E-mail Issues Continue

KERRY O’BRIEN ’14 STAFF WRITER

The Chestnut Hill College Information Technology (IT) recently switched to a new e-mail server that left many students and faculty confused about how to access their school e-mail accounts.

Paul Suarez, director of IT, along with the rest of the department, saw it as a necessity to switch to a new larger server because the capacity of the old server was insufficient to the number of people (students and faculty) using it. The old server could not handle the amount of mail being sent and received.

The problem was solved by transferring students and faculty to a server that runs on the latest version of Microsoft Exchange. The new server now allows students with Apple computers to use the Microsoft Outlook program. This does not give anyone unlimited space in their e-mail, but it does run much faster and has ten times the capacity of the old server, according to Suarez.

The old server was at its capacity because no old accounts had been deleted; any student that had graduated from the College or transferred to a different school was still a part of the old server.

To resolve this issue, select students and faculty were transferred in order of their account activity. Those who are frequently checking their e-mail and deleting unnecessary information were put on the new server first, while those who check their webmail less were switched later. The system of switching people over in this way gives the IT department the opportunity to look at the 5,600 accounts on the old server and remove anyone who no longer goes to school or is employed on campus.

To advertise that this switch over was going to occur, the IT department sent out e-mails to inform everyone affected by the change. There were also signs posted throughout the school which relayed the alert that there may be interference. While the IT department did everything they could to let people know that the server was being changed, some may have still been caught by surprise because they were not switched immediately and were unaware of the implementation of the new server if they did not check their e-mail.

“I was mildly inconvenienced by the server change, the beginning of the semester is stressful enough with e-mail access,” Matthew Jessop ’14 said. He emphasized the need for e-mail in the first week of the semester because it is when professors notify students of guidelines for their class, or in some cases a classroom change.

“It was a great inconvenience to me because I really needed to get in touch with my professors and was unable to,” Elisa Agosto ’14 said. “My e-mail still won’t let me respond to the messages that I get.”

Professors on campus also encountered problems during the transfer of users to the new server.

“I think the move to the new server was important and much-needed,” said Suzanne del Giaco, Ph. D., associate professor of English. “I appreciate the College’s effort to provide reliable technology services to the entire College community, but I found the process disruptive and disorienting.”

It is important to the IT department that students and faculty impacted by snags in e-mailing know that their office is in the basement of St. Joseph Hall.

“Contact us if you have any problems,” Suarez said. “Do not wait for difficulties to escalate or repair themselves. We are here to help, so call immediately.” Suarez emphasizes the importance of frequently checking and deleting e-mails to preserve and enhance the capacity of the recently installed server.

A Quest for Equality & A Day Off

KAILA KANE ’16

Jan. 21, 2013, was an important day in American history. Not only was it Martin Luther King Jr. Day, but it was also the day marking the second inauguration of America’s first African American president, Barack Obama. In my elementary, middle, and high schools, Martin Luther King Jr. Day (MLK) was always an observed holiday, and students were given the day off. Community service projects were promoted throughout school as a way of continuing to recognize Dr. King’s life and the work that he did for his own community and the country.

In my high school, Barack Obama’s first inauguration was broadcast on every television in the school, so that students would not miss such a groundbreaking event.

At CHC, I figured that a big hype would be made over what I thought to be an important day. I knew that the College paid attention to the presidential race between Barack Obama and Mitt Romney, so I expected to see some light being shed on the inauguration. I also know that the school frequently promotes community service opportunities and is always ready to extend a hand to dear neighbors. Therefore, I expected Martin Luther King Jr. Day to be recognized as well. However, I was surprised when I didn’t hear any mention of either event. Jan. 21 was a day that proved the significant progress our country has made by re-electing a man of color, an accomplishment that is not only benefitted African Americans, but other minorities and women as well. The day reminds us to be accepting of others despite their differences, and to think that it only applies to black people shows a misunderstanding of Dr. King’s dream and work. Barack Obama’s inauguration landing on the same day as MLK day is a testament to how Dr. King managed to impact future generations, and shows the strides this country has made since the days of segregation. To answer the question posed by a friend, no, I am not offended that the College didn’t recognize MLK day and inauguration day. However, I am disappointed, seeing as how the values of the College and the significance of Jan. 21 seemed to coincide with one another.
MICHAEL BRADLEY ’14

A sabbatical is a semester-long period that professors spend outside of the classroom during which they can explore their scholarly interests on a more-focused level. Professors at the College are able to take one sabbatical every seven years after receiving tenure.

Suzanne Conway, M.A., Associate Professor of Art History, applied to take her sabbatical during the Spring 2012 semester and travel between the States and Europe. She was to present numerous papers, research at libraries, and study at museums, with the ultimate goal of creating a new course for the College and gaining newfound knowledge in her area of scholarly interest—childhood studies in visual and decorative arts.

After her sabbatical request was granted, she spent the first three weeks of January in London. There, she presented a paper to a childhood studies conference at the University of Greenwich. Following the presentation, she spent a full two weeks researching in the British Library.

While she found London to be a great start to her sabbatical, Paris was the trip she was looking forward to the most.

“Paris is just beautiful,” Conway said. “It is the city I know the best, and familiarity breathes appreciation.”

During her two-week, early-October stay in one of the world’s most important art historical cities, she began to research one of her most recent scholarly interests, an art patron named Jean-Joseph de Laborde.

While she was out one day looking for porcelain owned by the nobleman, she came to a brief standstill in her research: a snippy museum attendant gave her a ‘grief’ when she tried to gain access to the collection.

As she lamented the issue to one of her Parisian friends, who, oddly enough, she met in London on her last sabbatical in 2000, she gave her an outstanding connection. After an exchange of e-mails and phone calls, Conway secured herself a visit with a porcelain expert from Sotheby’s. If anyone could help her jump start her research, it was him.

She met with him at the prestigious office the following day and was seated in a private meeting room full of scanned documents and books that pertained to her interest. When the man entered the room, he showed Conway a porcelain saucer that he thought was de Laborde’s.

With this connection, she was able to finish her research in Paris and to begin preparing a paper that she would eventually present during her second trip to London in January 2013.

Between her trips to Paris and London, she also presented papers in San Antonio, Texas and Grenada, Spain. In Texas, she presented a paper titled “The Influence of Roussea’s "On 18th Century Imagination and Decorative Arts” to an interdisciplinary conference on American childhood studies. Similarly, while in Spain she presented a paper to a childhood studies conference.

While she ultimately had only fifteen weeks to expand her knowledge-base from sources around the world, Conway sees this type of research as cyclical.

“I need to conduct this research to be able write papers that are permissible into conferences,” Conway said. “And each conference is an incubator for the article to eventually be published.”

BOOKDRIVE EFFORTS GET COMMUNITY SUPPORT

BRIANNA DAVIS ’16

Despite the recent press and numerous accolades, Jessica Kahn, PhD, Professor of Education, is not letting herself get distracted from her goal of creating libraries for underprivileged schools.

Since arriving at the College, Kahn appeared in the Philadelphia Inquirer last month, e-mails have poured in to her inbox, several being offers to help sort and catalogue books.

“Many places would like books but don’t have someone to catalogue them or a room to put them in or even a librarian,” Kahn said.

Kahn received an offer from a man who has a pickup truck. The man had offered to take 35 bags of books to Los Angeles, one of the charter schools that were in need of books, located off of 5th Street in Philadelphia.

On Jan. 29, Kahn and some fifth graders from Abington Friends School took a full van of books to Pantoja, another charter school in need of books and located off of American St. in Philadelphia.

Kahn’s colleagues have helped her help a lot through this process. Some of them brought in reusable bags, books, and others helped sort the books by grade level.

Service groups, honors groups, schools, and boys and girls clubs are now collecting books for Kahn’s project. A graduate of Chestnut Hill College who runs several boys and girls clubs, sent 18 crates of books to Kahn in support of her library initiative.

Kahn says that she does not want to keep sending books to Hostos and run the risk of overwhelming the school. Instead, she is thinking about expanding to other places that might need children’s books, like women’s shelters or even the Ronald McDonald House.

“I don’t care if they take the book with them,” Kahn says. “They didn’t cost me anything.”

Kahn has even gotten an offer from the executive director of Philadelphia Reads, a nonprofit organization that distributes free books to kids on a larger scale, to partner with the College. The executive director of Philadelphia Reads has a grant to publish 300 to 400-word children’s stories that will be illustrated. The stories will be put on a free database online and anyone can contribute.

“This could change the way children and parents interact and could help parents get their children ready for school, ” Kahn said. “Making books available for free on a device closes the gap between the have’s and the have not’s. All of our kids have to succeed at school.”

The Free Student Newspaper of Chestnut Hill College
Olivia Marcinka ’13 Editor-in-Chief
Westly Mankoske ’13 Business Manager
Michael Bradley ’14 News Editor
Bleu Lane ’15 Style Editor
Amanda Finlaw ’15 Style Editor
Jessica Pennell ’14 Opinion Editor
Marilee Gallagher ’14 Sports Editor
Mary Frances Cavalaro ’13 Online Editor
Jessa Veezy ’13 Photo Editor
Skyler Stillwagon ’14 Senior Layout Staff
Andrea Wentzell ’15 Layout Staff Advertising Assistant
Sally Simons ’15 Senior Copy Editor
Copy Editors
Kerry O’Brien ’14 Briana Charlton ’16
Copy Writers
Meghan Gerry ’14 Danielle Molino ’14
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.

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THE Griffin
Vol. III, Issue 6

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Professor Tells of Study Abroad

After six months abroad, Suzanne Conway, M.A., Associate Professor of Art History, settles back into her office. While she was gone, Conway traveled from England to France presenting lectures at universities and studying some of her favorite patrons. Conway notes the influence that her studies abroad have on both her students and published works.

Conway sees this type of research as cyclical.

“I need to conduct this research to be able write papers that are permissible into conferences,” Conway said. “And each conference is an incubator for the article to eventually be published.”

The Griffin
I originally became interested in public relations (PR), during my freshman year here at CHC when I started working in the College’s Office of Media Relations. However, PR in an academic setting is very different from agency PR, and I knew I wanted both experiences under my belt.

Twice a week I trek into the city, braving the cold with my commuting brethren. (I have never appreciated warm weather so much in my life.)

Because it is such a creative industry, the offices are, for a lack of a better word, cool. It is a very fun, upbeat atmosphere, with lots of younger employees (pretty promising in terms of my future). Design-wise, it is really modern: lots of glass and bright colors. It is definitely not a sea of gray cubicles.

A lot of the work I am doing is actually very similar to what I do here at the College, namely compiling media lists, or spreadsheets of different journalists, publications, among other things. Another big part of the job includes researching industry trends to better support the clients, specifically with social media, which has hugely impacted the PR industry. Other jobs include typical “office tasks,” like making copies.

These days, internships have become a vital part of the job-hunting process that lingers after college. It is a great way to get your foot in the door and gain experience, but like any other job or class, it is what you make of it.

Part of why I enjoy my internship so much is the fact that I am actually utilized and I feel like a part of the team. I am not being treated like Andrea Sachs a la “The Devil Wears Prada.” There is always something to do and every day is different. I am never bored. It is a pretty fast-paced environment, which I fully embrace, and I am looking forward to the next few months there!

The Griffin

GABI VALVANO ’16

Academic advising has a new enthusiastic addition to their staff, Kaithin Wolfert, M.A.

Wolfert graduated from the University of Delaware with a Bachelor of Science in leadership in 2009 and got her Masters of Arts in Counseling in Higher Education in 2011. Always wanting to help people, whether she was their personal chef or just by volunteering, the sunny Wolfert was hard destined to be in this position. Wolfert’s mother was a counselor and her father was a lawyer so that helped her career choice.

“I am really looking forward to working with the students,” Wolfert said.

Wolfert has been in academic advising at Chestnut Hill College since Jan. 3, and has already started working with several students. As an academic adviser, Wolfert is responsible for having weekly or birevently meetings with students and helping them if they have any questions about their academics or just life in general. Wolfert is also responsible for making sure students are on top of their work and focused on their class work, helping them to figure out new study strategies and adjusting to changes in classes and provide insight in many different areas.

Academic advisers may often get confused for a faculty member when working with students. Wolfert says that it’s a difference between the two. Faculty advisers keep students on track by making schedules and working toward their major goals, while academic advisers can address a broader spectrum of advising issues. They often work with the students to provide insight on courses, discuss students’ workloads, and address academic and attendance problems.

To meet with an academic adviser, students can make an appointment, or stop in during their adviser’s office hours.

“The thing that is really different about this school is that it is really focused on building relationships with the students and helping them to succeed,” Wolfert said. By becoming an academic adviser, Wolfert can now be in a job that she truly loves to do for each individual student that comes to her office. She wanted to work in higher education, ranging from internships for college, to college, because college students are more aware of themselves and can notice the progress and work they are making.

“I love the architecture.”

New Academic Adviser Hired

TAYLOR EIBEN ’14

STAFF WRITER

From the Opinion Section

Throughout the school year I’ve grown increasingly more frustrated with the quality of Internet on campus. Our school is so tiny, you would think that the Information Technology (IT) part of it would be running like a well-oiled machine, but that isn’t the case. Weathering an Internet blackout, which typically occurs at the most inopportune of times, is like a rite of passage here at CHC.

I get that running an efficient IT department is expensive, but I feel that it is an investment worth making. Why? It reduces the amount of time it takes to get your foot in the door and gain experience, but like any other job or class, it is what you make of it.

Part of why I enjoy my internship so much is the fact that I am actually utilized and I feel like a part of the team. I am not being treated like Andrea Sachs a la “The Devil Wears Prada.” There is always something to do and every day is different. I am never bored. It is a pretty fast-paced environment, which I fully embrace, and I am looking forward to the next few months there!

A Network Should Work

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Finding An Apple a Day

DANIELLE MOLINO ’14

It may seem as though eating healthy and living away at college cannot happen at the same time. We are all tempted to eat fast food, get Dunkin Donuts, and drink soda because it’s cheap, convenient, and it keeps us awake to do our last-minute homework.

However, there are a few things that we do not think about when we choose to ingest certain food and drink: the consequences. Eating fast food, drinking soda, and drinking flavored tea have harmful effects on our health and appearance. Some of the risks that come with having an unhealthy diet are obesity, heart disease, diabetes, and even poor school performance. To help you make the right decisions while you are away at school, below is a list of choices you should and should not make.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>DO</th>
<th>NOT</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Eat meals a day (breakfast, lunch, and dinner) and a snack (ex: carrots and celery)</td>
<td>Skip Meals</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Choose whole grains, such as whole wheat bread, brown rice</td>
<td>Choose refined grains, such as white bread, and white rice</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Drink low-fat or skim milk</td>
<td>Drink whole milk</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Eat grilled or baked foods</td>
<td>Eat fried foods</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Choose water or seltzer</td>
<td>Choose soda, ice tea, and other soft drinks</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Eat fresh fruits</td>
<td>Eat cookies, cake, ice cream, etc.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Eat salad greens</td>
<td>Eat red meats</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Keep in mind that you do not need to follow this list strictly in order to eat healthy. As a college student myself, I know how hard it is to make healthy choices every day. The choices “Do” are fine to eat as long as they are eaten in moderation.

Getting a novel published is an amazing feat for anyone, but especially so for a college student. How did she pull it off? According to Cavallaro, she found a post on elance.com, a freelance writing website, that applied for the job, she noticed a senior English major at Chestnut Hill College, seems to have fallen into “More Than Love” with writing a novel for which she has acquired a publisher. Mary Frances Cavallaro ‘13 began writing her novel, “More Than Love,” about a year ago during a creative writing class she took over the spring semester of 2012. She came to realize that what she wanted to achieve with the piece would require something much longer than a standard assignment for class, and decided to present the opening chapter to a publisher.

The novel “is a bildungsroman,” Cavallaro said. “It is the story of a woman named Frances ‘Fanny’ Dickerson who gets involved in a scandal. She arrives at Chesterton College to study and teach a class having a most peculiar professor named Charles Christie. He is an elderly man who is not ‘all there’ and has quite the affinity for William Shakespeare. Throughout the story, Christie takes on the role as her mentor and, using Shakespeare, he guides her through life.”

Life events inspired the story, and some important friends helped to inspire some of the characters, including the professor and the sister of the main character. Fanny. Mary Frances has also been influenced by Edgar Allan Poe and William Shakespeare. The title of her book “actually comes from Poe’s ‘Annabel Lee’, and Shakespeare’s plays echo throughout the novel,” Cavallaro said. The main character times life lessons and advice from the professor—through the use of Shakespeare—which coincides with her actual life events.

“I have always been writing, as long as I knew how to spell,” Cavallaro said. “I have been captivated by writing, and by other authors.” Her favorite written works include mostly short stories and plays such as “Pygmalion,” “The Crucible,” “Oedipus Rex,” and “Luella Miller.” She says that she enjoys classics “that can usually be found on a syllabus.” While loving standard masterpieces, a childhood favorite—“Cloudy with a Chance of Meatballs,” was the first to come to mind when asked about her personal favorite.

Getting a novel published is an amazing feat for anyone, but especially so for a college student. How did she pull it off? According to Cavallaro, she found a post on elance.com, a freelance writing website, that was in search of a writer for a collaborative work. When she applied for the job, she noticed that the company, Kellan Publishing, seemed to have fall

It is also wise to leave food in your dorm room for those nights when you miss one or more of the three main meals. Healthy options include Greek yogurt, baby carrots, light soups, and low-fat or fat-free milk. Although these items would have to be purchased off campus, they are just one more way to help you on your way to a healthy lifestyle.

Just as you should read the ingredients on the food labels found in the McCaffrey Lounge and the Griffin’s Den, you should also read labels on the food that you choose to keep in your room. When looking at labels, be sure to keep a search for low-fat and low-calorie foods. This will help keep your weight down and help you to stay healthy overall. Remember, just because you are eating healthy does not mean you have to stop eating the unhealthy foods, altogether. Everything is good if you have it in moderation.

If you follow these simple tips, you will be able to start and maintain a healthy lifestyle while studying at Chestnut Hill College!

Style

Story Spotter: Mary Fran’s “More Than Love”

AMANDA FINLAW ’16

Mary Frances Cavallaro, senior English major at Chestnut Hill College, seems to have fallen into “More Than Love” with writing a novel for which she has acquired a publisher. Mary Frances Cavallaro ‘13 began writing her novel, “More Than Love,” about a year ago during a creative writing class she took over the spring semester of 2012. She came to realize that what she wanted to achieve with the piece would require something much longer than a standard assignment for class, and decided to present the opening chapter to a publisher.

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My Favorite Pop Culture Couples

BLEU LANE ‘13

In the spirit of Valentine’s Day, here is a list of some of my favorite celebrity/pop culture couples both fictional and non-fictional.

SETH AND SUMMER (“THE O.C.”) — If you’ve ever watched “The O.C.,” then you know that despite all the romance and affairs that take place, Seth and Summer were the poster couple for the show. At first, I didn’t like the couple because Summer’s character was bratty and Seth’s character was the ideal indie boyfriend, but after following the romance throughout the seasons, it became hard to deny that they were just perfect.

BEYONCE AND JAY-Z — These two are an obvious pick for any sort of “top couples” list. They’re both ridiculously talented, they look good together, and they’re both incredibly talented. They’re both ridiculously talented for any sort of “top couples” list. They’re both incredibly talented.

AZIZ GILL ‘14 STAFF WRITER

Best Actress

Unlike its male counterpart, the Best Actress category is not as competitive. Jessica Chastain and Jennifer Lawrence are the frontrunners for their portrayals of the CIA analyst whose determination led to the capture of Osama Bin Laden, and a grieving woman who becomes a sex addict after her husband’s death. It is possible that Chastain’s chances of taking the Oscar home may be hurt due to the controversy surrounding Zero Dark Thirty, even if she is the rightful winner. From the very first scene where Chastain’s character was identified until the final moments of the CIA’s “enhanced interrogation” sessions, it’s apparent that this is a masterful performance. Chastain captures all facets of Maya’s complex character whether it’s her steely-reaction as a torture scene unfolds, her sheer determination in the face of overwhelming odds and skeptical superiors, or her vulnerability when she is unable to capture the man she has hunted for 8 years. Though people have called ZDT the “Bin Laden” movie, it really ought to be referred to as one of the “Jessica Chastain Show” after her tour de force performance.

Best Director

Upon the release of the nominations, the Best Director category gained the most buzz entirely for the wrong reasons. In what has to be one of the year’s most interesting thrillers: Argo. What has made the Academy look even more foolish is the fact that Affleck has been dominating this award season. He has captured several critic’s choice awards and won the Golden Globe for Best Director. In the absence of those two heavy-hitters and Quentin Tarantino (Django Unchained) it’s tough to see Steven Spielberg losing the award. After all, Spielberg managed to make a movie, which realistically displayed the political genius of Abraham Lincoln, into an entertaining two and a half hours. Of course, there is a chance that Ang Lee may have impressed enough voters by bringing Life of Pi a book considered unfilmable to the screen. Nevertheless, it’s difficult to foresee Spielberg losing the award.

Best Actor

In all likelihood, this will be the toughest category for voters, as several actors turned in performances which would normally be good enough to win. Denzel Washington portrayed an alcoholic pilot who flies while intoxicated, a nuanced performance of a damaged man. Joaquin Phoenix brought a raw intensity to the character that reminded audiences why he was viewed as one of the brightest stars of his generation.

Lights. Camera. Prediction!

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Subjective Scrutiny

GABRIEL HENNINGER ‘15

OPINION

Con: Say No to Gun Control

ADAM DRABINSKI ‘15

It has been over a month since an elementary school in Connecticut was attacked and since that time an all-out war on the Second Amendment and our right to bear arms has been waged. It has culminated in President Obama’s recent proposition that demanding a background check, requiring fingerprinting, photo identification, and enhanced background checks would not have stopped what happened at Sandy Hook Elementary. Down to the fact that criminals do not follow laws. So, what makes us think that new gun control laws will stop criminals in the future? The majority of gun crimes are not committed by law-abiding citizens. The only solution to a bad guy with a gun is a good guy with a gun. For example, a 2009 workplace shooting in Houston, Texas, was halted by two co-workers who carried concealed handguns. In addition, a 1997 high school shooting in Pearl, Miss., was halted by the school’s vice principal after he retrieved the Colt .45 he kept in his truck. However, we do not remember these events because mass shootings leave a more lasting effect on our mind. Many deaths are more likely to remain forever in the media than a heroic effort made by the aforementioned. So, why do these mass shoot- ings keep happening? In my opinion, it is because the media makes these shooters into household names. The shooters know that if they commit a mass shooting that they will become more famous than if they committed suicide. The media needs to stop giving these shooters a household name and just deliver the facts of the massacres. At the end of the day, the only way to stop these mass shoot- ings is good people with guns and these new gun control laws will stop the law-abiding citizen from obtaining and concealing guns that could stop mass shootings. So, we as a country must say no to gun control.

The Griffin

Pro: No Gun Intended—Why We Need Gun Control

MEGHAN GERRY ‘14

“A well-regulated militia, being necessary to the security of a free state, the right of the people to keep and bear arms, shall not be infringed,” reads the Sec- ond Amendment of the United States Constitution. Honestly, up until recently, I had never given this statement much thought. There was a time when I did consider wearing re- ally hairy, bear-like sleeves over my arms to go dressed as the Grinch, but I never really considered wearing those sleeves for an extended period of time. There was a time when I even considered wearing regular sleeves, which are similar to those found on bears and other hairy, bear-like creatures. However, after much thought, I decided that I would not be wearing those sleeves for an extended period of time.

Then, on Dec. 14, 2012, that all changed when I held my breath for a second that lasted an eternity and suddenly no one was laughing. In almost an instant I was facing a decision about the prevention of gun violence in the United States. There are people who believe that guns are a necessary evil. I do not agree. In my opinion, guns are not a necessary evil. In my opinion, they are a necessary evil because they are used for protection. I believe that guns are not a necessary evil because they are used for protection. In my opinion, guns are not a necessary evil because they are used for protection. Therefore, I believe that guns are not a necessary evil because they are used for protection.

The Second Amendment of the United States Constitution firewall is the protection of their homes and families, or with people who enjoy going out hunting. I am not suggesting that all guns should be banned and that the government should start banning into citizens’ homes to strip them of all their weapons. No, my problem lies with the 15 killed and 24 injured at Columbine High School in 1999, the 33 killed and 30 injured at Virginia Tech in 2007, the 28 killed at Sandy Hook Elementary School shooting on Dec. 14, 2012, at a Sandy Hook Elementary School shooting in Newtown, Conn., on Dec. 14, 2012, and the 20 killed and 14 injured at Sandy Hook Elementary School shooting in Sandy Hook, Conn., on Dec. 14, 2012. The shooters used one of the guns involved in the gun control debate, a Colt .45, which was classified as an assault type weapon.

On Friday Dec. 14, 2012, after hearing there was a school shooting in Connecticut, my home state, I couldn’t breathe. My family had been waiting for months for the day when my parents could finally be in the same room as my brother, my cousins, the kids I babysit in neighboring towns and the danger they could have possibly been flooded in my mind. Fortunately for me, only a second had passed in between hearing about a school shooting in Conn. and hearing it was in Newtown, meaning everyone that I knew was safe.

While that was the longest second of my life, it was just that, a second before I could breathe easy. But there are parents, fam- ily members, friends, and loved ones of the victims who will be living in that second for the rest of their lives. It is true that I have no idea whether or not any of these restrictions in Obama’s Gun Con- trol Proposal will in fact help the gun violence situation we are fac- ing and have been facing in this country for a long time.

But if there is a chance that strengthening gun control laws will prevent a 6-year-old from having to face their own mortality, then they’ve barely started life, or any parent from having to experience a second of panic, whether it lasts a second or a lifetime, then it’s more than worth it to try.
**EAGLES SEARCH LEADS TO A CHIP**

**Tiffany Uriena ’16**

As baseball fans get ready for the upcoming season, the players are also yearning for 2013. This time, with the hope for better results. With pitchers and catchers having just reported, the unof- ficial season of baseball has begun. Soon, the Philadelphia Phillies will be preparing to com- pete in the Grapefruit League, giving fans a first taste of new players such as Ryan Revere and Mike Adams. Before the team can take the field and get ready for their games, there are a few remaining pieces of the lineup the team needs to put together. Despite acquiring Revere to play center in place of the traded Shane Victorino, the Phillies are still weak in the outfield, especial- ly at the corner spots. Ryan Howard is a question mark as he approaches the plate; it is not known if he will find the consistency he had during the regular 13-game season. His overall record when at Oregon was a phenomenal 46-7 and a near flawless 33-3 in conference play. The 2012 season trying to recover from his torn Achilles surgery and did not have his usual numbers when he came back to play. In 2013, he will be the highest paid hitter on the team. If he stays healthy, the expectation is that the slugger will lead the team in RBIs, just as he did from 2006 to 2011. There are reasons to be op- timistic. Howard is a player still hanging on to his prime and should have a few more great seasons left in him. Others, such as Jimmy Rollins and Chase Ut- ley, are fighting off the wall of their careers, and like Howard, could be primed for one last final run, if the team stays healthy. While the Phillies scored well, the Mets don’t stand a chance, especially considering the major improvement both Washington and Atlanta made in the offsea- son. The Mets will try to compete with these teams, they will need to find the consistency they lacked this year and really step up, in all facets of the game.

**Phillies Prepare for Bounce Back**

The biggest and most impor- tant player to watch this season will be Ryan Howard. He spent the first three months of the 2012 season trying to recover from a torn Achilles surgery and did not have his usual numbers when he came back to play. In 2013, he will be the highest paid hitter on the team. If he stays healthy, the expectation is that the slugger will lead the team in RBIs, just as he did from 2006 to 2011. There are reasons to be op- timistic. Howard is a player still hanging on to his prime and should have a few more great seasons left in him. Others, such as Jimmy Rollins and Chase Ut- ley, are fighting off the wall of their careers, and like Howard, could be primed for one last final run, if the team stays healthy. While the Phillies scored well, the Mets don’t stand a chance, especially considering the major improvement both Washington and Atlanta made in the offsea- son. The Mets will try to compete with these teams, they will need to find the consistency they lacked this year and really step up, in all facets of the game.

**Upcoming Game Calendar**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Location</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>FEB. 14</td>
<td>8p.m.</td>
<td>Men's Basketball</td>
<td>Caldwell, NJ</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FEB. 26</td>
<td>8p.m.</td>
<td>Men's Basketball</td>
<td>Philadelphia, PA</td>
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<tr>
<td>FEB. 18</td>
<td>7p.m.</td>
<td>Men's Basketball</td>
<td>Philadelphia, PA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MARCH 2</td>
<td>7p.m.</td>
<td>Men's Basketball</td>
<td>Temple, NJ</td>
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<td>MARCH 4</td>
<td>7p.m.</td>
<td>Men's Basketball</td>
<td>Lincoln, PA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MARCH 5</td>
<td>7p.m.</td>
<td>Men's Basketball</td>
<td>Lincoln, PA</td>
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* denotes a CACC contest

For more information, visit: griffinhletics.com

**The Griffin**
**Baseball Gets an Early Start**

CHESLEA MAGUIRE '15

The winter weather may be brutal so far this semester, but that does not stop the Chestnut Hill Griffins baseball team from preparing for the upcoming season. The team consists of 25 players this season: 17 returning players and eight new players joining the squad. The Griffins are led by head coach Robert Spratt, who has been at the helm since the program’s inception in 2008. Before joining Chestnut Hill, Spratt revived a baseball program at Penn State Abington that had not competed for 15 years.

In what was the best season in the program’s history, the team won a record 19 games in 2012. They also ranked second in the All-Central Atlantic Collegiate Conference (CACC) in runs scored per game (5.71) and with 135 stolen bases (135), were the tenth best team in all of Division II. Current sophomore Taylor Steen, considered one of the team's most explosive players, led the team in categories such as runs scored (33), doubles (6), triples (4), total bases (60), and sacrifice bunts (11).

Returning senior players this year include Robert Hopkins, Timothy DiMonte, Joseph Crane, Richard CavaZZa, Ryan Lanzalotto, and Travis Kakareko. Also returning are juniors Desmond Lites, Jonathan Bernhardt III, and Joseph Mullin. Sophomores Dane Gahr, Vincent Manzella, and Seamus Finnegan are also returning. Alumni Jesse Day-walt, who led the team in hits (44), and stolen bases (29) last season, will also return to the team this season as an assistant coach.

During the College's spring break, the team will be traveling south to warmer climates to compete in tournaments. From Feb. 22 to 24, the team will be playing in the Northeast Challenge hosted at the Ripken Experience Tournament in Myrtle Beach, S.C. for the third consecutive year. There they will face fellow NCAA Division II teams the Molloy College Lions, the Southern New Hampshire University Penmen, and the Franklin Pierce University Ravens as a tune-up for the upcoming regular season. Afterwards, the team will head down to Fort Pierce, Fla., to play in the Florida Coast Spring Training Program. There they will play double-headers against fellow Division II rivals Northwood University and Mercyhurst College.

The Griffins continue their quest to be a strong presence in both non-conference and conference play and are very optimistic they will be able to build off of last season's success. The triumphs of the returning players in previous campaigns look to have the Griffins poised for a promising spring trip and season. 

**High Hopes as CHC Welcomes Track and Field**

ADELE GIANGIULIO '15

It is an exciting year for the College this upcoming spring season because Chestnut Hill will be welcoming a new team of Griffins to their athletic program. The College’s first track and field team will make their debut as a club team this spring to ease the transition to the full Division II NCAA team it will become next year.

One of the biggest reasons a track and field team was started at the College was to create a stronger cross country program. Keeping the long distance runners in shape and competing year round, as well as giving them more NCAA Division II opportunities, are essential to the cross country team’s desired success.

Coach Philip Reilly, entering his third year as Chestnut Hill College’s cross country coach, says, “We want to be one of the best distance running programs around.” Reilly added that: “I took the job with the goal of starting a track and field team. Or else I didn’t think we’d be successful with cross country.”

The Griffins continue their quest to be a strong presence in both conference and college programs. Keeping up the history of the Griffins usually making the playoffs and playing well throughout the season, the team can improve. According to Balcer, “Our ability to work together and remain focused on the same goal has allowed them to play well together, complementing each other’s skill sets.” Balcer said. "This applies to both offense and defense. It is in this unity, that the team can thrive for their specific goals.”

Speaking on the goals and specific tasks of the team, Balcer says that he, as well as the team as a whole, “is looking forward to winning the conference championship,” with that being the ultimate goal of the season. He believes the team has a chance of winning, given the history of the Griffins usually making the playoffs and playing well throughout the season. While there are parts of the game that Balcer feels the team needs to work on, he ultimately feels that they generally play the right way. He also claims that the players are very capable of correcting and improving the aspects of their game that need improvement and making the necessary adjustments in a timely manner, something that all playoff teams must be able to do.

Ultimately, Balcer is hopeful about reaching the playoffs. “If we continue to progress on offense and defense, in terms of consistency, this team has a chance to win the championship,” he said. “That is what we are striving to do.”

And if the team continues on the track they are on, dreams of a championship could become a reality in only a matter of time.