

The Review

The University of Delaware's Independent Student Newspaper Since 1882



Kimmie Meissner looking for gold in Torino Olympics

Stone Balloon mainstays find new home in historic Deer Park Tavern

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Kiplinger ranks UD among nation's best

BY LEAH KIELL

Administrative News Editor

Although shelling out more than \$15,000 a semester for a college education might cause visions of a life full of debt, the university was recently ranked 13th out of 100 public universities in Kiplinger's Personal Finance magazine's survey of schools with the best value in the nation.

University President David P. Roselle stated in an e-mail message he was satisfied with the university's high marks:

"We are pleased by the high Kiplinger's rankings, based as they are on academic quality and affordability," Roselle said. "These have been points of emphasis and it is gratifying that the highly successful efforts of our faculty and staff have been recognized."

Lou Hirsh, director of admissions, reflected Roselle's satisfaction and said he was pleased with the

results of the poll, but was not surprised.

"It's very consistent with what we've been saying to families for some time," he said. "We do see Delaware as an excellent value in higher education."

Hirsh said the university's focus on undergraduates is what makes it such a good value.

"There are a lot of schools, including some very distinguished ones, where you won't see a regularly appointed professor until junior year at the earliest and where much of the teaching is done by part-time or adjunct professors and teaching assistants," he said.

Kimberly Lankford, author of the article in Kiplinger's, said the criteria she used to compile the list was a mix of academics, such as admission rates, SAT scores and freshman retention rates, and financial aid and cost, including tuition, need-based aid, non need-based aid, and the

Kiplinger's Best of 2006

■ The university is ranked No. 13 best in-state value based on academic quality, cost and financial aid.



average amount of debt students graduate with.

"That's how our readers define value," she said. "It's not just cheapness, but an affordable cost that still offers a really good education."

Kiplinger's has conducted the survey five times, starting in 1998. Lankford said she has noticed schools consistently ranking within

the top 20 have increased in each category of academics each year the survey is administered.

"Schools that pretty much remained at the same level in terms of all those ratings ended up falling a bit behind," she said. "All of the scores are relative so it all depends on how one school compares to the other schools."

Due to cutbacks in state funding for public colleges, Lankford said, schools have been forced to make up the difference in other, more creative ways. The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, which has ranked first for in-state schools on the survey each year, relies on the money it collects from local licensing fees from the sale of university paraphernalia to fund its financial aid programs.

This summer, the university completed its "Campaign for Delaware," a \$431 million fundraiser. The money raised from the cam-

aign has been used to increase the number of named professors as well as fund scholarships.

Roselle said he believed this new campaign, in addition to the university's stellar academics, contributed to its high ranking on the list.

The campaign started in 1998 with the goal of raising \$225 million in five years. Donors included alumni, professors and friends of the university.

Topping the list for best in-state value is the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, followed respectively by the universities of Florida and Virginia, and the College of William and Mary. For out-of-state value, SUNY Geneseo made the top of the list, followed by SUNY Binghamton, the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, the College of New Jersey, the University of Florida and the College of William & Mary.



THE REVIEW/Mike Devoll

Newark has a strong reputation in professional ice skating due in part to the university's Ice Skating Science Development Center.

Ice skaters put Newark on international map

BY CAITLIN GINLEY

City News Editor

Newark is home to nearly 29,000 residents and students, the Fightin' Blue Hens, Main Street and Mayor Vance A. Funk III. Recently, however, Newark is emerging nationally for an entirely different reason.

Figure skaters Kimmie Meissner and Johnny Weir, who both train in Newark, will travel to Torino, Italy for the Winter Olympic Games this February. Their success at the 2006 State Farm U.S. Figure Skating Championships revealed Newark has one of the finest figure skating programs in the country.

Jeff Schneider, athletic trainer for the university's Ice Skating Science Development Center, said in the figure skating world, Newark has always had a strong reputation.

"This is nothing new for us," he said. "Outside of figure skating, people are beginning to pay more attention to the university. But figure skaters already know Newark is a strong place to come train."

Schneider said the university program is built primarily on its coaching staff, led by Olympian and World Figure Skating Hall of Fame inductee, Ron Ludington.

"He has put together a coaching staff at the university that attracts great skaters," he said.

The ISSDC also provides a quality program, complete with athletic training and a world-class facility, he said.

Ludington, director of the ISSDC, has coached skaters in nine Olympics and 36 World Championships. He was a World Bronze Medalist in 1959 and won the bronze medal at the 1960 Winter

Games. Ludington arrived in Newark in 1988, when the university's new ice arena was being built, Schneider said.

Schneider, who works with Meissner on a regular basis, said he has seen a number of great young skaters training at the university's Fred Rust Ice Arena. At the national competition, the university won nine of a total of 48 medals.

"I think in the future we'll continue to make our mark on the national and international teams," he said.

Both Meissner and Weir are extremely talented and Schneider said he wishes them great success in Torino. "Having two freestyle skaters from the same city going to the Olympics is certainly a newsworthy event," he said.

Dan Kuhn, figure skating director at The Pond Ice Arena in Newark, said even having a man and woman train in the same state on the Olympic team is incredible.

"The chances are so slim," he said. "This is great for Delaware."

The Pond, in addition to being Johnny Weir's training facility, is attracting quite a few young, up-and-coming skaters, Kuhn said. A few have already competed at the junior national level.

Although a few young skaters have lived in Newark their whole lives, Kuhn said he thinks many of them end up moving to Newark with their families to train.

"Some come for the summer to train and then make the decision if they want to live here or not," he said.

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Seventh and eighth graders competed in the First LEGO League Competition Saturday. courtesy of Heather Stoner

LEGOs not just child's play

BY HEATHER STONER
Staff Reporter

A group of three middle school boys clustered around a large table and stared as an 8-inch-tall robot built from LEGOs maneuvered across a bright blue mat. A fourth boy sat at a laptop, his eyes narrowed.

"Let me just download the docking program and test it," Kristian said from the laptop.

Seconds later, the robot came to life again, crashing into a group of LEGO fish arranged on the mat. "Nathan, put it back where it was," Jake said. "No, no! Over there."

It was the night before the First State Robotics First LEGO League Competition and these seventh and eighth graders from Hanby Middle School were hard at work. The next day, Hanby would be one of 54 middle school teams to put its LEGO robots to the test at the Bob Carpenter Center.

The five boys and one girl who make up the Hanby MOEstangs seem more like the cast of "The Breakfast Club" than a team of LEGO enthusiasts. In fact, LEGOs seem to be the only commonality between these kids who have gathered every week since October to build, break and rebuild the \$40,000 worth of LEGOs at their disposal.

Coach John Singer is in his 14th year of teaching Technology Education. This is his third FLL competition. He said when the team first met in October, it had more than 20 members. Now it is down to six.

"This, in my opinion, drives the kids nutty," he said as he watched his team fiddle with the programming of its robot. "The big thing they get out of this is the teamwork aspect."

On the eve of the competition, the team still struggled to complete its robot. The theme of this year's competition is Ocean Odyssey. They would need to program the robot to autonomously navigate an oceanic LEGO landscape in order to complete tasks like building a reef, tagging a shark without dis-

turbing surrounding fish, and freeing a dolphin from a net.

The competition also included the presentation of a research project before a panel of judges. The project had to present an innovative solution to an existing problem. The team chose to confront the current energy crisis by researching a method to capture energy from wave motion.

Beth Pearson, an eighth grader and the team's sole female, spent the final practice designing a flier to accompany the presentation. Eric McClure, a seventh grader, created a PowerPoint presentation and wrote a script. Jake Rosbrow, also a seventh grader, watched over their shoulders.

"We're doing a presentation about our made-up company, WaveTech," Beth says. "The whole idea of the company is to harness the energy of the ocean to be able to power homes all over the eastern seaboard."

But the most exciting part of the competition, according to Singer, is the field of play. Each robot has two-and-a-half minutes to accumulate points and is allowed three runs during the course of the day.

On the morning of the competition, the Hanby kids are nervous. Each of them is there for the first time, and they stick together, clad in identical navy blue shirts. Nathan Massouda, the team leader, examines the robot, handling it delicately.

"We didn't really get much done last night," he says softly. "I'm nervous."

They complete their research presentation first, and the team seems optimistic. The presenters — Jake, Nathan and Eric — carry personalized business cards.

Unfortunately, the technical evaluation, where a judge observes the integrity of the robot's design, is a disaster.

"It didn't do one thing," Jake says. "It killed all the fish."

The next event sends the Hanby team back to the drawing

board.

"Not good," Eric says, staring at the backs of Jake and Nathan. "They took apart the robot and now they're trying to put it back together. I don't know if we're going to make the next event."

Jake is changing the tires to treads and Kristian Latta, a seventh grader, works feverishly on the laptop, making adjustments to the programming.

"We're hoping to do better this time," Jake says. "The wheels were going too fast and out of control. With tracks, we're hoping it will go slower and we'll have more control."

Before each run, the teams queue, waiting for their turn. Other teams mill around, some in simple matching shirts, like Hanby. Others come in full costume — sombreros, Hawaiian shirts, fish hats and even Viking helmets. A DJ blares dance music and teams hit the floor between their events.

Despite the chaos, the Hanby team is focused on adjustments.

"We're not seeing them giving up," Singer says. "They're sticking with it."

Hanby's second run goes much like the first to the dismay of Jake and Nathan, who man the robot at the judging station. Eric, observing the team's progress, shakes his head.

"That's confusing," he says, as the robot spins in circles. "We didn't program it that way. I don't think we should take it apart again. We should just work on the programming."

Singer watches his team and smiles.

"You could turn this into a special called, 'The Agony of Defeat,'" he says. "They worked awful hard to get here, and even in the face of adversity, they didn't give up, which says an awful lot about their character."

The Hanby team fails to complete a successful run all day, but every seventh grade member of the MOEstangs will be back next year.

Students faced with choice to return to Gulf

Six of 14 students displaced by Katrina opted to stay at UD

BY LAURA BETH DLUGATCH & PAT WALTERS
News Editors

Evan Kalbacher wants to be an engineer. He had hoped to train to be one at Tulane University when he enrolled there as a freshman this past summer. But Hurricane Katrina intervened.

Though Tulane University has recovered and reopened, it downsized heavily — and axed its engineering program. Kalbacher, whose father is a Newark city councilman, ended up at the University of Delaware after he fled Tulane. But unlike many of his prospective classmates there, Kalbacher has chosen not to return this spring.

When Hurricane Katrina debilitated New Orleans, colleges across the country accepted approximately 18,000 students from the Gulf Coast, the Associated Press reported this fall. Most of these colleges laid down rules requiring students to return to their original school in the spring. So far, roughly 80 percent of Tulane freshmen have reregistered for Spring Semester.

Lou Hirsh, director of admissions at the university, said 14 students came to the University of Delaware from the Gulf Coast this fall. The university, however, will not require any of them to return to their original schools. Six of those students opted to stay here this spring.

"I think that it was important to let students who were displaced by Hurricane Katrina and Rita feel that they had excellent choices for college and that they could quickly get their lives and their educations back to normal," Hirsh said.

Freshman Peter Karl, who, like Kalbacher, is now a full-time freshman at the university,

arrived in New Orleans the Friday before Hurricane Katrina hit. When his hotel announced an emergency evacuation the next night, Karl called Tulane University to assess the situation.

"When we called Tulane, they told us that I would still be able to move into my dorm and not to worry about the hurricane," he said.

Following the school's advice, Karl moved into his residence hall. By that evening, Tulane had called an emergency evacuation and Karl was on a flight home to New Jersey.

Karl was initially told Tulane would be closed for a few days. Before long university officials said they would remain closed until the Spring Semester. He immediately started looking for a new school.

"My mom and I started calling the schools I applied to," he said. "Delaware was the first to answer back. Within two hours of their answer, my family and I were in the car heading for Delaware."

When the time came to make the decision to stay at the university permanently or go back to Tulane, Karl said it was an easy decision.

"I am getting the college experience at Delaware," he said. "I know of students that transferred to small local colleges and didn't get that opportunity so they are going back to Tulane."

Karl now lives in Rodney Residence Hall, but most of his possessions are still 2,000 miles away, in a place his former roommate said looks like a "war zone."

But Tulane has offered to ship his belongings to him and Kalbacher hopes to receive his possessions before classes begin next month.



Courtesy of Tulane University Public Relations
Universities along the Gulf Coast, like Tulane University (pictured here), suffered extensive damage due to flooding as a result of Hurricane Katrina in August.



RELATED NEWS

WHAT: Newark's Town and Gown committee is sponsoring a trip to Pascagoula, Miss. to aid in disaster relief.

WHY: Volunteers will install dry-wall, paint or help with carpentry in the hurricane ravaged town (no previous experience is required).

WHEN: March 24 to April 2

COST: \$240 for roundtrip airfare. Free accommodations will be provided at the First Baptist Church of Pascagoula.

Chrysler brings new luxury to Newark

BY STEPHANIE HAIGHT
Copy Editor

The Newark Chrysler plant, which currently produces the Dodge Durango, will be the production site of Chrysler's new luxury SUV, the Aspen, beginning this summer.

Ed Saenz, manager of manufacturing and labor media relations for Chrysler, said the Newark plant closed temporarily for several weeks last year to adjust its inventory.

"We have various down weeks scheduled for most plants throughout the year," he said.

Colin McBean, spokesman for the Chrysler Group, said \$180 million has been invested in the Newark plant in order to produce the Aspen.

The Aspen is Chrysler's first luxury SUV, something consumers and dealers have been wanting for years, McBean said.

The price has not yet been discussed,

but the cost will be thousands less than the luxury SUVs of Chrysler's competitors.

The SUV will be built using the platform from the Durango, he said, which is why the Newark plant was chosen as the site of production.

Saenz said Chrysler knew it could achieve good results at the Newark plant because of its productive workforce.

"The Aspen is good news for the plant and the community," he said.

McBean said the Aspen will have Chrysler's signature chromed grill, a Crossfire-inspired hood and 20-inch chrome wheels. Other features include heated leather seats, a navigation system and rear seat DVD.

"It's got a lot of what we call 'bling,'" he said.

The consumer research studies conducted at Chrysler yielded good results, McBean said. People like the style and fea-



courtesy of Daimler-Chrysler

The Aspen is Chrysler's first luxury SUV and is set to be produced at Newark's plant.

tures of the car and the fact that the price is much less than other luxury SUVs makes it even more appealing to customers.

One of the features consumers liked was the 5.7-liter HEMI engine with a multi-displacement system which causes four of the Aspen's eight cylinders to shut down when the SUV reaches cruising speed. McBean said this gives the car good fuel economy.

The Aspen is expected to be available on the market in September, he said.

Chrysler is appealing to a different buyer with the Aspen than with the Durango, he said.

"Someone a little older, someone who is looking for more luxury," McBean said.

Although it is being built with the same platform as the Durango, the styling of the Aspen is much different, he said. It has a more upscale and sophisticated appearance whereas the style of the Durango is bold and sport.

Mayor Vance A. Funk III said the production of a popular model like the Aspen at the Newark plant is exciting for the community because there was concern about whether Chrysler would continue to produce any vehicles there.

"When they introduced this new model to this plant it was really a source of great relief for the community," he said.

IN THE NEWS

Administration to probe mine practices

As two coal miners were found dead two days after fire swept through a mine shaft in Melville, W.Va., the Bush administration is signaling a new sensitivity to the industry's dangers.

Facing criticism for its approach to safety regulations, the administration this week will formally solicit ideas for improving the equipment and technology used in mine rescues, federal Mine Safety and Health Administration officials said Saturday.

A government investigation into the 12 deaths in Tallmansville three weeks ago is being led by J. Davitt McAteer, who headed the Mine Safety and Health Administration under former President Clinton. Investigations into the fire that broke out Thursday in the Aracoma Mine and claimed the lives of the two miners found Saturday are also expected.

State Legislator looks to abort *Roe v. Wade*

Taking direct aim at *Roe v. Wade*, lawmakers from several states are proposing broad restrictions on abortion, with the goal of forcing the U.S. Supreme Court to revisit the landmark ruling issued 33 years ago. The bill under consideration in Indiana would ban all abortions, except when continuing the pregnancy would put the woman's life or physical health in danger of "substantial permanent impairment." Similar legislation is pending in Ohio, Georgia and Tennessee.

Indiana State Rep. Troy Woodruff wrote House Bill 1096 knowing it would conflict with *Roe*. That was precisely his point — he wants his ban appealed to the Supreme Court, in hopes that the justices will overturn *Roe* and give states the power to make abortion a crime.

At least a dozen states have criminal laws banning abortion. They cannot be enforced as long as *Roe v. Wade* remains binding. In theory, though, they could take effect immediately upon a reversal.

Maryland could be next to legalize same-sex marriage

A Baltimore judge ruled Friday that Maryland's law banning same-sex marriage is discriminatory and "cannot withstand constitutional challenge," throwing open the possibility of a bruising legislative battle over a constitutional amendment.

Unlike decisions in Massachusetts and New York state, the Maryland ruling will not immediately bring lines of same-sex couples to city hall for civil ceremonies. Circuit Judge M. Brooke Murdoch immediately stayed her decision, and the attorney general's office has voiced plans for an appeal.

The effect of the ruling could be far more immediate in how it alters Maryland's political landscape. The decision comes during the state's contentious 2006 campaigns for governor and U.S. Senate.

— Compiled from L.A. Times and Washington Post news wires

POLICE REPORTS

Teen charged with two armed robberies

A 17-year-old Newark resident was charged with two armed robberies of pizza delivery drivers at the Christina Mills Apartment Complex on Elkton Road Friday and Saturday night, Cpl. Tracy Simpson said.

The first incident occurred at approximately 9:19 p.m. Friday when two suspects confronted a Pizza Hut delivery driver on the 500 block of Christina Mill Drive, Simpson said. One of the suspects displayed a semi-automatic handgun and demanded money from the victim.

The second incident, which occurred at approximately 9:06 p.m. Saturday, involved the robbery of a Pat's Pizzeria delivery driver, Simpson said. The suspects displayed a handgun, demanded money and one of the suspects carjacked the victim and fled in the victim's vehicle, a 1993 Honda Accord.

Simpson said the vehicle was located in Elkton, Md. a short time later by the Newark Police Special Operations Unit. The operator of the vehicle, a 17-year-old Newark resident, was taken into custody and charged with two counts of first degree robbery, two counts of conspiracy, wearing a disguise during the commission of a felony, and carjacking and possession of a stolen vehicle.

The suspect is currently incarcerated at the Cecil County Detention Center and is awaiting extradition in Delaware, Simpson said.

Suspects steal from Rite Aid

Two suspects stole multiple items from the Rite Aid on Elkton Road Wednesday afternoon, Simpson said.

Derek Bramble, a 22-year-old white male from Elkton, Md., and Shannan Keene, a 31-year-old white female from West Grove, Pa., removed \$782.68 worth of merchandise, Simpson said. The suspects then fled in a maroon vehicle.

The vehicle was spotted on Elkton and O'Daniel Road and police pulled them over on West Field Drive. The police officer observed in plain view two shopping baskets with the stolen items in the vehicle, Simpson said. Bramble told the officer he had taken the items from Rite Aid.

—Caitlin Ginley

Gempesaw to become dean of business college

BY BRIAN CITINO

Managing News Editor

Conrado "Bobby" Gempesaw is a self-proclaimed sports nut and spends his spare time as a referee for a youth basketball league. As Spring Semester begins, however, Gempesaw will be blowing his whistle in a whole new arena.

Shortly after the new year began, Provost Dan Rich announced Gempesaw, currently vice provost for academic and international programs, had been selected as the new dean of the Alfred Lerner College of Business and Economics.

Gempesaw, who has been with the university faculty since 1985, said he was flattered and grateful his peers and colleagues would express this confidence in his abilities.

"I feel truly honored and humbled to be selected as the next Lerner College dean," he said.

Gempesaw has laid out a plan to achieve success in his new position, composed of several factors but hinged on one thing.

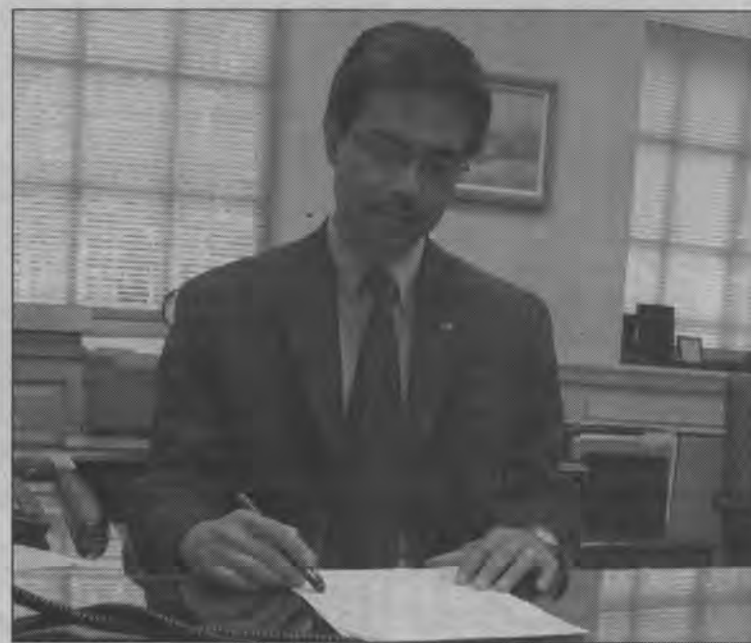
"The excellence of an academic institution starts with the success of its students," he said. "My goals for the job are based on this premise."

Born and raised in Davao City, located in the southern Philippines, Gempesaw was the second oldest of seven children. He began working at a young age at a hotel run by his parents.

Gempesaw said he gained business and financial experience early in life at his parents' hotel.

"Because my parents had to work hard to support seven children, even at a young age, I was always conscious of the importance of managing one's finances well," he said. "This is how I started to learn the importance of economics, which was my major in college."

Before moving to the United States, Gempesaw received his bachelor's degree in the Philippines at Ateneo de Davao



THE REVIEW/ Mike Devoll

Conrado "Bobby" Gempesaw will succeed Michael Ginzberg as dean. He currently serves as the vice provost for academic and international programs.

University. He then came to the US where he earned his master's degree at West Virginia University and his doctorate from Penn State University, both in agricultural economics.

Gempesaw has also spent time as a visiting professor in Poland and his home country of the Philippines. He cites traveling as one of the best educations a person can receive.

"Knowledge should not have any boundaries, and learning by living in other places helps one improve his or her outlook on life," he said. "I am very fortunate to be able to experience living and studying in different places and this has helped my education."

In addition to work and traveling, Gempesaw manages to be a family man and is happily married to his wife, Clavel. Together they have two sons: Daniel and David.

The Gempesaw's are closely tied to the university, as Clavel

received her masters and doctorate degrees in urban affairs and public policy and Daniel is currently working towards mechanical engineering and math majors at the university.

For the past four years, Gempesaw has been active in athletics and served as a basketball referee for the Catholic Youth Ministry and is also currently serving on that organization's athletic committee.

"I love sports and enjoy reading about sports and watching games," he said.

Gempesaw looks to modernize the business college, and said he recognizes the changes in the business world everyday. He hopes to change the college as the real world does and have the curriculum mirror changing times.

"How we teach is as important as what we teach," he said. "The integration of information and communication technologies will help in the delivery of academic programs."

Skaters handle sport and school

continued from page 1

Linda Raffaele, a counselor at Newark High School, said they have quite a few students who are currently training while attending school.

"We are very accommodating to these students," she said. "They can choose what classes to take and when to take them. Most will take the required courses, but we don't force them into which classes to take."

Raffaele said these student athletes will usually come to school during first through fourth or fifth periods and then train in the afternoon. Problems arise, however, as the students get older.

"Certain classes for juniors or seniors only get offered at one time," she said. "But we try to work with the students as best we can."

Raffaele said the school also has an attendance policy in which students are not allowed to miss more than 18 days a year.

"Obviously with these students, we need to make an exception," she said. "If they show us documentation that they have to leave for a competition we excuse them."

For the most part, Raffaele said skaters are excellent students. She has a senior this year who is a skater and also tied for No. 1 in her class.

"Skaters are very dedicated people," she said. "They understand time commitment and know what they need to do to get everything done."

Raffaele said she remembers Johnny Weir when he was a student at the high school.

"He needed a lot of training," she said. "I think it's awesome that he's going to the Olympics."

Kuhn said Newark is already receiving publicity about its skating program.

"I've been fielding phone calls from reporters all week, directing them to Johnny's agent and coach," he said. "It's definitely a good thing."



THE REVIEW/Meaghan Jones

The English Language Institute held its first Culture Café Friday.

Korean students display culture

BY DANE SECOR

Student Affairs Editor

Students passing through Trabant University Center Friday afternoon had the chance to sample Korean culture at the English Language Institute's first Culture Café.

The monthly event offers international students the opportunity to connect with university students and inform interested people about different cultures, Mary Beth Worrilow, an instructor at the ELI, said.

"The goal is to introduce the campus to the ELI and promote social interaction," she said.

The event featured pictures of Korean sports stars, entertainers, holidays and movies. Traditional Korean dress and models of masks were also on display.

Worrilow said the Culture Café allows international students to integrate with American students in a casual setting.

"It's an opportunity for students to come, get a cup of coffee, chat and connect with international students," she said.

Mi-Kyung Seo, a student at the ELI, described the different kinds of food displayed.

A typical Korean dish includes foods like boiled beef, stir fry and a prepared dish called Kim chi, she

said.

Senior Andrew Swiatowicz, a Blue Hen Ambassador, said prospective students on tour were curious about the event.

"People were definitely interested," he said. "They were asking questions and liked hearing about it."

The event is a good opportunity for visiting students to see a different side of the university, Swiatowicz said.

"It shows that it's more diverse on campus," he said. "That's what some people are looking for."

Students do not need to be in the ELI to be represented at the Culture Café, Worrilow said. Any student can contact the institute if they are interested in displaying their culture.

"It offers a window to the world," she said.

Worrilow said future events might feature students from Turkey and Latin America.

University students taking Spanish courses will be encouraged to attend the Latin American Culture Café, Worrilow said. This will give students the opportunity to interact with native speakers of the language, learn about the culture and practice their Spanish.

"It's a springboard for social interaction."

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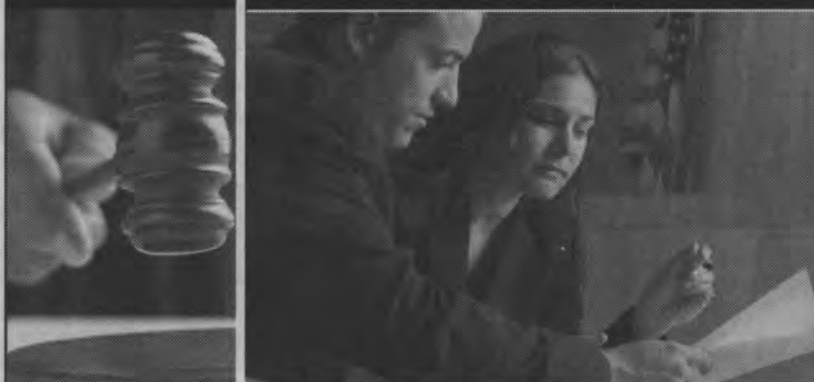
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Editorial

ONLINE POLL

Q: Do you think the university is a good value for students?

Vote online at www.udreview.com

Last week's results

Q: Do you support Senate Bill 80?

67%	33%
Yes	No

OUR SAY

Survey says university offers bang for bucks

As students, most of us do not usually consider the value of our education in terms of dollar amounts. We recognize it as an expensive but necessary cost, despite how much it may hurt our (or our parents') wallets.

According to Kiplinger's Personal Finance magazine's survey of the nation's colleges, the university ranked 13th out of 100 public universities with the best value.

Surprised? The Review certainly was. Students are hit with college costs frequently, whether buying books and notebooks or paying a costly parking ticket.

Most of us have not considered the "value" we are getting since pre-enrollment days, when the search was still on to pick the "right" university.

Moreover, the university ranked high in value for both in-state and out-of-state students, which is quite impressive.

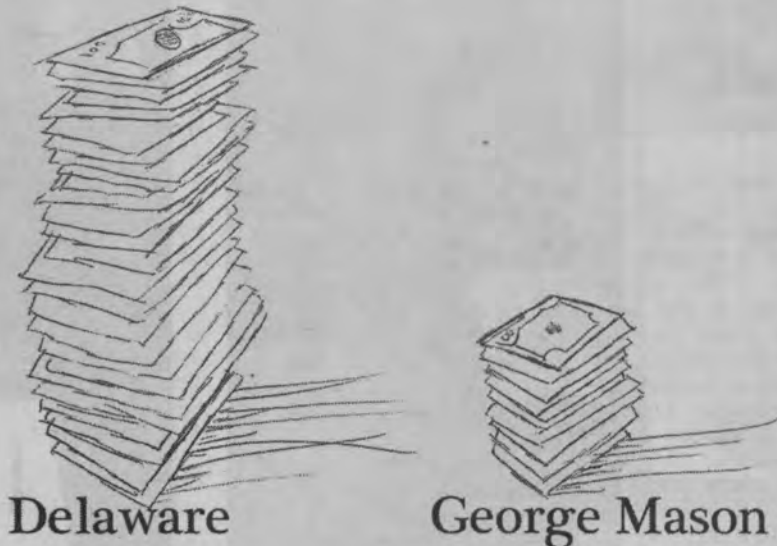
The Review praises the university for its obvious commitment to keeping costs down and quality up. It certainly has been able to maintain this balance, which is not easy, as other public universities clearly struggle.

Still, the survey raises questions about what other universities are doing. They may be institutions of higher learning, but as this shows, they are also businesses. And some are not offering consumers what they are apparently paying for.

The Review also praises magazines like Kiplinger for doing this kind of survey. It benefits students and parents, as well as the universities themselves. Hopefully those who were ranked low on the list will learn from these results and adapt to make positive changes for their students.

To the university's credit, it also completed a new campaign to raise money. The "Campaign for Delaware" acquired \$431 million which will be used to fund scholarships and increase the amount of named professors.

The Review sees this as a success, and hopes the university will continue the fundraiser in the future. It began in 1998 with the goal of reaching \$225 million in five years, a point that was easily surpassed — most likely because of the serious commitment by university administrators, who should be applauded.



THE REVIEW/Sam Resta

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Senate bill to open flood gates

Senate Bill 80 in its original incarnation (not including the amendments) only bans a very specific type of human cloning. If you read the specific text of the bill, it bans human cloning "for the purpose of implanting the resulting product to initiate a pregnancy that could result in the birth of a human being."

This would allow researchers to clone humans so long as they did not intend to implant the clone or let the pregnancy result in birth. This opens the door on "fetal farming," wherein babies are created for the sole purpose of harvesting their organs while they are still in the womb.

Additionally, researchers working with embryonic stem cells in animals have not made any progress in treating diseases. Instead, treating an animal with embryonic stem cells invariably causes cancer in the animal because researchers cannot control the growth of stem cells in an animal.

Shouldn't we perfect the technique in animals before even considering trying it with humans? Moreover, recent discoveries indicate that adult stem cells have much more potential and can differentiate into more types of cells than originally thought, without the worry of cancer, making cures from adult stem cells much more attractive and viable than unsuccessful embryonic stem cell treatments.

Adult stem cell research should be the focus of research in humans; once embryonic stem cell cures have been proven to work in animals, they can be considered for use in humans.

Stephanie Zilora
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Secretary, Prolife Vanguard
smz@udel.edu

Cardinal supports Darwin

Catholics should wonder why the Vatican constantly issues a stout defence of Charles Darwin's Fraudulent Communist Religion

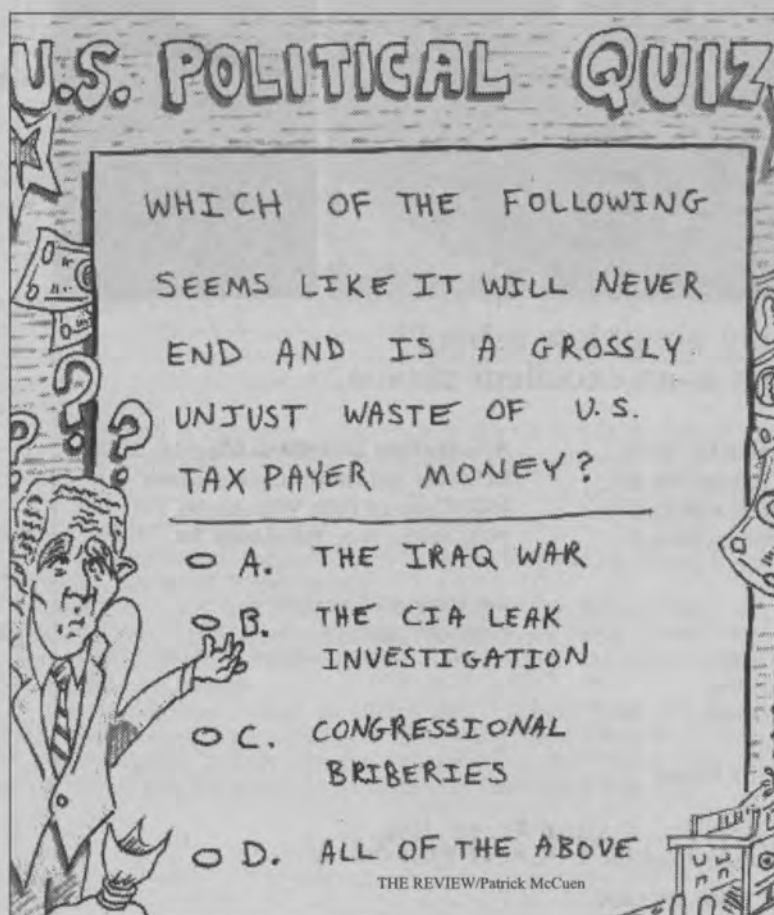
"Theory of Evolution".

Now we have the Vatican's high ranked Cardinal claiming the Genesis description of how God created the universe and Darwin's theory of evolution were "perfectly compatible" if the Bible were read correctly.

Looks like the 150 million martyrs who were tortured and killed by communists since 1917 in the name of the "Theory of Evolution" did not read their Bible correctly.

I am sure the Vatican's Evolutionists will one day declare St. Peter as the first communist and Communism as perfectly compatible with the Bible. Considering that we are made on the image of God according to the Bible and that we evolved from monkeys according to the Vatican, God must look like King Kong.

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THE REVIEW/Patrick McCuen

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Court's confirmation process obsolete

Not that Monica



Monica Simmons

If mum's the word, what lies in the future for the U.S. Supreme Court? This question seems to not only be swimming in the minds of the 18 members of the Senate Judiciary Committee as they prepare for Supreme Court nominee Samuel Alito's confirmation, but the partisan factions of America.

Sen. Patrick Leahy, D-Ver., reverberated the hesitation some have with Alito when he said, "He has responded to many questions over the course of these hearings but he has adequately answered far too few of them."

As reigning Democrats on the Judiciary Committee grilled Alito last week on every Constitutional topic from abortion to executive powers, one strategy prevailed — silence.

But what does Alito's choice to plead the Fifth Amendment say about his clout as a Supreme Court nominee? Whether protesting against the Sandra Day O'Connor mold the committee laid out for him or straining to preserve the secrecy of his judicial philosophy, Alito's motive for his dodgy answers remains unclear.

If a relationship exists between a nominee's silence in the face of an assault from the Democratic faction and his jurisprudence, one must only look to Chief Justice John Roberts' dissent in a ruling handed down Jan. 17 to feel uneasy about the future consequences of Alito's hearings.

In an opinion handed down last Tuesday, the Court's majority rejected a bid by the U.S. Attorney General John Ashcroft to block Oregon's Death with Dignity Act, a law permitting physician-assisted suicide. Roberts, however, signed his name alongside the dissent of Justice Antonin Scalia, which supported Ashcroft's authority in striking down the Oregon law.

Also not surprisingly, Roberts remained relatively tight-lipped on the subject when confronted by Sen. Dianne Feinstein, D-Calif., during his own confirmation hearings:

FEINSTEIN: Do you then believe that this implied right of privacy applies to the beginning of life and the end of life?

ROBERTS: Well, Senator, first of all, I don't necessarily regard it as an implied right. It is the part of the liberty that is protected under the due process clause. That liberty is enumerated...

FEINSTEIN: Part of liberty, then.
ROBERTS: Yes. And the exact scope of it, with respect to the beginning of life and the end of life, those are issues that are coming before the court in both respects, and I don't think that I should go further to elaborate upon whether or not it applies in those particular situations.



FEINSTEIN: All right.

ROBERTS: Obviously, it has been articulated by the court in both contexts, in the Cruzan case with respect to the end of life, the Glucksberg case following Cruzan. But I don't think it's appropriate for me, given the fact that cases arise on both of those questions, to go further.

This excerpt clearly asserts a relationship between a nominee's restraint during these hearings and his unwillingness to out himself as anything less than a moderate judge. And if the Roberts' hearings

provide any foresight into what a nominee's nondescript answers mean in terms of their judicial outlook, the American public can guarantee they are dealing with a potential Supreme Court justice who remains more elusive than he appears.

After all, it was Judge Alito who wrote the lone Appeals Court dissent in the controversial abortion decision, *Planned Parenthood v. Casey*. While the Supreme Court sidestepped a re-visitation of that issue in a case decided last week, an opinion written by Justice

O'Connor herself, it is doubtful Alito's views would greatly sway the Court's stance on abortion.

But what exactly does an "I don't know" imply when echoed from the mouth of a nominee to the nation's highest court? Perhaps the answer to this question is less important than what it says about the selection process in general.

Certainly Alito knows his answers to the questions the committee pummeled him with last week, but he must continue to uphold the Court's guise of objection and mold himself to this centrist outline to win the committee's favor.

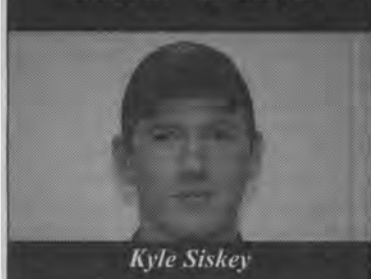
While the contemptuous factions of this country continue to marginalize one another for their political leanings, they expect the nine people who have a direct impact on such issues to disjoin their own outlooks from these decisions. The problem is not whether Alito will protect the privacy rights 30 years of Constitutional interpretation has laid out, but why this country continues to strive for a perfectly impartial judge.

Perhaps if Alito did not feel as if he was forced to maintain a liberal agenda, he would be more willing to make his own views more transparent. Perhaps the public should not question what a judge's political leanings mean for the future of America's law, but if the process to select him or her is obsolete.

Monica Simmons is a Managing Mosaic Editor for *The Review*. Please send comments to brand-new@udel.edu.

Bush breaks law, big brother still watches

Gettin' it done



Kyle Siskey

President George W. Bush broke the law. Former vice president Al Gore said it, Pennsylvania's republican senator, Arlen Specter said it, and now I am saying it. The Associated Press discovered the president allowed, and even renewed, a domestic spying act behind the nation's back and ultimately decided that the constitution no longer granted privacy to his "fellow Americans."

Seems like every thing the White House does is to "stop terrorism." I don't know what's next, but could America's right to free

speech be completely ignored soon?

I understand that the government should do everything within its power to ensure American citizens' safety. But if we are not going to follow our own laws, designed to limit the president's power, how different does that make us from the terrorists who disregard laws and freedoms for their own agendas?

The idea that the president did not mention his plans to ignore the constitution and essentially commit unwarranted searches to any other branch of government baffles me. If the president really believed that the phone calls and e-mails he would be monitoring were key in fighting terrorism, don't you think a majority republican congress would have signed off on a legal search warrant to do so?

The program reportedly monitored thousands of e-mails and phone calls made from within the country. In other words, there was nothing stopping President Bush from following an e-mail you sent

to your friends overseas this winter, or any season after 2001 when the spying initiative began.

While the president said the program is useful in stopping terrorism, he refuses to release any names of people who have been followed or arrested. I wish all the terrorists to be captured and put into jail, but I am not willing to give up my most basic freedoms in order to ensure my safety from these individuals. Americans need to agree on the breaking point when too much of our freedom violated.

Apparently, the monitoring of phone calls is not that point.

What is shocking is the way the president went about the spying. It would have been better if he had been upfront with Americans from the beginning and told us that the spying was going to happen, released a list of names and then went about breaking the law.

One of the government's reasons behind the disregard for the constitution is the lack of time they would have between the issuing of the warrant and the passing

of the document by other branches of government.

A lack of time? I know that issues move through the senate and court systems slowly now-a-days because of the lengthy judicial hearings, the missing members of the court and the search for steroids in American sports, but don't you think if enough evidence was provided to show the importance of spying, the senators would have woken themselves out of bed to vote for the warrants?

The biggest manhunt in the history of the country was for Osama Bin Laden, and the Executive Branch thought Congress would get held up? If they honestly believe their own political jargon, then they obviously do not have good reason to search the e-mail that I sent to my friends in Ireland this week.


I am also angered by the lack of outrage from the American people. Here we have politicians from the left and right speaking out against the corruption that has become the Bush regime and no one seems to care. The president

gets pleased in the Oval Office and the country screams impeachment, but if he knowingly breaks a law and said it was because of the terrorists he gets a pass?

To spy on thousands of unsuspecting Americans whose basic rights include the ability to make a phone call without the fear of "big brother" spying on them is wrong.

I ask you, my reader, please for my sake, do not e-mail this to any of your friends overseas, wait for them to come home, the last thing I need is "big brother" watching my every move. It is not that I have something to hide, it is that I have the right, as an American citizen, to hide what I deem appropriate.


Kyle Siskey is a Copy Editor for *The Review*. Please send comments to ksiskey@udel.edu.



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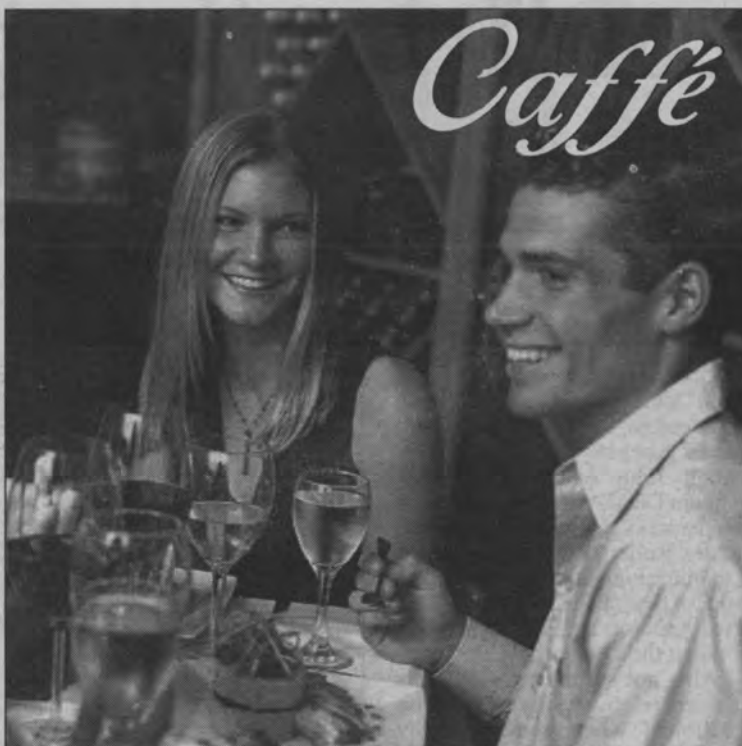
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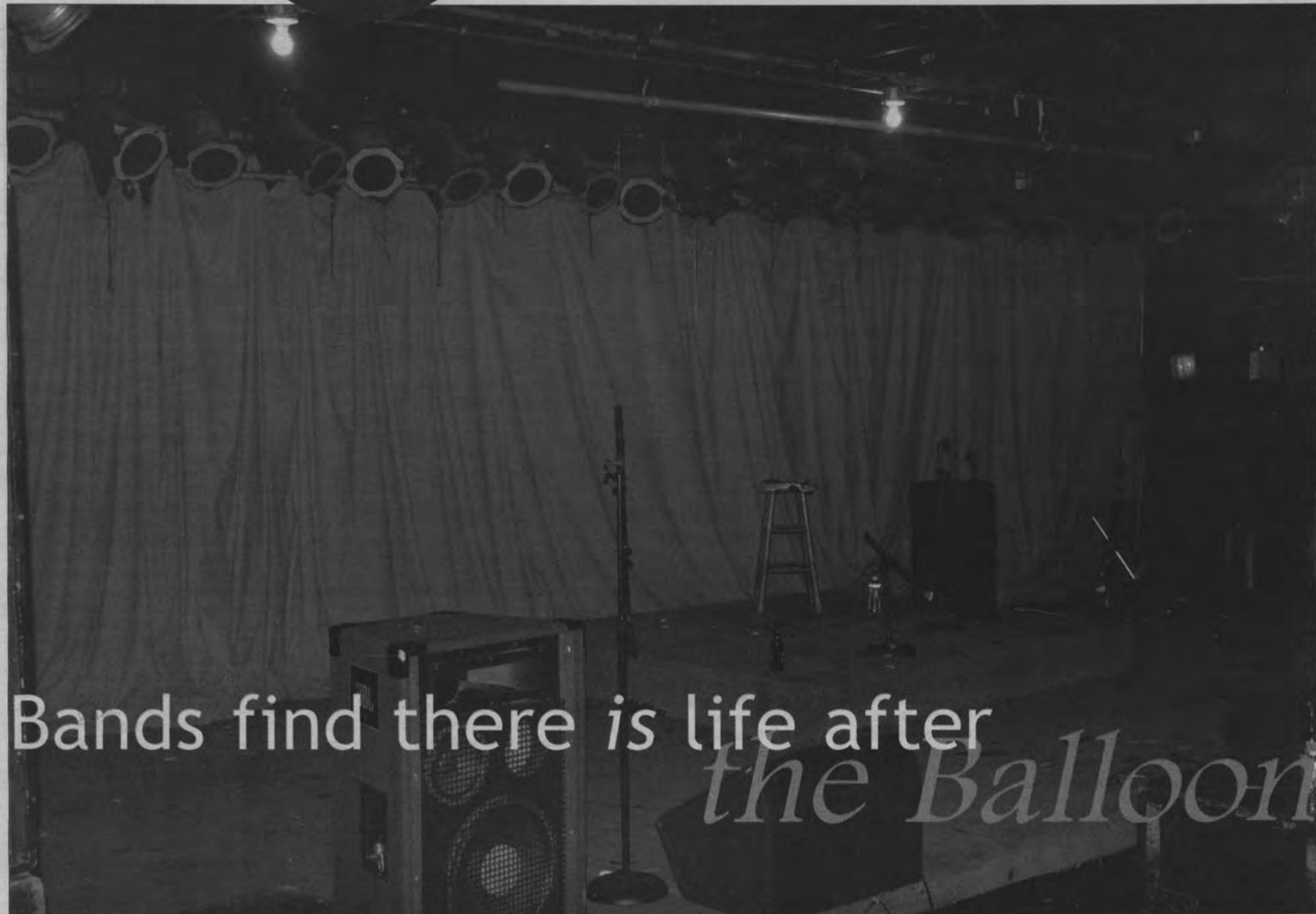
Delaware Steel pays tribute to composer, rejecting iPods and Match Point reviewed

Mosaic



WE ARE SCIENTISTS

Page 11



Bands find there is life after *the Balloon*

BY GREG PRICE
Managing Sports Editor

Liquid A takes the stage at 10 p.m. with its amps set on 11 and drum kits ready for a sound beating. The group begins its diverse set, ranging from Kanye West and Usher, to All-American Rejects and Rage Against the Machine. The energy and power of Liquid's performance is the same as its regular Tuesday night performance at the Stone Balloon, except tonight marks the band's first Thursday "Mug night" show at Newark's newest stage for live music, The Deer Park Tavern.

"I guess when you're a stray everywhere seems like home," lead singer Stacix says to the packed crowd.

Several things go wrong during Liquid's set. Lead guitarist Jeff G. breaks a guitar string during his solo in Lit's "My Own Worst Enemy" and Stacix has to deal with a constantly slipping mic stand. But the energy of the crowd is still with them.

Even with the equipment problems there are some things the band cannot change. Deer Park's new stage is half the size of the Balloon's and the ceiling looks like it's straight out of "Willy Wonka and the Chocolate Factory," but that is not a problem to Liquid.

The first Thursday night Liquid performs represents what every now-former Balloon band must go through. The performers that used to headline Newark's most renowned music venue now play the city's most historic landmark — and they couldn't

be happier.

"It's a great place to play," Chorduroy lead singer Derek Lee Hubbard says. "When you think of Edgar Allan Poe walking through those rooms, it's just amazing."

When the Balloon closed in December, a music vacuum began in Newark. The bands needed a new place to rock out and there was still demand for live performances in Newark because of the university.

According to Rick Green, owner of Midnight Sun, the managing firm responsible for former regular Balloon acts like Liquid A, Kristin and the Noise and Burnt Sienna, the bands wanted to stay in Newark. Green's 20 year relationship with Deer Park owner Bob Ashby made the transition from the Balloon to the tavern the best case scenario.

Ashby says he already had success with Chorduroy playing every Sunday night, so when he saw the opportunity to capitalize on the Balloon's closing, he quickly took it.

One of the obvious differences between the Deer Park and the now defunct Balloon is the bar's capacity. On an average Thursday "Mug night," the Balloon packed anywhere from 1,000 to 1,500 people inside. Currently, the Deer Park can hold between 350 and 500 people, which does put business at a disadvantage when compared to the Balloon. Yet Ashby says he is very content with his tavern's size and has no plans to expand.

"It's a historic building with over 150 years of operation," he

says. "It's never going to try to evolve into a Stone Balloon, and the bands have been overjoyed to be here."

Ashby has completely embraced the Deer Park's role as the only rock music venue in town and has allowed Burnt Sienna's Jefe to perform an solo acoustic act every Tuesday night, something the Balloon could never do.

"Jefe is a great talent," Ashby says. "It's a great 'early-in-the-week' acoustic act."

In order to combat the size disadvantage, Ashby has made some minor adjustments to the tavern. He improved the sound system, meticulously placed speakers around the bar to increase sound dimensions and set up closed circuit camera feeds to televisions on the first floor for fans to enjoy the band on each level of the tavern.

Although the crowd is now larger, Deer Park has not drastically altered its layout and security measures. It now staffs more people for Thursday nights, but the live music hasn't been an inconvenience, tavern general manager Ray Searles says.

"Our late night is about students coming in and having fun," he says. "You can't ask for more."

Deer Park has also gone to great lengths to accommodate the bands, like offering a banquet room for the band to relax in between sets.

"We've been playing at Deer Park for two and a half years

see MIGRATION page 12



THE REVIEW/Meaghan Jones

Two members of Delaware Steel flank Director Harvey Price as the trio prepares for its tribute to Mozart.

Del. Steel drums up Mozart tribute

BY SONIA DASGUPTA

Staff Reporter

Imagine the majestic sound of an orchestra playing Mozart. Instead of an orchestra filled with flutes, violins and brass instruments, though, it's filled with tropical-sounding steel drums.

That was the unique sound that filled Philadelphia's Kimmel Center last Saturday, when the university's steel drum band, Delaware Steel, played in honor of Mozart's 250th birthday.

The concert, titled "Mozart Reloaded," also featured Group Motion, Uri Caine, Gloria Justen, Tony Miceli and four world premiere commissions for pianist Charles Abramovic. Each group found a unique way to portray Mozart's music, from improvisational jazz to dance to videos, allowing the audience to experience Mozart from new angles.

Harvey Price, director of Delaware Steel, says although playing Mozart's "Overture to the Magic Flute" may seem odd on steel drums, it's quite normal in countries where steel drums originated.

"It is not uncommon to play classical music on steel drums in Trinidad," Price says. "To hear a whole band play will be a new experience."

When asked to play a solo in the concert nine months ago, Price asked if his band could play instead. Delaware Steel was honored with the opportunity to close out the concert.

"I think the people will go wild," he says.

Directing the group since its inception in the mid-'90s, Price has a passion for the steel drums. Delaware Steel is comprised of students who have studied the steel drums for at least two years and have taken the introductory steel drum course.

Delaware Steel plays two concerts each semester as well as outside gigs at local churches, schools and in Philadelphia. They also played in Virginia Beach, Va., and Germany last February.

Sophomore Paul Stamegna has studied steel drums with Price since his junior year in high school. When he first entered the group, he played lead — the solo can in the highest voice. He later moved to guitarist, a drum used for

accompaniment, rhythm and a richer sound in a lower voice.

Stamegna says that there are six different types of steel drums on high-end metalworking. Since the instrument is relatively new, it is continuously evolving.

"I think the thing that's most exciting," Stamegna says, "it's changing as we're doing it."

Senior Stephanie Lehman also started playing as a lead four years ago. She switched to bass can her senior year, when the group needed another bass, but she says it's to her advantage.

"I like having the ability to play the highest and lowest voice," Lehman says.

She also finds the steel drums interesting because of the versatility of the instrument.

"I like the flexibility of the steel drums," Lehman says. "You can play tunes made for steel drums to Mozart's wide range of repertoire."

Lehman also enjoys the sound of the instrument, because the relatively new instrument allows her to be inventive and try new things.

Stamegna points out that steel drums are easy to play, but have the sound quality of strings. He says the drums act more like violins for the Mozart piece at the concert.

Lehman and Stamegna say an important element of the steel drum is the tuning. They say Delaware Steel is lucky to have tuners who are well trained, and know exactly how to shape the metal to the correct sound.

Delaware Steel is a huge part of both Stamegna and Lehman's lives. They hope to continue to play steel drums in the future, although they both feel like it may end up more of a hobby.

"I definitely had no idea it would have this effect on me," Lehman says. "It's addicting."

Stamegna says his love for the steel drum started at a young age when he saw it at a performance. He knew he wanted to play the instrument at some point. Lehman says she stumbled upon the idea of playing steel drums when she was looking at the courses offered freshman year.

"I had no idea what I was getting into," Lehman says, "but I'm glad I did."

MEDIA DARLING

A plea to iPod purists: Tune out flashy extras

It happened to me too. The obsession came unexpectedly. Before I knew it, every walk to class, without one, left me feeling naked. In a world dangling with those little white earpieces my lobes were bare. I had to have one.

My obsession didn't go unnoticed. For my birthday in May, my friends all chipped in and gave me the best present I could ask for: a bright blue iPod mini. It could hold 1,000 songs and last up to 18 hours without charging. The best part — it was oh so little.

I was in love.

For the next several weeks I brought my little blue buddy wherever I went — the beach, work, I even went running with it because that's what iPods are for, aren't they? (I'm not much of a runner.)

It was my best friend for about a month, but as the summer went on, I used it less and less.

When school started I often found myself in too much of a rush to pick it up and take it with me. It was no longer a priority.

Now, eight months after the birth of my darling iPod, I reject it more than I use it. Why? Because I am so exhausted with the hoopla that has become Apple's money horse. The iPod-mania that has swept the nation and marked our generation has gone off the deep-end and is now borderline annoying.

Watching music videos, listening to podcasts, downloading pornography — oh the things iPods can do these days. Depending on the model, iPods can be used for digital camera storage, streaming music videos and movie trailers, MP3s, podcasting and presumably much more. The Review recently wrote a story about the latest iPod trend: iPod dating, or rather, online dating to go. My question is, what's next?

Now that people are inserting computer chips in their hands for easy access to Internet passwords, is it completely outrageous to imagine a computer chip that will automatically upload music to a tiny earphone wired to our ears, totally wiping out the need for an iPod in the

first place? I give it five years.

But beyond Apple's incessant marketing of the new and improved Nano and Video iPod, what really bothers me is that all of the new things consumers can do with their iPods seem to be overshadowing the point of having one to begin with: listening to the music.

In the beginning, iPods were a convenient toy for the music lover, an upgrade from your one-CD Discman. Now, along with the iPod mini, simply wanting an iPod for musical playback seems outdated.

Consumers are buying iPods so they can watch episodes of "Desperate Housewives" and Jessica Simpson's booty-shaking in "These Boots Are Made for Walkin'." With the new video iPod, less emphasis is on the music, and more seems to be on visual stimulation, which explains why "Honky Tonk Badonkadonk" and "My Humps" are both among the top five video downloads in the iTunes music store.

It seems the new iPods are simply another accessory to heighten social status, like the new Gucci purse or Nextel cell phone. The video is better than the Nano, which is better than the Mini. The pop-culture connoisseur wouldn't be caught dead carrying a Discman with regular headphones to class.

Don't get me wrong; I still love the concept of the iPod. Convenient music on-the-go is a wonderful addition to any workout or long walk, but I don't need the extras, and I don't need it in an "impossibly small" package.

I will watch music videos and the latest "Lost" episode where they are meant to be watched — on TV. Dating is supposed to be personal, so instead of flipping through downloads of personal profiles from poodater.com, I'll meet actual people.

And I will use my old-school, discontinued mini iPod with pride.

Kim Dixon is a Features Editor for The Review. Send comments and hearing aids to Kimmyr@udel.edu.



THE REVIEW/Meaghan Jones



A squalid science

N.Y. trio supercedes sea of indie clones with inaugural album

"With Love and Squalor"
We Are Scientists
 Virgin Records
 Rating: ☆☆☆

These guys can't be serious. Do we really need another band for the indie-hipsters to jock and rave about while they drink their chai teas and smoke their menthols?

It would be extremely easy to write off We Are Scientists as a trio of nerds looking to add its 2 cents to the indie rock scene. It has the ingredients we've come to expect — dirty, angular guitars and booming bass lines combined with danceable drum beats. We're only a few weeks into the new year — everyone is well aware of the Killers, Hot Hot Heat and Bloc Party. But if history has taught us anything, too much of a somewhat good thing is the catalyst to saturation and ultimately the downfall of a genre.

Something here is different, though.

These boys have the talent to craft an infectious hook or two. So much so that a fair amount of the songs on their full length debut, "With Love and Squalor," are well-crafted testimonies of drunken nights and female heartbreakers. Like the majority of albums today, not every song hits the mark, but when one does, you can't help but bob your head or tap your feet.

Setting apart We Are Scientists from the aforementioned bands is Keith Murray, the guitarist and lead singer. While the Killers' Brandon Flowers is applying mascara and posing for the camera and Hot Hot Heat's Steve Bays is attempting to sing in Mariah's range, Murray's voice is the right blend of swagger and honesty. The other lead singers are severely lacking the latter and thus Murray makes the songs on "With Love and Squalor" relatively more enjoyable.

Murray's vocals sound sincere because his lyrics seem straight out of his Livejournal. While the subjects are nothing new — drinking too much, self-alienation, pesky girl troubles — it's Murray's clever yet simplistic word choice that makes his lines jump off the page. One can't help but feel they're following the lead singer around on a chaotic adventure in the city. It's this main aspect of the album that keeps the songs from growing stale.

"This Scene Is Dead," is an intoxicated tale of Murray stumbling around a bar, spewing lines like, "The night is young / I'm blacking out / But it's been fun."

Many of his listeners have been there and the band does an excellent job in depicting the familiar situation. With an impressive groove, the album's fourth song, "Can't Lose," allows Murray to croon his self-loathing over simple, but effective guitar strumming. Without strong songwriting from all three players, the song would come off as mere whining.

While the stand-out tracks truly stand out, We Are Scientists cannot produce all gems, although it valiantly tries. The flat "Cash Cow" features a solid bass line from Chris Cain, but the rest of the band can only muster a pseudo-enthusiastic performance. While the band does its best to vary the sound of its songs, it's a daunting task and some may scratch their heads as to when one track ends and the next begins. The songs' structure of buzzing guitars and pounding high-hats can sometimes, albeit rarely, bleed together.

Nonetheless, when all three musicians are on the same page, a kinetic energy is created. "It's a Hit" and "Textbook" are prime examples of such a precision. "With Love and Squalor" is an impressive debut for these drunken bookworms. Accordingly, the album is named after J.D. Salinger's 1950 famous short story of the same name. Pretension aside, the parallels between the recluse author and We Are Scientists could be fairly accurate. While Salinger's compilation of short stories, "Nine Stories," is excellent, not all of the components are equal in excellence.

We can only hope We Are Scientists doesn't let the ever growing hype surrounding its debut get to their heads. Thanks to Salinger, we've seen where that leads. Yet ultimately, if the band can sober up long enough to write another album, it could be sitting on top of a commercial and critical goldmine.

Wesley Case is an Entertainment Editor for the Review. His favorite Salinger short story is "Uncle Wiggily in Connecticut" and comments can be sent to wescase@udel.edu.

Woody's Double Fault

Errors in cast and edits plague Allen's latest drama

"Match Point"
 Dreamworks
 Rating: PP

After what seemed like a long creative respite, the Rumpelstiltskin of American directors has emerged from his siesta to serve up his latest exegesis of the human neurosis, "Match Point." After a series of forgettable flops, Woody Allen returns to a genre he's not exactly adept at to offer a stinging assessment of the American adultery epidemic. Rather than set his hero in Park Avenue or suburban Ohio, Allen uproots his American subject and travels across the pond to the upper echelons of London.

The facsimile of a family Allen conjures up is as bullseye to Buckingham as Madonna's Anglophilia. Allen attempts to downplay the film's flaws with elaborate plot twists and an unimpressive metaphor comparing sex to tennis. Too bad he didn't spend as much time on the script or in the editing room.

The plot is virtually ripped from a 19th-century drawing-room comedy, so archaic a piece of modern art must lie around every corner for the film to retain a semblance of modernity.

Jonathan Rhys-Meyers stars as Chris Wilton, a parasitic social climber who charms his way into the graces of the equally slimy blue-blood Tom Hewett (Matthew Goode). Snaking his way into the heart and pants of Tom's sister, Chloe (Emily Mortimer), Chris solidifies his place in this elite family.

But there's just one pitfall — Chris finds himself falling for Tom's fiance, the crass American actress Nola Rice (Scarlett Johansson). What begins as a capricious romp in the fields of the Hewett estate escalates into a relationship that binds Chris and Nola together and forebodes Chris' fall from his family's grace. As the affair progresses, Chris finds himself increasingly tied down by his lies until he is forced to make a choice between his unraveling marriage and an increasingly demanding mistress.

Allen's cast does more to mar than mollify "Match Point" from its demise. The last time Rhys-Meyers played a memorable role was as Kiera Knightley's

love interest in "Bend it Like Beckham." Before that he was flaunting his hipbones onscreen as a David Bowie-esque drag queen in "Velvet Goldmine," an image one finds hard to shake from their cinematic memory.

But even if Allen can count on his audience to forgive Rhys-Meyers, the Irishman's performance in "Match Point" is hardly enough to compensate for his history. Not quite villainous enough, Rhys-Meyers plays the lead with the adroitness of an elephant on the tennis court. He broods when the role demands a banter and he lacks the malignity to play a convincing seducer.

Yet the film's true disappointment is not Rhys-Meyers, but Johansson. An actress who proved herself with a subdued but mature performance alongside veteran comedian Bill Murray in "Lost in Translation" seems overwhelmed by this demanding role. As the pulse of this film, she cannot seem to nail the nuances of an exhausted and overwhelmed sexpot. As she trounces around in a role three sizes too big for her talent, one can't help but grimace at her strained efforts to hasten her maturity among Hollywood's greats.

If not for the understated performances of the film's supporting cast, including the noteworthy antics of Matthew Goode, the film's disastrous leads would overshadow a somewhat redeemable plot. While Allen spends far too much time parading his thematic message in the faces of his audience, a surprising twist awaits the audience members who choose not to ditch their seats halfway through and petition the usher for their \$9.75 refund.

What results is a film more Kournikova than Agassi. Neither innovative nor attractive, Allen's neurosis is as stale and stuffy as the society "Match Point" attempts to emulate, its faux passion as irritating as Rhys-Meyers' upper lip.

Monica Simmons is a Managing Mosaic Editor for The Review. She agrees with Issac Davis that people should mate for life, like pigeons or Catholics. Send comments to brandnew@udel.edu.



Migration gives bands boost

continued from Page 9

on Sundays and they really take care of the bands," Hub says. "They throw out the welcoming mat."

Despite the Deer Park's hospitality, the bands did need to alter their playing style and how much equipment they could use for their sets. But Hub says minor things like reducing the number of speakers and other gear has always been a part of the business.

"When you do what we do, you play so many stages and you just learn to adapt," he says.

Searles also mentioned how serious Ashby was about turning the Deer Park into a popular mug night.

He says Ashby observes the dynamics of the tavern each Thursday night to find ways to improve the setup.

With the minor improvements and a growing crowd, Ashby says business has increased, but so far only on Thursdays. He does want the new mug nights to succeed, but prefers to think of the tavern as a seven-day-a-week business.

"I like the whole ball of wax," Ashby says. "So I don't have to depend on one facet."



THE REVIEW/Rosie Snow

All signs point Newark's partygoers to the city's new music mecca.

HOROSCOPES



Libra

(Sept. 24 - Oct. 23)

Stop checking Facebook, AIM profiles and whatever other mindless distractions you frequent. Clearly you have too much time on your hands. Try writing a haiku, reading a book or just eating an entire pizza by yourself.

Scorpio

(Oct. 24 - Nov. 22)

Your life isn't a reality show. No one cares, so save the drama for your mama. Look, it is time to grow up and get serious for once. Complaining about paper cuts and bad hair days isn't the tops. Invest such energy in other productive passions. The rewards will be great.

Sagittarius

(Nov. 23 - Dec. 22)

You rule. You are like level 11 on an amp. Everyone wants to go the extra mile, but few can. You prove them wrong, always outshining the competition. Take a much needed break and recharge your batteries for a second. Fear not, soon enough you'll be back in full gear.

Capricorn

(Dec. 23 - Jan. 20)

OK, midterms are over. Get serious. Crack open a book and start really putting your nose to the grindstone. Only two more weeks remain in the semester, so make them count. Putting in hard work now will only yield fruitful results further down the road.

Aquarius

(Jan. 21 - Feb. 19)

Seen any good movies lately? Read any good books? Yeah, didn't think so. You are too hung up on yourself. Stop being so conceited and like totally get yourself away from a mirror. Life isn't all looks.

Pisces

(Feb. 20 - March 20)

If you are going to stick to that New Year's resolution you gotta start somewhere, kid. Clean out the cupboard of all junk food and restock it with fresh fruits, veggies and whole grains and dig out those "8 Minute Abs" videos to remind your body what a sit-up is.

Aries

(March 21 - April 20)

You get the get-out-of-jail-free card this month. Use it wisely. Many have been known to squander such a privilege on saucy endeavors. An example of good usage is not doing the dishes for one week in your apartment and blaming it on one of your roommates. If you get caught just say sorry and then do it again.

Taurus

(April 21 - May 21)

You smell delicious. Keep up the good work. You are on track for success, a promotion or The Employee of the Month at Burger King. Seriously, the world needs more people like you. Kindheartedness, compassion and loyalty are important qualities lacking in America's youth today. I salute you, and you receive the gold star this week.

Gemini

(May 22 - June 21)

SIRIUS is great. There are so many channels and the selection is just marvelous. Sometimes I just sit here and see how many stations I could be listening to instead of actually listening to one of them. Oh, sorry, right, your horoscope. Don't step on a crack. You might break your mother's back.

Cancer

(June 22 - July 22)

Yes, Pathmark is open 24 hours a day. But seriously, what is the deal with people buying a head of lettuce at 4 in the morning? Do you really need to make a salad at 4 a.m., and, if so, do I really want to know why? Look, maybe making a salad isn't your biggest problem. Try getting some sleep, before you burn out.

Leo

(July 23 - Aug. 21)

Not doing laundry gets interesting after a while, doesn't it? Like, once you get down to one pair of underwear you realize, 'hey I need to do a laundry.' But, then you don't do it. Next thing you know you're going commando.

Virgo

(Aug. 22 - Sept. 23)

You landed on Park Place, but have yet to land on Boardwalk after more than 50 times around the board. Look, this might be a sign, or an omen. Stop waiting around. Killing time hoping your luck will guide you is no way to live life.



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Meissner heading to Torino

BY PAT WALTERS
News Features Editor

Kimmie Meissner, 16, took her last two final exams of the semester yesterday. With physics, algebra and anatomy behind her, she still has the biggest test of the winter ahead of her — the Olympics.

Meissner, who has trained here at the university's Ice Skating Science Development Center since she was eight years old, placed second at the State Farm U.S. Championships in St. Louis last week. Her finish earned her a spot on the U.S. Olympic Figure Skating Team, alongside first-time U.S. champion Sasha Cohen, 21, and Michelle Kwan, 25, who has won the past nine years, but was prevented from competing by a groin injury. The U.S. Figure Skating Association voted to grant Kwan a spot, despite her injury.

The opening ceremonies kick off Feb. 10 in Torino, Italy and Meissner fully intends to be there.

"I'm really excited about being there with all the other competitors," she said in a press conference Thursday, "just taking in the whole experience and really maximizing it."

Meissner won't be there alone. Pam Gregory, her coach, will be staying in the Olympic Village with her. Gregory has been exposed to the Olympics—her husband is a two-time Olympian—but never as a coach.

"It's the waiting before the competition that really gets to me—the days, the morning, the afternoon," she said. "But once we get down to business, once she's on the ice, I get really comfortable."

And the two have spent a lot of time on the ice together. Kimmie has been training at the university for almost 10 years and has traveled to 18 major competitions in the past three. And although Gregory has always been by her side, the two did not hit it off immediately, the coach said.

"I worked with Kimmie just on the fundamentals of skating for about 40 minutes a day. And she was not very receptive to the idea," Gregory said. "But we just kept hammering away at it."

And before long, the two found their pace. Within a year of beginning jump work, Meissner mastered the major jumps—from the double axle to the triple toe loop—capping that year with a gold medal in the novice division at nationals. Two years later, at the 2005 nationals, Meissner landed a triple axle, making her the first American woman to complete the epic 3-rotation jump in competition since Tanya Harding did so in 1991.

Will the triple axel be a part of her Olympic program? Meissner and Gregory have suggested it might be, but both are shying from saying for certain.

"Everything in her program she can do five repetitions in a row of," Gregory said. "We made that a rule of thumb, and it really helps her be consistent. The triple axel isn't there quite yet, she can't do it five times in a row. But when she can, we'll add it to her program."

The pair now has about two more weeks to train here at the university. Then it's off to Torino. Needless to say, Meissner is fired up.

"I really just want to skate across the Olympic logo," she said. "Then I'll really know I'm on Olympic ice. Then it's going to hit me."

And when she does, Kimmie's mother Judy and her father Paul will be watching from the stands. Bank of America has given the family access to discount accommodations.



THE REVIEW/Mike DeVoll

Kimmie Meissner, 16, training at the Fred Rust Ice Arena for the 2006 Winter Olympics being held in Torino, Italy next month.

Meissner's three older brothers—Nate, Adam and Luke—plan to make the trip too. They did, of course, teach their little sister to skate, Judy Meissner said. On a chilly day more than a decade ago, the boys threw a pair of oversized hockey skates on her feet and set her loose on a frozen pond in the backyard. Since then, Meissner has come further than those boys ever expected.

She will take the ice Feb. 21. Sports fans worldwide will be watching—approximately 2 billion of them.

But Meissner is relaxed. School makes her nervous, not ice skating. She is poised to take on the world.

COMMENTARY



STEVE

RUSSOLILLO

Kobe steals the show

The Pittsburgh Steelers and Seattle Seahawks are headed to Detroit to face off in Super Bowl XL, yet this wasn't the biggest story in sports over the weekend. Los Angeles Lakers superstar Kobe Bryant scored an incredible 81 points Sunday night and single-handedly led the Lakers to a 122-104 victory over the Toronto Raptors.

81 points! And no, that is not a typo. Reading the statistics from this game look like something you would see straight out of a video game. He took 46 shots and made 28 of them, an astonishing 61 percent shooting. Bryant also poured in seven three-pointers and 18 free throws to round out his magical performance.

The statistics from this game are truly mind-boggling. Bryant scored 26 points in the first half, which is pretty good for him and absolutely amazing for anyone else on any given night. But Bryant went nuts with 55 points in the second half. Most teams would be lucky to score 55 points in a half and Bryant did it all alone. The Raptors scored only 41 points after halftime, 14 less than Bryant.

Bryant's 81-point explosion is the second highest total in NBA history, with former great Wilt Chamberlain holding the esteemed record of the only player to score 100 points in a game. ESPN.com's NBA Columnist Marc Stein has already labeled Sunday's game as "the greatest individual performance ever recorded."

The statistics are truly astonishing. The rest of the Lakers took a combined 42 shots and scored only 41 points. So Kobe scored 81 points on 46 shot attempts while the other eight players to enter the game for the Lakers scored 41 points on 42 attempts.

The fans at the Staples Center certainly got their money's worth and the Sportscenter highlights were filled with dazzling moves from Bryant, but will this brand of basketball bring the Lakers a

Senior guard declared ineligible to play

BY JASON TOMASSINI

Staff Reporter

Although it lacks loudmouth receivers and goofy agents, the men's basketball team could be dubbed the "Philadelphia Eagles of the Colonial Athletic Association" with all of its hardships this season.

Already off to a tough 5-11 start overall, 1-6 in the CAA, and without junior guard Chris Prothro for the rest of the season with a knee injury, senior guard Andrew Washington was declared academically ineligible, ending his college basketball career.

Washington and the team received the news after a close loss at Northeastern Jan. 12, a game in which Washington had a season-high 21 points. He was second on the team in scoring with 12.6 points per game and was third in the conference with 2.15 steals per game.

Delaware head coach David Henderson said the

situation is unfortunate but he will continue to help Washington in important things besides basketball.

"I'm really disappointed in Andrew just for the simple fact that he's come this far and to fall short is just unfortunate," Henderson said. "But the most important thing now is for him to continue the course of getting his college degree."

Athletic director Edgar Johnson said the Committee on Undergraduate Retention, which reviews all students' academic records, brought Washington's situation to attention and he was deemed ineligible.

Johnson said although the academic situation of Delaware's athletes is strong, he still hates seeing situations like this.

"I think it's always disappointing when a student doesn't take advantage of the educational opportunities the University of Delaware presents," he said. "And I'm saddened when that happens for

any student whether they are an athlete or not."

Johnson said the average GPA of the 660 student athletes is 2.8 and 129 athletes are on the Dean's List. Half of the teams have a GPA of more than 3.0 and at least eight athletes had a 4.0 last Fall Semester.

Despite the overall success, there are always problems on the individual level, Johnson said.

When these problems occur, Henderson said head coaches have to adjust strategies and other players have to assume bigger roles.

"Once you get through the feelings of letdown and disappointment, you start thinking, 'What does this mean?' and it means someone else has to step up," Henderson said. "Andrew was one of our top players so now it's an opportunity for someone else. That's the direction the team went after they got over the initial shock."

Henderson upset about dismissal

continued from page 14

Senior guard Rulon Washington and sophomore guard Herb Courtney are players Henderson looks for to provide offense in Washington's absence. Freshman guard Zaire Taylor and the center tandem of junior Raphael Madera and sophomore Henry Olawoye have to step up and fill the void Washington leaves on defense.

Even with players stepping up, Henderson realizes a unique player like Washington is tough to lose.

"Andrew was more of an attacker," Henderson said. "He was good at getting to the basket, finishing strong and putting pressure on the defense. So you miss that, Andrew was a gifted athlete and a strong physical player."

Washington transferred from Allen Community College in Kansas, after his sophomore season. He averaged 13.2 points per game last year in his first season with the Hens. His basketball career at the university ends after just a year-and-a-half with 44 games played and an average of 13.0 points per game.

Senior forward Harding Nana said Washington possessed many of the qualities the team was in need of after such a slow start.

"Andrew is a tough guy and we kind of need his toughness," Nana said after a Jan. 14 loss against Towson, the first game Washington missed. "If he

was there we would be tougher, but you can't make excuses, we have to play better."

Although the team was upset with the loss of Washington, Henderson said he thinks the remaining Hens' players can become stronger through this adversity.

"You can't take things for granted. Andrew came up short on his responsibilities in the classroom and now he no longer has basketball," Henderson said. "In situations like that, groups become closer because they know when you make mistakes there are consequences."

Even with the bad breaks, poor start and the loss of Washington and Prothro, the Hens still have 11 conference games remaining and Henderson said he knows his team can still make some noise before the season is over.

"You play one game at a time, anything can happen," Henderson said. "We are very capable even though we may not be as experienced as a lot of the top teams."

"We have to play every game like it's our last game and give ourselves a chance at winning. Whatever team gets hot at the right time is the team that will have success."

This week the Hens play Virginia Commonwealth Thursday night at the Bob Carpenter Center and travel to Towson Saturday for a rematch with the Tigers.

Bryant won't win a title alone

continued from page 14

championship?

As the old sports saying goes, "there is no 'I' in team." Bryant is trying to defy the odds by turning the Lakers into a one-man show. Although it is extremely entertaining to watch, the Lakers only have a 22-19 record at the midway point in the season and stand at seventh place in the Western Conference.

Bryant is leading the league with a career-high 35.9 points per game, but the next highest scorer for Los Angeles is Lamar Odom, who scores only 14.5 points per game. Lakers head coach Phil Jackson, who has coached nine NBA championship teams, knows it takes good team chemistry to win the title.

Back in the 90s when Jackson coached Michael Jordan and the Chicago Bulls to six NBA titles, Jordan never single-handedly led his team. Scottie Pippen averaged 19 points per game during Chicago's championship run.

More recently, the San Antonio Spurs and Detroit Pistons have used great team chemistry to propel themselves to championship status. Last season, the dynamic trio of Tim Duncan, Tony Parker and Manu Ginobili led the Spurs to their third title in the past seven seasons. Duncan averaged 20 points while Parker and Ginobili each contributed 16 a game to lead the Spurs.

The Detroit Pistons feature

the best starting lineup in the league and quite possibly one of the best starting fives in NBA history.

Chauncey Billups and Rip Hamilton make up the best starting back court in the league, while center Ben Wallace has won the NBA Defensive Player of the Year award three of the past four seasons. Power forward Rasheed Wallace stretches the opposing defense with his ability to hit the three-pointer and Tayshaun Prince can defensively shut down the opposition's best shooter.

The Pistons won the championship two years, lost the championship to the Spurs in seven games last year and are on pace to win close to 70 games this season.

Championship teams don't let one player run the show, as proven by the Bulls, Spurs and Pistons. Jackson knows this more than anyone and his comments after Kobe's spectacular game prove it.

"To be honest with you, that's not exactly the way you want to have a team win a game," Jackson told the L.A. Daily News. "But when you have to win a game, it's great to be able to have that weapon to do it with."

Basketball is a team game and Bryant needs to learn how to make his teammates better. He would love nothing more than to prove to the world he could lead the Lakers to the title without Shaquille O'Neal by his side.

81 points will fill the seats,

improve the television ratings and keep fans hoping he will score even more the next night. But Kobe will never win another championship in his career unless he learns to become a better team player.

Steve Russolillo is a Sports Editor for The Review. Send questions and comments to srusso@udel.edu.

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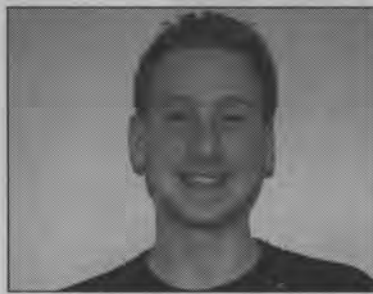
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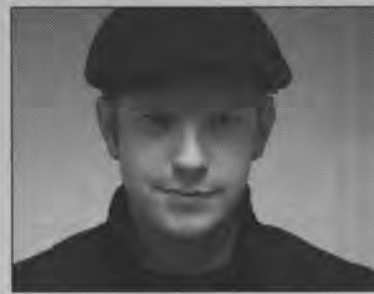
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CARSON WALKER
MANAGING NEWS EDITOR

Both teams are riding the momentum wave with the Steelers becoming the first No. 6 seed to compete in the Super Bowl and the Seahawks making their first appearance in franchise history. Pittsburgh running back Jerome Bettis will look to end a great career with a Super Bowl championship in his hometown of Detroit. The Steelers have had to win three road playoff games while the Seahawks have had the luxury of playing two home games against a Redskins team that had no offense and a Panthers squad that was decimated by injuries. Big Ben Roethlisberger will get the Steelers off to a fast start, Troy Polamalu will force the Seahawks to make some turnovers and ultimately, Pittsburgh will win Super Bowl XL.

Prediction: Steelers 31-24

Both teams come into the Super Bowl with tremendous wins in conference championship games. Pittsburgh is on a roll and is the first No. 6 seed to ever make the Super Bowl. Seattle has rolled through games against two fairly weak NFC teams. Seahawks running back and NFL MVP Shaun Alexander will finish off his excellent season as he will not be stopped by the Steelers defense. While the Seattle defense will play well enough and keep Pittsburgh at bay. Seattle quarterback Matt Hasselbeck will play mistake-free, much like Tom Brady has done for the Patriots. Pittsburgh has been running on momentum all month but it will be killed by an extra week off between games, allowing Seattle to take the victory.

Prediction: Seahawks 31-20

Everyone knows which outcome would be the more storied and exciting, with the Steelers capturing their fifth Super Bowl ever and the NFL's fifth all-time leading rusher in Jerome Bettis ending his career on the highest note possible in his home town of Detroit. Both teams looked exceptional on each side of the ball, which will make it a lot tighter game than most "experts" are predicting. Roethlisberger is the key to the victory for the Steelers, as he is the most poised QB in the game right now. After the defense shuts down MVP Shaun Alexander, Hasselbeck will need to create another victory. But the Steelers are not the imperfect Redskins of two weeks ago, and Mark Brunell is no Big Ben.

Prediction: Steelers 24-17.

In keeping with my feelings regarding all Pennsylvania sports teams, I say Seattle will triumphantly win the Super Bowl. I would give names and reasons but let's not fool ourselves, I'm only qualified to give commentary on boxed wine, tabloid gossip and the various reasons why Britney Spears and Kevin Federline should be jailed for breeding. Speaking of, who ever told K-Fed he should become a rapper should be locked in a small room and forced to listen to the entire Michael Bolton catalog. But props to him for being able to cleverly rhyme "kitty" and "titty" in the same verse. Maybe after his forth-coming album bombs he can work on a line of body sprays that can be sold at the local Wal-Mart. God bless America.

Prediction: Seahawks 100-0

As a Redskins fan I would obviously like the Seahawks, the team which beat my beloved Redskins, to run all over the Steelers. One problem: no one is running over Troy Polamalu. Not Shaun Alexander, and certainly not Matt Hasselbeck. On the other side, Jerome Bettis can run over anyone, anywhere, anytime. And he will. If I haven't made my point yet, consider the fact that they have the best receiver in the game in Hines Ward. Ward does the little things that help his team win. He blocks downfield and isn't afraid to go over the middle. Then there is Big Ben, the kid has talent. He doesn't have a cannon, but he has timing and precision and winning is more important than stats.

Prediction: Steelers 31-17



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