

## Father O'Connor and Galen Godbey establish connections overseas

By Elizabeth McKinney

President Father O'Connor and Galen Godbey, associate to the president for globalization, traveled to Bangalore, India in order to help establish a DeSales University presence in India.

The purpose of the trip is to attempt to develop a relationship with India's academic, nonprofit, and business institutions in order to explore a possibly collaboration with DeSales to increase intellectual traffic, create service learning programs and to offer DeSales programs and courses in India. Ultimately, the relationship between Indian organizations and DeSales will help to produce more "global ready" graduates, so that DeSales students will have the knowledge, skills, attitudes not only to succeed in a vocational or national career, but also will be able to expand their talents overseas.

Another goal of the trip is to help establish DeSales as a dialogue center between the Hindu and Catholics. Fr.

O'Connor believes that establishing this relationship will help DeSales students become more, "aware and tolerant of the religions around them. The word 'catholic' means universal and these relationships we hope to build make that meaning more real."

India was chosen due to its culturally and religiously diverse population, its positions as a technologically advanced country, and also because the Oblates of St. Francis DeSales have established themselves in Bangalore only for the past couple of years. The Oblates were sent to India on an educational mission, and Fr. O'Connor hopes that this trip will help guide them and support them in their efforts. In the area of technology, this trip hopes to discover what knowledge, such as in classroom monitors, will be available and could one day be used in a DeSales classroom.

DeSales hopes to also offer its services and programs to institutions in

India, as Godbey points out, businesses are working 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, and DeSales needs to be ready to give an education where students can "walk into a globalize organization with the recognition and confidence to succeed." This is especially true for healthcare workers and sports management majors. Many of the programs that DeSales has are either rare or unknown in India, or the quality of the program is not quite the same. In India, there are around 300 million citizens, more people than the population of American, which are living in the same standard as a middle-class American family. With this statistic, more and more Indian citizens are beginning to enjoy areas such as sports and entertainment. India's model for healthcare still has doctors and nurses working separate, whereas DeSales can offer courses and programs in the areas of nurse practitioners and physician assistant programs.

In the area of business, India is one

of the top countries where most American businesses export jobs to. There are over 1,100 business schools in India and Latib has made a presence at one of the top 20 schools, the Alliance Business Academy. Latib has already taught classes on the topic of leadership in a global innovative economy.

As for the next step in DeSales' globalization efforts will mainly draw from the results from the various meetings and discussions that Fr. O'Connor, Godbey, and Latib will have with the organizations in India. The overall goal of the globalization attempt is to produce global ready graduates because "global competence will one day be like literacy."

## Social Security heads toward bankruptcy

By Josh Lee

Social Security reform must be addressed now, rather than later. According to the Social Security Administration, the federal government entitlement program will become insolvent in the next 12 years. Revenues generated by Social Security taxes will not be able to keep pace with the benefits paid out as the Baby Boom generation (those born between 1946 and 1964) comes of retirement age. Inflation alone will account for a 7% increase in the cost of promised benefits to retirees between 2008 and 2042. In addition, a decrease in the United States' birth rate, an increasing number of Americans turning 65 each year, and an increase in the life expectancy of older Americans will put a heavy strain on the program's solvency.

The birth rate in America declined after the Baby Boom generation and has remained approximately the same since the 1970s. Post-World War II, the average birth rate in the United States was 3.61 births per family, whereas today, the family average is just 1.95 children. Consequently, there will be less people paying into a system that requires even more funding for an ever growing population of retired Americans.

In the 1950s, there were fifteen workers contributing to the system for every one retiree collecting benefits. Today, the worker-to-retiree ratio has dropped to three-to-one. By 2040, if nothing is done to reform the system, the ratio will drop even further when it reaches a two-to-one ratio. Contrary to popular belief, there is no lock-box for Social Security money paid into the system; instead, Social Security is a pay-as-you-go system. When the worker-to-retiree ratio drops, the tax burden on workers increases. According to government figures, there will be approximately one million more people added to the Social Security rolls between 2005 and 2012, and by the time all the Baby Boomers retire around 2032, that figure will have doubled. The number of Americans receiving Social Security benefits will have gone from 2.3 million to approximately 4.3 million in just 27 years.

Today, Americans are living longer than ever thanks to medical technology, as well as improved lifestyle habits. When President Franklin D. Roosevelt first introduced the Social Security program in 1935, the average life expectancy for an American was 61 years of age. Today, the average life expectancy stands at 77, and by 2040, it could very well be around 80

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## Spanish Alliance Rocks the House with Flamenco Ole

By Jason Strauss

Their feet moved at blinding speeds as they stomped to the rhythm of the Spanish flamenco beat. The group moved about the dance floor ensnaring the audience into the rhythm of flamenco.

This group was none other than Flamenco Ole led by Julia Lopez. They have learned the art of Flamenco from the famous La Quica in Madrid, Spain. Lopez and her group tour the East Coast captivating audiences with their music, dance, and spirit. And on April 13<sup>th</sup> this tour group performed for a one time only event at DeSales University in Center Valley, PA.

Their appearance was hosted by The Spanish Alliance under the direction of Professor Anne Rampolla in conjunction with both the Humanities and Dance Departments. Many in the



Photo by Jason Strauss

organization, including President Elect Kathleen Zamietra, acknowledge that the performance was a perfect way to end the year as well as raise the bar for the annual Spanish Culture night.

The night began with a dazzling display of the female dancers' skills in both dance and the use of castanets. As the three dancers moved about the stage, the audience was captivated by the beat and the way the dancers moved effortlessly.

The biggest hit of the night however was the male dancer: Ricardo. His dance moves and gyrations actively set the audience into rapture and the applause was almost deafening.

The show was also interactive. DeSales students were able to interact with the dancers and attempted to learn basic Flamenco moves. Some of the students

### The group mesmerizes the audience.

did very well and one lucky student joined Ricardo on stage.

Flamenco Ole! has toured extensively up and down the East Coast and Midwest, dazzling audiences of all ages with their creative choreography and diverse programming. In addition to a busy touring schedule, Flamenco Ole! has presented spectacular main-stage events in Philadelphia. The group continues to perform a delightful mix of traditional and new flamenco for its ever-expanding audience of dance enthusiasts. Recently, they were featured in *Dance Boom* at the Wilma Theater on the Avenue of the Arts in Philadelphia.

When asked if we can expect more spectacular shows in the future, the See FLAMENCO OLE page 5

## Academic Excellence Address

On Wednesday, April 6th, the Department Chairs and other members of the University community had the great pleasure of listening to the speeches that were presented by the following students who won the Academic Excellence Address Competitions in their respective departments: Nicole Sutton, senior Accounting major; Christina Cucchiara, sophomore Elementary Education major; Sarah Stramara, sophomore English major; Ernest Justice, sophomore Computer Science major; William Farina, senior Chemistry major; Elizabeth Pfister, sophomore Nursing major; Michael Cirelli, sophomore Theatre major; Julia Vidmar,

senior Marriage and Family studies major; Lauren Schuette, junior Criminal Justice and Spanish major.

The student chosen to give the first annual Academic Excellence Address at the Academic Excellent Celebration on Sunday, April 24th, at 1:30 p.m. in the Connelly Chapel is Elizabeth Pfister. She will be given a prize of \$500. The second-place winner is Lauren Schuette, and the third-place winner is Ernest Justice.

The Department Chairs would like to thank the 34 students who participated in the first annual competition and to encourage all traditional day students to enter the competition next year.

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years. When combined with the increase in the population of retirees, a longer life expectancy only stands to create a further drain on the institution.

The cost of doing nothing is significant. Currently, the Social Security program generates a surplus each year, which is then invested into special-issue bonds by the United States Treasury. According to the Social Security Trustees Report for 2005, the current surplus will become a deficit by 2017, and every year thereafter, the deficit will continue to grow while the problem becomes even more serious. Between 2018 and 2020, Social Security stands to lose \$57 billion. By 2041, the program will have exhausted its special-issue bonds, currently totaling \$1.5 trillion. Needless to say, the system will be bankrupt and unable to pay out its scheduled benefits. Theoretically, if Social Security remains unchanged, the system could generate a deficit of \$4 trillion by 2080. "Clearly the system needs to be fixed," Treasury Secretary John Snow said when pointing to these massive losses.

The Social Security system should have collapsed years ago, but Congress has

repeatedly put staples into the program in order to keep it afloat. Every year or two, a newly graduated tax replaces the old one to keep up with current population demands on the system. Since 1937, Congress has increased the Social Security tax over 50 times by raising the maximum taxable wage, the payroll tax, or both. Today, the maximum taxable wage stands at \$90,000 and the payroll tax paid by both the employer and employee stands at 12.4% of one's income.

Another major flaw in the current system is the diminishing rate of return on investment. Today's investors in the Social Security program will only see a fraction of the money they have paid into the system. The average male, who is 40 years old in 2005, will have paid a total of \$286,360 by the time he retires only to see a rate of return equal to .04%. A 40 year old female will pay approximately \$146,755 and recover 2.31%, due to a lower average salary and a longer life span. The growing problem really becomes evident when a comparison is made with the previous data for 40-year olds and those who turn 20 in 2005. Males in this age group will pay \$411,336 in taxes and see a return of -.90%, while

a female will pay \$210,600 and realize a return of 1.86% on their investment. Both the 40 and 20 year olds will see a 27% overall reduction in the promised benefits they receive from Social Security despite the fact that they will be required to pay a greater sum of money into the system than any other previous generation. If the system remains unchanged, those born in 2000 will see a 31% reduction in payable benefits by the time they retire, and this rate will continue to decline every year thereafter.

On March 15, 2005, all 100 United States Senators, including 55 Republicans, 44 Democrats, and one Independent unanimously voted for Senator Lindsey Graham's (R-SC) amendment, which stated that lawmakers should work together toward a "solvent and permanently sustainable Social Security system." Most Americans agree; in an ABC/Washington Post poll conducted on March 13, 2005, 71% of Americans said, "The Social Security system is heading for a crisis," and out of that number, 67% believed the institution is in need of major changes. According to the Independent Social Security Advisory Board, "As time goes

by August before everyone returns for the start of the fall semester, and we think this will be a significant improvement of sightlines for people entering and leaving Landis Mill Road to access DeSales Drive." Throughout the summer, there will be a series of detours in place during the construction.

bigger accident from happening. It is also the perfect time in order to accommodate the surplus of traffic that will be accompanying the opening of Welsh Hall. Father O'Connor says that, "It makes the Marian Shrine a



quieter, more prayerful spot, and it makes the campus road a safer place, and DeSales likes safe and quiet spots." Bill Cressman, VP for Administration and Finance here at DeSales, says that, "We're hoping to start the construction of the new entrance road, DeSales Drive, sometime after May 16<sup>th</sup>, after students have left campus for the semester, and we hop to have it completed

## Say what? Student Opinion

These were the opinions and statements of some of the people that I interviewed, and personally, I think the new road is going to be slightly awkward to get used to, but that it was done for the right reason, as a matter of safety of the students, faculty, etc. here on campus.

deSales minstrel by, the size of the Social Security problem grows, and the choices available to fix it become more limited." Currently, there are a number of ideas being considered to fix the system, including raising taxes, raising the retirement age, further reducing benefits, and the creation of private savings accounts.

Regardless of the proposed plan of attack, it is an undeniable fact that something has to be done to preserve the long-term integrity of the Social Security program. It is an issue that needs to be dealt with before the deficits spin out of control and payable benefits cease altogether. Senator Ted Kennedy (D-MA) stated on ABC's "This Week" that, "It's a serious issue. We ought to address it... This is a Problem." Although reform will take a great deal of time and cooperation, lawmakers understand that Social Security is their number one priority. "After all, there is no more positive agenda than saving Social Security," claimed Senator Harry Reid (D-NV). When reforming Social Security, the ultimate goal should be to permanently strengthen the system, so future generations are able to maximize their investments.

"[While on the Landscape Planning committee,] the decision to move the entrance on Landis Mill was made primarily for reasons of safety, but we hadn't come up with a detailed plan of the new traffic pattern." —Joseph Lanzilotti

"I don't like the fact that [the road] cuts through the "hangout" grass area. It ruins the peacefulness." —Michael Nass

"I am a proponent for this new road because I am in favor of a walking campus."

—Joe Newman

"I think as long as people pay attention, I think it (the road) is fine the way it is."

—Christopher Hafer

"I think it would be fine if people paid attention, but they don't, so it's a good idea."

—Adam Benton

## DeSales Drive: a change in plans

By Rachel Jasienski

## The facts, just the facts

It has been announced that a new road will be implemented on campus, and that the road to the University Heights is being closed off, but that is about the extent of the populous knowledge. Many people on campus are wondering what is going to happen. Where is the road going to be placed? Why is this happening? The basis for the new DeSales Drive is going to be the current driveway for campus police that runs in front of the Tucker and Lawless buildings. It is going to run above the stream that runs behind Tocik, and the road will meet up with the intersection of DeSales Drive and the parking lots for Aviat and Tocik and Conmy, as illustrated in the picture of the ground plan for the university. According to Father Bernard O'Connor, there will be some sort of dirt mound constructed up at the Heights where the current DeSales Drive joins with Landis Mill Road, and a cul-de-sac paved at the opening of that parking lot so that cars may turn around. This new road is being paved because there have been a series of small accidents occurring at the current intersection of Landis Mill and DeSales Drive, and this is a means to prevent a

## Another successful year for Best Buddies

By Kelly Smith

On Saturday April 10<sup>th</sup> the Best Buddies chapter at DeSales traveled to Lehigh University to attend the Best Buddies Ball. This is a formal event where the chapters in the area come together for an afternoon of award presentations, lunch, and dancing. There were many awards given out throughout the event, and the DeSales group is very proud to have received the Spirit of Friendship award, a new award this year.

Best Buddies is among the many organizations we have here on campus. It is made up of a group of college students each paired up with a person with a mental or physical disability. Brian Werth explains "I started the Best Buddies Chapter here at DeSales my freshman year. The DeSales' Best Buddies group is now one of 360 college chapters worldwide. So, our group is in its third year and running, founded in the 2002-2003 school year. I knew about Best Buddies in high school and was an officer there at Allentown Central Catholic. With the help of the program manager, a

paid Best Buddies International staff member, I launched a recruiting campaign and found a group of committed officers: Kacie Dechan, Mali Zowniriw, Becky Kelly, and Patrice Oprysko. Each year our group has expanded." This year the chapter has twenty pairs of buddies. Each student is responsible for keeping in contact with their buddy and they are expected to call or write to their buddy as often as possible. Along with one group activity a month, the students are also asked to take their buddy out on their own at least once a month.

The year has been packed with exciting events: back in September, all the college students and "buddies" were brought together and set up in pairs. Amanda Reese recalls: "At first I was nervous because I had never done anything like this before and I didn't know what to expect. However after I met my buddy, Lisa, I realized I had nothing to be nervous about and I ended up having a really great time." In October we got the chance to have two group events. In the beginning of the month we went to a pumpkin patch and each of us got

to pick our own pumpkin to take home. For Halloween we all dressed up in our costumes and played a round of miniature golf at Putt U. In November, we made Thanksgiving cards and delivered them to a home for elderly people in the area. For Christmas we had an afternoon party in McShea where we played Christmas music, had snacks, and helped our buddies make Christmas cards for their own friends and family.

We kicked off this semester by showing *Peter Pan* in Dooling Auditorium. In February we went bowling at the Rose Bowl. That month's event seemed to be one of the favorites because a lot of the buddies really enjoy going bowling. To welcome in spring we had a talent show and an Easter egg hunt in March. To close up the year we attended the ball and on April 24<sup>th</sup> we had our farewell lunch.

Best Buddies will start up again in the fall of next semester. Anyone who wants to learn more about the program or is interested in joining can contact Brian Werth at bpw2@desales.edu.

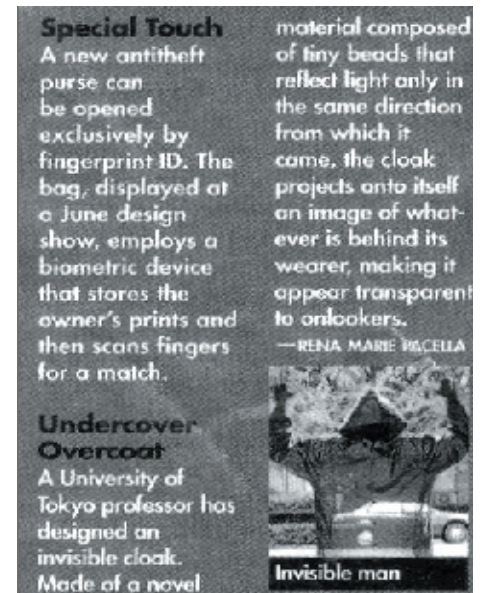


Photo courtesy of Popular Science

Thursday, April 28, 2005

## Act 1 Presents Cabaret

Feel your heart break, laugh uproariously, and be thrilled by the spectacular staging, as Kander and Ebbs immortal musical comes to life on the Act 1 stage.

Main Stage Admission Information:  
WED & THURS: \$21/\$18 FRI & SUN:  
\$22/\$19 SAT: \$23  
Remarks: Order Tickets Online

**Dates:** 4/27 - 5/8

**Time:** 8:00 PM

**Location:** Labuda Center for the Performing Arts

**Contact:** Act 1 Box Office Phone:  
610-282-3192

## Sorry, that's closed...

By Martin Rodriguez

Class lets out and you are probably headed to the lounge or to your next class when you hear someone say, "Yeah, you can start scheduling your classes today!" So then it begins, your mind starts racing through the last time you scheduled your classes. You ask yourself what classes you need, try to remember all that you have already taken, and wonder if they are offering anything interesting for the upcoming fall. But never does it occur to you that there might not be any classes for you to take. Why should it? This is a university, right? You should be able to take classes within your major and not have to worry, right? Well, apparently not.

I am a dual major at this school: Psychology and Spanish, and I have never had a problem scheduling before. There are an adequate number of psychology courses offered every semester, and that used to also be true for my second major, Spanish, until this semester. There is no new Spanish class for me to take next semester. I have already taken the two upper-level courses they are offering. What's that about? What am I supposed to do now? Why are only two upper-level courses being offered? Am I supposed to simply drop this to a minor and lose all of the time I put into my second major? No way, so now what am I supposed to do? Right now, I plan to take an independent study course, which I've never done before. I cannot imagine not being in the classroom setting. Instead, I will have infrequent meetings with busy professors and have to sort through the majority of the information without any guidance. Classes are hard now, I can't imagine what it will be like.

So what do you do when this happens to your primary major? You obviously cannot base a major around many different independent studies. Are you supposed to just switch your major to something else? Obviously not! This is going to become a major problem here at DeSales. But does this school's administration care? This school is notorious for solving problems too late, like our insufficient rooming problem for on-campus students. This problem is not only evident in the Spanish major, but in the Communications major as well.

What can we do to solve this problem? A logical answer would be to hire new professors, perhaps putting our freshly raised tuition to use in the academics. Hiring new professors would certainly add some variety to the course selection. However, since

this school is seemingly backwards these days, I've learned that our administration has not renewed contracts for particular professors in both Spanish and Communications.

One of these professors happens to have one of the most positive reputations in the DeSales community. She continues to earn that reputation, helping students constantly, despite learning this upsetting news. I find it hard to understand that there is an adequate reason for asking these professors to leave. Spokespeople for the administration will reassure you that they are merely interested in hiring professors who have earned doctoral degrees. Browse through the course selection booklet and you will find that these professors are not the only faculty members lacking their PhD.

It takes much more than a doctorate in a particular field of study to achieve excellence in education. This professor that I mentioned before, excels in the education field. She has dedicated herself to this school and its community for the past five years. She has donated her time, energy, and money to organize several activities for our institution, and this is how her university thanks her for a job well done?

Bottom line, this does not make sense. I thought that the administration of a school held the primary purpose of helping its students. I understand that the administration probably has its own agenda, and through their own eyes, they are probably looking out for DeSales' future. It does not help students, however, when strong teachers are removed. What about the students now? Are we to suffer because the administration is looking at the future benefits? I have seen the future blueprints for what DeSales University will become in the next 5-10 years: more housing, a new business building, new soccer fields, additions to the DUC and much more. DeSales might not be much to look at now, but it will look like a university at some point. As we all know, "looks can be deceiving". Even if DeSales builds all these new facilities, it is still neglecting the one true function: facilitating a future for its students. Decreasing class selection and letting good teachers go is not the way to fulfill a university's most important and primary function. I have a future here at DeSales University and I would like to feel that my administration is working to give me the best education possible, but I don't feel that way. Do you?

## We are not Catholic by name alone

By Pierre Angelo-Joseph LaRocco

"We are not Catholic by name alone; we are not like Villanova, St. Joseph's, Boston College, and Georgetown, we are better than them, we are Catholic by name and action." This is what our University tells us and the rest of the world. Yet on April 8, 2005, our university had a mass for the late Pope John Paul II, the mass was at twelve noon, and our classes for that period were not cancelled. Pope John Paul II, a pope for twenty-six years, one who was described by our own Rev. Douglas Burns, OSFS, as "a very Salesian Pope". The dioceses of Allentown, Scranton, and Philadelphia, shut down on April 8, 2005 for the funeral of Pope John Paul II. "We are not Catholic by name alone; we are Catholic by name and action." But on April 8, 2005, when push came to shove, did DeSales University prove that we are Catholic by name and action? The answer to that question is NO. This very Catholic university would not cancel classes for the time of our mass for Pope John Paul II. So the question that is left: "Is DeSales University Catholic

by name alone?" I write this in the spirit of Pope John Paul II. He was a man who always went against the popular belief, to say what is right. He stood against communism and took it down. He toed the line with materialism, racism, and oppression, and did not blink. He said no to abortion, contraception, capital punishment and war, when everyone around him said yes. He defended the Catholic Church's teachings of marriage and not trivializing it with divorce and same-sex marriage. He stood in a room full of teenagers and told them not to have sex. He stood in a room with President Bill Clinton and told him abortion is wrong. He stood in a room with President George W. Bush and told him the death penalty and war are both wrong. He stood in a room with the communist leaders and said communism is wrong. There is a quote from Pope John Paul II on the DeSales University website that sums up what he believed and that is "Be not afraid." That is how he lived his life not afraid to stand up for what is right and that is why I wrote this article.

## The art of conversation

By Peter Kerr

Yes, dear readers, social interaction is nothing less than an art form. It is the craft by which society functions; it is the expression of emotions; it gets people in and out of all kinds of awkward situations (although we usually find ourselves having a harder time getting out). I know of several occasions where my sub-par conversational skills did not help the given situation. A classic example involved myself and a girl deep in conversation when she asked me what I thought heaven looked like. Now, I had two options: (A) say something smooth (or sappy) about being there with her or (B) what I said:

"Ummm...it's white..."

That is a terrific example of poor conversation (I later went on to elbow her in the eye as well, but physical ineptitude is another topic in itself). However, this demonstrates just one type of conversation: attracting the opposite sex. There are certainly more types and purposes to conversation (depending on who you ask). I would primarily like to discuss those conversations that take a turn for the awkward. I don't mean to declare myself an expert on the topic, but since I've been there enough that I'm no longer an 'amateur', I can at least dissect the situation and offer pointers. Let us start with the troublesome "Path Encounter".

You're walking down a long path on campus or wherever. Perfectly content on walking solo to your destination, you look up and see another person coming down the path in the distance. And wouldn't you know it, it's that person that you kinda-sorta-met-at-that-party-but-don't-remember-their-name. Heavens to Betsy, this is a shy person's nightmare! But not to worry, they're probably just as scared of you as you are of them. There are a couple of methods to get by. The first way is to simply totally ignore them by engaging yourself in some other activity that requires your full attention. This method does not come recommended very highly; to totally ignore somebody only makes it more awkward later. It's always better to acknowledge. This being said, I recommend the "Greet and don't mean it" method. As the distance between you and the person closes, engage yourself in something on the path or in the air (the hawk on campus works well for this). When you get into a range of maybe 7-12 feet, look up casually to make an eye-contact evaluation. If the person doesn't acknowledge you, you're cool. Just keep walking; you've tried your best (or at least

convince yourself of this). If eye-contact occurs, perhaps give them a nod and then fire your best casual greeting. It is important to remember that if you do not want to stop and talk, do not give a thought-provoking greeting. Something like "How's life?" is going to stall your journey home. Instead, a "Hey", "Hi", or "Whaddup?" will usually give you a quick response. On a similar note, be wary of their response. If they reply with a "not much, how 'bout you?", you need to evaluate if a response is necessary. If you're already behind them, they're not expecting a response. It's always good to try to respond, but remember that you're still walking away from them and they have someplace to be too. Congratulations, you've passed somebody on the sidewalk.

Another situation prone to awkwardness is the "I need to leave and they can't take a hint". What happens when you'd really rather be somewhere else (or even need to be) and there's no good way to let that person know? Nobody wants to be rude and nobody wants hurt feelings. The answer, my friends, is really quite simple. My colleagues in conversation and I have tested and proved one easy statement that

"Ummm...it's white..."

should help get you out of an awkward, endless conversation: "I'll let you go..." The "I'll let you go" is a perfect escape because it offers a number of bonuses. First, it shows the other person that you care about them because you are taking note of their precious time by 'letting them go'. Second, it gives the impression that you really enjoy their story and could listen for hours. Finally, it's an easy-to-use phrase that can be inserted into any casual conversation. What happens if this phrase doesn't work? Quietly punch in your number on your cell phone that you kept ready in your pocket just in case this would happen.

Thus, these are only two situations involving conversation that I'm sure you've never thought about. You were most likely doing better things with your life, like contemplating why that path on the hill is so squiggly. And while this topic could be continued in all sorts of humorous ways through examples of people living out these methods, I'm sure the point has been taken. Conversation is something that requires more intuition and planning than the average extrovert realizes. So don't think of those quiet people as shy; think of them as artists constantly trying to paint out the perfect sentence.

## Congratulations to new resident advisors for 2005-2006

Alison Elenchin	Jessie Sanguinito
Lauren Schenk	Sarah Stramara
Rachel Wamba	Rebecca Arndt
Jessica Gross	Michael Concillo
Joe Newman	Matt Ottinger
Peter Maguire	Paul Webster
Chris Antoni	Vince Coglianese
Seamus Doran	Ryan Fitzpatrick
Jeff Dietzler	Melanie McGregor
Monica Yates	Donielle Bercaw
Samanthalee Minnucci	

The staff of the Minstrel wishes to congratulate these students on being selected for the position of resident advisor for the 2005-2006 school year. Good luck!

## Attention all students

Want to earn three (3) credits in just three weeks? In addition to our summer evening classes, ACCESS is offering accelerated day Summer Courses. Summer Day 1 begins May 23 and runs through June 9, 2005; Summer Day 2 begins June 13 and runs through June 20, 2005. The class times are 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. daily. If you would like more information, please stop by or contact the ACCESS Office at 610-282-4361. These courses are offered at the Center Valley Campus only.

Thank you,  
The ACCESS Staff

## DVD REVIEWS

## High Roller: The Stu Unger Story

Review by Phil Contrino

After the dud that was the entire season of Tilt, there comes another mediocre entry into the world of poker entertainment. High Roller: The Stu Unger Story, plays like a Lifetime channel interpretation of a story that would have been much better suited to the kind of lighting in the veins biopic that Martin Scorsese used to have downed pact (face it, The Aviator was a dud). Sopranos star Michael Imperioli plays the lead with marginal success, and he's joined by an equally mediocre cast (including fellow Sopranos alum Steve Schirripa) who do nothing to elevate the script past it's various contrivances.

The film follows Unger as a kid discovering cards (these scenes feature very improbable card playing) to his rise in the world of poker (he went on to win an unprecedented three World Series championships) to his downfall at the hands of cocaine and his own inner demons. It's the standard rise-fall, paint in the colors biopic that has been executed much better in such films as GoodFellas, Casino and The People vs. Larry Flynt. Unfortunately it seems more and more that the high water mark established by John Dahl's Rounders will never be matched, and that poker aficionados will have to settle for generic imitations.

## Closer

Review by Phil Contrino

Fresh off the success of his HBO-Miniseries, Angels in America, Mike Nichols returns to the territory he mined in Carnal Knowledge with his new film Closer. A scathing look at beautiful people doing ugly things to each other, Closer is a decidedly adult drama that provides a fly on the wall view of the relationships of four people living in London. There's an obituary writer/wanna-be novelist named Dan (played by Jude Law, who was everywhere this past year), a stripper with a bruised heart named Alice (Natalie Portman), a bitter photographer named Anna (Julia Roberts) and a caniving dermatologist named Larry (Clive Owen). All the actors sink their teeth deep into a very meaty script by Patrick Marber, who adapted the screenplay from his own play. Because each actor fires on all cylinders, it's trully impossible to say which one outshines

the rest. Roberts sheds her squeaky clean image to play Anna as a pitiless individual who seems bent on hurting herself. Owen infuses Larry with the perfect amount of sleaziness, and his character is the one who comes off as the biggest scumbag. And both Law and Portman throw just the right amount of sweetness into their characters, but not enough for you to actually consider them good people. In fact, some viewers were turned off by the fact that Closer doesn't really offer a single character that you can truly empathize with. But it's for this reason, among others, that the film is such an uncompromising masterpiece. Under Nichols inspired direction the actors never hit a sour note, and the entire affair is beautifully photographed against the back drop of London by cinematographer Stephen Goldblatt. Throw in Damien Rice's lovely ballad "The Blowers Daughter", which serves to bookend the film, and you have yourself one of the best of movies of 2004.

## BOOK REVIEWS

The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-Time *By Mark Haddon*

Review by Rob Smyth

If you're going to pick a book based on its cover, this would be a good one to pick. It's bright orange, which is always a plus; it's got a cutout picture of an upside-down poodle, which is intriguing, and it's got a crazy and long title: The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-time. To be honest, that's the reason I picked this book, written by Mark Haddon, when I was in the DeSales bookstore. And it worked out, because it's a pretty good book.

Christopher John Francis Boone is the main character and narrator. After a few pages, you begin to realize that Christopher is not like most 12-year-olds. For one thing, he can name every prime number up to 7,057. He also has no understanding of jokes or emotions, and he refuses to be touched. Author Mark Haddon is able to write from this perspective very well. He enables the reader to experience the world the way Christopher would. Subway stations are not just places you wait for a train; they are crowded tunnels of sensory overload, every advertisement begging to be read, every detail observed. The strange habits of his parents confuse Christopher. He doesn't understand why they would fight, and the image of a screaming neighbor means nothing to him, as long as nobody touches him.

The curious incident referred to in the title is a murder. Christopher found his neighbor's dog dead one morning, lying sideways with garden shears sticking out of him. The book is written by Christopher and is about his attempts at solving the mystery of who killed the dog. It does not



go as well as expected at first – his dad becomes upset with him for asking the neighbors so many questions, and he runs into some trouble with the police. The detective work Christopher does leads him on some adventures. He begins to become more independent than before, and he solves more than just one mystery.

The Curious Incident... is a very insightful book. Like A Beautiful Mind, it allows the reader to see the world from a different perspective. Initially, the unique point-of-view keeps the reader very interested and the book is hard to put down. At points it does get a little slow, but overall it is definitely worth the read. If you have any interest in mental illness or just appreciate creative and well-written stories, The Curious Incident...will not disappoint.

## DEAR ABNER

Dear Abner,

I need your help with a situation: the upperclassman formal is this Friday and I really want to impress my date. I'm a little nervous and I want to make the best impression possible. Are there any tips or words of wisdom you could lend me?

Sincerely, Jittery

Dear Jittery,

It is my unfortunate duty to inform you that the formal you speak of occurred on the 1st of April. I sincerely hope you were able to attend and that you are still not planning on going this Friday. If so, do not worry, I'm sure you can think of some way to apologize to your upperclassman date on why you missed what was probably the last dance of their college career. But for the sake of this column, let us assume that there is a major dance in the near future and that you can take back all of the stupid things that you probably did do at the actual formal (if you went, that is). To begin: a good way to start off the evening is to know the gender of your date, because, unfortunately, I don't; at least, not based on the question you've sent me. Regardless, I can still provide you with an answer, but I will have to leave it vague enough so that it is applicable to both the guys and the gals. Here you are:

- 1) If the other party is cold, offer them your outermost layer.
- 2) Tell them they look wonderful, **even if they don't.**
- 3) If they say they are going to use the bathroom, casually check to make

sure they aren't going to dance with Hans instead.

4) If you truly want to impress your date, do not enter the dancing circle to 'show off your moves'. Odds are that you will leave an impression, but not the one you want.

I hope you have, er, had a wonderful time on Friday night. Good luck with everything.

Dear Abner,

Whatever happened to my favorite Dole juice flavor: Paradise Blend? It has been weeks since I last saw it on the shelves. What is going on? Should I resign myself to apple juice?

Sincerely, Paradise Lost

Dear P to the L,

I, too, have felt the pangs of thirst resulting in the lack of the variety of Dole flavors. I have heard, however, that this dearth of Dole juices traces back up to the company itself. Apparently the Dole scientists, as we speak, are devising brand new flavors, some considered revolutionary in the field of juice. This, I assume, is why certain juices have been pulled from the shelves (a security measure, obviously, to protect the recipes of their top juices). Incidentally, I am currently working on obtaining an interview with the tops of Dole Juice design at their top-secret juice lab. I cannot mention names or locations, as this would compromise the security of other agents who are currently infiltrating

competitor juice manufacturers such as Tropicana® and Juicy Juice®. When I have more information I will make sure to share it with you. We all feel the loss of Paradise Blend. Godspeed.

Dear Abner,

I recently ignited an old addiction to the original Megaman series for Nintendo. I'm currently stuck on Shadowman from Megaman 3. How do I beat this guy? Are there any special moves I should use?

Sincerely, Old-school

Dear Old-school

For Shadowman, believe it or not, you're going to want to use Topman's Top Spin move. When you jump into the air, push "B" to use the move, which looks like a spinning kick in the air. If you jump into Shadowman while using this move you should be able to kill him in around 5 hits. However, in case you miss, make sure you have an "E" canister ready to use. Shadowman is one of the more difficult robots of the game, as you probably realize, and should not be taken lightly. If you run out of Top Spin, you'll have to use your Buster Cannon and take him out the old-fashioned way. Good luck; I'm glad to see that somebody is returning to the classic games that raised our generation.

If you have any questions or comments for Dear Abby, slip them under The Minstrel office door in McShea.

FLAMENCO OLE from page 1



## The Flamenco

members of Spanish Alliance merely hint that great things are in store. The club is taking hold and plans to bring many more events as its presence on campus continues to grow. "We're here to stay," one member says. We can only await next year to see where they go from here.

For more information about Spanish Alliance contact Professor Rampolla or Lisa Scheeler for a list of current officers' contact information.



Students learn to dance the Flamenco.

## Faculty profile:

by Peter Maguire

Dr. Gregg Amoré is as organic as they come. The all-natural-bodybuilding champion was born and raised on the same farm that he currently operates, located on Route 512, eight miles north of Bethlehem. There he grows vegetables and flowers that the public may purchase. Most recently, Dr. Amoré has branched out into the wine business. However, the fact that he is the head of the DSU counseling department with a Ed.D. in counseling psychology suggests that his life has been much more than fruits and vegetables.

Dr. Amoré's education began in the Northampton School District. He embarked upon his higher education career at Rutgers University on a wrestling scholarship. Dr. Amoré, somewhat musingly, recalls the influence his father had on his first choice of study, "[My father] thought that dentistry seemed to make sense as a career. [The dentists] appeared to make a comfortable living. They were in a climate controlled office, they made their own hours, they didn't have to worry about the weather, they didn't have to worry about crop disease. Logistically, that made sense, so that was the game plan. I'd be a dentist. I had no idea what that entailed, I just had to get past square one."

As many college students have learned, well-meant parental advice only goes so far. "Somewhere along the way, within that first eight weeks, I'm like 'that's not me'. I didn't want to be stuck in an itty-bitty office, looking down somebody's mouth, eight hours a day. That just didn't appeal to me." Dr. Amoré spent only 8 weeks at Rutgers, leaving to return home and work on the farm for the remainder of the semester.

"The idea of me going to college was big time. My father was terribly, terribly disappointed. He never really had the benefit of a high school education. He had to quit school in eighth grade to take care of the farm because his father was sick." International affairs also affected Dr. Amoré, "[It] was compounded by fact that the Vietnam War was raging at the time. If you weren't in school, they pretty much shipped you off. It was a bigger concern of his, not so much mine. I really wasn't quite sure what I wanted to do with my life."

After spending the remainder of the fall of 1965 working on the family farm, Dr. Amoré attended Moravian College that spring as a psychology major. "Somehow I needed to figure out how to survive the trauma of academia. Very simply, I looked at the logistics of it. If I wasn't in school, I would be working. If I was working, I'd be putting in 40-45 hours a week, probably not doing anything very glamorous with a high school diploma. It would have been manual labor, either on the farm, or someplace else. Somebody else would have told me what to do, where to do it, how to do it, and with whom to do it."

Dr. Amoré transferred to Lehigh University the following semester. "I transferred to Lehigh because I had some interest in wrestling, and Lehigh was the premier wrestling school in the Lehigh Valley, and one of the better schools in the nation." Interest triumphed over prescription for Dr. Amoré, "I remember, during freshman orientation at Rutgers, somebody standing up before this group of freshman saying 'do what you like, study what you find to be interesting.' I remember as a freshman at Rutgers, I had five courses. Out of those five, the one that I liked the most was psychology. So, I became a psychology major."

Amoré overcame the trauma of college by treating it like a job. "I had to be

## Dr. Gregg Amoré

willing to commit 40-45 hours a week to academic work. Academia was my work, and I'd just treat it like a job. I would get up every morning, and start working at 8:00. My family would be at dinner at 6:00 in the evening, and at dinnertime I quit. I'm not going to do work after dinner, and I'm not going to do work on weekends."

"And back in those days, psychology was a relatively new discipline. It didn't have the notoriety, popularity, or exposure that it has today. I didn't know what I was going to be when I grew up. I didn't know where this was going to take me. If I was going to survive this ordeal of four years of higher education, I might as well do it in a manner that's at least interesting, reasonably exciting, and challenging."

Dr. Amoré's pragmatic view of education served him well. He garnered a spot on the Dean's List, membership in Phi Beta Kappa, and graduated with honors. By his work ethic, the Lehigh undergrad was also able to complete his degree on schedule, despite his earlier setback. "I did very well, but only because I did the work. Not because I was the brightest star in the sky."

"As is still the case today, there wasn't much that you do with an undergraduate degree in psychology." Dr. Amoré continued his education at Lehigh University. "At that particular point in time, 30 credits got you a master's degree. In literally two semesters, I had a master's degree. That was pretty painless." He then went on to earn a School Psychologist's Degree, and a Ed.D. in Counseling Psychology.

In the fall of 1972, Dr. Amoré began working at Allentown College of St. Francis DeSales (now DeSales University) in the Counseling Center. At that time, there was no psychology department, and no psychology major. "During that first year, I worked at establishing our psychology department and child development center." In the 34 years that he has been here, Dr. Amoré has worn different hats for the school. "[I am active in] counseling, for awhile I was also doing career planning and placement. The child development center went on for about 10 years and was absorbed into the Mercy Day School system of the diocese."

Now Dr. Amoré is in charge of the PACE (Peers Advising, Counseling, Educating) program at DeSales. He and Wendy Krisak (of the counseling center) chose six students from those that applied. They were trained by Bacchus and Gamma, a peer education program. PACE provides programs on topics such as sexually transmitted diseases, roommate relationships, nutrition, and the student handbook. Some members of the team are counseling students in one-on-one sessions. Dr. Amoré still clings to his agricultural roots. "In 1974 I started building greenhouses. The following year I built two more, and I kept building until we had 16 of them. In 1985 I took control of the farm, my father and uncle retired. I paid for my share, and then I was working with the farm, the greenhouses, and the school."

In 1995, Dr. Amoré leased the property, giving him time to pursue other interests. One of these was flying planes. "Back in the early 80's I decided I just wanted to get a pilot's license." He began taking lessons at Queen City Airport in Allentown. After earning his instrument rating, commercial pilot's license, and flight instructor's certificate, he bought his first plane, a twin-engine Piper Seneca. Between 1995 and 2000, he spent time flying Leer jets for an Allentown-based

## Swing in Philadelphia

by Erin Maguire

Step, step, rock step, belt buckle, step, step, rock step, pretzel. Kelly dips to end the sequence with left hand in Greg's right as he supports her back...she performs the spine bending feat and hitches her saddle-shoed foot to her knee; her curled hair sweeps the floor. Beginners, the couple smiles at the success of their swinging and after a few miscos, fall back in time with the brassy, blasting tunes of Melissa Martin and the Mighty Rhythm Kings—the location: Commodore Barry Club on Emlen and Carpenter Streets in Philadelphia. For swing dancers who fell in love with the craze in the 90's, or for newbies who have never tried swing dancing, but enjoy a heart pumping, shoe swiveling good time, swing dance venues in the Philadelphia area on the weekend and throughout the week for a cover charge of \$10 or less can be found—if you know where to look.

It's Saturday night, the dress is casual and the people are too, often changing partners with dancers of all ages and skills. The Philadelphia Swing Dance Society hosts Saturday night gigs at Commodore Barry Club and at Widener Hall in Chestnut Hill. Dancing starts at 8:30 and goes until midnight, however Jitterbug lessons (included with the admission price) start at 7:00 and Lindy lessons begin at 7:45. Admission is \$3 off with student I.D. and for anyone who donates what the Philadelphia Swing Dance Society website calls "substantial baked goods." For information on dance dates and bands, call (215) 849-5384.

The Saturday night Fish Fry, takes place every other Saturday at University of Pennsylvania. The name, according to the Uptown Swing website, was inspired by a popular swing song written by "one of the greatest swing artists of all time," Louis Jordan. Hosted by Uptown Swing, this venue also includes a lesson beforehand, at 7:30. Dancing goes from 8:30 to 11:30. Admission is free on nights where DJ's provide the music and \$10 on nights when a live band is playing. According to the Uptown Swing website, "Anyone and everyone who is interested in learning to Swing dance or would just like to enjoy the music is welcome to attend...All classes are designed for the beginner—if you can walk, we can teach you to dance." Check the website, [www.uptownswing.org](http://www.uptownswing.org).

charter business. After selling his first plane, Dr. Amoré flew as a member of the Lehigh Valley Flying Club. He has since purchased a new plane, a Piper Twin Comanche. He regrets not having as much time to fly the aircraft as he would like.

As a corporate trainer, Dr. Amoré worked with LGE Performance Systems, Inc. Based out of Orlando, FL, the company not only trains physical athletes, but corporate athletes as well. Some of Dr. Amoré's audiences included Eckerd Drugs, Lutron Electronics, Air Products and Chemicals, and Pfizer. Dr. Amoré recalls that the time he spent as corporate trainer involved a lot of traveling.

One of Dr. Amoré's hobbies is bodybuilding. For a hobby, he has been remarkably successful, winning the World Championship (for men over 50) in Amsterdam in December 2001. He has also won Mr. America twice in the over 50 category, and Mr. USA twice. He notes that all of his competitions have been in "natural", or drug-free, bodybuilding. He started his career in competitive bodybuilding by entering the Mr. Lehigh Valley contest in 1973 "as a fluke." He

org, for updates on date changes and band performances.

For swing on a Sunday night, try Dance Haddonfield at the Friends Meeting House on Friends Avenue in Haddonfield, N.J. (near Cherry Hill, just off Route 70). The lesson starts at 7:00 and dancing goes from 8-10:30 for \$10 a person. This venue is open on a weekly basis (as opposed to some swing venues that host dances on specific dates). Call (856) 429-5355 for more information.

In Plymouth Meeting, swing dance is at the Peppermint Dance Club—location: The Church on the Mall at the Plymouth Meeting Mall. Swing two nights a week (Thursday and Saturday) for \$10—which includes refreshments. Beginners' lesson starts at 7:15; the intermediate lesson begins at 8:15. Thursday night, the dance party starts at 8:45 and goes until 10:45 and Saturday, dancing goes a little later and for an extra half hour—from 9-11:30. For directions, call (610) 558-4556.

Why wait until the end of the week when sole-stomping swing carries on Tuesday nights? The Allentown Swing Dance Society holds their swing sensations in the Starlite Ballroom at the Fearless Fire Company in Allentown. Members pay \$5 to dance from 8:30-10:30. To fine tune skills, intermediate lessons begin at 7:45. For beginners, the lesson starts at 7:00. Students under 21 with I.D. pay a \$5 entrance fee. The non-member fee is \$6, but membership signups are available at the door.

For fun on a Wednesday night, swing at North Penn Elks in Colmar (on Trewigstown Road off Route 309). The DJ there plays east and west coast swing, the lesson starts at 7:00 and open dancing begins at 8:30 and goes until 11. Admission is \$7.

In the summer months of July and August, swing at the Big Band concert series on Penns Landing every Thursday night. Updates on details can be found at [www.phillydance.com](http://www.phillydance.com). To find more swing and other dance venues, [www.phillydance.com](http://www.phillydance.com) has a list of popular dance sites in the area.

Behind, under, over, around, twist and dip, the pretzel soon becomes Kelly and Greg's favorite move. Promising to meet next Tuesday night, the couple slides off the floor, smiling at their newfound thrill in swing.

entered when a worker at a wholesale food market, where he was delivering cabbage, asked him to compete. "I had never competed; I didn't know the first thing about it." The contest, held at the Easton YMCA, was the first of many victories for him.

In 2000, the man leasing Dr. Amoré's land passed away. Since then, his responsibilities have waxed agrarian. Currently, he is operating Amoré Vineyards and Winery. Having sold his first bottles in 2003, Dr. Amoré is running the winery out of a converted barn. He recalls the inspiration he derived from seeing the cluttered barn transformed into a workable space. This summer, he joined the Lehigh Valley Wine Trail.

At home, Dr. Amoré is supported by his wife and 11-year-old daughter. The family also owns three horses and two dogs.

Psychologist, motivator, bodybuilder, pilot, farmer, and winemaker, Dr. Amoré has left and will continue to leave his mark on DeSales University, the Lehigh Valley and beyond. One can only be inspired, as his passions bear fruit in so many areas.

## SPREADING GOOD WILL

by Chris Boyer

The DeSales University Fine Arts Department annually chooses a group of talented performers to include in two touring groups, the Shakespeare Touring Company and the DeSales Dance Company, which visit and perform for area secondary and high schools. Among their main objectives, students involved with the touring groups often desire to educate teenagers about the arts, and to expose them to dance and theater.

The Shakespeare Touring Company has been working for ten years to educate school-aged students across the Lehigh Valley and in North Philadelphia in Shakespeare, which could be considered a rather daunting task. The company also wants to make Shakespeare not seem like an inaccessible subject.

The 2004 Shakespeare Touring Company, sponsored by Professor Steve Dennis, contains 12 talented senior theater majors, many of whom already have



The Labuda Center for the performing arts, home of Act 1 and the Pennsylvania Shakespeare Festival

experience working with the often complicated Shakespeare material from working with the Pennsylvania Shakespeare Festival, held every summer at DeSales. David Button, a senior theater major, is one of the 12. He plays the roles of *Malvolio* in *Twelfth Night* and *Silvius* in *As You Like It*. When reflecting on his experiences with the Shakespeare Company, it became apparent that this program helps students improve their personal techniques, as well as increasing their exposure and experience. Dave said "The Shakespeare Touring Company has worked as a resource in helping me to appreciate and understand Shakespeare's works more fully. The program has opened my eyes to more possibilities in my work, and I always learn something new about characterization each and every time I perform at a new location."

This year's company is exploring the worlds of politics, monarchies, and strong women in Shakespeare. The company presents specific scenes from some of

Shakespeare's greatest works, such as *Romeo and Juliet*, *Henry V*, *Henry VI A*, *Midsummer's Night Dream*, *As You Like It*, *Julius Caesar*, *Taming of the Shrew*, *Much Ado About Nothing*, and *Hamlet* to a contemporary audience. Because of

the difficulty of Shakespeare's works as a whole, the company presents scenes that are especially important, and stand out on their own and do not necessarily require a great deal of costumes, sets, and background narration for comprehension. Professor Dennis prefers almost a minimalist approach with costumes – which allows for their audiences to pay more attention to the dialogue and not the elaborate Elizabethan wardrobes.

David agrees. "Professor Dennis wants a uniform look from all of us, which requires us to wear burgundy, black, or white, (or a combination of the colors.) We wear these colors and add accessories when needed, such as rapiers (two-edged

swords) in *Romeo and Juliet* and *Henry IV*, and other items such as vests, coats, and hats in other scenes."

This year's dance company, instructed by Professor Kristen Fieseler, contains six talented dance majors interested in educating others about dance. This year's program entitled *Outside the Box*, "explores the artists, scientists, and great scholars throughout history that dared to be different," according to Prof. Fieseler who has directed the Dance Company for three years.

Courtney Andrews is a sophomore majoring in dance, and is one of the six members chosen for the dance company. According to Andrews, a tight bond is created between the dancers. "With only 5 other dancers in the company, we've all become extremely close. It's a family within the dance family. I love it. It's incredible to have a group of people that you're working with know so much about you, as a person

and as an artist, and to genuinely care about you, too. When one of us gets sick or injured, we all know, and we all keep a close eye on each other to make sure that we're

taking care of ourselves."

The company also allows each of the girls to grow as artists. "My technique has definitely improved, but more importantly, I've grown as an artist. Being involved in a show like this means that you're in 4 pieces and you have to change what you're portraying for each one, emotionally and physically. That can be quite challenging. But it's great for us to do, because that is exactly how a real company works. If there are 4 pieces being performed in an evening, you can count on being in 3, and they're all going to be differently themed."

A few weeks ago, the dance company visited St. Ann's Elementary School, and Courtney noted how much dance impacts the youngsters. "Because I wasn't performing, I got to watch the kids bopping their heads or tapping their feet to the music.

Sometimes you'd see someone point or smile or jump back in surprise. That's what we do this for, so kids that don't normally get to experience dance see what it can be and are affected by it in some way. We bring dance to them and the pieces are all about something that they can relate to. I'm in the Xtreme Sports piece, titled *And Go*, and I love it because I know that the boys in the audience can relate, and they're our toughest audience usually. They don't care about the 'pretty stuff'."

"Kristen is a wonderful mentor, and a great person to work with. I fell really privileged to have her here and to get so much from her". Others with the theater group had equal praise about their professors. It seems that these performing arts majors are not only in it for the entertainment, but, possibly more importantly, for the educational aspects of their careers.

## MUSIC REVIEWS

lennon/mccartney page/plant sonny/cher captain/tennille

## Guero brings back Beck

by Anthony Coppa

Surprisingly enough, Beck's woken up from what's probably been a really long nap for just enough time to write and record another excellent album. He seems a little more world-weary, hispanically cultured, and sick of the conventional this time around, but more than ever he's Beck. With his bumping new single "E-pro," rock and roll's number one slacker is poised to yet again take the perennially unsuspecting music world by storm.

Lyrical, Beck feels just as cynical as he did on his last album, *Sea Change*, but this time he's much less melancholy and a little more laid-back. His apocalyptic mumbo-jumbo has never been more inspired or appropriate than today, and Beck's apparent reversion into the wildly interesting sound he achieved on *Odelay!* is a refreshing twist in the latest shakerful from one of contemporary songwriting's best-mixed musical drinks.

On *Guero's* thirteen dynamic tracks, we hear Beck's most unique, inventive, artistically creative music to date. A blissful reunion with former collaborators, the Dust Brothers, seems to have given Beck even more elbow room for cleverness most notably in arrangement and rhythmic experimentation on cuts like "Broken Drum," the bang-up club-number called "Hell Yes," and the *Revolver*-era Beatlesque "Missing."

Poetically, Beck has made many a stride from the fruit roll-up antics of *Midnite Vultures*, and on *Guero* we hear a more grown-up, visually potent Beck than even the heart-broken baritone we caught a glimpse of on his transcendent, soul-bearing, *Sea Change* excursion.

While there's nothing as pure as the slide-guitar masterpiece "Loser" from *Odelay!*, and while perhaps Beck has left the awe-inspired wisdom of "Paper Tiger" behind, *Guero* is a much more cohesive, artistic body of work than any previous effort.



Beck: *Guero* © 2005 Interscope Records

From the dusty-street, tongue in cheek, busted-up couplet "here comes the vegetable man in the / vegetable van with a horn that's honking / like a mariachi band" to set off "Que onda guero?" to the forboding repetition of "two white horses in a line," that carries Beck off on his "Farewell Ride," *Guero* offers a regular smorgasbord of food for thought...or at least something extraordinary to chew on. There's nothing here, to quote Beck: "cliche wasted hate test tasted." ("Hell Yes")

*Guero* is more of a genre-explosion than anything I've heard since the Chili Pepper's *By the Way*; the whole can of imaginative songwriting out of which Beck spray-painted *Midnite Vultures* seems to have exploded in the bitter heat of his latest turn towards genius. Influences as varied as folk, new wave, 60's pop, Latin, metal, classical and electronica all bob to the surface of Beck's eclectic menagerie at one moment or another, making *Guero* an unavoidably enjoyable experience.

Far and away the most interesting album I've heard this year (*The Funeral* by Arcade Fire comes in second), *Guero* is delightful. Now that it's May and the real world looms in the distance, pick up the record, and as you pull away from the music store with the windows rolled down, get lost in the musical antics of Beck and forget about life for a minute. 1234

## The DeSales Minstrel

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## special

## section

The following are  
selections by students in Stephen Myers'  
Spring '05 EN212/312 Creative Writing class:

## Harboring Argonauts

When I was young I hung  
onto harboring Argonauts  
- old men  
wrapped in fleeting fleeces,  
searching for stories in whirlpools  
swirling at the bottoms  
of beer mugs.

I was sent  
to find my father among them;  
ghosted in his Fall and seeking  
refuge on the shores of Colchis.  
I followed  
in their Fated faces,  
ploughed and sown;  
the rocks that are thrown  
into legend, but left  
chasing Jason and  
remembering Medea.

My dear,  
the myths of men are immortalized  
on tongues of remorse:  
"Look what we've done,  
where we have gone."  
-Too far  
when I return to bars  
harboring Argonauts.

Michael Southerton

## ZOO

yax wander votively  
under the spreading  
rust-quilted portico.

onlookers naively mingle  
like koalas  
just inside houses  
guarded from every danger  
cages bring along.

Anthony Coppa

## Orange Peels

Looking right  
there is a tray of orange peels,  
not fresh *orange* orange peels,  
but rind ripped from the fruit  
brown and crispy.  
It has been sitting there for days,  
weeks maybe.  
The light from the window magnified on the spot they lay.  
The same nurturing sun that ripened it  
now steadily drains the moisture from its hull.  
The flesh is long gone, enjoyed or not.  
The useless, texturally unpleasant, colorful bark left discarded.  
It lies in pieces for all to see,  
surely un-thought of by its previous owner.  
Now it is poked at by the child,  
scoffed at by his mother,  
stared at as if deadly by the girl with the obsessive need for clean.  
Did the one who left it know about the nosy child,  
His mother,  
or the girl with undiagnosed OCD?  
Their waste is part of another's day.  
The peel will stay until it becomes an eyesore.  
Then it can no longer linger.  
Some say that the rind has more flavor than juice,  
odd considering its fate.  
Even higher quality of the skin than the inside,  
it is still discarded.  
It becomes dry and useless,  
and left on the tray until someone disposes of it.

Sarah Stramara

## The Child In Abu Ghraib

There were playful nights  
In the Arizona desert,  
Spent tearing hind ends from fire  
flies  
Seeking mates.  
Then, sketching names on rocks  
With their essence.

Now grown-up,  
Guards at Guantanamo  
Dismantle men  
Whose last dignified actions  
Were bursts of heated flashes  
In the desert's night sky.

Joshua Lausch

## Shingles

I developed chickenpox  
on my skin long  
before my tongue  
even had the agility  
to form the "I"  
in your name,  
but only you, love,  
were able to bring  
rise to the little  
red blisters  
of my current pain.  
Count them,  
forty-five pock marks  
clustered together,  
a landscape not  
unlike Russia  
after the siege  
of Leningrad. Shingles:  
a virus laid dormant  
in my spinal chord,  
given birth at a time  
of extreme stress and  
nervous tension.  
Could it have been  
my Sunday offense,  
the unexpected upset  
I incurred by being  
dumb, as always,  
not taking the time  
to think of all  
the possible implications?  
I am sorry.

I've endured  
few pains like the one  
in my back;  
how fortunate I am  
to have a person  
whose tears remind  
me that it hurts  
to be so loving.

Nathaniel Myers

## Blur

Hindu Ganesha  
Elephant gods painted with  
Virgin Mary blues

## The Vegetarian Muppet

Cookie monster is no  
more, Now all he can munch  
Is Nicoy salad

## Ode to an empty mind

is what I call  
the longing for a break,  
an extended quiet time  
between thoughts of two women,  
having rapidly crushed one  
while maintaining complacency.  
I vaguely recall molded minutes  
laying in bed weeks before,  
Miles Davis Quintet *Workin*,  
gauging my full attention;  
Getting high now only provides  
a focus, amplified remorse –  
voices suppressing my appetite,  
despite the drugs attempting  
to do their job, as if the void exists  
everywhere but in my head,  
a surreal outer-space-like  
sense of overwhelm.  
This morning, Rachmaninov  
*Piano Concerto No. 4*  
Doesn't even do it for me anymore

Bill Press

## Blast at Anti-Syrian Stronghold Kills Three

Headline for the newspaper in 2005.  
reading further the discovery that God  
was nowhere near his people during  
this frightful time when a bomb,  
came down in the middle  
of a Christian commercial center on  
Wednesday, March 23rd.

Did He hear them calling  
to him as the flames engulfed their  
beliefs, charred them until only atheism  
remained?

Few wounded, three dead –

Maybe God was sitting in a courtroom,  
defending himself against a school board  
that refuses to allow his name brought up  
at any school function.

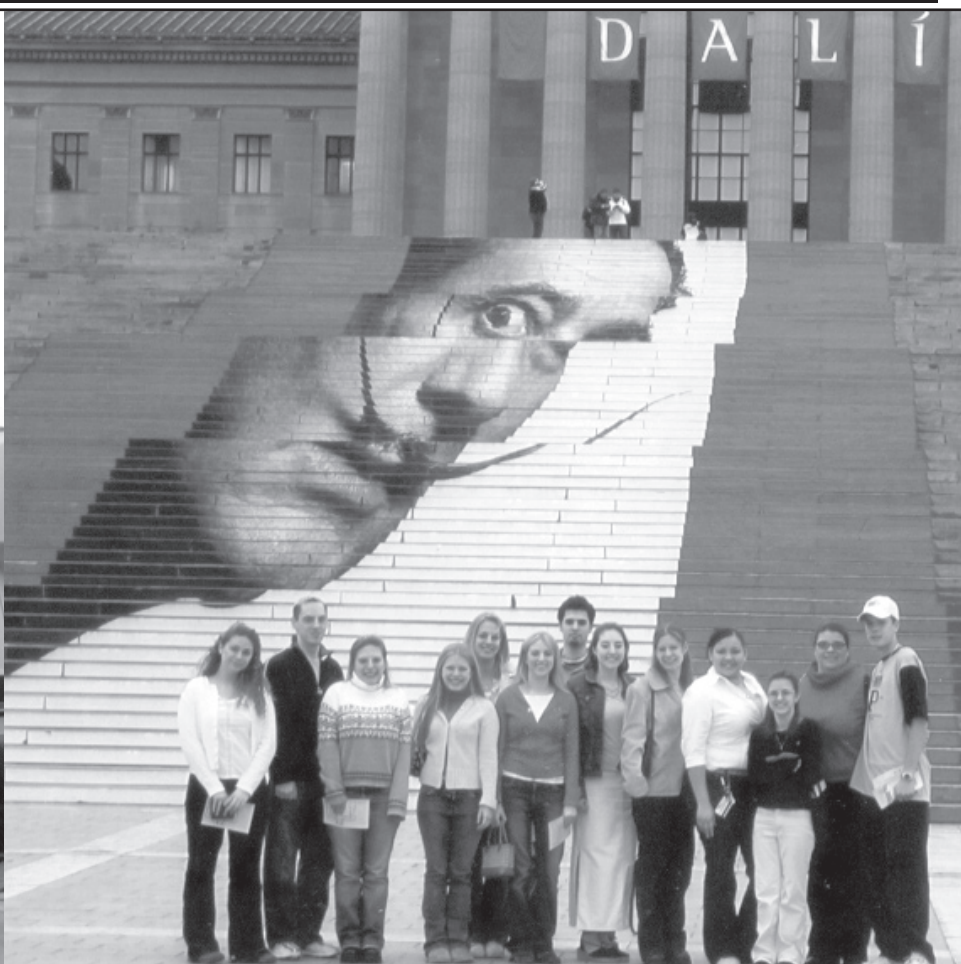
Melissa Chismar

## Youths Abandon

Epicurus lone  
Sat in Garden shambles for  
Youths' joy turned by hate

Jon Rentler

# Surrealistic Expedition



Mrs. Rampolla's Culture and Civilization of Spain Class visited the Dali exhibit at the Philadelphia Museum of Art on March 29, 2005

## Storybook tournament with a

By Chris O'Connor

It isn't always the champion who tells the best stories. Sometimes it's the ones with one shining moment but not always the last shining moment. North Carolina Coach Roy Williams spent fifteen years at Kansas, winning no national championships and has spent the last two years at North Carolina, winning one national championship. Amazing! To make matters interesting, the selection committee set up the Syracuse Bracket that would make just about everyone speculate a North Carolina-Kansas Regional Final, which would be just a small chapter in this storybook tournament. The speculation didn't last the first week. Kansas suffered a first round loss.

What a slap in the face this had to be for Kansas. They just hadn't seemed to be themselves since, as the #2 ranked team in the country, they were routed by Villanova 83-62 at the Wachovia Center on that snowy January afternoon. First, they lose to our neighbor, the Bucknell Bison, by one point in the First Round. Then, the state of Kansas (as planned before the tournament) places a buffalo on their license plates, which will remind Jayhawk fans of this loss for at least the next full year. To add more salt to the wound, Coach Williams wins the National Championship with his alma mater, not Kansas. Good storyline, but like every year's tournament, it's not the only one.

The stories that make this tournament are rarely the ones of the winning team, but more the "Cinderella" upsets and the teams with season-long storylines. Take

Bucknell, a small Pennsylvania school (in our backyard) that no one has heard of, playing Kansas, a team who each and every year is picked by several people to go far into the tournament. Certainly that had to be one shining moment for them. I had Syracuse in the Final Four, losing to UNC. It's upsets like this one, the ones that make you and your bracket look bad, that are the best ones.

Like Bucknell, Vermont had an early knockout of a legitimate contender, one of my Final Four teams and 2003 National Champion Syracuse, in a 13-seed over 4-seed overtime upset. The three-point win was the 264th and last for longtime Catamounts Coach Tom Brennan, who at age 55 cried like a baby and called it a career. That certainly has to qualify for one shining moment.

Then there's West Virginia, the last Big East team to get in and the last Big East team standing, who started the season 10-0 and finished 9-2 (lots of mediocrity in between) to salvage a 7-seed in the tournament and gain enough momentum to advance to the Elite Eight, outlasting Creighton (10), Wake Forest (2) in double overtime (the Mountaineers' one shining moment), and Texas Tech (6) before falling to Albuquerque Champion Louisville.

No one's season was crazier, however, than Villanova, a storybook season if anyone had one. The Wildcats went on a roll after their air scare leaving Providence, a near death experience for all those on board. The team was told to prepare for a water landing. They would go on to win 13 of their next 18

## champion no one can dispute

games heading into the tournament. It's funny how Illinois only had bus rides for their tournament games in Indianapolis, Chicago, and St. Louis. Villanova could only dream of such convenience. It was only fitting that this crazy season would end with 'Nova fans crying "conspiracy". What would be a lay-up and one to give Villanova the late lead was called a travel, sealing the game for the Tar Heels and leaving talks of this controversy to last for another year. The Cats can't help but think at the end of the tournament, "That coulda been us"

Then there was the Regional Finals, which will most likely be remembered for three of the four games going into overtime. Illinois used the home crowd well to overcome a 15-point deficit with just four minutes to go and use that momentum to edge Arizona 90-89 in the extra session. It was a tale of two halves between West Virginia and Louisville. It was Louisville's takeover in the second half and overtime that gave them the 93-85 win and the ticket to St. Louis to play top ranked Illinois. The Kentucky-Michigan State game seemed to be the game of the tournament. Michigan State was a not-enough-evidence-to-overtake foot on the line away from winning in regulation. CBS viewers and the referees all had a microscopic look of the shooter's toe and the three-point line, but that wasn't enough to say it was a two-point basket not three. Two overtimes later, Michigan State was the undisputed winners cutting down the nets in Austin and advancing to the Final Four to play North Carolina.

I would be remiss if I didn't acknowledge Illinois' magical season. Their sole regular season loss came at

### Men's tennis defeats Albright, 5-2

By Mike Vigil

The men's tennis team improved to a 7-2 record via a 5-2 defeat of Albright College in Freedom Conference action on Saturday, April 16th. Sophomore Ernie Justice and freshman Antony May won



Michael Almazan in action

9-8 (7-4) at No. 2 doubles, and freshmen RJ Connor and Scott Davis won at No. 3 singles, 8-6.

Individually, junior Mike Almazan was victorious at No. 1 singles 7-5, 6-4 and senior Bill Neal won at No. 2 singles, 6-1, 6-2 and improves to 7-2 on the season. Also winning individually were Justice at No. 4 singles and Davis at No. 5.

The men's tennis season continues with the Freedom Conference semifinals on Thursday, April 21 and the Freedom Conference championship on Wednesday, April 23.

the hands of the Ohio State Buckeyes in the season finale to the same coach who gave St. Joe's their first loss last year. A near perfect season (much of which was spent as the #1 ranked team in the nation), a couple of simple bus rides, and the team's motivation to play for Coach Bruce Webber's recently deceased mother, all seemed to be signs of destiny. But first, they had to play their most difficult game of the entire season.

This year's Final Four proved once again that this is a true tournament and that is something that college football should look into. The two best teams and two legitimate contenders were present in St. Louis. Convincing wins by North Carolina and Illinois set up the championship game all college basketball fans had hoped for and it was only fitting how close it would be. Four future NBA players played like it for the Tar Heels. Specifically Sean May, who had 26 points to lead North Carolina to their first National Championship since 1993 and the first ever for Roy Williams, his one shining moment.

So UNC became the undisputed 2005 National Champions and arguably the Big Ten champions as well, beating the top three teams in its conference: Wisconsin (Elite 8), Michigan State (Final Four), and Illinois (National Championship) in sequence.

### Lacrosse drops two tough games

By Mike Vigil

The DSU Lacrosse team dropped two tough games in the past week, falling 17-15 in a close battle with Centenary College, and losing 18-4 to Widener University at home, though Widener is a perennial contender for a national title and is undefeated in MAC conference play.

DSU faced Centenary on Saturday, April 16th on the road and despite the loss, had many players score. Leading the way was sophomore Andrew Stamatelos with 5 goals and 2 assists for a total of 7 points, freshman Frank Przybylski scored 3 goals and 1 assist for 4 points, and junior Chris Laveglia scored 2 goals and racked up 2 assists and freshman Jay Young also added 2 goals. Rounding out the scoring were seniors Brian Kuttler and Justin Holman and sophomore Robert Mahon, who each had 1 goal. Freshman Jim Ramsey threw in an assist and sophomore Ben Conroy impressed in the goal, making 12 saves.

On Monday, April 18th, DSU fell to Widener University at home and fell to 3-7 on the season but senior Brian Kuttler scored once and had one assist, totaling his assists to 26 on the season which ties a single-season record for DSU. Kuttler also leads the team in scoring with 19 goals and 26 assists for a total of 45 points. Each scoring one goal were freshman Jim Ramsey and juniors Dylan Beese and Chris Laveglia. Once again, sophomore Ben Conroy had 12 saves in goal.

### Men's Golf takes 14th

By Mike Vigil

On Thursday, April 14th, the golf team tied for 14th place at the Widener University Invitational. DSU posted a total team score of 364, with junior Pat Kirn leading the way. Kirn shot nine-over 80 for the par-71 course to lead the Bulldogs. Following behind were junior Sean Casey with a score of 88, sophomore Andrew Sekula who shot a 90, sophomore Mark Arnold and junior Marc Bonelli who both shot a 106.

## Track & field responds at home meet

By Mike Vigil

On Saturday, April 23rd and Sunday, April 24th, the men's and women's track teams competed at the CTC conference championships held at DeSales University. Several athletes turned in good performances as the men were led to a second-place finish overall and the women finished sixth.

On the men's side, junior Lou Corominas was named DSU athlete of the week by finishing 5th in the 200-meters in 22.51 seconds, first in the 400-meters in 49.12 seconds, and anchored the second-place 4x800-meter relay team along with freshman Frank McClatchy and seniors Mike Vidumsky and Jon DiLuzio who ran a school-record time of 8:06.1. McClatchy also finished sixth in the 800-meters (2:01.4) and Vidumsky was runner-up in the 1,500-meters at 4:07.12. DiLuzio took eighth place in the 1,500-meters (4:17.6). Sophomore Nick Reichert had a breakout meet by finishing second in the 5,000-meters (16:18.14) and fifth in the 10,000-meters (34:07.72). Freshman Jeremy Morse also had an outstanding meet by finishing eighth in the 110-meter hurdles (17.85) and fourth in the high jump with a season-best jump of 6-4. Freshman Nick Razler ran well in the 400-meter hurdles, finishing seventh in 59.99 seconds and qualifying for the MAC championships. Freshman Jason Noga and sophomore Bobby Burke went back-to-back in the 3,000-meter steeplechase run by finishing sixth and seventh respectively, 10:16.55 and 10:32.33.

In the field events, freshman Kevin Anderson took sixth in the pole vault (12-00), sophomore Gabe Gigliotti took third in the discus (141-02) and junior Joe D'Arcangelo and senior Brian Poore were

behind Gigliotti, finishing sixth and seventh with throws of 133-02 and 131-07 feet, respectively. Poore also scored eighth-place finishes in the hammer (129-01) and javelin (145-09).

In the decathlon, senior Joe Ryan took fourth, scoring 4815 points, followed by sophomore John Deas (4209) and senior Charles Seifert (3924).

"It was a much better day than we had anticipated, despite the weather. On paper, we weren't expected to finish in the top eight. To push ourselves to a second-place finish was quite impressive," noted head coach Al Weiner.

The women were led by a variety of athletes who finished in the top eight in their event. Leading the way with a first-place finish was senior Gina Lucrezi who won the 1,500-meters with a time of 4:45.22. Sophomore Desi Symons ran well in the 10,000-meter run finishing in an ECAC-qualifying time of 40:27. Freshman Laura Durso had a fourth-place finish in the 3,000-meter steeplechase with a personal-best time of 12:59.78. Taking fifth was freshman Nikki Sansone in the 400-meter hurdles (1:12.33) junior Kate McNally, fifth in the heptathlon with 2206 points, and sophomore Eileen Lavelle, fifth at 100-meters in 13.58. Finishing seventh for DSU was freshman Maggie Parlapano at 10,000-meters in 42:17 and junior Lindsay Serfecz in the heptathlon, scoring 2148 points.

Both the men and women's teams will compete next at the MAC championships held at Widener University from Thursday, May 5 through Saturday, May 7, as this will conclude the season for most of the track athletes.