As the sun begins to set in Center City Philadelphia, the shadow of City Hall stretches over the mass of activists who, for days, have occupied its base. The Occupy Philly protesters, a branch of the ongoing Occupy Wall Street protest, now number in the hundreds, and have begun to take on the appearance of refugees. The hodgepodge group of mostly 20-somethings, clad in knit wool caps, keffiyehs, Bob Marley t-shirts, and Guy Fawkes masks, grows daily, becoming increasingly inconvenient to the non-occupiers who frequent the area.

Rarely are protests convenient for their audiences or comfortable for their supporters. CHC senior Laura Asti said, “I agree with what the people are standing for [but] there’s not much you can do peacefully.” She feels the protests have been “pretty quiet,” but that “people are starting to get annoyed.”

“It does stink. Literally,” remarked one city employee, who feels that the encampment is riddled with “all kinds of health issues.” James McGonigal, an “interested observer” who has attended the protests daily said, “[HF]ygiene was initially a concern, but efforts are being made to improve it.” He noted that the protestors have begun to pick up after the homeless, and are making efforts to “get with the green movement.” Reportedly, there is little or no heavy drug use and, for the most part, the occupiers “behave themselves well.”

McGonigal, like many, feels that the movement is suffering from its lack of organization. They need to have something actionable, something you can implement. Robin Hood at least distributed the wealth. At least he had some plan there.” Yet, while campaigning against a vice seems futile and largely symbolic, it may not be without purpose. As was the case with the social media-fueled leaderless movements of the Middle East, this movement is relying on common sentiment rather than a streamlined list of goals and conditions to combat the status quo. This approach greatly appeals to the country’s increasingly individuated youth, as well as the city’s Quaker community.

What began as a demonstration composed of less than a dozen college students grows daily, becoming increasing inconvenient to the non-occupiers who frequent the area. The Occupy Philadelphia protesters, for days, have occupied its base over the mass of activists who, for days, have occupied its base. The Occupy Philly protesters, a branch of the ongoing Occupy Wall Street protest, now number in the hundreds, and have begun to take on the appearance of refugees. The hodgepodge group of mostly 20-somethings, clad in knit wool caps, keffiyehs, Bob Marley t-shirts, and Guy Fawkes masks, grows daily, becoming increasingly inconvenient to the non-occupiers who frequent the area.

November 2, protesters swarm City Hall on Market Street, brandishing home-made signs to further their cause and drive home their point.

Veronica Wilson, a CHC sophomore agreed. “I find the efforts of Occupy Wall Street to be theoretically just; however, it seems unorganized and poorly planned,” Wilson said. “Due to the overall chaos, their messages are being diluted.” One City Hall employee echoed this concern. “It is certainly something admirable, but it would be nice if they knew what they were doing,” he said. “They need to advocate for something specific. What they’re basically doing is campaigning against greed, but they’re not doing it effectively.”

“Dining Questions Answered”

WESTLY MANDOSKE ’13

In response to the opinion piece printed in the October issue “Students Deprived of Meal Money,” The Griffin sat down with Pat Flanagan, director for Dining Services with Chartwells USA to hear his response and address some of the questions raised therein. Below is the contents of that conversation, transcribed from a verbal interview.

Q: Were there any changes made since last year, and what can you say about those?
A: I’ll begin by letting you know that currently we have a meal equivalency set up in the Griffin’s Den for Monday through Friday for breakfast, lunch, and dinner. The meal equivalency for Breakfast is, once we close the Dining Hall at 9:30 a.m., the meal equivalency begins downstairs in the Griffin’s Den [and continues] until a quarter till eleven. That means that any student on the 19-meal plan can swipe a meal downstairs. That’s Monday through Friday.

Lunch, we have a meal equivalency downstairs beginning from the time we shut down the cafeteria at 1:30 p.m., the meal equivalency begins at 1:30 and it goes to 4:30, in the afternoon. So any student who’s

“Dining Questions Answered”

Continued on page 2

Griffins Go Green?  

JARREAU FREEMAN ’11

As an institution of higher education, Chestnut Hill College’s mission is “to provide students with a holistic education, Chestnut Hill College’s mission is “to provide students with a holistic education, Chestnut Hill College’s mission is “to provide students with a holistic education, Chestnut Hill College’s mission is “to provide students with a holistic education.” This dimension, especially when it comes to recycling efforts on campus.

One way the College administration has expressed their concern for the earth has been through the slogan, “Griffins Go Green.” This

“Griffins Recycle”

Continued on page 3
**THE GRiffin**

**Vol. II, Issue 3**

The Free Student Newspaper of Chestnut Hill College

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Mary Marzano '12 Managing Editor

Westly Mandsoke '13 Business Manager

Zac Grubb '12 News Editor

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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.

**NEW SGA MEMBER PROFILES**

**ALISON MANN**

2015 PRESIDENT

Alison decided to run for President because she wanted to get involved in school activities. Both Alison and Marisa, the First-Year Vice President, had many fundraising ideas that they help build up their class treasury. Alison has two main responsibilities: fundraising and decorating the Café during Christmas time. Currently, she is working on a weekly fundraiser of providing chocolate fondue snacks in the Griffin’s Den every Friday from 7-8 p.m. with the possibility of showing a movie. Alison’s biggest goal is to make this first year the best it can be for the Class of 2015.

**MARIAS MANGIO**

2014 VICE PRESIDENT

Marisa’s approachable personality and drive to make a difference led her to run for this position. She assists, with President Alison Mann, in holding a fundraiser for their class every week, sets up class meetings, and is planning Christmas decorating. Marisa also plans to listen to all of her peers’ problems and work to get them resolved as quickly as possible.

**MEGHAN GERRY**

2014 VICE PRESIDENT

Meghan thought it would be a great opportunity to be a part of the Student Government Association and it very happy to help her class in any way. Right now, Meghan is avidly brainstorming ideas with Brad American, sophomore class President, and addressing concerns and developing their ideas.

**Dining Questions Answered**

Continued from page 1 on the 19-meal plan and misses lunch up here. [in the cafeteria] and just use that as meal downstairs, following the equivalency policies. So we get a large window. There’s the largest window for meal equivalency time-wise, because that’s when we get the most participation when students have a difficult time getting in here [the cafeteria] due to of class schedules. So at 4:30 that then shuts down because we’re open up here in the cafeteria.

The dinner time hours begin at 8:30 and run until 10 p.m. The last two hours is when you can utilize flex dollars if you miss a meal. Or even if you do eat and you want to go back down for a slice of pizza or burger at 11 or 1 o’clock at night, you can still use your flex dollars, not your meal equivalency.

I think the confusion was last year, we ran meal equivalency all the way the till midnight. That was a mistake. The reason why it was a mistake was that it didn’t give any of you the opportunity to use your flex dollars.

Q: I have only one question about meal equivalency. When you don’t want to go to the cafeteria but it’s noon, so the cafeteria is still open, can you choose to go to the Griffin’s Den and use your meal equivalency instead?

A: We try to avoid that specifically because we produce for the students who are on the 19-meal plan upstairs in the cafeteria. However, you know me. We can do it if it’s an emergency, if you’re in a rush. I did it for two students today. I called the stairs and gave the okay to do it. There is leeway that we can give you.

Q: So it’s preferred that students go to the cafeteria, before they go to the Griffin’s Den?

A: Correct.

Q: Can you throw any light on why perhaps those changes occurred?

A: When you say ‘the change’, we only changed one thing. I did move it from 9:30 to 10 p.m. I did do that, immediately. The change from 10 p.m. to midnight versus last year was so you had an opportunity to utilize the flex dollars. That’s the reason why we did it. I still gives you a pretty good window to use an equivalency for dinner. Because it’s from 8:30 to 10. That’s an hour and a half.

Two of your meal equivalencies breakfast is an hour and 15 minutes that you can use your card downstairs for equivalency. Lunch is from 1:30 to 4:30, so that’s 3 hours. And then right time, it’s an hour and a half. During this time:

Q: The dinner time in the cafeteria is from 4:30 to 8 p.m.?

A: Actually we stay open until 8:30.

Q: What does Dining Services do for students who can’t come down to counseling, stu- dent teaching or perhaps even sports? I know that the dinner hours were originally extended because of sports. But coaches have this policy of keeping them out as late as possible.

A: Well, the majority of it have been in constant contact with the coaches, in addition to Lynn Tubman, Director Denise Witi- nieski. As we stand right now, I’m not aware of any conflicts because we do stay open till 8:30 p.m., plus they can still use their meal equivalency downstairs, should they choose to do so. That’s for athletes who are either practicing late, or on the road. We’ve actually stayed open a couple times a little later when we get a phone call that the bus is running late or whatever.

This fall semester, I haven’t experienced any issues. For those, we actually do volleyball in at around 4:15 p.m.. They can take to-go platters that are on the meal plan so they don’t have rush and we don’t have to make bag lunches for them. So they eat right on the bus and they eat what you would normally eat at dinnertime.

As far as whoever has an internship or student teaching, we do bag lunches. Bag lunches can be picked up at either nighttime for the day prior to them going to their internship, assum- ing they’re on the 19-meal plan. Or, they can also come in that morning.

I have Eric Drinks- he’s a perfect example. I think that we have two or three other ones that we take care of that are in- terns. And they come and see me or KG [Kyle McGlaughan].

Q: So for the bag lunch do you have to send a notification?

A: Yeah, we just look for 24 hours [notice].

Q: And who would you direct that [notification] to?

A: That should include myself [Pat Flanagan] or Kyle McGlaughan. And they have to be on the 19-meal plan. Or they can be on the debit plan and use their points against what costs for the bag.

Q: Is there anything that I haven’t addressed that you would like to ask?

A: I always have an open door policy. If there’s any stu- dent, faculty or staff that has any issues or concerns on any- thing that has to do with dining services, come come up. My door’s always open. I will always make time, as I am right now. What I like to try and do is put down anything that could be something that I could have very easily handled, had some-
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 one of Kelly McKay’s ’12 diary.

During my final semester of my junior year I spent the majority of my free time researching companies looking for internship opportunities. It became an extremely stressful experience since I was worried that I was not going to find one. In order to graduate from Chestnut Hill College, I needed a communications-related internship.

Luckily, my professor, Susan Magee, M.F.A., assistant professor of communications, nominated me for a scholarship opportunity through the Philly Ad Club. This non-profit organization is one of the region’s largest and most active trade associations and provides students with internship opportunities, career advice and mentorship programs. I had always heard that networking is the best way to get your foot in the door to find job opportunities and meet new people, so I was hoping that this nomination would lead to an internship opportunity.

I was contacted for an interview, met with the panel and ended up receiving a $1000 scholarship from the Philly Ad Club. During my interview I met Kim Richmond of Richmond Marketing and Communications, who gave me the name of the event manager from The Philadelphia Business Journal. After emailing the contact and sending my resume and cover letter, I was asked to come in for an interview.

It went really well and a few days later I was offered an internship position. Although I was not sure if I was interested in event planning, I figured I would try it out. I was just so thankful for the event manager from The Philadelphia Business Journal who has been assisting me, and I also realized that I had hit the jackpot with this internship.

The Philadelphia Business Journal hosts several events throughout the year and 40 Under 40 was the first event I attended my very first day. This awards program recognizes 40 successful business people under the age of 40. Over 400 people were in attendance, including ABC’s Channel 6 meteorologist, Adam Joseph, who was one of the winners. I felt like I had hit the jackpot with this internship.

I soon realized after a few more days on the job that just because I was able to occasionally be around some well-known entrepreneurs and attend some high-profile events, my internship was going to be a lot of hard work. Here’s what a typical day for me would look like: I would arrive at the office around 9 a.m., Starbucks in hand (I never drank coffee until this internship) and then do a campus clean-up. I would be responsible for putting up necessary signage and stuffing name badges. When arriving at an event, I would help set up the decorations, assist with on-site coordination, and then follow the event I would help break down and clean up everything.

The Griffin

CHESTNUT HILL COLLEGE RECycles

Continued from page 1

H. H. Murphy, M.A., dean for student life. “When people think of recycling they think of separating all paper, plastic, glass, and metals from each other; however, there are other ways.” The recycling laws in Philadelphia are such that a large institution does not have to recycle the way households do. “Because we are a College, we outsource to a recycling contractor, Allied Waste Industries, which does a single-stream pick up of all of our garbage. This means all garbage as well as plastic bottle caps, cans, and glass all go into one can.”

According to Allied Waste Industries standard waste disposal description, they collect the garbage and take it to a landfill for inspection. Then the garbage is hauled to a 2,000°F furnace and burned. Steam produced from burning materials generates electricity for the plant and is sold to local utilities. Unburned materials, such as metals, are retrieved from the residue and recycled. To control the amount of pollutants that are released into the air during the combustion process, state-of-the-art pollution control equipment removes acidic gases and other harmful emissions from the air.

“It is probably confusing to have recycling bins and trash cans when it’s all going to the same place,” Murphy adds. “We are going to look into taking information on all trash cans and recycling bins to clarify that it will be recycled as trash-to-energy. Though it may be the best form of waste disposal for the College, some wonder if it’s truly environmentally friendly. The question that I propose is ‘Is burning the recyclables the best practice?’” said Sister Mary Elizabeth Clark, SSJ, assistant to the President for Sustainability. “Could we passively look into an alternative? I am not sure. This is something we have to research, especially since we pay Allied Waste Industries to empty our garbage. We needed to make sure it’s good for the earth and that we are getting our money’s worth. My charge for this year is to focus on recycling.”

“The Griffin’s Go Green” slogan may seem like a far-fetched claim to many. “[This] is the future slogan for the Sustainability Task Force,” said Sr. Mary Elizabeth, whose office is located in the College’s Earth Center. Located in the House of Loretto beside the Student Housing Center the center contains many sustainable aspects, including a geothermal heating/cooling system. “Michele Mocsary, director of Human Resources, faculty representative who has been assisting me, is trying to revitalize the Task Force. One of the early initia - tives to the force is to promote the use of reusable cups.”

The goal of the Sustainability Task Force is to be the catalyst for the College with their green efforts. “Ultimately, we want the Force to be comprised of more students, faculty, staff, and administrators who can help us make the best decisions regarding sustainability for the College.” Sr. Mary Elizabeth said. “Also, [they] will be charged with making communication easily accessible to students. We wanted to make sure there was an involvement for this reason. Students will know how to motivate other students to recycle; they will be able to come up with fun, creative, and effective solutions that will work.”

The College administration has implemented many environmentally-friendly initiatives in the last year. “CHC focuses on environmental sustainability as a whole,” Murphy said. “For example, there are no trays in the cafeteria which cuts down on water use, because we don’t have to wash them every day. Also, since students don’t carry trays they don’t get as much food, which cuts down on the amount of food waste. The College conserves energy by turning off lights and closing wings in the evenings and cutting off TVs around campus over the weekend. In addition, in the cafeteria there is only fair trade coffee, and in the new Fitness Center there is a water bottle filler.”

But the college can’t do this on their own. Murphy calls students to be active as well. “It’s simplistic to just think about recycling only when thinking about the environment. There is stuff that we can all do!” Mur phy said. Students should turn off the lights and TVs when they leave their dorm rooms. “It’s a collaborative effort.”

Many students are already proactive when it comes to “going green.” “I try to recycle by putting my cell phone over and over, and by not just trash my old batteries and ink car tridges, but taking them to special recycling sites,” said Jessica Schmidt, ’12. “We should all recycle, so that we can use less new things, and take advantage of what we already have.” Murphy disagrees with the “green” service projects and under the guidance of Robert Meyer, Ph.D., professor of biology, several first-year students em barked on a campus clean-up. They have made an effort by removing debris from the Wissahickon Creek. Dr. Meyer helped students plant a rain garden and establish a walking path around the Earth Center, using all recycled materials and materials retrieved from the creek.

Many students and adminis trators believe that the College is not “green” enough. However, Sr. Mary Elizabeth is hopeful that the College will consider sus tainability in all decision mak - ing. “To quote the United Na tions, my dream is that CHC will be a ‘systemically sustain able’ college campus, and that ‘every decision we make will be made through the lens of sustainability’ for all aspects of campus life. My hope is that we ‘can fulfill our needs without depriving the needs of future generations’.”

Catch news updates between issues on The Griffin’s Tumblr at thegriffinchc.tumblr.com or Facebook search “The Griffin.”
Kanye West: Fur-Covered Models in Paris

Michael Ian Black '14

After weeks of “will-he-or-won’t-he” deliberation, Kanye West did it. On September 23, he sent 23 looks down the runway at Paris Fashion Week in his debut collection entitled “Dw.”

The line challenged all stereotypes about celebrity fashion ventures: it was self-funded, made with top-of-the-line fabrics, and was presented at one of the most exclusive fashion events in the world. Even more interesting, the front row of the show was full of important fashion ventures: it was self-funded, made with top-of-the-line fabrics, and was presented at one of the most exclusive fashion events in the world. Even more interesting, the front row of the show was full of important fashion events. West’s show was crucified in the press, but the line challenged all stereotypes about celebrity fashion ventures. It was self-funded, made with top-of-the-line fabrics, and was presented at one of the most exclusive fashion events in the world.

The show wasn’t an entire catastrophe though. The most disappointing look was a white bandage-dress that was at least two sizes too big for the model wearing it. It was so ill-fitting that it looked as if West threw them together in a week. Beautiful leather color-blocked motorcycle pants that actually had a pair of metallic jump-suits, fur jackets and python pants, to dresses with distractingly low necklines that left little to the imagination.

The amount of heavy fur in the show was simply perplexing. The amount of heavy fur in the show was simply perplexing, as was the amount of heavy fur in the show. There was an incredible pair of coral, emerald and blue color-blocked motorcycle pants that actually had a pair of metallic jump-suits, fur jackets and python pants, to dresses with distractingly low necklines that left little to the imagination.

Bras and panties are undergarments and should never, ever, be exposed. Current fashion trends have a lot of styles where bandeaux are in (for those not familiar with the term it is essentially a strip of fabric worn similarly to a bra). I think it is a great look—for the club or hanging out with friends, not something to be worn around school. I also love all the lace and sheer fabrics that are in style, but here’s the deal when wearing those styles: have something over your undergarments or the sheer/lace garment. Boys: we’ve got a little talk about undergarments so don’t worry.

Have you ever said that saying if you’ve got it, flaunt it? I’m sure you have, but in the case of my friend’s birthday party, it is always a shirt.” I know that is really hard to follow, especially when stores are filled with questionable items of clothing. Sometimes, it’s better to just talk about the fit of the clothing. Most of the pieces were so loose and baggy that it looked as if West threw them together in a week. Beautiful leather color-blocked motorcycle pants that actually had a pair of metallic jump-suits, fur jackets and python pants, to dresses with distractingly low necklines that left little to the imagination.

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CHC Style Spotter: November Edition

TWEETS OF THE MONTH

“bob dillon is sooooo good!!!!!! “hay there delila” makes me cry every time!!!! :/”
-@FriendFromHS

“Kardashian...anything.
#NotClearOn”
-@NotClearOn

“Lindsay Lohan was just sentenced to jail. Azkaban! Azkaban! Azkaban!”
-@Lord_Voldemort7

“Things I use once per month in order to validate paying for them: my monthly subway pass, my monthly gym membership.
#trendyproblems”
-@TrendyProblems

Damned if You Do: Chuck Palahniuk Promotes New Novel

ZAC GRUBB 
'12

Ever wonder if Hell is as bad as everyone makes it out to be?

On Oct. 30, the English honors society, Sigma Tau Delta, sponsored a trip into the city for a very special event. Chuck Palahniuk, author of his novels such as Fight Club, Choke, and Invisible Monsters, held a book signing at the Philadelphia Public Library for his new work, Damned. Chestnut Hill students watched in awe as this accomplished author took the stage and explained the title of his new book tour. The affectionately named “Blow Your Brains Out Tour” was made literal when Palahniuk pulled giant (fake) blow up brains out of a box and tossed them out to his audience.

After sharing his new short story, Romance, with his fans he went on to throw candy bars, blow up brains out of a box and tossed them out to his audience. There

Damned

is the story of young Maddison Spencer, a 13-year old, intelligent, pudgy, sassy little girl who happens to be damned for eternity. After dying of a marijuana overdose, Maddy finds herself in hell, where demons and candy rule the land. On her adventure she

meets new friends that mirror the Breakfast Club; she has a nerd, a prep, a jock and punk to help her through hell and teach her the ropes.

Candy rules the land in hell, and putting a snickers bar in the hands of the right demon can get you anything you need to make your stay in hell a bit more pleasant. Of course since candy is currency, hell is covered in pennies like popcorn balls and black licorice. This novel explores the terrain of hell in a vision that only Palahniuk could create: the great dandruff fields scour the land, the river of fetal bile stays at room temperature round the clock, and the great plain of toenail clippings leads straight to the gates of Hell.

After the event Palahniuk held a signing for the new book and sold his older works pre-signed to any one who was interested. Needless to say the outing was a huge success, and students were not disappointed. Lets hope that STD sponsors another event like this soon!

Five Things I’m Thankful for This Holiday Season

BLEU LANE 
'12

As Thanksgiving time rolls around, people are bombarded with the question “what are you thankful for?” Typically, our minds go to things like family, friends, and our general well-being, but we would like to take a different approach to this question and share with you some things which we are currently thankful for.

1. Lindsay Lohan always being relevant — Whether it’s the color of her teeth, her sister’s new plastic surgery, or what she wore to her most recent court date, the media loves to keep a watchful eye on Lilo. Personally, I’m not put off by her bad reputation. I love the Lindsanity and am thankful that after all these years, she has not faded into the sea of irrelevance.

2. Diplo’s spread in the November GQ — For those of you who don’t know, Diplo is a former Temple student turned Philadelphia school teacher turned DJ/producer, and now, turned GQ model. He is talented (which is why they picked him), he is funny (which is proven by the interview with GQ), and last but not least, he is one good looking man (which is why I am thankful for the 6 photo spread). He is a brief Q&A where he did his best to answer anything the audience could cook-up. Palahniuk was a really good sport when it came to humorizing some of the more ridiculous questions, but really shined when asked about his inspiration for Damned.

One interesting question was asked by a younger woman who wanted to know where the inspiration for Hell running a telemarketing firm came from. Palahniuk explained that while he was writing Choke, his mother fell ill. He spent all of his time at her side to the point where he was completely deprived of human contact. The only interaction he had with the outside world was through telemarketers calling about their products. “I’d spend hours just talking about the newest cleaning product,” recalled Palahniuk.

Damned is the story of young Maddison Spencer, a 13-year old, intelligent, pudgy, sassy little girl who happens to be damned for eternity. After dying of a marijuana overdose, Maddy finds herself in hell, where demons and candy rule the land. On her adventure she

meets new friends that mirror the Breakfast Club; she has a nerd, a prep, a jock and punk to help her through hell and teach her the ropes.

Candy rules the land in hell, and putting a snickers bar in the hands of the right demon can get you anything you need to make your stay in hell a bit more pleasant. Of course since candy is currency, hell is covered in pennies like popcorn balls and black licorice. This novel explores the terrain of hell in a vision that only Palahniuk could create: the great dandruff fields scour the land, the river of fetal bile stays at room temperature round the clock, and the great plain of toenail clippings leads straight to the gates of Hell.

After the event Palahniuk held a signing for the new book and sold his older works pre-signed to any one who was interested. Needless to say the outing was a huge success, and students were not disappointed. Lets hope that STD sponsors another event like this soon!

5. Oversized black clothes — Wearing all black isn’t just for mall goths anymore. It is easily my favorite color to wear. Pants, boots, sweaters, dresses, if it’s solid black, chances are I’ll want it.
The views represented in this submission are a personal viewpoint of the author. They do not represent the views of the College, or any person employed therein. Submissions do not necessarily represent the Griffin’s position. Submissions serve to foster discussion throughout the Community.

Dear Editor,

I was quite disturbed after reading the article entitled “Paper-Length Tyranny” in the October issue of The Griffin. The author of this article asserts that professors are unfairly requiring lengthy papers from students; that professors are “begging [students] to write papers that are so ‘fluff-stuffed’ that they can double as a pillow.” As an assistant professor in chemistry, a field that requires succinct explanations and proofs on “fluff,” I fundamentally disagree with the author’s assertion. Professors certainly do not want “fluff” simply to make a paper longer.

The real question the author should consider is why any paper is being assigned in the first place. If an assigned paper is a personal essay, I doubt that the professor wants a short reflection re-stated several times to increase the paper’s length. A longer paper is often assigned to allow the student to reflect more deeply on the issue at hand, before writing— not to simply “let your thoughts run out” as the author asserts. Cit ing other authors’ ideas or opinions is not meant to pollute students’ writing but to challenge students to analyze alternate viewpoints as well as their own personal thoughts.

A deeper, more thorough analysis will lead to a stronger (and longer) paper, sans “fluff.” The author also makes the argument to “go green” by saving trees with short assignments. With submission options on Blackboard and MS Word’s “comment” function, it is easy to submit a paper of any length without even one tree paying the price.

In an age of Facebook and Twitter, where information is condensed to its absolute limit, all of us may wonder at times about the usefulness of unabridged written communication. I would argue that to display a true, deep understanding of an issue or belief really does take more words than a mere “tweet.” By definition, completing a thorough analysis of an issue will require a lengthy paper. Learning to write an essay of depth and clarity is a foundational skill for success in academia as well as in many careers.

Perhaps even more important than the essay itself, however, is the quality of the thoughts contributing to the assignment. As a graduate of Chestnut Hill College, I now recognize that the papers assigned by my professors forced me to acquire the mental “tools” to understand current issues more deeply and to probe where my own beliefs, biases, and opinions lie. This training in critical thinking is the true reason why any paper, regardless of length, can be legitimately assigned.

Respectfully Submitted,
Karen S. Wendling, Ph.D.; Assistant Professor of Chemistry

JILL MCFARLAND ’15

Most weekends I go into downtown Philadelphia and pass through City Hall from Market Street to Broad. In recent weeks during my walk, I’m maneuvering through tents, sleeping bags and am surrounded by people asking my views on the current government situation.

This group is part of a nationwide protest where “Occu-pation” of government buildings is the weapon of choice. However, I challenge this group. Mainly because I’m not convinced they’re sure of their own views.

Last week a brigade of 25 protesters carried American flags shouting “We want change!” “Down with big banks!” “More money for the middle class!”

There are so many topics and problems being addressed that the actual point of view and goal of the rallies and protests are unclear. Lower taxes, less inflation, decreased college tuitions, better healthcare and every social and economic issue are part of the “Occupy” protests. It appears as though the “Occupy” event is in- tegrated and dedicated to rebellion for the sake of rebellion. A flyer for an upcoming meeting stated “Leave work! Leave school! Occupy in solidarity! General Strike!” However, a “general strike” identi- ties with and somewhat defines with the goal of the “Occupy” protests conclusively.

During a “general assem- bly” that I attended, various leaders spoke on subjects such as hospital bills, college tuition fees and a demand for the cre- ation of jobs. But concentrating on such a vast variety of issues that aren’t handled ex- clusively by “the government” makes it hard to pinpoint a so- lution.

Also, the “Occupation” is an eyesore and nuisance to Philadelphia residents. There is a traffic overflow in the area and a need for increased secu- rity. I asked a Philadelphia po- lice officer his view on the oc- cupation. He asked to remain anonymous and stated “look up the crime rate in Philadel- phia, that’ll give you my an- swer, right there.”

There are many injustices in the world and many issues that can have passionate followers. However, focusing on the is- sue that is most important and drafting possible solutions is a sure step in the right direction. A plethora of matters that are being demanded to change cannot simply have one solid solution, especially by littering the historic Dilworth Plaza with tents.

JILL MCFARLAND ’15

When I went to the “Occupy Wall Street” protests in Zuccotti Park during my fall break, I saw protesters holding up cardboard signs with quotes about corpo- rate greed and higher taxes on the rich, about the end of lobby- ing in Washington D.C. and about the wars in Iraq and Af- ghanistan. I quickly found out that there was not just one mes- sage, or one idea that these peo- ple were protesting about, but an accumulation of questions, and problems, that have been going unanswered for the last eleven years.

The protesters were not blaming Obama, nor claiming that he was not doing a good job as president. Or even that the Republicans don’t know any- thing about the suffering of the middle class. These people [protesters] seemed sick and tired of the political games that have been going on in Washington D.C. and about the corporate greed that has been destroying any political change that could help this country get back on its feet. I thought that this was just a Left-winged Tea Party, but it is more than that. But now, it seems to me that it is truly an open public political forum that lets everyone discuss what could be done a little better in Wash- ington D.C.

Many powerful leaders have gone to jail supporting the “Occu- py” movement, including civil rights leader Dr. Cornell West, and political consultant Naomi Wolf. Dr. Cornell West stated before getting arrested at the steps of the Supreme Court, that “Martin Luther King Jr. would be right here with us.”

I can firmly say that this movement has the potential to be the beacon of change that we truly need in this country. The “Occupy” protests that are hap- pening all over the United States and around the world do not seem to be ending. Maybe, the Democrats and the Republicans will look at this movement and come together, put their differ- ences aside, and settle on some- thing that might not be good for their political party, good for the American people. Isn’t that why we elect certain politicians in the first place?

OPINION

Papers are no Place for “Fluff”

KYLE MICK ’15

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“Occupy Philadelphia” Needs to Refine Message, Clean up Mess

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The Griffin

THE HEARTACHE OF BEING A PHILADELPHIA PHANATIC

JUSTIN ENGELHARDT ’12

The anticipation built toward the Phillies and Eagles for the 2011 season may have been the biggest in recent years. After signing Cliff Lee in the off-season and assembling the best pitching rotation in recent memory, the Phillies looked like they were on the path to winning their third World Series. The Eagles off-season acquisitions highlighted the signing of Cornerback Nnamdi Asomugha and DT Jason Babin, gave people hope for the city’s first Super Bowl in franchise history.

Now, the beginning of November, the Phillies are on vacation for the second straight year and the Eagles are desperately in need of wins just to make the playoffs. The high hopes to win both the Super Bowl and World Series Trophy have once again become nothing more than a dream for next season. Being a sports fan in Philadelphia, this is something we are all too familiar with. Every game, sports’ most passionate fans live and die with their team and almost every year they are only left with disappointment and a recurring thought that, “there is always next year.”

With the Phillies once again coming up short in the playoffs and finishing what could be considered the most disappointing season in all of Philly sports, it reminded me of some of this town’s other biggest sports letdowns. Whether it was the Flyers, 76ers, or Eagles, each team seems to work its way into our hearts, only to leave us brokenhearted when all is said and done. Here are each team’s hardest-to-take failures in recent memory.

2001-2004, Philadelphia Eagles, 48 wins & 16 losses

This is from a total of four seasons with the Eagles, but it is worth noting because each of these years the Eagles made the playoffs. From 2001-2003, the Eagles made the NFC Conference Championship game each year and then lost when they were favored to make the Super Bowl. In 2004, the Eagles looked to end their drought of missed Super Bowl chances and brought in superstars Terrell Owens and Jason Kersey, who were supposed to be the missing pieces for the championship. They managed to make the Super Bowl in 2004 and came just inches away from winning, missing three points behind the New England Patriots in Super Bowl XXXIX. Being a football town, Philadelphia was deprived once again and fans were left slaking their heads for what could have been.

2009, Philadelphia Phillies, 93 wins & 69 losses

The Phillies’ 2009 season, a season in which the team was defending their 2008 World Series championship, began with high hopes. Expectations were higher than ever and with the mid-season addition of Cliff Lee, the Phillies looked like a sure thing to win their second consecutive championship. After collecting a third straight NL East crown, the Phillies won their second consecutive National League pennant for the first time in franchise history, but were very unceremoniously defeated by the New York Yankees in the World Series.

2001, Philadelphia 76ers, 56 wins & 26 losses

This was one team that no one could have picked to make it to the NBA Finals, but the city rallied around a group of blue collared, hard-working role players that the city could really relate with. After starting the season with a double digit winning streak, people in Philly really started to believe that this ragtag bunch could actually win the NBA Championship. Allen Iverson, the lone superstar, put the team on his back and carried them all the way to finals. Though it was a David vs. Goliath type match-up against the LA Lakers, the Sixers won game one, only to be swept in the next four games, ending the most promising Sixers season in recent memory and giving more agony to all the fans.

In honor of Breast Cancer Awareness Month, on Oct. 21, the Chestnut Hill Women’s Volleyball team held their first annual Side Out Foundation “Dig Pink” volleyball match to help raise funds for breast cancer research.

The Lady Griffins played against their regular season rivals, Post University Eagles, and walked away with a 3-2 win.

However, the point was not to win or lose; it was to raise money for breast cancer research, which is something the team was committed to doing all along. Volleyball player, Meg Nadler ’12, who, along with Cassie Benson ’13, helped coordinate the event, felt this was an ideal way to get all of the students and fans involved in helping others. “This is the first year we are doing this, but it is something we want to continue each season after this one,” Nadler said.

During the match there was a 50/50 raffle, and a serving competition that had many great prizes. Junior Stephanie Reif was honored for wearing the most pink at the match and was given the best seat in the house.

The Side-Out Foundation is a non-profit organization which unites volleyball players and coaches toward the common goal of making a difference in the lives of breast cancer patients and their loved ones.

“We hope as a team to raise more and more money every year and find new ways to get students to stay interested in helping for this great cause,” Nadler said. The commitment the volleyball team is showing toward helping breast cancer patients and furthering research is just one of the great ways that CHC athletes are getting involved and giving back.

Above: The Women’s Volleyball Team after the Game. Below: Students supporting Breast Cancer awareness during the Dig Pink game.
Griffins Go Far Despite Serious Injuries

MARILEE GALLAGHER ’14

A great season for the women’s soccer team came to an unfortunate end on Tuesday November 1, as the Griffins fell in the first round of the playoffs against Georgian Court University by a score of 5-1.

Although the Griffins began their season 1-3, the team was resilient and rebounded to win four of their next five games in which they scored at least three goals a game and recorded key conference victories against Bloomfield College and Goldey-Beacom College. Their next two games were hard fought losses to conference opponents from Caldwell College and Philadelphia University. The Griffins played close and tight games but ultimately, could not get the additional goal needed to win. Another conference loss against Dowling College looked bad for the Griffins and it might have kept them from the playoffs, but the team never gave up. They won three of their last five games including an impressive 1-0 win over nationally ranked #6 seed in the CACC Championship Playoffs.

For Chestnut Hill College (CHC), this was the second consecutive year that the women’s soccer team made the playoffs and according to Brittany Boles ’14, it was a result of strong teamwork on the part of all of the girls. “We didn’t have one of the girls step up and take the playoff because we work together as a team. We push each other, every game 100%, with heart and the rest of the team played on the part of all of the girls. “We make the playoffs every game played on the home field. Unfortun-ately for the Griffins, they did not make it that far, as they were eliminated in the final round, a game played on the home field of Georgian Court.

Despite the disappointing playoff losses, the Griffins still fought hard all season long. In the end, injuries plagued them as they were forced to play without top scorer, and two-time CACC Player of the Year, Lauren Riff. All season long, Riff played a vital part in the Griffins success. She recorded four game winning goals, three hat tricks and led the entire conference in goals with 18, points with 40 and shots with 93. Her numbers were also good enough to have her finish 6th in the entire NCAA Division II in goals per game as she averaged exactly one goal in each contest, and 9th in points per game, as she averaged a little over two points in each game. Riff’s contributions were clearly missed in the Griffins playoff game and with her and some other player injuries, the Griffins did not come out of the gate that they had hoped. They quickly found themselves in a multi-goal hole that proved to be too much to overcome.

Even though the women’s soccer team did not win the CACC Championship, the students, faculty and staff here at CHC could not be prouder of them for another great season. Next season will be their year, and we all wish them success going forward.

The Women’s Soccer team after the Senior Day game against Dominican College on October 22.

CHECKING IN ON FALL SPORTS AT THE HILL

Women’s Volleyball

A 13-18 record does not tell the full story of the women’s volleyball team, who had their best season in program history. Despite finishing 8-11 in conference play, the Griffins gave it their all as they kept many contests close and battled out for tough wins. After two early September tournaments, the Griffins season was in full swing. Having played a handful of games the Griffins found their record at 4-5, including taking a conference win against Wilmington University. The next stretch of games saw the Griffins take some close five set losses, but also saw them record victories against conference opponents of Goldey-Beacom College, Post University and the University of Sciences in Philadelphia. Despite many close losses, the Griffins had just enough to finish 4th in their division of the conference;

“CHC Sports Succeed this Fall Season” Continued on Page 7