham has had its problems with student behavioral issues and student drinking like Newark has had in the past," he says, "although Newark was a result of streaking back in the '70s and Durham was a result of sporting events."

Gumprecht, who is also the author of "Los Angeles River: Its Life, Death and Rebirth" has been working on his college-town project for the past eight years. Since the release of his book this year, he says he has no immediate plans for a future project.

"I haven't begun to think about what's next yet," he says.



The book features Newark in a chapter titled "Town vs. Gown."

# Students return home with second family

BY ALLISON RUPPINO  
Staff Reporter

For senior Annie Rulli, the worst part about living with a host family in Panama was having to leave them.

"When I left, I bawled my eyes out," Rulli says. "I wanted to go home to see my family, but it was so hard leaving my host family."

According to the university's Center for International Studies Web site, when studying abroad, some students live in hotels or residence halls, while others stay with a host family.

Lisa Chieffo, associate director for the Center for International Studies, says the goal of the host family program is to improve the student's fluency in a second language. The students get to practice the native language in a realistic setting.

The chance to live with a host family isn't offered in every study abroad program.

Chieffo says in general, the study abroad programs supported by the Department of Foreign Language and Literature offer a home-stay component.

She says it gives students the opportunity to create a bond with their host families.

"Just like how students start out as freshmen roommates, much is the same in a home-stay situation," Chieffo says. "Some students stay in contact with their families, some go back to visit them. Sometimes there is no future contact and for some, it just might not work out."

Rulli says she has experienced several home-stay situations while studying abroad. She stayed in Panama during Winter Session 2007 with a family she describes as "amazing."

"They really wanted me to learn all about the culture and live as a Panamanian would," Rulli says. "They asked me what I wanted to do all the time, and they brought me to different cultural places like museums. This was by far the best home stay I have ever had."

Rulli says she was able to attend a big traditional event during that winter when she was taken to an outdoor barbeque.

"These little famous singers in Panama were performing," she says. "We were on a balcony watching it from up top. I was the only American there — no one else got to do that but my family took me to it."

I got to see what it was like to be part of Panama."

In addition to showing her the highlights of Panama's culture, Rulli says the family spoke only Spanish to her.

"They use a lot of slang and they speak very fast, so at first it was a little difficult," she says. "My [host] sister was the only person who spoke English. She learned English from watching repeats of 'Friends' episodes. She would not let me speak in English because she wanted me to learn the language better."

Rulli says she stays in touch with her host family.

"As soon as I got home, we e-mailed each other and we still talk today," she says. "My [host] sister has Facebook, so we still message each other."

Senior Courie Foster says he had a similar situation when he stayed with a host family in Puebla, Mexico.

"Both my [host] mother and father only spoke Spanish," Foster says. "It was good practice for me. I knew enough to get around, and I got used to speaking Spanish all the time."

Some experiences students have shared with their host families tend to be similar to ones they would see at home.

"My [host] dad and I went a couple of times to this barbeque place on the side of the road and he took me out to get ice cream one time," Foster says. "My [host] mom would make me dinner and we would talk about what I did in school that day."

He says he also tries to keep in touch with his host family.

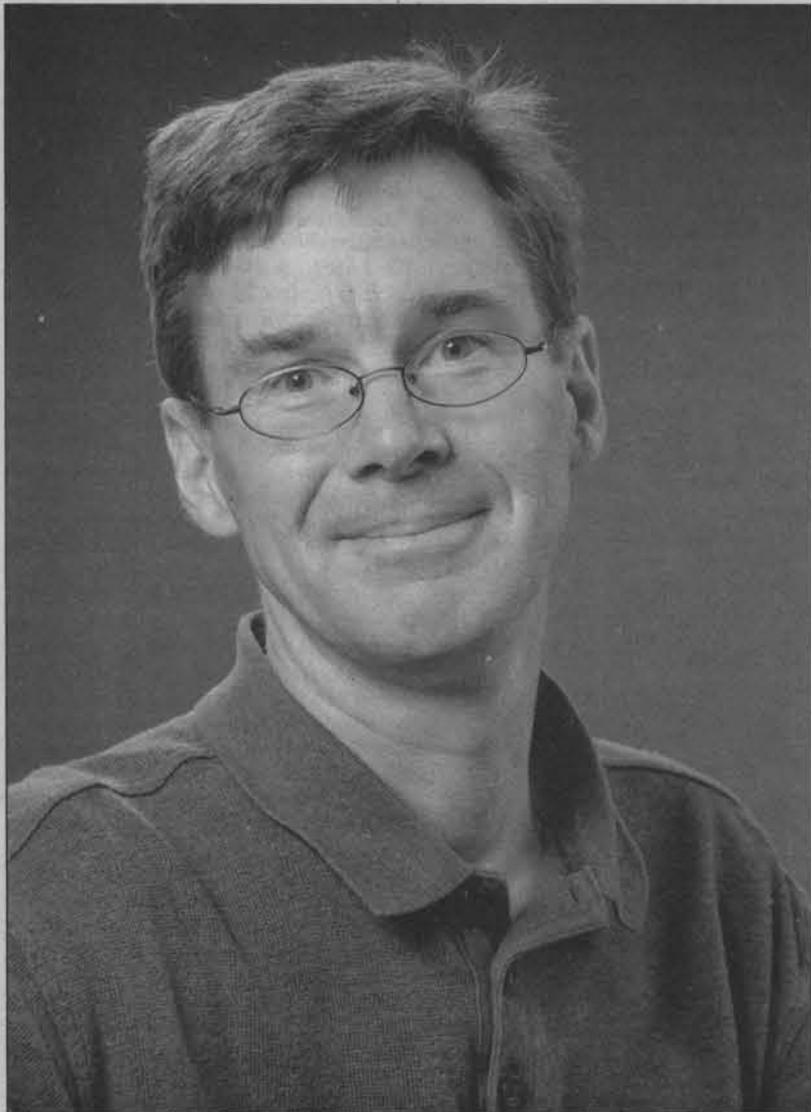
"I definitely miss them," Foster says. "I have e-mailed them a few times. My host dad really is the only one who knows how to use the computer. I just sent him an e-mail a week ago."

Junior Jill Beitz also shared moments with her host family in Argentina.

"I lived with an older woman and her maids," Beitz says. "We had dinner together every night, and watched soap operas before we went out."

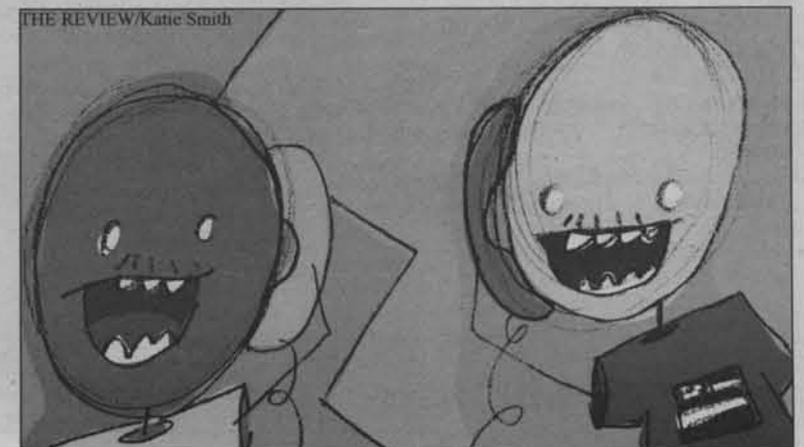
She says she can't wait to go back again to visit.

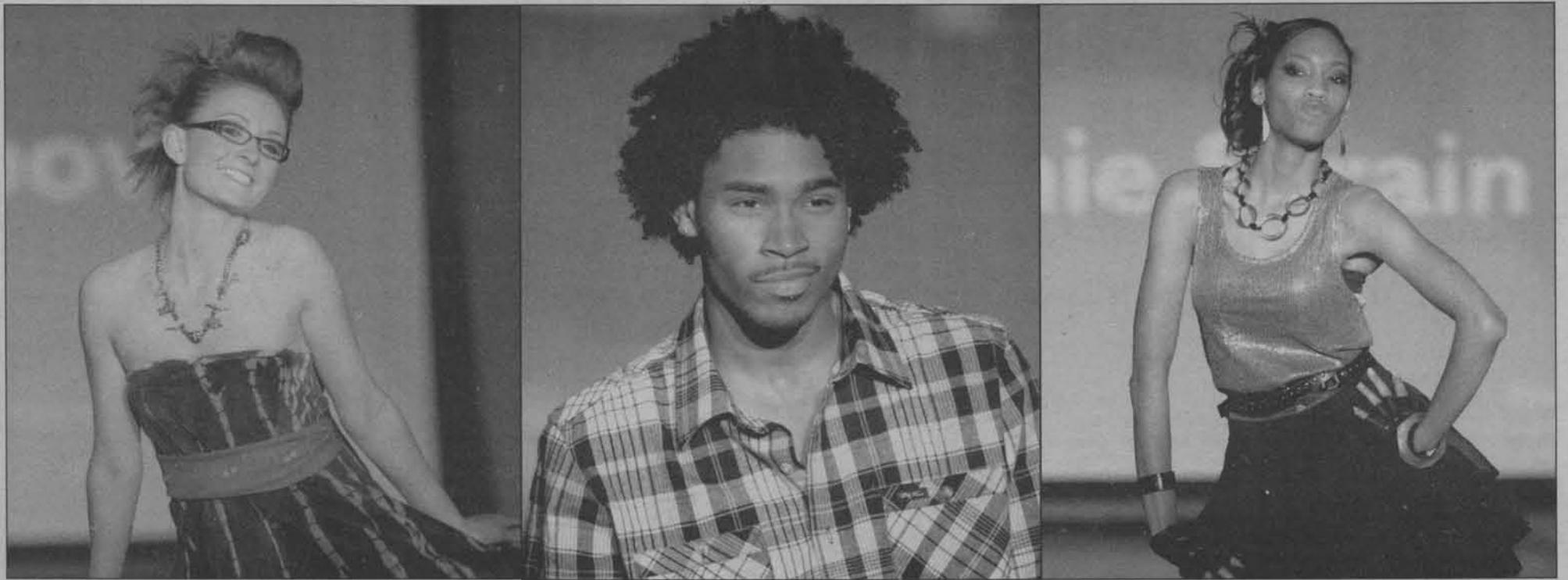
"I was sad to leave my family in Argentina," Beitz says. "But we do keep in touch through Facebook."



All photos courtesy of Blake Gumprecht

Wilmington native Blake Gumprecht studied college towns for eight years.





All photos courtesy of THE REVIEW/Justin Maurer

UDress's Fall Fashion Event featured a runway model competition. Junior Taj Reed (center) was the male model winner and junior Ali Cohen was the female model winner.

## Falling for UDress's fashion event

BY SABINA ELLAHI  
Features Editor

For one night, the Trabant University Center Multipurpose rooms were transformed into a runway setting under dim lighting with flashing cameras and a fashion-hungry crowd that could easily pass as one of the many tents in Bryant Park during New York Fashion Week.

Yet, it wasn't a fashion show, but rather a gathering to celebrate the release of the fall issue of the university's fashion magazine. It was the third annual UDress Fall Fashion Event, held on Saturday night.

The magazine's biggest event was a combination of the launch of the ninth issue of UDress Magazine and a runway model competition. With more than 500 people in attendance, the event was a chance for people to dress their best, mingle and see what fashions Newark has to offer.

Junior Colleen Waters, fashion event coordinator, says she was relieved and thrilled at the show's success, but also sad to see it end after dedicating much of her time to putting it together.

"We've worked on this show since last semester," Waters says. "It's nice to have a breath of fresh air again, but it's bittersweet because the show was my baby."

Junior Jessica Lapidos, editor-in-chief of UDress, agrees that it's definitely a sigh of relief, but more so because of the success she saw Saturday.

"It's great to finally see just how many people the magazine reaches out to and how many people read it now," Lapidos says.

In her second year as editor-in-chief, Lapidos is pleased with the overall outcome of the magazine and its continuing success.

"Everyone was so enthusiastic and the professors are excited about it," she says.

"They said the issue is the most professional to date, which is very pleasing."

Lapidos says the fall issue is the biggest one yet and the most sustainable. The magazine was printed on 50 percent recycled paper and 25 percent post-consumer waste paper, all tying in with this issue's theme of sustainability. The other theme was the idea of saving money.

Prior to the runway show, the magazine hosted a pre-release party for the release of the Fall 2008 issue, which included hors d'oeuvres, opportunities to shop at tables of vendors who sponsored UDress and a variety of live entertainment from sophomore Jared Weintraub, rock band Shakedown and The D-Sharps, an a cappella group.

The event featured 49 male and female student models. Each of the models wore clothing by the seven sponsoring vendors — Main Street favorites Bloom, Flavor

Clothing, Gecko Fashions, Village Imports Fair Trade Store and Clothes in the Past Lane and boutiques NV of the greater Newark area and Lolita of Greenville. Trilogy Salon and Day Spa provided make-up and hairstyling for the models. At the end of the runway show, the audience voted for its favorite male and female model.

Raffles with prizes from participating vendors and sponsors were announced while the votes were tallied. After 20 minutes of anticipation, the winners were announced — juniors Ali Cohen and Taj Reed. The two winners will be the featured models in the magazine's main spread in its Spring 2009 issue.

Cohen says she was shocked but happy when she was announced as the female winner of the runway contest. Since it was her

See UDRESS page 25

## The pilgrimmage to Inauguration Day

BY AMANDA DUNBAR  
Staff Reporter

At the first meeting of College Democrats since the election, several members bustled around a room in Gore Hall. The atmosphere had a palpable excitement filled with squeals of "We did it!" With the success of the election behind them, it's time to start planning for another monumental event — the inauguration.

"It's going to be a big deal," senior Tricia Connor says. "I went online the other night to try to get tickets but it's probably a bit late in the game to look."

For Connor and other members of College Democrats, inauguration tickets are difficult to get. The public can only receive tickets upon request from congressmen or senators, according to the official inauguration Web site. Connor has decided she will be going to the inauguration on Jan. 20, even if she doesn't get a ticket.

"I am not expecting to get a ticket, but those are used for a specific area to listen to the speech," she says. "But there will be plenty of public areas where I will be able to

see or hear."

However, the speech isn't the only reason Connor plans on attending. There will also be a parade and other activities in which to participate.

There is another issue she and the other attendees will face — lodging.

All the hotel rooms in the Washington, D.C., metro and suburb areas are sold out, but people are being urged to find hotels in neighboring cities, according to *The Associated Press*.

Delaware alone has 10,000 hotel rooms, half of which are already reserved for Inauguration Day, including the Courtyard Newark hotel on campus. The Thursday after the election, Delaware Express already booked all of its buses, according to *The News Journal*.

That fact isn't deterring many members of the College Democrats who plan on attending. Connor plans to stay with a former Democrats member, who now lives in Washington, D.C.

Connor isn't the only member of College Democrats who is planning to go to

the ceremony despite worries about tickets and hotels. Freshman Kelly Ehrenreich plans to go even if she doesn't end up getting a hotel room. In fact, Ehrenreich says she is going to drive with a friend and has a better chance of getting a ticket because she is a resident of Missouri.

"I think I will have a better chance at getting a ticket since I am from Kansas City, but if I don't, we will just pull an all-nighter and go anyway," Ehrenreich says.

As the YouTube videos of election night and various Obama speeches continue to play, sophomore and communications director for College Democrats Andrew Grunwald says he worked extensively on the Obama campaign and is excited to attend inauguration. He has already made requests to his congressman and senator in Maryland for tickets and sent in his letter required to make the request, he says.

"It's a luck of the draw," Grunwald says. "I probably won't get a ticket, but then I will just take the Metro into D.C."

He acknowledges that his chances are low, but he remains optimistic. Grunwald

plans to attend other events throughout the day, like the parade. He says estimates of 4 million people are anticipated to attend and TVs will be set up for non-ticket holders.

Junior Paul Ruiz, president of College Democrats, told the group they had worked hard making phone calls and knocking on doors to get votes.

Ruiz says he cannot attend the inauguration, but shares in the excitement of his fellow members. By attending the inauguration, they get a chance to be a part of history and be rewarded for their hard work, he says.

"So many people did so much for this campaign," Ruiz says. "Plus, it's a great chance for UD to be represented again."

Grunwald, Connor and Ehrenreich are all anxiously awaiting the historic Inauguration Day of their generation. Each of them says they are expecting a great speech from President-elect Barack Obama — a speech they expect to go down in history with the likes of John F. Kennedy, Ruiz says.

"Something this historical only happens a few times in history," Grunwald says. "So in 30 years, I want to say I was there."

# Handcrafting style for the East Coast

## Student expands original board-rider clothing company

BY MIA POZZANGHERA

Staff Reporter

Clothing brands like Roxy and Billabong have long appeared on the shelves of surf shops near the shores and now, senior Lindsey Pollard is adding competition to the market with the expansion of her own line East Coast Normal, also known as ECN.

Pollard, a Delaware resident and an agriculture and business major, originally came up with the idea for ECN during her senior year of high school when an art teacher assigned a project requiring her to design a logo. Pollard's artwork was a picture of a "sun-flake" to convey the idea that ECN goes from "sand to snow," she says. After creating the logo, Pollard decided to build a clothing line around it.

She characterizes her business as a board-rider clothing company. Although there is no specific slogan for ECN, she came up with what she refers to as her one-line mission statement, which reads, "Every rider is different — their look should be too."

When the company first got started, the ECN team created mostly sweatshirts. Since its beginning, ECN has branched out significantly and now includes lines of T-shirts, sweatpants and sneakers.

ECN offers its customers hand-made clothing unlike the mass-manufactured products of mainstream brands like Billabong. The line is growing in popularity, Pollard says, but she hopes the company will always be manageable in size so that everything can continue to be handcrafted.

She says what makes ECN unique is that every design is cut, painted or drawn by someone from Delaware, which helps keep the inspiration close to home. Having spent her entire childhood and young adulthood in Delaware, Pollard says Philadelphia and Washington, D.C., have always been prominent aspects in her life as well as the beaches of southern Delaware. With ECN, she strives to combine aspects of the city and the beach in creative design.

Pollard says today the ECN team has doubled in size, bringing the total number of staff members to 10 — most of whom are friends and family. Everybody on the team has a specialized job, ranging from design to silk screening to sewing. Lead sewer Kelsey Hughes holds another position on the team — the university representative.

Hughes says she is involved mostly in the manual work and doesn't do much designing, but is more than willing to offer an opinion when Pollard asks how things look. Hughes was one of the few who was a part of the team since its



Courtesy of Lindsey Pollard

Senior Lindsey Pollard (center) created her own clothing line, East Coast Normal, with the help of her family and friends.

beginning and says she has accumulated many articles of clothing from the company. She says it's always exciting to look back and see how far they've come.

"The very first sweatshirts we made looked like a craft project gone wrong," Hughes says. "Now everything looks very professional."

Hughes is hoping this holiday season Pollard might make a pair of sneakers for her.

Local entrepreneur Pollard learned that, as in any small town, advertising and promotions are crucial to the success of a budding business. Last summer she held an ECN fashion show and she plans to continue promoting throughout this holiday season by having a trunk show.

"It's going to be in my garage just off 896," she says, laughing. "There will be deals and give-aways."

Pollard's sister Morgan, a freshman at the university, says although she isn't as connected to the company, she is excited for her older sister's endeavors. She helps out with the sewing and owns a few ECN sweatshirts.

"It's pretty cool to walk into a store and see all of her stuff," she says.

In addition to holding various events, Pollard created a Facebook group to advertise promotions, such as new holiday deals including a free tee, hat or long-sleeve shirt with each \$100 purchase.

In the beginning of July, ODYSEA in Rehoboth Beach sold out of ECN products. Pollard says she is getting her line to more stores in southern Delaware, as well as in stores near the popular vacation beaches of the Outer Banks, N.C. In addition to these locations, Pollard's ECN Myspace page advertises that ECN is selling products down the East Coast, from states as far north as Connecticut and as far south as Virginia.

Pollard doesn't know what's in store for the future of ECN, but she's optimistic.

"I just hope it gets as big as it can before I have to get a real job."



## Country reacts to Calif.'s gay marriage ban

Continued from page 19

sex marriages if we don't give them a chance?"

While Diffendall hasn't attended a rally, she pays close attention to the news, articles in the paper and radio shows when she hears any mention of Proposition 8, she says. Recently, she has heard about the "No Gays for a Day" protest event the gay community will stage December 10.

On this day, gay people will stay home rather than going to school, work, the grocery store, the mall and even the gas station. The purpose of the day, which has gained an Internet following in the form of several Facebook groups, is to make heterosexual people realize the gay community has an effect on everyday life, she says.

Although lawsuits are forming in California and elsewhere, life continues as usual for Diffendall and others. She says she and her partner go on dates, take weekend trips to Denver and make plans for the future.

Currently, both Delaware and Colorado have passed a law called The Defense of Marriage Act,

which bans same-sex marriage.

Brown says he was excited for this year's presidential election and hopeful real change would result. After California passed Proposition 8 his excitement quickly turned into sadness.

Karen Middlekauff, HAVEN vice-president for political and social programming, says HAVEN hasn't talked much about reactions to Proposition 8 yet, but she and the members she spoke to individually said they were crushed.

"I know I want to get married and have a family," Middlekauff says. "But I want to do it right, and Proposition 8 being passed really decreased those chances for me right now."

Middlekauff says HAVEN won't have any discussions about Proposition 8 until the lawsuits are settled and they know the outcome.

Regardless of the outcome, Diffendall says she isn't trying to take away the sanctity of marriage — she just wants to be treated as an equal.

"Love is love," Diffendall says, "whether it be love between a man and a woman, a woman and a woman or a man and a man."

# Local business owner brings street to the page

BY NEENA CINQUINO

Staff Reporter

Street Knowledge Book Center opened Oct. 15 on 4th Street in Wilmington, directly across from Delaware Technical and Community College, and still smells of fresh paint. The store is filled with loud conversation and smiles. Customers chat and joke with Joseph Jones, the founder of the storefront and Street Knowledge Publishing.

The Book Center isn't just a meeting spot for friends but a means to distribute the works of independent authors in Delaware. The books are all labeled under the genre of street literature.

Most street literature books are written from experience. The books are about the authors themselves and what they've seen on the streets, Jones says.

"They're taking their lives," Jones says, "and basically putting it on paper."

He says he has always known how to work hard, and knew how to push, shove and make money. Now he is taking the same ideals and work ethics off the streets and putting them toward more productive and positive uses.

"I just knew how to hustle," Jones says. "From cutting grass, shoveling snow, selling candy to drugs."

Street Knowledge Publishing, founded in November 2003, is not only publishing its own authors but is now delving into distribution. Jones is traveling state to state for his cause. Printing would be the next sequential step, he says.

"The sky is the limit," Jones says.

He aims to be the largest publishing and distribution company and has no qualms with doing all the work himself. He hopes to expand to the big screen as well.

Jones says he wants to be behind the scenes and though writing isn't his primary vision, he does have one book published, "Stackin' Paper," which he co-wrote with Joy King.

Creating lives for other people, for those in need of help and those still hustling on the streets, is what excites him, Jones says.

"My passion is taking nothing and making it into something," Jones says.

Reactions to the store have all been positive, he says.

People in the community are excited and the store isn't complete yet, he says. Only one wall holds books but many more are to come.

"They come in and say, 'Oh my god! All these books on

the wall,'" he says, laughing.

With Street Knowledge Book Center, Jones has made a place for the street literature genre in his community, he says.

Jones says his goal is to get the younger generation to start writing, especially those with felony charges that are denied employment. He hopes these individuals can open their own stores and make a living for themselves.

Jones realizes how easy it is to fall into the trap of making one bad decision after another, as he spent four years in prison for drug trafficking.

Leondrei Prince, Jones' first author, was also his childhood friend and fellow inmate. "Bloody Money," which Prince wrote from prison, has spurred a series of books inspired by his time behind bars.

Jones first received the draft as a stack of lined paper stapled together. Each word was handwritten.

"I'm taking the knowledge I learned on the streets and turning it into a legitimate business," Jones says.

The Book Center employs Jones' family and friends.

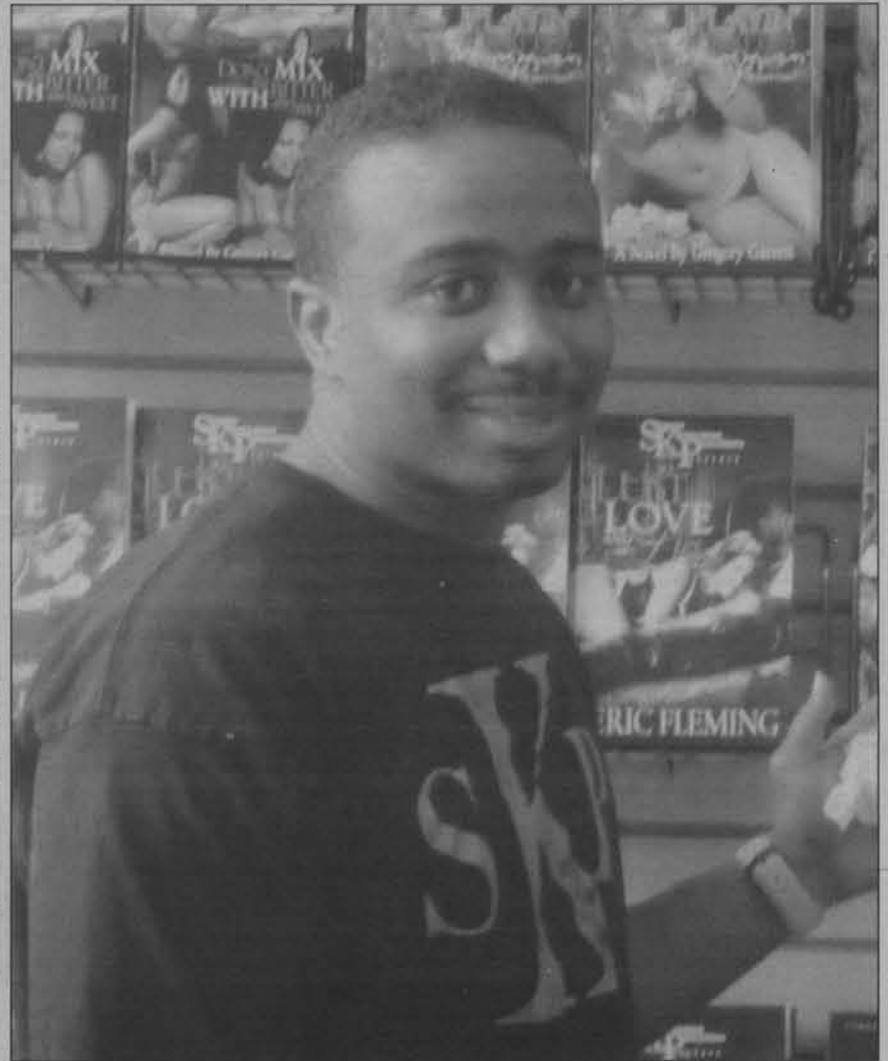
"My little cousins — they all work," he says.

Jones gives to the community on a weekly basis. On Mondays, seminars on credit and finances are given. On Tuesdays, creative writing is encouraged through lessons. On Wednesdays, black history is taught and on Thursdays, poetry is read, he says.

"There's a lot of people who want to write a book, but don't know how to put a book together," Jones says.

He also gives back to the community in other forms. On the Friday after Thanksgiving, Jones will host a Thanksgiving dinner at the store.

"Some people can't even get a basketball team together,"



Courtesy of Joseph Jones

Joseph Jones founded Street Knowledge Book Center in Wilmington.

er," Jones says. "They need sponsors. I sponsor that."

Street Knowledge Book Center is making its mark through the store's Web site and magazines. However, prison lists are key in spreading the word, he says.

The store's business card reads, "We ship to state and federal facilities."

"Like I always do, I'm creating something," he says. "By making a profit, I'm saving other people's lives."

## UDress hosts third annual fall event

Continued from page 23

first time modeling, Cohen says she enjoyed the spotlight but not without the nervous jitters of being watched by hundreds of people.

"I kept thinking to myself as I walked down the runway that I hope I don't fall like Carrie Bradshaw from 'Sex and the City,'" she says, laughing.

Reed, too, says he was surprised when he was announced the winner, especially since he was randomly recruited by the magazine for the show.

"I was just walking in Trabant one day and I was recruited by the UDress table," Reed says. "I thought it was neat, so I just signed up."

Though Reed says he modeled before for a small portfolio, it was his first time on the runway. The support he had from his family and his friends made his appearance on the runway a memorable and enjoyable one, despite his nerves.

"It was so fun and it was such an adrenaline rush," he says, smiling. "Everyone was supportive and it just made going out on the runway that much better."

But the focus of the event wasn't

entirely on fashion and clothes. Waters says UDress worked heavily with philanthropic efforts, which it featured in its charity raffles. Prizes included gift baskets and gift cards to local shops and restaurants in Newark. Proceeds from the raffle went to the UDress philanthropy, TOMS Vagabonds.

"The charity sold blank canvas shoes that attendees could decorate themselves," Waters says, "and with each purchase, a pair of shoes is donated to children in an underprivileged country."

Waters says UDress also worked with Delaware Does More — a 90-day program organized by the United Way of Delaware and the Food Bank of Delaware in efforts to raise money and food to help Delawareans meet their housing and utility needs this winter.

With the growing success of the magazine and the event as it continues its expansion by working with charities and local vendors, Lapidus says she can only imagine what's in store for the magazine's future.

"Every year, the magazine seems to grow even bigger," she says. "There are just more and more people that join our team who are so dedicated. Who knows what the future holds for us."



THE REVIEW/Justin Maurer

UDress's Fall Fashion Event also celebrated the launch of the magazine's Fall 2008 issue.

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The football team's eight losses this season are the most by the program in more than 117 years.

# R sports

28

## weekly calendar

Tuesday, November 25

Men's Basketball vs. Vermont  
7 p.m.

Women's Basketball @ Quinnipiac  
7 p.m.

Wednesday, November 26

Thursday, November 27

Friday, November 28

Women's Basketball vs. Dartmouth  
7 p.m.

Saturday, November 29

Men's Basketball @ Seton Hall  
Noon

Sunday November 30

## Student participates in the Philly marathon

BY LEXI AMBROGI

Staff Reporter

On Sunday, thousands of spectators lined the streets of Philadelphia, Pa., to watch the 15th Anniversary of the annually Philadelphia Marathon. Temperatures dipped below 25 degrees as the runners headed down cool and crisp Ben Franklin Parkway at the starting signal from the race official. Tucked into the crowd, a dedicated group of 10 students braved the cold and wind to cheer for university senior Kristin Heimbach.

"I saw last year's race, and the atmosphere was so awesome," Heimbach said. "It made me want to jump in and run it myself."

Heimbach began her preparations for the grueling 26.2 mile distance in June. She did not know much about marathon training, so she Googled training plans and found one by Hal Higdon, senior writer for *Runner's World*.

Her workouts began with half-mile runs and over a period of four months she worked up to five- or eight-mile runs nearly every day. Heimbach does most of her runs around campus and up New London Road. She likes to do her weekly long runs in the morning so she can spend the rest of the day recovering.

"I've done two twenty-mile long runs," she said. "I have a route where I swing back to my house and grab something to eat around mile 15."

Heimbach did not have to worry about getting hungry during her race — a group of her sorority sisters from Kappa Alpha Theta

were ready with energy bars, fruit and water for her mid-race.

"I sent out a Facebook message," she said. "They were stationed throughout the course to give me a little pump-up."

Heimbach's roommate, Rachel Kessman, was among the crowd of supporters. She said there was a caravan of cars driving up to Philadelphia in the early hours of the morning to cheer for Heimbach, who wore a neon pink hoodie bearing her sorority's letters that made her stand out in the sea of runners.

"Since day one, she's had a calendar with dates and miles marked off behind her desk," Kessman said. "She's very health conscious about food and she's very into it. We're so proud of her."

Heimbach was not the only university student with marathon dreams this fall. Senior Ryan Kapa began his training in the spring, but was sidelined by injury in late October. Kapa and Heimbach often hit the gym together for additional training.

"It's my ultimate goal to be running Boston," he said. "But I'm glad at least one of us can run this weekend."

Kapa, who hopes to be running again by the summer, said Heimbach's determination to reach the goal of 26.2 miles has helped her training take off.

"She used to be a runner back in high school," he said. "But I'm surprised that she's come this far in such a short



Courtesy of Kristin Heimbach

Heimbach got a medal and a special blanket for finishing the marathon.

See RUNNER page 31

## commentary



PAT MAGUIRE

"Roller coaster ride"

Senior linebacker Erik Johnson stepped into the press room at the Bob Carpenter Center shortly after the football team's season-ending 21-7 loss to Villanova. He looked bruised and beaten — disappointment and frustration were written on his face. He struggled to speak or find words that could describe how he was feeling.

The seniors on the 2008 Delaware football team had just stepped off an emotional roller coaster ride. Marked by brief highs and indescribable lows, the Hens finished the season a disappointing 4-8.

The Villanova finale was a microcosm of the season as a whole. Aaron Love, who broke the record to become the all-time leading receiver in Delaware history the week before against Richmond, was unable to play due to injury. The defense played inspired, forcing turnovers and halting the Wildcats' offense on fourth and short, only to take the field minutes later after another offensive three and out or turnover. Coach K.C. Keeler struggled to settle on a quarterback, replacing an injured and underperforming Lou Ritacco with a not much better Robby Schoenhof in the second half.

No one really knew what to expect as the

Hens took the field against Maryland in week one. While they lost, it was only by a touchdown to a BCS team. The Hens were hopeful as they began to slowly climb to the first peak of the coaster.

Excitement reached a high as they raced to the top, and the team peaked as well. A 48-20 victory over West Chester in front of a sold-out Delaware Stadium in week two only added confidence to a Delaware team who had lost its starting quarterback, runningback and much of its offensive line the previous season. Schoenhof, although shaky at times, was performing well. The committee of runningbacks was getting the job done.

As Delaware boarded the busses for Furman, few could have realized that the coaster's first peak would be its highest. There was a slight dip in the tracks as the Hens lost to the Paladins, a solid team. The coaster hit a peak when the Hens returned home against Albany, only to be slowed down when running back Kervin Michaud sustained a broken clavicle.

While there were no catastrophic results, it certainly wasn't fun. The coaster never quite got as high as its West Chester peak. The only other victories for the rest of the season came

against a Hofstra team that finished 4-7 and a Towson team that finished 3-7.

It was certainly interesting, and no one ever really knew what was next. Tight ends and wide receivers played quarterback, record lows were broken and third and fourth string players found themselves starting as the season moved forward.

For Johnson, at the end of this season the ride came to a halt and it was time to leave the amusement park. While the end of the ride was disappointing, it was a trip that few got to have.

While Delaware's seniors finished their stint with the worst record in Delaware history, they still carry the legacy of advancing to the national championship the year before. It is unfortunate that a group of athletes who gave the university so much must leave on such a sad note. This disappointing 2008 season should not be their legacy.

Pat Maguire is a sports desk editor for *The Review*. His opinions do not necessarily represent those of *The Review*. Please send questions, comments and some tickets to Six Flags to [pmaggs@udel.edu](mailto:pmaggs@udel.edu)



BY RYAN LANGSHAW  
Managing Sports Editor

### About the Teams:

**About the Hens:** Delaware has started the season off with a 2-2 record, suffering losses to Rutgers and Robert Morris. This week the team will have a home game against Vermont and will then go on the road to take on a tough Seton Hall team who has already pulled off a national upset, beating nationally ranked USC earlier this season.

**About the Catamounts:** Vermont has gotten off to a start that mirrors the Hens, posting a 1-2 record in their first three games. The team's only victory came in a 89-58 win against Yale. The Catamounts are led offensively by junior Marqus Blakely, who is posting a three game average of 18.3 points per game.

**About the Pirates:** Seton Hall has put on an impressive display, finding its three victories against St. Francis, Columbia and USC. The Pirates' only loss came to a nationally ranked Memphis squad. The team is led by sophomore guard Jeremy Hazell and senior swingman John Garcia, who are both averaging more than 10 points per game.

# underpReview: Men's Basketball

Nov. 25 vs. Vermont  
Nov. 29 @ Seton Hall



### The Numbers:

**9:** The combined amount of points the Hens won their first two games by this season.

**12:** The team's ranking in free throw percentage, last in the CAA.

### The Prediction:

This week will be a test for the Hens. Vermont has hung tough in every game they have played this season, and traveling on the road to Seton Hall will be no easy task.

However, the Hens are an experienced team, and if the seniors, such as Egerson and Brian Young, can provide leadership and sufficient scoring, there is no reason to think Delaware will not come out of this week with at least a split.

Hens 82, Vermont 75  
Seton Hall 89, Hens 70

### How the Hens can beat the Catamounts:

Vermont comes into this game with a lot of size and skill underneath the basket. Luckily for the Hens, they have size in key areas to match up with the Catamounts.

The team should be able to get scoring from both Marc Egerson and Alphonso Dawson, who have skill advantages over the Catamounts' guards.

The real difference in this game lies less on the offensive side of the ball, and more on the defensive end. Forcing turnovers and getting a few fast break points will help the team set the pace early in this game. Rebounding will also be key for the Delaware. Both teams are about even in terms of size, so the rebounding battle should not be something the Hens lose.

If they do, then they could be in trouble. If UD can start out this game playing consistently, and can keep the rebounding battle even, they should be able to hang in the game.

### How the Hens can beat the Pirates:

Seton Hall has a lot more talent than the Hens—on paper at least. If the team can get some of the Pirates' big men into foul trouble early on, Seton Hall may be forced to go deep into their bench, allowing UD to keep the game close.

Containing Hazell will be key for the Hens. Hazell is averaging more than 22 points per game and is making more than 40 percent of his three-point attempts. If the Hens can shut down that focal point of the Pirates' offense, it should allow them to keep the game close and pull out a win.

## Goalie is heart of Delaware's hockey hopes

BY JORDAN WOMPIERSKI

Staff Reporter

Kurt Pflumm fastens the straps of his white, blue and gold pad, scattered with black battle scars, around his left leg. After that, he does the same with his right leg pad.

Pflumm always goes from left to right when getting dressed — it's one of his superstitions.

Then he puts on the most important part of his ensemble. Pflumm dons his mask, designed by a former teammate to resemble those worn by professional players.

A "UD" logo is emblazoned on the forehead, his number 39 adorns both sides, and painted stitch marks show the results of wounds Pflumm might have suffered without his trusted piece of equipment.

Pflumm, a junior, was practically born with skates on—he was playing hockey by age 3. Eighteen years later, he is the man behind the mask for the Delaware men's ice hockey team.

If it were not for those goalie masks, Pflumm might not be playing between the pipes. He says he started off as a forward, but his fascination with goaltenders led him to change positions.

"I was into the goalies because I thought their masks were sick," Pflumm said. "Once I started playing forward, I used to just jump into the net without any goalie equipment on."

Pflumm says his parents eventually gave in and bought him some goalie equipment, and his career as a goalie began.

Investing in the equipment was a big financial step for the Pflumms. He said even a moderate set of goalie equipment, like what he has now, still costs around \$3,000.

Pflumm and his family have committed, and spent a lot of money, to get him what he needs.

"Over \$100,000, easy," Pflumm said, factoring in a lifetime of equipment, hockey camps, league fees and travel expenses.

Nobody is happier the Pflumms decided to support their son than head coach of the hockey team Mike DeAngelis. He is hoping that Pflumm can carry the Hens to new heights this season.

"He's done a great job for us," DeAngelis said. "He should be the guy that can take us all the way. We're very confident with him."

Delaware's ice hockey team is ranked No. 4 in the American Collegiate Hockey Association, and they will be counting on Pflumm this weekend to backstop the team against Stony Brook University.

So far, Pflumm has made more than 250 saves and notched eight victories this year, both career highs. Last year, he served as backup goaltender after transferring from Hobart College in Geneva, N.Y.

Pflumm has had his fair share of injuries. A hockey fight left him with a broken nose when he was 15, and his hand was sliced open by a skate blade around the same time.

Earlier this year, his mask came off, and he was hit in the face by a teammate's stick, sending a tooth right through his upper lip.

Between the high risk of injury and the hard rubber pucks that come hurtling toward goalies at speeds approaching 100 miles per hour, it would be easy to get flustered. Pflumm knows the pressure that comes with playing such an important position.

"Nothing rattles him," teammate Andre Menard said. "You know he's gonna be there to make the big save if you need it."

One day, Pflumm's mask might even sport the logo of a professional team. Pflumm is modest when it comes to talking about his hockey future, but he concedes he has an "outside shot" of playing professionally in Europe.

"It all depends on a lot of things," Pflumm said. "If we have success with our team here, that could change things."



Courtesy of Kurt Pflumm

The combined cost of a goalie's helmet and equipment can easily top \$3,000.



THE REVIEW/Steven Gold

Although Delaware swimmers plan to contend in the CAA, they will have to vie with a strong Towson team.

## Hens at home in the water

BY LEXI AMBROGI

Staff Reporter

Earlier this fall, renovations to the indoor pool at the Carpenter Sports Building ran a month into the semester. The pool was closed to all patrons, including the athletes. The change of practice location did little to dampen the spirits of the swimming and diving teams, however.

Though the interruption was an inconvenience, the changes to the pool will help the teams in the long run, captain Maryann Walker said.

Changing from a 25-yard pool to a 50-meter pool allowed the swimmers to train in long course, which she said was beneficial for the team.

For the divers, the trip over to McKean High School was a little more cumbersome, diving coach Pete Metrisko said.

"It was really hard to be away from our home pool," Metrisko said. "But they kept practices really positive."

McKean has a single one-meter diving board, while the pool at the Carpenter Sports Building has two one-meter and two three-meter boards. Still, the team was able to get in enough practice off the three-meter boards as the university's pool reopened just two days before they started their season with a victory over George Mason.

Both teams are looking to improve upon last year's respective third and sixth place finishes at the

CAA meet. Head coach John Hayman said the men's swim team will contend with UNC Wilmington and Old Dominion for first place honors.

"As of right now, we look like one of the top three teams," he said.

The women's team is hoping to battle William and Mary, University of North Carolina Wilmington and James Madison for a second place finish behind perennial powerhouse Towson.

"The conference has gotten so competitive and it's tough to get in there," Walker said. "Towson is pretty much untouchable, but I think we can improve from last year's place."

Sophomore Hans Gillan leads the men's team, with a record of 4-2 (3-1 CAA), after breaking his own school record in the 100-yard butterfly (50.27) at a tri-meet against LaSalle and Rider earlier this month. He was named CAA swimmer of the week for the second time in his career.

"I've been pretty happy individually," Gillan said. "I was striving to swim these times this early, but I haven't swam this well at this point in the season before."

Gillan in his first year as a Blue Hen after transferring from the University of Georgia, said the men's team is a serious threat to UNC Wilmington and Old Dominion university in the conference.

"We have enough depth to

upset both teams," he said.

The women's team, with a record of 5-1 (3-1 CAA) defeated UNC Wilmington and George Mason at a meet earlier this month. Strong second place performances from Cortney Barry in the 1,650-yard freestyle and from Walker in the 200-yard backstroke helped the team advance their record.

"We have a ton of freshmen and they've been swimming really fast times," Walker said. "We're looking forward most to CAA's."

Hayman's workouts aim for the swimmers to produce their fastest performances in late February at the conference meet, hoping to peak after the early season's meets.

Because of the trouble finding a consistent practice area, the diving team does not think their best results will come until later in the season, assistant coach Peter Metrisko said.

There are no injuries to report so far, and Metrisko hopes for big performances from Lisa Goyette and Shannon Burke, both top 10 scorers at last year's championship.

"They dive smart," he said. "They dive safe."

Senior diver and team captain Matt Abbruzzese said he looks forward to preparing for the CAA meet in the coming months of practice.

"I want to get big dives in," Abbruzzese said. "I'd like to try dives with high degrees of difficulty that I haven't done before."

## BlueHenBabble

Which sports moment are you most thankful for this year?



"I was really happy to see Spain win the European 2008 Cup. They have not won a title in so long, and on top of that I'm a big Barcelona fan. It was great when their midfielder made that amazing shot. The Phillies winning was pretty cool also."

Alex Billings  
Junior

"The Jets getting Brett Favre was pretty big. Now we are 8-3 and we just beat the Patriots and Titans. That has got us looking pretty good for the rest of the year."

Kevin Collins (left)  
Freshman



"Michael Phelps winning eight gold medals was my moment of the year."

Emily Nassi (right)  
Freshman



"Obviously it would be Joe Flacco going to the Ravens. He's from the University of Delaware and I'm a pretty big fan of Baltimore."

Sean Hubbard  
Freshman

"The Phillies winning. I was born and raised as a Phillies fan. You have to have felt emasculated to be a Philadelphia sports fan up to this point. Philly fans are die-hard. Love 'em or hate 'em."

Joe Sorrels  
Junior





Courtesy of Arthur Wicks

The cycling team competes in three different events each season, on all different types of terrain.

# Pedaling toward success

BY ANNA GESTERAK

Staff Reporter

The green and brown leaves line the track as the team cycles past, their zebra-style uniforms catching the wandering eyes of the spectators nearby. As they pass by the crowd, they are left with a brief but memorable glimpse of the cycling team and their award-winning jerseys. Grabbing attention has long been key for the squad, considering they are never in one place, or one area for that matter, for very long.

The sport has three distinct racing seasons; mounting biking in the fall, road racing in the spring and track racing in the summer. The university cycling team's main focus is on spring road racing, but that doesn't mean the team slows down all the other months throughout the year.

Junior Arthur Wicks, president of the club, has been cycling with the team for the past year-and-a-half. What he likes most about the sport is that it gives him a chance to go fast under his own power.

"It's just you and the bike," Wicks said.

Wicks said it is still a team sport — when you are actually racing you are often not on your own.

Team treasurer Jay Kistler, agreed with Wicks. Kistler said cycling is not as much of an individual sport as people may think it is. On the contrary, the team is close-knit.

"You get very in tune with each other," Kistler said. "During a race we give water to one another or draft behind a teammate's wheel."

Kistler said the team travels together just about every weekend from early March to late May. They cycle in New Hampshire, New York, Pittsburgh and Boston. This allows them time to get to know each other well and build on their team spirit.

Senior Mike McGee compares the sport to survival of the fittest. During a race, it becomes clear which riders are in the best shape.

McGee said being aware of other riders around you is also very important.

"It's a very equalizing sport," McGee said. "Even though you are competing for your own personal gain, it always is much more enjoyable with others riding with you. It motivates you and makes it more competitive."

McGee said one of the things he likes about cycling is how he can make it as intense as he wants. Cyclists generally ride anywhere from 20 to 50 miles, some even ride up to 100 miles during their training. It can be a very intense sport for some, he said. The races themselves are two-day events. The first day is

focused on the road race, which means there is longer mileage, generally ranging anywhere from 30 to 40 miles per race. The second day consists mainly of a criterium. A criterium is based on laps rather than miles.

"When you're leading a pack of 50 or 60 guys, on a windy road or up a mountain, it gives you a big adrenaline rush," Kistler said. "Win or lose, it's a great feeling."

Senior Corey Kropp said races are dependent upon teamwork, but in the end cyclists are basically on their own. Back in March, Kropp placed first out of a field of 45 racers at a race held at Columbia University.

"We really rely on each other for support and encouragement," Kropp said.

He believes the team has good chemistry and remembers the first weekend when he didn't know anyone and found that he instantly became friends with his teammates.

Wicks said the sport itself is not cheap, and the team tries to raise money through various fundraisers, such as a recent effort held at Grotto's Pizza. Unlike some of college teams they compete with, the Delaware cycling team is prohibited from sponsorship, putting a strain on the teams' financial situation.

The team will be hosting a competition on the campus for the first time on March 21 and 22. Kropp said although the competition takes a lot of work to put together, it should make a lot of money for the team and some much-needed encouragement from the community.

Wicks said being on a student organized sports team means unity and encouragement within the team is very important to everyone.

"The people on our team are really good people," he said. "I learn a lot from them."

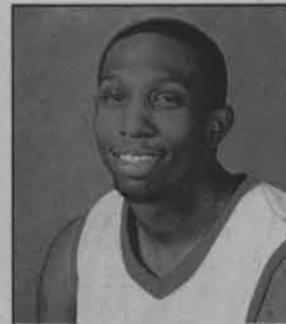


Courtesy of Arthur Wicks

Riders can cover up to 40 miles in one race.

## Athletes of the Issue

### Men's Basketball — Alphonso Dawson



Dawson led the men's basketball team to their first win of the season against St. Bonaventure Friday night with a game high 26 points—21 of which he scored in the second half. The sophomore was 3 for 5 from three point range and 11 of 16 total.

Dawson's play is picking up where he left off last season. Last year he won four rookie of the week awards, the most ever by a Delaware athlete. He also scored 341 points for the season, a record for a freshman.

### Cross Country — Christina Antonopoulos



Antonopoulos and the women's cross country team placed eighth, with 188 points, out of a field of 11 at the Eastern College Athletic Conference Championships last Saturday. The team finished ahead of Duke, Yale and St. Joseph's. The finish was Delaware's highest since they began competing in the ECAC in 2000.

Antonopoulos led the women's team with an eighth place finish in the 5-kilometer race, finishing in 18:19. For her effort, she was awarded All-East honors.



Courtesy of Kristin Heimbach

Heimbach had a group of ten supporters cheering her on.

### Runner competes for charity

CONTINUED from page 28

amount of time."

Heimbach raised money for the Friendship Fund, a group sponsored by her sorority that helps girls going through rough times financially. She also received support from friends throughout the fall semester.

"My friends will see me running around campus and ask me what mile I'm at," she said.

Heimbach's time of 4 hours and 53 minutes was just under her goal time of 5 hours. Leading up to the event, she admitted she would be content just to finish the race.

"Completing the marathon was the most rewarding feeling of my life," Heimbach said. "If I had to do it all over again, I don't think I would do anything differently during the actual marathon."

Crossing the finish line under her goal time made all of the early mornings of training well worth the effort, she said.

"There were a million times I wanted to quit," Heimbach said. "Eventually, you just get back into the zone, and you just do it."

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