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## Coping with the Virginia Tech massacre

By **GINA MERLINO**  
Contributing Writer

Monday morning, April 16, 2007, marked a national tragedy, which occurred in a two and a half hour time span. At 7:15 AM, The Virginia Tech Police Department received a 911 call to West Ambler Johnston Residence Hall. Two students had been shot. The victims were Ryan Clark, a male Resident Assistant (RA), and freshman Emily Hilscher. Two and a half hours later, 30 more people were shot in Norris Hall, a classroom building. The shooting left 33 people, including the gunman who committed suicide, dead, and another 15 people wounded. This was the deadliest shooting-spree in modern U.S. history and it occurred



AFP.com/The Tower

A makeshift memorial on Virginia Tech's campus.

just four days before the eighth anniversary of the Columbine High School massacre in which two students killed 15 people, including themselves.

Police rushed to the scene to investigate and find out information. After a considerable amount of time, police, and the public, learned that the gunman

was Cho Seung-Hui, a 23-year-old English major at Virginia Tech. Cho, who was from South Korea, came to the U.S. in the early 1990's and was a legal resident. It is also believed that he was responsible for two weeks of bomb threats made to the University prior to the shootings.

While there is no real "profile" for school shooters, Cho did exhibit behavior that is common among them. He didn't "just snap", as there is evidence that he acquired weapons weeks earlier. Experts say that students engaged in school-based attacks are rarely impulsive; instead they are the result of a comprehensible process of thinking and behavior.

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## Exonerated Death Row prisoner visits Arcadia

By **MAYA STEWART**  
Staff Writer

Seats in The Chat performance area and even the floor space were covered with students on Tuesday afternoon, April 10th., to hear the words of exonerated Death Row prisoner Harold C. Wilson.

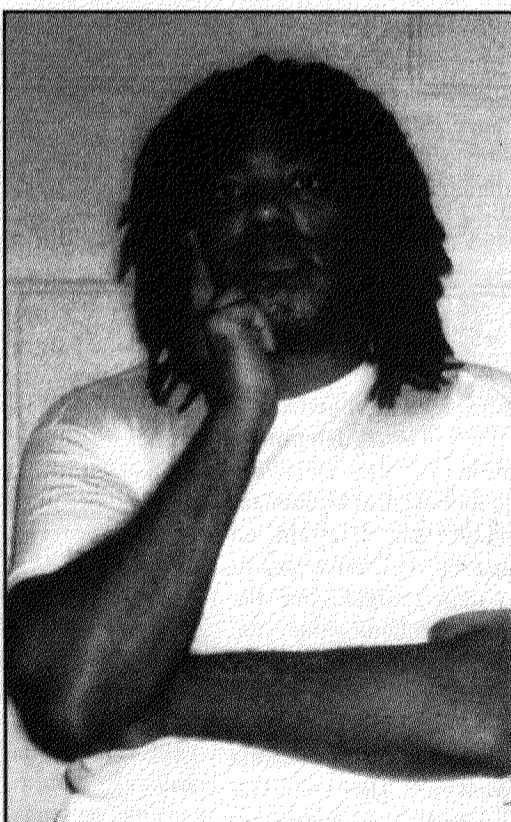
After being found not guilty on three counts of first degree murder on Nov. 15, 2005, Wilson told his story of innocence with conviction and sorrow. As the 122nd exonerated Death Row prisoner in the United States and only the sixth in Pennsylvania, Wilson discussed the absurd circumstantial evidence he was convicted by and his passion to abolish the death penalty.

Dr. John Noakes, Assistant Professor of Criminal Justice at Arcadia, carries the same passion in making sure students of diverse majors stay informed about the criminal justice system. In commenting on why Wilson was brought to speak at Arcadia, Noakes said, "It is important that the justice part of the criminal justice major be especially prominent. We expose students to things that allow them to see the complexity of the system....And sometimes it fails." Although there had been a slight controversy over Wilson's appearance on campus, Noakes is excited that some discussion has been brought to the table. "Any time people are talking about what

justice is, there's a benefit." In the case of Wilson, there is certainly a benefit to hearing his compelling story, Noakes adds.

More than 80 students were able to hear the firsthand account of Wilson's experience. Having been sentenced to death by electrocution, waited 16 years for his innocence to be proven, watched his two children grow up without him and watched his mother struggle with the hopeless court decisions at each trial makes Wilson all the more remarkable. He described when he realized "the cards were stacked" after being told that his case would be judged before a "death-qualified jury," which meant the jury had to be willing to bring back a death sentence with their verdict; not to mention being up against the "notorious Jack McMahon," who, at the time, never lost a case as a prosecutor.

Nearing the end of his discussion, one student asked



CCADP.org/The Tower

Wilson what he felt should happen to convicted criminals who had actually committed heinous crimes like a triple homicide. Wilson adamantly responded that killing the individual was not the answer. "It doesn't bring your family member back, nor does it fix the condition of the criminal's mind," he said. "The mind is what perpetuates the crime...otherwise the cycle continues."

Please see **Wilson**, page 4

## Affording College

By **MICHELLE TOOKER**  
Editor-in-Chief

Senior Corporate Communications major Jessica Santella is an A and B student. She has worked extremely hard during her four years at Arcadia. Jessica has completed all of the general education requirements and courses for her major, but she almost lost her chance to participate in the Undergraduate Commencement Ceremony which takes place on May 18. Why was a student with a high GPA almost forced out of the only ceremony that allows her family and friends to recognize her college achievements? The answer: money.

According to Jessica, and the Student Services Center, if a student has an outstanding balance of more than \$2,500, the school can revoke your privilege to walk during the Commencement Ceremony. Mike Coveney, Arcadia's Vice President of Finance and Treasurer, says that this consequence rarely happens, but is sometimes necessary from a university standpoint.

"We work real hard with someone who is trying," says Coveney. He also says that it's generally only when someone has given up trying that this policy is enforced.

Jessica began the Spring 2007 semester with a \$5,000 balance on her account. She fell behind financially because her father was laid off for over six months. Because of the way in which financial aid is determined, Jessica's father's loss of income was not accounted for in her financial aid package. "They just see dollar signs of my dad's salary, not that he was laid off for six months," says Jessica. With the family financial strain, school was not one of the top monetary priorities. For the Santella family, making mortgage and car insurance payments on time became more important. This left Jessica with little choice but to get a second part-time job.

Please see **College**, page 8

# Letters to the Editor

## Let's Take a Step Back

Dear Mr. Jaeger,

In light of the recent letter criticizing my Op-Ed article on wireless internet and my writing ability I find that it would be only fitting that I get a chance to say my piece and defend myself.

To begin I'd like to first say that I have no problem with what was said about my article but I do feel it to be more of a personal attack than need be. Whether the point of my article was misunderstood or not, snide remarks and finger pointing are not the right way to get the point across.

When it comes to the article, I never intended to throw dirt on the Office of Information Technology. In many ways I feel like my article is much more a call to arms for wireless internet than anything. In no way do I feel like I put the department down or "misinformed" anyone mainly because my article wasn't made to inform. If my use of certain vocabulary was wrong, then I'll take the hit for that, but I never said anything against the department. The internet here at Arcadia is somewhat better than it was my entire first year here; the point of my article was never going to be to

highlight that fact though, it was more about getting people to support the idea of campus wide wireless access.

Another issue that you took aim at was the fact that I didn't talk to the people in the network department about the subject as I was directed to. Unfortunately I have to work on deadline; this time around I felt that Matt Pelligrini of the IT department was a good enough source especially with a class and a deadline approaching in only a few hours. In hindsight, I obviously should have spoken directly to Mr. Jaeger. I still feel as though IT was a fine source for the piece, it's unfortunate that feeling isn't echoed.

In the end, I think if you re-read my article you'll see that it while it does mention the internet being slow at times it in no way puts the Office of Information Technologies down. Once again I'm sorry that you feel the article taints your department's name; it wasn't intended that way and in my opinion I don't feel it does anything of the sort. I hope this informs you of my feelings and does nothing but straighten things out.

Jake Scalici

## In response to Dave Jaeger's letter to the editor:

My article "Mice, Internet, Heat: The Problems with Campus Housing" was not written without deep thought and concern for the student body. As an active leader around campus, I felt it was my duty and right to be able voice my frustration through my writing.

I explored multiple avenues to find a reconcilable solution to all the problems mentioned in my article. In all fairness, I acknowledge that my statements about internet problems may have over generalized the Arcadia population as a whole. However, my personal frustration coupled a significant amount of complaints from those around me have reflected disappointment with Internet access. I have been extremely adamant in directing my peers to the Information Technologies Help Center when a problem does arise.

I admit that I should have identified myself as a journalist when calling the IT Help Desk with my concerns. Furthermore, I should have contacted the administration directly

to get their side of the story regarding my complaints. I felt it was in my best interest (at that time) to speak with who we (campus residents) would usually have to speak with to get issues resolved, following the suggested chain of command. As a journalist, I am committed to improving my communicative approach in the future.

As a Computing Technologies major, and a former IT consultant myself, I am not totally oblivious to how computers operate or sometimes fail. I know that it can be a difficult task to keep the campus running efficiently on a regular basis. At the same time, I know that there's still plenty of room for improvement. I am optimistic that Information Technologies and other departments have taken the initiative to becoming more receptive and helpful in fixing student problems when possible. Altogether, I stand firm on my beliefs, and will continue to strive to be heard and enhance my community as best as I can.

Thank you,  
CJ Johnson

## How would you like the opportunity to participate in the nation wide breast cancer movement?

The Komen On the Go™ tour has visited numerous college campuses thousands of young women and men have participated in this innovative, educational and interactive experience. The tour arrives on campus in an eye-catching pink trailer outfitted with computer stations, at which you and your friends are invited to learn how to perform a breast self-exam and become advocates for the breast cancer movement. Furthermore, the experience provides additional resources about breast cancer and proper breast health that is important for all

We would love for you to be a part of this experience when the KOTG tour comes to Arcadia University on April 30, 2007 from 9am - 3pm. Please come and be a part of this unique experience. Volunteers are a crucial part in the success of the tour. As a volunteer you can expect to greet guests, pass out information, or help inside the trailer with the computer stations or with the "graffiti wall." Volunteers are needed to work in 2-hour shifts on that day as well as to promote the event throughout campus and the community.

For more information and photos of the KOTG, visit <http://cms.komen.org/komen/NewsEvents/KomenontheGo/index.htm>.

If you would like to sign-up to be a part of this opportunity or have questions regarding volunteering please contact Kelly Frederick at [kelly.frederick@arcadia.edu](mailto:kelly.frederick@arcadia.edu) or stop by Student Health Services. Thank you in advance for aiding with this important cause.

## Children's Zoo Volunteer at The Philadelphia Zoo

Work hands on with the animals!

Work outdoors and indoors caring for small mammals and domestic farm animals, performing cleaning, feeding, and grooming activities. Interact with the public in the Children's Zoo and communicate conservation messages.

Volunteer Mascot (Fred Cross) for the American Red Cross

Supports the PR department as a mascot, appearing at public events and presenting a positive image of the Red Cross with the general public especially children.

-Willingness to support Red Cross Mission

-Interact with the public at wide range of internal and external events, such as health fairs, sporting events, fundraisers, youth programs.

Skills:

-High school degree or equivalent

-Ability to communicate effectively

-Current driver's license

-Own transportation required

-Criminal and child background check must be completed and volunteer cleared before allowed to perform as character

-Should be between a height of 5'2" and 6'2" (for costume) Comfortable working in confined space for long periods of time

## Community Service

May 15:

Volunteer for the Mayoral Primary

Greater Philadelphia Cares and The Committee of Seventy invite you to participate in our non-partisan Election Day Program. Volunteer options:

**Election Watchdog:** You and a partner will visit polling places where you will provide information to election officials as needed, answer questions voters might have and settle minor disputes.

**Data Collector:** Survey departing voters about their experience can help prevent misconduct and identify opportunities to make voting in Philadelphia more user-friendly.

**Hotline Helper:** Answer calls from voters, providing non-partisan voting information, document reports of misconduct, dispatch field teams and track voter and field team reports.

**\*\*All volunteers will receive training prior to working on election day, so you will know everything you need to!\*\***

For more info contact the Community Service Office.

Ongoing:

Online Auction Volunteer

The Alzheimer's Association of the Delaware Valley is looking for a volunteer to organize and maintain an online auction, including obtaining the items, organizing the items, and maintaining the site. The volunteer will need to have previous experience with online auctions and with web publishing software, such as Macromedia DreamWeaver. The volunteer would be needed 10 hours per month at the Association, located at 100 North 17th Street, 2nd Floor, Philadelphia, PA, 19103.

Congresso de Latinos Unidos, Inc Mentor

Congresso is an organization aiming to strengthen Latino communities through social, economic, educational, and health services; leadership development; and advocacy. The Children and Youth Services Division of Congresso is looking for volunteer mentors to build trusting and friendship-based relationships with children at Julia de Burgos Elementary School. Volunteers must be able

to make a 2-year commitment for 8 hours a week and 2 face-to-face contacts.

Morris Animal Refuge

The Morris Animal Refuge has served as a refuge for a abused and abandoned animals for over 125 years. Positions working directly with animals are few and involve intensive and often dirty work, and since work with these animals can be hazardous, volunteers undergo a training session in animal handling procedures. Volunteers must be available on a regular and consistent basis. The Refuge is located at 1242 Lombard Street in Philadelphia. To apply, download and complete the application from here and deliver it in person to the Refuge, where they will speak to you about volunteering and give you a tour around the Refuge.

Greiser Veterans Home

The Greiser Veterans Home provides a safe house for veterans in recovery or have another need. Volunteers would help where needed to provide food to these veterans.

TOWER

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## Opinion: An Irish perspective of America

By ALICE QUIGLEY  
Staff Writer

Every year a student from Northern Ireland studies here at Arcadia University as part of the Business Education Initiative (BEI), which sends 100 students over to the United States annually. This year was my opportunity to live as an 'American'; living, studying and socializing amongst the good people of Glenside and Philadelphia.

Raised on a strict diet of some of America's best cultural offerings, such as The Fresh Prince of Bel Air, Saved By the Bell and The Simpsons, I considered myself well versed on America and its ways. We have McDonalds, Burger King, Pizza Hut and Starbucks (although Wendy's and Dunkin' Donuts disappeared mysteriously some years back). Somewhat naively I thought that the cultural differences would be minimal. I was wrong.

Before I left, I attended induction seminars to the BEI program, where our instructor, Tony Novesel of the University of Pittsburgh, drummed into us that it wasn't going to be better or worse, it was going to be different. Indeed, what I have encountered over the last nine months has definitely been different. However, even with an open-mind in tow I could not fail to notice that some things here are better, and, conversely, some things are worse.

The most obvious difference, of course, is that of dialect, which has been a never-ending source of humor since my arrival. A few weeks after I arrived I was eating lunch with a girl who informed me that I "spoke really good English". This was good news seeing as it's the only language I grew up speaking! A friend of mine arrived in JFK Airport and asked her university representative where you found 'the crack' in New York, to an understandably horrified response! My friend had meant 'crack' as in the Irish word for fun - 'craic'. I learned a lot of lessons very quickly; a lift is an elevator, saying a house is 'homely' is not a compliment and, perhaps most importantly, fag does not mean cigarette here!

Another thing, I'm sure you are probably aware of this, but America is big. Very big. If you were to take every one of Northern Ireland's 1,685,000 residents you could quite comfortably re-house them in the greater Philadelphia area. The diversity of people and places within the country is one of the things I love about the U.S. Everyone has a story: where their ancestors, grandparents and parents are from and how they got here. And yes, everyone seems to be at least 1/598th Irish! Diversity is not Ireland's

strong point; the people there, especially of my parents' generation, can be a little insular. We are getting better, but issues of religion and race in Ireland remain contentious.

The multi-cultural atmosphere within Arcadia and the Philadelphia area was refreshing. Europeans condemn Americans for not leaving the country. I think what Europeans sometimes fail to realize is how vast and diverse this place is, and how many things you can experience by traveling between the states. Studying at Arcadia has been a unique experience for me because of the extensive Study Abroad program here. The fact that students are actively encouraged to spend time abroad is nothing less than amazing and from my experiences this past year, I would urge anyone to skip the country for a year and give somewhere different a go. It's hard, but the feeling you get after having survived out of your comfort zone for a year, as well as the great friends you make, make it well worth it.

The main reason my stay here has been extraordinary is because of the people. Nearly everyone I have encountered has been exceptionally friendly. I'm not saying that the Irish and the British are an unfriendly bunch; they are friendly, but only once you get to know them! Before a more meaningful relationship is formed many people from home are reluctant to cross over the border from civility to friendliness. Of course I'm speaking under broad generalizations here, but, on the whole, this is how I have experienced the two cultures. The open and welcoming American nature is something I intend to take back with me. If it weren't for the people I have met here being so immediately welcoming I doubt I would have survived the year.

In saying that, I feel there is a subtlety embedded in British and Irish nature that is lost somewhat in the openness of the culture here. This is evident in the vastly different ideas of humor here and across the pond. Cult British TV shows such as The League of Gentlemen, Brass Eye and Black Books, which showcase the very best of the dark and bizarre capabilities of British humor, are unimaginable in this country. Shows like these, which are aired on one of the four channels (yes, that's right, four) that everyone has in the U.K., are inconceivable in the U.S., even with the extensive cable which seems to be the norm here. Actually, don't get me started on the issue of TV; MTV's Date My Mom genuinely made me despair our generation.

Undoubtedly, the biggest difference between the two cul-

tures, that I had direct experience of, is the education system. Whereas I will pay a grand total of three thousand pounds in tuition fees (that's just under \$6000) for my Bachelors degree, American students, as I'm sure readers are well aware, bear a considerably heavier financial burden. I can't help but feel that students are, in fact, paying for their degree. Professors seem to take every step possible to ensure a student passes their class and, up to a point, that is entirely understandable. However, multiple choice exam questions, six sentence 'essays', open-note exams and substantial marking curves (a recent quiz of mine was marked up 20%) are, in my humble opinion, a disgrace in a university environment. Although the small classes and individual attention one receives here is an undoubted benefit, students at university age should not be spoon-fed to this degree!

In contrast, there is a saying in Northern Ireland that if God went to university, he might get 80%. Marks in the high nineties or, indeed, over 100%, are just not a possibility. Students have to work incredibly hard to score over 70% (which classifies them for a 'First', the highest you can achieve in a degree). Exams, from my experience in the School of English, consist of a grueling three hours, where you have to write three essays on a total of six books, none of which you can bring into the exam hall. Each essay is about five pages long. It is a completely different environment and I am reluctant to accept that the academic value of an American degree is equal to that in the United Kingdom.

And so, I will end my rant. America has been, for me, a truly eye-opening experience, encompassing the very best, and some of the worst, of what society has to offer. I came here with an outsider's perspective, aware only of stereotypes, namely, and please forgive this, that Americans are fat, loud, stupid war-starters! The perspective I am leaving with, indeed the truth of what I have experienced, could not be further than this image. It has been a truly humbling experience to meet so many amazing people and to visit their homes as well as the fantastic cities of Philadelphia and New York. No society is perfect, I'm sure all students returning from studying abroad in the U.K., and the rest of Europe, have equal gripes about how things are done there. The lesson to learn? Never leave home without an open mind or, if that doesn't cut it, enough money for a round-trip ticket!

## Opinion: Parkhurst: A fresh approach to campus food

By CJ JOHNSON  
Staff Writer

The freshmen fifteen never applied to me - it had no reason to. At times the Arcadia Dining Hall felt more like prison house food, with a side order of attitude when getting your meal. After suffering through three years of unappetizing food and poor customer service, Arcadia bid farewell to Aramark and said hello to Parkhurst. This popular move came with great expectations by Arcadia staff and students that campus food service would be pulled back up to respectability. One full year later, Parkhurst is ringing in shining reviews and consistently exceeding the expectations with flying colors.

In a recent interview with Sarah Goodwin, director of Parkhurst catering, she outlined the transition and vision of Arcadia Dining for 2006 and beyond. The first step Goodwin explained was creating an atmosphere where students would feel comfortable eating.

The "clown colors" and 1980's retro look just didn't cut it for Parkhurst. The company decided to completely remodel the dining hall by completely repainting and re-carpeting the walls and floors, in addition to getting more modern equipment. Goodwin emphasized that the feeling and taste of "fresh" best symbolizes Parkhurst's philosophy.

In many aspects "fresh" is exactly what you're getting at the new and improved dining hall. Everything from produce to meats is fresh, meaning they are not frozen or processed food going into the pots. In fact, everything is essentially made from scratch just like grandma's home cooking. On a healthier note, the company uses trans fat-free oil that restaurants such as McDonald's don't use and as a result makes their foods grotesquely greasy. Parkhurst prides itself on being able to accomplish such a difficult feat because they feel it's important to give their customers the most satisfying, freshly made meal at all costs.

Since Parkhurst retained about 80% of the previous staff from Aramark, Goodwin expressed that the transition wasn't an easy, overnight task. Parkhurst had to completely retrain and retool the staff with new knife skills, cooking techniques and better service practices. You won't find the new Parkhurst staff with an un-tucked shirt or a cruddy apron; they are well dressed in professional-looking chef's uniforms. Goodwin explained that, "We wanted our staff to feel profes-

sional and have a sense of belonging so they would take pride in what they do."

For the most part, the dining staff here at Arcadia has made a complete 180-degree change in terms of attitude and focus. However, Parkhurst acknowledges that there are still some customer service issues, most notably in the Chat, that they are constantly working hard to resolve. Such issues as lack of personal attention, negative attitude toward the customer and slow service certainly apply to only a small number of Chat workers. Parkhurst emphasizes that customer feedback is extremely important in the improvement process and when an issue is brought up to a manag-

**"The feeling and taste of 'fresh' best symbolizes Parkhurst's philosophy."**

er, the problem will certainly be addressed. In addition, the company is working to diversify and add to their already growing menu. Praising the new menu, student Val Murtha states, "My favorite thing about Parkhurst is they give you variety; you don't eat the same cooked foods every other day."

Parkhurst is constantly looking to make reasonable improvements, so they stress that your opinion is valuable in making a difference. New general manager Eric Andersen has been pushing his staff to constantly get better and offer a more favorable menu for his customers. Andersen has over 30 years of hospitality experience and brings new life to Arcadia's dining services. My connection with Parkhurst has been one that made my senior year a much more tasteful experience. Without even knowing my status as a journalist, Eric came over to my table the first week he came to Arcadia and asked me how the food quality and customer service ranked, and how he could better serve me. This speaks volumes for what we have gained by dropping Aramark and acquiring Parkhurst. Andersen and his managerial staff seem to be a no-nonsense, hardworking staff willing to make changes for the customer.

It's obvious that freshmen primarily seem to be Parkhurst's biggest critic. These freshmen have not had to endure the downright disgusting food service we had in years past. So instead of whining about what we don't have, be thankful for what we do have in Parkhurst. Better yet, contact Eric Andersen or Sarah Goodwin at their office in the dining hall. This is no longer Aramark management; Parkhurst is willing to listen and cater to customer needs and complaints. Arcadia's addition of Parkhurst is taking dining service to a new, higher level for all of us to enjoy.

## Arcadia University Senior takes on the World of Chemistry

By JAKE SCALICI  
Staff Writer

In high school most people dread the year that they have to tackle the juggernaut that is chemistry class. The idea of a class that takes equal parts math, science, and theory isn't always a tasty treat for the mind to chew on. There's homework that even at its most basic level is time-consuming and mind boggling at times; deciphering chemicals, elements, particles, and just the idea of working on the building blocks of life, are enough to drive most people batty.

But for Arcadia senior Michael Avilés the idea of unraveling the world around him was all too intriguing.

"Chemistry always interested me because it gave me the opportunity to try to understand the things around us," Avilés says. "Most people take things for granted but I was always one of those people asking questions."

Now after four years of work in one of Arcadia's smaller departments Avilés is poised to finish and present his thesis on "Energy Minimization", a journey that spans back to early in his Arcadia days. The subject of his thesis was brought to Avilés through the work of his advisor Dr. Emanuele Curotto, a professor in Arcadia's Chemistry Department. "Dr. Curotto has been working on energy minimization since before I met him, so when I started working with him, he trained me and then gave me one of his projects," says Avilés "I've been working with him for three years now, so writing a thesis basically entails summarizing the work I've done as an undergraduate."

Growing up in nearby Lansdale, Pennsylvania, Avilés didn't always have his penchant for questioning why things are the way they are. But thanks to his guitar teacher Avilés found the spark he needed to ignite his inquisitive nature.

"My guitar teacher was a great mentor to me. He was a very liberal-thinking kind of person,

and always forced me to question life, to never accept anything because someone else said it was so," says Avilés

While the curiosity of Avilés led him to such an intricate and progressive major, he is by no means a mad scientist. "Well, regardless of what I was doing outside of class, I was always busy with something when I wasn't studying. A few years ago I started studying guitar, and last summer I went on a road trip with two close friends of mine. If I had only been studying chemistry for the past four years, I might have gone insane," jokes Avilés.

Even with the dreaded thesis looming over him, Avilés finds time to immerse himself in another one of his passions-music and playing in a local band. "Music is a huge part of my life and being able to express it with some of my good friends is always rewarding."

With May approaching Avilés is putting his thesis into action as he leaves Arcadia, moving onto the University of California at Berkeley's graduate program. But it doesn't seem like Avilés will be letting go of his time here at Arcadia anytime soon. "It's no surprise that the chemistry department is small, but every professor cares deeply about the progress of their students. I think a lot of students at Arcadia have a hard time accepting the fact that this is a really good school with quality professors. I was fortunate enough to meet Dr. Curotto my freshman year, and since then, he's showed me what to expect at the graduate level and in the real world."

Curiosity killed the cat, but in the case of Michael Avilés it has only helped him thrive. In the future Avilés hopes that he can light the same fire in someone else. "I've been tutoring since the beginning of my sophomore year. I like sharing with others what is important to me, and hope to someday have a chance to share my passion for chemistry with others."

## Opinion: Love Imus or hate Imus?

By ELISHIA PETERSON  
Staff Writer

There has been a lot of controversy in the last few weeks regarding a statement made by radio personality Don Imus. On April 4, Imus made a statement that he probably now wishes he never said. As he discussed college sports, he referred to Rutgers University's women's basketball team as "nappy-headed hos." Within hours, Rev. Jesse Jackson and Al Sharpton were protesting Imus' remarks and demanding the termination of his job.

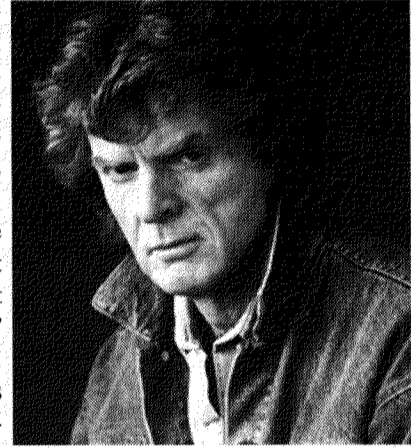
Once the media got involved, it was "curtains" for Imus. Imus, who has been broadcasting his program, "Imus in the Morning," for more than 30 years, now neither has a home on national radio or television. According to The New York Times, it is possible that Imus could re-emerge on satellite radio. To many, it was a huge surprise that the cancellation of his show went into effect so soon. Some would think that just because he is white, he would get away with such careless, harsh remarks. However on April 13, Imus was removed from the air. But, was Imus fired to make African Americans happy?

Kevin Kaminski, a sophomore at Arcadia had no shame in sharing what he thought of Imus. "I never liked the guy, he only apologized to the athletes to save himself from being fired," he says.

Most people will agree with Kevin, Imus didn't care about those young players or how anyone would feel after saying something like that. His only concern was to keep the job that he has had for three decades. One would think he would be smarter than to make such a derogatory comment. Imus should have known someone was going to make a fuss about it. Maybe he thought it wasn't going to hurt anyone, but it did. Many people were completely shocked by his ignorant remarks. "I said a stupid,

idiotic thing that hurt these kids," Imus said of the Rutgers players. "If I hadn't have said it, we wouldn't be here."

Though many, like myself, might argue if Imus' immediate termination was necessary. Imus most definitely wasn't the first person to make a racist statement. There was the recent case of Michael Richards from the show "Seinfeld," saying the "N-word" amongst other things, during a stand-up comedy act.



U.S. Senator, and Presidential Candidate, Hillary Clinton was quoted as saying that the U.S. House leadership runs the House like a "plantation." Radio talk show host, Rush Limbaugh, resigned from

ESPN's "Sunday NFL Countdown" in 2003 after he said Philadelphia's Eagles quarterback Donovan McNabb was overrated because the media wanted to see a black quarterback succeed. So, as you can see, Imus was not the first, nor will he be the last, to make racist remarks in public.

Why haven't other people been banned from television or fired? I am not at all applauding what Imus said, but honestly, who are the media and the people who fired Imus trying to fool? His termination doesn't prove anything to me.

Yes, rappers--Black and White--have degraded women. Many calling Black women hos. Rapper Snoop Doggy Dog agreed with Imus' termination. But, Snoop himself, has also referred to women as hos more than once. If you ask me, he has to room to talk about his disgust with Imus, apart of me is disgusted with Snoop!

It won't be long before someone else in the media says something racist. It seems to be a part of our society lately. Racist comments must not continue no matter how famous you are. I am not nappy-headed, nor am I a ho. And I will not stand for it, from anybody. Case closed.

## Opinion: What happened to Girl Power?

By GINA MERLINO  
Contributing Writer

If you have seen the news recently, you know that Britney Spears, once the world's biggest pop star, had a couple of kids, got divorced from her scumbag husband Kevin Federline (or should we say Fed-Ex), partied with Paris Hilton without panties, and then in breaking news, shaved her head, got some tattoos, and checked into and out of, and into and out of, and into rehab. Lindsay Lohan, a tabloid queen for the past few years has reportedly been in rehab herself for drinking and has also had problems with a lack of underwear in the past. Finally, we come to the person who they hung out with, who no doubt helped them land in the places they are in, Paris Hilton, a hotel heiress who knows no shame. With her sex tape out on the market (in which it is evident she is clearly in love with the camera), going out pretty much every night of the week, and conducting other scandalous behavior, she has landed on every tabloid in print. With wild partying, crazy shopping sprees, extreme dieting, and endless run-ins with

the paparazzi, it seems like we never stop hearing about the outrageous antics of overexposed Hollywood bad girls.

Sure, there have always been those wild party girls whose lives you hear about. But it seems to have gotten more out of control then ever. Even

"While there are many celebrities who are strong empowered women, they seem to be overshadowed by the glossy bright pages and big headlines of *US Weekly* and the *National Enquirer*."

Newsweek had a front cover story, featuring Britney and Paris out partying, about the crazy behavior of these apparent good girls gone bad. In 2006, the singer Pink came out with a video titled "Stupid Girls" in which she parodied some of Hollywood's "it" girls. Some interesting lyrics came to mind-"What happened to the dream of a girl president, she dancing in the video next to 50 Cent." Remember back in the 90's? It's cliché, but there used to be a thing called girl power. It was a

strong sense that girls could accomplish anything if they put their minds to it. We had dreams of a female president (which might come true in the next presidential election). There was a sense that women could have it all; a successful career, marriage and family.

This feeling of empowerment seems to have faded with all of the tabloid gossip. Instead of trying to defy stereotypes of women, they just seem to be reinforcing them. While there are many celebrities who are strong empowered women, they seem to be overshadowed by the glossy bright pages and big headlines of *US Weekly* and the *National Enquirer*. It is all but lost. While we may be surrounded by all of the dirt on these girls now, it may change in the years to come. It can only last for so long, and in the future, these tabloid queens may get a major backlash. Only time will tell. In the meantime, it is important to remember that this is Hollywood with images to maintain to deceive us, and although they can get away with it now, it will be interesting to see where they will end up in five years.

## Wilson

Continued from page 1

Arcadia students and faculty, whether for or against the death penalty, were moved by the words of Wilson. Jessi Roppoli, an elementary education junior, noted, "It was very eye-opening, and it gave me another perspective on the death penalty." While many students were required to attend the presentation, most could not help but be intrigued. Deborah Jones, a computer technology sophomore, said, "I was just astonished. Actually seeing

him after 17 years, how his life changed so much...I just liked it a lot."

The presentation was concluded with a few last words from Lisa Ziemer, a member of the Pennsylvania Alternative to the Death Penalty, who gave striking statistics about the Pennsylvania Death Row system. Like Mr. Wilson, she urged students, staff and faculty to take the information and support the effort to make change. All it takes is a voice.

## The Gargoyle Coffeehouse makes its online debut with photos, poetry

By SIMONE OLIVER  
Staff Writer

Chances are, you've noticed flyers around campus promoting the Gargoyle Coffeehouse, but you may not have been aware of what they were for. The Gargoyle is Arcadia's literary magazine, published once every spring to showcase art, poetry, and prose created by Arcadia students and staff. But what, you might ask, is the Gargoyle Coffeehouse?

For the answer, look no further than Donna Gambale, a third-year print communications major, who has been a staff member on the Gargoyle since her first year at Arcadia in 2004. "It's a really small club," says Gambale about the print version of the Gargoyle. "All the staff members are very dedicated to it because that's all the magazine has."

Gambale came up with the idea for the coffeehouse when she was assigned to create a website for her class--Visual Media for the Web.

Having long been a dedicated member of the Gargoyle staff, Gambale decided to design a website that would work as a supplement to the literary magazine, and, with permission from her professor, continued working on the website for the second semester of Senior Seminar. "I knew that when I came to the second part of Senior Seminar for communications, I would have to do a creative project, so I just asked if I could start it here [during first semester] and actually build it into a full-fledged website second semester."

After visiting the website, one will find many opportunities for interactivity--including a monthly photography and poetry contest. "The whole point of the website was to make the book more interactive, because as of now, the magazine only comes out once a year and so the website is more of an interactive, constant presence for the club," says Gambale.

Winners are promised their work will appear on the homepage of the website, being the

first thing web browsers see when they visit the page. "The point of the contest was a way so people could submit their work and have it published within the month," says Gambale.

The website also features spoken word poetry, something that the print version of the Gargoyle is obviously unable to provide.

"My pride and joy of the website is spoken word," beams Gambale. "You have recordings which you can't do with the book, and that's something that the web provides."

So far, the website has received around 200 hits and Gambale is hoping that those numbers will rise as awareness of the website begins to grow.

When asked why she chose to call her website "Coffeehouse," Gambale says the answer was simple: "The idea of coffeehouse came from my professor, Allen Powell, because coffeehouse is traditionally used for poetry and that kind of artsy thing; so it's that place but on the web."

## Gays move into Mr. Roger's neighborhood

By NICOLE KREMPASKY  
Staff Writer

On Thursday April 12th, a free discussion forum on heterosexism and heterosexist privilege took place in the Chat Performance Area. Starting at roughly 7:00 p.m., When the Gays Move Into Mr. Rogers' Neighborhood took a humorous look at the very serious topics. The program was presented by Joe Bertolino, Vice President for Student Affairs at CUNY Queens College, and Bil Leipold, Assistant Dean for Academic Affairs at Rutgers-Newark.

An audience filled with students, chat workers, pride members and even some of the off-campus community learned about how the concepts of heterosexism and practices such as heterosexual advantage have shaped their lives and their relationships. They began the evening by asking the audience to shout out different stereotypes for homosexuals, no matter how offensive. Epithets such as rectum Romeo, vagina monster and butt-pirate flew across the room and they raced to jot them down. They then asked for adjectives describing people the audience knew were gay. Softer words such as talented and inspiring were said with smiles. Finally, for a laugh and to draw a correlation, Leipold and Bertolino combined the groups of words to create new ones, such "Talented Butt-Pirate" and "Inspiring Rectum Romeo" were declared to laughter.

Both speakers shared their personal stories of homosexuality and coming out. Leipold came out in college. Prior to "coming out of the closet", he was set to be straight; the theater major was even dating a girl who eventually became his fiancé. However, soon after their engagement, he began talking to a fellow theater major, a senior male. They began to go out. Eventually they shared

their kiss, and Leipold was with his fiancé "nine to five" and with his lover from "eight o'clock on."

Eventually he broke off his engagement, and came out to a less than open reception. "People on my hall burned my things, my door even." Leipold said. "I was ridiculed." Things eventually got better and he found his partner Joe Bertolino.

Bertolino grew up in a traditionally Catholic family. Despite his family background and their initial reservations, his parents eventually grew to be accepting of his life. Bertolino also told a humorous tale of how when he came out to his best friend, he said he couldn't be gay because he "didn't approve it beforehand." They are still friends to this day.

One of the main points of the discussion was the concept of rights. "Gays don't want special rights, we want equal rights" Bertolino said. Leipold stressed the importance of just one individual, and how a single person can be the difference between homophobia and acceptance. They also used the example of activist Harriet Tubman. By standing up for not only what she believed in, but what was right, we were able to change a nation. "The same can happen with homosexuality. It's really about equality among all 'isms'" Leipold said.

Student reception to the program was exemplary. Senior RA and photography major, Dennis Balyeat offered his opinion: "I think there should be more programs like this that deal with real life issues that come from people like Bil and Joe. During orientation, the academic year, etc. They are people we the students can relate to. We have experiences that are similar to theirs... We need these things to inspire people on campus... to be people to make some sort of change."

## The end of the ARC?

By TIM McLAUGHLIN  
Staff Writer

Seated in the rear of The Chat performance area, ARC deejays Dana Dilliplane and Amie Zimmerman are surrounded by posters that say, "Save our station" and "Save the Arc." They grab passersby to have them sign a petition asking the Copyright Royalty Board to reconsider a recent decision to raise royalty rates for internet radio.

The board's decision threatens to put many small radio stations like the ARC out of business by charging significantly higher royalty. On Sept. 29, 2006, Sound Exchange, a nonprofit organization that facilitates the distribution of royalties to recording artists, proposed a new rate

structure to the board, which is a panel of three judges who hear cases involving copyright royalty disputes. The board's decision, based on Sound Exchange's Revised Rate Proposal, favored a per-performance rate structure for internet radio stations.

The per-performance structure charges a fee for every song played by a radio station and then multiplies that fee by the amount of listeners. This approach to rate structure ignores a company's actual yearly revenue. Despite how much a radio station makes per year, Sound Exchange will charge royalty fees based on the amount of listeners.

"It means we either raise the money or we get shut down," said Adam Ochonicki, Arcadia junior

and President of the ARC, sitting in front of The Chat's performance stage, watching Arcadia students participate in a Dance Dance Revolution tournament. The tournament is part of the second annual ARC Aid week. Throughout the week, the ARC has sponsored similar fundraising programs. At the end of ARC Aid, the station managed to raise \$1,811.

Ochonicki says, "The decision was a restructuring of the current laws. There are three categories: non-commercial, non-commercial educational which is what it seems like we should fit in, or commercial." That is where some confusion comes into play. The ARC is not a commercial

Please see Arc on page 11

## Monteiro, Jayasankar discuss Naata, media in India

By NICOLE KREMPASKY  
Staff Writer

On Wednesday, April 4th, Arcadia University had the distinct honor of hosting Fulbright scholar, Dr. Anjali Monteiro, professor at the Tata Institute of Social Sciences in Mumbai, India. Attached to the Center for South Asia Studies, University of California, Berkeley, she was accompanied by her husband, Dr. K.P. Jayasankar, Department Chair at the Centre for Media and Cultural Studies at the Tata Institute. Monteiro's mission was to discuss the state of media in India, and screen the film Naata. Taking place in the Castle Rose Room, the forum was attended mainly by communications students, accompanied by professors

Lisa Holderman, Shekhar Deshpande, and Alan Powell. Described as a "self-reflexive ethnography," Naata is a documentary by the two scholars chronicling the making of a short film in Dharavi, India. With a population of 800,000, Dharavi is considered to be Asia's largest slum, lying in the heart of Mumbai. The purpose of the short film was to create unity amongst the different ethnic and religious communities in the neighborhood of Dharavi. It all began when friends and activists Bhau Korde and Waqar Khan made a public service announcement to promote conflict resolution between the Seik, Muslim, Christian and Hindu peoples.

Both Korde and Khan were

first-generation immigrants to Dharavi, and explained how the city is full of immigrants whose purpose and right to live there is often questioned by politicians and angry citizens. They described that even though living conditions are less than standard, and the city is often portrayed as one filled with poverty, crime and waste, Mumbai itself would not function without such a place. If the city was lacking these immigrants, the economy of Mumbai as a whole would fail. Dharavi is a creative center, producing wares varying from food, to pottery, to textiles to leather goods.

Years after making their visual public service announcement, Korde and Khan came together to create a video, Ekta Sandesh,

depicting the same groups helping one another after an earthquake. The filmmakers of Monteiro and Jayasankar then institute themselves in the process, by using a narrative of their own experiences in Mumbai to create the transitions in the documentary. "We make documentaries on others, never ourselves. It is always a look at them by us for us-- never a look at us for us, or a look at them for them. That's where our incorporation comes in," Jayasankar said.

Touted by Art India as "... a text which draws our attention to the power that finally rests with citizens to effect a change in the lives of their communities.", Naata, a winner of 13 international and national awards, has been

screened at a variety of film festivals, including the International Visual Anthropology Festival and Conference in Moscow, the International Film Festival of Human Rights of Spain, and the World Social Forum Film Festival in Mumbai.

Following the screening, Monteiro and Jayasankar opened the floor for discussion on the film itself, followed by questions about Indian media, and media concepts in general. The main dialogue focused on the concept of the "other," and the debate of media censorship in both the United States and India. In closing, Monteiro said, "Everyone is and always will be wondering if people can actually handle the media in its truest form."

# Virginia Tech

Continued from page 1

Cho's behavior had come to attention several times before Monday's shooting. Fellow students and teachers were concerned about his behavior.

Two female students complained that Cho had stalked them. One had received unwanted instant messages, and the other had received unwanted phone calls and visits.

However, these instances were simply deemed as "annoying" and not charges were pressed. On the same day the second harassment complaint was made, another student called in concerns that Cho might be suicidal. The campus police spoke to him and asked him to speak with a counselor. He was sent to a counseling center off campus, New River Community Services, and agreed to a voluntary detention at St. Alban's, a mental center near Radford, Va.

Cho also caused concerns in one of his classes. Poet and teacher Nikki Giovanni said that students were afraid to come to class because Cho took photos of

other students and had a sullen demeanor. His writings were also so disturbing and violent that he was asked to seek counseling.

It was later learned that during the two and a half hour time span between shootings, Cho had sent materials to NBC. Among the materials were photos of him holding weapons--posing as if in a movie poster, video footage, and a manifesto laced

with profanity, which called students "rich brats."

The murders at VA Tech have raised questions across the nation about campus safety.

Jim Bonner, Director of Public Safety at Arcadia University shared his insight. "It is not so much changes, but con-

tinual improvements of safety systems and approaches that we strive to improve. Various technology items, cameras, emergency phones, card access, mass communications systems, etc. are all tools to enhance our community's safety needs. Our biggest safety tools are our students, faculty, and staff."

Criticism has arisen in response to how Virginia Tech

Police notified students of the first shootings. A mass email was sent to students over two hours after the first shooting, which gave them vague details of the incident. In response to this, Bonner says, "Arcadia is a small school. Virginia Tech has over 25,000 students, which made communication more difficult. The word was much harder to get out.

"The event that occurred at Virginia Tech was such an anomaly... First, you hear of a double homicide. Then, a couple of hours later, you hear that 17 are shot. From there it just went downhill. It happened so fast, so sudden, it was crazy," says Bonner of the tragedy.

Campus safety and gun laws have been hot issues in the wake of the massacre. Questions arise about what we can do to prevent any more school attacks, but there seems to be no clear answer. Cho was considered a threat to people, but since he never made a direct threat prior to the shootings, all people could do was strongly recommend that he get counseling.

Bonner says that in the future, Arcadia would like to implement more techniques to improve safety. "We are developing additional cameras and emergency phones at Oak Summit along with a mass communica-

tions system that will reach all members of our community via the latest technology. We would like to have cameras at parking lots, inform people with text messaging [and] email, a possible siren, etc."

The tragedy at Virginia Tech has left college campuses across the nation reeling. While information was dug up at a fast rate, there is still more to determine. Moreover, there is still more to question. The topics of gun control, campus safety, and how to reach out to individuals, who are troubled, are all issues that need to be dealt with to prevent another incident of this nature. The students at Virginia Tech are coping with the losses, and some are angry with the administration for how the handled the initial shooting. However, rather than pointing a finger of blame, many are looking for peace, and to come together as a community and deal with the tragedy.

The victims, as well as the students, of Virginia Tech are



AFP.com/The Tower  
Mourners visit memorial stones set up for the victims of the Virginia Tech shooting.

**Arcadia's support and prayers are with Virginia Tech, as the university comes to grips with the massacre...**

clearly in Arcadia's thoughts. A vigil was held on Wednesday, April 18th, and a Facebook group showing support for the Virginia Tech community was quickly created. On Friday, April 20th, many students wore orange and maroon in honor of the victims and a portion of proceeds made from the sale of this year's Spring Fling T-shirts will go to the school.

Arcadia's support and prayers are with Virginia Tech, as the university comes to grips with the massacre that happened in a heartbeat. While there seems to be no clear-cut solution to preventing these types of incidents, there is hope that we can learn from this and grow together. This is a time of community, of prayer, and of hope.

## Student-run campus production group puts on Movie Musicals cabaret show

By **TODD FIORINO**  
Contributing Writer

Looking for something different to do during finals week? Arcadia students are staging a show in the style of a musical review that will be held in the Arcadia Theatre at 8:00 pm on Friday, May 4.

The show is the best of movie musicals, which pulls musical numbers from over a dozen movies and adapts them for the stage. "There's no plot, no through line," says producer/director Greg Johnson, "This show is just pure entertainment. We've got an exciting and diverse group of songs in this show: people will recognize most of them."

The show sports a cast of thirty-two Arcadia students of all grades and a variety of majors. "We are so excited to have so many students involved in this show," says producer/director Amanda Pipe, "Our cast has more than doubled from our show last semester, and everyone seems very enthusiastic about this production."

The movie musicals cabaret show consists of songs from movies such as *Chicago*, *Sister Act Two*, *Moulin Rouge*, *Newsies*,

*Beauty and the Beast*, *Willy Wonka and the Chocolate Factory*, *A Walk to Remember*, *Annie*, *Cinderella*, *Stepmom*, *Phantom of the Opera* and *Dreamgirls*. The show also features snippets of songs or scenes from movies like *Tarzan*, *The Wedding Singer*, *The First Wives Club*, *Titanic*, *Napolean Dynamite*, *Mary Poppins*, and many others.

And even with this seemingly daunting list of movies, the show only runs a little over an hour. "It's a really eclectic show," says Johnson, "but it's a lot of fun. There's definitely something for everyone."

Aside from the thirty-two member cast, the show also has eight directors: juniors Katie Hummer, Amanda Pipe, Amanda Greco, Greg Johnson, Nickki Brousseau, and Angelina Boccuti and first-years Gary Rantz and Robin Stamey. Delante G. Keys, Katie Hummer, Hallie Keyser, Jill Jacobs and Angelina Boccuti choreograph the show.

"It's been a lot more rewarding than I originally thought," says producer/director Robin Stamey about her experience directing in this show, "I thought that with such a short time to get everything done, my cast and I would be struggling to pull it off,

but I have a great bunch of actors, singers and dancers, and everything is working out well."

The show has been auditioned, rehearsed and put together in only five weeks, a daunting task for a group of students who have to make due with the lounges as a rehearsal space, with whatever free time they can spare.

First-year student Jamal Douglas talks about his experience in the show. "I feel great being a cast member in the show because it gives me a chance to collaborate with a lot of my peers that I wouldn't normally have the chance to work with. It's a good experience learning how to work with such a vast amount of people to create great art. My favorite number is "Joyful Joyful" [from *Sister Act Two*] because its gospel, and I love gospel music. It plays a big part in my life and its fun to bring that soulful music to the group. It's a challenge as well... I am excited to see where the group goes from here."

Producer and cast member Danielle Pennisi says that she thoroughly enjoys being a part of the movie musicals show. "I've been a part of this group from the beginning, and I've had a great time working with such enthusiastic and dedicated students. It's

not easy to put on a musical! This whole experience has been a lot of hard work but I'm really happy that I did it. I'm sad that as a senior its my last show, but it's been fun and I know the group will continue on once I'm out of here."

The students presenting the show call themselves Studio Sketch, and they are an independent on-campus student theatrical production group. The group was co-created by juniors Amanda Pipe and Katie Hummer in the spring of 2006, and this is their third musical cabaret performance.

"We've been lucky enough to be able to do a show every semester since we created the group," Pipe says, "and both the students and the theatre department have been very supportive of us." The group was created for those students at Arcadia who like musical theatre but might not get the chance to perform in a show with the Theatre Department, since they only do one musical a year.

Currently Studio Sketch is run by a board of producers, including senior Danielle Pennisi, juniors Katie Hummer, Amanda Pipe, Greg Johnson and Amanda Greco, and first-years Julie Bosak, Emily Todd, Robin Stamey and Gary Rantz, who over-see all of the group's activi-

ties over the year. Other than the movie musicals cabaret show, the group has also sponsored two Improv Comedy Nights this semester. A staged reading of a brand-new musical *From a Dying Sun*, written by Arcadia juniors Michael Newsham and Angelina Boccuti is also in the works during Finals Week.

"We have expanded our group so much over the last semester," says Stamey, "Of course, not being an official club can limit us, but the theatre department has been very supportive, and in the end, we always find a way to make things happen."

Despite not being a University-sanctioned club, he group has grown steadily over the past three semesters and continues producing shows. Anyone and everyone is welcome to join the group, regardless of major or experience.

So if you're looking for something to do during final exams, stop by the Theatre on Friday, May 4th at 8:00 pm for a night of music from the big screen. Douglas adds, "Oh yeah, everyone come out to see the show!"

# Arcadia Theatre Review: *Hearsay* World premier play wraps up AU theatre season

By GREG JOHNSON  
Contributing Writer

Arcadia University brings its spring theatre season to a close with a world-premier production, *Hearsay*. *Hearsay* is a brand new play written by adjunct professor and local playwright Kathryn Petersen, tailored specifically for the Arcadia stage.

Directed by Mark Wade, *Hearsay* tells us what happens when two girls, Callie, 15, and Angel, 12, are left alone in their apartment for five days by their drug-addict mother. *Hearsay* shows us how the neighbors are left virtually helpless to do anything except stand back and watch as the girls take care of themselves and find ways to survive.

Petersen writes a brilliantly touching play full of light-hearted comedy, clever allegory, and heart-wrenching emotion that has the audience in tears night after night. Says junior Amanda Greco, the script liason for *Hearsay*, "I cry every time I see [the play], and I've seen them do it over and over again. Its just so moving, its hard not to cry."

Wade's direction moves this



Courtesy of Amanda Greco  
Callie (Lydia Andrien) tucks in Angel (Julie Bosak) in a scene from *Hearsay*, by Kathryn Petersen.

one hour and fifteen minute play at a brilliant pace. There are no moments where the play drags, the action stops, or things happen too quickly. Leading the show's performance is a brilliant cast of eight extremely talented actors.

As the two sisters, and the show's leading ladies are senior Lydia Andrien and first-year Julie Bosak. Andrien really shines as Callie, the street-wise fifteen year old who runs the household when her mother is absent. She is completely believable from start to finish, always engaging and a joy to watch. It is clear that she brings a wealth of talent and experience to the stage, and it shows. Without revealing too much of the story, it is Andrien who brings the house to tears with a heart-break-

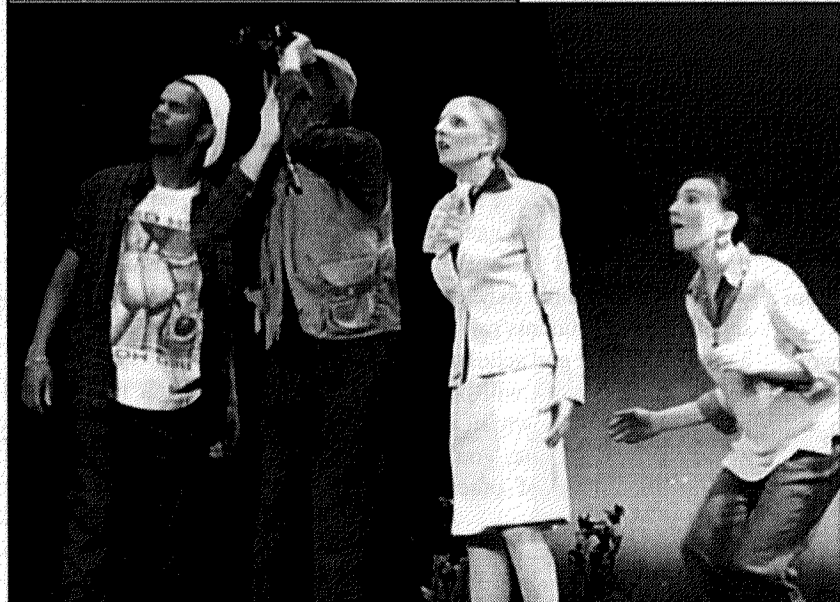
ing phone call at the end of the show.

As twelve-year old Angel, Bosak makes her debut performance with the Arcadia theatre department. She is a nice contrast to Andrien as she plays the bratty, spoiled, naïve younger sister very well. The fight scenes between the sisters, choreographed by combat director Ian Rose, are especially fun to watch, most notably a very believable moment where Andrien drags Bosak across the stage by her hair. With both ladies, the acting seems very natural, fluid, and believable, making it easy to care about both of the girls and their stories.

Bosak says that the hardest (and best) part about playing Angel was remembering what it was like to be 12 again and immature. About her experience in the play, she says, "I can't believe that as a first year I had such an amazing opportunity to work with some of the most talented actors and production crew. I learned more than I could ever imagine."

Playing the girls Uncle Andy is senior Jason Graboski, in what is without a doubt his most engaging performance to date. Caught between wanting to help the girls and his own child soon on the way, Graboski's Andy is immediately identifiable and sympathetic. Equally engaging is Jane, Andy's sister and the girls' aunt. Played by senior Kat Shadt, the scenes between Andy and Jane are extremely realistic. Kudos to both performers on a terrific performance.

Rounding out the cast is the equally-talented ensemble. As Fred, senior Josh L.



Courtesy of Amanda Greco  
Above, Lydia Andrien. Below, Delante G. Keys, Josh L. Hitchens, Kathryn Hummer and Meghan Mitzel.

## AU's American Sign Language Club reestablished

By SARAH KATZ  
Contributing Writer

To fulfill their foreign language requirements, many Arcadia students now choose to take American Sign Language (ASL). Substituting ASL for other foreign languages is a popular trend at both universities and high schools worldwide. And like other languages, without practice, language is easily forgotten. While many may choose to practice French or Spanish in a number of ways, including study abroad, until recently, students of ASL had little opportunities to practice their language.

Katherine Kelley, a first year student at Arcadia, sought to change this. Seeing that Arcadia once had a sign language club, Kelley set out to reinstitute the club, explaining, "I restarted the sign language club because I wanted a group in which people could learn and practice American Sign Language." Sitting down with Kelley, she emphasized the importance of this club on campus and hopes to attract new members once the community learns this club exists.

What are the goals of the ASL club?

KK: My club's goal is to spread the knowledge and awareness of American Sign Language and as well as inform and educate about deaf culture.

Why is it important to learn sign language?

KK: It is important to learn sign language because it is the fifth most used language in the United States. It is much more difficult for deaf people to learn to read lips and speak than it is for people from other countries to learn English. Arcadia needs a sign language club because they offer American Sign Language courses but without the club there is no where for people to

practice the signs that they learn. If you don't practice then you will forget all the signs you have learned.

Does the ASL club have any plans for the remainder of this year? Anything to expect next year?

KK: We are going to visit a local YMCA and perform for the children there. Other than that, we don't have any plans for this year. Next year I would like to provide a workshop that would be open to the community so that people can learn some sign language and about deaf people and their culture.

Can you explain more about your visit to the YMCA? What are you performing or teaching?

KK: We are going to perform three Disney songs in sign for the children at the YMCA. We will wear costumes and will sign along to the music. The songs we are doing are "A Whole New World" from *Aladdin*, "Can You Feel the Love Tonight" from *The Lion King*, and "Colors of the Wind" from *Pocahontas*. We are using these songs because we wanted songs that the children would recognize and enjoy hearing as we signed. In between the songs we are also going to teach the children some signs and about deaf people. It is important for children to be aware of the fact that there are deaf people as well as to know a little about the similarities and differences in everyday life for deaf and hearing people. Among other things we will explain the use of flashing lights in place of a doorbell and a bed vibrator in place of an alarm clock.

The American Sign Language club meets on Tuesdays at 7 PM and Thursdays at 8 PM in the Heinz Lobby. The club invites all students to attend.

Hitchens displays excellent comedic timing and proves to be a stunning character actor with his portrayal of this older tennet of the apartment building. As George, senior Delante G. Keys is equally funny, most notably in his scene with the two girls, and brings a ton of energy to the stage. As Pammi, junior Kathryn Hummer plays the perky makeup saleswoman to excellent comedic effect. And as Emily, senior Meghan Mitzel is wonderfully entertaining, and easy to identify with. All of the members of the ensemble have a wonderful stage presence and give brilliant performances.

There wasn't an element of *Hearsay* that wasn't engaging and impressive. The costumes, designed by Alisa Sickora-Kleckner were natural, fun and versatile, and the set, designed by

Chris J. Kleckner, was equally inventive with its changing levels, angles and textures. Designed by Joshua Schulman, the lighting was dynamic and creative, and the sound design, by Christopher Colucci was convincingly handled, adding a realistic atmosphere to the show.

This is a brilliant play with brilliant performances by a cast of extremely talented actors. *Hearsay* plays this Thursday, Friday and Saturday at 8:00 pm and Saturday and Sunday at 2:00 pm in the Arcadia Theatre. For Arcadia students, the show is "pay what you can," so there's no excuse why you can't go and see it!

This is truly one of the best theatre experiences I have had at Arcadia, and I urge you come out and see *Hearsay* while you still can.

## Arc

Continued from page 5

organization, but its service provider, Live365 fits into that category. If the station is determined to fit into the non-commercial educational category, then it would owe only \$500 a month for its service. Those costs probably won't put the ARC out of business, but they will certainly put a hole in its budget.

Amie Zimmerman is furious about the decision. "This is not beneficial to anyone." She says, "The government is just trying to shut us down. This is a control issue; there is no logic behind it." Zimmerman hosts a show on the ARC every Monday at 4 p.m., playing music from various movie soundtracks. If the board's decision is upheld, there is a chance she could lose her show.

The faculty adviser to the ARC, Dr. Shekhar Deshpande, has a slightly different take on the situation. "I think that this can be good news because we can now become a vehicle for independent musicians. Why do we have to play Beyonce? I don't want to fight to listen to Beyonce." Any copyrighted material that the ARC plays on its station will be regulated by the new rules proposed by Sound Exchange, whereas new artists who waive

their royalty rights could receive widespread attention without charging inflated rates. If the ARC stopped playing more popular music like Deshpande's example of Beyonce then the ARC could function entirely without paying royalties.

Deshpande continues to say that he would like to see the ARC expand its horizons, creating original material from Arcadia students' experiences. "Let's turn the microphones on ourselves," he suggests. "Students here study abroad. Why not make a recording of the London subway? I would also love to hear what Spain sounds like." Any original material that the ARC creates would not be copyrighted, so no rights would have to be paid for those recordings.

Dana Dilliplane encourages all Arcadia students to take action. "It's really important that people write letters and sign our petitions. We can raise all of the money in the world, and it still won't be enough." So far, the ARC has over 350 signatures on their petition.

To sign the ARC's petition, or to find out how to help the ARC, e-mail the club at [TheArc@arcadia.edu](mailto:TheArc@arcadia.edu) or stop by the sound booth outside of the Dining Hall.

## Pride holds sexual orientation panel

By TIM LEGNANI  
Staff Writer

Arcadia University's Pride Club held a Religion and Sexual Identity Discussion Panel on March 17th. The event began at 8:00 in the performance area of the Chat. Included in the panel was Jayden Sampson, a practicing Quaker, and interfaith minister, who spoke on behalf of the Pride Club. Kendel Borthwick, a former homosexual, and his wife, Lois, represented the Arcadia Christian Fellowship. Also, Monsignor Flood, of St. Luke's Catholic Church, Glenside, represented the Neumann Club, a Roman Catholic college organization.

Timothy McLaughlin explains the purpose of the event as a way to "to express views of sexual identity and religion." Those in attendance were encouraged to demonstrate respect and confidentiality, and to "refrain from vulgar or unnecessary language."

Kendel Borthwick first explained his belief that many churches are "really silent" on the issue of homosexuality, and that "other churches are not really compassionate." Over the course of the discussion, he described his "struggle" with homosexual inclinations early in life, and ways in which his faith let him

toward a heterosexual relationship with his wife.

Borthwick also expressed his belief that "a person's sexual orientation is fluid in a sense," and that external influences are able to have a substantial impact. Borthwick's wife, Lois, agreed that, for practicing gays and lesbians, there is a "root [of their] homosexual struggle," such as childhood or family problems. Monsignor Flood discussed the Catholic Church's beliefs regarding homosexuality. Among his main points was that "everyone deserves compassion." Flood explained that Catholic Church opposes the practice of homosexuality, however, he acknowledged that gay individuals are not viewed by the Church as less than equal, and that they have the right to pursue their lives as they feel they should.

Regarding the Catholic Church's objection to homosexuality, Flood said, "We struggle with language, and I know my church's language is not the best. I know it sounds severe, but the love is still there." Flood also suggested the idea of "chaste love," as an alternative to homosexual practices. He added, "Some of the most creative people are homosexuals," and that a "chaste" homosexual relationship

could provide an opportunity for great creativity.

Sampson explained the importance of distinguishing between gay individuals and those who, engage in homosexual practices. He asserted, "You can't group gay men and lesbians with guys raping each other in a federal prison." He explained that most Biblical references to homosexual practices are widely believed to refer to acts of violence or cultural degradation, not associated with actual gay relationships, but rather ritualistic sex or acts of abuse.

Students and faculty in the audience then presented questions to the panel, asking their positions on issues including the agreement between the church's positions and psychological studies of sexual orientation. McLaughlin said, "I couldn't be happier with the way the discussion turned out. I think it was extremely important to have this discussion, because religious faith and sexual identity are fundamental aspects of our identity as humans. At times they can clash, and it is important for us to understand why." Arcadia senior, Joe Escher, said, "Overall, it was beneficial and interesting to see that different religions can talk intelligently and peacefully about sexuality."

## College

Continued from page 1

Since Jessica wasn't notified until December that one of her loans was denied, she did not have much time to find a means of paying the outstanding balance on her own. Fortunately, Jessica found a high-paying job in therapeutic support staff (TSS) through a friend. As a TSS, Jessica works one-on-one with a local autistic boy and his family. Coupled with working early morning hours at a gym, Jessica now works 40 hours per week and manages a five-class course load. But things didn't smooth out quickly for Jessica.

Jessica says that Financial Aid and the Student Service Center (SSC) did not help her enough. The SSC instructed her to write a letter of appeal to request more financial aid. Things progressed slowly, and Jessica did not receive enough monetary assistance. She then wrote a letter of appeal to Dr. Jerry Greiner, and things started moving. She was setup on a payment plan, which requires her to pay \$500 a month. She says although she's never missed a payment, she continuously receives emails about the fact that with her current balance she will not be allowed to walk during graduation. "I know I have to pay them," she says. "It's [the constant emails] been upsetting for me."

In a generation where college is exorbitantly priced, situations like Jessica's are extremely common. Many students, and parents, are forced to work two jobs and take out a number of private loans. All this debt looms in the future; creating anxiety the

closer one gets to graduation day.

According to a January 2007 article from Forbes.com, written by Tom Van Riper and entitled "America's Most Expensive Colleges," George Washington University in D.C. is the nation's most expensive school with a tuition of \$37,820. Riper also states that the median tuition for private schools was \$15,800 for the 2006-07 academic year. This was a 3.4% increase from the previous year. Local colleges like Villanova and Saint Joseph's University have tuition costs of \$34,320 and \$29,095, respectively. Arcadia isn't far behind with a tuition cost of \$25,650 for the 2006-07 school year. Remember, these costs do not include room and board, fees, books and other college necessities.

Coveney says that Arcadia is "fairly reasonable relative to the La Salle or St. Joe's." In fact, he says, Arcadia is "under priced relative to the market." So why is college so expensive?

Coveney says that the expectations of students get higher each year in terms of level of service and technology. One of the main services students always want improved is the food. Arcadia's switch from Aramark to Parkhurst was in response to this, and better food costs more money.

Other theories cited among experts, according to Van Riper, are "strong competition for faculty, student demand for state-of-the-art classrooms and facilities, and a decline in federal support for research facilities as the big cost drivers." He believes that, "the idea is to lure the best pro-

fessors and build the best stadiums and science labs, costs be damned."

In order to financially handle the high, ever-rising costs of college, students rely on financial aid in conjunction with part-time jobs.

Holly Kirkpatrick, Arcadia's Director of Enrollment Management and Director of Financial Aid, says, "98% of our students receive financial aid." This includes scholarships, grants, loans and work-study.

"The vast majority of [Arcadia] students don't pay our standard tuition and fees," says Coveney. He also states that over 40% of the actual tuition goes to financial aid.

On the national level, according to a number of online articles, House-passed measures to cut student loan interest rates have stalled in the Senate. It is not clear if and when this bill would be passed into law.

In the meantime, many students like Jessica are struggling due to a lack of financial aid. They just don't receive enough. Whether these students hit a financial bump during their college career, or never had enough, many are heavily suffering from financial burdens.

"My dad has had to work overtime since I started school," says senior Marinda Morgan. "I also work full-time all summer to save for the upcoming school year, which makes it hard to save money for when I get out of school."

Fortunately, there are a few ways for students to get more financial aid. Kirkpatrick advises students to apply for a Campus

Achievement Award. These annual awards are available to full-time returning students with demonstrated academic achievement. In other words, you must have above a 3.0 GPA and demonstrated leadership or service activities (i.e. community service or club involvement). Amounts range between \$200 and \$3,000 per year, and students can renew the award throughout their time at Arcadia.

Other on-campus resources include your Financial Aid Counselor. Every student is assigned a counselor who is available to help financially guide you. The Financial Aid website is also extensive and provides students with a variety of useful information and convenient online access to forms.

Students can also visit the Student Service Center. The SSC works on a case-by-case basis with each student and helps him or her figure out a viable solution for affording college costs. Since the SSC works in conjunction with the Business and Financial Aid Offices, it makes the process smoother and easier.

Kirkpatrick also suggests that students visit [Fastweb.com](http://Fastweb.com), which is an online database of scholarships. Students can set up an online profile and scholarships fitting those criteria will be sent to you. The only downfall is that as it is a national site, you're up against thousands of other students.

"I think generally students need to prepare early," says Kirkpatrick. There needs to be an early priority on financing and education. "As early as sophomore or junior year in high

school, look for scholarships," she continues.

For graduating students, the situation is extremely different. Loan grace periods end six months after graduation, and earlier if you've already reconsolidated. On top of finding a job and a place to live, all the financial stresses and debt that were hidden during college under loans and grace periods, suddenly erupt.

The Financial Aid Office can help alleviate some of this shock. All graduating seniors must attend an exit interview. This one-hour session informs students on what their options are after college. It also gives you some budgeting advice.

Kirkpatrick also recommends the website [youcandealwithit.com](http://youcandealwithit.com). This site offers a significant amount of financial advice as well as tools and calculators. You can calculate your loan repayments, track your budget or even determine the effect a consolidation would have on your monthly loan payment.

"Be aware of how much you owe, and know who your loans are through," says Kirkpatrick. Also, she says, "know that if you have economic hardships in the future, immediately contact your loan lender."

As for students in financial trouble now, Jessica advises them to "Go to the top person if you feel like no one else is helping you." This would mean President Dr. Jerry Greiner, who Jessica says, "is a very kind man. I really respect him." Many students would agree.

Above all, Jessica says, "A squeaky wheel gets the grease."



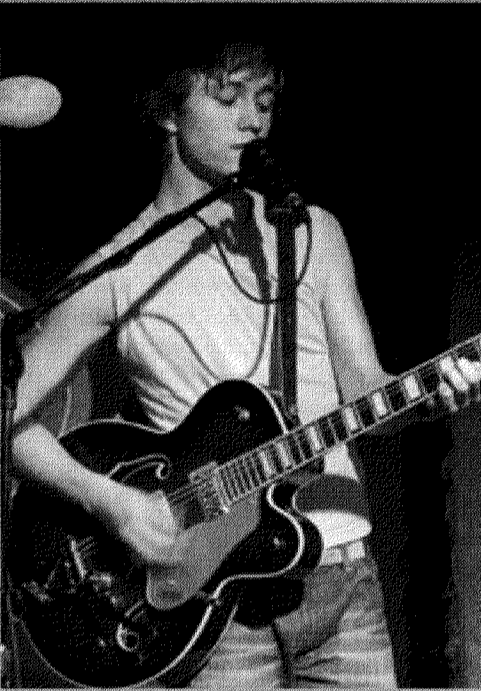
# Norwegian crooner sets stage at the TLA

By JAKE SCALICI  
Staff Writer

It's undeniable that Norwegian singer/songwriter Sondre Lerche has some of the most danceable pop/rock tracks around, but with his intimate party-like performance on April 4th at the Theater of Living Arts, Lerche proved that he can cut a rug with the best of them.

The night began with a tiny and unusually seated TLA crowd enduring a lengthy lack-luster set from another Norwegian singer/songwriter, the whiny Damien Rice knockoff, Thomas Dybdahl. As the oddly calm TLA crowd began to fill in the empty spaces, folk prodigy Willy Mason hit the stage with his band. Mason and company played cuts mostly taken from their new album *If the Ocean Gets Rough*. The bands mixture of thumping drums, beautiful viola leads, and Mason's rugged voice and guitar started to liven up the TLA crowd. At one point, Mason asked the crowd why they were seated. The crowd had then responded with harsh comments for the TLA staff and their decision to bring chairs in for the evening's performance.

At around 10 o'clock, Lerche hit the stage



with his band, The Faces Down, ripping out a vivacious performance of the opening track from his latest album *Phantom Punch*, "Airport Taxi Receptionist." After "Airport," Sondre put the crowd in a frenzy when he encourage everyone to get out of their seats and "get a little closer for this one night." After a rush for the stage, Lerche went

into the bulk of his set letting loose a new, more rock-oriented version of his earlier jazz work on 2004's *The Dupper Sessions*. The set's only stumbling point came when Lerche's penchant for ill-advised off-beat jam sessions took the wind out of the sails, like the fan favorite "Faces Down."

Later on in the night's performance, Lerche redeemed himself with a rousing performance of the band's new single-the disco rock conglomerate, "Phantom Punch." "We love exploring new music and as you can see we love the dance," said Lerche, before he and The Faces Down got down with a moonwalk, a robot, and a few other interesting dance moves.

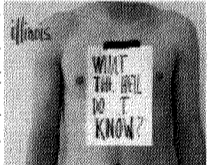
In the end, a very small and intimate setting at the normally crowded TLA helped bring the atmosphere of the show to the forefront, as Sondre Lerche crooned and jammed his way through the night.

# he saidshe saidthe tower's record review column

By JAKE SCALICI  
Staff Writer  
AMY STRAUSS  
Entertainment Editor

### Illinois - *What the Hell Do I Know?*

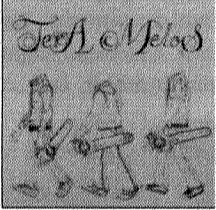
**HE SAID:** Abstract folk pop-an interesting classification for an interesting band, Doylestown's own Illinois. Standout banjo/guitar work coupled with beautiful vocal harmonies and hip hop like drum beats seem to be an odd yet effective combination on the band's latest release *What the Hell Do I Know?* Songs like "Screen Door" will have everyone singing along, while other tracks like the bass-thumping hillbilly rant "Nosebleed" can more than make a head bob happen.



**SHE SAID:** Illinois shares many similarities with The Long Winters and The Broken West. Their collective brand of upbeat indie pop distills crisp, hummable melodies that accent over toe-tapping rhythms (besides the fact that the album ends with what may be the ultimate drum beat/bass line ever, in their minimalist "Bad Day"). Seamlessness of the Bucks County natives, for which all the instruments and vocals join together, is what makes Illinois so addictive. Every instrument, vocal line, and hand clap finds its place perfectly, as found on the album's standout track, "One On One," where an occasional guitar chug accents the already syncopated bass drum that's drawing out odd rhythms that pervade nearly every song, yet they do not distract.

### Tera Melos - *Tera Melos*

**HE SAID:** If three classically trained jazz musicians were forced to play in a post-hardcore instrumental band what would it sound like? Well it would sound like Tera Melos, three classically trained jazz musicians with a love for the thrash of hardcore. Tera Melos' latest release, 2005's *Tera Melos*, is an exercise in listening, pairing audio samples of classic cartoons like *The Flintstones* and *The Jetsons* to the mind-numbing shred happy instruments that will do nothing but pound through the speakers. While at times Tera Melos may seem more frantic and heavy than need be, they more than make up for it with the sheer complexity of songs like "Melody 2."

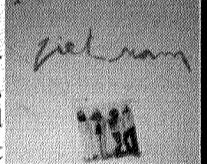


**SHE SAID:** Stunningly technical, yet unhinged, this Sacramento 4 -piece swirls electronic elements amongst low-key breathy jazz to transfuse pure aggression into any sort of know-how seen in this stratosphere. Uninitiated listeners may simply label Tera Melos as math rock and be done with it, but they'd be half wrong. Songs like "Melody 2" and the muscular "Melody 4" breathe a certain affinity that shifts time signatures and a propensity for doubling up on rhythms. The result? A melodic intent that's so ferocious that it's easier to relate the band to spazzier types like Cap'n Jazz than to instrumental perfectionists like Don Caballero or Turing Machine.



### Vietnam - *Vietnam*

**HE SAID:** With a concoction of jazz, soul, blues, and folk, Vietnam sound infinitely interesting but at times unfocused. The bands 2007 full length self-titled debut really showcases the bands diversity, as well as the Josh Grubbs rugged raspy vocals. The album is all over the place sonically, taking into account all of the bands influences. Unfortunately for Vietnam, most of the time this variety seems like an unnecessary war between what they want to do and what they feel they have to do.



**SHE SAID:** The longhaired, bearded boys of Vietnam are dirty, and not necessarily in an unhygienic sort of way. Their foot-stooping, whiskey-swirling dirt rock hearkens a different era of rock 'n' roll, one of bluesy riffs, minimal drums and sonic-charged psychedelics. But, with Michael Gerner's (lead guitarist and principal songwriter) ranting lyrics reaching past the boundaries of casual throwback rock, the quartet that was once a staple in dingy dive bars has debuted with a guttural, freewheeling record. Featuring production by Dave Scher and guest spots by Jenny Lewis and Paz Lenchantin, the self-titled album shamelessly apes Bob Dylan, minus Tambourine Man-nasals and exhibits Stonesy swags with snarling vocals and sleazy saxes. A listen to "Priest, Poet & the Pig," you'll see that these Brooklyn-based mountain men rants may impress with topics like the end of the world, mysterious characters and big cats using blow.

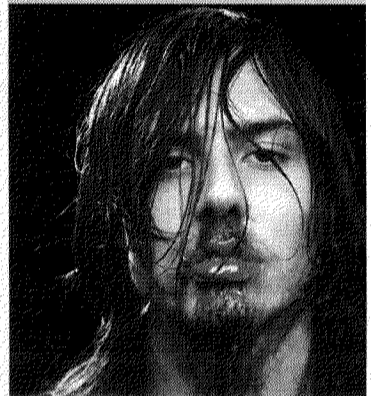


## IN SIGHT Be Scene in Philly's Music

Panthers; Lions and Lambs; Hey Angel  
April 29, 7:30 pm  
The First Unitarian Church, 2125 Chestnut St.



Andrew WK Presentation (In Person Lecture, Discussion, Q&A)  
May 1, 7:30 pm  
The First Unitarian Church, 2125 Chestnut St.



Clientele, LadybugTransistor, Public Record  
May 7, 9 pm  
Johnny Brenda's 1201 Frankford Ave.



Silversun Pickups, Sea Wolf  
May 14, 7 pm  
Trocadero Theater, 1003 Arch St.



The Album Leaf, Young Galaxy, Belong  
May 15, 8 pm  
The First Unitarian Church, 2125 Chestnut St.



## Grindhouse: Tarantino and Rodriguez fulfill gore lore

By JAKE SCALICI  
Staff Writer

At first glance, *Grindhouse* may seem to be a little showy, or maybe even a little cocky. Two huge directors, two different stories, and a three hour journey into the intricate minds where *Desperado* and *Kill Bill* were born is a lot to swallow at one time. Even after the commercials, including Rose McGowan as a sultry dancer with an interesting prosthesis and the uber tough 80's macho man Kurt Russell as a stunt driver, the idea of Robert Rodriguez and Quentin Tarantino creating dueling 70's tinged action flicks seemed to be pushing the limits. Alas, that was the wrong feeling.

From the first few minutes, the rollercoaster ride is obviously approaching as the mock preview for the illegal-alien turned "Shaft" flick *Machete* puts the audience into an automatic belly laugh.

First up is Rodriguez' action-horror picture *Planet Terror*. Rodriguez uses grainy 70's-like film to give the picture an old school appearance and feel. In *Planet Terror*, Rodriguez creates a slick action film with the help of Bruce Willis as the unnamed evil army leader, femme fatal Rose McGowan as exotic dancer Cherry, and another Rodriguez, Freddy, as sharp-shooting bad-ass El Wray. Rodriguez takes a page right out of George A. Romero's book using intuitive camera angles to create suspense and fright rather than creating a "scary" character. *Planet Terror* has a pretty generic story for a zom-



bie flick, but Rodriguez does a great job of taking new school action and spicing up the (at times) over generic zombie plot. McGowan and Freddy Rodriguez are good at melding the stylized action with some campy, over-done acting that makes movie look old, but feel new.

After another set of faux previews, Tarantino takes the helm of the speed-induced slasher story with *Death Proof*. Taking the rigid skeleton of the over-played and often cliché slasher film, Tarantino pours his classic edge all over it. Tarantino uses star power to carry *Death Proof*, bringing in the red-hot Rosario Dawson and the 80's tough guy Kurt Russell.

In *Death Proof*, Russell plays the part of deranged stuntman, Stuntman Mike, who uses his car, equipped to survive the Hollywood car chases of the 70's, to kill unsuspecting women. Russell gives a performance that is almost as good as his work in the 80's action flick *Escape From New York*. Tarantino smartly uses his classic wordy conversation pieces to fill up a chunk of the movie, only to unleash a nasty



car chase near the end. One of the movies strong points is the use of minimal special effects throughout *Death Proof* and none of which in the finale's car chase-just Detroit steel on Detroit steel.

Tarantino may have trumped Rodriguez in this grindhouse feature, but *Grindhouse* obviously isn't a contest, but rather a tribute to the directors' roots. Tarantino and Rodriguez seem to be two directors who make movies because they love doing, and because they love having fun. Both films are as close to cheesy as they can get without pushing it to far, like a guilty pleasure that is, well, not guilty at all.

## Where are the Comedies?: The Top Ten Greatest Comedic Films

By MAGGIE REYNOLDS  
Staff Writer

Although this is an opinion piece, it would be much too subjective for my tastes to claim that my personal favorite film *Magical Mystery Tour* should be ranked above *The Godfather*. After consulting a few established lists, I have established one glaring flaw in the typical "top ten" grouping: Where are the comedies? In *AFI's 100 Year's, 100 Movies* list, the only comedy in the top ten listed films is the 1967 Dustin Hoffman hit, *The Graduate*. It makes sense that comedies would take a back seat to comparably "important films," but that doesn't make it less of a travesty. So, I have taken the liberty of composing a new list, made up entirely of the great comedic films that are so often left from the rankings of significant films produced.

### 1. *Forrest Gump*, 1994

Although this film could technically qualify as a "dramedy," *Forrest Gump* is not only one of the iconic comedy films ever made, but it is also one of the most important, if not well-known. Featuring an Academy Award winning performance by Tom Hanks, and one of Gary Sinise's most memorable roles as Lieutenant Dan, *Forrest Gump* fully deserves its place at the top of the Top Ten list.

### 2. *Monty Python and the Holy Grail*, 1975

It was difficult for me to rank this film above its cousin, *Life of Brian*, but I had to do it. *Holy Grail* is a bright beacon on the great, dry, sniggering mountain of British comedy. The humor is more sophisticated than American slapstick, but also features a killer bunny-rabbit, and a cow-catapult.



### 3. *Dr. Strangelove: How I Learned to Stop Worrying and Love the Bomb*, 1964

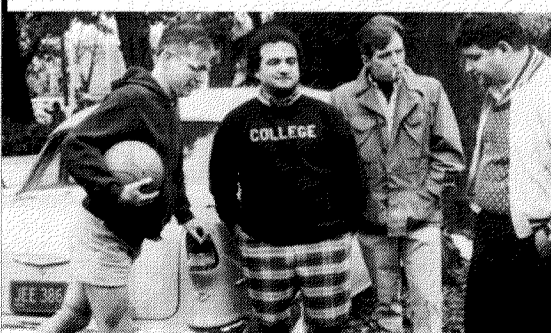
This film is by far one of the best things to come out of the Nuclear Era. And, as someone who can rarely wrap my small head around a Kubrick film (*Eyes Wide Shut?* What in the world?) this was a good "sophisticated" comedy for me. It is also an undeniable cultural experience in addition to being a good laugh.

### 4. *Airplane!*, 1980

I have never laughed harder. Be ready for some heady parody in this spoof on disaster films. Although the sophistication level drops considerably as compared to *Dr. Strangelove* this has no effect on the quality of this classic comedy.

### 5. *National Lampoon's Animal House*, 1978

Need I say more? This is one that any college stu-



dent should see with haste if they have not already.

### 6. *Ferris Bueller's Day Off*, 1986

Another one for the frustrated student, this movie has some of the most memorable lines in comedic history ("Bueller? Bueller?" and "I think you killed the car."), and is an all-around "feel-good" comedy. Featuring one of Matthew Broderick's finest roles as Ferris, this film is easily one of the better comedies ever made.

### 7. *The Big Lebowski*, 1998

Since its release in 1998, this film has been deemed hilarious and off-beat enough developed a strong cult following. Besides being pleasingly strange and funny, this is also a surprisingly complex film that utilizes elements of both stock plot and character, as well as some creative writing and dialogue, to create a comedic romp that has inspired an annu-



al "Lebowski Fest" in Kentucky.

### 8. *Blazing Saddles*, 1974

Out of a lot of quality Mel Brooks films, this is my personal choice for the list. Where else are you going to find a black sheriff in an all-white town, a Yiddish Indian Chief, or a scene in which someone punches a horse? It's all here, and it's all slapstick.

### 9. *Annie Hall*, 1977

I couldn't bring myself to leave Woody Allen out of the list: this film not only packs a lot humor, but also lends itself to the list of "important" films that have been made. Excellent for someone looking for a funny Friday night movie and a film student alike.



### 10. *Caddyshack*, 1980

Just read this cast listing: Rodney Dangerfield, Chevy Chase, and Billy Murray, and a naughty gopher. Have fun.

Because in a list of ten, there are always films that deserved to make the list that didn't, here are some honorable mentions: *The Graduate*, *Duck Soup*, *Young Frankenstein*, *A Fish Called Wanda*, *Snatch*, *The Jerk* and many others that I am probably going to be embarrassed to have missed.

If you are looking to contest or add to any top ten lists, get in touch with the author at [mt.reynolds@hotmail.com](mailto:mt.reynolds@hotmail.com)

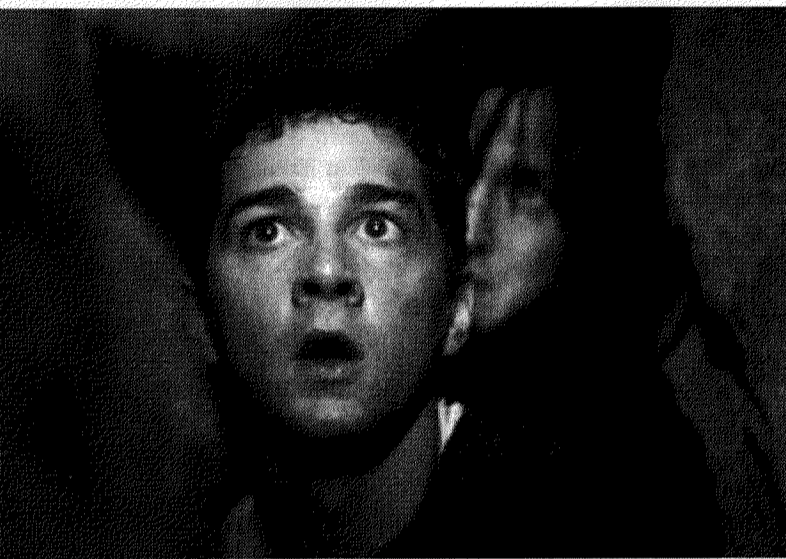
# Disturbia:

## A teen variant to Hitchcock's *Rear Window*

By **ERICA KLECKNER**  
Contributing Writer

A quiet river flows by as a father and son enjoy a day of fishing, bonding and laughing together. Everything seems to be perfect for this suburban family until...BAM! Kale (Shia LaBeouf), a high school junior, spirals out of control after the sudden death of his father and his behavior ultimately lands him on house arrest. After punching his teacher in the face for making a snide remark about his dead father, Kale is faced with a three-month summer vacation that doesn't allow him to leave his front

yard. With boredom and cabin fever eating away at Kale, he picks up a pair of binoculars and begins peeking in on his neighbors. Of course, in any suburban town you have the adulterer, the caring mother with mischievous children, and let's not for-



get the new neighborhood hottie who happens to be Kale's age. But one neighbor becomes the focus of Kale's binoculars, Mr. Turner (David Morse), who appears normal, other than the fact he mows his lawn incessantly.

As Kale teams up with his buddy Ronnie (Aaron Yoo) and new neighbor Ashley (Sarah Roemer) the three observe Mr. Turner's behavior and begin to suspect he is a murderer who has been killing women. The three setup camcorders, cameras, and craftily use their cell phones to track Turner's every move. As their suspicions start to grow, Kale finds himself in trouble over and over again with the police for going out of range of his house arrest monitor. Not only is Kale continuing to

get in trouble with the police, but his mother's (Carrie-Ann Moss) growing frustration with her son's actions causes them to disbelieve Kale about the alleged murders. Kale has turned into the little boy who cried wolf and no one believes him because no one really sees Mr. Turner as a killer nor is there any real evidence. Is Mr. Turner a killer or is Kale manifesting what he sees as a result of being cooped up in the house?

Although the acting is impressive, with Shia LaBeouf playing a solid lead, the plot is completely predictable and quite an anti-nail biter. There are a few suspenseful moments toward the end, but no real terror. A typical thriller, *Disturbia* could double

as a comedy. Quick-witted one-liners doled out by Kale's friend Ronnie and the cat-and-mouse chase between Kale and Ashley all add great comedy. If you like films like *The Grudge* you aren't going to find that kind of freaky terror in this flick; there is nothing supernatural about this movie. It's just your basic thriller with a guy-meets-girl sub-plot.

Bart Simpson once mimicked Alfred Hitchcock's *Rear Window*, which depicted a man turning to voyeurism after he is confined to his house due to a broken leg and then, suspects one of his neighbors has committed murder. Just the Simpsons' reference identifies that this story has been done before, and Shia LaBeouf is playing the contemporary Jimmy Stewart.

With hardly any surprises in the film, it's remarkable that the last 10 minutes may even give you a justified scare that you may leave wondering who is looking in your window at night!

# The biblical Reaping

By **BETH MINKUS**  
Staff Writer

One has to wonder how two-time Academy Award winner Hilary Swank (*Boys Don't Cry*) can squash such high hopes for a career by choosing movies such as *The Reaping* in which to star. With a plot typical for its genre and no surprises in store, this film would have undoubtedly gone straight to DVD if it wasn't for the lead.

Swank's character, Katherine Winter, is a missionary-turned-professor whose life goal is to erase all evidence of miraculous occurrences scientifically. She left the mission because of some event from her past, which we are shown throughout the movie with a series of flashbacks. Disproving all 10 of the biblical plagues, it seems almost too perfect that she is called to a back-woods Bible Belt town, Haven, La., to investigate a series of events that seem to mirror those plagues. The first, a rather chilling image of a river red with blood, sets the tone for some unsettling images and even more unsettling overuse of special effects and clichés.

Another typical error of the genre is using demonic or possessed children to convey Satan's message. *The Sixth Sense*, *The Omen*, *The Grudge*, need I go on? Well the antichrist of this film is played by AnnaSophia Robb, a charming little blonde girl whom the town blames for God's dissatisfaction. Frogs fall from the skies, there's something wrong with the cows, and locusts take over the screen. Images are admittedly gross for the squeamish but do not serve as anything more than nauseating. Staying with this movie is a feat almost as great as admitting you paid \$8 to see it.

*The Reaping* has one of those endings that are supposed to shock and appall the audience, when in reality all it does is mirror every ending to the good/evil, God/Satan battle movies that have been thrown in



our faces since *Rosemary's Baby* and *The Omen*. I shook my head in disgust and immediately ran from the theater, hoping never to have to mention this film again. There is too much religious text thrown around, and the script is undoubtedly supposed to make viewers

"question" or "affirm" their faith. Nothing changed about my belief, except my belief that Hilary Swank deserves all the credit she's received. The only way this movie could have gotten worse is if all the characters had paper bags over their heads.

## Movie Review:

# Blades of Glory

By **MAGGIE REYNOLDS**  
Staff Writer

Well, entertainment section-frequenter, if you are charmed by a Pop Culture Snob, then I think that I am about to un-charm you, because although I dropped 10 or 20 IQ points seeing the film *Blades of Glory* on Sunday evening, I laughed heartily, and blew off a bit of academic steam. There's nothing wrong with immersing one's self in the uncouth stupidity of Will Ferrell (*Saturday Night Live*, *Anchorman*, *Elf*), and the typecast comedy of Jon Heder (*Napoleon Dynamite*, *School for Scoundrels*) for a laugh, and this film gave the best of both worlds.

If, however, you are looking to better yourself intellectually, this is not the picture for you.

Take Heder's character from *Napoleon Dynamite* and Ferrell's character from *Talladega Nights* and put ice skates on them. Mix with the classic frame of a sports film and a little bit of plot, and the film *Blades of Glory* is born.

Ferrell's character, Chazz Michael Michaels ("sex on ice") and Heder's character Jimmy MacElroy, ("the peacock") could not be more poorly matched. When an odd set of circumstances and a lot of comedic license has then skating together in a world-wide doubles competition, they learn the true meaning of teamwork and friendship.

Fortunately, there are more stupid laughs than there are life-lessons, and there is an excess of fighting, snow cones, drunken debauchery, hair brushing, slapstick humor, and even a decapitation. If you are looking to run the gamut of easy laughs, then this is a good pick.

And what is better than a laugh, no matter how cheaply it comes? This journalist thinks that Will Ferrell vomiting in an evil wizard costume at a children's ice show is just funny, and I give the film two enthusiastic thumbs up: mine were 10 IQ points very well spent. As Hollywood pumps out more and more "important" films, it is good to have something to lighten to load every now and again. *Blades of Glory* is helium-light, and easily makes up for any importance that is floating around out there. So, get in the mood for an hour and a half of parody, leave your collegiate mind at home, and don't miss Will Ferrell and Jon Heder on ice in this ridiculous and entertaining romp through sport comedy.

## Portugal. The Man's *It's Complicated Being a Wizard*

By **JAKE SCALICI**  
Staff Writer

Harry Potter has become such a huge character in today's public eye. Books, movies, and games—billions of dollars have been spent on the series, easily justifying that it must be complicated being Harry Potter. Portugal. The Man seemingly echoes this statement on their new E.P. *It's Complicated Being a Wizard*.

*It's Complicated* is the Alaskan five piece's second E.P. release since last January's *Waiter: You Vultures!*, one of last year's more promising releases. On *It's Complicated*, Portugal sounds freshly like a new band and a lot less like their influences that were front and center on their previous releases. Gone are the Flaming Lips-like folk, monotone guitars, and instead, John Gourley creates groove-heavy rock riffs that aren't exactly thrown in the listeners face, but rather blended with Zach Carothers stunningly intricate bass work. The E.P.'s real strength lies in Portugal. The Man's new found use of synths and electronic drums to help anchor the band's infectious sound.

The album is one big song running at about 24 minutes. Each track is labeled as a different "type" of magic to keep with the running theme of wizard motif. Tracks like "Opal Magic," "Ruby Magic" and "Sapphire Magic" are heavy on the bands new-found electronic sound, while later tracks like "Amber Magic" and "Gold Magic" mix together new and old that will most likely be the future of Portugal. The Man.

If this is the future of Portugal. The Man, then the future seems to be bright. It seems as though they've taken their sound and revamped. This little touch of magic seems to have put Portugal in the perfect position to have their infectious sound, finally run ramped.

## Phillies fans tired of waiting for the team to pull through

By **COADY KNOWLES**  
Contributing Writer

In Late February, Philadelphia Phillies Shortstop Jimmy Rollins announced to the world that his team was the team to beat in The National League East. We believed in them. Most of the world was shocked that Rollins would come out and say this, but we, the Phillies fans, believed. It's now late April, and the Phillies are in last place in the National League East. Do we have anything to believe in anymore?

In 2005, the Phillies started 4-6 and missed out on the wildcard by less than two games. In 2006, they started 4-6 again and missed out on the wildcard in their final two games with devastating losses to the Houston Astros. This year, the Phillies started 2-8, and have since dropped to 3-9, five and a half games out of first place. When will the team realize that slow and steady isn't going to win this race? How many years in a row will a tortoise-like start impede the process of such a talented young team?

I traveled around campus and got the input of thirty Arcadia students. Out of these students, twenty-six said that the Phillies wouldn't make the playoffs, three said that the Phillies would make a late-year run to gain a playoff birth, and one said that the Phillies would win the division. Eighty seven percent of students surveyed have doomed the Phillies, even before the beginning of May.

"Eh, they always get off to a slow start. The pitching is better this year, so hopefully that will make up for it," says lone believer Adam Anderson.

Is the pitching better though? Brett Myers has started out at a snail's pace, we have no middle relief at all, and Freddy Garcia began the year by missing two starts. "As long as they stay

healthy, we will be fine come September," Anderson replied.

The rest of the team may not be living up to a winner's standard, but Rollins is holding up his end of the bargain. Rollins started off the season by hitting six homeruns, driving in 11 runs (RBI), and scoring 12 runs himself. Rollins is the team leader in every category. If Rollins were to keep up this pace throughout the season, he would be slated to hit 81 homers, drive in 149 runs, and score 162 runs. Those are numbers that would shatter old Phillies and Major League Baseball records. Does Jimmy Rollins have it in him to produce like this all season? Not a chance. Which means, the guy needs some help.

Last year's fire starters Chase Utley and Ryan Howard have a combined three homeruns, 13 RBIs, and 15 runs scored so far this year. Combined they are bringing to the field what Rollins is. Sadly enough, Ryan Howard is the defending National League MVP. Phillies Manager Charlie Manuel said last week in the Philadelphia Inquirer that "they will pick it up, they always do". Well how long do we, the fans, have to wait?

After the survey, I asked my fellow students why they do or do not believe in the Phillies. Most of the neign-sayers said simply that they are sick and tired of waiting for a team to come around when they have already waited for years. I can't disagree at all, but if a team doesn't have a fan base, what are they playing for? This question was solidified when I asked sole survivor Adam Anderson his thoughts. "Bad start or good start, it's a 162 game season, you gotta believe." Believe we shall through this grueling season, hopefully washing away the broken dreams of past Septembers.

## AU sees uprising of intramural sports

By **CJ JOHNSON**  
Staff Writer

They may not be the fastest, strongest or most athletic students on campus but that doesn't stop dozens of sports enthusiasts from playing. Intramural sports or what is commonly known as sandlot sports are attracting many students on Arcadia's campus this year. With beautiful spring weather hopefully on its way, you can expect everything from Wiffleball to sandlot football to become part of the campus's identity.

Intramural sports don't carry the baggage of daily practice, expensive equipment or a coach, and that's why a number of students have turned to these low-maintenance activities. Intercollegiate sports of Arcadia University are playing at an NCAA Division III standard, which is a non-scholarship collegiate level. Arcadia strongly encourages walk-ons (non-recruited athletes) in most sports. Some students believe that a huge problem lies in the opinion that some athletes feel not committed enough to play scholastically at such a low level. "I know a number of Arcadians that are talented enough to play a club sport (Division III) but would prefer to just play casually," states intramural athlete Scott Palman.

Rick Brownell, Arcadia's Coordinator of Intramural Sports, says that, "Arcadia athletic teams are in the process of entering the MAC conference (a highly regarded, competitive DIII conference) and the level of competition will be at an extremely high level for many of our sports teams." Additionally, Brownell points out that Division III is still extremely competitive but lacks the ability to offer sports scholarships and extended training that Division I and II schools are allowed. Although he remains a strong intramural promoter, Brownell values Arcadia's club sports as well. Brownell stresses that Arcadia's Division III level enables Arcadia to "still compete at high levels but also focus on more of a balanced college experience, with academics staying a very high priority as well."

Students have rallied behind a wide range of intramural sports this year. Everything from basketball to football to ultimate Frisbee, just to name a few, have grown in popularity. All of these sports are what is termed "pick-up"

meaning that if someone wants to play, all this person has to do is show up. Student coordinators such as Scott Palman and John Deitzel have routinely planned dates and times for these sports. "Everyone is always welcomed to play, regardless of their athletic talent," says participant Bryan Alexander.

Over the last two years, pick-up style basketball at Trilogy and the Kuch Center has made its mark on encouraging intramurals at Arcadia. Approximately ten to twelve players get together every Monday at 3 p.m. to showcase their high-flying abilities on the basketball court. Participant Tony Bach says, "Intramural basketball makes me ready to start my school week in a positive way." Participants reiterate that everyone is welcome to play and that the group of guys is competitive yet friendly.

Scott Palman and John Deitzel have organized sandlot football and Wiffleball right on Arcadia's campus. Wiffleball is played in the courtyard area in between Dilworth, Thomas and Kistler halls and is commonly known as "Dilworth Stadium." Here you'll find both male and female players smacking around plastic balls that don't require gloves or leave broken windows.

Sandlot football, a much more aggressive, high-contact sport is underway this spring. Although it's a high-collision sport with no safety equipment, sandlot players stress that safety comes first and dirty or malicious hits are not permitted. This sport enables students campus-wide to experience the king of contact sports, something not offered by Arcadia's current sports program. Volunteer student coordinators have tentatively set aside Tuesdays and/or Thursdays at 4 p.m. as a football date for the rest of the semester.

While football, Ultimate Frisbee and Wiffleball aren't organized by Arcadia, other sports that are



not deemed "pick-up" but rather "sign up" are offered as intramural programs. Brownell has made a strong effort to keep University-organized intramural sports alive and well on campus. Organized intramural soccer, as opposed to pick-up, kept students busy over late fall and early winter last semester. Brownell also attempted the same success with an intramural basketball program (similar to the Monday program) but didn't receive as good of a turnout as expected. Perhaps in the future, more interest and initiative by students will help this program thrive just as the soccer one had previously.

Arcadia is looking to add more intramural programs starting in Fall of 2007. Some of these new sports include Ultimate Frisbee and Flag Football. Brownell strongly believes that intramurals can continue to grow, but students must do their part to help support and organize sports for now and into the future.

Intramural sports have built friendships and camaraderie campus-wide. No commitment or special athleticism is usually needed to play. The true tie binding these athletes together is not necessarily competitiveness, or athleticism, but a shared passion of a sport and stress-free fun that goes into making our lives more enjoyable. If interested in any Arcadia intramurals please don't hesitate to just show up to any of these activities ready to play, or contact Rick Brownell.

For more information e-mail Rick Brownell, Coordinator of Intramural Athletics at brownelr@arcadia.edu or CJ Johnson, Student Coordinator at johnsc23@arcadia.edu.

## Q&A with Scott Wimsey: AU soccer alum turned pro

By **BEN HOFFMAN**  
Contributing Writer

I recently met with Scott Wimsey of the Philadelphia KiXX on the field in the Wachovia Spectrum. The field was flooded with fans as the KiXX auctioned off jerseys worn by players during the game. A product of Father Judge High School, Wimsey joined Arcadia's soccer team in his freshman year. Two years later he received regional All-American honors, and in his senior year, received All-American honors. He signed

with the KiXX in December 2006. Now here he was, a professional athlete watching people bid on his jersey. He took some time to answer a few questions.

Q: When did you start playing soccer?

A: Well, I have been playing all my life.

Q: What drew you to the sport?

A: My older brother played soccer, so I wanted to do it to. My grandfather encouraged me throughout my soccer career. My grandfather was a huge influence for me to play soccer.

Q: What made you choose Arcadia?

A: Well, the coach recruited me, and I thought it was a nice school. I liked the coach, and I thought the team played good soccer.

Q: How did your experiences at Arcadia help shape your career?

A: It was the best four years of my life, soccer-wise and party-wise. I got great coaching and the opportunity to play with a great team. I also just stayed focused with my schoolwork and made sure I kept my grades up.

My focus is what really helped me in school. I stayed focused on the field, and with my work, and that really helped.

Q: What made you try-out for the KiXX?

A: I was contacted and invited to come to their combine.

Q: How would you describe your pro soccer experience so far?

A: Amazing. This is what I've always wanted, ever since I started playing. I signed on December 28, and it's been incredible. It's what I've always

dreamed of.

Q: Out of all the coaches you've had, who has been your favorite?

A: Coach Tom Carlin at Arcadia. He taught me a lot and really made me a better player.

Q: What advice do you have for young players who aspire to a pro career?

A: Don't give up. No matter where you end up, just don't give up. Don't think a D-III school can't get you here. As long as you keep playing, you can get anywhere.