

The Tower



Arcadia University

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Arcadia Mourns the Loss of Carisa Leary: Senior Art Therapy Major Dies at Age 24

By **REBECCA GILLAM**
Contributor

There is so much more to a life than years. There is so much more to time spent with someone than minutes. Carisa Leary spent too few years with us, but each minute was a lesson on how to live life to the fullest and never let anything stop you.

Carisa was the kind of person who you instantly knew cared. She had a lively spirit. You couldn't tell her no. Trust me, many people tried and each and every time she proved them wrong. No matter what the obstacle, how much time it would take or how hard the work was, Carisa would eventually prove that whoever doubted her had no idea what they were talking about.

While she was tough and determined, Carisa also was a very deep and compassionate person. She always made time for friends and family, whom she loved deeply, and art. Carisa will forever be an artist and every bit of her personality can be seen in the artwork she left behind. All the amazing pieces Carisa created in her life show the beauty she found in everything. Her joy in the art-making process can be seen in every stroke of every painting and every creation made in our ceramic studio. Although illness was a large part of her life, Carisa never let her illness or struggles define who she was. Even after having to take a year off from school and spending most of that time in the hospital, as soon

as she could, she went right back to working for her diploma. She knew she had a lot to offer the world and her mission in life was to share her gifts with everyone she could.

If you wanted Carisa as a friend, you only needed to be yourself (and it was also important that you share in her love for Harry, her chinchilla). Her love for life and celebrating every moment left a lasting impression on everyone she met. She loved to chat and had a thousand great stories to share. I always loved watching her tell stories because she displayed so much passion and never hid any emotion. If she was mad, you would know it. If she was worried about someone, you would know that, too.

Carisa hated to see anyone suffer, which is probably why so much of her life was dedicated to helping others. Every summer, Carisa worked proudly at the Ronald McDonald Camp and considered all her campers as her own kids. In the weeks prior to her death, she was working to have a memorial statue constructed in the Children's Hospital of Philadelphia for all the children who passed away. This was a very important



Carisa Leary (1983-2007) with her chinchilla, Harry.
Photo by: Rebecca Gillam

project to her and showed her continued dedication to help the people around her.

On campus, Carisa was involved in the Arcadia Association of Fine Arts and the Special Athletes Association. Aside from these organizations, you would probably find Carisa in the library working hard (she never procrastinated), in the Ceramics studio working on her thesis, or just walking the campus with a huge smile on her face. I never saw her pass anyone without smiling. Smiling was her way of living, and, for many, her smile will forever be a part of the Arcadia Campus.

Raiders Vandalize The ARC

By **NEIL HUNKINS**
Associate Editor

On the morning of Monday, November 19th, Senior Domenic Braccio and Junior Dashiell Davis walked in to the ARC radio studio in Dilworth Hall to prepare for their weekly 11am broadcast only to find that the studio had been vandalized.

"It took us a moment but we realized the wire for the main microphone had been cut and the sound board had been tampered with. We tried to fix it but couldn't," says Davis. "It sucked."

The ARC's president, Sophomore TJ O'Neill, was contacted and began the investigation with the assistance of

Public Safety. His first course of action was to shut down the studio entirely until the damage could be repaired and the investigation could be concluded.

Needless to say, many were dismayed by this act of vandalism. "For the last three months, we've been struggling to keep things functioning in the studio," O'Neill recalls. "This was just an unnecessary step backwards."

Public Safety took pictures of the damage as part of the investigation and also pulled the ID card swipe logs for the studio, which uses the system to restrict access to ARC members.

Please see The ARC, page 11



After 11 days, The ARC is back up and running.
Photo by: Neil Hunkins/ The Tower

I'm Dreaming of a Green Christmas

By **KAITLYN FOTI**
Editor-in-Chief

This December, shoppers are paying less attention to saving money, and more attention to saving the planet. Eco-friendly gifts are all the rage, and the market abounds with everything you need to give green.

Philadelphia boutiques are carrying more and more lines of clothing and accessories made from recycled and organic materials. More brands are becoming environmentally responsible. And consumers are taking notice, shopping with one eye on their Christmas list and the other on reducing their impact on the environment.

No matter your budget, or who your buying for, you can easily find a gift that both your giftee and Mother Earth will thank you for.

Buy vintage, because something old requires no manufacturing and no new materials. Not to mention having a one-of-a-kind gift. Try Retrospect on South Street for some great finds at a decent price for any fashion risk-taker on your list. The Curiosity Shoppe on Fabric Row is another hot spot for great vintage finds, and they also carry locally handmade accessories, including a line of jewelry, G-Funk, made by a Philly designer from recycled items such as glass bottles or casino chips.

For someone with a more modern sensibility, try boutiques like Revelations Boutique on South 4th St. or Arcadia Boutique on 2nd St. Both stores are carrying eco-friendly lines of clothing for men, women and children.

Take it one step further by using recycled gift-wrap, greeting cards and decorations this Holiday Season. Because with every reprocessed paper Christmas card you write, you are closer and closer to having a green Christmas.

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

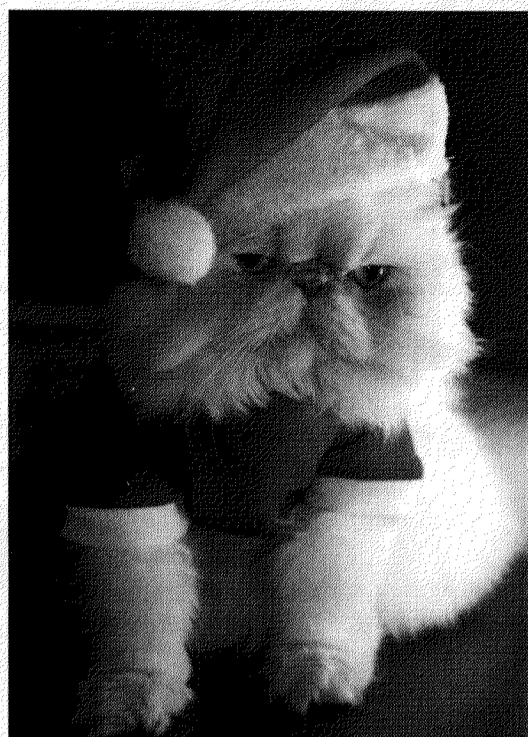
To the Tower Editor,

This letter is written in response to two featured articles in your early November issue. Those articles were entitled "Masquerade Ball..." and "Knight Madness brings the Pep to Arcadia."

We feel as a club that we were misrepresented. Firstly our name was incorrectly written when mentioning the sponsor of Knight Madness and not mentioned at all in the Masquerade Ball article where we collaborated with the Black Awareness Society. As these are some of our bigger events we wish you would have consulted at least one of us for details on how the event was run, what efforts we put into the events, and other details pertaining to our events.

We hope this letter encourages you to look deeper into the events that your articles revolve around and that those in charge of the events get the proper representation in the future.

Sincerely,
Residence Hall Council



*HAPPY HOLIDAYS
FROM THE TOWER
STAFF!
(AND SANTA CAT.)*

FROM THE EDITOR'S DESK...

Hey Beavers,

This is our last issue of the semester, nay, of 2007. Our last issue before finals, Christmas, Hanukkah, New Years and the beginning of a new semester.

We decided to deck out the issue, with Holiday Editions of our columns, and a helpful, if somewhat tongue-in-cheek Gift Guide for all of the hopeless shoppers among you. Even my own Going Green column has been turned into a shopping guide this issue (see front page).

So don't say we never gave you anything.

And once you answer that last question on your last final (undoubtedly, it will be an essay question), have a fantastically festive Winter Break, whether you're looking forward to Hanukkah, Christmas, Kwanzaa, Festivus or just getting a month of free time. And for the love of Baby Jesus, be safe.

Until 2008,
Kaitlyn Foti
Editor-in-Chief

THE BULLPEN ←

The Tower's bi-monthly round-up of quirky, interesting and mildly relevant news.

Wikipedia Banned in New Jersey School District

In an effort to further devalue the First Amendment, a school district in the otherwise progressive state of New Jersey has decided to ban the use of Wikipedia in its schools.

It seems some uppity librarian in the Warren Hills Regional School District of Warren County, NJ got a bug up her book deposit slot over the widespread use of the site amongst students despite its many inaccuracies.

According to the school district's officials, their beef with the site is that it can be modified by anyone. This kind of privilege can lead to detestable activities like independent thinking and acquisition of knowledge that is less than 10 years old.

Plus, the district officials were quick to point out that Wikipedia's entries can often be biased, which contrasts greatly with the strictly objective positions taken in public schools' textbooks.

The disgruntled librarian, a Ms. Linda O'Connor (Irish half-sister of *Terminator's* Sarah Connor), claims that many students do not realize how inaccurate Wikipedia can be.

"Kids just take it for gospel, they really do, and that's my concern about it," she said.

Rather than educate students on how to use the site properly for research, O'Connor, the Warren Hills School District and even post-secondary schools like Centenary College and Lehigh University believe it's much easier to battle the inevitable censorship lawsuits that will stem from this ban.

The ban is also reportedly in line with each school's educational philosophy, which takes great strides to "teach new dogs old tricks."

-Neil Hunkins

No Ho's Allowed in Sydney

Santas in Sydney, Australia may have to think twice before spreading joy and cheer this year.

The jolly St. Nicks were instructed by the Santa training firm Westaff not to use the traditional greeting "ho ho ho" because it could be offensive to women.

Westaff believes the greeting is too close to the word "ho", which, as most know, is an American slang term for prostitute.

According to a disgruntled Father Christmas, the recruitment firm also said that "ho ho ho" may frighten children.

Instead, the Santas are being advised to use the far less menacing "ha ha ha," the Daily Telegraph reports.

"Gimme a break," says Julie Gale, campaign manager of Kids Free 2B Kids, which is against sexualizing children.

Gale told the *Telegraph*, "We are talking about little children who do not understand that 'ho, ho, ho' has any other connotation and nor should they."

She ended by saying something we can all agree on: "Leave Santa alone."

-Gina Merlino

Text Messaging Gone Bad

So, you are driving somewhere and your cell phone beeps because you have a text message. Do you risk reaching for your phone to read the message, or do you pull over just to be safe?

Well, according to Philadelphia's NBC10 News, some newer model cars may provide a screen on the dashboard right behind the steering wheel that will spell out your text messages for you. That way, you won't have to risk your life reaching for the phone.

How crazy is that?! If anything, you're risking your life more by looking down while driving to read a text message that probably wasn't that important to begin with.

Why look at a screen in the car, taking your eyes off of the road and possibly crashing your car? It's not worth it.

If the person who is texting you wanted something that badly, then they would have called you.

Trust me, I should know. There have been countless times where friends will text me to say "yo." Are you serious? "Yo?" That simple word could put me in danger!

If this text messaging screen actually becomes reality in the future, think before buying one. Why risk scratching your car for a text message?

Hey, there's always a chance you'll come to a traffic light and it'll turn red, so read your text messages then. Otherwise, if you choose not to take my advice, then good luck multi-tasking. I did warn you; text messaging has gone bad.

-Elishia Peterson

The Tower

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After Six Months, Apple's iPhone Still Causing Controversy

By HUNTER HOLLIS
Staff Writer

Unless they have been living on Pluto, just about everyone has heard of the Apple iPhone, which was released on June 29th. Some have even experienced the disappointment of not being allowed to own the super phone without switching carriers because the phone can only operate through AT&T. However, 17-year-old George Hotz changed all of that when he became the first person to unlock an iPhone on August 24th.

Hotz, a resident of Glen Rock, NJ, was one of many intrigued by all that the new phone had to offer, but he was unable to own the phone because his mother refused to switch wireless carriers. Hotz purchased the cell phone upon its release, in hopes to unlock the phone and use it on his current wireless network, T-mobile. After 500 hours of tinkering, Hotz successfully removed a chip in the phone, allowing him to use an iPhone on any desired network. The young man proposed that Apple create software to unlock the phone for buyers.

Since the discovery of the iPhone's ability to unlock, approximately 250,000 of them are being used on networks other than AT&T. Fox News reports that AT&T is not profiting from 18% of the iPhones sold. With these statistics, many say it would be a good move for Apple to allow iPhones to be sold under multiple carriers.

However, this change is unlikely because AT&T is paying \$18 a month to Apple for every iPhone sold, according to Gene Munster of Piper Jaffray Analysts. This figure stems from the U.S. government's Financial Accounting Standards Board recent order for Apple to disclose

the iPhone's revenue figures.

This is an extremely large cut of the profits AT&T actually makes from the phone and a commitment that most wireless service providers are not willing to make. Still, other service providers may have different reasons for steering clear of the iPhone.

Yanxia Jia, Assistant Professor of Computer Science at Arcadia University, explains, "Technically, different carriers' networks might be based on incompatible wireless technologies, which makes it hard for an iPhone to simultaneously work on these networks. Even if two carriers use similar technologies, [Provider] A might not be able to pay Apple what [Provider] B agreed to."

Many Arcadia students feel that this technology war is ridiculous. Freshman Jess Vincent commented on the unlocking of iPhones saying, "That sucks for AT&T, at the same time, it's unfair that other servers don't provide it."

Professor Jia, however, says that this will have a negative effect on both companies. "Unlocking means that an iPhone user can purchase an iPhone without subscribing to the service offered by AT&T, so the direct impact is that AT&T will lose revenue. Also, based on an analysis of iPhone revenue data that Apple reported a week ago, analysts estimated that AT&T pays Apple more than \$10/month for each of its subscribers. Based on their estimation about gross profit of iPhone and the number of unlocked iPhones, they estimated that this would cost a loss of revenue in the order of \$100 million for Apple over the span of two years."

Now that the iPhone is being used in unintended ways, Apple has placed even more restrictions on the purchase of their

phones. No cash will be accepted for an iPhone, only a credit or debit card can be used. The limit for the amount of iPhones allowed for purchase by one person was once five, but has been moved down to two. Apple is even unwilling to accept their own gift cards for iPhones. Daniel Slazman, an Arcadia Junior, disagrees with Apple for monitoring iPhone sales. Slazman states, "That's an invasion of privacy; you should be able to spend your dollar however you want."

The International Herald Tribune reports that this January the FCC will auction off a 700 MHz wireless spectrum, allowing faster video streaming and wireless connection for cell phones. When asked to give insight concerning the wireless spectrum, Jia stated, "A few months ago, FCC set up the rules for the upcoming auction in January 2008. Basically, it supports two rules that were proposed by Google, that is, the auction winners must support 'open device' and 'open application', which means, for example, if the winner is AT&T, then its 700Mhz-based network must support mobile devices (using the same frequency band) and applications that are developed by other vendors. But, [the FCC] does not support the other two rules proposed by Google, i.e., 'open services' and 'open network', which means that AT&T will not be obligated to let others buy access at wholesale prices in order to offer network services."

Every company is on equal ground, but AT&T has a great amount of initiative to win because the iPhone is AT&T's driving interest in this FCC auction. Another



service winning may result in the loss of the coveted iPhone to another wireless carrier.

A result of the iPhone's release is a drop in earnings for other companies, such as Verizon. To fight back, major cell phone providers have made new phones available on their networks that rival the iPhone.

Arcadia Sophomore Pierre Latortue says that he would not mind owning an iPhone imitation. Latortue comments, "In my current financial state, I couldn't, but I would love to own a nicer phone."

Other options for those without AT&T are the LG Voyager soon to be available on Verizon. Nokia released the new Nokia N81 in Europe. The Samsung BLACK-JACK II is another phone with features similar to the iPhone that has had success on other networks. There is also talk of Google releasing a rival cell phone, the Gphone.

So, for all of those who could not experience the joy of owning an iPhone on the date of its release, the FCC auction and alternative phones still offer hope that everyone can be on the same technological page, regardless of their wireless carriers.

Bored With Your Real Life? Try Second Life

By GINA MERLINO
Staff Writer

Imagine a 3-D virtual world in which you can create anything you want and live in it. Such a world exists online. It is called Second Life.

People sign on to Second Life to enter into a digital continent teeming with people, entertainment, experiences and opportunity.

For users, there are three different types of memberships. There is the First Basic, which is free. With this, there is access to events, scripting, building, shopping, everything to do in Second Life. Each additional Basic account has a one-time fee of \$9.95.

The Premium account has a monthly charge of \$9.95. With this account, you get land on which to build, live, entertain, or display. There is information on land pricing and use fees, buying, and how to acquire and use land. What a landowner does with their land is limited only by their imagination-and perhaps fees.

Once signed up, people can create an Avatar, their persona in the virtual world, and personalize it however they please.

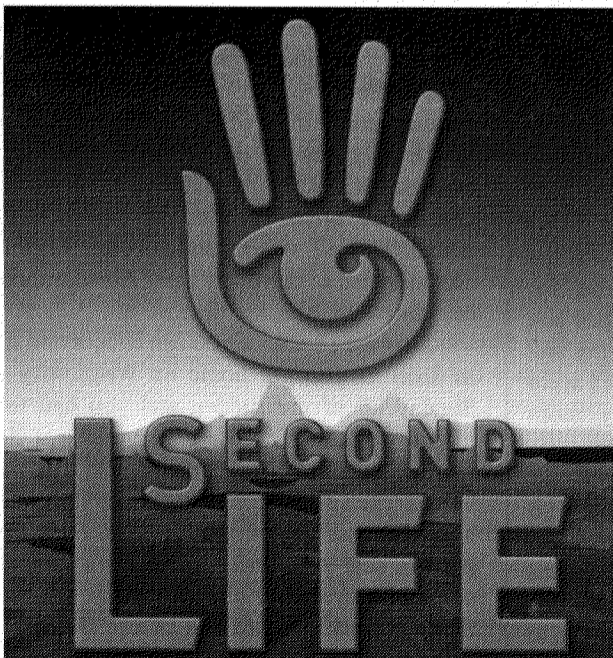
In terms of where to go and what to do in Second Life, the possibilities are endless. To help navigate the way, there are three tools to help.

First is the web map, which can be found by clicking the green dots when they show up on the screen. Next is the Search Menu for looking up information about a particular event. Getting to know other people by clicking on their avatar is another way to find your way around.

Meeting people in Second Life is easy, as many users are eager to meet new members. Events are always going on. You can party at a nightclub, go to a fashion show, or attend an art opening. There are also hundreds of games as well as shopping malls, space stations, dance clubs, and more.

Residents can create as well by selling to and trading with other Residents. Second Life has its own economy, which can be accessed through the Marketplace. It is complete with graphs, statistics, market data, and business opportunities. Residents use U.S. dollars, which can be converted into Linden dollars, Second Life's currency. If a Resident so desires, they could buy an island.

Second Life is an interesting portal: a virtual world with seemingly no limits where Residents use their imaginations to create anything.



Political Preview

By KRISTIAN GLOVER
News Editor

Out of all the Republican candidates former NY Mayor Rudy Guiliani is definitely the most well known (aside from maybe Fred Thompson, but that's just because he's on Law & Order).

He also is one of the more liberal Republicans to come along in quite awhile, being the only 2008 presidential candidate of his party to support abortion rights and domestic partnerships. Some fear that while he is currently the front-runner for his party, his views on these two issues may prove to be his downfall.

His views are in contrast to those of evangelicals and the majority of religious groups, which make up a large portion of Republican support.

During the Republican debate on November 28, Guiliani may have made a fatal mistake. When asked about the Bible he said, "The reality is, I believe it, but I don't believe it's necessarily literally true in every single respect. I don't believe every single thing in the literal sense of Jonah being in the belly of the whale, or, you know, there are some things in it that I think were put there as allegorical."

Did he lose his Public Relations team or did he just decide to completely disregard his audience? There's being honest and then there's practically throwing away months of fundraising and campaigning, and possibly the entire race.

If the religious majority hadn't already written him off, I'm sure they're probably considering it even more than ever after a statement like that.

Aside from his rather un-Republican views on social issues and his seemingly obvious rejection to blindly follow the Bible belt, his views on other issues such as Iraq and Education are very similar to the other candidates.

He has proposed plans to improve CO2 emissions and the health-care crisis, but has not made a comment regarding immigration.

For more information on his and the other Republican candidates campaigns visit www.rudyforpresident.com.

Things You Could Do In Glenside (But Probably Shouldn't) Holiday Edition

By **JENNIFER PACHECO**
Staff Writer

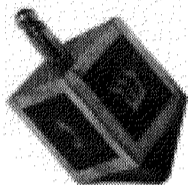
With Thanksgiving over, many Arcadians are left bloated and exhausted. During these next few weeks before finals, you should be recuperating and preparing to head into the home stretch of the holiday season. With Hanukkah coming extra early this year, and Christmas to prepare for, there are many fun activities to take part in around campus. With all the stress of finals it is good to let loose before winter break!

1. "The Santa Suit"

Everyone loves someone dressed in a Santa suit! At your next holiday shindig, feel free to take that one step further and come in a suit made out of body paint. Depending on the body, the ladies will love you or be repulsed by you, but it's always a good outfit for laughs!

2. "Drunk Dradle"

Everyone learns the song "Dradle, Dradle, Dradle," so why not play the game when a little tipsy? Whoever gets it on the Gimmel is allowed to make anyone playing take a shot and whoever spins a Shin automatically has to take a shot! In the end, everyone wins! (Drinking on an empty stomach is a bad idea. Be sure to eat some latkes before hand, as a Hanukkah hang-over is not ideal!)



3. Use some of your Thanksgiving props from the Pilgrim and Indians party you had after the last issue and sing Carols in them!

People love Christmas Carols; why not give them some extra pizzazz by dressing up as your favorite group from the first Thanksgiving? Wishing people a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year in full Indian regalia is always a good time!

4. Have an early New Year's party.

Make your own "ball" to "drop" and party like it's 1999, of course! Invite all of your friends to dress up and drink up next Saturday night!

5. Make your own dorm room "Charlie Brown Christmas Tree."

The first step is to find a saw or a really heavy friend. Wait until it gets dark out and head to the soccer field or the wooded area behind Brubaker. Rip down a branch and after duct taping it to the floor of your room/apartment, begin decorating it with any odds-n-ends you can find. You can debut it at your New Year's party!

Enjoy winter break. Have fun celebrating the holidays and enjoy all of the presents while trying to deal with your parents! Hopefully, you'll get some snow and you can enjoy some winter sports before coming back for the spring semester!

Facebook and Cyber Civility

By **LEANDRA CAMERON**
Staff Writer

On the evening of Wednesday, October 3rd, Arcadia hosted an appropriate forum relative to today. The meeting was specifically about social networking safety on the internet. Titled "Leadership at Arcadia University Program Session: Facebook.com & Cyber Civility," the meeting was centrally focused on (yes, you guessed it) the very popular social networking site, Facebook.com.

Held in the Gallery Room of the University's Landman Library, the meeting was lead solely by Breann Donnelly, Area Coordinator for the Kistler, Castle and Thomas residence halls.

While there were only three people in attendance, including the speaker, the meeting turned into a pretty informative and lively discussion.

Armed with a slideshow, Donnelly made way into the topic of cyber civility. At the top of the meeting, she described social networking as a cultural phenomenon. In theory, a social network is a platform for a group of individuals to connect over common bonds. In truth, some people's intentions for social networking can be quite the contrary. In short, a cultural phenomenon, that is Facebook, can turn into an ugly phenomenon.

Cyberstalking does occur, which is why when News Feed was introduced by the site in 2006, it received harsh criticism. News Feed, which is a brief write-up of users activities on the site (i.e. At 12:07pm Jane Doe joined the group "Arcadia is for Lovers"), people can keep tabs on the activities of other people.

Facebook, which was founded in 2004 by Harvard drop-out Mark Zuckerberg, hosts an estimated thirty million people with users ranging from college students and administrators to your average Joe Schmo. An estimated 150,000 people use Facebook daily. With so many people on board, it's no wonder why legal issues have occurred.

Donnelly said, "Once you check the box agreeing to terms when creating a Facebook account, it absolves you of your rights. You can't

sue Facebook, but you can sue another [user]."

Lawsuits related to Facebook are centered around claims of defamation, oral (slandorous) or written (libelous) character damaging information, and invasion of privacy. For example, a Southern Illinois University student is currently involved in a defamation case involving a Facebook group he created which pointed to his ex-girlfriend's promiscuity.

"Give up on the idea of a social networking free-for-all...other people can see your information," said Donnelly. The speaker advised that users should edit group memberships as well as friend lists and privacy settings.

She also advised that users delete third party applications, which are created by people not directly affiliated with Facebook. Certain programs can be used to retrieve your personal information. In other words, get rid of your "Gardens," Horoscopes, "Zombies," and the like.

Getting rid of applications or even deleting your Facebook entirely doesn't mean you're completely out of the woods. The Internet Archive Wayback Machine, a software program, can trace information on the internet. In relation to social networking, The Wayback Machine can trace the history of your posted items, pictures, and comments.

Also, deletion of a Facebook account means nothing. Once you create a Facebook account, Facebook owns your information. If they were ever subpoenaed, or forced to speak at trial, they would be able to retrieve your information.

One thing to be comforted by is the fact that Facebook hasn't sold out to a larger company such as Google. This means that one cannot do a Google search on a Facebook account. Facebook is log-in based, meaning one needs to be a registered user of the site in order to see others' profiles.

"Ultimately, what you put on the internet is visible by others," Donnelly said. "You are accountable for the information you post. Remember, you can say what you want until it infringes on the rights of others."

What We See:

Piles of Presents and Will Ferrell

By **TIMOTHY J McLAUGHLIN**
Photography Editor

My parents always obsess over videotaping Christmas morning. The hurried, excited rush down the stairs to piles of presents has been documented every year since I can remember. Inevitably, Christmas morning begins with my siblings and I sitting and whining at the top of the steps for about an hour while my dad struggles to assemble the tripod and video camera. After twenty-one years, I am convinced he did it on purpose.

Eventually, my parents would give the word, and we would all dash down the stairs to our pile of gifts. I remember one year when I turned the corner to find a brand new bicycle under the tree, and one year when a Batman Bat Cave toy set waited for me. For my family, Christmas morning is one of the few times when we actually spend quality time together. My siblings and I aren't trying to come up with excuses for leaving my grandmother's house early, and my mom doesn't have to try to keep conversation going with my dad's side of the family.

Last year, however, those piles of gifts were a little smaller. My dad lost his job a few months before Christmas, so the toy fund was a little dry. While my siblings and I all assured my mom that we're too old for Christmas presents (I'm the

youngest in my family), she still wanted us to have presents on Christmas morning.

We agreed on a compromise: mom could still buy us a few gifts to fill our stockings, but instead of making Christmas morning the central part of Christmas, we would make Christmas Eve our focal point. That way, we could enjoy dinner as a family and not worry about the presents.

So, on Christmas Eve, we came home from mass, ate a nice dinner, and proceeded to open a few bottles of champagne and get trashed. We watched the movie Elf, played Cranium, and even watched embarrassing movies from when I was two years old.

OK, so maybe most families wouldn't watch a Will Ferrell movie while buzzed on Korbel for Christmas, but the point is we finally enjoyed one another's company. My brother didn't nag my sisters, my sister-in-law didn't seem awkward at all, and my mom wasn't stressed out.

My parents will always have those videos of old Christmas mornings to reminisce over, but from now on, Christmas means something different to my family. It seems cheesy and sitcom-ish to say it, but Christmas isn't about seeing those presents anymore. It's about spending time with these really cool people that I grew up with, people I never would have called cool.



TRAILER FABULOUS: Thanksgiving Break is Bunk

By **KAT NOCKETT**
Contributor

Let me begin with the fact that Penn State gets a week long break. That's right, folks, from Sunday to Sunday. Meanwhile, our little Arcadia University gives us 3 days . . . and for most of us it doesn't matter because most of us work those days plus the weekend. So really, the only day we do get off is Thanksgiving . . . and that's only because it's a NATIONAL holiday. For those of you that have to work your entire "break," I salute you. For those of you lucky ones, like me, who didn't have to work and got their 3 extra days off, congratulations. The meaning of this crazy rant? Arcadia should give a week long break because, well, hell, we deserve it.

I am sure many of you can concur that it seems like you fell asleep as soon as you got home on Wednesday and woke to find it was Sunday all of the sudden and you had to return to the misty and gloomy Arcadia for those final 2 weeks of classes. Thanksgiving break is more of a tease for winter break. Thanksgiving break taunts you. "Yeah, cherish these few short days you have in the luxury of your home because its going to be taken away from you, and then you will have to deal with finals!" And that's another thing . . . as soon as we come back from our blip of a break, we have to deal with the mountains of work that are due before the last day of classes, which, of course, were not touched at all over break. Then there are finals. Oh finals . . . the one time of year I wonder how important a college degree is when it comes to teaching kindergarten. Thanksgiving break is a tease, it gets you all the way in the bed room, top off, on top of you, and says how its going to give you the "best blow-jay ever" . . . and then it pukes on your brand new sheets.

Knights' Nook

Arcadia's Wise Women answer ALL of your questions about love, life and the library!

Dear Miss Petunia,

I think I am going crazy. I have a friend who does nothing but complain. This girl has a normal life like everyone else I know, but she complains constantly! Most of the time, it is about problems that would upset anyone. But we all have problems, don't we? I just want her to be happy. I told her that I miss her happiness and I feel like she is always angry. She just got mad at me for it. We used to have fun all the time and now I can't even get a word in edgewise to talk to her. She says she loves her boyfriend, but all she talks about is why he's a jerk. She says that she has great friends, but all she does is talk about them badly. I'm just frustrated and I am finding it hard not to just want to get away from her. We have been friends for a long time and I don't want to do that. I feel like either I walk away from our friendship or keep it and be miserable with her.

-Frustrated Friend

Dear Frustrated Friend,

The first step in a situation like this is definately communication. It sounds like you tried that and it didn't work out. I think you should try again. Explain how you feel in the most supportive way that you can. This could be done in person or in a letter. Sometimes, a letter is easier because you can read it over and over, and make sure that you said exactly what you mean. Make sure you emphasize how much you care about her and the friendship. This might help her to see that you are trying to work things out and not just be critical of her. Tell her that you don't mind listening to problems sometimes, but that sometimes you just want to relax and have fun, too. If this doesn't work, then I think that the healthy thing to do is too stay friends with her but keep your distance a little bit. That way you can continue to be there for her, but it gives you room to have a little sanity as well. You definately don't want to be miserable, too! Encourage her to talk about happy things, and surround yourself with others that are happy on days that you aren't around her.

-Miss Petunia

Dear Ms. Majestic,

I'm really not excited to be going home for winter break! I LOVE being on my own and going home is so nauseating. The last two winter breaks have been absolutely redundant! My grandma tries to get me to try on ugly clothes when we go shopping, my dad asks me thousands of questions about the "guys" that I've met at Arcadia that don't even exist and my mom drags me to every department store known to man. At family gatherings I have to remind all of my first and second cousins that I am a junior and NOT graduating in the spring. DO you see what I mean? At school, I don't have to worry about any of this stuff, but at home it's like a painful sitcom starring me. Don't get me wrong, I love my family, but they really get on my nerves! What do I do?

-Unhappy about the Break

Dear Unhappy,

You are hilarious! I completely understand what you mean about the family thing. It seems like no matter how long you have been in college, your distant (and sometimes close) relatives still think that you're about to graduate! But seriously, you shouldn't sweat the upcoming break. As much as your family seems to piss you off, if they didn't hound you about your past semester you would probably miss them. During the holiday season, you should be most thankful for the family that you do have because many of your classmates will be without their closest friends and family. While you sit back and think of how much your aunt Maude makes the worst fruitcake, just TRY to be happy that you are alive to taste the icky concoction. If all else fails, no one will want to sit beside you at dinner if you're a sourpuss or if you pretend like you can't hear them, so if you're desparate . . . just act weird!

-Miss Majestic

Questions for the ladies? E-mail them at:
KnightsNook@gmail.com

Bill Meiers: Obsessed With Quality Teaching

By STACI CAMPBELL
Contributor

A thin, light-haired man in glasses moves quickly to the front of the classroom with the agile steps of an athlete. He writes two words on the blackboard: Bill and Meiers. He underlines Bill.

"This is my name," he says, "but before long you'll just be calling me Bill."

With that, he sits lightly atop the desk at the front of the room and begins unwrapping a Hershey's kiss.

"I've already had three today. I really shouldn't have another," he shrugs, a mischievous twinkle in his eyes, "but I will."

Two minutes into the first day of classes at Arcadia University and the students in Bill's Contemporary Short Fiction class are in rapt attention. Already, they've seen more about this professor's personality than they are used to seeing from anyone else in an entire semester. For better or worse, they'll learn a lot more about him before the semester is over.

Bill has been a professor at Arcadia for eight years, but a member of the Arcadia community since 1981 when he started working on the two masters degrees he would earn from the university.

Now, at age 51, Bill is an adjunct English professor at Arcadia, as well as a head of the Honors program, a member of the FYSAE (First Year Study Abroad) team, a husband of 24 years, and a dedicated distance athlete. Last month, he completed his ninth Ironman Triathlon.

Literature has always had a big impact on Meiers' life. It is fitting that he extracted his personal mantra from a John Irving's *The Hotel New Hampshire*.

"You've got to get obsessed and stay obsessed," says Meiers, quoting the novel. "That's the goal." Bill applies this obsessiveness to everything he does.

It is his obsession that makes Bill the notable professor that he is. When asked what his favorite thing about teaching is, Bill gives a crooked smile and says,

"Everything."

To elaborate, he says the best thing is "when you see light in a student's mind and realize you can make a difference in a student's life." He believes that teaching is all about being a catalyst in the chemical reaction that is learning. Being that catalyst is his privilege. "It is a pure joy."

His classes are all discussion-based. The process of learning is reciprocal, not lecturing, but "a sharing of enthusiasm."

As his slim frame discloses, he is also obsessed with staying fit. One of his passions happens to be marathon running. Bill has been participating in Ironman Triathlons since 1982. He attended his ninth one this past month.

He is eager to share the tale of his seventeen-hour adventure with his class when he returns, as he is always ready to share most of his experiences. He even tells them that they were part of his inspiration: how could he walk back into class Monday morning and tell them that he had not finished the race? He sums up his experience with a simple equation:

"A 2.4 mile swim plus a 112 mile bike plus a 26.2 mile run equals 140.6 miles of absolutely exquisite suffering."

This obsession for sharing knowledge and experience is something that students sense right away about Bill and respond well to.

"I was feeling discouraged and thinking about dropping out of the Honors program," says one student from his Honors Short Fiction class, "but I didn't want to miss Bill's class."

Respect is also reciprocal in Bill's classroom. As a teenager, Bill grew up fast. He lived in Japan for his high school years. From the fast-paced city life there, he learned a degree of independence that is unattainable for young Americans. He brings this sense of maturity to his

students.

"In my classroom, it is time to accord students the adult respect they deserve," Bill says. "I measure my students by the highest denominator, rather than the lowest."

Bill also uses a reward system, rather than one of punishment. Somewhat incongruous to his "maturity" theme, though oddly fitting in his classroom, Bill hands out gold stars for a job well done. Not in the metaphorical sense, either; Bill literally hands out straight-from-first-grade gold stars. And in their own anachronistic way, they seem like a good reward for a bunch of twenty-something college students.

His inspiration to keep on teaching came from his own teachers growing up. "I've had more than my fair share of good teachers," he said. He hopes to inspire his students the same way, but is constantly amazed by how much he ends up learning from them.

Bill's obsessiveness can also be seen as a flaw. He constantly finds himself distracted by various tangents and digressions. In class, his students often sit wondering how a story about two dogs being bred or about Bill having a closet full of dresses he likes to try on is relevant to the class discussion.

"I'm interested in everything, so I'm no good at specializing," Bill says. Any one of his students (and anyone who has ever asked him a question about anything) is quite aware of this.

All in all, though, Bill's passion reaches students on a profound level. They are sure to leave his class with a strong impression of him.

As for the dresses, he tells his class during a discussion on a totally unrelated story by Amy Tan, "I just like the way the fabrics feel."

"You see light in a student's mind and realize you can make a difference in a student's life."

Facebook Gift Giving Guide

By **TIMOTHY MCLAUGHLIN**
Photography Editor

If you're a good college student, you already spent all the money you made over the summer on beer, and chances are good that your work-study money was blown on your last trip to Wawa. Now you're left with just \$10 to your name, and ten friends that expect gifts.

Think you'll be resorting to candy canes and IOU's this year? Think again! Thanks to Facebook, you can send gifts to some of your closest friends (or at least the ones that aren't on your limited profile list) for only one dollar!

Give someone the key to your heart or send them a can of Whoop Ass. The possibilities are endless!

Just don't ever send anyone the "Hi!" balloon. You know that's lame. I don't need to tell you how lame that is.

The "I <3 mom" bear - I'm not so sure who is friends with their mother on Facebook, but I suppose anything is possible. Less permanent than a tattoo and more loveable than you are, this bear is a great way to tell Mom you care.

The completed Rubik's cube - Now this is just sinister. Nothing says "You're a dingbat, so I finished it for you" like a completed Rubik's cube. Damn, the least they could do is mix it up a little for the benefit of the doubt.

Lime - This is my favorite part of a tequila shot. To me, nothin' says "I wanna get yuh drunk" like a lime.

Goldy the Goldfish - Too many college students send their beta fish the way of the plumbing. Why not save a fish from neglectful cruelty and buy your friend a digitized fish? I guarantee it will last longer.

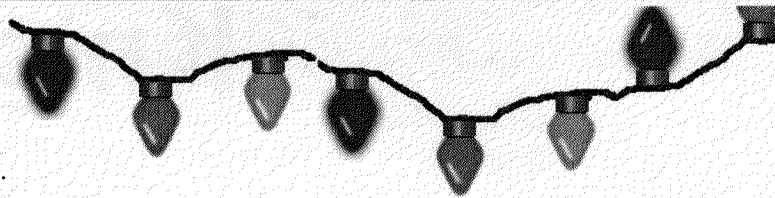
Gummy Bear - I love gummy bears.
Buddha Statue - Buddha makes me smile every time I look at him. This year, send a smile to a good friend with the gift of a jolly diety.

Cuddle Bear - You're too broke to go to Build-a-Bear. This bear loves to cuddle, and he's soft on your wallet as well as your skin.

Death by Chocolate - Are your friends concerned about the Freshman 15? Let them know you're okay with their cankles by sending them a virtual calorie-fest.

Chocolate Donut - So you can't go to Dunkin Donuts past 11pm anymore, but you can send this pixelated pastry 24/7.

Cherry Whip - Everything is better with Cool Whip, and a cherry on top is just plain fancy.



Top 8 Hanukkah Gifts For Your Family Members

By **JENNIFER PACHECO**
Associate Editor

Hanukkah comes around once a year, but unlike Christmas, there are 8 nights of gift-giving to worry about when shopping. As the sole Jew on *The Tower* Staff, I thought I would take it upon myself to suggest a great gift for every member of your Jewish family.

For your mother: Jewish mothers LOVE to worry! I found the best gift for mom on BeeImageBoutiquegift.com. For only \$20, you can purchase your very own worry box! The site describes their product as the box "for your worries, the aches within your heart, a place to tuck away your fears, where love and hope can start, so keep this box beside you, and know how much they care, for when you need peace and joy, the angels will be there!"

For your father: Jewish fathers spend a lot of their time listening to their wives worry and complain. To help give them some peace and quiet, why not buy them a pair of Bose Noise Canceling Headphones. Although they're a bit on the pricy side, they are worth every penny! Your dad can just smile and nod while your mom goes on for hours and hours worrying about every detail of your life!

For your grandmother: If your grandma is anything like mine, she loves the Home Shopping Network! For the woman who never knows what she wants, the best gift can be found on HSN.com. The Home Shopping Network Gift Card can be purchased in \$25 price intervals and used year-round.

For your grandfather: My grandfather loves anything and everything about sports. If tickets to your gramp's favorite team's game are out of the question, why not buy him something from www.sportsmemorabilia.com like a signed ball from his favorite player.

For your brother: Depending on your brother's age range, he probably has many interests. For boys younger than five, the Little People Pirate Ship, available on ToysRUs.com, is a great buy for only \$30. For boys under ten, the site also has a lot of great stuff. The most exciting gift might be the 15" Road Ripper Monster Truck called Bigfoot. For your teenage brother, a gift card from Best Buy or Circuit City is right up their alley.

For your sister: Girls under five love dolls, so don't count out old faithful, the Cabbage Patch kid. Starting at \$14.99 from ToysRUs.com, it's a gift your sister will remember until she's 12 and hates you! If your sister is under ten, she most likely worships Hannah Montana or the Jonas Brothers, so get her a poster from AllPosters.com starting at \$6.99! For your teenage sister, don't even bother getting her a gift card to any specific store since she's probably at the age where nothing makes her happy. Just give her a \$20 bill and drop her off at the mall.

For your boyfriend: There are many different things you can get for your boyfriend. I'm sure he would enjoy anything you would buy, perhaps something for yourself from Victoria's Secret or the newest iPod (for him, that is). If he likes video games, there are a lot of specials on games from Walmart.com and don't forget the newest music game, *Rock Band*, available at BestBuy.com.

For your girlfriend: One word: Tiffany's. Your girlfriend probably loves jewelry; her Jewish mother has been rooting for a Hanukkah engagement since she first brought you home for Passover. Available at Tiffany.com, there are tons of rings, bracelets, and other trinkets to strike her fancy.

Enjoy your Hanukkah and good luck finding the perfect gift. Don't fill up on the latkes or fall asleep before your family lights the menorah!

For only \$20, you can purchase your very own worry box!

Affordable Holiday Shopping in Glenside

By **GINA MERLINO**
Staff Writer

The holiday season is here and you know what that means: shopping for gifts. If you're like many college students, you are on a very tight budget. Cash is a precious thing, and there is small, small supply of it. Fear not, there are several places to shop where prices are affordable. Here are the top five stores in the area around Glenside to find money-saving holiday gifts.

1. First up is the New Life Thrift Shop on Easton Road in Glenside. Inside, there is furniture, racks and racks of clothing for men, women, and children, as well as shoes, books, kitchen supplies, artwork, toys, and other odds-n-ends. You are bound to find something good and the store has a charitable mission statement.

2. Next is Five Below. This store is seriously cool. They have all kinds of neat stuff for \$5 and under. We aren't talking some dollar store crap that could break, they have a good selection. There are toys, candy, make-up, accessories, school supplies, shoes, bags, exercise equipment, books, movies, and more. They are located just outside the Willow Grove Mall next to Barnes and Noble.

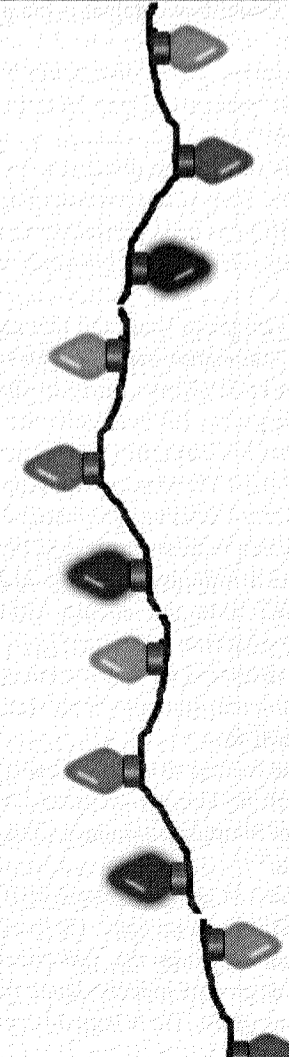
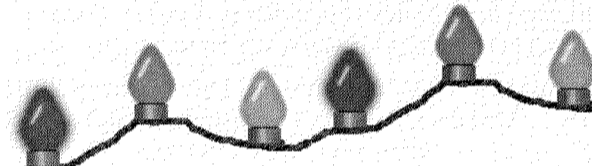
3. Target. Known for its red target symbol and low prices, this franchise has locations all over, and certain brands you might not be able to find in other stores. Their nearest location to Arcadia is on Easton Road in Abington. You can also shop online

and give back to your community.

4. Plato's Closet. This is an interesting new store. It sells gently used teen clothing at discount prices. Their closest location is in Langhorne. They sell clothes, shoes, jewelry, and accessories. The merchandise is from all the top brands including American Eagle, Abercrombie & Fitch, Victoria's Secret, Hollister, Gap and more. The used clothing is brand name, stylish, and, most importantly, cheap.

5. Finally, there is Walmart. Like Target, it is a monster franchise, the one that probably dominates the world in retail. You can find what you want for a very low price as well as shop online. Walmart also gives back to the community. Their nearest store is right up the road in Wyncote.

These five stores will serve you well if you are tight on cash or not sure where to shop. In all of them, there is quality merchandise, great selection, and some really good bargains if you look hard enough. Scour the racks and who knows what neat gift you could find. If you are truly not sure what to get people, you can buy a gift card for Walmart, Five Below and Target.



Ten Gifts for Less Than Ten Bucks

By MAYA STEWART
Associate Editor

'Tis the season for gift-giving! Whether you're shopping for the family or getting that last minute Pollyanna/Secret Santa gift, you have to face the facts: College students are broke. In this wide world of tuition and overpriced textbooks, it's not so easy to give über-expensive gifts. With a little hard work and effort, you can be sure to stick to your budget with this list of great gifts that are sure to please anyone!

1. Bucket O' Junk - Take a trip to the local Five and Below store and have a field day! They have \$5 t-shirts, toys and even prank gadgets; grab a bucket or bin for the small trinkets and watch it fill up. They even have a DVD section that may suite the taste of that special person.

Located: Across from the Willow Grove Park Mall

2. Mature Bucket O' Junk - If Five and Below doesn't fit your needs, there's always the world's greatest store. No, not Wal-Mart... THE DOLLAR STORE! This place has everything a person on a budget could possibly need and more. At the Dollar Store, you can find generic cleaning products, post-its and cheap picture frames. Just remember that while you splurge in the Dollar Store, those bucks start to add up and you get what you pay for. After all, you can't expect much from an item that costs \$1. Buyers Beware!

Located: Cheltenham Square Mall, near Wal-Mart

3. Chocolate - Whether it be upscale dark or classic milk chocolate, this favorite can win the heart of even the pickiest person. Most gourmet chocolate shops like Godiva and Ghirardelli have "trinket chocolates," which are the individually wrapped chocolates that aren't as expensive but just as good. Grab a mug that you don't

mind giving away and fill it with these little trinkets and voila! Gift complete!

Located: Ghirardelli squares are sold at Wawa; Godiva store inside of Willow Grove Mall

4. Gifts Cards - However informal they may be, gift cards just might be the quick and easy solution to your gift-giving woes. Lots of places offer them in \$5 and \$10 increments, so don't fret the cost. Look for more practical places like Wawa, Dunkin Donuts or Starbucks; it's almost like getting cold hard cash but sweeter!

Located: Wherever gift cards are sold

5. Netflix - For the girl or guy who loves movies or doesn't get to watch them all that often, this gift is perfect. It's really simple, you (the gift-giver) go online to Netflix.com, click on "Give a Gift" and follow the on-screen instructions. The catch is that the friend has to continue the subscription to keep the movies rolling because you certainly can't afford it for them. But for one month, the movies will be on you, and for just \$4.95 the friend will get 2 free movies. Job well done!

Located: www.Netflix.com

6. Books - There are plenty of discount book stores out in the universe and there's one in particular that isn't too shabby. Daedalus Books and Music (www.salebooks.com) offers books in every genre for up to 80% off of the listed price! Many newer titles that are listed for \$24.95 sell for just \$4.98! If you aren't afraid of the nominal shipping fee, then this is your place. Also, try Barnes and Noble; they have books that are sold by private sellers that are sometimes 85% off of the cover price, too!

Located: www.bn.com; www.salebooks.com

7. Light Bulbs - Might sound too good to be true, but your friend who is all about 'going green' may really appreciate a twin pack of those corkscrew light bulbs that

are said to last 5 years! The new and improved CFL light bulbs really do their part in helping the planet, and your eco-friendly friend will thank you for them.

Located: Wherever light bulbs are sold

8. Favorite Snacks - Does your person have a favorite snack? Well, buy them tons of it... at least ten bucks worth, especially if they love Doritos, snacks cakes or Captain Crunch cereal. Stop by PathMark, grab the king-size version of their favorite snack, put a bow on it and there you have it. At least they won't have to worry about running out over winter break and you'll have piece of mind that your gift was consumed!

Located: Wherever snacks are sold

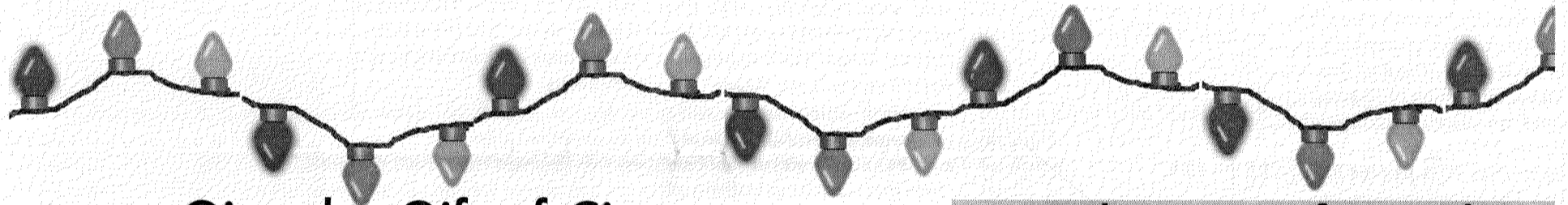
9. Posters - You'd be surprised at how much inventory those poster stores like the one down on South Street really carry. AllPosters.com is a one-stop shop for dorm room décor, especially if you're looking for something to spruce up that HUGE white wall space that won't get you into trouble. They have one-day only sales almost everyday and if you sign up for emails, they'll send you codes for free shipping and remind you when a sale is coming.

Located: On South Street or www.Allposters.com

10. Cash Money - When all else fails, just show them the money. With the end of the semester wrapping up, you don't want to wreck your brain for that perfectly priced gift or spend all your precious time finding it when you could be studying. Find a unique way to give them cash, like making an origami swan out of a buck or putting it in a jewelry box. You just can't go wrong with money, you just can't.

Located: In your wallet/pocket

Happy Holidays and Good Luck Shopping!



Give the Gift of Cinema: DVDs For Anyone on Your List

By NEIL HUNKINS
Associate Editor

Here are the best picks for the movie fans on your shopping list... or those who you'd like to shut up for two hours at a time.

300 - Comic Sarah Silverman explains the film's title: "They got the name for the movie by measuring on a scale of 1 to 10 how gay it is." Gayness aside, this movie, which depicts how 300 Spartans went up against an entire Persian army, totally rocks. Perfect for any adrenaline junkie or visual effects aficionado.

The Bourne Ultimatum - Arguably the only threequel all summer that actually delivered, the third (and, we hope, final) *Bourne* chapter finds the amnesiac assassin back home in New York to finish his quest for his true identity. The whirlwind action sequences may leave you dizzy but rooting for Matt Damon all the same. A great buy for any spy genre fan.

Superbad - From the comic genius of Judd Apatow, this teen sex comedy about (what else?) teens trying to lose their virginity in a single night is far more accurate and hilarious than the schlock of the late 90s (*American Pie*, anyone?). With newcomer Jonah Hill, *Arrested Development* alum Michael Cera and *Knocked Up*'s Seth Rogen (who wrote the script), this movie will have you crying with laughter. A must have gift for horny people of all ages.

Futurama: Bender's Big Score - That's right, *Futurama* is back! In their first full length straight-to-DVD feature film, alien telemarketers hijack Planet Express and use Bender, the lovable, dirty-minded, alcoholic robot, to steal all of Earth's valuable historical artifacts. In true *Futurama* fashion, the ridiculous storyline includes the continued love tussle between Fry and Leela as well as returning cameos by Al Gore and Coolio, who plays

Kwanzaa-bot. A solid gift for *Futurama* fans or drunk robots.

Children of Men - In this visionary masterpiece, director Alfonso Cuarón offers a terrifying glimpse into a reality we may not be too far from. In 2027, humans can no longer procreate and the ensuing struggle for survival creates rampant isolationist hysteria. Clive Owen gives a thrilling performance as a former activist charged with protecting humankind's last hope. A worthy buy for anyone... unless you're sterile.

Reign Over Me - In this post-9/11 story set in New York, Adam Sandler once again proves his chops as a dramatic actor. After losing his entire family, who were on board one of the planes that hit the Towers, Sandler's character is crippled by grief until a chance encounter with an old college friend, played by Don Cheadle, revives his sense of hope and strength through friendship. A good movie to cuddle up and watch with someone special.

Lost Season Three - Though Season Two of this Emmy Award-winning show may have wandered astray, Season Three came back with a vengeance. Old mysteries were solved (including how Locke ended up in a wheelchair), new questions were raised and the long awaited Losties vs. Others showdown finally broke out. Plus, the final moments of the season finale changed the face of the show entirely. A necessity for *Lost* fans.

The Office Season Three - The Dunder Mifflin Scranton branch returns for more laughs in the third installment of NBC's best low-key comedy. With Michael Scott hooking up with his boss; Dwight and Angela's desperate attempts to keep their relationship private; and the continued romantic tension between Jim and Pam; the awkward magnificence of *The Office* continues to deliver the goods. A awesome buy for loyal *Office* fans and anyone who loves a good laugh.

Bookstore Gift Guide

By TIMOTHY J McLAUGHLIN
Photography Editor

Need to find gifts for everyone on your list, but can't find time to shop off-campus? Maybe you don't have a car on campus, you hate the malls, or you think your parents won't notice if you charge their presents to your student account and let them pick up the tab later. No matter what your excuse is, with enough effort and creativity, you can find great gifts for everyone on your list at the Templeton Book store.

There is only one rule on this list: don't buy anyone any clothing with "Arcadia University" on it. It's one thing for Mom and Dad to have an Arcadia sweatshirt, but it's entirely inappropriate to buy a university hoodie for a Christmas or Hanukkah present. It's a fallback present. A university hoodie says, "I didn't feel like putting effort into this gift, so I went to the bookstore and picked this up for you right before I left school."

For the semi-fashionable mom or sister on your list, Vera Bradley bags are always a good choice. They tend to go with just about every woman's style. They add the perfect splash of personality to a simple outfit, and small accessories, such as eyeglass cases or cell phone holders with the signature Vera Bradley paisleys, lend a tasteful touch to the contents of any purse or weekender.

For the passionate coffee lover, a new mug is always a welcome gift. This is the rare exception to the "no AU labels" rule. You can find portable thermoses for the commuter on your list, or oversized coffee mugs that are perfect for snuggling up on a cold morning. Either way, go back to your room and order a pound of Starbucks Christmas Blend coffee to go along with the mug. It is by far the best roast in the Starbucks line-up, and the bold, spicy blend is only sold around Christmas time.

Do you have a mischievous little brother on your list? Get him a Sony micro-cassette voice recorder. He'll have tons of fun recording his friend's conversations and spying on his little sister. Plus, when you go back to school, you won't need to worry about him recording anything you say.

For the environmentalist or outdoorsman on your list, start with a Nalgene water bottle. These hard plastic water bottles easily attach to a backpack, and resist all sorts of abuse. Plus, their wide mouths allow you to fill them with Nature Valley granola bars or Power Bars (also available in the bookstore).

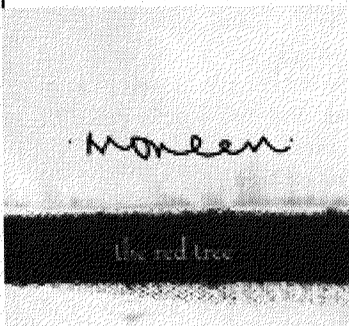
These are just a few ideas, but there are plenty of other nick-nacks at the bookstore that you can mix and match to create a personalized gift for anyone on your list.

He said she Said The Tower's Record Review Column

By JAKE SCALICI
Entertainment Editor

By LAUREN MYERS
Staff Writer

Moneen-
The Red Tree



He Said: There is a lot of absent minded emo/pop-punk/whatever out there. Don't lump Moneen into that category. Sure Moneen are a little emo-ish but it is the steps that they take to make real influential music that make them different than most of the others. On their third studio release, *The Red Tree*, Moneen show off rock solid song writing that revolves around prog-ish effect laden guitar riffs. Songs like "Don't Ever Locke What He Can't Do" and "If Tragedy's Appealing, Then Disaster's an Addiction" are super catchy and radio friendly but with twice the musical prowess of anything in the same genre. *The Red Tree* is a stellar maturation of Moneen's sound on their breakthrough release 2003's *Are We Really Happy With Who We Are Right Now*. The guitars are more interesting, the lyrics are deeper and the album packs just a little more punch. The best example of this comes on the closing track "The Song I Swore Never to Sing" on which vocalist Kenny Bridges lays down some catchy melodies over a swarming piano line, closing *The Red Tree* on the perfect notes, notes of a band that has escaped the pigeon hole they were thrown into.

3.5/5

She Said: The epitome of today's popular indie/punk rock sound, Moneen has a winner with *The Red Tree*, the band's third full-length album. Lead singer Kenny Bridges has the typical whiny guy voice, perfectly exemplifying Moneen's subtle emo side. The intense-but not overwhelming-instrumentals smack of early releases by The Juliana Theory, they sound quiet and lulling one moment and extremely powerful the next. There are barely any out-of-control guitar or drum solos, each break in the lyrics tastefully executed and holding with the overall sound of the particular song. The track "There Are A Million Reasons For Why This May Not Work" opens with a simple and steady guitar solo so similar to many of Nada Surf's openings that it's almost scary. The overall sound is reminiscent of Mae's 2005 release, *The Everglow*.

3.5/5

Animal Collective-
Strawberry Jam



He Said: Four visionary musicians take a trip to the southwest, do tons of salvia and record one of the years most satisfying and interesting albums, this is the story of *Strawberry Jam*. At first listen, *Strawberry Jam* may come off as a cacophony of sound from every direction, but it is the subsequent listens that really turn the album around. Whether its the scatter-brained sound of the album's opener "Peacebone" or the falling melodies of the the third track "Chores" Animal Collective prove that they can sound like they came out of left field but still be poppy. The main strength of *Strawberry Jam* is the way the album acts as a whole, it's an exercise in listening. Each track blends and morphs into the next, think smooth. The highlight of the album comes courtesy of Animal Collective lead singer Avey Tare, on "For Reverend Green". Not only does the track have the best groove on the album but it has *Strawberry Jam*'s most raw moment as Avey Tare screams at the top of his lungs over the beautifully composed track. This album is a trip, and a very good picture of what Animal Collective are about, it has all the strengths of a good album and all of the risks of a great one.

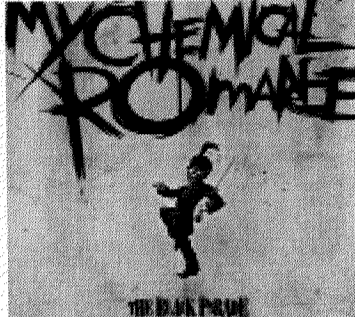
4/5

She Said: Say hello to the year 3056. If ever a band was futuristic, it's Animal Collective. The band's sound is labeled "experimental rock" with a mix of "freak folk" and, let me just say, no description fits better. The vocals hold a slight twang with the instrumentals somewhat squeaky and almost Jamaican in tracks like "Peacebone" and extraordinarily folk-like-strumming guitar and all-in "Unsolved Mysteries." If you like fingernails on a chalkboard, *Strawberry Jam* will suit you perfectly. That isn't to say the band is unoriginal . . . Animal Collective just take a very large step away from the norm. It's not bad, just slightly squeaky.

2/5



My Chemical Romance-
The Black Parade

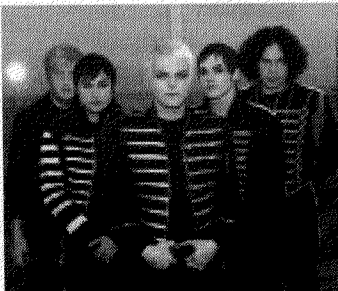


He Said: There was a time when many saw My Chemical Romance as the heir apparent to the New Jersey post-hardcore scene. Coming from the same area as probably the first real screamo band Thursday, MyChem released two very well received albums that while razor sharp both musically and lyrically had a good chunk of commercial material in them. With the single "Helena" the band hit it big and the downhill spiral began. The band's 2006 release *The Black Parade* has some really impressive moments but for the most part lacks the edge that made MCR anything in the first place. Songs like "Teenagers" and "Famous Last Words" are just bland empty tracks while "Welcome to the Black Parade" and "Cancer" are triumphant songs that echo the grandiosity of lead singer Gerard Way's album concept not to mention the little tinge of Queen in both of them. For the most part though the songs on *The Black Parade* just aren't as sinister and heavy as MCR's previous outings.

2.5/5

She Said: I refused to listen to MCR for a very, very long time simply because "Welcome to the Black Parade" was so annoyingly overplayed on the radio. Eventually, however, I came to realize that they weren't half bad. Their sound is completely original, playing off various genres such as punk rock, pop punk, emo, and alternative rock. Some tracks from *The Black Parade* are humorous and light, with uplifting guitar solos and crazy lyrics (heard with "Dead") while others are very, very emo, the chords heavy and slightly depressing while still retaining the signature MCR sound (heard with "I Don't Love You"). Needless to say, MCR has gone completely mainstream since their debut album in 2002 and, with the fan base growing larger every day, doesn't seem to be going anywhere.

4/5



Interpol-
Antics

INTERPOL ANTICS

He Said: Like a heavier, darker Joy Division, Interpol broke onto the scene in 2002 with the shoe-gaze and reverb of their first full length *Turn on the Bright Lights*; their follow up *Antics* takes away some of the Interpol mask and in doing so creates a wonderful album full of pretty gloom. Whether it be the more unique sound of vocalist Paul Banks' uncovered voice or the infusion of a little more get up and go *Antics* is Interpol at their best. With a solid single in "Slow Hands" as well as more outlandish cuts such as "No Exit" and "Public Pervert" Interpol do a good job for fans old and new. It's the same old band, with a few new antics.

3/5

She Said: Interpol: The embodiment of phenomenal indie rock. Period. Relying heavily on mellow chords and lead singer Paul Banks' deep, ever-recognizable voice, *Antics* is the second of three albums released by Interpol. A product of this decade's post-punk revival, the majority of Interpol's songs are backed by a bass throb and interspersed guitar with a keyboard and drum set completing the ensemble. If ever a band wrote utterly profound lyrics, it is Interpol. My personal favorite is "You make motion when you cry" from the track "Not Even Jail." Simple yet quite true. Combine that with Banks' heretofore mentioned vocals and you've struck gold.

4.5/5



Loud Downtown

Who's Where When in Philly

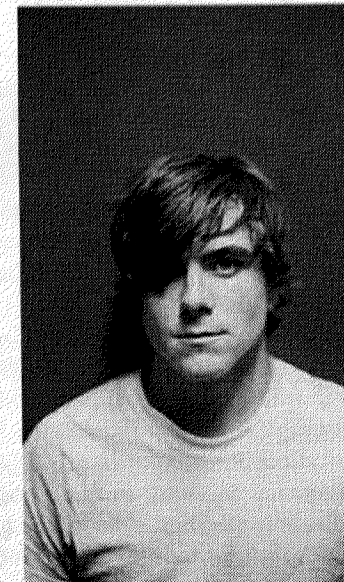
The Sword and Valiant
Thor
December 3rd
First Unitarian Church
2125 Chestnut Street



From Autumn to Ashes
and The Number 12 Looks
Like You
December 14th
First Unitarian Church
2125 Chestnut St.



Anthony Green (of Circa
Survive) and Envy on the
Coast
December 30th
First Unitarian Church
2125 Chestnut St.



Disney's *Enchanted*: A Great Flick for the Holidays

By HUNTER HOLLIS
Staff Writer

Could you imagine if Lady Tremaine had just cut to the chase and sent Cinderella, "To a place where there are no happily ever afters"? That's exactly what happens in Disney's live-action/animation hybrid, *Enchanted*, a movie about a princess who falls out of her dream world, Andalasia, and into the harsh streets of New York City. The release date for the film was November

Giselle (Amy Adams) is a stereotypical Disney Princess. She is a beautiful peasant with an even more beautiful voice, who faces death, falls in love and is engaged to Prince Edward (James Marsden) all in the first five minutes of the movie. Trouble arises when her evil stepmother, Queen Narissa (Susan Sarandon) pushes her into a well to prevent the wedding. Times Square is at the bottom of the well. Here Giselle is rescued from the streets of Manhattan by Robert (Patrick Dempsey). While in New York she learns how to live with the technology and the lack of love and kindness in the real world.

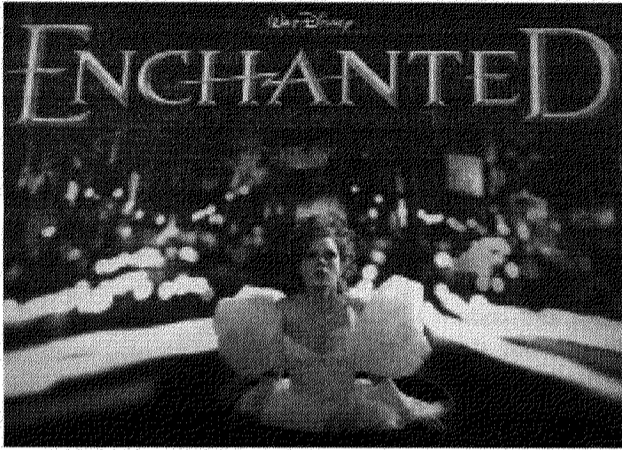
But does *Enchanted* live up to its royal predecessors? The movie opens like a classic Disney Princess film, with a story book opening to display still drawings of what is to come in the movie that fade into animation. Amy Adams is delightful and has the voice and charming personality of princesses like Aurora and Cinderella and later gains the edge and bravery of princesses such as Belle and Ariel. On top of being similar to Disney animated features, *Enchanted* also has all of the makings of a good romantic comedy.

The film contains original score and songs by Alan Menken who worked on *The Little Mermaid*, *Beauty and the Beast* and *Newsies*. Stephen Schwartz, Menken's partner for

Pocahontas who composed songs for *Wicked* and *The Prince of Egypt*, wrote lyrics for some of the songs in the movie. The three main songs in the movie are "I've Been Dreaming", "Happy Working Song" and "That's How You Know", all written to resemble songs from previously written princess films.

If a catchy tune or Disney Princess spoof is not motivation to get out and see this movie, then the wonderful casting should be. Amy Adams, who also starred in *Talladega Nights* and *The Wedding Date*, is a convincing princess and is likely the best choice for the role of Giselle. Renowned actress Susan Sarandon could give any child chills and is an honorable Disney villain. *The Notebook*'s James Marsden flexes his voice once more after his role as Cory Collins in the summer blockbuster *Hairspray*. Broadway legend Idina Menzel plays Robert's fiancée, Nancy. And when all else fails there is always McDreamy (Patrick Dempsey).

Enchanted was an overall enjoyable movie. After sitting through the animated portion of the film it is apparent why theaters were still selling out two days after the release of the film. It includes all of the sugar and predictability of any classic Disney film and funny moments that could only be thought up by a Disney writer. *Enchanted* is the perfect movie for the holiday season and can make anyone believe in a happily ever after.



'Zack and Miri Make a Porno'... in Pennsylvania?

By JENNIFER PACHECO
Staff Writer

After all of the buzz surrounding *Jersey Girl* and the following disappointment, many people thought Kevin Smith had lost his touch. People began to think he was only capable of making small indie films and big budget blockbusters were not his forte. After the success of *Clerks II*, Smith was back on Hollywood's radar as a power player. His latest film project titled *Zack and Miri Make a Porno* was green lit by the Weinstein Co. after only hearing the title. As his 8th film gears up for production, many fans have been anxiously awaiting the announcement of *Zack and Miri*.



On Friday, November 16th 2008, Smith finally announced the actors in the starring roles. *Zack* will be played by Hollywood's newest "It" Boy, Seth Rogen. After the success of *Superbad* and *Knocked Up* Rogen is considered a major force in the industry. Taking on the role of *Miri* will be Elizabeth Banks whose claim to fame has been her role in *The 40 Year Old Virgin*. Both stars are known for their comedic timing and their improvisation so the film is sure to bring Smith another success.

Smith describes the film as "two platonic friends who discover feelings for each other while trying to earn some cash. The awkwardness of the circumstance and the characters' unsexiness fuel the jokes." In another interesting development, Smith plans to shoot the film in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. He had previously shot *Dogma* there in 1998 and the town is welcoming him back with open arms. The Pittsburgh Film Office, which was created in 1990, invites films to shoot there because it brings in a lot of revenue to the surrounding area. Pittsburgh has recently passed legislation offering movies tax incentives to shoot there and many

have been taking advantage.

Although Glenside isn't overrun by film crews and people scouting locations, many parts of Pennsylvania are considered prime location to shoot movies. In Southwestern Pennsylvania alone over 64 films and television shows have been shot in the past few years bringing the region 273 million dollars in revenue. Keep your eyes open for more news on *Zack and Miri*, there might be an opportunity for Smith fans to appear in some background work on the film. Who knows, next semester Glenside might have its own version of "little Hollywood."

A Black Friday Tale

By NEIL HUNKINS
Associate Editor

It's one-thirty in the morning on the day after Thanksgiving and my girlfriend, Ariel, and I step into line outside of Best Buy behind about 200 people, some who had been standing in the cold since 6pm the day before.

Welcome to Black Friday.

For those who don't know about Black Friday or the many of you who probably have never participated in it because you're too busy sleeping off the turkey, scotch and in-law hangover from the day before, Black Friday is the greedy man's (or woman's) day to show how truly desperate they are to own an HDTV for \$3.49.

Of course, I'm kidding about the cost of a high-def TV, but there are plenty of ridiculously good Black Friday deals on them, as well as on computers, CDs, DVDs, clothing, and just about anything else your heart and wallet desires. The bitch of all of this is that the doors for most stores open at 5am, so if you want to get the super cheap deals or items in limited quantities, you've got to get there early, like 6pm the day before early.

Fortunately for me, my main interest was the multitude of DVDs on sale at all the major retailers. Each store overstocks each movie for this most holy of days for consumers, so while I wasn't worried about missing out on a copy of *300* or *Casino Royale*, I still wanted to get in line outside of Best Buy early so that I could get to all of the stores on my list before 11am, when all of the deals turn back to pumpkins.

Yes, that's right, I had a list. Think of it as my Christmas list except that I was my own Santa. Though I was out in line at 1:30am on Friday, my Black Friday shopping adventure actually began at 7am on Thanksgiving Day, when I woke up and drove to Wawa to pick up a Philadelphia Inquirer loaded with shopping circulars bursting with Black Friday deals. Back at home, I spent the next two hours combing the ads for the best deals and making out a master list of all that I wanted to buy.

To the uninitiated, this may sound insane, but trust me, when the doors of whichever store you and hundreds of other ravenous shoppers have been waiting outside of finally open at 5am, it's best for you to know exactly what you want prior to entering the shopping world's equivalent of no man's land. In years past, people have been kicked, punched, shot and probably even killed and cannibalized without any trace by fellow shoppers, so it's best to get in and out as soon as possible . . . and bring pepper spray.

Between Best Buy, Wal-Mart, Circuit City, FYE, Sears, Target and over 28 hours without sleep thanks to a late turkey dinner, I arrived home around 11:30am after buying 76 DVDs, 4 TV-on-DVD sets, a wireless *Guitar Hero II* controller, and a 2GB FlashDrive. Needless to say, the next order of business was sleep. Hours and hours of glorious sleep.

Don't get me wrong, Black Friday shopping is definitely worth the hassle if you want to get a jumpstart on Christmas gifts or just treat yourself to some cheap deals. If my account has persuaded you to give it a try next year, here are a few other tips to make your shopping experience easier:

-If you're planning on waiting in line early, bring a friend. That way, if you have to pee or want to spend some time in your car getting warm, you've got a built-in line holder.

-Wear layers of warm clothes because it gets pretty cold after a few hours of standing around outside. Most importantly, wear a double layer of socks or thermal socks. Most people forget how cold your feet can get and frosty toes can make for an unpleasant wait.

-If an item is on sale at two different stores for different prices, plan to double up on them just in case the item is sold out by the time you get to the store where it's cheapest. If you end up with both, you can always return the more expensive one later.

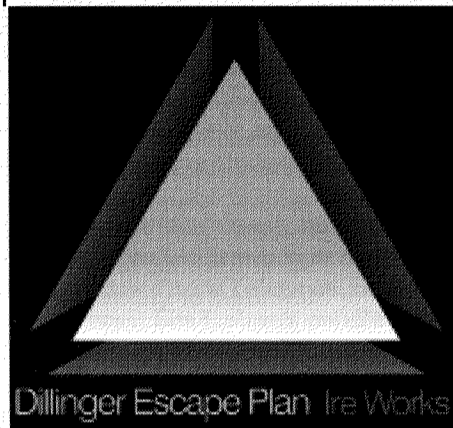
-Finally, park as close to the exit of the store you plan to wait outside of. Parking lots are a nightmare to drive through on Black Friday, so it's best to have an easy escape plan.



Editor's i-Pod
Dillinger Attempt to Calculate Infinity (again) with a New Equation

By **JAKE SCALICI**
Entertainment Editor

Bands break up all the time. One member leaves and maybe the band tries to replace the missing part sometimes working out, most of the time not. Dillinger Escape Plan are the exception to the rule. After losing founding member and probably one of the best drummers in metal today Chris Pennie to Coheed and Cambria, the band that just picked up another new guitarist (their fourth since 1997) were set to enter the studio. In classic DEP fashion the left over parts of the band found someone to replace Pennie and moved on like nothing had happened. Entering the studio with a new drummer, the diverse eclectic Gil Sharon, Dillinger set forth to further expand on the sounds of 1999's math-metal blueprint *Calculating Infinity* (#12 in Decibel Magazines album Hall of Fame) and 2004's frantic yet limited follow up *Miss Machine*, full of anger with something to prove.



Released on November 13th *Ire Works* has a big chunk of older Dillinger Escape Plan ala *Calculating Infinity* while also going after some more commercial material echoing songs like *Miss Machine's* hit single the Faith No More like "Unretrofied". The result is an album that is more diverse and wide than anything Dillinger has done before. In a recent issue of Decibel magazine Dillinger lead singer Greg Puciato said "*Ire Works* really takes everything on *Miss Machine* as far as it can go. It's *Super Miss Machine* in my mind." This description isn't completely true but by the same token *Ire Works* does seemingly take *Miss Machine* and throw in a little more of everything, sometimes the additive theory works, sometimes it doesn't but what is for sure is that *Ire Works* has plenty of absolutely spine shattering moments.

Ire Works starts off with probably one of the coolest moments for a DEP fan as current vocalist Greg Puciato and founding vocalist Dimitri Minakakis team up for the searing opener "Fix Your Face", probably the album's most flat out metal jam. Puciato and Minakakis scream their throats off as the band behind them moves at mach 1 from start to finish. Oddly enough only two tracks later Dillinger slightly stumbles as they try and slide in a little of the more commercial side of things right as the brutality of the first two tracks is sinking in. "Black Bubble Gum" and "Sick on Sunday" are the most radio friendly things DEP has even attempted, and though they will probably never get any radio play they are nice tracks, they just happen to be in the wrong place in the scheme of *Ire Works*. The next chunk of songs is the album's real strong section. Beginning with the stomp metal instrumental jam "When Acting as a Wave" and ending with the *Ire Works'* surprising closer "Mouth of Ghost" DEP go after some very technical metal while incorporating some catchy melodies. On the track "Milk Lizard" Sharone and guitarist Ben Weinman sound like they've been playing in a band together for years as they slip in and out of fill after fill. Puciato in the meantime sounds on the edge and raw bring-

ing the song to a beautiful crescendo before more face-melting breakdown work. "Horse Hunter" is brief and cutthroat, sounding a lot like "Pansonic Youth" (the opening track of *Miss Machine*) but with a jazz breakdown and an ambient angular interlude. Finally the album closes with, ready for this? A song based around piano. The even scarier part is how unbelievably good "Mouth of Ghosts" is. The track is a nice mix of the new more diverse Dillinger and the older more ambitious version as the soft hushed jam bursts out of it's shell in search of one last piece of shred happy rock.

Do the math, the Dillinger Escape Plan have been making some of the most original metal around for years and *Ire Works* is a great continuation of that. The songs are fresh and while maybe not as technically mind-blowing as the band's previous discs the album is without a doubt more crafty and sly. Most albums of this genre won't get stuck in a listeners head, *Ire Works* is different, it has melody for days making it infectious and impressive. While it isn't the achievement that *Calculating Infinity* is nor as heavy and cryptic as *Miss Machine*, *Ire Works* is a very logical continuation to one of metal's best catalogs, one that will hopefully be continued by some combination of musicians as the entity that has become the Dillinger Escape Plan.



Coheed and Cambria Bring a Few Good Friends and a Rare Set to Philly

By **JAKE SCALICI**
Entertainment Editor

On Wednesday November 28th Coheed and Cambria's latest headline tour rolled into Philadelphia. This time Coheed brought long stoner rock legends Clutch and Seattle shred masters The Fall of Troy, all three bands have larger followings in the area. The result was a sold out Electric Factory and a show that packed a little of the familiar and a little of the unknown.

The night started off great, as an already packed Electric Factory got more than amped for openers The Fall of Troy, who are on their fifth tour this year supporting their latest album *Manipulator*. Busting out of the gates with surprising old school cuts like "Rockstar Nailbomb!" and "Whacko Jacko Stole the Elephantman's Bones" both of which are off of their self-titled debut, The Fall of Troy got the crowd into a frenzy with pits starting up left and right. As the band's set went on the material got newer, doing tracks like "I Just Got This Symphony Goin'" and "F.C.P.R.E.M.I.X." from their sophomore album *Doppelganger* and then finally closing with tracks from *Manipulator* including an absolutely ridiculous jam session in the middle of the song "Sledgehammer".

Next up came the somewhat out of place Clutch. Coheed and Cambria have a tendency to bring bands on tour with them that some fans may not like. In 2005 it was the paint peeling screams of the ever so cool Blood Brothers, then came a summer stint with co-headliners Avenged Sevenfold, and now Clutch has stepped into the awkward opening role. After a forty-five minute set up period a restless Electric Factory looked ready to tear Clutch apart, but unlike the Blood Brothers who were booed by fans at some shows, or Avenged Sevenfold who should have been booed by fans Clutch actually won the crowd over by the end of their set. With energy packed rockers like "Fire It Up" and "Prophets of Doom" Clutch got the crowd moving despite ongoing technical difficulties. Lead Singer Neil Fallon's gravel voice preached to the audience song after song as the sold out crowd at the Electric Factory waited for Coheed.

Finally nearly another forty-five minutes after Clutch's set the crowd went into a mad rush as the opening notes of "No World for Tomorrow" came wailing out of lead singer/guitarist Claudio Sanchez's Gibson Explorer. Next up came songs like the fan favorite "Everything Evil" and the rare "Junesong Provision" followed up quickly by the hit singles "The Suffering" and "A Favor House Atlantic". Sanchez and co-guitarist Travis Stever were both hampered by guitar problems early on in the set both moved to their back-up guitars and after a short break the set chugged on. Next up came one to the night's highlights, a cover of Iron Maiden's "The Trooper" which featured Stever on lead vocals and a few overdriven solos from Sanchez. The show came to a close with a rousing encore that began with Coheed and Cambria's encore opening anthem "In Keeping Secrets of Silent Earth:3" which blended right into the next cut "Welcome Home". As usual the set was closed with "The Final Cut" and it's subsequent jam session but this time with new drummer Chris Pennie the somewhat expected jam was much more technical and much less rehearsed.

Despite equipment problems throughout the show all three band's brought their 'A' game. Whether it was The Fall of Troy's history lesson, Clutch's psyched out rock moments, or Coheed's ultra rare set, the sold out crowd at the Electric factory got more than enough bang for their buck.



A Review of Fred Claus: It's Not Christmas Until An A-List Actor Embarasses Himself in a Santa Suit

By **JENNIFER PACHECO**
Associate Editor

With the holiday season in full swing, moviegoers are running to see *Fred Claus*. Although it has opened to some bad reviews, the tale of Santa's trouble-making older brother is still drawing people into theaters. Coming in at number six in the box office this past weekend, *Claus's* capitalist take on the Christmas holiday isn't as horrible as some may think. In the wake of previous holiday successes like Will Ferrell's *Elf* and Tim Allen's *Santa Claus* trilogy, *Fred* displays sibling rivalry at its finest to deliver a heartwarming tale of how family support can help you overcome even the harshest obstacles.

Vince Vaughn tackles the role of Fred, who spends his entire life in the shadow of his "saintly" brother Nicholas. Paul Giamatti stars as a very kind younger brother, who happens to be Santa, and is willing to do anything to help his sibling get his act together and reconnect with the family. In the true Christmas spirit, Santa "bails" his brother out of trouble yet again. As soon as Santa's dangerous pint-size body guards take down Vince Vaughn, it is obvious this isn't your average Christmas movie.

The cast of characters is large, though the most important stars are not so big. The elves are played by actors both big and small. Rapper Ludacris and actor John Michael Higgins take on pint size roles as two of Santa's favorite elves. The grinch-like Clyde Northcut played by Kevin Spacey finds his way to the North Pole acting as an efficiency expert that brings an unexpected twist to the future of Christmas.

This tale begins as most of the fairy tales do, once upon a time... Fred has a little brother, and his brother was saintly, giving his brother many reasons to dislike him while offering his family and spouse



eternal life. Fast forward to present day, Fred has settled in the windy city of Chicago and his brother Nick has found his calling in the winter wonderland of the North Pole. As Fred finds himself down on his luck he is forced to ask his little brother for some help. Santa is willing to give his brother anything he can but at the insistence of Mrs. Claus, played by Miranda Richardson, he calls his brother up for a visit. Throughout the visit they discover that their lives are very different but eventually they find a balance between fantasy and reality to find a common ground.

Fred Claus offers a wonderful peek into a fantasy land that has enchanted children for years. Between Santa's workshop and the North Pole's very own bar that serves the finest egg nog Santa has to offer, the scenery alone is a reason to go see the film. The story is not a usual take on Santa but with its PG rating and 116 minute length it's just long enough not to lose your interest and just racy enough to keep the laughs going. At the very least the film will leave you with a little more anticipation regarding the Christmas season and a strange craving for sugar cookies.

The ARC

Continued from page 1

Though Public Safety took these actions, it appears that the investigation is being handled by Student Activities, who are focusing on the swipe entries between noon and 4pm on Friday, Nov 16th, when the incident is believed to have taken place.

Still, as O'Neill points out, "Just because someone swiped in doesn't incriminate them. A club member could have let in another DJ or a friend and that person could have caused the damage."

When asked how the ARC will treat the vandal, O'Neill reasoned that if the person responsible comes forward by their own volition, the ARC executive board would likely handle the matter privately and the person would be shown leniency. Though the person would not initially be allowed back into the studio, O'Neill states, "I would not be completely against allowing this person to return to the studio under certain guidelines."

However, if the ARC or Student Activities determines the responsible party on their own, the party would become subject to disciplinary action by the University. Arcadia's Student Handbook lists "reckless and/or malicious destruction, damage or misuse of University property" as a violation of the Code of Conduct Policy, warranting appropriate punitive action.

In this situation, O'Neill firmly states that the person or persons responsible would be dismissed from the ARC because, at the very least, "it's not fair to our members who do follow the rules and respect the school's property."

On the brighter side of this incident, the need for repairs allowed for some long awaited, much needed changes to the ARC studio. Most notably, the broadcasting sound quality has been significantly skipped up, thanks to the tireless work of Senior Adam Ochonicki, the ARC's former president and current technical director. Whereas before, broadcasts would only play in mono sound out of the left or right speakers of listeners' computers and in the studio but now the ARC proudly plays in stereo sound. Better still, with a streaming bit rate of 64 kbs/s, the sound is equivalent to FM radio quality.

Though the vandalism incident has put a damper on the ARC's recent history, O'Neill and the rest of the club's members are optimistic about its future.

"The station is now up and running again and sounds better than it has all semester," says O'Neill.

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WAR OF THE EAGLES

By **DEREK TRACEY**
Sports Editor

In recent games, a returning force has overtaken the Philadelphia Eagles' playing field. Instead of the ever-present Donovan McNabb, who was injured earlier this season, second string quarterback A.J. Feeley has taken control of the team, and more importantly, won the vote of many fans.

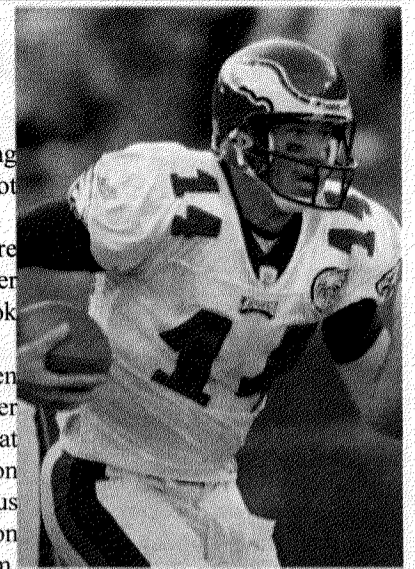
However, this is by no means the first time that Feeley had been forced to lead the Eagles. In 2002, after yet another one of McNabb's injuries, Feeley guided his team into the playoffs. After no actual playing time in the 2003 season, Feeley left to play for the Miami Dolphins.

It would appear that things have changed this season. Fans that used to preach their loyalties to McNabb are starting to look very closely at his increasingly negative track record. Their first string quar-

terback consistently gets injured, and their team is consistently getting saved by a 2nd stringer. This fact is leading many fans to say "Why not Feeley."

Just as a Feeley led takeover of the team was on the horizon, there was yet another change in the eagles flight pattern. In the December 2nd game, the team was beaten by the Seahawks 24 - 28. Feeley took much of the blame.

So the question remains, "Who would Eagle fans prefer?" Even now, with so many sore-headed Philadelphians, the idea of the lesser of two evils comes into play. So who would win? A quarterback that lost one important game, or one that is constantly in and out, season after season. Either way, it would seem that a possible Eagle versus Eagle game is about to be played in the upcoming months and season to come. A game that has the potential to divide two leaders, a team, and a society.



Eagles Quarterback A.J. Feeley
philadelphiaeagles.com

Promising Mediocrity

Or Why The Flyers May Finally Fulfill Their Destiny

By **KAITLYN FOTI**
Editor-in-Chief

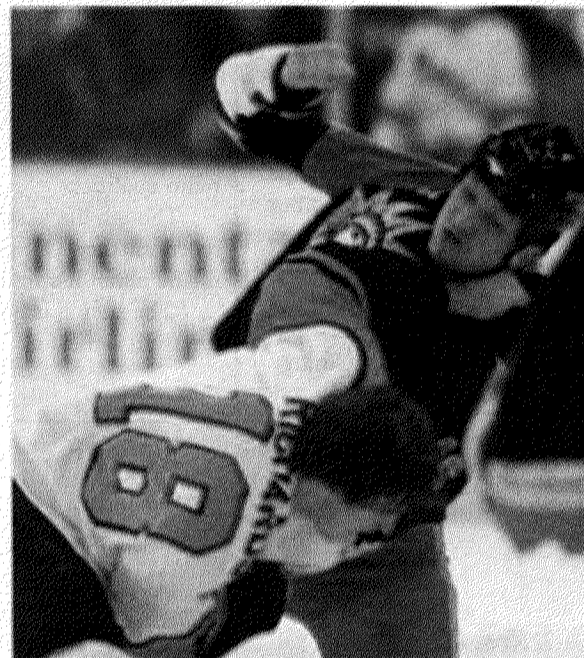
Philadelphia sports fans, it's time to put your championship hopes on ice. More specifically, the ice at the Wachovia Center, home to the Philadelphia Flyers. With a completely revamped team, the Flyers look like they've never looked before: young.

The names that have decorated the roster for years-Primeau, LeClair, Recchi, Desjardins-are all gone, casualties of the of the 2005 lockout, the salary cap or old age. They have been replaced with the fresh faces, fast hands and ambitious work ethic of a new generation.

It's true, this is a team that was consistently chosen as a favorite for champion and hasn't lived up to those predictions in more than three decades. It's also true that last season the Flyers finished at the bottom of the league, without so much as a prayer of making the playoffs. Worse yet, this has been a team that has, time and again, gone after pricey has-beens while letting go of players who had yet to reach their full potential.

Take Rod Brind'Amour, a hard-working skater who loyally played the underappreciated role of the set-up guy for goal scorers like Eric Lindros and John LeClair.

Never really given his opportunity to shine, he was eventually traded to the Carolina Hurricanes in 2000. In 2006, Brind'Amour captained his new team to a



Mike Richards takes on for the team.
nypost.com

Stanley Cup championship. Meanwhile, most of the Flyers were playing golf near their summer homes.

This year, all of that has changed. No

one picked the Flyers to win anything. A casual fan of the sport wouldn't recognize most of the names embroidered on the orange and black jerseys this season, and without any real star power, it takes a while for people to take notice. At the same time, no one is surprised by the team's strong start this season, because in hockey, by the time you've heard of a player, he's probably already peaked.


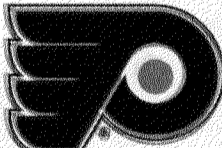



For once, the organization, now devoid of former General Manager Bob Clarke, is giving chances to the unknown, the up-and-coming, the names you'll have heard of in about three years. Including head coach John Stevens. Promoting from within the organization, they chose the head coach and former player for the Philadelphia Phantoms, their farm team, to lead the scattered and out of shape group of nobodies that were the remnants of the formerly impressive Flyers. The same John Stevens who helped lead the AHL team to victory as a defenseman in 1998. The same John Stevens who led the team to victory as head coach in 2005. Now it was time to see what he could do in the major leagues.

They went through what we like to call a 'rebuilding year.'

Now they fit the formula for a champion team: young, fast and hungry for wins. Although they are not at the top of their division, they are fourth in the Eastern Conference. More importantly, they play hard and they never give up. Many of the past champions looked exactly the same at this point in the season before exploding into an awe-inspiring invincibility shortly after the All-Star break that marks mid-season.

With players like Mike Richards, who played under Stevens as a Phantom, ranking in the top 10 forwards in the league in only his third year in the NHL, he's the kind of player the Flyers normally would have traded by now for, say, Peter Forsberg. Instead, he could be The One, and John Stevens is counting on him. Richards isn't a short-term solution. He's the real deal. And while it may be too soon to say this is THE YEAR, it's already apparent that when THE YEAR does come, this is the guy fans will be thanking.

And so the increasingly desperate fans of Philly sports have something and someone to patiently rely on. Because the Flyers may have looked better in prior years, but they have never looked like champions.

National Scores	 Philadelphia Eagles	 Philadelphia Flyers	 Philadelphia 76ers	 New York Jets	 New York Giants
This week's competition	NEW ENGLAND 11/25	DALLAS 12/1	NEW JERSEY 12/1	DALLAS 11/22	MINNESOTA 11/25
This week's score	LOSS: 28 - 31	LOSS: 4 - 1	LOSS: 92 - 94	LOSS: 3 - 34	LOSS: 17 - 41
Wins	3	14	6	2	6
Losses	5	9	11	9	3
Upcoming Competition	GIANTS 12/9 1:00PM	MINNESOTA 12/5	BOSTON 12/5 7:00PM	CLEVELAND 12/9 4:15 PM	EAGLES 12/9 1:00PM