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\$450,000

**Value of
Harker's
transition pay
'not common'
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THE REVIEW/Justin Maurer

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University feels effects of
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Part-time students feel
disconnected from university
life



THE REVIEW/Justin Maurer

Some students get creative with decorating
Christmas trees in their homes.

THE REVIEW/Ricky Berl

The Delaware Food Bank was forced to close its
emergency feeding program due to the economy.

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A glimpse at Harker's compensation

Public tax records reveal president's pay prior to taking office

BY JOSH SHANNON

Managing News Editor

Patrick Harker received \$450,000 from the university last year prior to taking office as university president, according to tax records.

Howard Cosgrove, chairman of the Board of Trustees, said the university received the money from a private foundation for the specific purpose of paying it to Harker.

Cosgrove said the payment was to reimburse Harker for a variety of expenses he incurred relating to his departure as dean of the University of Pennsylvania's Wharton School and the transition to his position at the University of Delaware.

Tax records show Harker received the money prior to July 1, 2007, the day he assumed leadership of the university. He was announced as president-elect the previous December.

Cosgrove would not provide any details about the foundation nor would he elaborate on the nature of Harker's transition expenses. Harker was unavailable for comment.

Raymond D. Cotton, a Washington, D.C.-based partner in the Mintz Levin Law Firm who specializes in presidential contracts and compensation, said universities often give such a payment to an incoming president, although the payment is usually less than the one Harker received.

"The number is big," said Cotton, who has represented presidents and universities in contract negotiations during his 27-year career. "The number is not common, but the practice is within the realm of what boards do, and quite frankly should do, to obtain the candidate they want."

Although he has no direct knowledge of the agreement between Harker and the university, Cotton said transition payments are usually to reimburse a president for money he or she lost by leaving his or her former position, mostly deferred compensation intended for when he or she retires.

"What typically happens is, when a university has to recruit someone who has to leave money on the table back home, they make it up by paying it out to him," he said.

The money could also include reimbursement of moving expenses, Cotton said.

Paul Fain, senior reporter at *The Chronicle of Higher Education* who covers presidential compensation, said it is an increasing trend for supporting foundations to help a university pay its president.

"It's a way to keep some of the money out of the public eye and also to not use tuition and taxpayer money," said Fain, a 1996 university graduate and former reporter for *The Review*.

Usually, he said, these supporting foundations are loosely connected to the university and serve as fundraising arms of the school.

"It's a way for them to raise money and use it outside the regular budget," he said.

Harker's salary still unknown

The \$450,000 payment, which appears on the university's 2007 tax form, is the first public indication of Harker's compensation as university president. The University of Delaware is the only public university that has not released its president's salary for the 2007-08 fiscal year, Fain said.

Cosgrove declined to discuss Harker's salary, saying the numbers will not be released until the university's 2008 tax forms are completed.

"It's just simpler to deal with it once a year," he said, adding that there are many technicalities in reporting the salary. "It's not as simple as it seems."

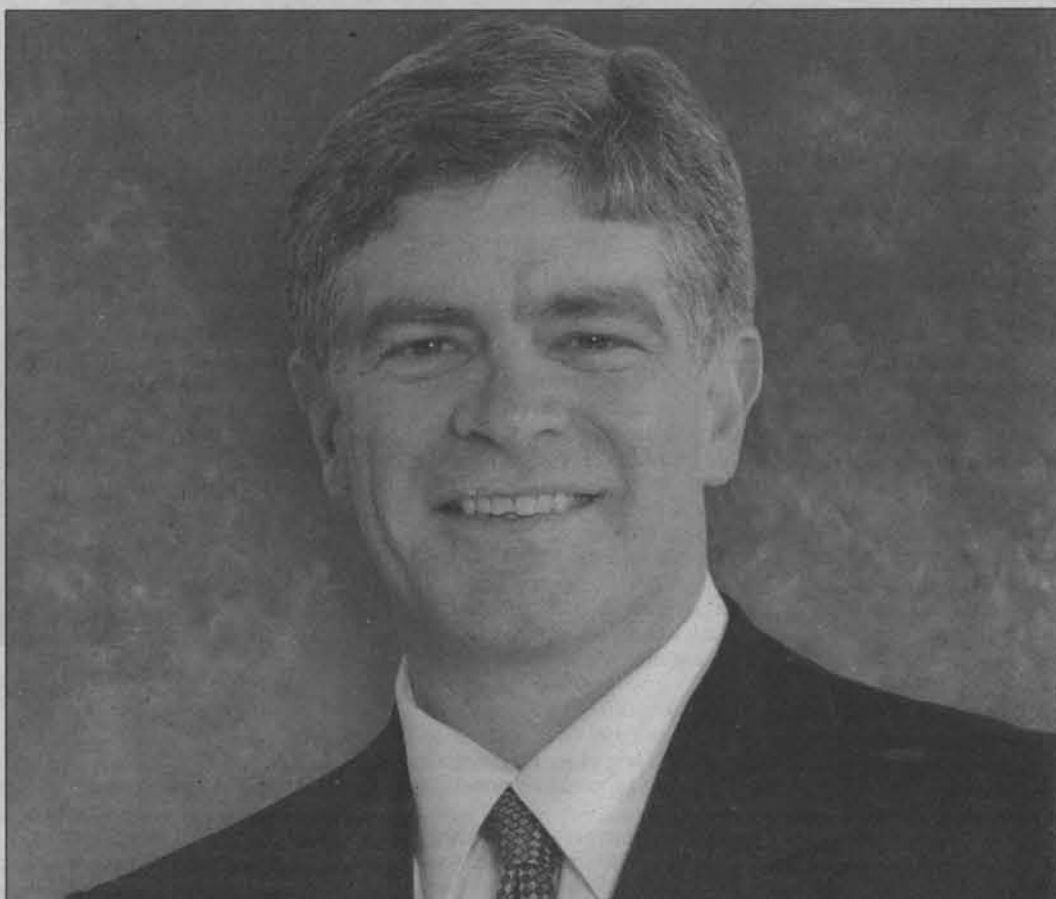
During a question-and-answer session with professor Dawn Fallik's News Writing and Editing class (ENGL307) in October, Harker declined to answer questions relating to his salary.

"You'll find out my salary next year when it's announced," Harker said. "All I will say is I didn't choose this job based on the salary. At the same time, I have three kids in college, so it's not like I've become a monk."

Fain said regular public universities are required to divulge their current year's salary information, but the University of Delaware is not required to because it is considered quasi-public.

"The layperson's definition is that it's a public institution in that it receives public funding, but it doesn't have full status as a public state agency because of the way it is chartered. It doesn't have to follow all the rules other state agencies do," he said.

David Brond, vice president of communications and marketing, said the university receives 17 percent of its funding from the state of Delaware.



The university has yet to release university President Patrick Harker's 2007-08 fiscal year salary. THE REVIEW/File Photo

Three other quasi-public universities — University of Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania State University and Temple University — voluntarily release current salary information, Fain said.

However, those curious about Harker's 2007-2008 salary must wait until spring 2009 when the university files its 990 tax form, on which it is required by law to list the salary of its officers, trustees and five top-paid employees. The form must be made available to the public, but by then, Harker will be well into his second year as president, and likely will be earning a higher salary.

Cotton said he recommends that universities in this situation release their salary information promptly.

"You want the public to have confidence in the leadership of the university, and withholding information about presidents' pay makes it sound like you have something to hide," he said.

Roselle was highest earner in 2006

Fain helps compile an annual ranking of university presidents' compensation for *The Chronicle of Higher Education*. According to the newspaper's most recent ranking, published last month, Harker's predecessor, David Roselle, was the top earner among public university presidents, drawing a salary of \$2.37 million in 2006-2007, his final year as university president. He received an additional \$74,689 in benefits, including life insurance, health care and retirement benefits.

The university president is also provided with a house and a car.

Much of Roselle's salary came from deferred compensation he received during his 17 years as president to be collected upon retirement. However, Cosgrove declined to say how much of the \$2.37 million was Roselle's base salary and how much was his deferred compensation.

"You can look at his previous pay and make a general assumption," he said.

In 2005-2006, Roselle earned \$629,006, still putting him within the nation's top-paid public university presidents. His benefits pack-

age pushed his total compensation to \$874,687.

Cosgrove said the salary listings can be misleading because deferred compensation is counted twice — as benefits in the year it is earned and again as salary in the year the president retires.

He said compensation is set by the Board of Trustees' Compensation Committee, which looks at the salaries of similar universities and the performance of the president when determining the president's salary.

Cotton said he would not be surprised if Harker earns more than Roselle's base pay, if for no other reason than an increase in the average college president's salary.

"The market has been moving up every single year," he said. "There's a greater demand for people who can do these jobs well than there is a supply. As you remember from Economics 101, when demand outstrips supply, the price goes up."

Fain said presidential compensation is a topic that always draws a response from the public.

"It touches a nerve," he said. "Everyone thinks about the tuition they paid or paid for their kid and when you see salaries like this, you really get a big public backlash."

At the same time, he said, in the university's case, the backlash might not be deserved.

"David Roselle was a smashing success," he said. "By all accounts, he was good at fundraising and was probably worth more to the university than that salary."

Fain said throughout his four years covering presidential salaries, few have left him as curious as Harker's, partially because of all the attention the university has received due to Roselle's position as the top-paid public university president.

"Delaware would probably not mind not being in the headlines about this, so that would be one bonus of not paying him as much," he said. "But with anyone, if you come into a job and your predecessor made more than you, that's a tough pill to swallow, especially when you're talking about someone who came in with these kinds of laurels."

A Closer Look

Highest-paid public university presidents (includes salary and benefits)

David Roselle*
University of Delaware
\$2,451,689

E. Gordon Gee
Ohio State University
\$1,346,225

Mark Emmert
University of Washington
\$887,870

John Casteen III
University of Virginia
\$797,048

Mark Yudof*
University of Texas system
\$786,045

*president has since stepped down

— compiled from the
Chronicle of Higher Education

Creative writing concentration dropped

English profs. discuss future of the department

BY KAITLYN KILMETIS

Senior News Reporter

University students hoping to be the next William Shakespeare, Woody Allen or George Orwell may find themselves without a concentration in the English department. On the English department Web site, in the space where the requirements for a creative writing concentration once appeared, prospective poets, script writers and novelists interested in focusing their university studies around enhancing their creative writing skills will find a note potentially derailing their college plans.

It reads, "We are not currently accepting new students into the concentration in creative writing. Retiring faculty in the poetry and fiction writing have not been replaced, and we do not have the faculty to offer sufficient courses to sustain a concentration."

The note suggests students interested in the creative writing concentration consider a concentration in professional writing or literary studies or a minor in journalism or interactive media.

Lastly, it reassures students that although the creative writing concentration has ceased to accept new members, workshops will be held every term in various genres of creative writing including grammar and style, creative non-fiction, editing and online publications.

Currently, there are only two full-time creative writing professors at the university, Bernard Kaplan and Jeanne Walker. The concentration was cut in half when the two other creative writing professors retired in recent years. The English department administration and faculty alike agreed the university could no longer offer the concentration without the proper resources to sustain a regular course rotation.

According to Stephen Bernhardt, chairperson of the English department, the English department is in a transitional state.

"Right now we're kind of in an in-between period," Bernhardt said. "We didn't feel it was fair to students to say we have a concentration but not be able to offer courses and not have enough faculty to work with."

Kristen Poole, associate professor of English and women's studies stated in an e-mail message that although faculty voted in favor of adding to the creative writing program, changes will not occur any time soon.

"The department has voted to request a creative writer as a new hire, but since the budgeting process is being pushed back this year, we haven't yet presented our request to the dean, and so he obviously hasn't yet approved it," Poole said. "Even if we were to get permission to do a search for a new CW faculty, the search wouldn't happen until [Fall 2009] for a start date of [Fall 2010] at the earliest."

Bernhardt said English department faculty must ultimately determine how important they deem creative writing.

"As chair, I have certain priorities, but as chair I try to figure out what department priorities are so the department has to decide given all the things we try to do what's most important," he said.

"I would say the department still has to decide on the priority of creative writing in its undergrad programs."

Although no new creative writing professors will be hired immediately, the department remains committed to offering workshops with a focus in creative writing. None were offered this semester but five are scheduled for Spring Semester.

Walker said the five workshops filled up quickly during registration this fall. Some students are requesting to pink-slip into the classes.

Walker, one of the two remaining creative writing professors, said she feels without a concentration, there is no consistency in course offerings from semester to semester.

"We've got no sections this semester," Walker said. "We've got five sections next semester. That's what happens when there's no regular workshop rotation within creative

writing. Students never know what they can plan for."

Bernhardt said he believes there are still a plethora of opportunities through workshops and clubs for students to develop their creative writing skills.

"I don't think there's a crisis," Bernhardt said. "I know there's some disappointment among students, but I tend to think if people look around, they'll find lots of opportunities."

Bernhardt questioned the importance of offering an official concentration as long as the courses are offered at the university.

"I don't know what you think, but in the long run is it important to say, 'I have a bachelor's degree from UD in Liberal Arts, I have a bachelor's degree in English or I have a bachelor's degree in English and I concentrated in Creative Writing?'" Bernhardt said. "Is that what will really make a difference to somebody's future? I don't know."

Tom Apple, dean of the College of Arts and Sciences, said in the past, the creative writing program did not bring in a large number of students, which may have contributed to its current problems.

"For a while there were only a handful of students in creative writing, and I think that's why it was declining in terms of the number of faculty devoted to creative writing," Apple said. "There just were a tiny number of students."

Apple said in uncertain financial times it is especially important for faculty to be placed in areas of study that are consistent with students' interests.

"We're really trying hard, especially with the new administration, to put the faculty where the students are, especially as our budget gets tighter because of the tough economic times," Apple said. "I think it's even more important because we can't afford to have faculty in areas where there's not student demand."

Bernhardt said interest in a creative writing concentration has been relatively unimpressive in the university's history.

"Creative writing is a low-enrollment concentration," he said. "I mean, if you have 800 English majors and only six or eight students are concentrating, that's pretty low."

Walker said she believes creative writing is an area of English about which many students are passionate.

"Creative writing draws a huge amount of interest from students,"

Walker said. "It's not for lack of student interest that we don't have creative writing. That's for sure."

Senior Joanna Zwickel, a creative writing concentrator who organized a protest in support of the creative writing concentration last semester, said she thinks the number of students interested in creative writing is misrepresented by the number of students who decide to pursue it as a concentration.

"I think the school doesn't prioritize creative writing because they think there isn't enough interest because there aren't a lot of people who have that as their concentration," Zwickel said. "There's so many people who are interested in taking the classes — they just don't think it's a practical major."

Zwickel said she can not conceive of a cohesive English department without a focus on creative writing.

"It doesn't make sense to me that you can teach litera-



Courtesy of Bernard Kaplan and Jeanne Walker
Professors Bernard Kaplan and Jeanne Walker are the only full-time creative writing professors at the university.

ture without teaching creative writing because that's like teaching a math formula without teaching you how to use it, how to apply it," she said. "You have to know how to do the things you read."

Senior Ann Urinoski said the creative writing concentration was the main deciding factor in choosing to attend the university and believes the lack of it would be a great loss to the English department.

"Business and technical writing are obviously incredibly important parts of the major and valuable skills in the business world, but what about the art world?" Urinoski said. "What about the creative writers, the novelists, the Stephanie Meyers, the J.K. Rowlings? What about students who want to pursue that aspect?"

Kaplan said one's opinion on the importance of a creative writing program is determined by how one defines a well-rounded student.

"It depends on what you think an educated student is," Kaplan said. "I think attempting an English department without a solid creative writing department is a diminished English department. People who will not go to study in that English department are a certain kind of person. Do we want that kind of student? That's the question the department has to ask itself."

He said a lack of appreciation for the humanities has consistently been a problem in the country.

"In the United States the arts have always had to fight for their life so there's nothing really new here," Kaplan said.

He said the debate within the English department hails from the fact that the department is struggling to deal with dwindling resources.

"It's where you want to throw your people in the trenches," Kaplan said. "Nobody wants to get rid of anybody, but the tent's crowded with students and we don't have enough faculty."

He said all aspects of the English department should be regarded equally.

"I think we should all be in it together, and in an ideal world no one should have any precedence over anyone else," Kaplan said.

He said although members of the department may have a number of conflicting views, the department continues to work together to reach some type of an agreement.

"This department has always been more harmonious than acrimonious — when you have diminished resources it's harder to be harmonious, so we're trying to hold on to our harmony," Kaplan said.

He said ultimately what happens in terms of the creative writing concentration depends on one's opinions of the goals of an English department as a whole.

"What's your vision of an English department?" Kaplan said. "If your vision of an English department is a place to train practical writers for the practical world, then, yeah, that's what the English department should do. If your vision of an English department is that it should create a culture of literacy, which values that which is not translated immediately into dollars and cents, that's what an English department should do."

In face of low funds, poetry class gets cut

BY JAMIE SHEA

Staff Reporter

One by one students' hands shot up, eager to voice their opinions on the latest visiting poet in Studies in Poetry (ENGL373), an interactive poetry class offered at the university this semester. Professor Jeanne Walker, who teaches the class, said it was offered as an interactive workshop and will not be offered again this spring due to low funding.

The class, structured around analysis of various poets' works, brought multiple local poets to campus to read and discuss the poems students had studied.

Chair of the English department Stephen Bernhardt said each poet's visit costs the university up to \$1,000.

"When you have studio classes such as music, art, and creative writing, they are expensive and you need a lot of faculty," Bernhardt said. "Lack of funding is the wrong way to think about it. We do these workshops when we can."

Walker said it may be possible to offer this course again sometime in the future.

"All the arts are crucial, including poetry and they are all about discovery learning," Walker said.

Junior Maggie Loughman, a student in Walker's class, said it was exciting to meet the actual poets who wrote the poems students read in class.

"It's like seeing a movie and then getting to meet the actors," Loughman said.

Walker said the hands-on style of the class allowed students to delve deeper into the writing and have a better grasp on the writing styles of the poets.

Loughman said these kinds of classes are important to

improve analytical skills, which can be beneficial to other types of writing.

"If you can bring that creativity in to your other writing, it will be more sincere," she said.

Walker said her goal for the class was to open up the process of art for students so they can continue reading poetry. Also, students could talk to each other and discuss art in a constructive way.

"They learn how to disagree politely and vigorously defend themselves and what they think about a poem," she said. "They feel free to change their minds."

Bernhardt said a lot of what the English department is trying to do through offering these workshop classes is to get college students involved in arts.

"It is important to the humanities to expand to a greater art scene," he said.

Loughman said access to poetry should be available to all university students.

"We need to have more classes like these," she said. "They go unappreciated."

The English department has two creative writing faculty members and has not been able to sustain the creative writing concentration due to this lack of professors, Bernhardt said.

"We are planning on reopening it when hiring takes place,"



Courtesy of Anne Yoncha

Students in Studies in Poetry (ENGL373) interacted with the poets they read. Visits cost the university up to \$1,000 each.

he said.

Bernhardt said hiring is a long process that can take over a year, and the reinstallation of the creative writing concentration will not be happening next year.

"For now, we are holding temporary workshops led by visiting writers, authors, poets, etc.," he said.

Walker said creative writing can be therapeutic.

"Poetry helps you articulate what you are feeling inside," she said.

Walker said the benefits of reading poetry are far-reaching.

"Poetry helps us to map our experiences," she said. "We can learn to map our own experiences by reading other peoples' maps."

Inauguration attendees flood local hotels

BY JORDAN WOMPIERSKI

Staff Reporter

As millions of people plan to descend on Washington D.C. in January to watch President-elect Barack Obama's inauguration, businesses in Delaware are already seeing the effect of increased tourism.

Linda Parkowski, director of tourism for the Delaware Economic Development Office, said tourism in the state is receiving a significant boost due to the multitude of people making the trek to the presidential inauguration who need a place to stay.

She said it is too early to tell exactly how much money Delaware will take in from inauguration related expenditures, but she believes the event will provide a welcome influx of money to the state during a traditionally slow time of the year in terms of tourism.

"Usually in Delaware, the winter period — November, December, January and February — are slower times for tourism," Parkowski said. "To have the inauguration in January will definitely boost Delaware's economy."

She said she was not expecting such a large number of tourists requesting to stay in Delaware for the inauguration.

"I am a little bit surprised," Parkowski said. "When Clinton was inaugurated, we did have some inquiries in Delaware, but nothing to this extent. From what I understand, hotels are getting inquiries from California, Ohio, Illinois, — all over the place. People are flying into Philly to rent rooms in Delaware."

One such hotel experiencing the effects of the inauguration is the Courtyard Newark at the University of Delaware, located on the university's campus.

Bill Sullivan,

managing director of the Courtyard Newark at the University of Delaware, said his hotel sold out all

126 of its rooms within a few weeks of the election. However,

because one group had to cancel reservations because they

could not secure bus transportation into Washington, D.C., 60 rooms became available.

Sullivan said he has no doubt the remaining available rooms will be

snatched up by others eager to attend the inaugu-

ration in January.

"We have already sold about 15 of them, and we do expect to sell out, as do many hotels in the state," he said.

Also the former chairman of the Delaware Hotel and Lodging Association, Sullivan said he expects Delaware hotels to take in nearly \$500,000 between lodging and dining accommodations.

Toni Parker, the charter sales manager for Delaware Express, said her company's 19 buses quickly sold out by the Thursday after the election.

She said she then contacted an affiliate of Delaware Express and was able to obtain an additional five buses, also sold out quickly.

Parker said she would consider chartering more buses for the inauguration, but she does not know if there are any extra ones available, due to the demand for transportation to the inauguration.

"At this point, there's none around," she said. "With that kind of sellout in one day, even the hotels around here are full."

Many of Parker's clients who booked buses are traveling to Delaware from great distances.

"I have two groups coming in from California — they'll stay in Wilmington one day and the other day in Dover Downs — and two groups from New Orleans staying in Wilmington," Parker said.

"When we first started getting phone calls, people were looking for hotel rooms in Washington, and rooms were like \$700 a night. They were sold out even with the exorbitant fees."

Sullivan said he has no plans to follow in the footsteps of many Washington, D.C., hotels that have been charging double or even triple the amount normal rooms cost for the inauguration.

"We're just happy to get the rooms filled at our standard rates," he said. "It's good business for us and we're real happy to take care of people."

George Fiorile, vice president and general manager of hotel operations for Dover Downs

Hotel & Casino, said he believes the inauguration will not only be good for Delaware's economy, but for promoting the state of Delaware as well.

"I think more people will be visiting the state that have probably never been here before," Fiorile said. "We have some groups coming from as far away as Texas."

He said his hotel started receiving calls about a week after the election.

"I must say it was a surprise," Fiorile said. "We didn't anticipate that much activity, but over the last couple of weeks we've gotten quite a few inquiries."

While he is not able to disclose exactly how many of Dover Downs' rooms have been booked, Fiorile said he is anticipating a lot of business.

"I expect it will be close to capacity," he said.

Sophomore Andrew Grunwald, director of communications for the College Democrats, said he is excited to attend the inauguration to celebrate the results of his campaigning efforts for Obama and to be a part of history.

Grunwald is one of the lucky ones who will not need to scramble to find a hotel room, he said, because he lives in Maryland, a short distance from Washington, D.C. The only problem is actually getting there.

"I wanted to take the metro but they're saying they're going to be overbooked," Grunwald said. "There's 1.5 million people trying to take the train."

He said he is not surprised Delaware's hotels are filling up so fast. While he said he thinks some of the interest in Delaware could be due to the fact that Vice President-elect Joe Biden hails from the state, Grunwald said he thinks most of the excitement in going to the inauguration is because of the significance of Obama's victory.

"I'm sure all of the hotels will be booked," he said. "It's a historical event that people really are going to want to see. They're going to do whatever it takes to find a way."



THE REVIEW/File Photo

The Courtyard Newark sold out all of its 126 rooms a few weeks after the election.

a peckabove

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.

In large class, prof. connects with students

BY MIA POZZANGHERA

Staff Reporter

Juliet Dee, a communication professor at the university, may teach large lecture classes, but she prefers to engage her students in more intimate discussion as opposed to lecturing. She writes her own original rap lyrics, which she performs in front of her classes to help her students study for exams.

"It's just a crazy thing I do," Dee said. "It's just for fun."

This semester Dee is teaching Legal Issues of the Mass Media (COMM 345) course to 150 students. In the spring she will be teaching a class called Mass Communication and Culture (COMM 245), which is open to 370 students. She said although most of her classes are big, she likes to use the Socratic Method, a question-and-answer discussion technique, because she has found it is the most effective for her students.

According to the Web site Ratemyprofessor.com, students who have taken Dee's classes agree her teaching style is both beneficial and entertaining. One student wrote on the Web site, "Being in class is like being on Montel Williams because she asks the audience questions and runs around with a microphone."

On the Web site, Dee gets high overall average ratings and smiley faces across the board. Multiple students comment about her innate ability to keep lectures fun and also informative.

Dee said she tries as much as possible to lead a discussion in class rather than lecturing because involving everyone in the class brings out many different points of view on major media law issues.

She said she is most passionate about staying up-to-date on what is important to college students. All three of her children are in college, she said, and listening to what they have to say about media culture gives her an advantage in the classroom.

"I'm kind of lucky that I have three kids in college," Dee said. "I am much more in tune to how [college students] want to spend their time."

Prior to teaching at the university, she taught at Rutgers,



Courtesy of the University of Delaware

Professor Juliet Dee raps to her students before exams.

The State University of New Jersey, and University of California, Santa Barbara. At both schools, Dee taught communication classes similar to the ones she teaches at the university.

In addition to her job as a professor, Dee has recently become the editor-elect of the *Free Speech Yearbook*, a publication compiling various academic articles throughout the nation. She said she will work hand-in-hand with the National Communication Association, of which there are roughly 5,000 to 6,000 members nationwide. As the editor-elect, Dee will be

editing academic journals for the next three years.

"That'll keep me pretty busy I think," she said.

As part of the Freedom of Expression Division of NCA, Dee said the division addresses any issues dealing with the First Amendment. Articles are submitted to her to edit by members of the NCA, as well as professors of law and communication.

Junior Lindsay Koenings is a communication major with a concentration in mass communication. Koenings said she has taken Dee's broadcast programming class, and she is working with her on an independent study for honors credit.

Koenings said she has known Dee since she was 9 years old when Dee's daughter was in her fourth grade class in elementary school. She first met Dee when she chaperoned a field trip to Cape Henlopen.

When Koenings entered the university, she did not know Dee taught communication until she walked into the communication building and saw "Professor Dee" written on one of the office doors.

She enjoyed the class she took with Dee because of how much she catered to students' needs, she said.

"She used to have PowerPoints," Koenings said. "Then she printed everything out for us because she didn't want us to be like scribes in class."

Dee was also willing to push back due dates and deadlines, as long as she would still have enough grading time. Her main priority was to ensure students would have a more accurate understanding of the class, she said.

On Nov. 18, Koenings said she was honored to attend the annual Women of Promise Dinner with Dee. According to the university Web site, the dinner was hosted to honor undergraduate students who show exceptional promise. All students invited to the dinner were accompanied by faculty members who nominated them for the award.

"[Dee] chose me," she said. "It was great to be there with her."

Sallie Mae brings new jobs to Christiana

BY JACLYN CRISCUOLO

Staff Reporter

Sallie Mae, the country's largest student loan company, will open a new branch in Christiana, adding 1,110 jobs, Gov. Ruth Minner announced Nov. 20.

Nikki Boone, public relations specialist for Delaware Economic Development Office said that in its first year, Sallie Mae plans to have a \$173.7 million impact on Delaware's economy, and \$263 million annually by 2011.

In fiscal year 2007, financial and insurance services contributed \$5.18 billion to Delaware's gross domestic product, through leading banks such as Bank of America, J.P. Morgan Chase, Wilmington Trust and HSBC. These are the largest financial companies in Delaware based on employment numbers, Boone said.

Those banks are recruiting, hiring and training professionals in financial services, which has already created an existing pool of professionals in their field, adding to the advantages of locating in Delaware, she said. "It is certainly in Sallie Mae's advantage to locate their business in this environment of financial service industry," Boone said.

"Students who graduate from the university and nearby colleges will have the opportunity to find jobs right here in the state."

Rick Castellano, Manager of Public Affairs for Sallie Mae said that Sallie Mae will introduce 750 jobs by 2010 and 350 by 2011 and invites university students to apply

online.

"We welcome any and all University of Delaware students and graduates interested in applying for a position at Sallie Mae," Castellano said.

Scott Krattenmaker, a 1991 University of Richmond graduate and former Sallie Mae employee and University of Richmond 1991 graduate, worked at Sallie Mae from 1992 to 1998 at an entry-level position answering 200 calls per day on loan consolidation, he said. His first post-graduation job with Sallie Mae led him to his current career in asset management sales, with a position as Vice President of Institutional Sales at Pioneer Investment, Inc., in Boston, he said.

"Sallie Mae is well known within the financial services sector in general, so students who do well there are very marketable across Wall Street and the well-known investment firms," Krattenmaker said.

Mike Johnson, a senior finance major, is apprehensive about looking for jobs in the current economic environment.

"It has been really hard to find jobs in this market, but the fact that Sallie Mae is offering that many jobs is a huge opportunity for recent grads," he said.

Because corporate finance positions are cutting back hiring recent graduates due to the current economy, Johnson is more encouraged about finding a job, and is looking forward to Sallie Mae opening a new branch, he said.

Sallie Mae will operate from a pre-existing building in an office park on Continental Drive near Interstate-95.

"The outreach and effort of Governor Minner along with the Delaware Economic Development Office made our decision to locate to Delaware an easy one," Castellano said.

Boone attributes Sallie Mae's decision to locate in Delaware to the existing talent within the financial services industry.

"Delaware is known for their vibrant financial industry how Silicon Valley is known for technology, and as Pittsburgh was known for steel," Boone said.

C.R. McLeod, communications director for New Castle County said he finds Sallie Mae's decision to be encouraging in the current state of the economy.



THE REVIEW/Ricky Berl

Sallie Mae's new branch in Christiana is expected to bring \$173.7 million to Delaware's economy.

"This is really a break of sunshine through the clouds," he said. "We have been hearing nothing but bad news from Chrysler to our local Pepsi bottler. To have a company that are hiring 1,110 people — its good news — it's not a cure-all, but it's heading us in the right direction and it gets us growing again."

The battle for green paper products

BY LYDIA WOOLEVER

Contributing Editor

The boreal forests, or taiga, spread across vast expanses of North America, spilling from Alaska over to the ends of Canada, Western Europe — Norway, Sweden, Finland — and blanketing the forbidding Russian turf before slowly coming to an end at the very eastern edge of Asia.

The forests are ancient, approximately 10,000 years old, as the first plant species began to grow after the thawing of the last ice age. They hold 40 percent of the world's carbon stocks and, according to the Natural Resource Defense Council's Web site, are considered the largest terrestrial biome, otherwise known as the largest piece of land uninhabited by human and industrial development.

The biome is a community of rare and endangered plant and animal species. Coniferous trees, which include firs, pines and spruce, are the dominant plant species. Bobcats, elk, grizzly bears, moose, porcupines, reindeer and Siberian tigers are just a few of the animal inhabitants. The Native American First Nations tribe community still resides there after many years.

However, in order to satisfy the human need for things like toilet paper and tissues, the boreal is quickly being depleted of any forest's most magnificent jewel — the trees.

Lindsey Allen, a forest campaigner for Greenpeace, became involved against boreal deforestation four years ago, when the organization first acted out against Kimberly-Clark, the maker of Kleenex, Scott and Cottonelle products and the largest distributor of disposable paper products in the world.

"It was obvious to us that we shouldn't be using ancient forests and ecosystems that are over 10,000 years old to create disposables when we can use alternatives like recycling," Allen said.

Allen said she, fellow Greenpeace volunteers and members of the NRDC approached multiple companies, predominantly Kimberly-Clark, and were not taken seriously.

"They said, 'We know the paper business, we consider ourselves a good company, we don't see that there is any need to make changes on the ground,'" she said. "But they are the largest tissue company in the world — Kleenex is the most popular brand and KC brags about the fact that one in four homes worldwide has a Kimberly-Clark product at any given time. So that means a significant impact on the boreal forests, and not just the boreal, but forests around the world."

Susan Casey-Lefkowitz, senior attorney for the NRDC, said NRDC has two primary issues with Kimberly-Clark.

"One is that they have really not yet developed a strong policy around forests that simply shouldn't be logged — they haven't found a good way to define the intact, ecologically important forests that they wouldn't buy from," Casey-Lefkowitz said. "The other is they don't yet have a policy in place around increasing the amount of recycled fiber in their products."

According to the NRDC Web site, citing information from a Kimberly-Clark Sustainability report, the company uses approximately 3.6 million tons of virgin fiber each year, claiming more than half a million acres of boreal forest.

According to the Kimberly-Clark Web site, based on their research, "Using certified, sustainable virgin fiber in our tissue products has no greater environmental impact than recycled fiber."

Greenpeace's goal is to have a global policy within disposable paper product companies, like Kimberly-Clark, Allen said. The policy has three demands: it clarifies the need to increase recycled content in the company's products; defines "No-Go" forest areas, or zones that should not be cut because they are still intact, are endangered, or that cutting in those regions

will emit excess greenhouse gases that contribute to climate change; and to use Forest Stewardship Council certified fiber.

Casey-Lefkowitz said KC did create a policy but it was minimal and inadequate.

"What they haven't been able to do is create a policy working together with groups like ours where we essentially have good input," she said.

Allen and Casey-Lefkowitz agreed that one of their main hopes is for Kimberly-Clark to use solely FSC certified wood, the only fiber certification both organizations support.

"These forests are too valuable for our planet — they don't need to use virgin fiber when they could be using FSC certified wood," Allen said. "FSC is an independent body and essentially contracts people to go out into the forests and look at what is being cut to assure consumers that the cuts are harvested sustainably."

Casey-Lefkowitz said KC has begun to show a preference for FSC certified fiber, which is a big step.

"This good but they still will buy from other certification we don't find to be very trustworthy," she said.

Greenpeace contacted Kimberly-Clark because after extensive research and fact checking, they found the company had been managing vast expanses of forest lands in Canada, essentially creating a significant, destructive footprint, Allen said.

"When we entered negotiations with KC, we were hoping they were making moves, maybe we could convince them to meet our core demands," she said. "But the negotiations broke down after about two and a half months because they were completely unwilling to make any changes in their recycled content."

Greenpeace has seen movement with the Kleenex "Naturals" line, Allen said.

"For a long time they told us it was impossible for them to include recycled content in their Kleenex products, that consumers won't buy it, it wouldn't be soft enough," she said.

The "Naturals" line does have minimal recycled material but is not run through its flagship brand, Kleenex, which is still most prevalent in stores like Wal-Mart and Target, Allen said.

"We didn't want them to include recycled content just to show it can be done in their products — we want the Kleenex brand to include recycled content so that anyone in the U.S. who wants to buy tissue has a sustainable alternative," she said. "Any place I am going, anywhere in North America, I find Kleenex, and if I buy it, I should be able to buy Kleenex that's not wiping out ancient forests."

Casey-Lefkowitz thinks the "Naturals" line a good step but the products are still limited.

"It is a first step they are taking. But what they haven't done yet is make actual commitments around increasing recycled content across the board," she said.

There are products, such as Seventh Generation, Cascade and Bay West, that include 100 percent recycled content and high percentages of post-consumer recycled content, or material taken out of the waste stream and turned into another product.

Kimberly-Clark has also made movement in the boreal forests by recently announcing that they will no longer be buying from their prior main boreal supplier in Ontario, Casey-Lefkowitz said.

"That's a really good thing; it means the messages we've been sending, and from universities and companies, are starting to register," she said. "What's important is that it's one thing for them to stop buying from one place; it's another thing to put a policy in place that says that they're going to help protect endangered forests and are not going to buy from any place that has these same forest qualities as this small piece of boreal. That's something they



Courtesy of Lindsey Allen/Greenpeace

Trees in the boreal forests in Canada (above) and around the world are often cut down to make paper products.

still haven't done."

Lance Latham, manager of corporate communications for KC, said the company had nothing to say further on the topic other than the information that is posted on its Web site.

The Web site offers information on KC's sustainability, alongside reports and their fiber procurement policy. It states that the company has "long supported sustainable forestry and fiber procurement practices." The site also states the company is in the process of working towards "100% certified fiber."

Regarding the boreal, the site states, "We do not knowingly use fiber from forest areas requiring protection, including primary tropical rain forests and high conservation value forests. This includes certain designated areas of Canada's Boreal Forest."

All of the university's paper products are from Kimberly-Clark, John Warren, director of facilities and custodial services on campus, said.

"After researching, testing products and receiving feedback from customers, Custodial Services compiled a list of environmentally safe, friendly products that met the green seal standards for the university that sanitary suppliers bided on," he said.

Paper products are purchased from a single-source sanitary maintenance supplier, The Philip Rosenau Co., Inc., which was selected through a bidding process handled by the university's procurement department, Warren said.

"The contract was awarded based on the supplier's ability to provide the environmentally safe products requested, the services requested, who showed commitment to the environment that we share and finally competitive pricing," he said.

Warren said the chosen product must promote using less, wasting less and leaving less, thus less impact on the environment. The product also needs to meet customer acceptance and be affordable based on allocated resources.

"Our paper products meet the Environmental Protection Agency standard for post-consumer fiber," he said. "We use high-capacity towels and toilet paper packaged to make it compatible with Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design principles. Health, safety and protecting the environment are extremely important when it comes to product selection and doing our job."

Less than 19 percent of the fiber used by Kimberly-Clark to make its tissue products comes from recycled sources — while many of their products sold for use at home, including Kleenex, Scott, Viva and Cottonelle brands, contain no recycled materials at all, according to the NRDC Web site.

Warren said he is aware of high-recycled content products and more eco-friendly options, such as 365, Best Value, Pert and

Seventh Generation.

For now, Greenpeace will continue to campaign in hopes of future negotiations with Kimberly-Clark, Allen said.

"Our door is always open, but we are not interested in talking around in circles about how it is impossible to make recycled products and impossible to protect the forests," she said. "The reason KC is going to be interested in working with us is if they begin to really believe the consumers don't want to buy products that come from ancient forests."

Greenpeace will also continue to educate consumers and engage large companies to not use Kimberly-Clark products until they can be considered sustainable, Allen said.

"Now what we need to do is draw the connection with picking up a box of Kleenex and the devastating impact it's having on forests around the world, like the North American boreal," she said.

Greenpeace has had approximately 700 smaller businesses sign a pledge to use only sustainable products, Allen said. Schools such as Harvard University, University of Vermont and University of Florida also committed to pulling KC products from their shelves. University action includes canceling a KC contract, sending an official letter to the company explaining why they will not use or do not use their products or removing products from campus bookstores and smaller campus areas to generate awareness.

Casey-Lefkowitz said there is a certain responsibility consumers have to purchase products that do not aid in the destruction of "this incredibly special place."

"This is really being driven by consumption in the U.S., its forestry to supply the U.S. with more paper and lumber," she said. "We really shouldn't be making trees into paper at this point when we have so much fiber available in the form of already existing paper, especially for disposable products that can't even be reused or recycled. It's sort of the silliest of uses for old growth forests."

Casey-Lefkowitz said universities have the opportunity to have a big voice in the market.

"A university is a pretty big purchaser of tissue paper products and what we've found is the best way to influence companies is to say, 'We are the consumers, we want something different,'" she said. "If we're not careful, we're really going to lose what's one of the world's last intact forests."

Warren said his department would think carefully about the products if it were to find out its products were resulting in vast deforestation of endangered forests to create a better product.

"Yes, we would consider switching," Warren said.

Senior becomes not-so-secret Santa

BY NATALIE JOHNSON

Staff Reporter

December air sweeps across the necks of university students carrying the chill of final exams, papers, projects and assignments. A snowstorm of deadlines kicks them into emergency mode and causes them to spend most of their time throwing salt on their projects to melt away the mounds of work due before the week's end. The constant shoveling and clearing leaves little room for getting into the holiday spirit. However, while good little boys and girls are staying in on a Saturday night reading by their desk lights, Santa is putting on his boots for a night on the town.

Senior Matt Cerabona has been dressing up as Santa Clause since his freshman year, and he doesn't work in the mall surrounded by elves.

His typical Christmas requests are not ponies, Tickle Me Elmos or Hannah Montana dolls. Cigarettes, cash, cars and beer are the most popular items on his list.

Students can find him frequenting the bars on Main Street, drinking hard eggnog at a house party and walking around campus in full-blown Kris Kringle attire.

"Sometimes people look at me like, 'Oh my gosh, this kid is insane,'" said Cerabona, whose outfit consists of black boot covers, red pants and jacket, red hat, white gloves, glasses, wig and a fluffy white beard that straps behind his ears.

He said he enjoyed wearing the standard red Santa hat in the past to get into the spirit, but one day he decided to buy the entire costume.

Though Cerabona loves all holidays, he is a self-proclaimed Christmas fanatic who believes his childhood surrounded by Christmas lights in New York City inspired his ways. When he first showed his parents the costume, his dad shook his head laughing, thinking that his son couldn't be any more addicted to Christmas, and his mom expressed concern over her son's holiday spending habits.

Cerabona said a typical Santa suit can run up to \$300, but he got his on sale for \$50. He spends the money he makes from selling his books at the end of the semester on Christmas presents.

He not only wears his costume at school, but at home with his friends from high school.

One friend dresses in blue pants and a yarmulke and wears a paper sign tied around his neck that reads "Hanukkah Harry." He carries a miniature menorah with him and accompanies Cerabona to parties. Other friends sometimes dress as elves or Mrs. Clause.

He said many of his friends' birthdays fall between Thanksgiving and Christmas, so he always attends their parties as Santa.

Cerabona has his costume dry cleaned before he comes home for Thanksgiving break and again after Christmas. This is necessary because no matter how hot he gets wearing his

suit in a bar, he never sacrifices his look for comfort.

He said he sometimes pulls the beard down a bit to allow for drinking access, but that is as far as it goes.

He enjoys eating chewy sugar cookies with a cool glass of milk, and if his friends call him between Thanksgiving and Christmas Day, they would hear the tune of his ringback tone, "Santa Clause is Coming to Town."

During family get-togethers, Cerabona enjoys creating a stir by entering in his Santa suit.

"I sit down and start eating their food without them knowing who I am," he said. "Finally someone is like, 'Matt is that you?'" he said.

Cerabona has taken a final exam in costume with his friends who wore reindeer horns and holiday sweaters, but he usually only wears the suit at night.

He said he frequently hears, "Santa smells like cigarettes and booze." Another phrase he often hears is "Santa, I know him!" from the holiday movie "Elf."

He enjoys the comments, and said he has never had a negative reaction to his attire.

He said the most awkward reactions have been at bars when girls jump on him and sit on his lap. Though Cerabona said that dressing up doesn't hurt with the ladies, he doesn't do it for them.

Cerabona doesn't spend all of his time as Santa buying people beer and lending out cigarettes from the pack he keeps tucked underneath his belt.

His first year wearing the suit, he helped a family who lost all of their Christmas gifts. A friend working at a hotel informed Cerabona that a guest came to the front desk in hysteria over lost presents. The guest realized that he and his wife had left all of their Christmas presents in a restaurant that had since closed for the holiday.

Cerabona arrived at the family's door at 7 a.m. Christmas morning dressed as Santa with a red laundry bag full of presents. The presents came from storage rooms in the hotel with leftover board games and movies. The hotel manager even threw in some wine to give to the parents, he said.

"The dad started freaking out in tears," Cerabona said.

The family told him that he saved Christmas, and even tried to give him a generous tip, which he declined. He had a meal with them instead, he said.

One of the young girls sitting across the table kept looking at Cerabona strangely and finally said to her mother, "Mom, why does Santa have brown eyebrows?"

Cerabona said, "Well, living in the North Pole, you tend to age slower, so it

takes a while for all of Santa's hair to turn white."

He said the 6-year-old was happy with his answer and continued to ask more questions about his life in the North Pole.

"I played along the whole time," he said.

Cerabona said even though it's a short time between Thanksgiving break and winter break, it's important to take time to get into the holiday spirit.

"People are feeling finals right now, and the holiday spirit brings down stress levels," he said.

Other students around campus are decorating for the holidays by purchasing Christmas trees, hanging stockings and hosting "Ugly Christmas Sweater" parties.

Senior Stephanie Machacek said she bought a real Christmas tree for \$15 at Lowe's Home Improvement because she wanted it to feel authentic.

She has stockings lined up for all of her roommates, including their two pets, Olive, the guinea pig, and Muffin, the hamster. She bought a Santa costume for Olive online, and she plans on baking gingerbread cookies soon.

Machacek said she got her decorations from the dollar store to be thrifty. Because she is the most spirited one of the apartment, her roommates like to make fun of her.

"They call me mom," she said.

Junior Greg Stewart said he wanted to get a tree because it was his first time living in a house off campus with his friends. His seven-foot tree is decorated with shatterproof glass balls from K-mart and colored lights, he said.

Cerabona said his electric tree burnt out, but he has Christmas lights around his ceilings that are on constantly.

"If someone says, 'Merry Christmas Santa — it's so cool you're here,' when I'm out at a bar, I'll ask them what they want for Christmas," he said. "If they say, 'I could use a beer,' sometimes I'll actually buy them one."



Courtesy of Matt Cerabona

Senior Matt Cerabona has been dressing up as Santa since his freshman year.



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R Working students balance jobs, class

BY KATHERINE GUINEY

Staff Reporter

At 3:59 p.m. on a rainy Monday, Dec. 1, after an 8 a.m. departure from home for class, three hours of listening to professors, the drive back home into Wilmington and the accomplishment of some homework, senior Jennifer Eichholz walked briskly into Bath and Body Works in the Concord Mall.

"I'm running late," Eichholz said as she looked at the clock and slipped inside.

Seven minutes later, she was out on the floor of the store, black smock, headset and all, discussing the day's issues with Trang, the other manager on duty.

Trang quietly informed her that the cashier at the front needed to be trained on finding things to do in between customers, that the dollar items were moved up to the front of the store and that the kids products were selling well.

Three minutes later, at 4:09 p.m., around the time when the traditional 9-to-5 workday comes to a close, Eichholz was ringing up her first customer of the day.

She works approximately 40 hours per week at Bath and Body Works as a sales lead while simultaneously maintaining a 3.5 grade point average as a full-time student in the honors program.

Eichholz is among the 50.2 percent of full-time college students who have either part-time or full-time jobs, according to the November 2008 data from the Bureau of Labor Statistics.

Continuing studies student Ripal Patel, who worked full-time last semester but does not currently have a job, said she knows many students who work during the school year.

"If you're a full-time student and you work full time, that's pretty hard, and I don't think teachers realize it," Patel said. "Even now without a job, I still have a tough time doing all the work."

Because she's employed and in college, Eichholz said she has to be on top of her school work at all times. Getting behind leaves little time to play catch-up.

"I have skipped classes in order to do work for other classes before," she said.

The biggest problem Eichholz faces happens when professors change the syllabus schedule, she said.

"When teachers change it, I'm in trouble," Eichholz said. "Then you have to make time that doesn't exist."

Working leaves her little downtime, but when she finds some, she takes full advantage of it, she said.

"I took a class where I had to read a book a week," Eichholz said. "I bring the book to work, so that when I have my half hour lunch break I read."

Sophomore Jessica Murtha also works at Bath and Body Works in Concord Mall. Until recently, she worked three jobs, but has since cut back to only babysitting and her Bath and Body Works position.

"Me and her, we were living on energy drinks earlier this year, in September and October," she said.

Both Murtha and Eichholz cite money as the reason for working during the school year.

"I know I'm going to have all this school debt when I graduate," Eichholz said, "and bills in general."

Monday's routine, the end of which involved closing the store at approximately 11 p.m. and completing additional homework before bedtime, is common for Eichholz.

"I have my days scheduled out," she said. "If I know I have a day off, I put them for the big projects."

Her typical Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays involve being out of the house from 8 a.m. to approximately 11 p.m., going straight from class to work.

"Normally, I have to be at work by 1:30, so I just head from school to work," she said. "But that day [Dec. 1] I had a 4 o'clock start, so it was nice because I had time for homework."

On Tuesdays, Eichholz attends the weekly managers' meeting in the morning and then goes to school for afternoon and night classes. She has no class on Thursdays this semester, but is not guaranteed the day off since she may have to work, such as last week when she worked from 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. Weekends allow time for school work, in addition to her shifts at Bath and Body Works.

"I generally don't feel that stressed, but sometimes I feel like I'm running around crazy," Eichholz said.

Despite her tight schedule, she manages to make time for fun.

"You have to [have fun] or else what kind of life is that," Eichholz said. "I think time management includes making sure you don't go crazy."



Senior Jennifer Eichholz juggles a job at Bath and Body works and a full class schedule.

THE REVIEW/Steven Gold



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After Black Friday, some local stores are still in the red

BY MATT FORD

Staff Reporter

Outside the door of Grassroots Handcrafts on Main Street sits a sign letting shoppers know of discounts available inside. A crudely drawn "5" rests taped over top of the "2" in "20 percent off" just days after Black Friday. The large discount offered and its swiftly constructed sign are evidence of the growing desperation among many stores throughout the country to curb losses and maintain business.

For retailers, the cultural and economic importance of Black Friday, traditionally the busiest shopping day of the year, allows them to boost sales figures, attract new customers and gauge what direction to follow as the rush toward Christmas begins to intensify. In difficult economic times, many stores in Newark and at the Christiana Mall approached Black Friday in new ways and plan to do so for the rest of the holiday shopping season.

Kim Zielinski, assistant store manager for JCPenney at the Christiana Mall, said her employer has distributed a high number of coupons and began offering a new rewards program in September. Though the morning hours were slower than usual, sales figures were equal to those of last year.

"With the economy the way that it is, every day in retail is a worry," Zielinski said. "We're just trying to remain positive and take care of the customer."

According to a report by ShopperTrak RCT, a research firm that tracks more than 50,000 retail outlets, sales figures were up 3 percent on Black Friday from 2007.

Justin Nibblett, an employee of Hot Topic at the mall, said it is the nature of the season that draws customers into the store, despite the poor state of the economy.

"Christmas is one of those holidays geared toward adults buying stuff for their kids," Nibblett said. "We've got the stuff their kids want."

Gap was no exception, either. But while Black Friday was a positive day, the retailer reported more than a 10-percent decline in sales for the month of November.

Kevin Younker, the assistant customer experience manager at Gap, said he felt the store's success on Black Friday could be misleading, evidenced in ShopperTrak's report of a mere 0.9 percent increase in sales over the weekend as a whole.

"I think people were more inclined to shop Black Friday and not shop later on in the season," Younker said. "I think business is probably going to fall off for the rest of the holiday season."

The International Council of Shopping Centers, a global trade association of the shopping center industry, which JCPenney and Gap are a part, described sales figures

for November as the weakest they have been in 35 years, with department stores experiencing a 13.3 percent drop when compared to November 2007.

Marilyn Dickey, the owner of Grassroots, which has stores at four locations in New Castle County, said the recession has hit her stores hard over the past six months, forcing her to lay off two full-time employees and offer unique sales over the past several weekends.

"I've been in business for 33 and a half years and I've never seen it like this," Dickey said. "Sometimes its 11, 11:30, and there hasn't been a soul inside. It's really bizarre."

Black Friday was a grim day for Grassroots. Company-wide sales were approximately 40 percent less than last year, she said. Due to these unsettling figures, Dickey plans to offer bigger sales than previously planned in the coming weeks.

"We've just got to generate some cash and pay the bills," she said.

Sandi Patterson, owner of Clothes in the Past Lane, said the store experienced lesser sales on Black Friday than a year ago, but the figures were close enough to those of last year for her to feel good about the busy weekend. She attributes this to the unique marketplace that is Newark.

"I really think we, as a whole, don't view Black Friday as anything other than the Friday before the big shopping week," Patterson said. "I don't think it impacts us as much."

Despite Main Street's small geographical area, the negative results were not indicative of those for the rest of the strip.

Gecko Fashions owner Kay Snelling said the weekend was about four times better than last year. She said sales were boosted by a two-day, 15-percent-off sale and her customers' increasing familiarity with the store. While many Americans struggle with a depressed economy, she said, the cultural significance of the busy day will keep shoppers on top of the latest discounts and rewards.

"Black Friday is a tradition where people go out and look for the best deal," Snelling said. "If they don't get it, they still want to buy."

Based on the positive weekend, she said she intends to continue operating her store in the same way she always has because small shops like Gecko enjoy an increasing dissatisfaction with mall shopping among consumers.

"There are people that hate the mall, that hate standing in line at midnight to get in and get something," Snelling said. "If you can come here at 12 in the afternoon and still get a good deal on a reasonably priced dress, why not sleep in?"

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in the news

Pakistani authorities arrest suspected leader

In a move aimed at diffusing tensions with India, Pakistani authorities arrested a suspected ringleader of last month's deadly attacks in Mumbai, along with rounding up several others in a massive raid on an alleged Pakistani terrorist group in the Himalayan territory of Kashmir, Pakistani officials, witnesses and members of the group said Monday.

Residents in the small Kashmiri town of Shawai Nala said dozens of Pakistani soldiers descended on a camp run by Jamaat-ud-Dawa, a

Muslim aid organization suspected of funding the militant Pakistani group Lashkar-i-Taiba.

According to local residents and a Jamaat-ud-Dawa member, Pakistani security forces arrested 22 people, including Zaki ur-Rehman Lakhwi, one of at least five Lashkar-i-Taiba members named by Indian authorities as the masterminds behind the brutal Mumbai assault. The attack on India's financial capital killed more than 170 people and wounded at least 230.

L.A. Episcopal Diocese blesses same-sex marriages

The bishop of the Episcopal Diocese of Los Angeles has announced that church leaders can bless the unions of same-sex couples as a matter of policy.

The Right Reverend J. Jon Bruno, whose diocese encompasses Los Angeles County and five other Southern California counties, made the announcement Friday during a diocesan convention in Riverside.

Bruno acted just days after

hundreds of conservative Episcopal congregations in North America formed a breakaway church amid a rift that began with the ordination of a gay bishop in New Hampshire five years ago.

Bruno's declaration is not expected to have a major effect on Episcopal churches in Southern California. Many have been blessing gay unions for years. He has now made it official.

Major newspapers file for bankruptcy

The company that owns the *Los Angeles Times* and the *Chicago Tribune* filed for bankruptcy protection Monday, seeking relief from \$12 billion in debt that largely stems from last year's leveraged buyout of the media company.

Tribune Co. directors approved the action to seek Chapter 11 protection in a meeting Monday, saying they want to restructure payments to banks and other creditors, following real estate magnate Sam Zell's purchase of the company last year.

The Chicago-based company had roughly \$300 million cash on hand, more than enough to make a

\$70-million payment due Monday. But executives reportedly were unable to persuade lenders to undertake a broader restructuring of the debt.

Among other obligations, a \$512-million principal payment related to Zell's leveraged buyout is due in June.

Money for that payment was to come from asset sales, particularly the sale of the Chicago Cubs baseball franchise. That sale, originally expected to take place earlier this year, has been delayed in part because of the credit crisis and is now expected to take place in 2009.

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

police reports

ALCOHOL OVERDOSE ON 21st BIRTHDAY

A university student was hospitalized on his 21st birthday due to alcohol overdose on Dec. 8 at 2:48 a.m., Cpl. Gerald Bryda of the Newark Police Department said.

The victim, a 21-year-old male student, allegedly consumed 13 to 14 shots of alcohol at a local bar while celebrating his birthday with friends. After arriving home, the student began to vomit excessively and was unable to care for himself.

Friends of the victim then called an ambulance to transport him to the Christiana Hospital where he was treated for alcohol intoxication, Bryda said.

STUDENTS ASSAULTED AND ROBBED ON HAINES STREET

Two university students were assaulted and robbed on Haines Street on Sunday at 1:47 a.m., Bryda said.

The victims, two 21-year-old male students, were approached by two suspects walking in the opposite direction. The suspects, two males both approximately 19 to 22 years of age, allegedly stuck one of the victims in the back of the head with a handgun as they passed. The suspects assaulted and robbed the victims, then fled on foot toward Delaware Avenue.

The students suffered minor injuries and one was transported to Christiana Hospital for treatment. An investigation is underway.

— Elisa Lala

Wilmington shop gives a free lesson in bike repair

BY STEPHANIE KRAUS

Staff Reporter

Below a paint shop on North Market Street in Wilmington, thousands of used bikes of all shapes and sizes hang from the ceiling of a seemingly typical garage, home to the Urban Bike Project. The UBP opened in March 2006 after a year of brainstorming.

The UBP is a 100-percent volunteer-staffed, non-profit organization that sells bikes and any bike part imaginable, founder Sarah Green said. Volunteers help teach patrons how to fix their broken bikes and improve their functioning ones and provide them with tools to do so. The goal of the project is to make bikes accessible for people at all income levels and to provide a mode of transportation for all income brackets, she said.

Green wanted to provide resources for people who ride bikes because there are not any other bike shops within the city's limits. UBP's other co-founders, Brian Windle and David Hallberg, first created the idea of the project when they were fixing bikes for free for children in Wilmington.

According to Green, many children would come to Windle's and Hallberg's houses every day and ask them to fix their bikes. It became obvious to Green, Hallberg and Windle that someone needed to step up and create a community organization dedicated to providing used bikes for anyone who needs them, she said.

The UBP provides an eclectic assortment of bikes and bike parts ranging from antique bikes to racing bikes, Green said.

"Some people that are really into bikes come in and say, 'Oh, where's your nice stuff?'" she said. "I mean, we have nice stuff. We have a little bit of everything for everyone."

Freshman-Alex Weiler heard about the project from his friend, junior Arthur Wicks, president of the university cycling team. He said he and Wicks went to Wilmington to see UBP for themselves due to their love of biking.

"I have some experience fixing bikes — not much, like WalMart bikes," Weiler said. "But on the Web site it says you don't need experience."

Even though it took only 15 minutes to fix their bikes, he said they ended up staying at the project for three hours talking to volunteers.

Weiler said UBP is a welcoming place because of the laid-back mentality of the volunteers.

"Most places charge you like an arm and a leg for any type of manual labor," he said. "But these guys are

doing it for free."

Green said the mood in the garage is typically friendly and lighthearted.

"Don't take them seriously," she said. "We joke a lot here."

Volunteers at the project do not fix bikes but instead teach customers how to do it themselves. The volunteers' creed is evocative of the old proverb, "Give a man a fish; you have fed him for today. Teach a man to fish; and you have fed him for a lifetime."

Weiler said his only complaint is that there are not more shops like UBP.

"I mean, there's nothing else like it," he said.

Weiler said UBP offers antique bike parts but sells them at an affordable price.

"I know the value of it, but they're selling it for like 60 bucks," he said.

UBP accepts volunteers of all ages and levels of experience, Green said, and as it states on its Web site, no bike experience is necessary to volunteer. She estimates UBP has approximately 70 volunteers, all of whom receive an end of the year newsletter that gives updates about the events and fundraisers for the project.

Junior Evan Ross Wilbert visited UBP last Thursday and said he intends to volunteer there in the future.

"It's not a bike thing for me," Wilbert said. "Any manual, mechanical work is relaxing for me."

UBP volunteer Gavin Klahr said the biggest patrons of the shop are residents of Wilmington between the ages of 6 and 18.

"It's like their favorite place," Klahr said. "And they've always got some bike they've broken or acquired through suspicious means."

Green said the youngest age volunteers can teach how to fix a bike is 8. She said she has helped children as young as 6 but that it can be difficult.

"We have the kids 'work off' the payment, but they don't really," Green said. "We really just give it to them."

Many people from the homeless shelter around the corner come into UBP to buy bikes to get to and from work, he said. In the winter, volunteers from UBP bring people from the shelter into the shop to give them bikes and provide them with hot chocolate.

Green, who was born and raised in Wilmington, feels the city has a huge amount of potential.

"I just really want this city to be better and this might be a really, really small part of that, but at least I'm doing something," she said.



THE REVIEW/Melanie Hardy

Approximately 70 volunteers, including children, help teach customers how to fix their bikes.

An extra year of school brings challenges for some

BY ASHLEY WAYNE

Staff Reporter

"Super senior" Mallorie Stark said she did not initially want to stay an extra semester at the university, fearing she would be bored and have little friends after many of her friends graduated on time, but she said she still has a great social life.

"The seniors that I am friends with have taken me under their wing and have included me in everything they do from hanging out to going to the bars on the weekends," Stark said.

Stark is one of many "super seniors" who spends more than the typical four years in college. Some students become "super seniors" by changing majors, taking a lighter load of credits each semester, studying abroad or delaying entering "the real world."

Stark said her decision to switch majors is what caused her to stay longer than four years at the university.

"I switched majors as a sophomore from early childhood education to hotel, restaurant and institutional management," she said. "Although I took Winter Session classes, I was still set back about a semester."

Andrew Zinn, another "super senior," will be graduating in spring 2009 instead of last spring, his original graduation date.

"I swam for four years," Zinn said. "So I usually took 12 rather than 15 credits."

He said, however, that he does not mind staying at the university for another semester because several of his friends stayed for a fifth year as well.

"My social life has not changed," Zinn said. "I will usually have people over to my apartment or go to the bars."

Another concern many students have when deciding to stay at the university an extra year is where they will live.

"Living alone was absolutely out of the question, especially as a girl, and the idea of

living with a random roommate didn't exactly appeal to me either," Stark said. "One of my best guy friends happened to also be looking for a roommate so we decided to live together."

Stark said she lives in the University Courtyards, where it was easy to obtain an apartment because she had already lived there. Zinn, who lives at the University Gardens Apartments, also kept the apartment he had lived in during past semesters.

Junior Shelby Asher contemplated the idea of staying an extra semester. A business major, she is studying abroad this upcoming spring in Israel and the decision to do so may make her fall behind in credits.

"When I was deciding to study abroad, I met with advisers every five minutes," Asher said. "I was so torn because if my credits don't transfer, then I will have to stay an extra semester after all of my friends graduate."

She said after much deliberation, she decided the benefits of studying in a foreign country outweighed the detriments of staying an additional semester.

Stark said seeking out the right faculty support for students.

"They will definitely help you put together a plan so you are on the right track and taking everything you need to be taking in order to graduate when you want," she said.

Zinn advises students contemplating remaining at the university for an extra semester to stay because they can take more classes they can enjoy.

Stark said "super seniors" also have the benefit of delaying their entrance into the workforce for a little longer.

"I still like being here because, well, let's be real, I'm in college and not working — and anything is better than working," she said.



THE REVIEW/Ricky Berl

More than \$2,500 has been raised this year for orphanages in South Africa.

Battle for Life holds fundraiser at Kate's

BY KATHERINE GUINEY

Staff Reporter

At Klondike Kate's on Nov. 24, Battle for Life hosted "Dance for Change with DJ Amaze" to raise money for South African orphanages.

Approximately 225 people gathered at the bar from 7 p.m. to 1 a.m. and participated in BFL's "Dance for Change," the proceeds of which go to AIDS-affected orphans in South Africa.

The evening got off to a slow start, with only 20 people at the event at approximately 9 p.m. and no one dancing. But as the night progressed, more people arrived and, with a request for Britney Spears' song "Womanizer," the first individuals began to venture out onto the dance floor.

According to the group's treasurer, Chandiha Gajapathy, BFL raised \$904.65 from the \$3 cover charge, raffles and games. Klondike Kate's, which provided the space for free, kept the money from the food and drinks.

BFL is a subcommittee of Alpha Lambda Delta, an honors fraternity on campus. The subcommittee works throughout the year to raise money for orphanages in South Africa, such as the Mohau Centre, dealing with children whose lives are touched by AIDS.

BFL does not organize its own trip to South Africa, but instead operates in conjunction with the university's study abroad program.

"We've actually worked with these children one-on-one, so we know the faces and names," Robyn Mello, co-chair of BFL, said.

Both Mello and fellow co-chair Kate Rosenblum have traveled to South Africa on separate occasions, not with the university, and feel it is important for people to keep helping South Africans even after they have left.

"It's the concept of responsibility," Mello said. "Too many people volunteer and do good work, but then come back and forget about it. People shouldn't go to South Africa and come back and forget about the things they've done."

To aid its cause, BFL puts together fundraisers, such as "Dance for Change," and awareness events.

"The goal is to keep it going and to send money over there," Rosenblum said. "We're also sending books this year."

Currently, the group has \$2,674.13 to donate and BFL still has two fundraisers to go — one today at Grotto Pizza and one Wednesday at Peace A Pizza, Gajapathy said after the dance.

At the end of the calendar year, BFL

sends the money to South Africa by writing a check and giving it to one of the professors going on the Winter Session study abroad trip to the country.

"That's how we can feel secure that all the money is getting there and going to the right place," Rosenblum said. "Otherwise there would be transfer fees, and we would not be able to keep such a close eye on the money."

Rosenblum and Mello thought a dance at Klondike Kate's would be a good way for students to relax and for BFL to raise money.

"It's the Monday before Thanksgiving, nobody wants to do any work, and people need to blow off some steam," Mello said.

Juniors Brittny Younger and Charlene Tan came to the event together for a good purpose and a good time.

"It's for a good cause — why not come?" Tan said.

Younger thought the dance concept was a good idea and would bring out many people.

"I love to dance," Younger said. "You get together with friends and have a good time all for a good cause."

Younger and Tan were the first girls on the dance floor.

Senior Jazmyne Pulley, who attended despite having to write a paper later that night, also thought the dance was a great way to raise money.

"I think it's such a good idea," Pulley said. "Not only are they helping the kids, but they're having a good time too."

Pulley plans to go to South Africa this winter with the university's study abroad program.

"Once I learned about this, I was like, 'I have to help,'" she said. "It's just, I have had such a comfortable life, so to go somewhere and affect the kids that have not had my life, that's great."

While Pulley, Tan and Younger, none of whom are members of BFL, went to Klondike Kate's to support the group's cause, many arrived at the bar and restaurant unaware of the fundraising event.

"A lot of people showed up and didn't know what was happening or that there was a cover, but when they found out that 100 percent of the proceeds go to South Africa, they paid," Rosenblum said. "We even had someone put a \$20 bill in our donation jar."

Regardless of why people come to their events, Rosenblum said attending students play an important role in BFL's fundraising mission.

"The most important part of what we do is hold events and raise money, so those who come out and participate are just as important as our members," she said.

Happy Holidays
from The Review

See you in the Spring!

Univ. submits 2010 budget requests to state

BY KAITLYN KILMETIS

Senior News Reporter

As the economic climate across the country remains uncertain, the university is awaiting a response from the state concerning its budget requests for the fiscal year 2010.

The university submitted the budget request on Oct. 15 in the form of a letter to Jennifer J.J. Davis, then director of the state's Office of Management and Budget, who was later named the vice president of administration for the university.

On Nov. 10, university President Patrick Harker presented these requests to the governor's executive staff in Dover.

Among his requests, Harker's top priorities included money to cover inflationary increases to the scholarships and library special lines and additional increases to account for energy costs. Harker requested an inflationary increase of \$1,046,800 toward state-funded scholarships, an additional \$752,400 in funding for library material and a total of \$909,600 for increased energy costs.

Harker also sought funds totaling \$1,050,000 toward new programs, to be divided between the Institute for Alternative Energy, the Office of Economic Innovation and Partnerships and the Delaware Education Institute.

Other requests included \$8 million to renovate Alison Hall, \$1 million for enhancement of campus and building access security, \$2 million for facilities renewal and renovations and \$1.75 million for minor capital improvement and equipment.

During his speech to the governor's staff, Harker acknowledged the fragile state of the economy and broadly identified the university's primary goals.

"This afternoon as we meet to discuss the university's top priorities for your support in fiscal year 2010, I am certainly aware that the state continues to experience very real financial constraints," Harker said. "Given that knowledge, our request today is focused on two very important responsibilities — maintaining the university's historic roles of teaching and research and its secondary function as a major economic engine for the state and region."

Harker explained the university's top priority centered around enhancing academic resources through Scholarship Special Lines, the Morris Library and Capital Appropriations.

In the official Operations Budget Requests, Harker said the request for \$1,046,800 would be divided into four scholarship

lines intended to directly benefit Delaware residents — \$347,300 toward General Scholarships, \$196,900 toward the Students Diversity Recruitment Program, \$219,200 toward the Aid to Needy Students Special Line and \$283,400 toward supporting student athletes.

The \$909,600 for increased energy costs includes requests for fiscal year 2010 along with funds requested for fiscal year 2009 that were not appropriated.

Key points of the university's budget request:

- ♦ \$8 million to renovate Alison Hall
- ♦ \$1.04 million for scholarships
- ♦ \$1 million to improve campus security
- ♦ \$909,600 to cover increased energy costs
- ♦ \$752,400 for library materials

Of the request for an increase in \$752,400 for Library Materials, \$698,200 will be devoted to maintaining the university's existing journal subscriptions, Harker said.

Director of the Budget Office Carol Rylee stated in an e-mail message that these requests reaffirm the university's primary areas of interest.

"Scholarships, energy and library materials are the university's current top priorities and have been for several years," Rylee said.

According to the official Operations Budget Request, in terms of enhancements and new programs the university requested \$600,000 toward the creation of a new Institute for Alternative Energy, \$200,000 to create an Office of Economic Innovation and Partnerships and \$250,000 for a new Delaware Education Institute.

In terms of other requests, Rylee said the \$8 million for

Alison Hall will not result in a reconstruction of the 54-year-old Academy Street building.

"We are not completely rebuilding Alison Hall but extensively renovating it," she said.

The official Capital Budget Request packet states funding will be used for a replacement of the existing heating, ventilating and air conditioning system, which requires increased maintenance and no longer meets current codes for air ventilation, along with a new fire protection system and architectural upgrades.

The official Capital Budget Request packet also outlines what the \$1 million for campus security will be used for, including monitoring of off-hour access and providing capability to remotely lock buildings.

Rylee acknowledged the increase in crime at the university has contributed to these changes.

"Campus safety has always been a high priority, which has taken on even more importance recently," she said. "Funds have been requested to add camera surveillance in key locations and building electronic access controls to exterior doors."

Bert Scoglietti, director of policy and external affairs for the state's Office of Management and Budget, described the process by which the university will receive word from the state as to whether or not their requests have been approved.

"Governor Minner will present her recommended offerings in terms of budgets to the General Assembly on Jan. 15 of 2009 and those budgets will go through a hearing process within the General Assembly," Scoglietti said.

He said the final budget decision should be confirmed by June 30, 2009.

Scoglietti acknowledged that the state of the economy may affect the state's financial capabilities in upcoming years.

"The state is currently looking at about a half-billion dollar deficit over a two-year period in our financial planning, and we will be looking at every aspect of the state to make reductions," he said.

Although Scoglietti said he is not aware how this change will affect the university directly, he said the state will be cognizant of the budget deficit when providing funding.

"Certainly, reductions in the agency budgets will be part of closing that budget gap," he said.

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 Reading Day No Exams	Friday December 12 Final Exams Begin	Saturday December 13 Reading Day No Exams	Sunday December 14 Reading Day No Exams
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 Exams	Tuesday December 16 Exams	Wednesday December 17 Exams	Thursday December 18 Exams	Friday December 19 Last Day of Exams
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. PJs & Pancakes 10 p.m. to Midnight!	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.

ONLINE POLL

Q: Do you think President Patrick Harker's salary should be released to the public?

Vote online at www.udreview.com



editorial

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Harker's salary should be public

Students have right to know where their tuition goes

The university is the only quasi-public school in the country that does not disclose the salary of its president. The most available information on this topic is the common response from officials that President Patrick Harker's salary will become public in spring 2009, when tax records are released.

It seems a bit odd that the university does not want to release this information. Every public university does, including Temple University, Pennsylvania State University and University of Pittsburgh, which are the three other quasi-public universities in the United States. It begs school officials to answer the question of why they won't release it and what about it makes the administration fearful of sharing.

This is not the first time the university has made headlines about the president's salary. Former president David Roselle was mentioned in *The Chronicle of Higher Education* for being the highest paid public university president.

While it is not Harker's decision to release this information, but rather the chairman of the Board of Trustees, it still seems strange and unclear why they do not want to talk about it. As a public figure, the privileges to keep the salary secret disappear. If other institutions have to disclose this information, the university should also do so.

Cutting the arts isn't 'practical'

University should encourage diverse class options

After four years of rules and strict schedules in high school, college is supposed to be a time for students to branch out, take classes that actually interest them and decide on a future. But if the university that one chooses to attend doesn't offer a particular subject, it not only takes away new and different learning opportunities but limits possible career paths as well.

Due to a series of budget cuts and faculty shifts, the English department has had to make some internal changes and has removed the creative writing concentration from the department, offering a few classes in the subject on and off throughout the year in its place. Although it was ultimately the decision of the English Department Head, there are disagreements within the English department on the practicality a degree in creative writing will hold after college.

Regardless of how useful or beneficial a degree in creative writing is in the real world, and no matter how lucrative a job as a poet or novelist is, the classes should still be available to any student

Part of students' tuition goes toward financing the administration's salaries. If students are paying the formerly highest earning university president in the country, they have the right to know where that money is going. Furthermore, the constantly rising amount of tuition may have a correlation to a rising president's salary. However, there is no way of knowing because this number is unavailable to the public.

If the university is deciding against releasing Harker's salary, there should at least be a clear reason why. It's not beneficial to create negative press and controversy over why the information is not available. If Harker is making more than Roselle did, the university should make it clear to the public that they are proud to be paying for a president who will further better the school, like Roselle did during his 17 years here. Students need to be assured that their money is going toward a good cause and that their education will benefit from the president's salary.

While there will be reactions ranging from "he deserves it" to "he's overpaid," when Harker's salary is finally released, it's better for the university to address the issue now, rather than to shy away from it. By keeping the president's salary a secret, the administration is only offering more questions and speculation about it.

who wants to take them. Students should be encouraged to study what interests them and professors should want to help.

The economy is in bad shape and all areas of the university are predictably going to take some sort of financial hit, but it shouldn't be at the expense of the quality of education each student receives from any of the university's colleges or departments.

When budget cuts are made, the arts are usually the first thing to go. But regardless of whether or not being a professional poet is the most practical profession to aspire to after college, it's still important and shouldn't be overlooked. Whether the creative writing concentration remains available to English majors or not, education in this or any other department shouldn't stop because of the apparent need for jobs in certain fields.

An all-over, well-rounded education is what college is for, and it should stay that way, no matter what is "practical" in the current job market.

Shrub Toons



"We were watching TV."

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Public Safety responds to UCrime

An article published in the Nov. 25 issue of *The Review* titled "Crime Web site unhappy with university," shed unwarranted negative light on Campus and Public Safety and the efforts and accomplishments that have been made to inform students of crime on campus and in the city of Newark.

The article quoted Colin Drane, a vendor from Baltimore with a web product called UCrime, as saying that universities do not offer crime information to the public because it deters prospective students. He is also quoted as stating that there is no incentive for a university to accurately report crime. Furthermore, this vendor mentioned he was informed that the university was not interested in a crime mapping product and alert messaging and there were layers of bureaucracy he had to overcome in order to speak to anyone in Public Safety.

This is simply not true.

The university takes the position that transparency and a well-informed constituency lend themselves to optimum campus safety. We subscribe to an open communications philosophy and use several well-documented measures to provide information to all our constituents. Additionally, the university made a significant financial commitment last year in order to obtain state-of-the-art technology to immediately transmit messages during an emergency situation. This includes Send Word Now (text, voice and e-mail messaging) — a nationally recognized vendor product, the Carillon system, UD cable TV and classroom projection override, as well as Web information. Up-to-date and complete crime information is posted daily on the UD Public Safety Web site as well as on UDaily. In keeping with the Jeanne Clery Disclosure of Campus Security and Policy and Crime

Statistics Act, information about campus security programs, recommended personal safety practices, the authority of the police, police disciplinary procedures and campus crime statistics for the most recent three-year period are available online. In fact, the university was a recent recipient of the Jeanne Clery Award, a national award that honors universities for taking extraordinary measures to ensure the safety of students.

In addition to the safety measures in place, we are reviewing crime mapping options and will include this detailed information on our Web site in the near future.

The university, particularly the Office of Campus and Public Safety, is consistently looking for ways to inform and protect the entire UD campus community.

Skip Homiak
Executive Director of Campus and Public Safety

WRITE TO THE REVIEW

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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

LAST WEEK'S RESULTS

Q: Do you think the passing of Proposition 8 was positive?

44% Yes
56% No



Opinion

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Old band, new release: sweet as a rose

Guest Commentary

Rob Diton

Guns N' Roses new album is worth the wait

Their last album of original material was released in 1991. There is only one original member of the band remaining. Their recent activities over the past decade have made them the laughing stock of the music industry, and most of the pop culture scene.

And yet, when Guns N' Roses' heavily anticipated album *Chinese Democracy* finally became public a few weeks ago, everything seems to have been forgiven.

All but the die-hard G N' R fans had long since given up on this album. As one of those die-hard fans, I knew even with the canceled concerts, postponed release dates, and a revolving door of band members that *Chinese Democracy* would eventually be released. I had confidence that W. Axl Rose (call him a perfectionist jerk, an uncontrollable monster, an absolute genius, whatever) would eventually release the album that we

have all been craving.

While walking into Best Buy on Nov. 23 — of course I was going to buy it on the first day it was released — I started shaking as I approached the display rack of CDs. For over a decade, I have been waiting for this day, and it has finally come. Ten long years of enduring ridicule from the non-believers — people who did not believe Axl would come to his senses long enough to release this album. And now finally I was holding the album in my hands (They were selling records of *Chinese Democracy*, which I considered buying, until I was smartly talked out of it — who owns a record player anymore anyway?).

Listening to the CD, I had to convince myself that this was no longer the band that produced "Paradise City," "Sweet Child O' Mine," and "November Rain."

Obviously, with almost an entirely different lineup, the sound of the album is very different from their mega-platinum record *Appetite for Destruction*, which made people criticize their new offering. Honestly, though, it's a little silly to compare any of their albums to *Appetite* — the greatest rock and roll album ever produced. It captured everything a perfect CD should be — high quality lyrics, rocking beat, head-exploding guitar riffs, perfectly executed rhythms, a flow from one song to the other and, most

importantly, capturing a band as reckless as they were, for exactly what they were — the epitome of the sex, drugs and rock n' roll era.

On *Chinese Democracy*, songs like "Scraped," "Shackler's Revenge," and the title track, show the rough edge that we know and love from the band. Songs like "Sorry," "This I Love," and "Street of Dreams" show Rose's soft side. Some people might say that this is not the Guns N' Roses sound or Axl has lost his touch, but one has to realize this is the new Guns N' Roses.

While Slash, Izzy and Matt Sorum may be long gone, the music that we have been missing since the early 1990s has come back strong.

The third song off the CD, "Better," is clearly one of the best tracks. With strong lyrics, headbanging action and Axl's screaming voice, it brings back memories of "My Michelle." "If the World," which starts off with a little Middle Eastern guitar picking before jumping into a groovy beat, is as pure and distinct a song as Axl has ever written. "There Was a Time" is very much like a shortened, hard-rocking version of

"Estranged."

It took me a while to pronounce the ninth track of the album "Riad n' the Bedouins," but that doesn't mean it didn't rock right out of the gate. "Sorry" recalls some similar themes from the last few songs off of *Use Your Illusion*, while "Madagascar" strongly reminds us of the classic "Civil War." While "This I Love" might be called a cheesy ballad, isn't that what critics said about "Don't Cry?"

There are rumors circulating that *Chinese Democracy* is just part one of a three-CD set that Axl plans on releasing over the next four years. I really hope this is true. There are several other songs that were circulating the Internet, rumored to be included on *Chinese Democracy*, but were not. Could these extra songs be used for the follow-up albums?

Whether or not this album will sell millions of copies remains to be seen, but I do know one thing: it may be a different sound, a different band and a different decade, but Axl Rose is back with a vengeance, and hopefully we won't have to wait 10 more years for his next offering.

Rob Diton is a guest columnist for The Review. His viewpoints do not necessarily represent those of the Review staff.

Meaningful conversations lost in the text



Anderson
180

Brian Anderson

Text messaging is impersonal — make a call instead

There are some firsts that people tend to remember — their first kiss, their first love, their first time away from home, their first car. For no good reason, I remember the first time I had a text message conversation, if you can even call it that.

It was during my junior year of high school with a friend, while passing time at an indoor track meet. It lasted a while and was probably about something stupid, but it was the first time I was actually sending and receiving text messages just to pass the time.

Back then, texting was an innocent thing to do. Now, five years later, texting has become a monster — an obsession people have that they can't tear themselves away from.

Texting has its place and can be a useful thing. When I first realized the power of text messaging, I used it to ask friends simple, basic questions when I couldn't call them. It was easier to text "What's the name of that song from Friday night?" in the mid-

dle of 11th grade history than calling and asking that question.

An innocent text like that never hurt anyone, and I still do that sometimes. Yes, sometimes it is easier than calling. But recently, it's become a problem.

Now, people are texting too much. Throughout the course of my day, I see more people texting than actually talking on the phone. It went from being a thing that connected people in another way to becoming something that now replaces a major form of communication — talking on the telephone.

The telephone. You know, that thing used to send text messages. You can actually call people from that, too. It's even included in your texting plan, as crazy as that sounds.

I admit, I do text a lot. I text to find out what my friends want to do for dinner, what time we're leaving to go out or just to pass the time. And then it began to annoy me — texting became an automatic go-to, which I never wanted it to become.

Recently, I've slowly gotten into the habit of actually calling people again and, as cheesy as it sounds, I have good conversations with people.

Years ago, texting brought people together in new ways. Texting helped friends and families stay connected at any moment of the day. In addition to talking on the phone, texting was an easy way to say hello.

In today's society, texting is strangely separating people. It's become an easy way to get out of actually talking to someone either face to face or on the phone. I'm still wondering why hearing someone's voice on the phone is now the second option.

In high school, my friends would call me just to say hello. Now, I get text messages that read "What r u doing tonight?" or "Bars later?" What changed so much in four short years? The people around me haven't become anti-social. Some of them have become text crazy.

While reading this, think of the number of couples that will break up via text message today. The other day, I was on the Internet and read somewhere that someone was considering breaking up with their significant other through a text. It happens more often than you would think.

What happened to sitting down and talking? What happened to talking on the phone to a friend or family member? It's become a lost way of communicating and sadly, I don't think we're any better off because of it.

If texting is good for one thing it's to reduce any awkwardness of many situations. If you haven't talked to someone in

three months and you need to ask them something, texting is a lot less awkward than calling them. Asking someone an important question is a lot less awkward when you're only typing it.

Sadly, we will all deal with awkward moments in our life. College is full of awkward moments. Why not learn to deal with them and handle them in an adult fashion now instead of when you're 35?

After you read this, do me a favor. Call someone just to say hello. It doesn't matter who, really, but call that person to say hi. You'll be surprised at how nice a telephone conversation can be sometimes.

Texting definitely has a place in the world. It's a good way to stay connected with people, but it shouldn't be the primary form of communication. Remember when getting your own phone line was the biggest moment of your middle school life? Let's bring back those days and actually call each other again.

For all of those who know my cell phone number and feel like telling me "Good job" or "You're an idiot," call me — don't text. I'm always willing to talk.

Brian Anderson is the executive editor for The Review. His viewpoints do not necessarily represent those of the Review staff. Please send comments to bland@udel.edu.

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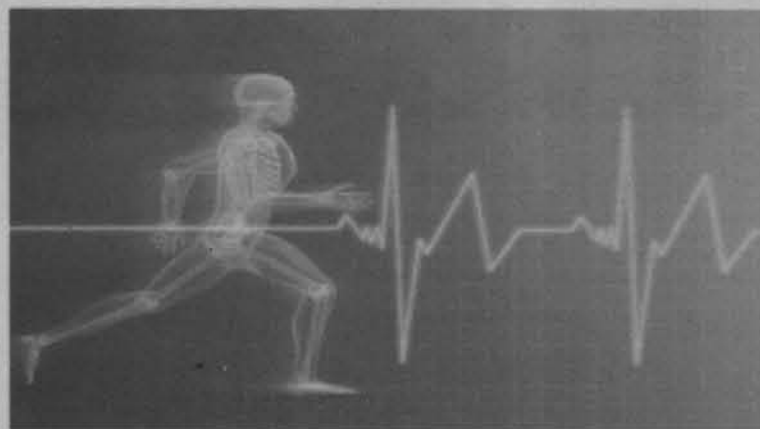
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mosaic



Best of 2008





Best Blockbusters of 2008



Courtesy of Amazon.com

One of the strongest contenders for the Oscars, **"Slumdog Millionaire"** is the dynamic tale of 18-year-old Indian orphan Jamal (Dev Patel), who becomes a contestant close to winning the grand prize on the Hindi version of "Who Wants to Be a Millionaire." Police suspect that he is cheating and arrest him because of his background. In order to prove his innocence, Jamal tells the story of his life in the slums, with each chapter of his life revealing the answer to the gameshow's questions. "Millionaire" is a hidden gem that combines a variety of genres in one movie and will leave audiences wanting more.

— Sabina Ellahi,
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Courtesy of Warner Bros.

No movie had more going for it this year than **"The Dark Knight."** With the anticipation to see the follow-up to "Batman Begins," the stunning IMAX shots, the intrigue as to where Director Chris Nolan would take the franchise and the haunting posthumous performance by Heath Ledger, the summer blockbuster occupied people's attention and water-cooler chats everywhere. The hype was matched by the film's greatness. Breaking numerous box office records, including most earned in an opening weekend, "The Dark Knight" proved to be more than a film, but a movement.

— Ted Simmons,
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Courtesy of Amazon.com

Ten years after Sarah Jessica Parker first pounded the pavement of New York City in her Manolo Blahniks, the ladies of **"Sex and the City"** took to the silver screen in one of the summer's biggest blockbusters. The movie was a celebration of the bond between girlfriends and proof that 40 is the new 30. From Samantha's sushi escapades to Carrie's interesting choice of wedding headress, **"Sex and the City"** was filled with memorable moments and happily ever afters. Charlotte gave birth to a baby of her own, and after a catastrophic misunderstanding, Carrie and Mr. Big (finally!) tied the knot.

— Alexandra Duszak,
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Courtesy of Universal

"Forgetting Sarah Marshall" is this year's ultimate comedic tale of love, heartbreak and renewal. Peter Bretter (Jason Segel) is dumped by Sarah Marshall — his celebrity girlfriend of five years — and becomes an over-the-top, weeping mess. After some encouragement from his step-brother, Peter decides a vacation to Hawaii is just what he needs to heal his sorrows — until he runs into Sarah and her new rock star love interest. **"Forgetting Sarah Marshall"** is a back-and-forth love story of forgive and forget involving hilariously quirky characters.

— Amy Prazniak,
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Courtesy of Focus Features

"Milk," the biopic that has already produced a great deal of Oscar buzz, resurrects the legacy of Harvey Milk, San Francisco's first openly gay politician, who was assassinated just short of a year in office. Despite his short tenure, Milk (Sean Penn) had a profound impact on gay politics. Although the film was released 30 years after Milk's assassination, many parallels can still be made today — including the recent passage of Proposition 8. Director Gus Van Sant (**"Good Will Hunting"**) planned this film project for more than a decade, and the work certainly shows. **"Milk"** does justice to the martyr it portrays.

— Sarah Esralew,
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Courtesy of Amazon.com

In the vein of movies like **"The Blair Witch Project,"** **"Quarantine"** relies on wobbly video-logging as a TV reporter (Jennifer Carpenter) and her cameraman (Steve Harris) investigate a mysterious scene at an apartment building. The horror movie, adapted from the 2007 Spanish film **"[REC]"**, revolves around a strange and shocking infection that takes hold of the residents in the building. As circumstances go from bizarre to bloody and bodies start to accumulate, the pair of journalists is there to (perhaps unwillingly) catch it on tape. Shaky camerawork and solid acting make **"Quarantine"** an infection worth catching.

— Caitlin Birch,
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Courtesy of Universal

After his resignation, former President Richard Nixon agreed to a series of interviews with TV broadcaster David Frost. Directed by Oscar-winner Ron Howard, **"Frost/Nixon"** focuses on these historically epic interviews that ultimately procured a confession from Nixon about his ties to the Watergate scandal. Frost (Michael Sheen) and Nixon (Frank Langella) play a verbal game of cat and mouse as Frost tries to expose a vigilant Nixon. Although Nixon may have "let the American people down," **"Frost/Nixon"** doesn't, with its expertly told story about a journalist that singlehandedly ruins a former president.

— Larissa Cruz,
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Courtesy of Amazon.com

"Leatherheads" fuses the concept of old-fashioned comedic charm with football. Set in the 1920s, it provides a perspective on football's transformation from a game into a business. George Clooney plays a former football star who attempts to save the fate of professional football. In doing so, he recruits college football hotshot and war hero, Carter "The Bullet" Rutherford (John Krasinski). The relationship between the characters of Clooney and Renee Zellweger creates a dynamic reminiscent of 1940s romantic comedy. The movie is fit for lovers of romance and football alike.

— Jackie Zaffarano,
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Courtesy of Disney

Who would have thought a compilation of metal and wiring could be cute? Disney proved it could be done with its animated feature **"Wall-E."** Wall-E (Ben Burtt) is a waste-collecting robot who is left alone on Earth after humans have abused the planet to the point where it's no longer inhabitable for mankind. Wall-E continues to collect trash until one day the robot EVE (Elissa Knight) comes to Earth searching for something to salvage on the planet. The adorable robot couple help one another as they attempt to save Earth and return the humans to their natural home.

— Jordan Allen,
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Courtesy of Amazon.com

Seth Rogen did it again, starring in one of the funniest comedies of the year. His quick wit mixed with director Judd Appatow's juvenile and simple sense of humor, has created a film that will live forever on the big screen and in the hearts of our generation. In **"Pineapple Express,"** Rogen plays a lowly-process server who goes on the run with a drug dealer once the two figure out that they're the target of a menacing mob figure. The pot-smoking antics of these two destined stoner buds remind American youth of their love for the twisted mind.

— Alicia Gentile,
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It might have been the iTunes ads, it might have been the band's slightly reformed sound or it may have just taken this long for the general public to notice, but with the release of its fourth album, Coldplay skyrocketed into the visible mainstream and perhaps the rock pantheon. The mix of somber and uplifting sounds and Chris Martin's soft vocals over various melodies provided a colorful and pleasant range of songs. With *Viva La Vida*, Coldplay added more substance to its already solid library, and an obvious foundation to comparisons to U2.



Taylor Swift has proven not all teen pop sensations have to be as sweet as bubble gum or as orchestrated as puppets. The 18-year-old country star offered her second album not to a younger, doting audience, but a more general one. With *Fearless*, Swift impressed both fans and critics, bringing youth and refreshment to an otherwise less popular genre. *Fearless* did more than showcase one of music's brightest stars — it showed there's still a place for talented, professional teenagers.



Jason Mraz's eclectic style leaves little room for predictability. After going platinum with his 2003 debut and then receiving no plaque for his follow-up album, Mraz's third release, *We Sing. We Dance. We Steal Things.*, went gold. *We Sing.*'s lead single, "I'm Yours" reached No. 6 on the U.S. Billboard Hot 100 — Mraz's highest placement ever. The song was huge among fans, and re-entered the Top 10 nearly nine months after the album's release. The disc was reminiscent of Jack Johnson, but with a feeling and sound that was genuine — not stolen.



In an era where rap's most popular artists are as cheap as the ringtones they sell, and the greats are either slain or missing in action, *Nas* remains the lyrical threat he was when he first emerged onto the scene 14 years ago. His concept album addressing our culture's most taboo word was marked by controversy and greatness. The Queens Bridge emcee made no apologies as he verbally painted a classic mosaic of social commentary. *Nas* used metaphors ("Sly Fox," "Project Roach") and his established role in Hip-hop to prove that rap music can still convey a voice, and that whether he wears a crown of prodigy or prophet, *Nas* is still rap royalty.



On Aug. 15, Joe Jonas celebrated his birthday inside a Radio Disney studio. As anxious girls lined the hallway outside the studio, you'd think the pop star was turning 25, not 19. The Jonas Brothers carry themselves with maturity beyond their years, and have carved out a nice niche for themselves in the industry, expanding beyond their Disney audience. *A Little Bit Longer* is no reference to the brothers' time in the spotlight, as the band was the first to have three albums on the Billboard Top Ten. With the success of singles such as "Burnin' Up," the Jonas Brothers have proved that there's cause for celebration all throughout the year.



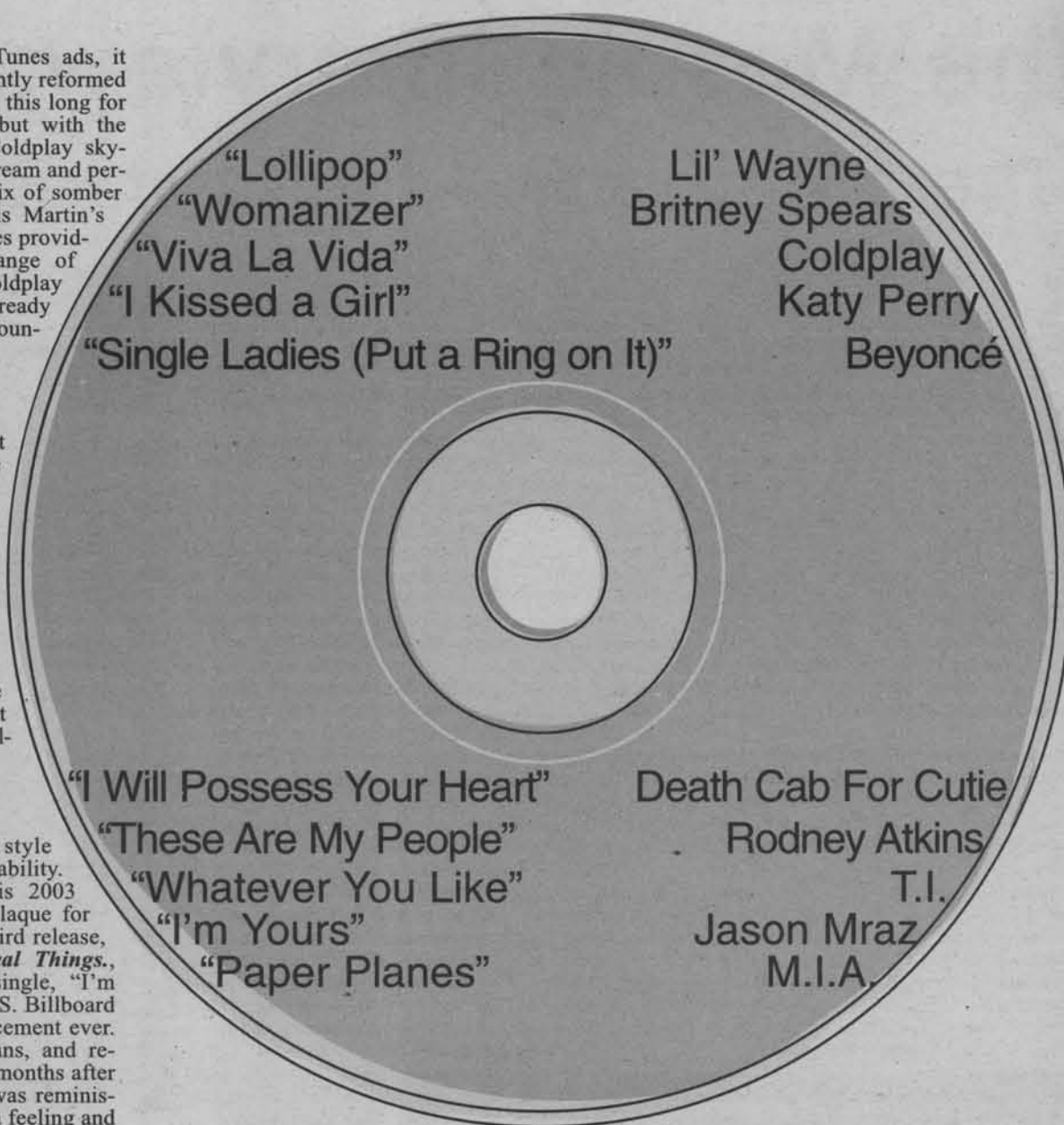
Quality music doesn't always come with large record sales, large record companies or even large recording studios. *Vampire Weekend* — which recorded its debut album in a barn among other locations — brings a large amount of buzz. In early 2008, Vampire Weekend broke onto the scene with such a cornucopia of instruments that everybody took notice. The band's distinctive sound and lyrics allowed it to release singles through August, and reach close to 300,000 records sold at the end of the month. The upbeat and well-received self-titled album might suggest that this indie act has a large future.



Photos courtesy of Amazon.com

It seems like most years are the year of Beyoncé. While she had a late start in 2008, radio stations, YouTube and fans of all ages and genders are celebrating Beyoncé and her ode to single ladies. As if there wasn't enough to like already, Beyoncé offered *I Am...Sasha Fierce*, a double disc meant to personify her on- and off-stage personalities. What was constant, though, was the appearance of growth. As Beyoncé builds her career, stringing smash single to smash single, she's becoming more comfortable with her iconic status. So as Beyoncé shakes her hand forwards and backwards, she might just be checking out her new ring, or she may be waving to all those below her on the pop totem poll.

— Ted Simmons, tsim@udel.edu



THE REVIEW Katie Smith

BEST ALBUMS AND STANDOUT SINGLES

The Mosaic Interview: Frank Warren

The man behind the PostSecret phenomenon

BY BRIAN ANDERSON

Executive Editor

Frank Warren has hundreds of thousands of secrets. Most aren't his — people send him their deepest secrets each week for Warren and the rest of the world to see.

Warren runs PostSecret, an online community art project where people anonymously send secrets on homemade postcards. Since PostSecret began in 2004, secrets from all over the world have flooded Warren's mailbox in Germantown, Md.

He posts about 20 secrets on his PostSecret blog each Sunday, as well as a few on his MySpace page. Other secrets are included in books and touring PostSecret art exhibits.

Before his show Monday night at the Trabant University Center hosted by the National Organization for Women Campus Action Network, Student Centers Programming Advisory Board, Wellspring, HAVEN, the Lesbian Gay Bisexual Transgender Community Office and the Office of Women's Affairs, Warren took some time to talk to *The Review* about secrets that travel the country, why he loves the college crowd and the future of PostSecret.

I know you go to colleges a lot and you seem to mainly stick to college campuses. Why?

I guess the first reason is I just like speaking to young people best. I think young people are at that point in their life where they're living more than most people. I think they're searching more for what's authentic, what's real. They just get the idea of PostSecret more than, say, older Americans do. Also, my favorite part of every talk is I get a chance to hear their secrets, hear their stories — your secrets and your stories. When students stand up and confess these amazing secrets and stories, they might be funny, they might be sexual, they might be shocking or heartbreaking. Young people — more than other demographics — show more courage, I think, in revealing their true selves.

One of your goals was to get 365 postcards in a year. That goal has obviously been accomplished. Do you have any other goals for PostSecret?

Other goals? Not really. I try not to set goals. I just try and experiment with the project, try different things — see what works and what doesn't work and be really sensitive to protecting what's special about it. If I do have a goal, it's probably just not to screw it up. I think it's really precious, and I feel so privileged to be a part of it.

When you started PostSecret, did you ever think it would become this big?

No, I've been overwhelmed. I knew it would be something very special for me — getting these peeks into people's private lives. I think it can be voyeuristic, but at the same time, it can be enlightening — you can draw wisdom from these secrets. But I had no idea that, you know, 200 million people would be exposed to the idea on the Web, and that over a million PostSecret books would be sold. I think we see the extraordinary voices speaking through these postcards. It's not surprising. It's an amazing thing.

I know you get thousands and thousands of postcards each week. How do you handle all of those postcards?

They all come to my home address and I read them all and I use them all.

What happens to the ones that don't get posted online?

I use them all. Maybe some that you don't see online are touring in an art exhibit, going to museums or galleries. Maybe you're going to see some of the postcards in the new PostSecret book that we think is coming out next year. There are still opportunities.

A big part of PostSecret is the PostSecret art galleries that tour. What was the inspiration to turn some secrets into a traveling art gallery?

I think each postcard is a work of art, even though it might not have been created by someone who sees themselves as an artist. I think that's a really important message to send. Sometimes, to make great art, it's not about having artistic talent or training — it's about having the courage to be vulnerable.

You've gone through some censorship issues both on MySpace and with the books. What's it like dealing with censorship when everything you receive is completely anonymous?

I think when you're dealing with real secrets, you have to expect censorship and controversy. I think that secrets are kept secret for a reason — they can be politically incorrect, they can be offensive, they can involve nudity. I think that if I wasn't bumping into issues of censorship, I wouldn't be dealing with real secrets. I think it just confers the authenticity of the project.

Is that frustrating at times, dealing with censorship issues?

It's really not. What I try and do is just expose it all. If there's a controversy that comes up on MySpace, for example, over one of the postcards I've shared, I try and make that controversy transparent. I'll show the comments, the negative comments that people might be sending in. I might have a discussion board where people can have a dialogue about the controversy. I might take a poll where people can vote. Did you want the postcard up? Do they want it taken down? It allows us to understand the nature of our secrets even in a more deeper level. So let there be controversy.

PostSecret has become a worldwide thing. Do people recognize you on the street or have you remained almost the secret behind the secret?

Yeah, it's really cool that I do have my privacy, which has maintained. But also what's cool is when you go to a PostSecret event, there's a recognition of the project, and a strong sense of



THE REVIEW/Larissa Cruz

Frank Warren has posted a secret of his own in each of his four PostSecret books.

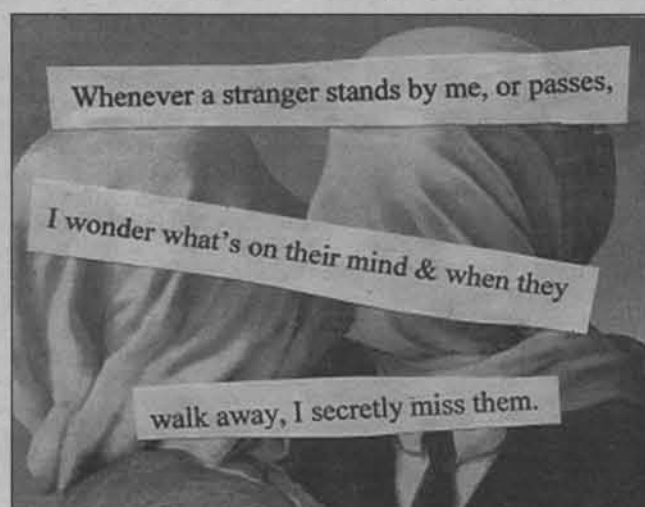
community that I feel really proud and happy about, too. It's the best of both worlds.

In each of your books, one of the secrets has been yours. Do you have any more secrets to share or is the man behind the secrets out of them?

Let me see if I can think of another secret for you. Here's one — when I come to speak on your campus, I'll probably be wearing clothes that my wife picked out for me. That's an embarrassing secret.

Secrets existed before PostSecret and will exist for a long time after. What's the future of PostSecret and where do you see it going?

I don't think we'll ever run out of secrets — that's like saying we'll run out of songs or run out of poetry. There's something about secrets that's inexhaustible. And also there's something about secrets that truly expresses our innermost humanity and that's what I love about the project the most. However, PostSecret evolves and develops and changes — and I hope it does — I hope it'll always be true to that sense of our shared humanity that allows us to feel so connected, even though in our day-to-day lives, we might forget how similar we all are.



Photos courtesy of Frank Warren

delawareUNdressed Home for the holidays



Alicia Gentile
Columnist

Bringing home a girlfriend or boyfriend for the holidays is definitely a step in a relationship. It can either be looked at as a huge step or a small step, depending on your family. Some families are more welcoming, so bringing home a significant other isn't that big of a deal. On the other hand, some families tend to jump to conclusions when you bring home a girlfriend or boyfriend for the holidays. They look at this rendezvous as a major milestone. Judging which kind of family you belong to is the first step before you decide to invite your significant other home for the holidays.

There isn't a specific moment in a relationship where one says, "Today is the day to bring my significant other home." Instead, every relationship is different. The time is right when you feel comfortable bragging about who you're with. Wanting to show off who you've been dating only makes sense. If you think your relationship can handle going home and meeting all the characters that make up your life there, then why

not do it?

There are some universal guidelines that need to be mentioned and followed.

Don't get physical in front of the family. Just like you don't want to see your parents making out in front of you, they definitely don't want to see you making out in front of them. Too much publicly displayed affection in front of family is never OK. With the holidays comes mistletoe. Who wouldn't want to act on the lovely tradition of kissing under the

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columns after the break

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holiday foliage? But there are rules when it comes to PDA in front of the rents and the rule is don't do it.

Pre-planned bedroom arrangements go hand-in-hand with PDA. If the parents lay out a pre-planned bedroom arrangement, don't fuss about it. As soon as the weekend is over you can go back to a normal frisky relationship, but while at home — or at least while your parents are around — keep things PG-rated. It's not about making the family mad during the holidays and if you argue with the house rules, you're bound to make your significant other feel uncomfortable when it

comes time for bed.

As a favor to your holiday guest I recommend filling them in on your family quirks before you arrive at home. No family is perfect and all families have inside jokes that are bound to arise over the holiday ham. If your boyfriend or girlfriend is meeting outside family or family friends, alert them of any unique characters. A heads-up about family members and past history is definitely necessary.

Another rule of thumb: don't curse in front of the family. This may seem obvious but I know for sure that being at college can leave you swearing constantly and sometimes it's hard to remember your surroundings. These are general rules that will definitely help you make a good impression.

Lastly, offer to help around the house. Most of the time your host won't take you up on those offers but it's always polite to suggest to clear the table or get someone a drink.

Some homes are very laid back while others are more uptight. Knowing these general guidelines will help to ensure a happy holiday when you decide to invite your boyfriend or girlfriend home to meet the family.



fashionforward The true value of style

Growing up, my mother said I've always been a girly-girl. While my mannerisms weren't necessarily as ladylike as my mother's heels that I loved to wear when I was 3 or my favorite red dress coat from when I was a toddler, it seemed that my love for clothes developed at an early age. Playing dress-up was probably one of my favorite past times — I will admit, I still play it, but this time I'm not drowning in "big people" clothes.

As I grew up, I began to appreciate the idea behind style and fashion. Putting outfits together was like putting a puzzle together for me. The touch of some fabrics made me excited to wear them, while others made me cringe and ended up in the donation box by my house. I flipped through magazine after magazine, watched the Style network and looked at catalogs to get ideas and construct my own outfits from varying designs. Eventually, I developed my own sense of style.

As time went on and I went to college, I noticed how it wasn't what you were wearing, but what brand it was. During my sophomore year, a girl in one of my classes told me she liked my beaded cardigan and asked where I got it. When I told her it was from Old Navy, she silently nodded and turned away, almost on the verge of scoffing. I was puzzled and kept thinking I had gotten a good bargain on a great sweater — then I realized how the idea of fashion has changed.

Long gone are the subtle appreciations for exquisite workmanship, revolutionary ideas and artistic abilities that designers, whether they design haute couture or for H&M, divulge through their designs. Today, it's who spent how much on what designer bag or how visible the designer's logo or trademark is so it can be proven how much someone spent. Fashion is quickly losing its sense of flair and its recognition for emerging artistry and is now just becoming a symbol of status. Clothes, bags, shoes, everything may seem to rise in price, but the appreciation of what it's truly worth seems to be going down the drain along with the recognition of the hard work put into it.

This holiday season, money isn't flowing in like it used to, and the recessive economy seems to be getting worse by the day. As a result, luxury and brand names seem like an absurd purchase to make.

Maybe this economic downturn is a hidden sign. Although it is having significantly negative repercussions on people across the nation and the world, it's allowing people to regain perspective on the value of money and objects. Our culture has become so materialistic that many people tend to disregard something that doesn't bear a brand name. Fashion should never be about who got the most expensive shoes or the trendiest bag — it should be a time for us put our thinking caps on, get creative and bargain hunt if we must, in order to find something we can put on that will make us truly feel good about ourselves.

So for those of you who are brainstorming just what to put on that coveted New Year's resolution list, perhaps put something along the lines of embracing forgotten pieces lost in that wardrobe of yours. Times are tough and sure enough, many of us don't have money to toss around for new clothes. Remember, you should appreciate what you have, brand name or not. In the words of Tim Gunn, anyone can "make it work" if they put their mind to it. And of course, dress fabulously.



Sabina Ellahi
Columnist

— sellahi@udel.edu

mediadarling It's sew time — maybe

If I had to pick one word to describe Kanye West, it would be "humble." Here's a guy who does it all — raps, sings, writes, blogs like the Internet is going out of style — with skills of the highest caliber, yet he shies away from recognition like a horse from a cobra. Or maybe a horse from a gnat. Regardless, he shies away.

That's why it surprised me to learn that West, a media hermit, will soon take a leap outside his comfort zone and delve into the world of fashion — a move already garnering him all kinds of attention he couldn't possibly want.

West told *The Associated Press* last month about his plans to become a fashion intern, and according to a Dec. 3 *New York Times* article, the rapper-turned-designer intends to take his budding skills to the fashion powerhouses of either Louis Vuitton or Raf Simons.

That is, if Simons will have him.

"I was blown away from the planet when he told me," the Belgian menswear designer said, according to the *Times*. "I know he's very serious about this — I don't take it as a joke — but how can I imagine him being my intern? It's a very extreme situation."

It's an extreme situation indeed, Mr. Simons. West's delicate self-esteem is on the line. He's taken a difficult step out on a limb, and to deny him an internship now would be the equivalent of pushing him off that limb and crushing him forever.

I'll give Simons the benefit of the doubt. Maybe he doesn't realize with whom he's dealing — West is the voice of this generation, of this decade, the loudest voice! Not that he,

as humble as he is, would ever say that. To *The AP*. On Nov. 12. He didn't do that.

But I digress. West deserves a fashion internship, and Simons ought to recognize that. Hip-hop's "It"-boy pairs zero credentials with a truly egomaniacal charm, and what says "hire me" more than that? A successfully completed education in fashion is just a technicality, and a signed copy of *Graduation* functions the same as a degree anyway.

Besides, maybe Simons missed the Feb. 9, 2006 cover of *Rolling Stone*, but West was Jesus. He wasn't portrayed as Jesus — he was

Jesus. Now, I know Jesus' particular skill set was in carpentry and healing, but when you have the opportunity to hire Jesus, I'm pretty sure you're supposed to do it.

And on the outside chance divine intervention isn't convincing, doesn't this guy know West has been working on his own line? According to *The Irish Times*, Past Tell, West's clothing label of "American sports wear, but with a Japanese edge," should be available sometime next year. West, with his usual humility, said in that interview that he'd been setting trends for five years and was going full-time now.

If it seems like he's doing things a bit backwards — releasing a line and then seeking out an internship — it's no cause for alarm. The important thing isn't how he's accomplishing his goals, it's that he's accomplishing them. As West himself pointed out to *The AP*, he could take vacations like cough Justin Timberlake, but then he wouldn't be the great success that he is. Or Jesus.

The overriding point is that West is clearly ready to spread his wings and touch the sky. Someone needs to give him this internship. Without it, the musician's quiet sense of modesty and painstaking deference to other artists, especially at awards shows, might inadvertently place him on the entertainment industry's back burner.

But even if the stuffy overlords of the fashion world persist in turning their backs on West, I have faith that he'll bounce right back from this minor hurdle.

After all, that that don't kill him can only make him stronger.

— Caitlin Birch, jecabi@udel.edu



Courtesy of Newscom

Best Political Blunders

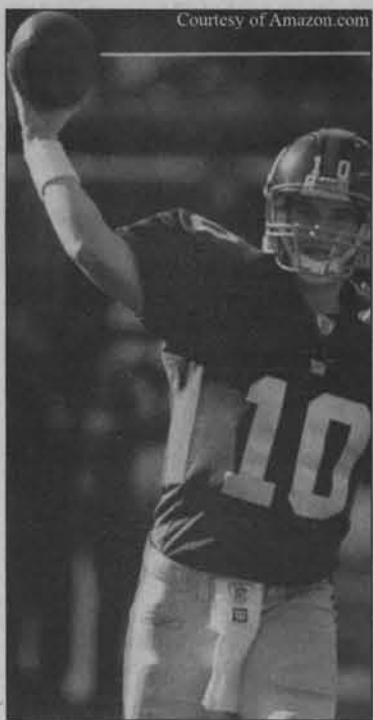
Politicians have a nasty reputation for being crooked and corrupt, but former New York governor Eliot Spitzer took it to a whole new level this year when *The New York Times* reported he was involved in a prostitution ring. "Client-9" reportedly paid upwards of \$15,000 over a period of six months for the services of "Kristen" and had transferred approximately \$80,000 since his days as attorney general — in order to cover his, um, costs. Prostitution may be legal in Amsterdam but it certainly isn't legal in the state of New York, and Spitzer's scandalous behavior had New York's state and national representatives calling for his impeachment. Spitzer resigned from his post in March a few days after the scandal broke, leaving many New Yorkers with a smile on their faces since Spitzer's approval rating was in the same ballpark as President George W. Bush's.

President-elect Barack Hussein Obama happens to have a name that rhymes with Osama, and he shares a name with Saddam Hussein, the former dictator of a country that is one-third of Bush's Axis of Evil. (Sarah Palin, take note — the Bush Doctrine states that the United States must eliminate such regimes.) Sharing a name with two sworn enemies of the United States can't be a good thing, especially when the man who baptized your daughters and officiated your marriage is running around screaming, "God damn America." Worse yet, the Rev. Jeremiah Wright proclaimed the U.S.'s attacks on Hiroshima and Nagasaki made our nation deserving of Sept. 11. Because Obama shared such a close relationship with his pastor, Wright's little outburst left many Americans questioning Obama's patriotic spirit and loyalties. With his characteristic smoothness, our president-elect likened his pastor to a crazy old uncle who "says things I don't always agree with." Good save, Obama.

Most kindergarteners can count to seven. How many houses does little Johnny have? One, two, three... "I think — I'll have my staff get to you. It's condominiums where — I'll have them get to you." Apparently, keeping track of the number of houses he owns was too much for Sen. John McCain. Not only did McCain's blunder make him look wholly unintelligent, it also sent potential voters flocking to Camp Obama. Some might argue the aging Republican presidential candidate was having a senior moment, but regardless of age, it's outrageous that someone with so much wealth can't appreciate it. As it turns out, many of the houses were actually condominiums belonging to his wife Cindy. Did his inability to count lose him the election? Probably not, but it was certainly the first blunder anyone cited when making the claim that McCain couldn't relate to his "friends."

Obama's supporters never tired of reminding the McCainiacs that voting for McCain was like voting for Bush all over again. Despite similar politics, McCain has consistently demonstrated a significantly higher level of intelligence than Dubya. The real problem with the GOP ticket in 2008 was McCain's running mate. Gov. Sarah Palin billed herself as a hockey mom and a maverick, but never as a woman worthy of the office of vice president. It could've been her accent — did anyone else notice that it became more pronounced as the campaign wore on? — or her infamous interview with Charlie Gibson ("Do you agree with the Bush doctrine?" "In what respect, Charlie?"). Maybe it was even those pictures of a bikini-clad, gun-toting Palin or Tina Fey's uncanny impersonations of her. Whatever the cause, Sarah Palin's biggest political blunder was her inability to be anything more than a pop culture icon.

— Alexandra Duszak, aduszak@udel.edu



WINNERS

After waiting through 28 years of painful letdowns, Phillies fans everywhere finally received what they had been crying and drooling over for so long — a second World Series title.

Going up against the Tampa Bay Rays for Game 1 on Oct. 22, the Philadelphia Phillies opened up the World Series with a 3-2 win. However, the team experienced a small setback in Game 2, when they fell two runs short in the final inning. No need to worry,

though — Philadelphia bounced back, defeating the Rays 5-4 in Game 3, and 10-2 in Game 4.

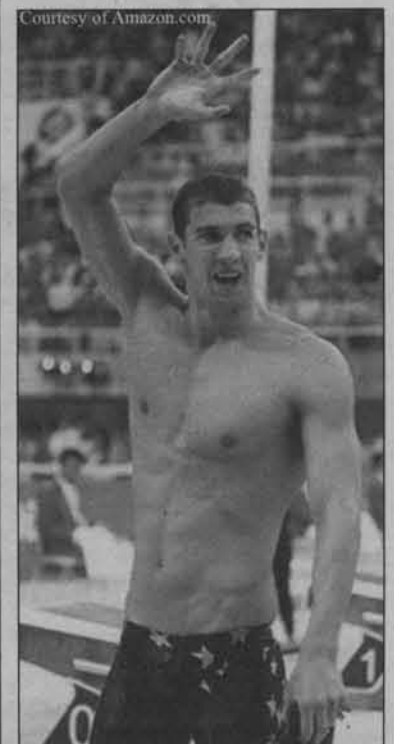
Game 5 had all Philadelphia fanatics holding their breath, and for 48 hours. Due to inclement weather, the game was delayed on Oct. 27, and was picked back up on Oct. 29 in the bottom of the sixth inning, with the game tied 2-2. From there, fate took its course — the Phillies took the lead, the Rays re-tied and eventually, in the bottom of the seventh, the Phillies

advanced 4-3 as Eric Bruntlett, pinch-running for Pat Burrell, scored on a single by Pedro Feliz. From there, the Phillies were able to hold off the Rays, claiming victory in the ninth inning.

Philadelphia exploded with celebration — fans cheered, cried, partied hard and turned over cars. Looks like all the waiting and praying paid off. Enjoy your win, Philadelphia — consider it an early Christmas gift.



February's Super Bowl XLII game between the New York Giants and the New England Patriots has been described as "one of the biggest shockers in the history of the NFL." The Giants put an end to the Patriots' undefeated season with a 17-14 victory, earning their third Super Bowl championship ever, and the first in 17 years. Giants quarterback Eli Manning raised the Super Bowl trophy high and had a good reason to smile for the cameras — it was he who made the 13-yard pass to Plaxico Burress with only 35 seconds left in the game, earning the winning touchdown for the Giants. Manning spoke highly of his teammates and their confidence in themselves, saying, "The players believed in each other."



More than 10,000 athletes entered the 2008 Summer Olympics in Beijing with their hopes set on winning a single gold medal. Michael Phelps, the 23-year-old Baltimore native, managed to win a total of eight. Taking to the water like a fish, Phelps competed in eight different events, wiping out his competition. He now holds more gold medals than any Olympian, with a total of 14 collected — six from the 2004 Olympics in Athens, and eight from Beijing. As if earning 14 gold medals wasn't enough, Phelps also now holds seven world records in swimming. He sure has made a habit — and a living — out of winning.

— Amy Prazniak, amypraz@udel.edu



Courtesy of Google.com

"I can see Russia from my house" is a quote that will never stop being funny. Tina Fey wore her hair in a high bun, put on a new pair of spectacles and next thing you know, she was transformed into former vice-presidential candidate Sarah Palin. "Saturday Night Live" is known for being hysterical, but in recent years it had been slacking. However, the show made a comeback this election season, thanks to Fey's unapologetic parodies of Palin. Fey stood alongside Amy Poehler, who played, among others, Sen. Hillary Clinton. Together they elicited laughs not only from us, but also from Palin herself, who sat next to Fey as Fey cracked jokes about the Alaskan governor.



Courtesy of Amazon.com

Life became more complicated for the passengers of Oceanic Flight 815 when the Oceanic Six finally made their way off the island that had been their home for four seasons of "Lost." While these six people managed to make it home, there were several castaways still stuck on the island. The show gave us more twists and turns by going further into the history of each character. Jack, the once infallible leader, is now a burnout drunk. Hugo, the unlucky lottery winner, is hallucinating and stuck in an insane asylum. Kate, Jack's muse, has a baby, but it's not hers. Sayid, our Iraq military man and the island's muscle, is an assassin still searching for his love that ran away from him before he got on that ill-fated plane. Then there is Sun Hwa, who conceived a baby on the island and made it farther than any other pregnant woman. This real-life "Lord of the Flies" now has viewers stuck in a labyrinth of open-ended questions and is destined to be a cult classic for many generations.

Best TV Moments



Courtesy of Amazon.com

No dignity was spared when it came to Bob Saget, when Comedy Central aired "The Roast of Bob Saget" in August and not surprisingly, John Stamos, Bob Saget's costar from "Full House," was the Roast Master. The special included slams from Susie Essman, Jim Norton, Jon Lovitz, Lewis Black and "Full House" executive producer Sol Schwartz, among others. Each celebrity got the chance to take a hit at Saget, and he took it like a man. The witty jokes poked fun at everything from his standup routine to the comic stories of "America's Funniest Home Videos," and his relationship with the Olsen twins to his appearance on "Entourage."



Courtesy of Google.com

When "One Tree Hill" writers introduced Nanny Carrie they knew exactly what they were doing. Initially nanny to Jamie Scott, TV's cutest fictional kid, Nanny Carrie adds a whole new level of craziness to the CW. She started by hitting on Nathan Scott, a married man and Jamie's father. If that wasn't bad enough, she moved on to Jamie, trying to get him to call her "Mommy." Once Nathan's wife caught on she fired Nanny Carrie. But that wasn't enough craziness for "One Tree Hill" writers and producers — Nanny Carrie kidnapped Jamie. Dan, Nathan's father, ended up coming to the rescue, but in sweet revenge, Nanny Carrie drove into Dan, kidnapped him and held him hostage as she planned to use him to take his grandson. The whole Nanny Carrie shenanigans ended in a chase through a corn field. Now that's entertaining TV.

Graphics courtesy of THE REVIEW Katie Smith

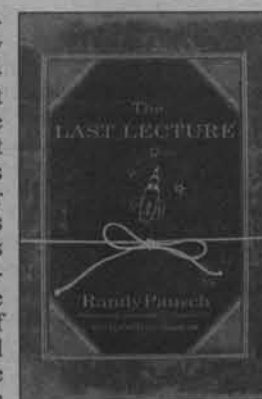
— Alicia Gentile, aliciarg@udel.edu

BOOKS



David Sedaris delivers a mixture of human absurdities and resounding truths in his sixth essay collection, "When You Are Engulfed in Flames." His essay "In Catching" describes a parasitic worm that lived in his mother-in-law's leg. Other topics range from trying to make coffee when the water is shut off to having a lozenge fall out of your mouth into the lap of a fellow airplane passenger. Sedaris' essays culminate in "The Smoking Section," in which he recounts his ability to quit smoking and his inability to learn Japanese during a three-month stay in Tokyo. Sedaris once again flaunts his ability to find humor in the mundane happenings of everyday life.

When Carnegie Mellon computer science professor Randy Pausch was diagnosed with terminal pancreatic cancer, he didn't focus his last lecture on death. He instead spoke to his students about living and inspiring others in his lecture "Really Achieving Your Childhood Dreams." Pausch's book, titled "The Last Lecture," is based on the same principles he presented in his final speech. He emphasizes making the most of every moment, saying, "Time is all you have...and you may find one day that you have less than you think." Pausch motivates readers to decide how they will spend their time on Earth by encouraging the passion to turn dreams into realities.



The "Harry Potter" series may be finished, but J.K. Rowling is not. Her new book, "Tales of Beedle the Bard," presents the fairytale stories mentioned in "Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows." The tales include "The Warlock's Hairy Heart," "The Wizard and the Hopping Pot," "The Fountain of Fair Fortune," "Babbity Rabbity and her Cackling Stump" and "The Tale of the Three Brothers." The excitement of this new piece of children's literature was enhanced as Rowling created seven hand-made copies of the book bound in brown morocco leather and embellished with different semi-precious stones. One of the copies, embellished with moonstone, was donated to an auction to raise funds for the Children's Voice charity campaign where it was sold for \$3.98 million.

Stephanie Meyer's final "Twilight" novel, "Breaking Dawn," continues the trend of sacrifice and suspense provided in the rest of the vampire saga. Bella and Edward overcome even more obstacles to keep their relationship intact, with new twists and turns along the way. It's the only book of the series to be told in part from a perspective besides Bella's, and as readers see the world through Jacob's head they learn more about his conflicted relationship with Bella and the inner-workings of the werewolves. Though met with mixed reviews, the popularity of the novel cannot be denied as more than 1.3 million copies sold in the first 24 hours of its release.



Photos courtesy of Amazon.com

— Jordan Allen, jea@udel.edu

Media Moguls of 2008



Courtesy of Newscom

As she shed her image of Hannah Montana, **Miley Cyrus** claimed 2008 as her own. From her album topping the Billboard chart the week it debuted to the controversial *Vanity Fair* photo shoot, it was hard not to open an issue of *US Weekly* without seeing Cyrus's smiling face in it. At the ripe age of 16, she's already earning \$3.5 million annually and is one of *Time*'s most influential people in the world. Even as a teen superstar, Cyrus is simply a girl who enjoys Disneyland — which she rented out for her Sweet 16 — and hanging with her girlfriends. She's had her fair share of scandals this year, what with dating a 20-year-old underwear model and speculations that she's trying to seek emancipation, keeping her under constant media spotlight. Some pessimists are asking when this starlet will face her downfall like her other Disney female counterparts, but for now, like her best friend Leslie said, "Oh, she's just being Miley."



Courtesy of Google.com

This year, **Tina Fey** became a household name and America's sweetheart, most notably for her hilarious and impeccably accurate impersonation of Republican vice-presidential candidate Sarah Palin on "Saturday Night Live." The "30 Rock" star, who bears a striking resemblance to Palin, reeled in high ratings for the comedy show — ratings that haven't been seen since 1994 — and got more than 5.7 million views in one week on the NBC video site. Fey's Palin bit garnered so much acclaim that "SNL"

decided to have Thursday night specials with more skits featuring her. She also won an Emmy for Outstanding Lead Actress in a Comedy Series this fall for her work on "30 Rock" — which also won an Emmy for Outstanding Comedy Series — and starred in the successful "Baby Mama" with fellow "SNL"-er and friend Amy Poehler. Next year, Fey will provide a voice for the English version of the Japanese animated film, "Ponyo on the Cliff by the Sea." A true maverick, indeed.



Courtesy of Newscom

The question is, "Whose TV set wasn't turned to 'The Hills'?" As mindless as it was to watch the petty catfights, it's addicting, thanks to **Lauren Conrad** and her ever-changing posse. Although she wasn't as splattered all over gossip blogs as her arch-nemeses Heidi Montag and Spencer Pratt, the former "Laguna Beach" star launched her fashion line in March and continued filming "The Hills." While it was hard to keep up on who she was dating — what is she on, her eighth boyfriend this season? — and which friend decided to backstab her now — this was your year, Audrina — the stylist was constantly spotted around Los Angeles hotspots and clubs, keeping her very much in the limelight. Reportedly, Conrad was — gasp! — "ready to walk away" from "The Hills," — where she gets \$75,000 per episode — but rest assured, MTV confirmed a fifth season with Conrad signing the contracts. Thank god, because what would the world be like without reality TV?

— Sabina Ellahi, sellahi@udel.edu

"Maverick"

"Why so serious?"

Sayings

"You know you love me, XOXO"

"Yes we can"

"IDK, my BFF Jill"

CELEBRITY FLIPOUTS

Britney Spears

It seems like lightyears ago that Britney Spears shaved her head, beat a car with an umbrella and was almost shipped to the nuthouse. While the former teen pop queen cleaned up her act immensely this year and seems to be back on the road to pseudo-normalcy, it's hard to forget those dark days when Spears seemed insane. In January, she caused a commotion with her then-boyfriend, paparazzo Adnan Ghalib at a Sherman Oaks, Calif., mall when she and Ghalib grabbed clothes from the racks and disappeared into a dressing room together. Moments later, Spears came out completely naked, shocking sales clerks. When one employee tried to cover her, Spears screamed and dropped F-bombs. As she walked out, she was mumbling and talking to herself, and appeared to be distraught.

Amy Winehouse

Amy Winehouse may be the world's biggest train wreck and every gossip blog's favorite person to ridicule. The frighteningly emaciated Winehouse really sparked tabloids when she was spotted taking her 12-year-old goddaughter to a London nightclub near her home. Even worse, as soon as she entered the nightclub, she reportedly ditched the girl and went straight to the bar to do shots. When nature called, Winehouse staggered to the bathroom, missed the handrail and fell to the floor — only to have her pre-teen chaperone bring the slurring Winehouse to her feet. It's almost hard to decide which is sadder — Winehouse taking her 12-year-old goddaughter clubbing or being babysat by her. To say Winehouse is a hot mess is clearly an understatement.

Kanye West

Oh Kanye, didn't you know that being a celebrity comes with a price — one of which includes dealing with the paparazzi? Well, he did deal with them, but not in a civilized way by any means. Hip-hop's male diva flipped out on a photographer trying to take his picture at Los Angeles International Airport in September while he was walking through a terminal, smashing his camera to the ground. While another paparazzo was filming the whole scene, West's assistant went to him and threw his video-camera on the ground. Expletives were tossed around — mostly by West — and he and his assistant were arrested on felony vandalism charges. The charges were ultimately dropped, but a fuming West blogged about the ordeal the next day, calling his arrest "bogus."

Akon

If anyone is a fan of Akon, they may want to reconsider coming within 10 feet of him during a performance. During a concert in Fishkill, N.Y., in June 2007, he faced criminal charges for tossing a fan offstage — who landed on another fan, giving her a concussion. Yet, later it seemed that Akon didn't learn his lesson that he shouldn't, well, beat up his fans. At a show in Guyana in August 2008, Akon crowd-surfed to a camera stand where he punched a poor female fan off the stand as she hugged him from behind. Looks like someone needs to sign up for some anger management classes before he accidentally kills someone at one of his shows.

— Sabina Ellahi, sellahi@udel.edu



Courtesy of EuPaparazzo

flickr.com/photos/22582559@N06/2173133006

THE REVIEW Katie Smith

StumbleUpon

Couch potatoes found a reason to ditch their TV sets and sofas for a better way to mindlessly flick through channels, minus the commercials and remote. StumbleUpon makes TV channel surfing a thing of the past by giving anyone with a computer and decent Internet connection a means of channel surfing the Web, which has a much broader range than even the best cable package. Depending on an Internet user's interests, the downloadable StumbleUpon toolbar affixed on a Web browser filters numerous Web sites to match preferences — one simply needs to click the "Stumble!" button to instantly refresh from one Web site to another. The Internet's enormity can be daunting, TV can get old and boredom can strike at any moment — fortunately for procrastinators, StumbleUpon provides an ideal solution that's literally at their fingertips.

Rock Band for Nintendo Wii

Video game company Electronic Arts decided rock stars shouldn't have all the fun when they released Rock Band, the music video game that came out in 2008 for Nintendo Wii. The game allows one to lead dual lives — that of a student and a rock star. Equipped with a plastic drum set, guitar, bass guitar and microphone as the controllers and necessary instruments for rocking out, a band can virtually customize its players with stage-worthy ensembles and even pre-made personalities. By teaming up with roommates — or band mates — and touring the world to gain fans and fame, players can embody the likes of Weezer, The Police, Black Sabbath and Nirvana without the need for any musical talent. The lost hours of studying because of Rock Band will be worth it once you become famous — just don't be surprised when paparazzi and autograph-hungry fans follow you to class.

Facebook Bumper Stickers

As if poking and wall posts weren't enough, the Facebook Bumper Sticker application presented yet another way to network, convey how you truly feel to your friends and, essentially, waste more time. After loading the heavily JPEG-ed application page for what seems like hours, one can choose from a variety of messages, quotes, jokes and pictures to share with loved ones. Due to the vast library of square images that don't require a sticky backside, the quest to find the perfect bumper sticker for a desired recipient is endless. Luckily, Facebook proved that one doesn't need a car to have bumper stickers — just some patient Internet friends and a wall.

— Larissa Cruz, lcruz@udel.edu

Best Ways to Waste Time

BEST OF YOUTUBE

"Yes We Can – Barack Obama Music Video" will.i.am

To call President-elect Barack Obama's 2008 campaign significant is an understatement, and to capture the emotion of that campaign was no small task. Black Eyed Peas' member will.i.am makes it look and sound easy, though, with the "Yes We Can" music video. The collage-style black and white video, which launched on both DipDive.com and YouTube in February, features images and audio from an Obama speech layered with a song produced and performed by will.i.am. The song's lyrics match the speech, and the musician drills the message home with appearances by everyone from Kate Walsh to John Legend. The video, which has earned more than 14.3 million views on YouTube, also picked up an Emmy Award for New Approaches in Daytime Entertainment in June.

"Single Man dances to SINGLE LADIES" Shane Mercado (Username Dancer554)

The only thing more creative than the choreography in Beyoncé's "Single Ladies" music video is the multitude of ways YouTube users have recreated it. Some dance in trios, some dance alone, nearly all don leotards, but only Shane Mercado brings professional skill to the table. His original video, posted in October, features a scantily clad Mercado shaking his bony body in a fashion so closely mirroring the choreography of the "Single Ladies" video, it's a wonder he wasn't cast alongside Beyoncé. Mercado's self-posted video has garnered more than 1.4 million views, but it's impossible to gauge the video's true success since other users have hashed it into numerous rip-offs. If Beyoncé's in the market for another alter-ego, perhaps she should take notice of Mercado Fierce.

"Frozen Grand Central" Improv Everywhere

If YouTube has taught Internet users one thing about themselves, it's that they can spend hours watching absolutely nothing. And if one video proved this more than the rest in the last year, it's "Frozen Grand Central," where nothingness is painstakingly orchestrated. The video, which has collected more than 14.3 million views since its posting in January, captures more than 200 "agents" as they infiltrate Grand Central Station in New York on a typical bustling Saturday, and at exactly the same second, freeze in place. The agents stay frozen throughout the station for approximately five minutes and then unfreeze at exactly the same time, continuing on their way as if nothing has happened. And that's the beauty of YouTube — nothing did happen.

— Caitlin Birch, jecabi@udel.edu

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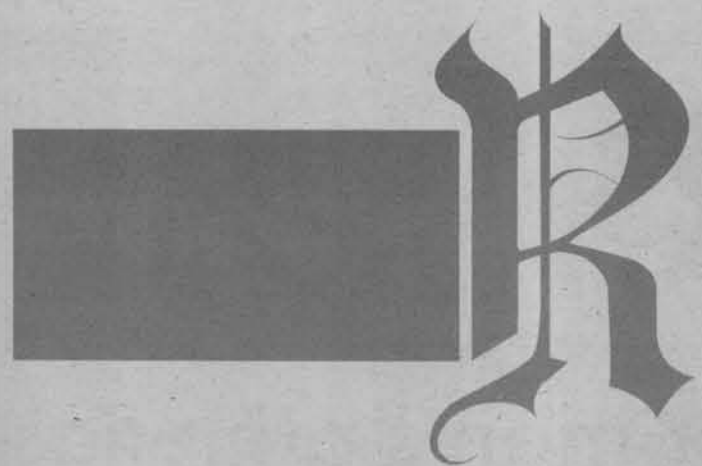
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R sports

28

weekly calendar

Tuesday, December 8

Men's Basketball @ Hampton
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7 p.m.

Thursday, December 10

Friday, December 11
Women's Basketball vs. Dartmouth
7 p.m.

Saturday, December 12

Men's Basketball vs. Ohio
University
2 p.m.

Sunday December 13

Title IX means cuts for men's athletics

BY PAT MAGUIRE

Sports Editor

Connor Whitesel spent his summer with high expectations. As a division-I track and field athlete going into his second year of eligibility, he was the defending conference champion in the hammer. Following a successful indoor season, Whitesel began training to defend his conference championship in the fall.

In the midst of Whitesel's preparation, it slowly became apparent that the men's running season this fall may be its last. The University of Delaware board of trustees will meet tomorrow to discuss the possibility of cutting men's track, field and cross country.

"That's the rumor on the street. I heard it from my boss who's a cheerleading coach," Whitesel said. "He wasn't talking about track specifically. He was just saying we need to cut a men's program. I officially found out they were considering track specifically late summer, early fall."

Title IX, a law that calls for equality in education and athletics in relation to sex, was the explanation behind the rumors. The law, enacted in 1972, calls for a university to meet at least one of its three "prongs," which include providing athletic opportunities that are proportionate to the student enrollment, demonstrating a continued expansion of athletic opportunities for the underrepresented sex and full and effective accommodation of the interest and ability of the underrepresented sex.

In Delaware's case, they are attempting to fulfill the first requirement. With a student body consisting of more women than men and an athletic program boasting a 99-man football team, smaller men's programs inherently find themselves on the chopping block.

"The idea of providing equal sports and equal opportunity to women is a great one," Jeff Pearlman, a columnist for ESPN and former Delaware cross country runner, said. "But, until they separate football from the equation and say it's a different category, it's never going to work. You can't say everything has to be equal and then have a sport that has 100 players on it. It can't work."

Pearlman wrote a column about his experiences on the Delaware track team and his feelings about Title IX shortly after hearing rumors. To Pearlman, who ran during the 1990-91 season for Jim Fischer's cross country squad, running was more than just a sport.

"It gave you a sort of family," Pearlman said. "You know, a community of friends with similar interests and kind of similar goals."

Pearlman's sentiments as an alumnus are echoed by current Delaware athletes. They were willing to do whatever was in their power to save the program.

When Whitesel's suspicions were confirmed in the fall, he began circulating a petition among both men's and women's athletes, coaches and families and alumni of the program. A Facebook group was created titled "Save Delaware Mens' XC and Track and Field." The group now has over



THE REVIEW/Katie Smith

3,400 members.

"I thought it was kind of dumb," Whitesel said. "I was pretty upset about it because I think it's a really stupid reason to be removing a program."

Delaware is not the first to encounter the Title IX controversy, nor is it the first time Delaware itself has come across it. In 1991, they were forced to cut the men's wrestling program, which has reduced them to club status since.

James Madison University was in a similar situation two years ago when it decided to cut its men's cross country and track programs, reducing them to club status. JMU's Director of Athletics Jeff Bourne said the cut was a result of the high female population at JMU (61 percent of JMU's undergraduates are female).

"We're one example of the many schools that had to make changes, or made the election to make changes," Bourne said.

Upon writing his column, Pearlman immediately began to receive feedback from all over the country. From Minnesota to New Mexico, the

See FOOTBALL page 31

commentary



BRIAN ANDERSON

"Don't let me down"

On the night of Dec. 9, 2007 into the early hours of the next morning, the Delaware faithful waited outside the Field House for tickets to the national championship game against Appalachian State. Less than 24 hours after the Hens clinched a trip to Chattanooga, Tenn., some fans already had plans to attend the game. The lucky few to get tickets outlasted the cold, the rain and the long hours.

I was one of those fans.

Days later, on Dec. 14, 2007, I was in Tennessee, tailgating for entirely too long and cheering on Delaware in hopes of a national championship. Even though the Hens came up short — well, a lot short — it was an experience I'll never forget.

Flash forward a year later and Delaware students aren't pulling all-nighters for tickets to a football game that's approximately 700 miles away. Exams and holiday parties, not night-long bus rides, will be the focus of students this week.

This year, Delaware football let me down.

I was on the field at Maryland and Delaware's performance made me hopeful for the season. The Terps had size, speed and strength over the Hens, but Delaware refused to get pushed around. Delaware played a tough game but came up empty handed. Despite losing that game, I thought the Hens would have a solid season.

Then the injuries hit. Safety Anthony Bratton, runningback/wide receiver Kervin Michaud and quarterback Robby Schoenhofst all suffered injuries early in the season. And then their backups got injured.

The offense never could get into rhythm. First downs were hard to come by and total yards sometimes didn't make it to the 200 mark. Tight ends and wide receivers were playing quarterback. The offensive line showed its youth. The runningbacks weren't Omar Cuff. The quarterbacks weren't Joe Flacco.

The Hens have spoiled fans over the past few seasons with explosive running games and high-flying offenses. That was Delaware football for me — a lot of scoring from the legs of Cuff or the arm of Flacco.

This year, we saw a quarterback by committee and a running game that only found its rhythm late in the season. Three running backs were named the starter throughout the season. Delaware had four starting quarterbacks and five players played quarterback for the Hens at one point this season.

Last year, the Hens offense averaged 36.2 points per game. This season, Delaware had 17.5 points per game — an 18-point difference. Cuff had 39 total touchdowns a year ago. Delaware's offense scored 27 this year.

This season showed that maybe high-scoring offense isn't what Delaware football is really all about. I was spoiled by my first three years of Delaware football, where the Hens could seemingly score at will. The offense I saw this year was sometimes painful to watch with a young offensive line, no stable running game and no solid quarterback play.

For the second time in my four years at the university, the Hens ended their season with a losing record. The 2006 football team was decimated by injuries on the defensive side of the ball. In 2008, Delaware just wasn't good enough. A record of 4-8 and 2-6 in conference play is tough to swallow for a fan who was at a national championship game only a year before.

This year, there will be no all-nighters for the chance to see the Hens play in Tennessee. There will be no long bus rides or endless tailgates in a Chattanooga parking lot for the Delaware faithful.

Maybe next year, Delaware. I'll be the first one in line, sleeping in a tent for tickets.

Brian Anderson is an executive editor at *The Review*. His opinions do not necessarily represent those of *The Review*. Please send questions, comments and the shattered pieces of his broken dreams to bland@udel.edu

Soccer could use a bit of a boost in the States

BY GREG ARENT

Copy Editor

Two of the most popular sports worldwide are soccer and rugby. The world cups in these respective sports are incredibly popular across the globe. Although the United States is considered to have the most talented athletes in the world, they have failed to become one of the more successful teams in either world cups, having trouble getting out of the qualifying round of the tournament each year.

Many analysts have tried to prove why soccer is not popular in the United States. Arguments have been made that there is not enough scoring, there are too many other sports and that it is a foreign game, not developed in the United States. Another reason for the lack of popularity in the United States is that youth soccer programs were not often offered until the late 1970s and early 1980s.

Men's Soccer Head Coach Ian Hennessy grew up in Ireland and was a Republic of Ireland Youth International League player. He earned All-American honors at Seton Hall University during his senior year in 1987, as well as Big-East Tournament Most Outstanding Player in 1986 and 1987. He is still currently No. 2 in points (134) and goals (52) in school history. He went on to play 12 years of professional soccer before mulling numerous coaching jobs. He said soccer is more popular in America than most people realize.

"It might not be popular in mainstream media but just to give you an example, the NHL, the NBA and the MLS are all about the same in popularity," Hennessy said. "I don't think people realize when they talk about average professional crowds that the MLS actually has numbers that are in amongst the NHL and the NBA and we are a newer sport. So I don't want to say there is a lack of popularity."

He said while major networks are sometimes reluctant to play soccer, it still appears on television often. There are even two channels on U.S. cable TV that are devoted to soccer — Gol TV and Fox Sports Network.

Hennessy said there are four million youth soccer players right now, compared to 100,000 in the late 1970s. He also said there has been a rise in the past few years of soccer-specific sta-

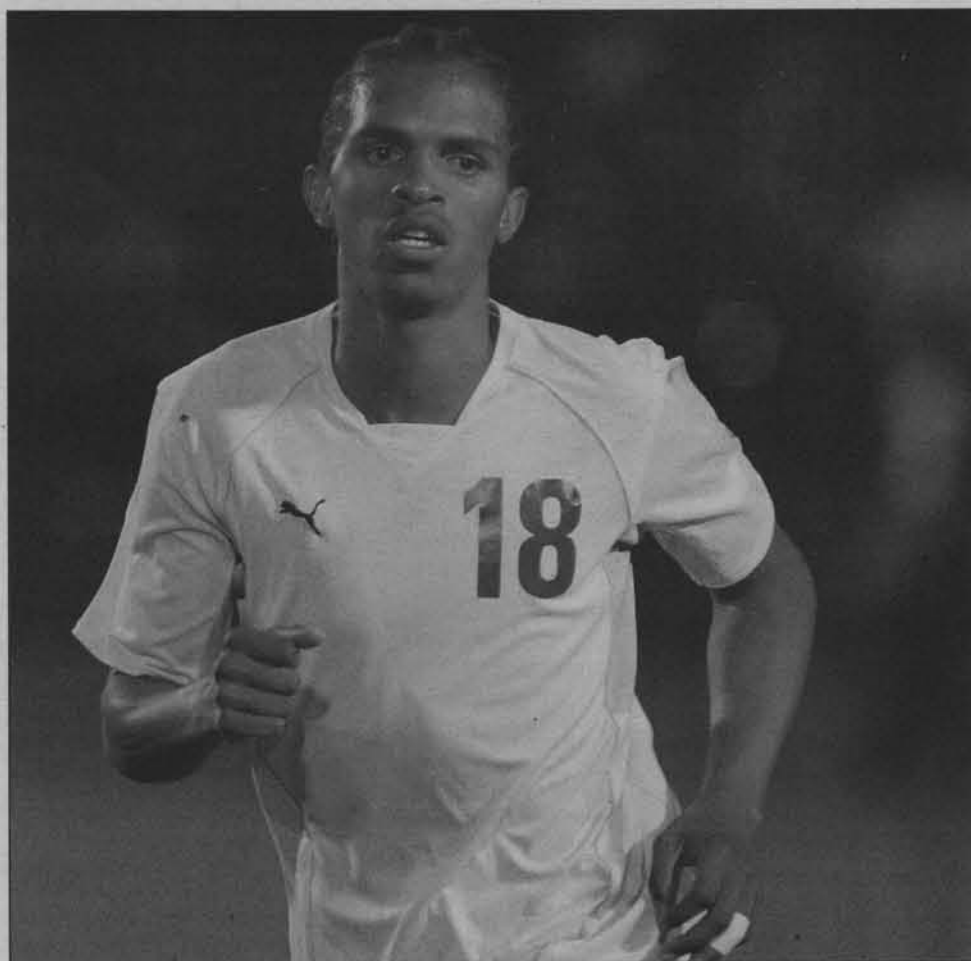
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"Red Bull is building a two to three hundred million-dollar stadium in New York and they are also building a new training facility," Hennessy said. "Chester [Penn.] has just devoted 500 million to their team. D.C. United has talked about building their own soccer-specific stadium. Houston is building their own place, so the enormity of the size of the MLS is underrepresented here."

He said one change has been made to youth soccer to develop our talent more thoroughly. The Youth Soccer Federation has taken 64 of the best teams, including the MLS youth teams, and created a new league for the youth, which should hone the best players. He said there is dramatic change being made in U.S. soccer and it isn't being covered by the mainstream media. The lack of media coverage is the problem with soccer in the United States, not the actual popularity of the sport. That being said, he admitted the United States was far behind some of the elite International teams.

"There is a pecking order right now," Hennessy said. "I don't think we are going to be in the [World Cup] finals. It depends how things continue to grow and in particular the youth development. Maybe two world cups from now you could have some decent showing, maybe a quarter or semi-final."

He said another problem the MLS has to overcome is los-



THE REVIEW/File Photo

Lackluster television coverage is one reason for soccer's lack of popularity in the US.

ing their homegrown talent to International leagues. The MLS has a lot of younger players but they don't have many middle-age players. He said they have young players on the rise and older players on the decline but the league loses a lot of players in their prime years. However, he has optimism that as soccer

See SPORT page 31

Cricket team trying to make a mark on campus

BY LEXI AMBROGI

Staff Reporter

The Blue Hen Cricket Club, like many other club sports at the university, meets for weekly practices, is student-organized and competes in tournaments on the weekends. There is one thing that sets them apart. Delaware does not recognize them as an official club.

Jaysheel Bhavsar, a founding member of the team, said he and his teammates have approached the university several times in an attempt to get official club status with the school. The university continued to turn them down because the majority of the players are graduate students.

"We play as a structured organization," Bhavsar said. "We're just not recognized as an official club. We were told we need 15 undergraduate students on the team."

Without official club sport status, the small team struggles financially. The burden of operating the team leads to an annual operating cost of approximately \$5,000.

"Twenty of us pull all this out of our pocket year-round," Bhavsar said.

He said the team's biggest cost is maintaining their playing field. Two years ago, the club arranged a deal with Lums Pond, a state park on Route 896, to use one of their fields, or pitches, for practice. The club is responsible for the field's upkeep and maintenance.

Neil Dutta, who is originally from India, said one of the problems they have with recruiting team members is that few people here know about the sport itself.

"It hasn't caught on in the U.S. yet," Dutta said. "But we want to leave a footprint at UD."

Cricket, which is most similar to baseball, is played on a grass field with a strip of flat

ground in the center. Two players — the bowler, or pitcher, and the batsman — stand in the center of the field in front of two wooden wickets. The bowler throws to the batsman and attempts to strike the opposing wooden wicket with the ball. The batsman's objective is to hit the ball to the fielders and score as many runs as possible — completing the circuit between

his wicket and the bowler's wickets as many times as they can.

Manoj Charati said instead of baseball's traditional nine-inning format, cricket matches can take several days to complete. The club plays an abbreviated version of the game at tournaments — in the 20 format, each team is limited to 20 overs, which are similar to base-

ball's innings.

Despite lacking an official title at the university, the team is recognized in the Philadelphia Cricket League, a group of nine teams that competes during the season, which typically runs from March to October. This year, the team finished the season with a 3-2 record.

The team has found success at several tournaments since it began playing officially in 2004. They won tournaments in 2004 and 2005 against local teams.

The club meets at 5:30 p.m. on Thursdays for practice during the season. They play at their field at Lums Pond until dark. Their practices are open and they want as many people to come out for the team as possible in March, Dutta said.

"We want people to come by and watch us play," he said. "It's a lot of fun. People will like it."

The club has a diverse roster, with players from India, Sri Lanka and England, among others. Some of the members have been playing cricket since childhood.

"I don't even remember the first time I picked up a bat," Charati said.

Bhavsar, who began playing competitively when the club first formed, still hopes that one day, the club will gain official status with the university.

"UD has rugby and frisbee," he said. "It's one of the most popular games in the world. Why wouldn't we have a cricket team?"

Bhavsar, Dutta and Charati, who are all finishing up their graduate degrees, are eager to build up the club in their last months at the university.

"Our founding members are graduating," Bhavsar said. "Our goal is to pass the game on to others."



Courtesy of Manoj Charati

Many of Cricket's rules are similar to baseball, but the sport still struggles to gain popularity.

Dawson taking a leading role on basketball team

BY BILLY DESAUTELS

Staff Reporter

Alphonso Dawson began playing sports when he was a kid, first trying out for a local football team. After taking a hard hit one day, which triggered a several-week bout with asthma, he decided to focus on basketball instead.

"Basketball's been my thing since I was about 7," he said.

Now, Dawson is a sophomore guard for the Delaware's men's basketball team, and his coach and teammates consider him an important factor to their success. Offensively, he is second in points per game with an average of 17.1 points per game.

Dawson's love for basketball, along with recruiting

efforts from the coaching staff, were the deciding factor in him choosing the university last year.

"Before being recruited, I never even considered coming to Delaware," he said. "But once I got to meet the staff, that's what made my decision."

The team's coach, Monté Ross, said he is happy with Dawson's performance. Dawson has been one of the team's greatest weapons offensively, and defensively the team has been counting on him to stick with the opposition's highest scoring guards.

"I'm very pleased with his improvement. He has really improved from freshman year to sophomore year," Ross said. "He's a really dynamic scorer."

One thing that Ross observed about Dawson's personality is how emotionally he plays, which he sees as a double-edged sword. Ross said the team would never want him to lose his natural emotions because it is part of what makes him a good player and a great scorer. On the other hand, he might put too much out for display.

"You don't even have to look at the score sometimes," Ross said. "Sometimes you can just look at his face and tell who is winning and who is losing. We want him to have more of a poker face as he gets older and not wear his emotions on his sleeve."

Dawson agreed that he is a passionate player and he said it is something that is just part of who he is on and off the court.

During the game, he concerns himself with what he can do to put his team in the best position to win. It has become a matter of improving not only himself but the team as well.

"As far as the game goes, while I'm out there I'm just thinking 'win.' What can I do to help the team win and how can I put myself in the best position to help the team win? How can I make the team better? How can I be better? That's basically it," Dawson said. "I wear my emotions on my sleeve and I'm real emotional when I'm on and off the court, but as far as going through my mind it's just what's best for us."

Ross said dedication to the team carries over into how he practices. Dawson accepts criticism without taking any of it personally, takes lessons from his practices and does whatever he can to implement them into how he plays the game.

"I am really happy about the relationship we have, and I am happy that he allows us to coach him and allows me to direct him and try to help him be an even better player than he already is," Ross said.

Dawson carries a strong relationship with not only his coach but also with his teammates, who said they feel like brothers and views the team as a family.

Senior guard Marc Egerson said they have a good friendship, joking around outside of games and rooming together on the road. He also said he noticed a lot of improvement in his teammate.

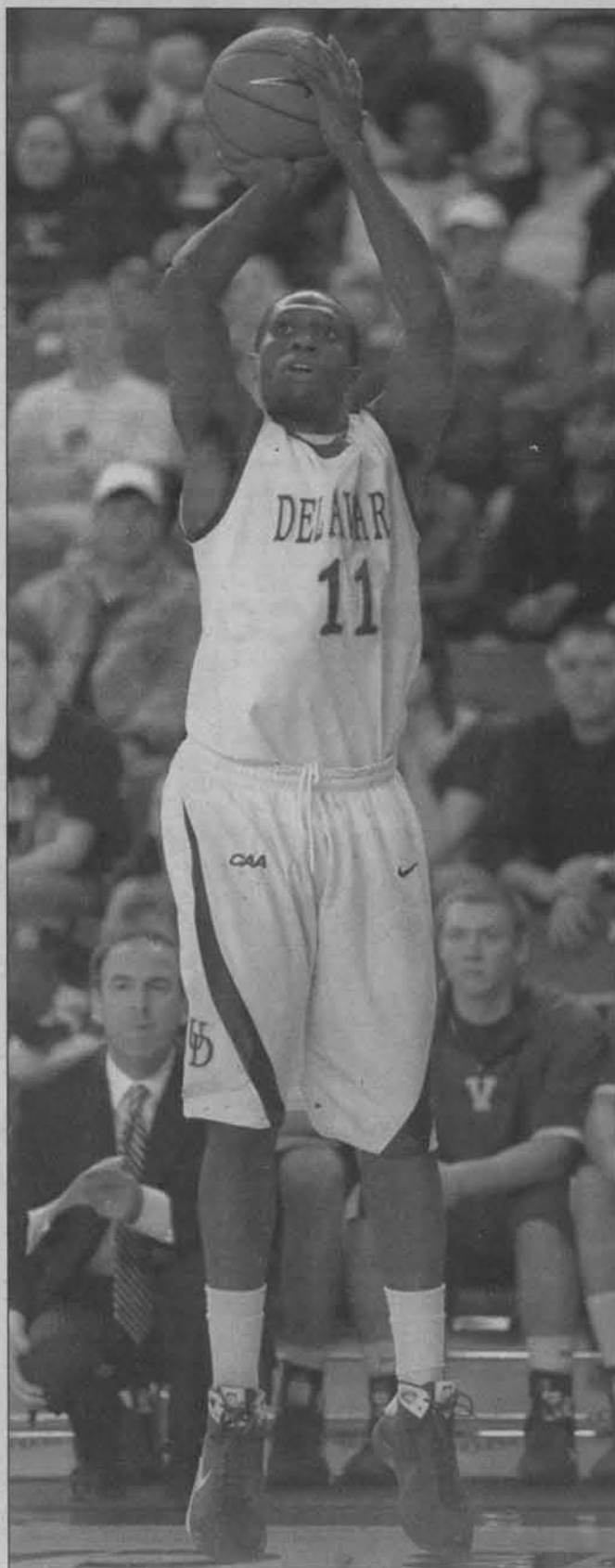
"It's only from all the work he put in after the season, during the summer and pre-season," Egerson said. "I'm glad his hard work is finally paying off."

Jawan Carter, a sophomore guard, agreed that Dawson has seen a lot of improvement. Carter said he feels that none of the improvements came as a surprise.

"It's no secret to us what 'Phons does," Carter said.

Right now, the team has a losing record (2-6, 0-1 CAA) and is disappointed by the way things have turned out so far this season. They identified shooting as their primary strength at the moment and said they feel they have been improving defensively, but still hope to turn things around as the season progresses. Carter said he believes the team is strong in all areas, but struggling to succeed on all fronts in a single game.

"I think we can do a lot better and I think we will do a lot better as the season goes on," Dawson said. "As far as individually, I think we've been alright, but that doesn't mean anything without the win."



Courtesy of Sports Information

Alphonso Dawson takes pride in being a leader on the court.

BlueHenBabble

Why do you think that soccer has not achieved the support in the United States which it has in other countries across the globe?



I really enjoy soccer, but it's just not manly enough for American men.

Julia Menei
- Junior

I wish it was popular. Our country is too obsessed with our other sports, and since American sports go hand-in-hand with tradition, there's just no room for soccer.



Dave Berman
- Senior

It's American pride. We always try to go against the world, such as the metric system. Soccer is just an example of this in sports.



Dulin Ebanks
- Senior

Soccer doesn't have enough violence to be popular in America. It's too boring, there's too much passing and not enough action.



Brian Keuski
- UD Alumnus

Football finds way around rules

Continued from page 28

issue is a central topic on numerous college campuses.

"I've gotten a lot of angry e-mails," Pearlman said. "Not angry at me, but angry at Title IX."

University of Delaware Director of Athletics Edgar Johnson will be influential in the decision on what to do. His decision may be the deciding factor in the fate of the program.

Having had experience in the area, Bourne was quick to show support for Johnson, explaining that everything Delaware does as a program is well thought out and rational.

"No matter what happens, there are going to be individuals who are going to challenge his decision," Bourne said. "At the end of the day, Edgar is going to have to make the decision which is right for his program."

The coach of the running program, Jim Fischer, denied comment on exactly what could happen at Wednesday's meeting. While he was not directly involved in circulating the petition or creating the Facebook group, he is hoping that his program will survive.

"I don't even know how to say it," he said. "Obviously I'd like to have the program intact. I think it's been a good program over the last two or three years. In the last 15 years we've won two indoor and three outdoor conference titles. I wish we've won more but at least we've had some success and I'd like to continue that."

Fischer took over as the direc-

tor of the entire running program this year, but he began his tenure as cross country head coach 27 years ago.

"Fischer's the best coach I've ever seen," Pearlman said. "I've covered sports for 15 years and he's the best there's been."

Mike O'Brian, a freshman from Bear, was recruited by Fischer to run for the cross country program. Having made his decision to come to Delaware largely because of the track program, his future is uncertain.

Fischer is hopeful that the issue is settled so that he is able to continue his recruiting process.

"Obviously we've got a lot of recruits hearing the same rumors we're hearing," he said. "So, it's important we get something settled."

Already on the team, O'Brian doesn't know of college without being part of a team.

"It would be huge," O'Brian said. "I mean, all of my friends are on the team and I don't know what college would be like without the team."

To O'Brian, Whitesel and the rest of the men's cross country and track and field, it is impossible to know what is in store until later this week. Johnson and the board of trustees will make a decision that will have a substantial impact on the future of Delaware athletics.

"I feel bad for [Johnson]," Pearlman said. "The NCAA and Title IX are breathing down his neck. I think Fischer and the men's track and cross country program is going to be a victim."

Sport wants bigger U.S. following

Continued from page 29

continues to grow in the United States, more players will stay. Even with talent going overseas, the United States is still in the top 10 to 15 soccer leagues in the world.

Kevin Barry is a graduate student at the University of Delaware and does not feel quite the same way as Hennessy. He thinks Americans are interested in playing soccer, but they care very little for what is going on in the professional leagues.

He said when the World Cup begins, the United States treats it as just another sporting event, when in Ireland it was much more than just a sporting event.

"There is nothing that compares to the World Cup because there is a national aspect to it," Barry said. "Your country is being represented, which doesn't exist in an American sport like football."

He said for International players, playing in the World Cup is like doing a duty for your country. Before the ball is even kicked, the whole country will be consumed by World Cup fever and no American sporting event can match its frenzy.

"One time in Ireland, the manager and the captain had a falling out and the captain actually left the team. It was a huge national problem," Barry said. "All the main headlines in the news were about the split between the manager and the captain. We had a Prime Minister who was on the main news bulletin at 6 o'clock

offering to fly the captain back on his private jet to Japan to play in the World Cup. It took over everyone's life and this was before a ball was even kicked."

Scott Hoffman played soccer and rugby in both England and America. He currently plays rugby for Mary Washington University. He said the World Cup stirred up similar nationalism in England.

"It is front page news every day leading up to the world cup," Hoffman said. "It's the coach's decision of who he wants on the team. Everyone in the country knows all the players on the national team. In the supermarkets you can buy England soccer gear. Here you have to drive to a bar to go watch the World Cup games. In England it is on TV in every house — everybody watches it."

When Hoffman lived in England, everyone played soccer. At recess, every single kid was playing soccer. There were not many other options. In America, during recess, lots of kids play a variety of different sports. He is disappointed soccer has not managed to keep the appeal it gained during the 2002 World Cup.

"Soccer would benefit from more success for the national team in the World Cup," Hoffman said. "After the 2002 World Cup when the United States got to the quarterfinals, there was more excitement about soccer in this country, but it hasn't stayed over the past few years."

Athletes of the Issue



Men's Basketball — Jawan Carter

Carter scored a game-high 21 points Saturday, though the Hens fell to Old Dominion 56-49 as Delaware opened Colonial Athletic Conference play. The sophomore guard also finished the game with two assists and four steals.

Carter is averaging a team-high 17.5 points per game this season after transferring to Delaware from St. Joseph's last season.

Women's Basketball — Ariene Jenkins

Jenkins recorded her first career double-double with 12 points and 13 rebounds in their 55-40 win over Maine Sunday. She was 3-7 from the field along with 6-8 from the foul line. She held game highs in offensive rebounds, total rebounds and total points. Jenkins was 43 percent from the field, by far the best on a day when the Hens went 25 percent from the floor.

Delaware's lock-down defense caused Maine to turn the ball over 28 times, and the 40 points scored by Maine was least allowed by the Hens since Feb. 7.

Davis excels on and off the field

BY ALEX RESCH

Staff Reporter

Coming off an underwhelming 3-13-3 season, Delaware's men's soccer team was in need of some positive news heading into the offseason. Lucky for them, junior defenseman/midfielder Kyle Davis was named to the *ESPN the Magazine*/College Sports Information Directors of America District 2 All-Academic First Team.

Davis, who made the All-Academic Second Team last season, is a biochemistry major with a 3.87 GPA. For the team, Davis' award is a more positive culmination to the season than their season-ending loss, a 5-0 defeat at the hands of Georgia State Nov. 7. For Davis, it is recognition of his hard work on the field and in the classroom.

"It's pretty exciting to get some individual recognition," Davis said. "Since it's a team game, there's not as much individual recognition out there."

Assistant coach Bryan Vitagliano praised Davis' award.

"It puts a good light on individuals who can both play a sport at a high level and achieve in the classroom at a high level," he said.

Head coach Ian Hennessy also spoke highly of Davis' achievement, pointing out the importance of academics for student athletes. Hennessy realizes his players likely will not be playing soccer for a living, so he encourages his students to do as well as possible in class.

"At the end of the day, they're here to get their degrees," Hennessy said. "For all student-athletes, it's the piece of paper you walk away with and the experience in the class that's important. They're students first, athletes second."

Hennessy is a firm believer in the importance of a good education and he believes Davis' All-Academic award is something with which the entire team can identify. His stressing of academics as well as education has made a great impression on Davis.

"He definitely encourages a well-rounded, multi-faceted kind of student-athlete," Davis said. "He doesn't encourage just the minimum, whether its soccer or academics."

While Davis believes he has improved as an athlete and a student under Hennessy's leadership, he was unable to show his on-field improvement for much of the season. Davis was only healthy for the team's first eight games, missing the last 11 due to a stress fracture in his right femur. Knowing he would be able to make a full recovery for next season did little to comfort Davis while he watched his team struggle to a 2-8-1 record in games he missed.

"It was frustrating to sit there and watch and know I couldn't do anything about it," Davis said. "I just tried to support the team as best as I could."

Despite the injury, Davis still attended every practice, tried to get his team motivated to play and offered some constructive criticism to his teammates. These types of actions are expected from a team leader, something Davis strives to be, through actions and words.

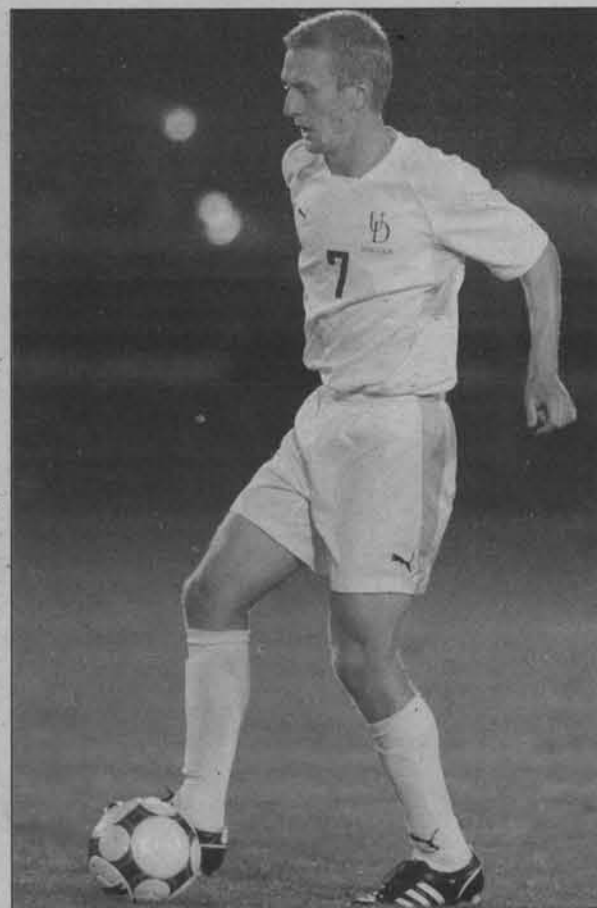
Another of Davis' leadership qualities is his passion to win. His main goal for next season is to play in the CAA playoffs, something he is sure his team is capable of. And while he would love to play in every minute of

every game, he is willing to take on any role that would increase the team's chances of winning the game.

While Hennessy and Vitagliano didn't go quite so far as to say the team should be in the playoffs, both agreed that the main goal for next season is simple: to win. Hennessy was frustrated by the disappointing 2008 campaign, but he believes the team has a very good core of players for next season.

He also sees a bright long-term future for the soccer program. He wants to put Delaware's men's soccer team on the national stage, a goal he considers to be reasonable due to the good location and quality of education Delaware has to offer to prospective athletes. However, he knows the team cannot reach national prestige without improving on this past season's results. The team will have to start winning against credible competition in order to make a name for itself.

With a talented, young core for next season, along with a smart leader in Davis and a head coach with a passion for winning, the 2009 season offers a chance for the Blue Hens soccer team to continue in the direction in which Davis' All-Academic achievement has pushed them.



Courtesy of Sports Information

Davis was out for much of the season, but cheered on.

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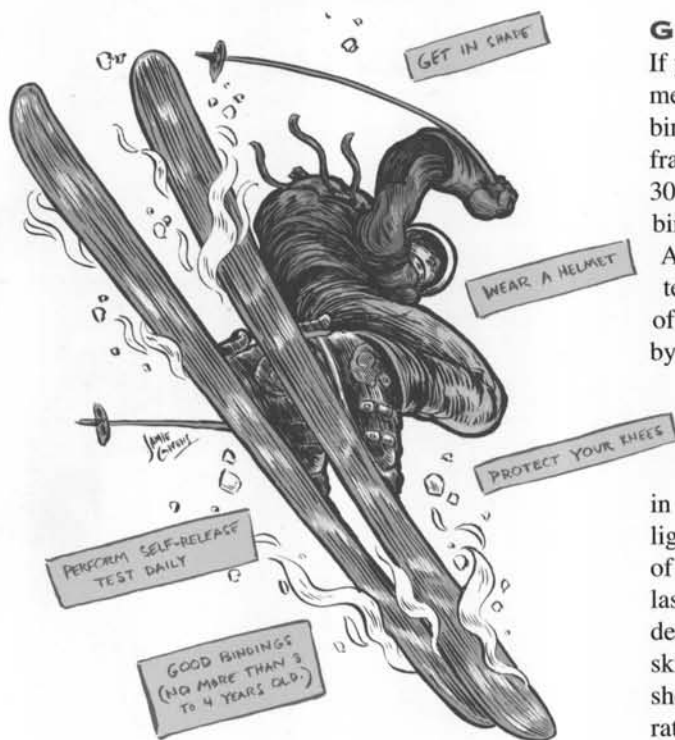
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Staying Healthy on the Slopes



GEAR UP

If you have only have one piece of new equipment, it should be your ski bindings. Modern bindings have decreased the incidence of leg fractures by more than 80 percent over the past 30 years and continue to improve over time. Your bindings should be no more than 3-4 years old.

Also, the binding release properties should be tested yearly by a certified ski shop. Each day of skiing, you should perform a self-release test by kicking out of your bindings.

PROTECT YOUR KNEES

One of the most common injuries in skiing is an anterior cruciate ligament (ACL) tear in the knee. The ACL is a major stabilizing ligament of the knee. Experts say the incidence of ACL tear due to skiing has tripled over the last 20 years. Vermont Safety Research has developed a program to prevent ACL injuries in ski professionals. Their techniques have been shown to significantly reduce the ACL injury rate and are available on the Web at

www.vermontskisafety.com.

USE YOUR HEAD

Wear a helmet. Most serious bikers are wearing helmets these days and the same is becoming true of skiers. Head injuries are the most common cause of death from skiing collisions and many of these fatalities could have been prevented with helmet use.

Follow these common sense tips. Have a safe and enjoyable time skiing.

GET IN SHAPE

The better shape a skier is in, the less frequent the injuries. It's important, then, to prepare before the season. Warming up and stretching immediately before a day on the slopes is also an important step in preventing injuries. Studies of vacation skiers show that injuries are most likely to occur when a poorly conditioned skier is most vulnerable. The largest percentage of injuries occur either in the early morning when the skier is not warmed up or late in the day when fatigue is setting in.



BYE-BYE TO BACTERIA & GERMS

According to the Center for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), the most important action that you can take to keep from getting sick is to wash your hands. Bacteria and viruses are picked up from other people, through contaminated water and food, from tainted surfaces, and from animals and animal waste. Washing your hands frequently for 20 seconds or longer washes away germs. When you forget to wash you hand or don't wash them properly, you can spread germs to other people or to yourself when you touch your eyes, mouth, nose and skin. When you touch surfaces in the classroom, library, grocery store, you can also pick up germs left by other people who may not be good hand washers.

Wash your hands after using the bathroom, blowing your nose or coughing, before eating, serving or preparing food, as well as after touching pets or other animals, after outdoor activities, before or after visiting anyone who is sick, and after changing diapers.

Preventing illness translates into having more energy to study, less time missed from school, and better grades! Carry hand sanitizer in your backpack or purse so that you can wash your hands even when you're not near soap and water. Here's to good health.

Cold or flu? Check this out.

Both a cold and influenza, the "flu," are infections that typically affect the respiratory tract. Because viruses, not bacteria, cause colds, an antibiotic can't cure them. One of the best ways to help fight the common cold or the respiratory symptoms of the "flu" is by drinking plenty of fluids. The following list of symptoms will help you to decide whether you have a cold or the "flu."

SIGNS & SYMPTOMS	COLD	FLU
Onset	Gradual	Sudden
Fever	Rare	Characteristic, high (over 101°F) lasting 3-4 days
Cough	Hacking	Nonproductive, can become severe
Headache	Rare	Prominent
Muscle Aches	Slight	Usual, often severe
Fatigue, Weakness	Very mild	Can last up to 2-3 weeks
Extreme Exhaustion	Rare	Early and prominent
Chest Discomfort	Mild to moderate	Common
Stuffy Nose	Common	Sometimes
Sneezing	Usual	Sometimes
Sore Throat	Common	Sometimes

Help us Help you!

The mission of the Student Health Service is to provide quality primary healthcare and education on healthy lifestyles to university students.

In order to optimize your visit to Student Health, please help our staff by doing the following:

- Bring your University ID to every visit.
- Bring your health insurance card and prescription plan card to every visit.



"THEN HOW AM I GOING TO KEEP MY FRIENDS UP TO DATE ON MY PHYSICAL?"

- Bring a list of the medications you take daily, including the name of the medication (with proper spelling), strength and dose.
- Be sure to wear clothing that will expose your area of injury or concern (i.e. loose shorts for a knee or hip injury, a loose shirt for inspection of chest/shoulder concerns or if lungs will be assessed with a stethoscope).
- Arrive at least 10 minutes before your scheduled appointment.
- Leave your personal cell phone number or other call back number when you sign-in for your appointment. This is a number where you can be reached directly.
- Remember that if you are 18 years of age or older, we are unable to speak with parents or outside providers about your health situation unless you sign a written release giving Student Health staff permission to do so.
- Refrain from using your cell phone while at Student Health. This protects your privacy and the privacy of others, and eliminates distractions to others.

These things, although seemingly inconsequential, will help the staff at Student Health to provide you with optimum service and care!!

**December 2-8 is National
HANDWASHING AWARENESS WEEK**

Chilling news about Frostbite

The skin and underlying tissues can freeze when the body is exposed to cold temperatures. This is called frostbite. The most common sites for frostbite are the fingers, toes, ears, and the nose. Early signs and symptoms are numbness, tingling, and white coloration of the skin.

The risk of getting frostbite increases with colder weather, higher wind speed, dehydration, and when the skin becomes wet. The severity of frostbite increases with the length of cold exposure and is more likely to be worse if the body's ability to sense and respond to frostbite is impaired such as with the use of alcohol. Wearing multiple layers of warm clothing including hats and gloves can prevent frostbite. It is important to stay well hydrated and notice symptoms early.

If frostbite occurs, any wet clothing should be removed, and the body part should be warmed gently against another part of the body without rubbing the affected body part as this can damage the skin. For example, place the affected hand underneath an armpit until it warms up. As the body part warms, there is usually pain and the skin can turn red.

It is important that frostbite does not occur again after warming because this will make the tissue injury much worse. You should contact your doctor if symptoms persist, if you get blisters, or if your skin turns a dark color.

