

THE GRIFFIN

Philadelphia, PA

December 2011–January 2012

The Free Student Newspaper of Chestnut Hill College

Quidditch World Cup: Bigger and Better

WESTLY MANDOSKE

'13

On Nov. 12, teams from across the United States, Canada and as far away as Finland gathered at Randall's Island in New York City to parade their Quidditch pride. Among the university and community teams represented was the Chestnut Hill Griffins ready to dominate their pool.

This year saw the College enter into Division 1 pool play, a new development for this year's cup. The tournament saw teams self-select to participate in the highly competitive Division 1 for the Quidditch World Cup, or the new Division 2. At the end of pool play, the two front-runners from each five-team pool would move into tournament bracket's first round quarterfinals.

On Saturday, Nov. 12, the Griffins played three match-ups. In their first game, the Griffins entered ready to begin the climb to the bracket. However, the Griffins were shutout by Boston University in a hard defeat.

Taking it in stride, the Griffins faced their next opponent, Lafayette College, and lost again in a dramatic reversal. The Griffin's seeker, Joseph Trujillo '15, caught the Snitch but in a



image: Nina Rosenberg '12

The Griffins pose as the sun sets over the East River on Nov. 12. L to R: (top) Luis Felix '13, Ray Haig '14, Matthew Stojakovich '14; (middle) Travis Wolfe '12, Dave Forster '12, Joseph Trujillo '15, Brad Amerman '14, Ashley Hernandez '15, Aaron Simpson '14, Katie McFadden '15, Cristina Diaz '15, Jeremy Miles '12, Kaycee Flore '15, Jeremy Miles '12, Nicholas Carfagno '15, Caroline Stutz '12, Zach Landis '14; (bottom) Stephanie Reif '13, Valerie Miller '14, Jade Thompson '13.

controversial call in favor of the Snitch, the catch was ruled unfair and subsequently began play again. Shortly after, the Lafayette seeker caught the Snitch. Had the Snitch call been ruled in favor of CHC, the Griffins would have the victory.

Lynn Ortale, Ph.D., Vice-

President for Student Life at the College, said before the CHC vs. Lafayette match, "I've been proud of our students. Each and every year I continue to be impressed with their sportsmanship, and their leadership."

"When we were blown out by Boston University, [I saw

how] they regrouped. They were committed to playing hard, but not playing dirty, which I think is a tribute to the students."

That evening the Griffins played their final match against University of California–Berkeley. Despite posting their highest score yet, the Griffins were

defeated.

The next day the Griffins returned, determined to post a win. In a flurry of scoring and a daring Snitch catch, the Griffins defeated College of Charleston,

**Continued on page 4
"Quidditch World Cup 2011"**



image: Sarah Keller '15

President, Kelly Dennis '14 raising money and support for CHC's chapter of U4U at the Fair Trade Event.

CHC Unifies for UNIFAT

HELENA DEBALD '14

On Wednesday, Nov. 9, Chestnut Hill College hosted the fall Fair Trade Event in the Rotunda of St. Joseph's Hall. The event is a much-anticipated occurrence for students and faculty alike, drawing vendors such as Ten Thousand Villages from the town of Chestnut Hill, to the College to sell goods and interact with the college community.

The Fair Trade Event also hosted media presentations in the East Parlor to raise awareness for fair trade issues and educate attendees on the ef-

fects of global issues like human trafficking and globalization. There, Erica Butler, junior at CHC, spoke on the College's service trip to Tanzania, as well as human trafficking as a worldwide problem. Honored guest and author Vince Gallagher spoke about his recently published book, *The True Cost of Low Prices: The Violence of Globalization*.

This year's Fair Trade Event was presented not only by long-time committed professor of Religious Studies, Dr. Marie Conn, but also by Chestnut Hill College's chapter of a nonprofit organization, Unified for UNIFAT. President Kelly Dennis

'14 and Vice President Helena DeBald '14 led a group of volunteer students on an endeavor to improve attendance at the Fair Trade Event, awareness of fair trade issues, as well as interest in Unified for UNIFAT, an organization with a sponsorship program in place at the UNIFAT (Upper Nile Institute for Appropriate Technology) primary school in Gulu, northern Uganda. Chestnut Hill's chapter sponsors three children at the school, and with a fun raffle, t-shirt sale, fair trade chocolate sale, and donation bin, CHC U4U was able to raise enough money to pay for one child's sponsorship for the whole year!

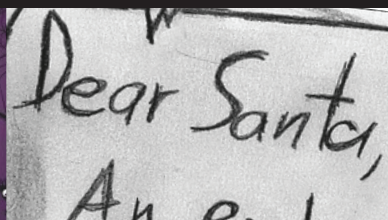
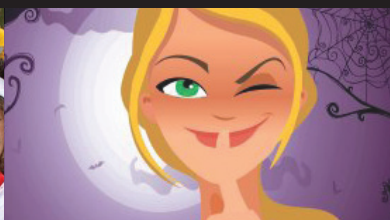
NEWS

2 STYLE

4 OPINION

6 SPORTS

8



THE GRIFFIN

Vol. II, Issue 5

The Free Student
Newspaper of
Chestnut Hill College

Olivia Marcinka '13
Editor-in-Chief

Mary Marzano '12
Managing Editor

Westly Mandoske '13
Business Manager

Zac Grubb '12
News Editor

Jen Jones '12
Style Editor

Bleu Lane '12
Style Editor

Jill McFarland '15
Opinions Editor
Layout Staff

Marilee Gallagher '14
Sports Editor

Mary Frances Cavallaro '13
Online Editor

Jess Veazey '13
Photo Editor

Michael Bradley '14
Design Director

Skyler Stillwaggon '14
Layout Staff

Andrea Wentzell '15
Layout Staff

Copy Editors
Dana Consalvo '12
Liz Campbell '12
Jessica Pennell '14
Nina Rosenberg '12

Susan Magee, M.F.A.
Facilitator

Make your opinion heard and submit editorials to *The Griffin*. Submissions become property of *The Griffin* and are subject to editing for style, clarity and length. The views represented in submissions do not represent Chestnut Hill College. Submissions also do not represent *The Griffin's* position, or that of its facilitator.

The Griffin strives for accuracy and fair representation in all of its publications and factual correctness. If an error is found, email the issue number, the error, and the correction that needs to be made. Corrections may be printed in the next issue.



image: Nina Rosenberg '12

The Junior Class hangs banners that serve as a backdrop to Carol Night. The event was well attended.

Deck the Hill 2011

JESSICA PENNELL
'14

Though visions of finals, deadlines and stress have been the only things dancing through their heads, Chestnut Hill students took the night off to have some fun and get in to the holiday spirit. Christmas Decorating Night was spent hanging garland, stringing lights and getting closer to members of one's class, all carried out with a hint of friendly competition.

The freshman class, assigned to the cafeteria, decided on the theme "Classic Christmas." Complete with Santa's sleigh, presents and snowflakes a plenty, they accomplished their mission. It was also an opportunity for the class to bond, as this was one of the first opportunities they had due to the cancellation of Orientation. "This is one of the most interesting things I've ever seen the freshman class do together, and I think it's a great opportunity for us," said Gabe Henninger, '15.

Outside, the sophomore class has transformed the Piazza into a winter wonderland. Their theme, Griffin Nation, ties together all of the themes of Christmas Decorating Night. It is centered in togetherness, and the large banner outside of Fitzsimmons Hall adorned with signatures of all those who attended, reflects this theme. Vice President Meghan Gerry '14 kept a cool head in the cold weather and said, "It's a lot of fun, and it allows you to get into the Christmas spirit before finals."

As it is their last opportunity for Christmas Decorating Night, the seniors pulled out all the stops to propel the Fournier Hallway back in time and create a "Colonial Philadelphia Christmas." From the Washingtons' mailbox to the Franklins' dining

room, it is a visual walking tour of history Christmas. "Duty to excellence is a selfless endeavor that one's soul can truly enjoy," said Travis Wolfe, '12 of his last Christmas Decorating Night. The senior class of 2012 will certainly leave an impression on those that follow, and will be leaving large shoes to fill.

The winners of Christmas Decorating Night, the juniors, could be found working the night away in the Rotunda. With the CHC Express chugging away, Nutcrackers guarding the third floor and banners with Fleur de Lis dominating this classic Christmas scene, it's not hard to see why the judges chose the junior class as the winners. Based on theme, concept design and implementation, timeline, class participation and budget, the juniors stole the night. President Mary Frances Cavallaro '13 and Vice President Chris Ryan '13 executed their plan perfectly, with help from a large, dedicated number of fellow juniors.

Though the juniors were victorious, it wasn't a complete win for the class. Amongst the feelings of bonding and holiday cheer, there was something missing. Jade Thompson, '13, was in a car accident on November 23, leaving her in the Intensive Care Unit with extensive injuries. Though her condition is improving everyday, with her times of consciousness getting longer and more frequent, it is still a waiting game. Members of the class said that this was Jade's favorite time of the year, and she would have hated to miss it. But, in a way, she was there. The nook of the Rotunda was decorated and dedicated to Jade, and a stocking was hung on the tree with care. Her parents hope she will be home for Christmas, and what better gift could there be?

CAROL NIGHT MAKES THE SEASON BRIGHT

ZAC GRUBB
'12

A time-honored holiday tradition at Chestnut Hill College, the 35th annual Carol Night, took place on Dec. 2 in the Rotunda of St. Joseph's Hall. The performances this year included the men's singing group, "The Fitz Five," the women's singing group, "The Fitz Four," the Wind and Jazz Ensembles and the Hill Singers. The night also included everyone's favorite Christmas carols and a special visit from the man himself, Santa Claus.

The festivities kicked off with Kathleen McCloskey, SSJ, M.M.Ed., assistant professor of music and chair of the art, art history, music, and music education departments, telling the audience that she had received a text from Rudolph the Red Nosed Reindeer about Santa's visit. "Santa says," she told the audience, "that due to traffic [he] may not be able to make it." What followed was an hour of beautiful music from the students and faculty of Chestnut Hill College.

The Hill Singers, were in full swing with wonderful renditions of classic Christmas songs like, "O Come all Ye Faithful," "Joy to the World" and "Deck the Halls." The

crowd could not help but sing along to these carols all through the night. The wind ensemble shined with their upbeat rendition of "Sleigh Ride," and along with the string ensemble, "In the Bleak Midwinter" by Gustav Holst. Jackie Trujillo '11 stunned the crowd with her solo of "O' Holy Night" with Jeremy Triplet, a Chestnut Hill graduate, accompanying her on piano.

"The Fitz Four," made their debut with a medley of songs called, "A Christmas at Home," that was given warm applause by the audience. After the medley, the boy's group, "The Fitz Five," brought the night home with "Rocking Around the Christmas Tree," and "Man With the Bag." As the boys walked off, there was one last surprise.

Santa Claus himself came down the stairs with his bag full of goodies and announced the winners of different Christmas prizes. Old Saint Nick himself brought the night to a close with a jolly laugh and a verse of one last song, "We Wish You a Merry Christmas." Chestnut Hill College's 35th Annual Carol Night continued their tradition of excellence with this year's performance, and promises to do the same next December.



image: Nina Rosenberg '12

In an alcove of St. Joseph's Hall, juniors placed and decorated a Christmas tree. Nearby, the junior class hung a stocking dedicated to Jade Thompson '13, who was seriously injured over Thanksgiving break in a car accident.

NEWS

Intern Diaries



Many students at the college are involved in exciting internships. The Intern Diaries is where students are invited to share their experiences. This entry is part two of Kelly McKay's '12 diary.

Last semester I had an interview with the event manager at the Business Journal and around the same time, I had another interview for an intern position at a marketing and public relations firm called Hoopla. Kim Richmond, the woman who had told me that the Philadelphia Business Journal was looking for an intern, told me about this opportunity as well (see how well this networking thing works?). Originally I had planned on just having one internship and only during the summer, but I decided to offer to work during the fall semester while talking with the owners of Hoopla. I ended up getting this position for the fall semester of my senior year.

I've only been working at this PR and marketing firm since September, but the difference between this internship and my first one is drastic. Hoopla is a company run by three women where the office is above a café and next to an Irish pub on 20th Street and Walnut Street in Philadelphia. Again, I either drive or take the train, twice a week on Tuesdays and Thursdays. My job is very hands-on since it is a significantly smaller company. At The Philadelphia Business Journal I sat in a cubicle and quietly typed away and followed instructions; at Hoopla, I sit at a large table with my bosses where we openly discuss anything and everything, whether it applies to business or our social lives.

My obligations are much different too. My main duty is to do daily Facebook and Twitter posts for certain clients. For example, for a wine distributor company that we work with, I must post an interesting story about wine along with a few posts a day on which wine we are currently selling. I also create databases for media contacts, similar to the Business Journal, but I have much more freedom here to do what I think would benefit our company. The atmosphere is much more casual (I can wear jeans!) and I feel like I can be myself around the people I work with.

I'm assuming this means that I would prefer working for a smaller company as opposed to a more corporate company like The Philadelphia Business Journal. This may be because Hoopla has a more relaxed and open work environment compared to the Business Journal. I also feel more valuable to a smaller company. At Hoopla, I can tell that my opinions matter to my co-workers, and they are always looking for my advice on certain things pertaining to the business.

All in all, when trying to decide whether to take on a second internship, I say DO IT! You'll learn a lot about yourself and what kind of business atmosphere works best for you. You'll also get the chance to meet some great people who may be able to help you get a job in the future. Although it may seem unfortunate that you are doing a lot of work, often times for no pay (like me), it's worth it. I learned that I probably don't want to plan events for a living and that sitting in a cubicle for seven to eight hours a day isn't going to work for me. Also, two internships always looks better than just one on your resume. So, why not?

Chestnut Hill Feels Good

LIZ CAMPBELL
'12

You may have seen many sandwich shaped fliers hanging around campus recently and been wondering what they are for. Well, this semester, seniors Becky Bond '12 and Liz Campbell '12 have launched a new and exciting club on Chestnut Hill's campus. The club is called Feel Good and it is a sect of an international non-profit organization called Feel Good World. The mission of Feel Good World and its subsidiaries is to end world hunger, within our lifetime, one grilled cheese at a time.

Feel Good World was started at the University of Texas by Kristin Walter and Talis Apud in 2004. Since then, Feel Good World has become an international non-profit organization that raises money, via grilled cheese sales, to donate to CHOICE Humanitarian and The Hunger Project. These two foundations immerse themselves in underprivileged countries and teach individual villages how to sustain themselves through gender equality, higher education, microfinancing, and better crop building. These foundations are not charities. They do not merely give money, aid or food to the struggling nations they sponsor; they actually collaborate with the villages and teach them how to support themselves. In many instances, the leaders are from the individual village or region as opposed to the foundation. However, there is also always a point person from the foundation, on hand for the villagers to consult with if necessary. The Hunger Project is who Chestnut Hill Feel Good specifically donates to. "The important thing about villagers being the ones who lead is that they make the initiative," said Co-Founder of Chestnut Hill's Feel Good program, Becky Bond. "They reach out to The Hunger Project and help themselves."

"Feel Good is encouraging a holistic way of being, not only through helping the underprivileged to become self-sustaining, but teaching them how to" said Bond of the movement. Feel Good is an inspirational club to have on any college campus; though it may be more so for

Chestnut Hill since its ideals echo those of the Chestnut Hill mission for a holistic education and a dedication to service.

Feel Good World, along with other non-profit efforts, helps to facilitate the goals of these two foundations: to end world hunger and poverty. The founders of Feel Good World see world hunger and poverty as issues that can be addressed and eliminated in the foreseeable future if the rest of us, as a whole, make a concentrated effort.

Chestnut Hill Feel Good's first event was held during

throughout the evening. Club members were hard at work grilling up enough sandwiches to feed the incoming customers. All in all, it was a marvelous start for Chestnut Hill's contribution to the sustainable end to world hunger and poverty.

Join the movement! Feel Good World's presence at Chestnut Hill College is an opportunity for each and every student, staff, and faculty member to make a concentrated effort for the betterment of society. Feel Good World, and the foundations they donate to, embraces the opportunity to edu-



image: Liz Campbell '12

Caitlin Kain '13 raises support for CHC's newly founded chapter of Feel Good during its grand opening at the Piazza Perk--grilled cheese costume and all.

Hunger and Homelessness Awareness Week. On November 15, club members arrived at the Piazza Perk in Fitzsimmons Hall, ready to cook up some grilled cheese. The deli night event was held from 8 p.m. until 10 p.m. and it coincided with a passport event film—also put on by the club—about microfinance in under privileged nations. The club asked for a minimum donation of 50 cents per grilled cheese and had the option of white or wheat bread and American cheese.

The deli night was a huge success, bringing in just under 70 dollars. Caitlin Kain, a resident junior, very enthusiastically wore the club's sandwich board and enticed people to attend

cate those in underprivileged nations and encourage them to create a better future for themselves. "That is the thing about Feel Good, we look to help others through partnership. It is like the saying 'You give a man a fish you feed him for a day; if you teach man to fish he can eat for a lifetime,'" said Bond. "We want these villagers to eat for a lifetime."

The next Chestnut Hill Feel Good event will be held in the week leading up to finals here at Chestnut Hill College. Keep an eye out for fliers and come enjoy a well deserved break with us and our amazing grilled cheese. Until then, peace and cheese!

Join *The Griffin* on Facebook and Tumblr



Catch news updates and access exclusive online content between issues on *The Griffin's* Tumblr at thegriffinchc.tumblr.com or Facebook, search "The Griffin."



CHC HITS THE BIG SCREEN

KELLY MCKAY
'12

In 2001, when the college first became coeducational, it was clear that some new marketing techniques were needed to reach out to a broader audience. It was time to re-vamp our look and make the school more appealing to young men and women. This is when 160over90 was hired. 160over90 is a branding agency that works on creating a new, fresh image for various companies and schools. Some of their other clients include American Eagle Outfitters, Nike, and Michigan State University.

The first few projects that this company worked on for CHC included the Admissions viewbook, microsite and e-cards. Have you ever been in the admissions office? 160over90 designed it. And remember receiving that laundry bag with the Griffin on it when you were first accepted into the College, or the pillow case? Those were all memorabilia ideas which 160over90 created. They also helped with various advertisements which can be seen throughout Philadelphia and the surrounding area along with the College's website and blog. I'm sure you've seen the quidditch photos on the fliers around campus and the Philadelphia Brotherly Love Cup promotional video; well, they were all produced by 160over90.

Their latest project is a stop-motion film. I, along with several other students at the college, had the opportu-

nity to take part in this production. Hours upon hours were spent creating a storyline for the film and then several days were spent shooting it. On my first shooting day, I sat for a good two to three hours on the steps of the Philadelphia Art Museum getting to know Ryan Brown, a 160over90 employee who played the role of a fellow CHC student. While we sat and talked as if we were on an actual first date, the 160over90 crew was busy snapping a photo every few minutes until the sun finally set. On another day of shooting, I spent the day in the city on my "date" with Ryan enjoying cheesesteaks and ice cream, browsing record stores, relaxing in the park, and observing the Schuylkill River next to Boathouse Row.

Nicole Heigl '14 had a role in the video as well. She was filmed riding a bike around campus and having a picnic in Fairmount Park. "I loved every minute of it," said Heigl. "I've never worked with a more fun, creative or professional group of people and I would definitely do it all over again."

I was able to see more of Philadelphia over the course of two days than I had ever before over the course of my four year journey at CHC. 160over90 is currently in the process of putting together all of the photographs and editing the film. When it is completed, the video will be used on the college's blog, 75 Acres of Awesome, and maybe even the actual website to try to encourage potential students to come to CHC.



image: Nina Rosenberg '12

Captain KayCee Flore '13 leads the Griffin's cheers before facing the College of Charleston. The Griffins triumphed over boastful Charleston, finishing 3-1.

Quidditch World Cup 2011

Continued from page 1
despite the other team's boasting.

The Griffin's only serious injury was a cut across the jaw of Brad Amerman '14 from the match against Charleston. The Griffins returned home 3-1 in pool play. The final victor was Middlebury College, 100-80 against the University of Florida.

Through the International Quidditch Association's efforts, Quidditch has taken off as a club sport. Every year more teams come out to join the fray and it's gotten to be a lot to handle. "The difference between this year and last year, in terms of challenge, is [that] the size of the event brings on so many new implications, challenges and things we need to think about," said Max Kaplan, IQA Social Media Director,

Executive Board Member and CHC alumnus.

"We have more teams coming from different locations. I think 24 states is the number. Making sure all of those teams have someplace to stay in what might be one of the most expensive cities in the world."

While Quidditch may really be coming into its own as a sport, Kaplan wanted to assure current players that it would not lose its quintessence. "You want to make sure you're still providing that intimate experience that we've known and grown to love with Quidditch. It's never been a sport that only works in stadiums; it's a sport that works just as well in a backyard or a quad," said Kaplan. "Even though we've increased our size tenfold, we don't want to lose that intimacy and warmth that comes with it."

Since Quidditch is constant-

ly growing and evolving, the IQA is on the lookout for new locations in an effort to raise awareness. "I would love to change our location up. We've been in New York two years; we were in Middlebury for three years. It's time to explore beyond the East Coast. I think that's going to bring a whole new set of challenges and exciting things that I can't even think about right now," said Kaplan.

As for next year, some concerns have already risen. "You know [that] next year, we're already thinking about it," said Kaplan. "One of my main concerns is accessibility. Randall's Island is an incredible location, but it's very hard to reach and it's a labor of love to get here." While it may have been a challenge to reach, a different setting will provide a new and exciting change, and raise awareness for Quidditch itself.



image: Nina Rosenberg '12



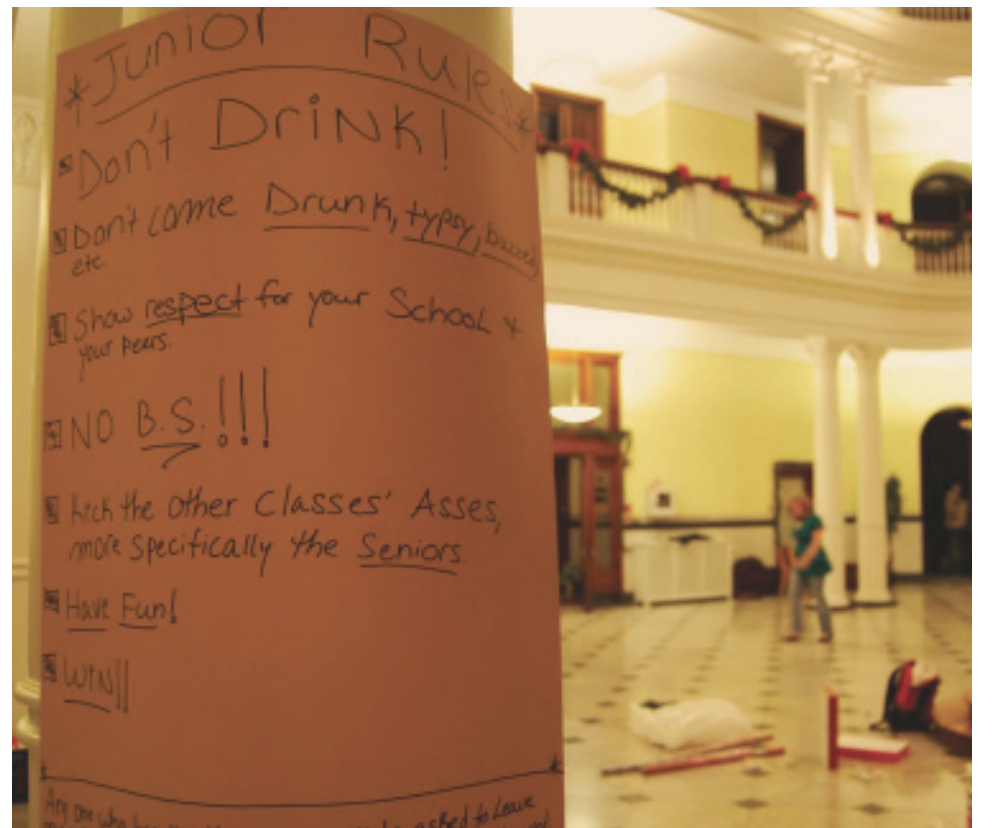
image: Nina Rosenberg '12

Left, an overlook of the pitches at World Cup reveals the true size of the event. Above, Joseph Trujillo '15 is lifted by his teammates following his Snitch snatch against Lafayette College. However, in complete reversal, the play was controversially rescinded. Shortly after, Lafayette caught the Snitch and won the match.



“Christmas is a time for friendship, remembering those who we miss, and bringing out the beauty of everyone. At CHC, the holiday is no different.”

- Jess Veazey '13



Wale's *Ambitions* Land

SHANNON MCFADDEN
'14

"The streets are cold, and the beats are warm" in hip-hop recording artist Wale's new album *Ambition*, which dropped on November 1st. This is the second studio album by Wale and a hit on the billboard charts.

His mixtape, *One Eleven One*, left many disappointed this summer; they felt it was too commercial, but this album brought back any fans that were previously let down. With a style much different than his mixtape material, Wale's first album turned off a lot of fans that he had earned with his first highly regarded *The Mixtape About Nothing* and *Back to the Feature*.

A lot has changed since Wale's first album dropped. Most notably, he left Interscope and signed with Rick Ross's Maybach Music Group. His old label limited his creativity and kept him from making the type of music he wanted to make. Listening to *Ambition*, fans can tell that he now expresses himself in the way he wants to. As his cover song says, "They gon' love me for my *Ambition*."

This album is made for the mainstream hip-hop audience and has great wordplay to impress all his fans on a lyrical standpoint. Another strength of the album is the fact that it's almost entirely all Wale. Many

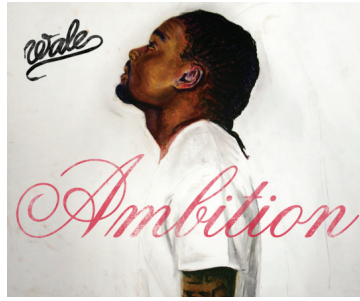
artists today tend to release feature heavy records to draw from other fan bases and push their label mates. This record is remarkably cohesive lyrically. He has feature artists such as his boss, Rick Ross and MMG's own Meek Mills and Big Sean but all of the other album's features are singers on the hooks.

His new songs all have a different flare, they set off from unforgettable beats to up-tempo R&B rhythm. Wale uses his own personal experiences to make the songs touch the hearts of his listeners.

His songs not only attract the male but also female audience. He speaks out to the ladies on "Sabotage Love" and relays a message that ladies can ruin their relationship by living in the moment.

His songs have the feel of a live band but are really background music and drum patterns put together to create an amazing sound. The beats in his music are grabbing to the hip-hop audience and make them hard to stop listening to.

Wale's songs all leave his listeners with a moral in the end, including a point that he wants to get across to his audience that will touch them personally. Wale's *Ambition* CD shows him as a soft rapper. I give him 5 out of 5 stars and can say it is a CD that I cannot stop listening to.



STYLE

Donald Glover Rules the Media

MELANIE MCCOY
'14

Television actor, Donald Glover, is not only a star on the show *Community*, he is also a hip-hop/rap artist. For the past few years Glover, also known as Childish Gambino, has released a few songs. Even though these songs were not known by much of the public, they still caught the attention of Donald Glover fans. Some of these songs included "Lights Turned On," "Break (All of the Lights)" and even samples of Adele. These songs were compiled together in an underground musical compilation, also known as a mixtape.

The songs proved that Gambino has what it takes to be a serious artist. The only problem was that his image did not fit the ideal description of what a rapper should look like, by American standards. Gambino enunciates and pronounces every word correctly and he does not wear flashy and gaudy jewelry. Not only does he have a creative mind lyrically, he also uses the things that people tease about his appearance and pokes

fun at himself in some of his lyrics.

The rumor that Childish Gambino was working on an album floated around for a long time. The rumor turned out to be true and he released his first single entitled "Freaks and Geeks." The song is a fan favorite because it has no chorus or hook, which proved that Gambino could carry his own as a serious artist. For the song, he created a simplified official music video which entailed Gambino in a warehouse.

After many discovered the album release news, Childish Gambino revealed that the album was called *Camp*. Shortly after, he released the second single from the album called "Bonfire." This song did have a catchy hook. Although Gambino used a lot of unnecessary sexual references, it is still a decent song. He created a video for it as well that took place at what looked as if it were an outdoor stay-away summer camp. This video was even better than the last because it was more creative. Gambino took the character of a person who died at "Camp Gambino" and the ur-

ban legend had been told by a camp counselor to a bunch of girls sitting around a campfire.

It became apparent that the release date for *Camp* was going to be November 15, 2011, which was also been the release date of rapper, Drake's, new album. About a week prior to the release date, Gambino leaked his album because Drake's album had been leaked as well. The beauty about the leak was that, initially, people had to pay for it. The album is fantastic, it is everything that fans expected and more. The album showcased who Gambino really is as an artist because he was being himself the entire time. Not only could you see Childish Gambino as an artist, you could also see the remnants of Donald Glover. The album was number two on the iTunes album charts, coming in second to Drake. I prefer *Camp* over Drake's sophomore album, *Take Care*, but because Drake has had a longer career and has a larger fan base, Drake received most of the attention. Honestly, his album should have come second to Gambino's.

TWEETS OF THE MONTH

"No one gets a free ride. Except maybe bus drivers."
-@BobSaget

"If you play a Nickelback song backwards you'll hear messages from the devil. Even worse, if you play it forwards you'll hear Nickelback."
-@Lord_Voldemort7

"If round is a shape, then yes, you're in shape."
-@whitegirlproblems

"We tend to forget that despite the superficial differences between us, people are equal in their basic wish for peace and happiness."
-@DalaiLama

The New Thirty

KYLE MICK
'15

Every so often, I play some of my original acoustic folk at a bar in my one man band, Crazy Kyle and the Folk Revival. Through my musical travels, I have come across some pretty incredible bands. A few weeks back, I opened up for a band at the Hollywood Tavern in Jenkintown, PA called The New Thirty. The three-piece power pop/rock band also sports an impressive collection of covers from bands such as Lit and TNT.

Based out of central New Jersey, these guys know how to put on a good show for the crowd. Singer/guitarist, Jimmy Orfe, belts out melodies that sound familiar

to grunge bands from back in the 90's while Joe Harris pounds bass notes into submission. Another interesting musician from The New Thirty is drummer, Jeffrey Bartelt. Bartelt has a very distinct playing style where he holds his drum sticks like chop sticks and plays incredibly fast on the drums, while still playing in time with the other members.

The New Thirty has a rare style and is definitely worth a listen or two. If you are anywhere near the Hollywood Tavern in Jenkintown, PA on Nov. 5, come check them out for yourself. If this date somehow slips your mind then go and check them out on Facebook or MySpace to find out what you are missing. Keep local music alive!

WHAT YOU SHOULD HAVE BEEN WATCHING

KRISTEN APPENZELLER
'12

As far as television is concerned, 2011 has had hits and misses. Have you seen Whitney? Yikes. Our old favorites such as "Glee," "Modern Family," and "The Office" were back and better than ever. However three newcomers were shining bright in the year of the rabbit.

American Horror Story

A man in a latex suit, ghosts freely roaming, and countless murders. That is "American Horror" story in a nutshell. Surprisingly, the man behind this horror-drama is none other than Ryan Murphy, also, the man who brought us the popular teen musical/drama/comedy *Glee*. The show centers on the Harmon family who moved to Los Angeles. The Harmons move into an old house nicknamed "Murder House" which

has a sordid history and possibly, supernatural powers. Aside from dealing with infidelity, a difficult pregnancy, and a depressed teenage daughter, the Harmons also have to deal with the cast of ghosts that inhabit their home. The show is reminiscent of *Lost* where there are multiple questions and very little answers. "American Horror Story" is indeed a mind-trip. I'll just be patiently waiting here for an "American Horror Story"/"Glee" crossover episode.

New Girl

This comedy series follows Zooey Deschanel as Jess Day (not be confused with the CHC alum). After she finds her boyfriend cheating on her, she is forced to move in with three men who at first, do not take a liking to her. The men find Jess' constant singing and always cheerful disposition annoying.

But after a while, the guys warm up to her and they all become like a family. Unlike the room mates, the television audience warmed up to "New Girl" immediately. The show was the highest rated Fall debut on Fox.

2 Broke Girls

The series set in Williamsburg, Brooklyn follows two waitresses (Kat Dennings and Beth Behrs) as they struggle to raise money for their future cupcake shop. Behrs plays the Paris Hilton-esque character who is forced to work at a diner after her father is sent to jail for fraud. She is left penniless. Dennings' character is the jaded waitress who has worked at the diner for years. The show is essentially an updated female version of the "Odd Couple." However, if you are looking for a cheap laugh to get through the blahs of a Monday night, "2 Broke Girls" will do just that.

Three Books to Cuddle up with Over Winter Break

Looking for Alaska, by John Green

AMANDA FINLAW
'15

Looking for Alaska, by notable young-adult author, popular YouTube figure, and co-creator of a charity group called Nerdfighters, John Green, tells the captivating tale of Miles "Pudge" Halter, an adolescent with a thing for both last words, and a girl named Alaska.

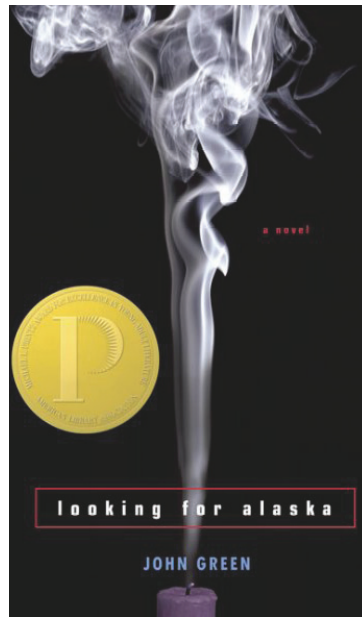
Looking for Alaska, a New York Times Best seller, is most known for the quote, "if people were rain, I was drizzle and she was a hurricane." At the start of the novel, Miles decides to attend the Culver Creek Boarding School so that he can search for the "Great Perhaps," a phrase from a Francois Rabelais poem. On his first day, he meets "the Colonel," his roommate, and Alaska, an intelligent, quirky beauty in "cut-off jeans and a peach tank top."

The novel is divided into before and after. The first 133 pages are devoted to what occurred "before," which consists of "Pudge" and the gang getting kicked out of sporting events, blatantly disobeying school rules, and pulling intri-

cately thought out pranks. Generally, it depicts fun-loving teenagers doing what they do best, with the exception of Alaska's sometimes brooding, angst and death-filled thoughts. One of Alaska's musings during these moments of deep thought is the concept of Bolivar's labyrinth of life and how to escape it.

These comments foreshadow the "after" segment of the novel: Alaska's death, after she, apparently randomly, gets into her car after a night of drinking, and crashes into a stopped police car on the highway. Afterward, Miles and "the Colonel" question whether it was a suicide or not.

Overall, this is an exceedingly striking novel. It covers the deeply emotional topic of young death and the question of intentional death. This novel was so emotional because, as Miles searches for forgiveness and deals with feelings of guilt and grief over Alaska's death, the reader feels the same sense of deep loss. The reader can feel Alaska beginning to open up to Miles, but then she ultimately slips away. Green's lan-



guage truly causes the reader to feel pain, but in a beautiful way. Without personally experiencing death to this degree, the way it is written still causes the reader to feel the raw emotions in as real a way as possible.

Looking for Alaska is for anyone interested in a captivating, comedic, and yet deeply emotional read. It causes the reader to think of concepts such as the labyrinth that we are all in, and the possibility of a "Great Perhaps." This novel brings a unique outlook to the subject of the death of not just a loved one, but the death of a potential true love.

To Kill a Warlock, by H.P. Mallory

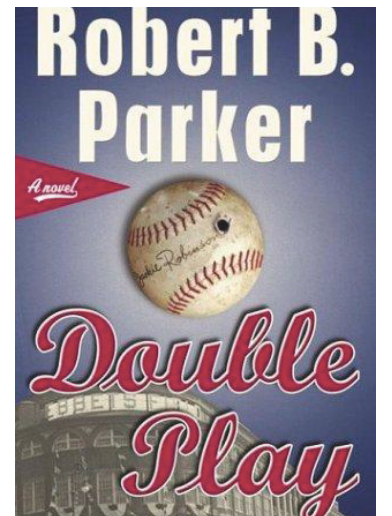
ANDREA WENTZELL
'15

When someone puts together mystery, romance, and urban paranormal fiction, you can find one of the bestselling self publishing authors, H.P. Mallory, on top of the polls. Recently picked up by Random House Publishing, H.P. Mallory first began self publishing in 2010, with *To Kill a Warlock* the first in her Dulcie O'Neil series. One of the best older books on the self publishing markets and popular when it first came out, *To Kill a Warlock* deserves the attention of many.

Dulcie O'Neil, a fairy and regulator for the Netherworld Police Force, only has one agenda: to keep the human citizens of the Splendor, California safe from illegal netherworld activity. When a warlock is murdered and Dulcie was the last to see him alive, she falls under suspicion. With the help of hand-

some investigator, Knightly Vander, Dulcie continues working the case. But between battling shape-shifting creatures, a devious vampire, and her heart, Dulcie is fighting one of her greatest battles yet: herself.

A quick read, *To Kill a Warlock* pulls in the reader, hook-lines-and-sinker into the world of Dulcie O'Neil, one of the best regulators around. H.P. Mallory does not just stop there with the her great books, she continues on with *Tales of Two Goblins* and newly released *Great Hexpectations* for the Dulcie O'Neil series, and more are in preparation. Her additional books in the Jolie Wilkins series, about a new found witch, have been picked up by Random House Publishing and her next book *Witchful Thinking* will be published in early 2012. Any of H.P. Mallory's books make a great Christmas read and are highly entertaining for those boring snowed-in days.



Double Play, by Robert B. Parker

SHY GOODWIN
'13

Any baseball fan who is familiar with the sport's history should know how Jackie Robinson broke the color barrier by being the first African American to play in the major leagues. This did not seem to mean much to Joseph Burke, the WWII veteran and Guadalcanal survivor who was hired by the manager of the Brooklyn Dodgers to be Robinson's bodyguard. However, he discovered and appreciated the significance when the pair began attracting media attention and were forced to deal with the ugliness and cruelty of a small-minded world and found that the results could be dangerous.

Double Play is a fast read that keeps the reader's attention from beginning to end. Though this is a completely fictional story, it is believable. One may even wonder whatever happened to Joseph Burke. I have heard some people tried to Google him thinking the story was true. The book does have

some historical accuracy and is a really enticing trip into a time where the dangers of racial discrimination are just an everyday part of living.

It is also quite interesting to delve into the mind of a man who has been through the hell of a major war and survived a life-threatening injury. What kind of issues was he dealing with? How did he go on living a normal life? What will he do now? These are questions Burke really put off answering throughout the whole book, but soon found himself face to face with the very issues he was trying to avoid.

I truly enjoyed reading this book because there was never a moment that I was bored. I did not fall asleep while reading it and I even had to force myself to put it down and go to bed. Although I do not know anything about baseball or being a veteran, there were a few things I could relate to. Growing up, I had a grandfather who was a veteran and he would tell me stories about the war. Reading his stories made me understand Burke's character a bit more.

2011 POP-CULTURE HIGHLIGHTS

BLEU LANE
'12

Every year the media is fueled by new music, movies and scandals. As 2011 comes to a close, I would like to highlight (in no particular order) some pop culture moments that stood out to me.

1. Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows pt. 2

On July 15, muggles from all over flocked to theaters to see the final installment of the Harry Potter movies. The decade long battle between the boy who lived and he-who-must-not-be-named came to a close on the big screen, and I'm not gonna lie, as a Harry Potter enthusiast, it was a bit emotional.

2. R.I.P. Amy Winehouse

On July 23, British songstress, Amy Winehouse, passed away. It was later found that the cause of her death was alcohol poisoning. While some may argue that she was best known for her wild antics and massive beehive hair, there is no de-

nying that Amy had an incredible talent and will be missed by fans as well as the music industry.

3. Lady Gaga further proved she is insane

Known for her perplexingly creative music videos, it was a shocker when her video for "Edge of Glory" was seemingly uncomplicated. Some thought maybe she was turning over a new, less confusing leaf; but then she released the video for "You and I." We saw Gaga as a mermaid, Gaga as a man, and Gaga dancing in a manger all to the tune of a song which is about a love story in Nebraska. On August 28, Gaga attended the MTV Video Music Awards dressed as the male character from the video, Jo Calderone. She remained in costume the whole night and referred to herself (Lady Gaga) in third person. Is Gaga a misunderstood artist, or just a woman going through an identity crisis? We may never know...

4. Beyonce is pregnant... or is she?

The announcement of Beyonce's pregnancy was followed by a whirlwind of controversy. For various reasons,

there was speculation as to whether or not her baby bump was real. Despite all the rumors, with such a talented gene-pool, this baby is sure to be a future superstar.

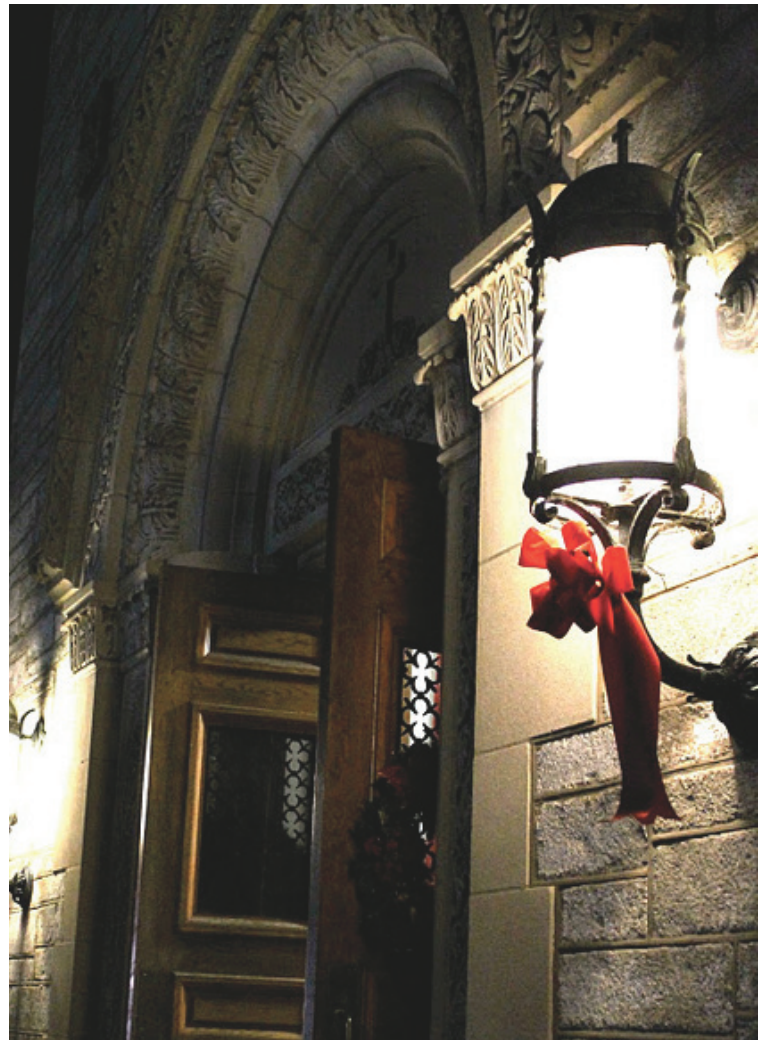
5. Occupy Wall Street

This year, the Occupy protests became the biggest trend for pseudo-hippies who are upset that they missed out on the '60s. While the issues being addressed by the movement are valid, the execution has been sloppy. Protest signs are filled with so many demands that there isn't just one institution to protest. I'm sure it started with good intentions, but it turned into something that's hard to take seriously. I heard from people who went to the protest in Philly that it felt like a party in some parts. People were showing up and hanging out as if they were tailgating a sporting event. College students who are supposedly upset about their student debt skipped classes to "occupy" cities. What does that help? Now you're behind in classes and you still have loans to pay back. Look at you go.

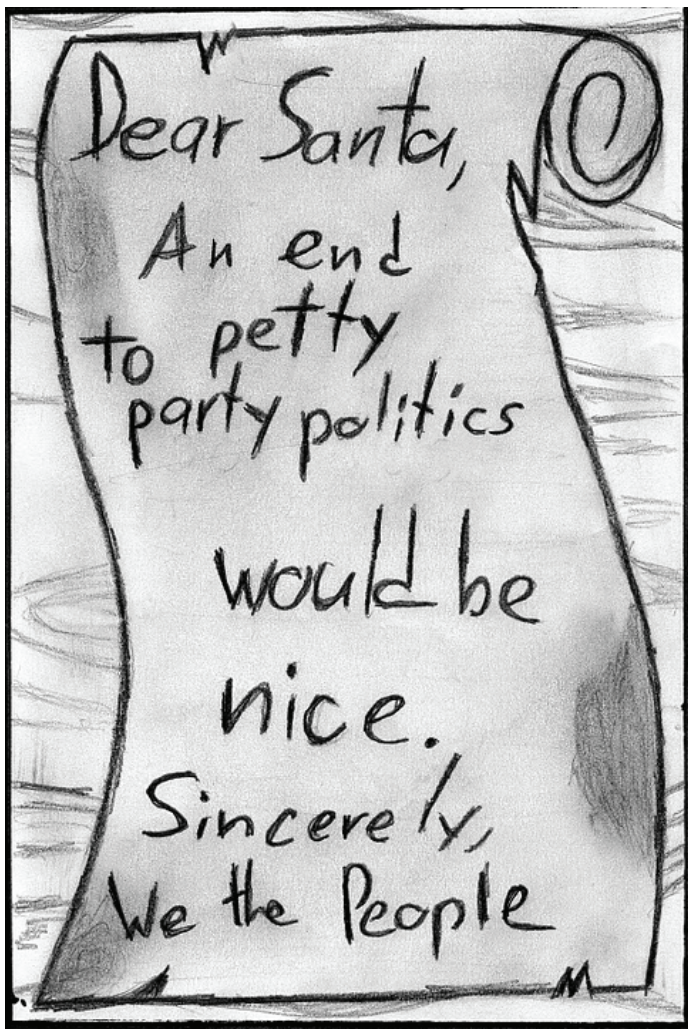


“This part of the semester is my favorite time of year. Chestnut Hill becomes more than a college campus. It feels like home.”

- Nina Rosenberg '12



Subjective Scrutiny



cartoon: Travis Wolfe '12

I WILL NOT BE POOR ANYMORE

JILL MCFARLAND
'15

As my first semester of college comes to a close I notice I've learned much about myself spiritually and academically. And although those things are great, I've noticed something else: I can't save money. The littlest things cost so much, but I still buy them. I wastefully spend on clothes, food and any other frivolous and unnecessary expense. But as the semester ends and 2012 is coming soon, I'm making goals for myself to not be so...poor.

I'm not exaggerating about this. The whole "penny-pinching college student" thing has hit me pretty hard. Last week I paid for my train ticket with two one-dollar bills, 8 quarters and a dollar that had "what will this buy? Not happiness" scribbled in Sharpie and previously handed to me by an Occupy Philadelphia protester a few weeks back. I ate cold microwaved pizza from a plastic container at every stop. Those 8 quarters were my bed sheet laundry money.

To help out a friend, I

bought a bracelet for the Girls' Basketball Team. "It's only one dollar!" So, I emptied my pockets and paid in change. There were most definitely more than ten pennies in the mix.

My plan is to save my Christmas money. That's where I usually go wrong- I just splurge because I can (but really can't). I also plan to stop going out to eat so much. Even though I love having someone else bring me my food, it's really just too expensive. I've even found that it's cheaper and more rewarding to cook your own meal. Once, my boyfriend and I spent about \$12 and cooked ourselves honey mustard chicken sandwiches and French-fries. All homemade and about half the price it would've cost us to go to a burger joint. But like the rest of us humans, I do indulge in fast food every so often. Taco Bell or bust.

So, that being said, with the New Year and new semester in full view, I've made a commitment to myself to not be so...poor. Plus, I should really go to CoinStar and cash in all my change. Then maybe, I'd be rich.

OPINION

A Warm Reminder

JEN JONES
'12

Typically, if I am on campus, I am in a rush whether it be to class, a meeting, or to the computer lab to finish an assignment. I walk with my head down avoiding most of the potentially awkward eye contact and to be honest I don't pay much attention to the signs hanging on the walls. No, I don't play sports-I don't have time to volunteer and I certainly can't afford to purchase something from the bake sale this week.

On my way to the DeSales Center one day, better known as the strange building that no one ever went to until they moved a bunch of faculty offices over there, I hustled up the stairs. In front of me as I looked up to make sure I wasn't about to run into the wall, I saw something that actually made me stop a minute. Taped on the wall in the building that no one visits without having a reason, was a sign that stated: "This is a safe zone". Underneath was a symbol I recognized, a symbol of equality, a simple triangle placed in the center of a circle. The

sign went on to list a series of things you would not be discriminated for in that area such as race, gender, religious preference, and the two that were most important to me- gender identity and sexual orientation.

As a member of the gay community on campus it really meant the world to to see a sign that assured me: I am safe here. As much as it is implied that no one will judge you, and the campus is welcoming to all-things still happen. Comments are made, and people's lives are affected every single day all across the world. Something as simple as a sign reminding someone, "you are welcome here, you belong here" is enough to save a life. With the recent spike in the media about the number of suicides among homosexual youth in America, it pains me to find that on our campus-we have but one sign. I urge that we put these signs all over campus--not just for the gay community but for the foreign exchange students who is feeling just a bit out of place, or the Muslim student facing unfair prejudice because of something dating ten years back.

It is necessary that we remind each other that it is okay to be who we are. For me, that sign said, "if something happens to you while you're here, we will take care of it. You are just as important to us as all of the other students."

We don't have a center specific to the needs of the gay community, the gay-straight alliance that we do have on campus seems to be eternally inactive, so at the very least let's put the signs up. I don't blame the school for not having these things, it is not exactly the top priority and I get that.

But I recommend this - our campus joins the Consortium of Higher Education LGBT (Lesbian, Gay, Bi, Transgender) Resource Professionals. They offer a variety of services to institutions across the states and help them set up their school as a more comfortable place for LGBT students. It is a small investment that could help many of our students. I hope that we see a change. As a member of the community, I promise it would make a difference in at least one life.

Fixing the Economic Mess

KYLE MICK
'15

Newscasters and political analysts are talking mostly about one thing, the economy.

It has been the hot button issue on everyone's mind in America and around the world for the last ten years. Economists speak in complex verbiage about the housing crisis, Greece on the verge of going bankrupt, and tax cut expenditures. All of this economic "mumbo jumbo" that economists talk about on the news definitely seems to be a bit confusing for most people if they don't have a business degree. But in reality, a lot of us want to know, what is wrong with our economic system?

Robert Reich, a political economist who has served in both Gerald Ford's and Jimmy Carter's political administration, believes that he has, in layman's terms, pinpointed the economic problems in

as little as five points.

1) "The U.S economy has rapidly become larger since the 1980's but average American wages have stayed the same."

2) "All of these money gains have gone to the super rich which have 40% of the nation's entire wealth."

3) "With that money the super-rich has a lot of political power which they use to lower their tax rates." 4) "This then causes a budget deficit which makes the U.S government have to cut important things such as education and construction and

5) this then causes the middle class to become divided and end up fighting over what money is left in the economy."

These five points truly seem to be the underlying cause of everything else that has helped destroy the economy, so why have politicians not done more by taxing the wealthy?

I could say it one word,

politics. To me the reason why this issue has not been dealt with sooner is because no one in government can decide on anything. Nearly every politician in government has a good share of money invested in this crisis, just like the super-rich. Rick Perry's 20% flat tax rate is the only thing that remotely resembles how to deal with this problem, but it still includes tax deduction incentives for the wealthy, which sounds like a plan that will just end up going in circles.

Until these politicians can suck up their pride, and lose a little money to help this country, many Americans will continue to lose a lot more. We won't have our houses, a satisfying job that we can be proud of, or a dream of putting our children through college. This is what's wrong with the economy; government is what needs to change.

Attention Criminal Justice majors:

The Philadelphia Police Department will be conducting an open recruitment drive for the position of Police Officer Recruit starting January 9 to March 16, 2012.

For more information, contact
police.recruitment@phila.gov

A Letter of Thanks

Dear Chestnut Hill College community,

On behalf of the Northwest Philadelphia Interfaith Hospitality Network (NPIHN), I would like to thank Chestnut Hill College for graciously sponsoring and hosting our annual Empty Bowl Dinner Wednesday, November 16th. For the past 13 years, CHC has welcomed our current and former guest families, congregations, supporters, and volunteers onto your beautiful campus to share a hearty meal and the warmth of community in order to heighten awareness of family homelessness. Thanks to your partnership, what started out as a relatively small gathering of 150 people in 1998 has become a neighborhood tradition that draws approximately 1,500 attendees!

In many ways, the hospitality that Chestnut Hill College has shown to NPIHN mirrors our own commitment to the people whom we serve. By welcoming homeless families into local congregations and providing each family with a private room, NPIHN provides the comfort and nurturing environment needed for our guests to break out of the cruel cycle of poverty and homelessness. We are inspired by their successes and celebrate with them as they move forward in finding good jobs, obtaining quality childcare, moving into safe and affordable housing, completing their GED's, and enrolling in college. Offering an alternative to more chaotic public shelter settings and a way to keep families together during their period of homelessness, we are proud that our guests call us "the shelter that is more like a home."

Without question, the support and visibility that CHC provides to NPIHN through the Empty Bowl Dinner is a crucial factor in our success. Every year, in the midst of a busy fall semester, the entire Chestnut Hill College community comes together to engage the surrounding Northwest Philadelphia community in this event.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank Carol Jean

Make your opinion heard by submitting letters to the editor or contributions to *The Griffin*.

Submissions become property of *The Griffin* and are subject to editing for style, clarity and space concerns.

Submissions represent the opinions of the author(s) and do not necessarily represent *The Griffin's* position.

Please send all letters or article ideas to Jill McFarland at McFarlandJ@chc.edu.

Vale, SSJ, Ph.D., President of Chestnut Hill College for opening the college campus to hosting such a large scale community event and Mary Darrah SSJ for beginning this tradition! Thanks also to Mindy Welding, IHM and Michelle Leshner, SSJ for an amazing organizing and coordinating effort and for involving so many student groups in every aspect of the event. I would also like to thank the CHC Campus Ministry work study and interns for helping with the many details of the dinner; Jenn Thorpe, Director of Residence Life; Nikki Lockhart, Assistant Director of Athletics for Academic Success and Community Engagement Chestnut Hill College; all staff and faculty volunteers; all student volunteers, who provided everything from kitchen help to serving to garbage disposal; the CHC athletic teams (men's soccer and women's soccer, basketball and softball) for their help throughout the night.

Last, but not least, thanks to Kyle Glen, Miss Lil, Miss Adrienne and Chartwells Dining Service, for donating their catering services for the Empty Bowl set-up and the heating of soups, as well as for providing all linens, paper products, beverages, and rolls and butter; to the Public Relations Department, especially Lisa Mixon; Ray Hallman and Allied Barton Security Services; Frank Davis and Housekeeping Services of the Arthur Jackson Company for locating and moving every table owned by CHC to the Sorgenti Arena; Frank Dealy and the CHC Shuttle Drivers. You are all truly living the mission of CHC!

As we begin the Advent and prepare for the Christmas season, we are reminded that in order to serve God, we must serve one another. NPIHN is deeply grateful for our partnership with Chestnut Hill College, a community that demonstrates a true generosity of spirit and that shares our vision of a world in which homelessness and hunger are eliminated by living our lives with a sense of responsibility towards one another. The funds that we raised from the Empty Bowl Dinner will help us to continue delivering shelter and critically-needed services to homeless and low income families in Northwest Philadelphia. The dedication of Chestnut Hill College demonstrates that when a community pulls together, we can make a huge difference in the lives of our neighbors—and for that we are thankful!

Sincerely,

Rachel Falkove
Executive Director

Student ≠ Athlete

ANONYMOUS

When I walk into the cafeteria at Chestnut Hill, I see the hand-drawn map of the social setting from "Mean Girls." The front dining area is dominated by athletes, separated by sport and table. Aside from a few tables, it's hard to find a person in this front cafeteria that isn't on a sports team, or at least close friends with an athlete. Enter the back dining room and the scenario is a stark contrast. Groups are segregated by friend groups, and not easily distinguishable according to any sort of social designation. It's also quieter, with an air of friendly chatter and lunchtime bonding.

If I return to the main cafeteria, it's harder to hear over the booming voices of the soccer guys, the petty pranks pulled by the girl's lacrosse team, or the sound of the men's lacrosse team counting out the push-ups being performed by a member who uttered "mine." My eyes are drawn to the smattering of golden and yellow shirts, the pre-wrap adorning every female soccer player's head, and the spandex clad volleyball players. It's clear that these people share a common trait that extends beyond being a CHC student, something that sets them apart from the social setting evident in the back cafeteria. They are athletes; a word that

surpasses a simple definition of one who plays sports. It is a badge, a common attribute, a symbol of whom you associate with and where you will be on the weekends. The life of an athlete at Chestnut Hill is great: a built-in friend group, guaranteed "extra-curricular" activities Thursday through Saturday and the ability to compete on a collegiate level. But are we truly getting the college experience?

Being a member of a sports team myself, I find it extremely difficult to balance wanting to be part of the team while also being part of the greater Chestnut Hill community. I aspire to have a close bond with my teammates, yet I feel that I would be hurting myself to completely integrate with them. Both the greatest fault and most dastardly weakness of sports teams here is their closeness. If you need to find a female soccer player, 90 percent of the time they will be surrounded by a group of soccer players, and this dynamic can be extended to any sports team. While this is necessary and vital on the field, I fear the implications that accompany it. It creates a pack mentality, and makes it nearly impossible to participate in activities without the group. I feel as though being an athlete closes as many doors as it opens. If one tries to go off on their own, it's as good as putting up a wall between themselves and the rest of the team. Spending

large amounts of time with other friend groups is hard, because you will no longer understand all of the inside jokes cracked at practice or be able to participate in the reminiscing of the previous night's activities. By being involved around campus you feel separate, like an unnecessary add-on to an otherwise complete pack.

And it's not just a detrimental relationship for those of us who would like to branch out during our college years. What's going to happen when we graduate and are no longer surrounded by our teammates? How are we going to function in the "real world" if we never have to make friends outside of an assigned group, never have to make connections that aren't based on an arbitrary pastime? And, most unsettling, are we going to look back on our college experience and have nothing to reflect on besides practices, games and parties with the same group of people? I hardly think this is what we want. College is a time to grow, to explore, to change. So have fun, create lasting relationships with athletes and NARPs (Non-Athletic Regular Person) alike, and get everything you can from your time at Chestnut Hill. Remember that you are more than your sport, more than your teammates, and more than an athlete. You won't regret it.

RESOLUTION AND POSSIBILITIES

EMERALD CAPERS

'15

New Year's Resolutions; we have all made them. We have all broken them too. They're part of a list we all make in December (which comes second to Christmas gifts of course).

They're those promises you make to better yourself or others in the upcoming year. The same promises that are usually abandoned by February of the New Year, if not sooner. Usually, the most commonly broken covenants for the New Year are losing weight, quitting smoking, eating healthier, saving money and being less stressed. Most young adults have probably had one or more of those resolutions on their agenda in the past. But what is it that makes them so easy to break? It is probably the fact we all fall subject to our routines. If the bad habits we wish to for-

go are part of our daily routine then once we move past the novelty of the New Year, many of us return back to our original routines. Therefore, those bad habits are reincorporated into our day.

One CHC student decided to try to give up her vice of Diet Coke. "I always say I'm going to stop drinking Diet Coke, and then I go and down a whole case of them." But let's be real here, her downfall was probably a lack of energy that caused her to grab a can of Coke in desperation to get that boost of energy for long study nights. Just like her, many make the same resolutions year after year and despite being unsuccessful they continue to make and break them. As the cliché goes "rules were meant to be broken."

So the question becomes what is one to do? I say, be optimistic and create a list of goals for the upcoming year.

And, place the fair in oneself to achieve them. Let's not take the pessimistic approach and realize that history repeats itself. Let's refrain from creating promises or rules to governing oneself that are inevitable to fail, (i.e. to stop cursing). While that plan may seem to be reasonable and the thought that the absence of resolutions allows nature to take its course, I find the optimistic option to be more favorable. The magic of New Year's is the belief that next year will be the time you finally put your foot down and lose that extra five pounds, stop drinking your Diet Coke, or wash your mouth out with soap and stop cursing. So like every other optimistic person getting ready for another year of possibilities, I look forward to fulfilling my list of resolutions. However plausible that may be.

SPORTS

Hockey Rivalry Beckons in New Year

JUSTIN ENGELHARDT
'12

The 2012 Bridgestone NHL Winter Classic continues the tradition established by the NHL, of hosting a regular-season game outdoors. At the onset of the new year and to celebrate the origin and traditions of hockey's original roots, they will play in Philadelphia at Citizen's Bank Park, the home of the Phillies.

The stadium that is equated with Philly red between April through October will be packed with enthusiastic black and orange hockey sweaters for the first time. The baseball field will be cut in half and will have a full size outdoor ice rink placed in the middle of the stadium, just as if the game were being played on an outdoor pond.

The Philadelphia Flyers will be hosting the New York Rangers on Monday, Jan. 2, at 1 p.m. ET. The game will be broadcasted live on NBC. This is the biggest event, besides the Stanley Cup for the NHL, and has brought in great ratings the past few years. This will be the first time the event is hosted in Philadelphia, and the second time in as many years for the Flyers to be participating.

"The Rangers-Flyers rivalry

is one of our very best," said Gary Bettman, NHL Commissioner. "It is only a short distance from Broadway to Broad Street, and over the years, these not-so-neighborly teams have provided an assortment of memorable games. I have every expectation that the 2012 Bridgestone NHL Winter Classic will provide more great moments to remember."

Division rivals since the 1974-75 season, the Rangers and Flyers become the closest geographic rivals to compete in the Bridgestone NHL Winter Classic, and like all other rivalries involving New York and Philadelphia sports teams, this is a heated match up.

The 2011 Bridgestone NHL Winter Classic in Pittsburgh on NBC Sports aired in prime-time and was the most-watched NHL regular season game in the U.S. in 36 years with an average of 4.5 million viewers.

For the second consecutive year, the NHL will partner with HBO Sports and its groundbreaking "24/7" reality franchise. As it did with the Pittsburgh Penguins and Washington Capitals last year, the four-episode, all-access series will provide viewers an exclusive behind-the-scenes look at both teams, along with in-depth

interviews with players, coaches and front-office personnel. All of this will happen as the teams compete during the NHL regular-season, including a Dec. 23 match up between the teams at Madison Square Garden. "I'm not even much of a hockey fan at all," says Yannick Wallace, a senior at CHC, "but this is an event I will actually be watching."

The premiere HBO episode debuts in prime time, Wednesday, Dec. 14, at 10 p.m. ET, with new episodes debuting each successive Wednesday at 10 p.m. ET. Many fans have expressed the HBO series to be the best part of the whole event, showing the hard work and preparation that is involved inside the locker room and practice, and giving an all access pass for fans to see and hear what players go through on and off the ice.

The event will also be hosting a Legends Game prior to the game, having some of the legends of the past such as Eric Lindros and John Leclair coming back for a game. This is a must see event for any sports enthusiast, not just hockey fans. It will be the magnitude of a game being played outdoors in the Winter.



images contributed by: Brandon Williams '12



Basketball Boys Score Big Points

On November 16 in Sorgenti Arena, Brandon Williams reached his 1,000th point in the game against C.W. Post College. The team won 98 to 80. Coach Balcer is now three games away from one-hundred wins.



image contributed by: Griffin Athletics

On November 11, Dan Comas scored his 1,000th point in the game against West Chester University.

PHILLES OFF-SEASON LEADS TO NEW PLAYERS

Continued from Page 12

Cliff Lee. With many people expecting Lee to be in another set of pinstripes in the foreseeable future, the Phillies signing him was one of the biggest surprises and, as many said, was a Christmas present to the team. Inked to a five year deal with a guaranteed \$120M and the possibility to earn up to \$135M, the signing was also a nice present to the pitcher who never wanted to be traded from Philly in the first place.

So with two mega off-seasons and the Phillies' acquisition of two of baseball's best pitchers, it was a wonder what Amaro would do this year. The off-season for the Phillies started with two big questions: SS [shortstop] Jimmy Rollins and RP [relief pitcher] Ryan Madson. Both players were at the end of their contracts and both

looked to be primed for a big payday.

Other than these two free agents, the Phillies were faced with expiring contracts for back-up catcher Brian Schneider, LF [leftfielder] Raul Ibanez, RHP [right handed pitcher] Roy Oswalt and former closer Brad Lidge. So far the Phillies declined their options on Oswalt and Lidge but it is not out of the question that either or both of these players could return. The Phillies offered Ibanez arbitration but he has yet to accept or decline and they have re-signed Schneider to a one year deal. In addition to these moves, the Phillies also traded for utility player Ty Wigginton, who can play first, third or the outfield positions, giving the Phillies much needed depth. They also signed former beloved Phillie, Jim Thome, to a one year deal. Although none of these moves



image: WEBN-TV, www.flickr.com/photos/politicalpulse/

Phillies enter Joker Marcanant Stadium in Lakefield, Florida during 2011 off-season.

are blockbuster, Ruben was not done. Matching his past of signing the big name to the big contract, the Phillies inked a \$50M deal with former Red Sox closer, Jonathon Papelbon, making him the highest paid closer in baseball history and the newest star to sport red and white pinstripes. The contract for Papelbon came on the heels of rumored announcements that the Phillies had agreed to a \$44M deal with Ryan Madson.

Although the Madson deal was not true, Amaro has said that the Phillies got their man and the one they wanted all along is All-Star closer Papelbon.

With baseball's winter meetings underway and the month of December upon us, it is only natural to wonder what Amaro still has up his sleeve. With decisions left to be made, positions left to fill and somehow, somehow, the payroll left to fill them, Ruben Amaro and the Phillies

can still make a splash and bring a marquee player to Philly, perhaps Mets SS Jose Reyes if the team parts with Rollins? If the past has only taught Phillies fans one thing it is this: don't ever count out Ruben Amaro and the Phillies to do something big in December. That is the month after all that brought Lee and Halladay to Philly and by all indications it could be bringing another big name here for the 2012 season.

Current Record (Current as of 12/4)**Cross Country Final**

11/6, Joseph Trujillo placed 97-178 at the NCAA DII East Regional Meet.

11/16, Isabella Murray placed 140-183 at the NCAA DII East Regional Meet.

For more information, visit: griffinathletics.com

Men's Basketball 5-2**Women's Volleyball Final** 13-19**Women's Basketball** 0-3

SPORTS

LOST GRIFFIN, NOW FOUND WITH NEW IDENTITY

KAIT LEONARD
'13

For months, students all over campus were asking the question: "Where is the Griffin?"

The College's most beloved mascot had been missing from sporting events leaving many students wondering where he went. Finally, after a few months of searching, the Griffin was found doing what he has always done best... engaging the students and staff at the college in a spirit-filled way. He was spotted at the grand opening of the College's new fitness center doing what promises to be the first of many work outs needed to get in shape for a long season of cheering the College's sports teams to victory.

The Griffin's location was unknown for some time and, as a result, rumors surfaced that the college's old mascot costume was stolen by an unknown student at the College. The truth, however, as confirmed by Director of Student Activities Emily Schademan, was that the Griffin was never lost or stolen and that the costume was sitting in the back of a storage closet. "The old Griffin was just falling apart," said Schademan when asked why the costume had been shelved. "We decided it was time for another Griffin."

With a brand new idea in mind, the Student Activities Office went to work on creating the mystery surrounding the appearance of the new Griffin. The idea to say that the Griffin was missing created mystery and excitement among the students and was fueled by posts on the student run blog, 75 Acres of Awesome and on twitter where

the Griffin reported that he was just taking some time off. Student Activities created a campaign for the "Missing Griffin," and in conjunction with the college's marketing firm 160/90 and Marketing Director Gillian Chaplan, helped to create the new look of the Griffin.

The unveiling of the revamped Griffin at the grand opening of the new fitness center was a natural decision. 160/90 and Student Activities determined that what better a way to "find" the new and improved Griffin than working out at the new gym, preparing himself for a long season of CHC activities?

In addition to the Griffin's new look, the person to fulfill the mascot duties will also be brand new. The College held tryouts for students looking to occupy the new costume for the year and sports season. Although the tryouts were an open event for all students to witness, part of the mystery around the Griffin will be the hidden identities of who exactly is the Griffin. "This year we want the identities of our students playing our mascot to be hidden, but we did hire three students" Schademan said.

"We want someone to engage and excite the crowd," said Megan Cranney, Assistant Director of Student Activities, "someone who has a lot of spirit." With the three new hires, Student Activities believes they have found students able to do just that. In addition to the students in the costume, Student Activities is encouraging all students to think of what to name the new Griffin, to make it more personal to the school. Students can create the names

they want and post them on the college's website. Then students can choose what name they like the best, ultimately giving a new personality for the mascot currently known as "Griffin."

So the Griffin who posted on 75 Acres of Awesome that he was "reflecting and re-evaluating his life," is ready to once again become part of the fabric

of life here at Chestnut Hill College. You can spot the Griffin at certain sporting events, family weekends, and at other College events. The Griffin will also be making a special appearance at the Christmas decorating night, so keep your eyes peeled and don't be surprised if you run into him around campus!



image: Jess Veazey '13

Above, the Griffin during Kisses for Kyles Night, in which the Griffin participated in several rounds of Volleyball for a good cause.

Below, the Griffin assisting the seniors during Christmas Decorating Night on December 1.



image: Nina Rosenberg '12

Phillies Season Recap

MARILEE GALLAGHER
'14

If you think that just because the playoffs and regular season are over that means that baseball is over, think again. As has been proven in years past and especially when it comes to the Phillies, the baseball off-season can be almost as exciting as the season itself. Coming off of a very disappointing end to such a promising season, fans are all asking: "What is Ruben going to do this year?"

In the past two years we have seen the Phillies do some incredible things after the end of the baseball season. In 2009, the Phillies were at the center of a three team trade where Phillies pitcher Cliff Lee was traded to the Seattle Mariners and Roy Halladay of the Blue Jays was traded to the Phillies. A handful of prospects and cash considerations were also involved, but the big story of the off-season surrounded the Phillies and how they traded one Cy Young Award Winner for another. While in 2012 we saw the Phillies part with star RF [right fielder] Jayson Werth, we also saw them make a blockbuster free agent signing when bringing Cliff Lee back to Philadelphia. After a stellar season which almost resulted in a World Series Championship for the Texas Rangers, Lee was the marquee free agent on the market. The Rangers were vying to re-sign him but it seemed certain he would wind up in a New York Yankees uniform as they were offering the money and the years to make the deal happen. There were rumblings that the Phillies wanted to bring Lee back and that they were the undisclosed team in pursuit of the pitcher, but with an ever growing payroll it seemed impossible.

Then, out of nowhere, Phillies GM [general manager] Ruben Amaro emerged and took to the podium surprising the Philadelphia media, fans and baseball enthusiasts everywhere that the newest player would be

"Phillies Off-Season"
Continued on Page 11

Students Unite Under Griffin Nation

KARLAANE KLOUDA
'14

Do you remember your younger days, when you were filled with school spirit? The student section overflowing the bleachers with anticipation and pride, ready to cheer your school's sports teams on. Don't you miss it? If you do, then buy into the new Griffin Nation movement.

Griffin Nation was created

by the women's basketball team as a way to unify, not just all of the sports team, but the entire college community. Women's Basketball Coach Laura Pruitt encourages her team to "buy into the system, buy into college athletics, Chestnut Hill."

After watching the movie, "Mighty Macs," which is based on the real life story of the 1971-72 Immaculata College team that started as underdogs but became the first Cinderella

story in women's basketball, the Lady Griffins were inspired. "We hope that Griffin Nation will bring those who participate in college athletics with those who do not, forming a union-a nation," says captain Ebony Washington, who hopes the movement can fill the seats in Sorgenti Arena for the women's team. "If you take away athletics we are just like you."

There has also been a twitter account made: @GriffinNa-

tion, which will update all sports events and news daily. The women's basketball team is selling Griffin Nation bracelets in black and red and in the future, they hope to sell t-shirts and scarves. Captain Ebony Washington hopes to win over her fellow Griffins and get them to buy into Griffin Nation. It is never too late to have a little school spirit and pride.