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# The Collegian

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The Grove City College Newspaper



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## 'La Bete' makes the cut

By Darin Miller  
*Collegian Editor-in-Chief*

After a semester's wait, the Kennedy Center American College Theater Festival announced that the Grove City College production of playwright David Hirson's "La Bete" will be included in its January competition in Philadelphia. The competition will take place from Jan. 13 to 17, 2009.

La Bete is the story of Elomire, played by senior Pierce Babirack, a playwright who is forced to play second fiddle to a lesser writer and actor Valere, played by Doug Backer '08. But Valere's appeal to the commoners wins over Elomire's patron Prince Conti, played by Jesse Aukeman '08, and Elomire must choose between his art and his career.

The College's production of William Shakespeare's "As You Like It" was also nominated, though not selected. Three actors from the show will join the cast of La Bete as individual contestants in the competition: seniors Amanda Griswold and Chris Capitolo, who played Rosalind and Jacques respectively, and junior George Hampe, who played Orlando.

Sophomore Rebecca Sherman will compete as well after receiving an individual nomination for her performance as Lettice Doufett in playwright Peter Shaffer's "Lettice and Lovage."



Jesse Aukeman '08 as Prince Conti lectures senior Pierce Babirack as Elomire.



Josh Kitamura

Colonial Hall residents bring Christmas spirit to the apartments by decorating Christmas trees.

## Christmas comes to college campus

By Sarah Beth Gross  
*Collegian Managing Editor*

Students returned from Thanksgiving break to a campus decorated for Christmas.

"I just love Christmas decorations," freshman Dana Murrill said. "They are one of my favorite things."

Outside, decorations include: wreaths lit and festively hung on the lampposts, red and green bows hung around campus and the star atop Rockwell Hall of Science, which graces the campus with its light every evening.

Students first saw the glow of campus lights during a special star-lighting ceremony on Dec. 2. The

band gathered facing the quad to play Christmas Carols as students gathered in the bitter cold, most of them gathering around the hot chocolate table.

Dean of the chapel Dr. F. Stanley Keehlwetter recited from memory the Christmas story in the Gospel of Luke and prayed for the campus afterwards. Additionally, Sarah Wishing, daughter of Center for Visions and Values director Lee Wishing '83, read "Star in the East" by J.M. Lowrie.

With a splash of drama, the star atop Rockwell and the trees on the quad were lit at the end of her reading when she said, "a star appeared." Gasps and whispers of delight echoed through the students and community members gathered on the quad as light

See Christmas, page 5

## Winter concert is 'cool'

Audiences heard the "coolest" jazz north of Pittsburgh when the Grove City College Stage Band and Jazz Ensemble took the stage for the fifth annual winter jazz concert at 8 p.m. Dec. 5 in Ketter Auditorium of the Pew Fine Arts Center. The event was free and open to the public.

The performance showcased a number of traditional Christmas tunes, such as "O Come All Ye Faithful," "God Rest Ye Merry Gentlemen," "Jingle Bells," "Charlie Brown Christmas Suite" and "Rudolph the Red-Nosed Reindeer," as well as a variety of Big Band and jazz favorites.

In addition, the stage band performed a number of Glenn Miller-style group vocals including "Chattanooga Choo-Choo" and "Home for the Holidays." The Jazz Ensemble also capped the concert off with a number of Latin, funk and traditional swing tunes. This section of the performance featured sophomore Emily Bzdafka singing on "Chega de Saudade" and "I Got It Bad."

The concert was under the direction of Dr. Joseph Pisano '94, director of music and fine arts technology and assistant to the chairman of the music and fine arts department.

## Residents evacuated

By Kara Weaver  
*Collegian Writer*

Campus Safety received a call from one of a Resident Assistant of MAP North Hall on the night of Dec. 2.

She reported that she could see smoke in the hallway and could smell something burning.

"When our officers arrived they could smell a faint odor of something burning but did not see any smoke," said Campus Safety Director Seth VanTil.

They could not immediately determine the source of the odor, so they pulled the fire alarm to make sure that all of the residents of MAP could safely make it outside.

The fire department was contacted, and the chapel was

See MAP, page 7

## Stonebridge announces 'Fiction Family' as spring show

By Emily Smicker  
*Contributing Writer*

Fiction Family, a new band featuring Jon Foreman of Switchfoot and Sean Watkins of Nickel Creek, will be coming to Grove City Campus on Jan. 23. They will perform in Crawford Auditorium at 8 p.m.

This unlikely duo was the product of a couple of talented friends sitting down and enjoying a cup of coffee. According to [www.maplemusicrecordings.com](http://www.maplemusicrecordings.com), after a series of meetings at a San Diego coffee shop, Foreman and Watkins were inspired to combine their similar love for music and contrasting musical styles to make a fresh sound. Both singers came from two drastically different musical backgrounds; Foreman was from the modern



Andy Barron

Jon Foreman and Sean Watkins will introduce the College to their "Fiction Family" in January.

rock scene in Switchfoot, while Watkins represents the folksy bluegrass style of Nickel Creek. This combination has produced delightfully positive and catchy melodies, such as the new single

"When She's Near."

After listening to the song on Fiction Family's website, <http://fictionfamily.com>, freshman Lisa Marcellus describes it as

See Fiction, page 4

By Sean Morris  
Collegian Writer

In light of economic hardship and uncertainty, Grove City College's Center for Vision and Values is educating, informing and preparing students and public alike on economic pitfalls, strategies and smarts. In the first of six "Freedom Readers" sessions to be sponsored by the Center, alumnus Larry Reed '75 spoke on economic matters at hand.

Lee Wishing '83, administrative director of the Center, opened the evening by noting the recent closing and merging of national banks and businesses. For example, the local National City banking branch will soon be turned over to PNC Bank. Wishing commented on the falling value of the dollar.

"Fortunately," Wishing said, "you are at Grove City College [which] it has long been an oasis of sound economic teaching."

Dr. Jeffrey Herbener, chair of the department of economics, introduced Reed. Reed's accomplishments include being current head of the Mackinac Center for Public Policy, former president and founder of the Foundation for Economic Education and the author of thousands of journal articles and five books. Every attendee at the evening's session received a copy of one of Reed's books, "Striking the Root."

Reed drew attention to the fact that at the beginning of the 20th century, government at all levels

# Freedom Readers talk economics



Andy Drabic

"Freedom Readers" listen intently to a talk from Larry Reed '75.

took only 5 percent of an individual's income by way of taxes. At the turn of the 21st century, however, that percentage is well over one third of an individual's income.

Reed said, "We hear a great deal about loving one another, yet we are accomplishing goals more and more by force – not love."

Reed then shared a story of Sir Nicholas Winton who was knight-

ed for his heroic efforts during World War II in evacuating children from Czechoslovakia amidst rising threats abroad. Winton wrote letters to governments all over the world in hopes of raising

funds to transport the children at a cost of \$3,500 per child. In the end, 669 children were evacuated by railroad before war broke out, and, when descendants are factored into the equation, over 5,000 people were saved by Winton's efforts. Reed said that the motivation behind this heroism lies in the power of love, not for fame or fortune. In fact, Winton didn't tell anyone what he had done for 50 years.

Reed said government is a legalized force, and America's founders believed this. Financial disaster in Detroit is a microcosm of what may happen in the nation if situations do not turn around.

Reed said that the causes worth using "force" are the protection against danger abroad and at home, the common defense and the local infrastructure. Ultimately responsible for protecting peace, government should otherwise "leave us alone."

"We are fooling ourselves," said Reed regarding government-sponsored community improvement effort, "if we think that we're being more loving by sending money first to Washington and then back to communities and trusting them (Washington bureaucrats) to do so (send money to local communities) and do it well."

Reed offered a healthy warning: "When government is big enough to give you everything you want, the government is big enough to take away everything you've got."

## Debate team celebrates success

By Darin Miller  
Collegian Editor-in-Chief

The debating society was the first student society founded at Grove City College. And while the society no longer exists, the debate team does, in a big way.

When the debate squad competed at rival Hillsdale College's tournament in October, for example, its teams placed first, third and fifth in the varsity competition and first in the novice competition. And by the final tournament of the semester, the team had won all five of its contests.

"We're having a good year," said Dr. Steven Jones, associate professor of sociology and coach of the debate program.

Good year is an understatement. The squad competes at one tournament a month, and has won sweepstakes, or overall, for every tournament they've competed at this year.

"Most of our teams are winning about 75 percent" of the time, Jones said. "We have won first place at every tournament we've been to this year, which has been nice." These wins are not only against small private colleges but against major universities and state schools such as Michigan State, Florida State University and the University of Alabama. The teams debate whoever attends the competitions they do, regardless of their school's size.

The College is a member of the National Parliamentary Debate Association, the largest debate association in the country. At each tournament, approximately 15 to 20 other schools also compete.

Parliamentary debate is unique among types of debate in that instead of debating a single resolution – the key phrase which teams defend or refute – for the whole year, students debate a different resolution each round. They learn the resolution 15 minutes before the debate and have that amount of time to prepare. Most resolutions are taken from current events or are broad philo-

See Debate, page 4

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## ODK hunts for 'treasure'

By Sarah Boyd  
*Collegian News Co-Editor*

Think back to that Christmas morning years ago when you unwrapped the toy that was at the top of your Christmas list. This Christmas, such moments of Christmas morning delight will be made possible by Grove City College students' donations to the Salvation Army's "Treasures for Children" program.

Until next Tuesday, new toys for children ages birth to 13 within a price range of \$15 to \$25 can be placed in the "Treasures for Children" box by the main Christmas tree in the Breen Student Union.

Omicron Delta Kappa, the junior and senior leadership and scholarship honorary, encourages students each year to share a toy with a child in need through "Treasures for Children." Formerly known as "Toys for Tots," the program began in 1992. Once affiliated with the Marine Corps, "Treasures for Children" now runs through the work of local bodies of the Salvation Army.

Senior Liz Bicehouse, secretary of ODK, said, "ODK is committed to serving our campus and community ... We can help to make a child's Christmas extra special by providing them a gift to open on Christmas morning."

As senior Caleb Vits, ODK

president, explained: "We participate in [the] Salvation Army's 'Treasures for Children' not because it looks good or because 'we just always have,' but because it's a tangible way to show Christ's love."

Once the toys leave the College, the Salvation Army will distribute them among local children.

Vits recognized the value of outreach to children in the nearby community.

"We often want to see ministry as being on-campus and we see missions as being across the world," he said. "What's left out is the local community ... 'Treasures for Children' helps the local children trapped in relative poverty."

Normally, the process for purchasing toys for the "Treasures for Children" program works slightly differently than it does at the College. Businesses choose to support "Treasures for Children" and display gift tags in their stores. Each tag bears the name, gender and age of a specific child. Then, as shoppers make their holiday purchases, they can choose a particular child for whom to buy a Christmas gift.

Here at the College, however, the task is simplified. Students can purchase a toy appropriate for any age or gender at any store. Then the Salvation Army will match the toy to a child in

need.

Each family that benefits from "Treasures for Children" is individually interviewed by a member of the Salvation Army, and the family's need is determined. All families involved in the program "meet minimum poverty

guidelines," according to the Salvation Army's website.

"Most of us do not know the feeling of having no presents to open on Christmas morning," Bicehouse said. "Donating a toy doesn't take much time or money, but it could completely

change a little boy or girl's Christmas morning."

As Vits said, "Getting a toy from someone, even if you don't know who they are, can be so affirming that there is someone who cares for you. That's why we do 'Treasures for Children.'"

## Newspaper recycled in new way



Aaron Yaeger

In anticipation of Dr. Erik Bardy's then-upcoming marriage, junior Mark Hottell and seniors Buddy Fickley, Jeff Oskamp and Aaron Yaeger filled Bardy's office with crumpled newspapers after classes on Nov. 19. Bardy found the papers, including Collegians, on Nov. 20. Having been creaked earlier in the semester, he was married over Thanksgiving break.

## Class project touches community

By Darin Miller  
*Collegian Editor-in-Chief*

"This is really an exciting day," said Brian Powell, Grove City College development officer, speaking to several dozen students and local non-profit representatives in the Pew Memorial Room on Dec. 5. "It is my distinct pleasure to welcome you all to the first ever Philanthropy Program Award Ceremony."

So opened the check distribution ceremony for communication studies professor Dr. Jennifer Scott's Professional Speaking and Writing class, the first of the College's three classes to receive a grant from the Campus Connects Student Philanthropy Project, which gives funds to courses that challenge students in philanthropic manners. Scott's class received funds from Cincinnati-based philanthropist Roger Grein and the Sprout Fund through the Pittsburgh 250 Community Connections initiative, which supports 100 community projects as part of Pittsburgh's 250 anniversary celebration. Several non-profit organizations received the funds as donations from the project.

The class divided into seven groups and each group chose an organization. Of these organizations, three received funds. The students selected which were given money and how much.

The three organizations selected were the Bair Foundation, a non-profit Christian foster care agency in New Wilmington, Pa.; City Rescue Mission, a homeless shel-

ter in New Castle, Pa.; and Mercer County Head Start, a preschool for impoverished families in Mercer, Pa. City Rescue Mission received \$2,000 and the others received \$1,000 each.

The Bair Foundation will use the funds to purchase supplies, while City Rescue Mission plans to purchase a new dishwasher. Head Start intends to use the money for educational supplies. Jennifer Zilla, the representative from Head Start, said that due to government budget cuts from the economic downturn, "[we] rely more and more on community funds."

Senior Bethany Lowe, although not part of the group that chose Head Start, shared about how Head Start had helped her. As a preschooler, she attended Head Start in her hometown.

"I'm truly convinced that if it wasn't for Head Start I wouldn't have gone to preschool," Lowe said. "Even through it's a small thing, [I learned] lots of moral lessons ... while I was there." Her story brought tears to Zilla's eyes.

Junior Katie McLay spoke as well. McLay said that when she started the class, she saw it as a competition, where students competed to win money for their group. Her group was not selected however. Later in the semester when a journalist from the Sprout Fund covered the group, he interviewed McLay. When she mentioned that her group was not selected he insinuated that she had lost.

"Well, we lost, but I don't think we really lost," McLay said. "No one won and no

one lost."

McLay said she had learned that "this was so much more than a competition. If this is what comes from our group 'losing' then I think I'm fine with that."

Scott addressed this later in an e-mail: "When we view our life and our work through the lens of vocation, we are called to excellence based not on competition or artificial standards of 'success' or 'perfection' but rather on being true to ourselves and to our own potential. To think vocationally means to make an appraisal of the self. We look at ourselves; we identify, accept and embrace who we are called to be. It also means to look outward, to make an appraisal of the world's needs and how we can connect with the needs of the world."

Scott said, "A true sense of vocation is rooted in the reality that there is something we must do."

While learning about philanthropy is not generally the focus of a speaking and writ-

ing class, Scott said, "The focus on philanthropy helped my students develop speaking and writing strategies that are effective with and tailored to real professionals."

Senior Kelli Trease said, "Not only did we get to see the result of our hard work and deliberation but we also got to see the appreciation from the organizations. There was a real sense of accomplishment and I feel like what I worked toward this semester has truly been a blessing to these organizations and the communities they serve."

Of the class and the program Scott said, "It's so much more than good for your GPA; this is working for the common good."

This spring, history professor Dr. Mark Graham and education professor Dr. Constance Nichols will implement the project in their courses. After that, funding is not guaranteed. Scott said, "We hope that we will receive [further] funding support to continue this exciting initiative."

## FRENCH CONNECTION



Salut!



## Students prepare to head home

**Dear Students: This is the ninth of our articles from the College's International Study Center in Nantes, France. Each week we will print another letter from the Grovers abroad.**

*Bonjour, Grove City!*

Well, our semester here in France is quickly coming to a finish and we will soon be leaving Nantes for good. We're leaving with mixed feelings as some don't want their European experience to end quite yet, but Christmas is calling us home to our families.

The students spread across the continent for Thanksgiving break for one last adventure before the final push into exams. We had students travel to Northern Ireland, England, Belgium, the Netherlands, Spain, Switzerland, Italy, Greece and a few Eastern European countries that it would probably be better not to mention.

I headed to the land of Christmas markets, bratwurst and smiling, blond, English-speaking girls: Germany. Christmas time in Germany was nothing short of magical. Their fervor for Christmas could only be rivaled by that of the United States, but in Germany it felt more authentic. Since Germany has no Thanksgiving holiday to look forward to, they start their Christmas celebrations mid-November, and they only build in



Courtesy Nickolas Rendall

#### Junior Nickolas Rendall in the Bavarian Alps.

intensity as the date nears.

I headed from Cologne to Rothenburg, to Munich, to the Bavarian Alps, in a period of time that just barely did each destination justice. The highlight of the trip for me would have to be the Bavarian Alps, as the picturesque snow-capped peaks gave even the Rockies a run for their money. Plus the Alps have castles interspersed in them every so often, so they might even

have the upper hand. I grudgingly left Germany, my only comfort being that home would offer some degree of this winter wonderland, no matter how small it was.

As students, we've had quite a transformation this semester. We've gone from wide-eyed, nervous, obviously American students who were scared to even take the tram to the city center to experienced, still

obviously American travelers that have covered the majority of the continent with relative ease. We've come to call Nantes home and I will say from personal experience that there were few things better this semester than getting off of the train after a long trip and feeling the euphoria of returning to something familiar.

I recently talked with an alumnus from the very first year of the international study center in Nantes and he gave me the best description of life here in the two houses: Grove City's own version of "the Real World." Take 16 students from a variety of majors, locations and backgrounds, put them in a house together for four months, and see what happens. The only thing we were missing was the cameras. We've had many laughs and maybe a few cries, but in the end we're flying home as one big happy family.

It will be hard to leave Nantes and the European lifestyle in general. All jokes about the French aside, they are some of the warmest people in the world. Leaving the laid back French lifestyle for the fast-paced hubbub of America will be a hard change to return to, but most students and their bank accounts will agree that quite simply, it's time to come home. Merry Christmas Grove City.

Au revoir,  
Nickolas Rendall

## Debate

from page 2

sophical questions, Jones said. Students need a wide knowledge base to debate.

In Parliamentary debate, the Government team interprets and defends the resolution. The Opposition tries to refute the Government. After numerous preliminary rounds, the judges decide on eight to 16 teams who advance to the "out rounds," or semi-final, single elimination rounds.

Jones said the team has always "broken" – sent to the out rounds – multiple teams.

The debate squad, comprised of 20 students, meets twice a week to practice and prepare for competitions. In these practice rounds the students debate each other, but at competitions Grove City College teams do not face each other.

The meetings are largely student-run. While many colleges have a full-time debate coach, Jones coaches on the side. At the College, the upper level debaters coach the lower level ones.

Occasionally the two final teams left in the competition will be Grove City College teams.



Courtesy Kelsey Winther

#### The College Debate Team has seen great success this semester.

When that happens, the College has "closed out," and the teams do not debate each other. "I want them to think as a squad more than as individual teams," Jones said.

Junior Luke Juday, squad president, and sophomore Dayne Batten his partner won the first three tournaments the College competed in this year.

Additionally, "Kelsey (Winther) is possibly the single best refutation debater I've ever seen," Jones said. Last year, Winther received the honor of top speaker at the national competition. This means that she presented herself better than all the other

debaters present.

There are four varsity teams on the squad, and Jones said he is convinced that any one of these teams "can win any competition any time."

The squad's final competition for the semester was held Dec. 5 and 6 at Loyola University in Chicago, Ill. The team again saw success, taking first for the fifth time this year.

The squad will compete at their national tournament in California in March.

"Last year we had two of the top four teams," Jones said. "Frankly I'd like to do that again."

## Fiction

from page 1

"almost having a Beatles-like vibe, with flowing vocals and similar instrumentation."

The project of Fiction Family and the creation of their upcoming self-titled album, though exciting, has been slow-paced and relaxed. Since their primary commitment is to their original bands, Switchfoot and Nickel Creek, Foreman and Watkins worked on their collaborative album when convenient for them on return trips to San Diego. Despite the spread-out process, Fiction Family's self-titled album is set to be released on Jan. 20. The Fiction Family performance will be just three days after the album's release.

Students are eager for the upcoming show. Though Fiction Family is new and unfamiliar to some, once people hear that it

consists of Jon Foreman of Switchfoot and Sean Watkins of Nickel Creek they are thrilled.

Freshman Mary Trease is looking forward to the show because of this partnership between two of her favorite bands. "I love when bands are so different because it is a collaboration on their different strengths," Trease said.

Senior Colleen Dougher summed up the view of the majority of students as she said: "Why wouldn't two amazing individual performers make one amazing show? I'm so excited to see how Sean Watkins' folksy style melds with Jonathan Foreman's deep lyrics! They both are so open to crossing genre lines that they can't go wrong!"

Tickets are \$15 for students and \$18 for general admission in advance, and \$20 at the door. They can be purchased Dec. 8 to 10 from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. and Jan. 19 to 23 in the Breen Student Union. Tickets can also be ordered online now at [www.itickets.com](http://www.itickets.com).

## Collegian awards Green Eyeshade

During the 2008-09 academic year, The Collegian initiated the Collegian Green Eyeshade Award for newspaper staffers who show exemplary work each week.

The winner for the Nov. 14 issue was senior Jessica White for her restaurant review and continual hard work for the Collegian.

## Business plans look to future

By Anne Marie Booth  
*Collegian News Co-Editor*

The word 'finals' usually brings to mind endings – the end of a course, the end of the semester and the end of the year. George Howley's entrepreneurship class in business planning has a final project that, for some students, will be anything but final.

For 10 of Howley's students, their final projects may be future contenders in the College's annual Business Plan Competition. In preparation for next spring, a group of business professionals were brought in on Nov. 18 and Dec. 2 to judge students' business plan presentations and to give the students a "real-world" perspective as to their feasibility.

"The business planning class has been a critical element in student's success in [the Business Plan] competition. It helps structure organizations and shortens the rewrite process," said Dr. James Dupree, the chair of the department of entrepreneurship.

According to seniors Emily Wisor and Sarah Sims, whose

business plan is for an organization called Ethics Elite, "[The course] takes students through the step-by-step process of starting their own company.

Students learn to conduct industry analysis, forecast financials and ultimately pitch their plan to a board of investors during the semester." Ethics Elite focuses on serving an international community.

Other plans include the expansion of an existing lawn care business, a website for college student travelers and a toothbrush manufacturing company with a commitment to serving local charities with their product line. Each plan was submitted in writing prior to the date of their presentation and was made available to a judging panel. Judges included Mike Hufnagle of First National Bank, financial planner Timothy Dean and John McKinley of Rachel's Roadhouse and a vice chair of First Western Bank Corporation.

Howley, who taught the class for the first time this semester and oversaw the presentations, also has an extensive business background. He has served as a

judge for the Business Plan Competition in previous years and has worked for companies such as US Steel, SYSCO and Boise Cascade.

Howley required his students to write weekly business memos as a part of the class; this helped students to prepare for the written portion of their final project. Students gained experience in professional writing that enhanced their business plans. The consensus among the panelists was that each written plan was very professionally done. The few questions that they raised about specific plans focused, for the most part, on financial projections. The pan-

elists aimed to determine if each plan was feasible – in other words, can it work? Will an investor profit if they put money into that plan?

The panel had other considerations as well. When Hufnagle watched each presentation, he looked at "the preparedness of the participants as far as having answers to questions that arose and the fluidity of the presentations." Perhaps just as importantly, he considered "the confidence showed by the students in making their 'plan' work."

It takes no small amount of work to construct a business plan from the ground up and no small amount of courage to pres-

ent your very first business plan to a group of professionals. While Hufnagle and the other panelists did have pointed observations of each groups' plans, he said that "overall ... the students all did an outstanding job."

Each future businessperson will take their experience and the feedback they received to prepare their plans for their second round of presentations at the annual Business Plan Competition on May 1.

The competition is open to all students. Students interested in competing should plan to attend an informational meeting on Feb. 5, 2009 in HAL 316 at 5 p.m.

### Student Business Plan Descriptions

**HB Industries:** Senior Melissa Borza and junior Rachel Henderson aim to "give you a reason to keep smiling" through the toothbrush "Refresh." Half of the profits from sales of "Refresh" will go to local charities, while the other half will be reinvested in the Pittsburgh-based company.

**WeekendWarriorTrips.com:** Seniors John Moyer, Jonathan Pombo and William Rogerson designed the travel social network and application WeekendWarriorTrips to connect college students and young professionals through a platform for sharing weekend trips and ideas.

**Ethics Elite:** Seniors Sarah Sims and Emily Wisor formed a team to launch a nonprofit company that will offer online ethics training programs for business professionals in China. All courses will be offered in Chinese with a particular emphasis on character development.

**The Boys of Summer:** This lawn care business was started by juniors Nick Mariano, Ryan Thomas and Jack Adams. Mariano started the business in the spring of 2007 and decided to draft a formal business plan during the fall of 2008.

## Christmas from page 1

appeared in the darkness.

Harbison Chapel has also been decorated for the holidays.

"It is pretty much decorated the same every year," Donna Cales said. "The two trees, wreaths on the pillars, a garland with lights in

the chancel as well as on the balcony railing with two wreaths. The windows in the chapel will have a globe with candles between the present poinsettas. The globes are not added until the Friday before the Candlelight services."

The only thing that does occasionally change is the decorations on the trees.

"There were small red bows one year, doves another, but in

recent years, it has changed to just white lights with the bow with streamers hanging down," Cales said.

Many events, including weddings, occur over the holiday season in the chapel.

"We want the chapel to be beautiful but tasteful for the season," Cales said.

The chapel takes a lot of effort to decorate every year. Beginning after chapel on the Thursday

before Thanksgiving break, maintenance and housekeeping staff assist with decorations in order to make it beautiful.

"It takes two days to fully decorate," Cales said.

Although they do not use candles in the general decorations, "pew candles with globes are added for the candlelight services throughout the chapel as well as in the balcony," Cales said. "They are lit for both services."

Not only are the chapel and quad decorated for Christmas, but the Breen Student Union and downtown Olde Town Grove City are also graced with Christmas decor.

In the Breen Student Union, a garland of Christmas stockings hang from the ceiling.

In Olde Town Grove City, trees parade throughout the shops on Broad Street and many stores have donned more extensive Christmas decorations.

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# Big men 'suit up' for charities

## Sigma Theta Chi raises money for American Cancer Society at annual Big Man on Campus

By Carl Laamanen  
*Collegian Writer*

Last Friday over 300 people gathered in the IM Room for the annual "Big Man on Campus" pageant hosted by the Sigma Theta Chi sorority. For 17 years the sorority has been putting on "Big Man" to raise money for the American Cancer Society.

Twelve contestants starred in the pageant: freshmen Adam Gernhard, Soren Kreider, Ron Templeton and David Schools; sophomores Matt McNicoll, Jarrett Shotts and Brandon Tigges; junior James Jennings; and seniors Bryan Jarrell, Brent Kerul, Bob Landsparger and Dave Salera.

The contestants went through three rounds before the judges picked six to move on to the final round. In the first round, the contestants showed off their fashion sense in the formal wear competition.

The second round was the talent competition, which was a crowd favorite and included impressive performances. There were musical numbers, stand-up comedy routines, piano playing, a swing dance and an interpretive dance.

After the talent competition, the contestants moved on to the beach wear part of the pageant. Each of the contestants tried one last time to impress the judges and to progress to the final round.

The finalists were announced after the intermission and the final round of "question and answer" began. The six finalists were Kreider, Landsparger, McNicoll, Salera, Schools and Tigges. Each of them came onto the stage, picked a question and tried to give an appropriate answer to help the judges make the final decision.

After taking everything into consideration, the judges arrived at their decision. The runners-up were Salera and Tigges, who received \$25 and \$50 respectively for placing. The winner of Big Man on Campus 2008 was Landsparger, who took home the victory and \$100. As a senior, Landsparger had participated in "Big Man" in years past but had yet to win.

The event was a success, not only for Landsparger, but also for the American Cancer Society, as close to \$3,600 was raised to help in the fight against cancer.



Sophomore Matt McNicoll and Lilian Harvey grace the stage at "Big Man on Campus."  
Andy Drabic

# Students study abroad for January term

By Darin Miller  
*Collegian Editor-in-Chief*

With Christmas break fast approaching and finals in full swing, the last things most students are thinking about are their upcoming classes next semester. Unless they are taking Intersession. And for a number of students, Intersession will look very different this year, as they study abroad for the two week J-Term. Five professors will lead three intersession trips abroad in January.

Dr. Lois Johnson, director of the Office of International Education, oversees the trips. For Intersession trips she said, about a third of the trip is a cultural experience and two-thirds is educational. "Sometimes that might mean letting go of some assignments to add that [cultural] dimension to it," Johnson said.

Johnson is co-leading one of the trips with professor Carla Ligo, part-time Spanish professor, to the American-owned Peterson School in Mexico City, Mexico. They are taking early childhood education majors to student-teach over Intersession.

"I'm doing the education component, and Carla Ligo who is a native of Mexico City is doing the cultural and language component," Johnson said.

"I personally would like the students going on this trip to ...



Students play on the playground at the Peterson School in Mexico.

learn about a different culture ... [be] open to new situations and relationships and ... obtain a more rounded education by broadening their horizons," Ligo said.

The Peterson School is English-speaking for pre-school and kindergarten, then bilingual for the remaining grades.

The students will stay in the homes of teachers from the school. Johnson said it is the first time that she knows of that the College sent student teachers south of the border.

Dr. Mark Reuber, field director of the Office of International Education and Dr. Marvin Folkertsma, chair and professor of the department of political science, will co-lead a

of the College's International Study Center.

Reuber and Folkertsma will take some two-dozen students to France with them. Over 100 students expressed interest, but most were put on a waiting list, Folkertsma said. Folkertsma hopes students will gain a "hands-on experience with the sights, sounds and context of modern civilization, with special attention to France and its contributions to the modern world." Students will also visit Paris and the D-Day beaches during the trip.

Dr. Andrew Markley '82, chair of the department of business will lead an international business course to Zhengzhou, China for a week and then to Beijing for the second week. Zhengzhou is a provincial capi-

tal located about 350 miles from Beijing. Students will stay at the SIAS International University in Zhengzhou.

"We will be looking at international business topics of course with particular application to China," Markley said. The course will discuss China's culture, exchange rates, political risks, economic environment, management and international marketing.

Since first opening its doors to outside business in 1978, "China obviously has dramatically changed in terms of an economic environment to do business in," Markley said. "30 years later it's hard to find a company that doesn't have some significant connection to China."

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## OUTSIDE THE BUBBLE...

### Illinois governor refuses to step down despite pressure

“His career in shreds, Illinois Governor Rod Blagojevich clung defiantly to power Wednesday, ignoring a call to step down from President-elect Barack Obama and a warning that Senate Democrats will not let him appoint a new senator from the state,” the Associated Press reported.

Although it is the privilege of the governor to select a replacement senator when an elected senator resigns, Blagojevich has been accused of scheming “to enrich himself by offering to sell Obama’s Senate seat for campaign cash or a lucrative job inside or outside government,” the AP reported.

“Rep. Jesse Jackson Jr. said at a news conference in Washington that he was Senate Candidate five in the government’s criminal complaint – a man Blagojevich was secretly recorded as saying might be willing to pay money to gain appointment to Obama’s vacant Senate seat. Jackson said he had been assured by prosecutors he was not a target of the investigation, and he emphatically said he had not engaged ‘whatsoever in any wrongdoing,’” the AP reported.

Many Democrats are quietly edging away from Blagojevich as his career crumbles, hoping to avoid implication in any illegal action.

If Blagojevich is convicted, or resigns on his own, then Lieutenant Governor Pat Quinn will step into office and the responsibility will fall to him to nominate a new senator.

### Recession impacts even the Santa Clauses

Although most people think of Santa Claus as a jolly man who flies around on Christmas night distributing gifts to all those who made it onto his “nice” list, the reality is sometimes as pleasant as it is plausible. For, just as reality dictates that Santa Claus cannot fly to all the houses in one night, so it also causes even the Santa Clauses of the world to be affected by a recession.

71-year-old John Hauck, a member of the Amalgamated Order of Real Bearded Santas, a self-described union for “real-bearded gentlemen dedicated to the joy of being Santa,” has always worked the holiday season in his hometown as a Santa Claus.

This year, however, he is having to commute over two hours into New York City “because, like most businesses these days, even the Santa business is struggling,” ABC reports.

In previous years, Hauck worked in his own county, but the store with which he contracted cut back on Santas from its holiday display.

“I worked four days a week, 10-hour days, full days,” he told ABC. “I counted on that money every year. It’s gone now.”

The AORBS told ABC News that Santa bookings are down 50 percent this year.

*-Compiled by Sarah Beth Gross  
Collegian Managing Editor*



Even Santa Claus must struggle sometimes.

## Musical audition occurs via Skype

The use of technology has allowed two Grove City College students studying abroad in Nantes, France, to audition for the spring musical. For the first time ever, the theater auditions were open to students who were unable to audition on campus in person for the March 2009 production of “My Fair Lady.”

The musical’s director, Professor Betsy

(Boak ’77) Craig, held electronic auditions on Nov. 17 for two students studying at the Nantes Study Center in Nantes, France. Juniors Mark Bernardo and Jordan Zimmerman auditioned at 7 p.m. in France, 1 p.m. EST.

Craig used the computer program Skype, essentially an instant messaging program with both audio and video

options, to conduct the auditions.

“They both did a reading and sang a song like everyone else,” Craig said. “I was able to ask them questions and see them on the video monitor.”

“My Fair Lady” is a popular Broadway musical about Englishman professor Henry Higgins, who undertakes the task to transform Miss Eliza Doolittle, a

Cockney flower vendor, from a tramp into a lady. Craig held auditions in November because of the short rehearsal time before the show in the spring semester.

“My Fair Lady” will take the stage at 7:30 p.m. March 11 to 14 and at a 2 p.m. matinee on March 14 in Ketter Auditorium of the Pew Fine Arts Center.

## Applications being accepted for scholarship

Samuel Robinson Scholarship

*Who is Eligible?* Junior and Senior students in full time attendance at the College who are members of the Presbyterian Church, U.S.A., recite the answers to the Westminster Shorter Catechism and write an essay on an assigned topic.

*Amount:* Up to \$1,000. Not based on need.

Those interested in applying for this scholarship may find information on-line at: [www.pcusa.org/financialaid/programs/samuelrobinson.htm](http://www.pcusa.org/financialaid/programs/samuelrobinson.htm)

The deadline for the completed work is April 1, 2009. However, the deadline to sign up for this scholarship is Feb. 20, 2009. All interested parties may contact Donna Cales at [djcales@gcc.edu](mailto:djcales@gcc.edu).

## Travel

from page 6

Markley said the course will look at not only general cultural issues “but we will also be talking about culture in the context of Chinese business.” As part of

their experience, students will visit Yutong-Volvo, the biggest bus manufacturer in Asia.

“I think it’s a great opportunity because we get to experience the issues and we get to meet with the companies and get the perspective of the issues from the front line,” Markley said.

But there’s more to the travel

Intersessions than a two-week trip to an exotic location. Each Intersession group meets up to half a dozen times before going on the trip to lecture, take quizzes and discuss readings, then meet again after the trip ends to turn in writing assignments.

“So it’s not just going and sightseeing,” Johnson said.

## Red Cross offers first aid kits as gifts, looking for volunteers

Need help with last minute shopping? The American Red Cross of Trumbull and Mercer counties can help. Visit the office at 517 W. Main Street in Sharpsville from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Available gifts include first aid kits from \$4.95 to \$28 for adults, children and pets. First Aid books for people, cats and dogs are also avail-

able. For more information, call Susan at (724)-962-9180.

The Red Cross is also looking for volunteers to answer phones, make deliveries, do computer work and help with disaster services. Those interested may call Lesley at (724) 962-9180 or stop by the Red Cross office in Sharpsville.

## MAP

from page 1

opened so that students would have a warm place to go while the building was examined.

“I was just about to fall asleep when my friend knocked on the door and told my roommates and I to get our coats on, because there was a fire. I didn’t believe her until I smelled the smoke in the hallway,” freshman North resident Molly Depew said.

“There was a lot of confusion at first, because people didn’t really know what was going on, but the RAs did a good job of explaining what was happening,” Depew said.

When the Grove City Volunteer Fire Department arrived on the scene, they began to check the area for the source of the burnt smell.

The Fire Department and Operations personnel scanned the area around the odor and used a thermal imaging camera.

Finally, they narrowed the cause to the hall’s water fountain.

After unplugging the fountain and waiting for a while, the odor completely vanished.

Once the source of the problem was revealed, students were allowed back into the building.

“I had hoped on catching up on sleep, and I had just gotten to sleep when we had to get out, but it was okay, because I got a picture with a fire truck,” freshman Becca Easterling said of the disruption.

Campus Safety did note some potential fire hazards during their inspection of the building, including large amounts of combustible decorations, decorations hung on lamps and extension cords that are run under carpets and doors.

Campus safety encourages students to exercise judgment in the quantity and nature of the decorations that they use in their rooms.

Thankfully, there was no actual fire, though precautions must be taken to avoid future incidents.

“We will gladly help to make sure we get to enjoy the season’s decorations while still keeping our students and staff safe,” VanTil said.

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## 'The End of the Semester' Collegian writer delivers poetic rendition of timeless Christmas classic

By Anne Marie Booth  
*Collegian News Editor*

*To the tune of "12 Days of Christmas"*

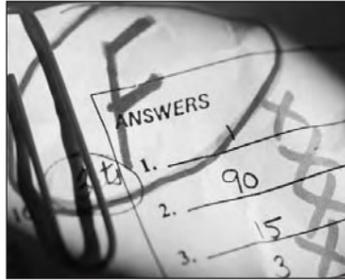
At the end of the semester  
My teacher gave to me  
A pop quiz on Chapter 23

At the end of the semester  
My teacher gave to me  
Two eight-page papers  
And a pop quiz on Chapter 23

At the end of the semester  
My teacher gave to me  
Three bad grades,  
Two eight-page papers  
And a pop quiz on Chapter 23

At the end of the semester  
My teacher gave to me  
Four lists of terms,  
Three bad grades,  
Two eight-page papers  
And a pop quiz on Chapter 23.

At the end of the semester



My teacher gave to me  
Five bio labs,  
Four lists of terms,  
Three bad grades,

Two eight-page papers  
And a pop quiz on Chapter 23.

At the end of the semester  
My teacher gave to me  
Six extra chapters,  
Five bio labs,  
Four lists of terms,  
Three bad grades,  
Two eight-page papers  
And a pop quiz on Chapter 23.

At the end of the semester  
My teacher gave to me

Seven take-home essays,  
Six extra chapters,  
Five bio labs,  
Four lists of terms,  
Three bad grades,  
Two eight-page papers  
And a pop quiz on Chapter 23.

At the end of the semester  
My teacher gave to me  
Eight presentations,  
Seven take-home essays,  
Six extra chapters,  
Five bio labs,  
Four lists of terms,  
Three bad grades,  
Two eight-page papers  
And a pop quiz on Chapter 23.

At the end of the semester  
My teacher gave to me  
Nine new assignments,  
Eight presentations,  
Seven take-home essays,  
Six extra chapters,  
Five bio labs,  
Four lists of terms,  
Three bad grades,  
Two eight-page papers  
And a pop quiz on Chapter 23.

At the end of the semester  
My teacher gave to me  
Ten means of failing,  
Nine new assignments,  
Eight presentations,  
Seven take-home essays,  
Six extra chapters,  
Five bio labs,  
Four lists of terms,  
Three bad grades,  
Two eight-page papers  
And a pop quiz on Chapter 23.

At the end of the semester  
My teacher gave to me  
John Piper readings,  
Ten means of failing,  
Nine new assignments,  
Eight presentations,  
Seven take-home essays,  
Six extra chapters,  
Five bio labs,  
Four lists of terms,  
Three bad grades,  
Two eight-page papers  
And a pop quiz on Chapter 23.

At the end of the semester  
My teacher gave to me  
Twelve days to do these  
John Piper readings,  
Ten means of failing,  
Nine new assignments,  
Eight presentations,  
Seven take-home essays,  
Six extra chapters,  
Five bio labs,  
Four lists of terms,  
Three bad grades,  
Two eight-page papers  
And a pop quiz on Chapter 23.

### Federated Insurance would like to recognize our Grove City alumni:



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Risk Consultant



**Allison Shaffer ('03)**  
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**Bart Shaffer ('03)**  
Documentation Editor



**Andy Shockey ('02)**  
Field Operations Mgr.



**Bruce Unks ('03)**  
Risk Appraiser

For more information about the career opportunities with Federated Insurance contact Jim Marshall at 412-855-6678.



## Big Men on Campus



Andy Drabic

The entire cast of characters that tried out for Big Man on Campus line up for a final group shot.



Andy Drabic

“The King” makes an appearance during junior James Jennings’ act.



Andy Drabic

Senior Bob Landsparger celebrates being named Big Man on Campus.

## Touchdown and Twirling



Megan Moughler

There was a lot of spirit and pride for both AEX and the Tri-Rhos at the interfraternity football game.



Contributed Photo

Two freshmen RAs with their girls. (L-R) Junior Kristen Hebel, freshmen Mallory Martin and Nikki Packard and junior Leslie Hardeman.



Contributed Photo

Students get into the spirit of dance at the Crimson Ball.



Adam Aljets

An AEX rush by junior Jonathan Coopersmith goes through the hole in the Rhos' defense.

## Journalists earn Naughty List status

### A mock interview with Santa Claus

By Kelli Gradel  
*Collegian Life Editor*

At the North Pole, there is an immense workshop full of elves. There are nine flying reindeer. There is a quaint house with a golden doorknocker reading "The Clauses." Inside lives a portly white-bearded man with a jolly round face and a fondness for bright red coats.

Of course, you wouldn't see any of this if you went to visit the North Pole. It is all underground.

"We used to operate above ground," admitted a jovial Santa Claus, "but with modern satellite imaging, we would have people constantly trying to see what we were up to. It was a hassle moving everything, but in the long run, it was worth it."

So Claus spends his year managing the underground workshop with the help of his wife, the elves, and Nicholas Claus, the eldest of his 47 children. Although few people are even aware that the Clauses have children, they all play an integral part in the family business, managing regional branches that facilitate Christmas list collection, naughtiness monitoring and present delivery across the world.

Claus cites poor journalistic reporting as the reason for public ignorance about his family.

"I suppose I shouldn't expect

too much," Claus said, "but even after hundreds of years, they don't always get my name right. They either confuse me with my oldest son, Nicholas, or my youngest, Kris Kringle Claus."

In fact, the media has perpetuated considerable misinformation about Santa Claus. Claus was adamant that he and his reindeer had never run over his own grandmother or anyone else's. Still, he chuckled as he recalled some common misconceptions.

"I've given up on the whole chimney thing," Claus said. "These days, most chimneys are either neglected or blocked anyway." Claus insisted that his reindeer are perfectly capable of landing on the lawn instead of the roof so that he can use the door.

Claus also noted that some incorrect popular songs had resulted in rather nasty letters from uptight parents.

"All of this 'he sees you when you're sleeping, he knows when you're awake' nonsense is ridiculous. I run a tight schedule as it is. Besides, watching small children while they sleep seems a grievous invasion of privacy," Claus said.

He added, "Naturally I run into problems with walking into peoples' houses in the middle of the night, but if they didn't want me there, they would stop asking me to bring presents."



Santa Claus checks lists twice.

Claus also receives considerable grief over his naughty list. But recently the number of complaints has been overwhelming.

"You wouldn't believe all the hate mail I've been getting from irate journalists who have been put on the naughty list," Claus said. "Apparently they thought that negligent misreporting about me wasn't grounds for removal from the nice list."

Ironically, Claus himself is not in charge of original naughty lists. Instead, Claus' extensive networks of elves monitor naughtiness and report to regional headquarters, which in turn report to Claus.

"Throughout the year, it's my job to compile various reports from all 46 regional offices into one list," Claus said. "With that

much information, it would be negligent not to proofread, so of course I check it twice."

Claus pointed out that Christmas has changed a great deal since its inception.

"Back in the day, we used to be able to make all our toys in-house: toy soldiers and wooden rocking horses and whatnot. Now kids want brand-name toys, cell phones and Xboxes," Claus said.

"So most of the elves don't make the toys anymore," Claus said. "They buy them from the manufacturer and ship them to our regional offices." Apparently most of the elves don't mind the change, since they receive extensive travel compensation.

But the real mystery of Santa Claus is how he manages to deliver presents to millions of children within a single night. Of course, Claus doesn't do all the work himself; help from his 47 children lessens the workload considerably.

"The kids each have their own sleigh and reindeer team," Claus said. "I initially tried to handle everything myself. But with the reindeer overpopulation problem, Mrs. Claus insisted on this solution."

As for the exact details of the Christmas Eve run, Claus simply shrugged with a twinkle in his eye.

"Mrs. Claus handles all the logistics," he said. "Don't ask me

how she does it. It's all magic to me."

Claus insists that the real magic is how he manages to eat all the cookies left for him. A single glass of milk and two Oreo cookies are at least 200 calories. Even if Claus visited only one million households on Christmas Eve and only half of the families left cookies, he would gain more than 28,000 pounds of body weight overnight.

"Every year, Mrs. Claus tells me I need to go on a diet before Christmas," Claus said.

Somehow, Claus manages the cookie feat. Still, when he thought about Christmas this year, he said, "Maybe I can just convince the kids to draw me a nice picture instead."



What will you leave for Santa: a glass of milk and cookies or a nice picture?

## The Bay State Bias

By Shawn McGonagle



## Sudoku

**Instructions:**  
Fill in the grid so that every row, every column and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1 through 9.

The catch is ...  
\* a number can appear only once in each row  
\* a number can appear only once in each column  
\* a number can appear only once in each 3x3 box

				6		9	3	1
			9	7	4			
5	2	9						6
			3			6	8	
	3		4		6		2	
	8	4			9			
2						4	6	3
			1	2	5			
8	9	7		4				

Courtesy of [www.sudukogame.com](http://www.sudukogame.com)

2	1	5	3	4	6	7	8	9
6	8	5	7	1	9	4	3	2
9	7	8	2	5	1	9	4	3
3	6	4	8	9	7	1	5	2
5	7	3	1	9	6	2	4	8
7	3	5	4	8	6	1	2	9
9	1	2	3	5	7	6	8	4
6	9	4	7	1	3	8	5	2
8	6	3	9	7	4	2	5	1
4	7	8	5	6	2	9	3	1

Turn upside down for solution.

## Students 'suit up' for Project Okello

By Darin Miller  
*Collegian Editor-in-Chief*

You may have noticed them: dressed to the nines in three piece suits, their hair a mess and their clothes starting to smell. No, they didn't live on the streets for a week, rather they remained in the same suit for seven days to serve a better cause – Project Okello – and grow closer through the experience.

The Suit Challenge, founded last year by current senior Dale McCarthy, requires that seven men dress in three-piece suits for a week. Period. 24/7, these students sport their suits. This year's Challenge wrapped up on Sunday.

"We were simply establishing ourselves last year and did the Challenge for the pure joy of it," McCarthy said. "Upon our return this year, many people were already familiar with the Challenge, so it just made sense to do it for a good cause. Project Okello is a very worthy cause to get behind."

As McCarthy said, "Project Okello is a group of Grove City College students who are committed to prayer and action for northern Uganda. Anyone is welcome to get involved with our activities and weekly meetings."

Each suitist was sponsored by friends and faculty per day for the week, "similar to how someone might be sponsored for each kilometer they run in a [five kilometer race]," McCarthy said. Money is still coming in, but so far the group has raised over \$400 for the cause.

There were seven suitists – seniors Seth Grissett and McCarthy; juniors James Parkin, James Oord and Ross Kucks; sophomore Taylor Mierow; and freshman Spencer Folmar. McCarthy, Kucks and Parkin were returning suitists from last year.

"We span the classes," McCarthy said.

The challenge is not easy. Difficulties include not bathing, sleeping in a suit and participating in athletics. But each of the suitists gladly faced these challenges.

"Sleeping in the Suit is perhaps one of the most enjoyable parts of the Suit Challenge, as it is both comfortable and warm – especially nice with these cold nights we've been having," Kucks said.

Grissett added, "I did wonder if my tie was going to strangle me the first night."

Grissett has an added challenge that none of the other suitists face: a girlfriend on campus. "Needless to say I feel terrible for her at some points," he said. "She stills supports me whole heartedly, and besides that I have had no qualms."

The suitists are human though, and at times feel the desire to give up.

"I am most tempted to back out when I begin to smell myself," Kucks said. "This was not a problem during last year's event, but for some reason, this year's smell [was] a little over the top. I typically have it kept under control, but not always."

Parkin said he most wanted to back out "Saturday morning during the RHO/AEX game. This goes for



Evan Moore

### The Suitists.

both years, because I [could not] put enough layers on to stay warm. The suit's breathability dramatically increases wind chill."

But the bonds of brotherhood that the suitists form keeps them from giving in to the urge to change.

"We have bonded uniquely this year through a variety of 'suitable' events," Kucks said. "Evening tea is a wonderful time of day to enjoy each other's company, a good scented tea and generally unwind."

Parkin said that going into this year's competition he wasn't sure how the group dynamic would work out, since he didn't know several of the members beforehand. "But it [was] splendid," he

said. "Between almost nightly tea and smoking time occasional bread baking sessions and constant affirmation around campus from other suitists, our bond has been growing ever stronger as each day passes."

McCarthy said that last year the group consisted of the "only guys that I could round up that were actually willing to go through with it," McCarthy said. "They ended up being a choice group of suitists."

This year was different however. "This year, we were faced with the decision of bringing in four new suitists," McCarthy said. "Plenty of guys would like to think that they would have no issue with it, but you really don't know until you've faced the Challenge head

on. This year's suitists were chosen based on friendships and recommendations."

Another interesting aspect of the Challenge is that it brings students together across the housing board. Kucks is a member of the Beta Sigma fraternity, McCarthy and Parkin are in the Alpha Epsilon Chi housing group and the remaining students are independent.

But the differences in housing did not hurt the group dynamic.

"I liken it to the Monkees back in the 60s," Oord said. "The Monkees were four guys randomly chosen by a Hollywood TV studio to create their perfect boy band for a hit TV show. None of the band members had ever met each other before, but they were placed in such an unusual, intense and very public situation that, by virtue of having to work together in their crazy situation, they became close and great friends. That's really what this Suit Challenge is like."

And for these students, giving up personal hygiene for a week is worth the experience.

Oord said, "What's one week without showers in comparison to the glory and friendships that we have achieved!" He added, "I also hope that our presence on campus encouraged people to think outside the box and to engage in a little free thinking."

McCarthy said the Challenge is a tribute to what a person can accomplish within their own resources. "If seven guys can raise over \$[400] for Africa by simply wearing suits for seven days, just think of what you can do."

## Contra Dance: Grooving like Jane Austen

By Beth Hyde  
*Contributing Writer*

Many people view the Grove City YMCA as a place for recreational sports activities. But once each month, people gather in the gym – not to shoot hoops but to dance to the music of a live band. These dances are called contra dances, which are similar to the dances shown in the popu-

lar film "Pride and Prejudice."

Grove City College students and residents from the surrounding communities have this unique opportunity to experience contra dance thanks to Ruth Anne Lachendo.

Lachendo moved to Grove City just over three years ago. Shortly after her arrival, she began the dance group in order to meet new people and teach

contra dancing.

English country dancing was popular in Europe. When it was brought to the States, it slowly morphed into contra dancing. In English country dancing, each dance is accompanied by a specific piece of music. Also, English country dancing does not allow participants to touch in the turns, though they can touch during turns in contra dancing.

Both English country dancing and contra dancing are intended to gather the community and allow attendees to socialize. Men and women traditionally switch partners after each dance and sometimes during a dance.

The constant switching of partners allows all ages to dance together. As a result, people need not feel pressured to attend a contra dance with a significant other.

Contra dancing is done in two long lines. The men line up in a long row facing the line of women. Each person dances with the man or woman directly opposite. During the dance the couples take turns progressing up or down the lines of dancers.

The music is traditionally per-

formed by live instruments, but people often dance to recorded music as well. During each piece, the caller hollers out the moves in time to the music.

The local contra dancing group has enjoyed sharing this nuanced form of dance with the community. Membership has grown to include students from the College, community members and people from neighboring towns.

College professors have joined as well. One of these is Dr. Gary Welton, professor of psychology and assistant dean for institutional development who joined along with his wife, Gaye. The Weltons have assumed leadership of the group within the last four months. In addition to serving as a facilitator, Gaye Welton fulfills the role of caller.

"The thing I enjoy most about calling is getting it right," she said. "You almost get a mental rush because you have to call it ahead early enough so that people know what's coming. There is a whole knack to it ... feeling the music."

She appreciates the sense of unity created when people per-

form the same moves.

"The people are dancing it all together," she said. "It makes you feel really great."

Gaye Welton went on to emphasize that many beginners attend the monthly dances. She said that students and adults should not be nervous to try contra dancing because there is a large community of beginners; people attend the dances to have fun.

When the group was originally formed, Lachendo did not plan to impact the campus. The contra dances, however, provide a chance for students to release the tensions of the school week.

"It gives some students ... a glimpse of heaven," sophomore Abby Marsch said.

The atmosphere at the dance makes each individual smile. "You can't go to a contra dance and stay unhappy," Marsch said.

Contra dances meet the first Saturday of every month in the YMCA from 7:30 to 10:30 p.m., and people may come and go as they please. The admission fee for students is six dollars. For more information, visit [grovecitycontradance.com](http://grovecitycontradance.com).

## In Chapel this week

Sunday, December 14  
Christmas Candlelight Services  
6:30 and 8:30 p.m.



## COMMUNITY LIVING PRIVILEGE: PART VI

## Diverse groups give back

## Nu Delta Epsilon



Courtesy David Salera

The Nu Dels work together and support each other on and off the field.

By Carl Laamanen

Collegian Writer

The Nu Delta Epsilon housing group is relaxed, laid back and likes to have fun president senior Dave Salera said. About 90 percent of the group is involved in varsity athletics, and this affects the way the Nu-Dels serve the community and help each other.

Last year the Nu Dels held a cornhole tournament which raised money for Camps Across America, an organization that brings inner-city kids to sports camps in the summer. They are also trying to organize a stand-up comedy competition

in the spring to raise money for charity. "We've been trying to expand a little bit," Salera said of the service events.

Because a majority of the Nu Dels are on the football team, Salera has seen how the group has been able to encourage each other through the training and practice. The older members of the group have also been able to help the younger members in the same major with their schoolwork, because of their previous experience in the major.

"We're a growing group; we're starting to be involved in the campus more than before," Salera said. "In the future it's going to be better than now."

## Zeta Xi Omega

By Carl Laamanen

Collegian Writer

The Zeta Xi Omega housing group, better known as the Zenoids, is "as relaxed as it gets; whatever you're into, you'd be a fit," junior Russ Greenfield, Zenoid vice president, said. Junior Dave Kuhta said the Zenoids are a group that gains their identity through their individuality, and that's what brings them together as a group.

The Zenoids have a number of events during the year to create unity within their group. These range from going white water rafting as a group to holding an event consisting of bowling, basketball and hot dog eating contests.

While the Zenoids don't hold a large scale service project, each of their

members serves individually where he is called to serve. Junior Jake Sims works at George Jr. in Grove City, juniors Jason Kish and Eddie Lee work at summer camps over the summer and Kuhta volunteers at the Grove City Medical Center.

The group has also helped at the Grove City soup kitchen and participated in Relay for Life.

"We do our own thing, we enjoy it and everything works out," Greenfield said. Both Greenfield and Kuhta agree that the group tries to keep their individuality through the group's community, and that is a major focus of the Zenoids.

Greenfield said, "We have a bonding you wouldn't have being an independent."

## Phi Omega Sigma

By Carl Laamanen

Collegian Writer

The Phi Omega Sigma housing group, better known as the "Possums," mostly comprised of groups of friends that join each year, president senior Tim Su said.

"It's kind of segregated at first, but everyone has gotten together real well," he said.

The Possums are involved on campus in many different ways. Some of their members have led ICOs, and many of them are involved in varsity sports.

In the past few years the Possums have held wiffle ball tournaments to raise money for children in Grove City who cannot afford health care. This year they are planning a Halo tourna-

ment to raise money to help fight rheumatoid arthritis, which affects an alumnus of the group who graduated last year.

Su has seen ways that the group supports each other, but what sticks out the most to him is the encouragement offered by members willing to help others with their schoolwork.

"If someone has problems with school, the other guys will step up and help him out, tutor him, whatever it takes, even if it's late at night," he said.

The Possums are a diverse group with many different majors and interests, but they are able to spend time with each other and encourage each other through the common tie of the housing group.

## Rho Rho Rho

By Carl Laamanen

Collegian Writer

The Rho Rho Rho housing group consists of "friends living together and who enjoy being together," senior Shaun Yasaki, vice president of the Rhos, said. The Rhos are very involved on campus and in the community in a number of different ways.

Every year the Rhos rake leaves in Grove City for the residents and any money that they raise from that they use to help sponsor a child. They also have a highway that they have adopted that they go and clean up during the year.

The biggest event the Rhos hold is the Extravaganza in February, a free all-campus dance, which is in its 24th annual running this year.

"The Extravaganza brings in the most students on campus of any dance," senior Pierce Babirak said. Many members

of the Rhos also serve in SGA, OB and Men's Governing Board.

Even with all of this involvement the Rhos manage to find time to help out fellow members in need. Yasaki recalled a time when one of the members had an "abrupt medical condition" one night last year and several of the Rhos got together to lift him up in prayer.

"We strive to be one of the most welcoming groups," Babirak said. The Rhos are "pretty well diversified," senior John Easlea said, and their involvement in many different things on campus shows this to be true.

*This is the sixth and final in a series on the Grove City College Community Living Privilege. Throughout this semester, Collegian writer Carl Laamanen has profiled groups on their role in the community.*



Courtesy Shaun Yasaki

Junior Tyler Mills (middle) and seniors Alex Burkhardt (left) and Pierce Babirak (right) rake leaves, donating the funds raised to sponsor a child.

## ALBUM REVIEW

# Tracy Chapman does it again

## Soul-stirring lyrics and soothing vocals highlight new album

By Jake Patton  
Contributing Writer

Tracy Chapman's album, "Our Bright Future," is nothing new. Of course it's a new album, but Chapman is up to the same tricks that made her famous in the late '80s. Complete with folk-laden melodies and affecting lyrics, "Our Bright Future" brings excitement to Chapman's established fan base, as well as enough punch to interest those who have yet to sample her music.

Made famous in 1988 with her debut album "Tracy Chapman," Chapman has been a prominent voice for liberal politics and social conscience ever since.

While no particular song may match the height of her past successes "Fast Cars" and "Give Me One Reason," the LP as a whole may be Chapman's most complete work to date.

"Our Bright Future" features 12 songs. The album begins with the slow-moving ballad "Sing For You." One of my favorite

tracks from the album, this is a chorusless tune that speaks of past romance. Chapman boasts "Knew all the words to the popular songs / With the radio on full volume / I remember there was a time / When I used to sing for you." As with many of her songs in the past, this is a light tune that induces relaxation.

The second song, "I Did It All," is a ragtime ditty that showcases the versatility of Chapman's talents. While the lyrics are typical for Chapman, the western-inspired feel makes for an interesting song.

As with many of her previous songs, Chapman reflects on experiences from her past. She sings "I did it all / I didn't ask permission / What kind of life / Is not an exhibition / Crash and burn / And then you know you're living / Some pain a few tears after / To the last line of the final chapter / I did it all."

Another highlight from this album includes the track "Save Us All." Pouring out her heart,

Chapman delivers a hopeful message in this quiet, slow song. Not afraid to sing about her deepest thoughts, the singer/songwriter pleads, "I've heard that your god's older / Buddha Allah Krishna / Manifest with many faces / Worshiped the world over in foreign places / I assume your god must love you / I know Jesus loves me / And my god is good and great and true / But if pride goeth before the fall / I hope someone's god will save us all / Save us all / And love the sinners too."

Other notable tracks include "Our Bright Future", "Conditional" and "A Theory." Each of these songs falls into the familiar theme of either religious contemplation or love that has been lost.

While the same message has been delivered by Chapman over the years, her pure and smooth vocals have been the key to her success. "Our Bright Future" is no different, bringing listeners a taste of her beautiful voice.



'Our Bright Future' is Tracy Chapman's ninth LP.

Although the critics may not rave about this album, the fans are certainly excited about it. Senior Steve Kennedy said, "I

love this CD! I recommend 'Our Bright Future' to anyone who loves to hear a beautiful voice and a powerful message!"

## FILM REVIEW

# Twilight rushed by swooning teens

## Vampire movie receives conflicting reviews

By Sarah Beth Gross  
Collegian Managing Editor

Beloved by teenage girls and flocked to by fans of all ages, "Twilight" is an overtly low-budget film that lacks realistic dialogue, polished acting and any source of intrigue or plot twists.

For anyone who has not heard about it yet, the story in "Twilight" is that a high school junior moves from Phoenix, Az., to Forks, Wa., a rainy, grey town where she finds love in a most unusual source.

Captivated by a vampire's unusual self-denying love for her, Bella Swan (Kristen Stewart) finds herself quickly entwined with the vampire community and in inescapable danger from one particularly tenacious bloodsucker.

What sounds like a possibly promising story instead stacks all the action into the last twenty minutes, leaving the rest of the movie for conversation.

The plot is slow moving and assumes its viewers have no logical thinking skills whatsoever. Most of the dialogue is teen angst, and there is an entire scene where the two main characters do nothing but stare meaningfully into each other's eyes. What is more, much of the movie is spent simply watching them watch each other!

Her love interest, Edward Cullen (Robert Pattinson), swears to protect her, saying, in one particularly melodramatic moment, "You are my life now" and promising that he wouldn't let anything hurt her.

While the sentiment may appeal to most women, coming from a 17-year-old who seriously needs acting lessons, the words cause more laughter to flutter through the theater than sighs of longing.

That is not to say sighs of longing didn't echo in the theater throughout the movie. After all, a film hardly grosses \$37.5 million on its first day without a certain amount of attractiveness – for "Twilight," his name is Edward.

Why has this character universally captured the hearts of young women?

Edward is self-sacrificing, polite, gentle and chivalrous. He absolutely adores Bella and desires to delight her heart. He protects and cares for her.

Edward throws himself in front of vans for Bella, catching her as she falls so that she doesn't even get hurt sliding to the ground.

Being able to read thoughts, Edward is offended by the foul thoughts in the minds of the men who attack Bella in one scene. He is angered to the point of distraction

that they would think of her in such a demeaning way. After racing in to save her from these ruffians – a noble scene in its own right – Edward tells Bella that she doesn't understand what they were thinking and asks her to distract him.

All three times I saw this movie, a cinema-wide sigh of delight passed through the audience. How amazing that this man cares enough about Bella, treats her with so much respect, that he cares how other people treat her.

Later in the movie, Edward invites Bella home to meet his family. A truly charming group, they are happy to see her and set about delightfully cooking in order to make her feel more comfortable. Edward politely introduces Bella to his family, all of whom are vampires and have the natural bent to eat her, yet they set aside their own desires because they value human life. In fact, later in the movie they risk their own lives in an effort to protect Bella.

This family is almost like a fairy tale – their honor and respectfulness and general merriment explain Edward's astonishingly gentlemanly behavior towards Bella. Our hearts naturally recognize a desire to serve others – the fact that the father vampire is a doctor is more than an irony, it illustrates



Edward shows Bella his special powers.

an understanding of self-sacrifice that far surpasses many of today's movie heroes.

Although the movie has no cinematic merit – nor should it be recommended for any film awards – it is undeniably loved and that in itself makes it worth another look when browsing movie possibilities this winter.

## FILM REVIEW

## Back with a vengeance

Bond finds a 'quantum of solace'  
after Vesper's death

By Darin Miller  
*Collegian Editor-in-Chief*

James Bond has always been a controversial hero: he's a womanizer and a killer who somehow manages to smile and say something witty after every ordeal; but not until Daniel Craig stepped into the role in "Casino Royale" did most fans know why.

In "Casino Royale" audiences learned where Bond started, and about his first love: Vesper Lynd, who played and betrayed him. "Quantum of Solace" chronicles Bond's largely unauthorized mission to discover who was behind Vesper's death, and settle the score. While the idea of a vengeful Bond has been toyed with before – take "Die Another Day" for instance – it was never to this extent. This is important because it shows how Bond can take everything that happens to him in the next 20 films with a smile and a witty remark. Never again will Bond be broken, since he was broken before, or nearly, in this film. "Quantum" is Bond on the edge, about to snap.

"Quantum" should not be viewed solely as a sequel to "Casino Royale" but as either an extension to the prequel that is "Casino Royale" or as a link uniting Craig's first film with all the others.

Additionally, "Quantum," more than any other Bond film, delves into Bond's character. While the film seems to be non-stop action, brutal from beginning to end, it is in this action that we see Bond's character most notably. Vesper's death hit him, hard. Now he's hitting back, with everything he is.

If it seems like Bond is flat it is because that is what he's forced himself to be. Does Bond wear armor? In "Casino Royale" he says that Vesper stripped it from him. Now with his soul naked for the world to see, Bond is what every man

would love to be under the circumstances: an unstoppable force. No iron armor now – he is made of iron himself.

The first cue that "Quantum" is a transitional work is in the opening credits. In most Bond films, silhouetted women dance sensually around the text as the movie's theme plays. In "Casino Royale," card suits fluttered across the screen, weaving in and out of a silhouetted Bond. In "Quantum," the credits begin with sand dunes, which slowly gain a sensual appearance as the wind toys with them and eventually dissipate, giving way to the figures of silhouetted women once again. Bond in transition.

Fans of the old films can take solace in the fact that classic Bond will return in the next film. This is confirmed in the final image in "Quantum" – the famous gun barrel shot from the other films.

"Quantum" begins with a car chase, one of four scenes that were filmed too close for comfort. Perhaps it's no coincidence that Jason Bourne shares the same initials, but in "Quantum," Bond has stolen many of Bourne's tricks, including his knife-fighting skills.

So has director Marc Forster, who brings the camera into the action, snipping each clip short a second later. The result: breathless, speedy fight scenes and chases on foot, in car, boat and plane.

These were probably well choreographed, but no one would be able to tell because Forster continuously shoves the camera into the action, then changes angles before eyes can adjust – particularly in the boat chase, when Bond uses his wits to destroy two pursuing boats; it is impossible to tell how he destroyed either of them because of the close shots and quick editing.

Another divergence from classic Bond is that writers Paul Haggis, Neal Purvis and

Robert Wade, all back together from "Casino Royale," resisted almost every urge to throw in comedy. Because of this, the slightest joke seemed hilarious – a necessary break to ease tensions.

All Bond films have a basic plotline. "Casino Royale" diverged from this, as did "Quantum." But in "Quantum," the plotline serves solely to build Bond's character. There was hardly even a twist – in the beginning we believe that either oil or diamonds are at stake when really it is drinking water.

The environmental politics seemed a bit much, but Bond has traditionally dealt with whatever captured headlines at the time: tense relations between England and the Soviet Union, North and South Korea, the space race.

The writers should have focused more on the character of Mathis, played by Giancarlo Giannini. Back from "Casino Royale," Mathis not only sets Bond on the right trail to find out what Dominic Greene (Mathieu Amalric), the film's villain, is up to, but also puts him on the path to finding solace after Vesper's betrayal and death. The character seemed contrived, with one purpose: a short, breathless monologue as he makes his exit.

Where Forster's vision shone was in the post-production editing. Alicia Keyes and Jack White collaborated on the first ever duet for the film's theme song "Another Way to Die" – gone, apparently, are the days when Bond songs were titled after the film itself – and throughout the film, the musical styles from each location, be it Europe or South America, are woven together with the film's theme and the Bond series theme in a very beautiful way.

From Bolivian brass to Austrian orchestra, all are intricately incorporated together in the soundtrack. There was also a beautiful scene featuring the Italian opera



**Bond (Daniel Craig) rushes to stop villain Dominic Greene from completing a shady trade deal with a South American dictator.**

"Tosca," and Bond wreaking more havoc.

Other highlights in the film included a not-so-subtle nod to "Goldfinger," which served to give Bond his one lover for the film and also to wake him to the fact that holding his grudge was killing everyone around him. By the end of the film, Bond has lost more friends than probably any other Bond film in the franchise.

So amidst this death and destruction in his reckless pursuit of vengeance, what keeps him from going over the edge? His friends try to help him. But the sympathizing Mathis and kindred spirit Camille (Olga Kurylenko) – also out for vengeance – can only do so much. Camille tells Bond, "I wish I could set you free."

Can anyone really set him free? While Bond has transitioned, seen in the way he deals with Greene compared to earlier victims, it isn't over. Even after he finally finishes his mission to avenge Vesper, he isn't fully healed.

But what would drive many mad has not destroyed Bond.

At the end of it all, M tells Bond, "I'm glad you're back," to which he replies, "I never left." Then he smiles.

Remember that smile, because he wears it in the rest of the franchise. It is also our cue that what he's gone through has only made him stronger, and awakened him. He may never trust as fully again, but you can be sure that he's found reason enough to go on, which is why Bond fans can take solace in "Quantum."



**James Bond (Daniel Craig) and bond girl Strawberry Fields (Gemma Arterton) attend a event hosted by Dominic Greene.**

## Things to Do

Finals week is the perfect time for studying hard and slacking harder. We at the entertainment section understand this thirst to break the monotony of on-campus life at finals time and have a few suggestions to lighten up this coming week.

Go to [www.whitepages.com](http://www.whitepages.com) and type in a first or last name that you would have found hilarious as a six-year-old. Then type in a random state, city or zip code. Press enter and appreciate the fact that there are still people who refuse to legally change their names.

Head on down to the **Coffee Grove** on Broad Street for delicious desserts and sandwiches and a dose of much-needed caffeine. The Coffee Grove is a great atmosphere for relaxing, but it's also a decent place for studying and you're more likely to get a table there than in the Breen Student Union.

Exercise your brain (like you aren't already doing so) and try your hand at online **crossword puzzles** or **Sudoku**. Papers like the Seattle Times and Daily Telegraph offer free puzzling fun.

When you're feeling the need to escape campus and satiate a burning hunger for appetizers, why not go to **Rachel's Roadhouse** for their delicious \$0.25 wings? Indulge yourself on hot or sweet bourbon wings, Monday through Thursday from 9 p.m. until the kitchen closes. Go online to [www.springfields.com](http://www.springfields.com) for directions and hours.

The **Guthrie Theater** will finally be playing mature-aged films beginning tonight at 7 and 9:30 p.m. with showings of the new end-of-the-world epic "The Day the Earth Stood Still," starring Keanu Reeves and Jennifer Connelly. The film will run through Dec. 18. But, never a venue to forget the little ones, the Guthrie will also be running special matinee showings of "Madagascar: Escape 2 Africa" on Saturday and Sunday at 2 and 4:15 p.m.

- Compiled by Kelsey Keating  
and Anna Brinkman  
Entertainment Editors

## BOOK REVIEWS

# 'Tis the season

## Staffers share their favorite Christmas books

Every family has their own set of traditions, many of which occur around the holidays. And what's more traditional and holiday-ish than curling up with a good book and a mug of hot cocoa? The Collegian editors were all asked to share their childhood nostalgia by writing about their favorite Christmas book. Here are their picks.

### "The Christmas Miracle of Jonathon Toomey" by Susan Wojciechowski (1995)

Each Christmas, I love to read this story of a talented woodcarver, Jonathon Toomey, whose gruffness earns him the name "Mr. Gloomy." A friendly widow and her son commission the woodcarver to make a nativity set in time for Christmas. As Jonathon carves each figure, he slowly responds to the kindness of the widow. Only after releasing the pain that prompted his hardness can Jonathon finish the manger scene and find joy. The author uses repetition and well-developed characters to create her powerful story. In addition to the message of restoration, I enjoy the book's richly detailed pictures.

*Life Editor Arielle Bateman*

### "The Tale of Three Trees: A Traditional Folktale" by Angela Elwell Hunt and Tim Jonke (1989)

This story is about three trees on a hill who dream of what they'll become when they grow up. The first wants to be a treasure chest, the second wants to be a sailing ship, and the third doesn't want to leave the hill at all – he just wants people to look up at him and think of God. The lumberjacks have other plans. The first tree was made into a manger – which held the greatest Treasure of all on Christmas night. The second was made into a fishing boat – where a Man rode Who calmed the sea. And the third was cut into strong beams that were shaped into a cross, and people looked up and saw the Son of God. I love the rich illustrations and the immensely powerful message of this story.

*E! Editor Anna Brinkman*

### For children: "The Most Precious Gift: A Story of the Nativity" by Marty Crisp and Floyd Cooper (2006)

A boy and his dog pay a visit to the infant Christ. From this simple story comes a tale of love and self-sacrifice highlighted by wonderful illustrations that open the nativity story to all who come to the stable.

When the children have gone to bed: "Holidays on Ice" by David Sedaris (1997)

This short collection of essays includes the Santaland Diaries that is the basis for a one-man play often performed this time of year. At times irreverent and yet thoughtful, these essays are meant to be read aloud with friends.

*News Editor Anne Marie Booth*

### "A Christmas Carol" by Charles Dickens (1843)

Most of us are familiar with versions of Charles Dickens' "A Christmas Carol" made for the silver screen; even the Muppets present their own spin on this classic. But this Christmas, consider curling up by the Christmas tree with a cup of tea and the original short novel form of the timeless tale. Dickens transports his readers on a midnight journey of redemption, as three spirits reveal to Ebenezer Scrooge the vanity of his ways. Scenes come alive in a fresh and charming

way through Dickens' lively prose and memorable characters. Most of all, reading this tale reminds us that the Scrooges in us all receive a second birth through the One whose birth we celebrate at Christmas.

*News Editor Sarah Boyd*

### "The Polar Express" by Chris Van Allsburg (1985)

I have loved trains ever since I was little, and this is one of the first books I remember from when I was young. It involves all the great things about the Christmas season – snow, Santa, and hot chocolate, to name a few. It is a great book for kids and adults alike! I recently found it in my room, and I just may read it again on Christmas day.

*Photo Editor Andy Drabic*

### "Why the Chimes Rang" by Raymond MacDonald Alden (1994)

This short story tells of a magnificent church with bells so sweet that they are said to be rung by angels, but the bells only sound when a magnificent offering is given to the Christ-child. People come from miles around, offering gold and other riches, but the bells finally ring when a poor boy from the village places his last silver coin on the altar. I love this story because I think we, like the people in the story, are often too caught up in the glory and wonder of Christmas. We all want to hear the music without realizing that it is sometimes the smallest gifts and the sincerest humility that make the difference.

*Life Editor Kelli Gradel*

### "The Nutcracker and the Mouse King" by E.T.A. Hoffman (1816)

I remember a Christmas, when I was very little, when my cousin got a traditional nutcracker soldier. Our Christmas tree was decorated in a variety of angels, animals, cartoon characters, snowmen and other figures, and like the story "The Nutcracker," I would imagine that the ornaments would come to life and have a battle. In the story, the nutcracker ends up fighting a seven-headed mouse king to save the little girl, and while we didn't have mice in our house, there was a stuffed mouse ornament on the tree that reminded me of the story. Sometimes I would take the ornaments off and play with them on the tree, pretending that they were alive. I always liked that sort of story and hoped that they really did come to life after I went to sleep.

*Sports Editor David Janssen*

### "Santa's Twin" by Dean Koontz (1996)

What a wonderful take on typical Santa-fare! Dean Koontz spins a wonderfully evil tale about the mugging and kidnapping of our beloved fat friend by his fiendish twin brother, Bob Claus. Determined to keep Bob from ruining Christmas and turning the reindeer into stew meat, it's up to the young heroines Charlotte and Emily to journey to the North Pole and rescue Santa Claus. My memories of this twisted tale were only of unadulterated joy at the sheer quirkiness of Koontz's poetic writing and Phil Park's imaginative illustrations. "Santa's Twin" continues to warm my impish little heart.

*E! Editor Kelsey Keating*

### "How the Grinch Stole Christmas" by Dr. Seuss (1957)

After my senior year of high school I participated in a summer theater program and



### Charles Dickens' "A Christmas Carol" is an enduring Christmas classic.

played the Grinch in "Seussical the Musical." The combination of rhyme, story and invented words, all of which incorporate the Christmas spirit masterfully, touches me greatly. And it helps that it's a story which spans the ages and age groups.

*Editor-in-Chief Darin Miller*

### "The Gift of the Magi" by O. Henry (1906)

This title should be familiar to anyone who enjoys reading O. Henry. For those of you who haven't yet been introduced, "The Gift of the Magi" is a Christmas Eve short story about a young couple just getting started in a New York City flat. Della desperately wants to get Jim something special for Christmas, but all she has is \$1.87...and several feet of beautiful hair, worth \$20. Della never stops to consider whether it's wise to sacrifice her greatest treasure for one she loves. And here I must stop for fear of meddling with one of O. Henry's signature surprise endings!

*Copy Editor Corrie Schwab*

### "The Polar Express" by Chris Van Allsburg (1985)

This is the most magical story about having faith and believing what is unseen. I love the description of the warm food and drinks that are served on the train and how joyous seeing Santa was! All in all, it is just the perfect story to curl up and float away to the unseen!

*Advertising Manager Sammi Vermilya*

### "The Velveteen Rabbit" by Margery Williams (1922)

Who could not love this story about a Christmas present, forgotten initially and snubbed by the "more expensive toys" but, once needed, loved beyond measure? Williams is exceptional – she is able to tell a simple story about a stuffed animal and yet bring people to tears within the first few pages due to the resonate truth she conveys. "Once you are Real," the Skin Horse tells Velveteen Rabbit, "you can't be ugly, except to people who don't understand." For people who understand the joy of loving until it hurts, the Velveteen Rabbit is not only one of the best Christmas presents but also the best Christmas book.

*Managing Editor Sarah Beth Gross*

## The Collegian

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR must be no longer than 500 words and should be sent to Darin Miller at Box 2197 or Collegian@gcc.edu.

Letters must be received by Monday at 5 p.m. **The Collegian** reserves the right to edit or hold any letter.

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## Living in the past: The need for history education

By Kendra Doerr

*Contributing Writer*

In the book inspired by the true story of a determined teacher, "The Freedom Writers Diary," Erin Gruwell says to her class, "Raise your hand if you know what the Holocaust is." After only one hand is raised, the shock of reality hits: many American students do not know basic historical facts.

One story does not prove the deficit of history in American classrooms, yet even President George W. Bush states that today our children have gaps in their knowledge of history. Bush said, "Ignorance of American history and civics weakens our sense of citizenship. To be an American is not just a matter of blood or birth; we are bound by ideals, and our children must know those ideals."

An American citizen should know basic facts of history. As students become aware of history, they gain an understanding for the voting process and knowledge to participate in governmental affairs. A core education in history is needed, yet it is not included in every classroom across America. Schools, instead, spend too much time testing students with standardized tests to implement history into the everyday classroom.

The Pennsylvania System of School Assessment plays a prominent role in what is taught in classrooms across the state. Math, reading and science are currently tested through the PSSA, but not history. The implementation of the PSSA creates tension because teachers want to ensure that students pass these exams.

There is a push for students to achieve high scores on standardized tests because there are consequences schools must endure

for not meeting the national requirements of the No Child Left Behind Act, a federal law implemented in 2002. NCLB requires each state to strengthen efforts for the improvement of academic achievement.

Some principals and administrators actually have eliminated history from the curriculum in attempt to raise test scores. A California elementary school teacher had to form her own after-school U.S. history club in order to teach U.S. history because the principal said it was an "extra" subject and not as critical as reading class.

According to E.D. Hirsch, the use of history can improve standardized test scores in reading. In his book, "The Knowledge Deficit," Hirsch proves general background knowledge is needed for students to become successful readers. Students come from a variety of backgrounds, yet the history of a country remains the same. History, therefore, provides a common, shared knowledge for students to build upon.

A good education goes beyond reading, math and science. A balance between standardized testing and the ability to teach all subjects is needed. Yes, reading and math tests should continue. But teachers must integrate history into their curriculum whenever possible, whether by scheduling a specific block of time for history or by simply shutting the classroom door and ignoring mandates when told not to teach it.

Now is the time to stop encouraging ignorance and to start encouraging history in the everyday classroom no matter which subjects are tested on standardized tests. By doing this, every student will respond confidently when the teacher says, "Raise your hand if you know what the Holocaust is."

## No Child Left Behind leaves children out

By Meredith Bolling

*Contributing Writer*

40 percent of students graduating with a teaching degree never even enter the field. Of those who do, 33 percent quit within the first few years. Why would so many students spend hundreds of thousands of dollars, four years of hard work and the time and energy of jumping through all the hoops of teacher certification or only to decide not to teach? As a third-year education major, I am beginning to understand.

Today's public education system may seek intelligence, creativity and passion on paper applications, but in practice, it is more concerned with obedience. Like compliant cogs, teachers are expected to slip passively into the well-oiled bureaucracy of No Child Left Behind "programs" and turn quietly in the gears regardless of the efficacy of the teaching strategies that the programs impose.

Programs, no matter how differentiated and effective they claim to be, cannot replace intelligent, gifted teachers who know the educational needs of each individual student and have experience in how to meet those needs effectively. I recently talked to a veteran teacher of 32 years in a public elementary school labeled a "Reading First" school due to low scores on the standardized reading exam.

"When the Reading First program officials came in, they told us that everyone must do x, y and z, and if you don't like it, leave," the teacher said. The Reading First officials tried to implement reading education by timed stations. Right away she saw several key pieces missing from the program. The stations, even when well orchestrated, were difficult to differentiate. They were also deficient in building the comprehension, higher level thinking and quality writing that should accompany reading. She decided,

with hesitant permission from her principal, to buck the system and use the reading and writing workshop approach that had effectively taught students in her class to read, comprehend and write well for 30 years. The result? Not only did more of her students reach "benchmark" on Reading First tests than any of the other classes, but her students' comprehension, fluency and quality of written response were so impressive that Reading First officials agreed to allow her to continue her practice. They insisted, however, on applying the term "learning stations" to her teaching strategy in an attempt to cover the obvious fact that there are alternative methods of teaching reading and comprehension more effective than those the Reading First rules dictate.

This teacher won a small victory for the 20 students in her class. It is a different story, however, for new teachers who do not have enough seniority or tenure to choose a better option than the mandated program. Tragically, most teachers are pressured into giving up effective practices for the less effective methods of wholesale education programs.

Within the next few years, the veteran teacher informed me, NCLB improvement programs – such as Reading First – will take an even more outrageous step toward teacher-proofing the curriculum by literally scripting each lesson. "I am planning on being retired before then," the teacher said. "I'm certain if I was reduced to performing scripted lessons something inside me would die."

In ages past, teachers garnered respect as intellectual authorities. Today, they are indoctrinated and controlled by the educational bureaucracy as mere pawns and puppets. Tired of dutifully following the faulty advice of prescribed programs, some of the best and brightest are leaving the teaching field.

### LETTER TO THE EDITORS

## The Gospel abounds through grace

Dear Editors,

With the end of this semester, freshmen have had a taste of life here at Grove City College, and the seniors among us can see the end approaching rapidly. I want to pass on a part of the College's recent history, especially to the underclassmen.

In September of 2005, when I was a freshman myself, a memorial service for a student from the class of 2007 was held in Harbison Chapel. I did not know Lauren Castanza, who died in a hiking accident, but I went to hear about this young woman who had impacted our campus dramatically.

Lauren loved God. She hosted prayer gatherings for this College in love. She shared her concern that this was a well-situated but barren community. At the memorial service, a student read the passage she had cited as representing the College – II Kings 2:19: "Then the men of the city said to Elisha, 'Behold now, the situation of this city is pleasant, as my Lord sees; but the

water is bad and the land is unfruitful'" (NASB).

We have wonderful resources, but unless our water is from God, we are hopeless, sucking from broken cisterns (Jer. 2:11-13). A senior at Lauren's memorial service encouraged those present to regularly pray for our College. I have been a weak intercessor, I confess (I Sam. 12:24), but I along with others have prayed that we members of this College would grow closer to God.

You have probably realized, upon coming to the College or since arriving, how you and the others around you are far from what we may like to claim to be. Yes, there are many true Christians here, but even if they are "nice" people or try to break that hypocritical stereotype, we all reject God in motive or action myriad times every day.

Ironically, this is the first part of the best education we can receive: to comprehend our need for a mediator and propitiation for us, and to see that in Jesus Christ alone we have this. When we

fall upon His grace, we find our identity is changed – He lives in us and we are His (Gal. 2:20; Rom. 8:9; Rev. 5:9-10). From there, we can truly fulfill the purpose of an education, that is, to joyfully share God's glory by worshipping Him in more and more of the facets of our lives, in and out of class.

Remember that people are praying for you. Remember this college in your prayers. And remember that we all fail and must depend on God's gospel, not any gospel we fabricate. Please keep this in mind, whatever you do over break. Remember that, best of all the intercessors, Jesus Christ and the Holy Spirit pray for God's children constantly (Heb. 7:25; Rom. 8:23-27). Be encouraged. Pursue God in Christ above and through everything else. Receive the beautiful Gospel which applies to all of life on and off this campus – for this is the ultimate education.

Sincerely,  
 Senior Josiah Momose

## WOMEN'S SWIMMING AND DIVING

# Lady Wolverines cause upset Team out-swims Washington and Jefferson by 7.5 points

By Andrew Parry  
*Collegian Writer*

The Lady Wolverines swim team pulled off the impossible last weekend. The team beat the Washington and Jefferson Presidents – Longnecker Invitational and Presidents' Athletic Conference champions – by a score of 1,102.5 to 1,095. This was one of the girls' biggest wins in recent team history.

The meet came down to the final relay in which the girls needed to perform well. The

Lady Wolverines ended up placing first and third in the event, leading to the eventual win over Washington and Jefferson.

The relay began with freshman Kate Wilt swimming a 55.45, then handing it off to freshman Emily Kramer who split a 55.62. Third was freshman Jenna Richert who split a 53.63. Finally, anchor sophomore Sarah Page split a 53.92, securing the victory for Grove City. The relay team's final time was 3:38.62.

Many swimmers put up

incredible season bests in multiple events. Page was a standout at the meet. She posted two wins with the 100 freestyle at 53.33, and the 100 butterfly with a 59.99, breaking the minute barrier. She was also the anchor to several of the winning relays.

Wilt captured two wins: the 200 freestyle with a time of 1:59.52; and the 200 breaststroke with a time of 2:30.64. Wilt also posted a second place finish in the 500 freestyle behind fellow Lady Wolverine Richert, who had a time of

5:15.99.

Richert was another success at the meet. She posted a win in the mile (1650 freestyle) with a time of 18:13.74. Richert also won the 500 freestyle in stunning fashion with a time of 5:14.51. Finally, she dominated the 200 Butterfly with a winning time of 2:12.79.

Other strong performances included junior Amanda Thompson who took second place in the 100 (1:02.02) and 200 (2:11.34) backstrokes, as well as the 400 (4:45.93) Individual Medley. Freshman

diver Bethany Johnson took seconds in both the one-meter and three-meter diving events. Other runners up included sophomore Sarah Bargery in the 100 breaststroke and senior Rebecca Smiddy in the mile.

The win against Washington and Jefferson made a statement in the PAC. The incredible young talent mixed with strong senior leadership is propelling them to the top. The team hopes to continue on the path of success and has set its eyes on the Presidents' Athletic Conference Championship.

## MEN'S SWIMMING AND DIVING

# Team takes another win

By Andrew Parry  
*Collegian Writer*

Total annihilation is the only way to describe the men's swimming and diving team's performance this weekend, placing first among seven teams and amassing a total of 1,601 team points. The Longnecker Invitational on Dec. 5 and 6 included three sessions that started off with a bang.

Right at the start, a team comprising of freshman Kirk Gagliardo and seniors Drew Snyder, Tim Whitbeck and Caleb Courage got the team fired up in the 200 freestyle relay.

Snyder was the first leg of the relay and led off with a 21.47, one of his season bests. Gagliardo followed up with a season best split of 20.85. Whitbeck, a former national champion, split a 20.10, also a season best. And then Courage dove in.

At this point, every swimmer on the pool deck was yelling and screaming because the team knew the varsity record for the relay could be broken. Courage touched in at a 19.56, finishing the relay at a 2:21.98, breaking the school record by one one-hundredth of a second.

The team also shattered the pool record set back in 2006. This relay began a winning streak for the swimmers, what they call "seeing water catch fire."

Many swimmers had break-out swims at the invitational. Freshman Ben Bowser won the 200 Individual Medley with a time of 1:57.53 as well as the 400 Individual Medley with a

time of 4:17.05. In both races he touched out 2007 champion and PAC star Brandon Smith of Washington and Jefferson.

After the relay triumph, Courage swept the sprint freestyle events, winning the 50 (20.34), 100 (45.62) and 200 (1:43.72) freestyles. He was also the anchor to the 200, 400 and 800 freestyle relays.

Other winners at the meet were: senior Peter Larsen, winning the 100 butterfly in 52.31; sophomore Camden Coppelli, capturing the 100 backstroke with 53.75 and Lincoln Larsen, winning the 200 breaststroke in 2:11.93.

Grove City College won all of the relays in the meet. After the record-breaking 200 freestyle, the 400 freestyle relay including Gagliardo, Peter Larsen, Whitbeck and Courage won with a time of 3:05.57. The 800 freestyle relay with Gagliardo, freshman Nick Hamilton, sophomore Nate Nielsen and Courage won with a time of 6:57.86.

The 200 Medley Relay team of Coppelli, Lincoln Larsen, Peter Larsen and Whitbeck, won with a time of 1:34.55 – a Longnecker Invitational record. The final relay was the 400 Medley Relay with freshman Clay Beckner, Bowser, Gagliardo and Whitbeck, winning with a time of 3:34.90.

Other swimmers who performed well were: sophomore Bennett Keefer in the 100 and 200 Breaststroke; sophomore Chris Marasco in the 100 and 200 Butterfly, junior Chip Cressman in the mile (1650) and the 400 Individual Medley; and several others who posted season bests.

## CROSS COUNTRY UPDATES

# Men take ninth at regionals

By Mary Rachel Robbins  
*Contributing Writer*

On Nov. 15, the Grove City men fought through the rain and the mud on the eight kilometer course at Greene County Airport to place ninth out of 41 teams in the Mid-East Regional Championships.

Every week, Grove City cross country head coach Sean Severson gives his runners a word, a phrase or a mantra to focus on for the upcoming race, from "Dream Big" to "Become a Better Racer." For Saturday's Regional race at Waynesburg he continued the tradition by choosing a phrase that was close to the heart of each of

his athletes – "The Seniors."

During this last race of the season, the men gave their seniors the best gift they could give in return for four years of self-sacrifice: they gave their all.

Sophomore Garrett Cichowitz led the team with a 17th place finish and time of 26:01. He was closely followed by his teammate Senior Dan Spaulding, who was 22nd with a time of 26:14.

Cichowitz said, "It was a privilege for me to go out and give it my best for the team, but most importantly for God." While remembering the four seniors who helped make this program what it is today, this team did not forget to give God the glory and honor for blessing them with the gift of running.

# Women take fifth at regionals

By Tim Su  
*Collegian Writer*

For the last three years, every race hosted by Waynesburg University at the Greene County Airport has had the same conditions: rain, and lots of it. Nov. 15 was no exception. The juniors and seniors knew every detail of this course. Saturday was the fourth visit to this course in three years which included a prior race this season. Everyone had a taste of what was to come, but this time the competition was at a much higher level. With 305 top runners in the Mideast region spanning 44 teams, the Lady Wolverines had a rough road ahead.

Freshman Mary Rachel Robbins stated, "Rachel Nelson saw Julia [Seward] go down ... and pulled

her up, saving her from being trampled by some 300 girls. This act displayed Rachel's great sportsmanship and unselfish attitude as she put her teammate before herself."

Senior Kristen Carter was the first finisher for the Grove City team, taking second place overall and completing the course in a time of 22 minutes and 6 seconds.

Grove City totaled 186 points to earn fifth place for the team. Johns Hopkins took the team title with 80 points. The Grove City women finished sixth the year before.

For most of the women's team, this race marked the end of the season. However, Carter and Seward continued on to the NCAA Division III Championships.

# Three runners represent College at Nationals

By Tim Su  
*Collegian Writer*

On Nov. 22, some of the nation's best intercollegiate runners gathered at Hanover College in Indiana. The championship course was relatively flat with a few rolling hills. The temperature that afternoon was 23 degrees. Hundreds of fans lined the course to cheer on the runners.

For both the men and the women's cross country teams, this year produced spectacular runners. Both teams worked hard throughout the season, plowing through summer training, pre-season camp, and invitational races on the weekends, all of which on top of the rigorous academic workload from Grove City College.

Three runners individually qualified for the Division III National Championship meet: sophomore Garrett Cichowitz and seniors Kristen Carter and Julia Seward. This is Cichowitz's first, Carter's third and Seward's

second time qualifying.

Cichowitz was the first to run the eight kilometer men's race, completing the course in a time of 25:48 to capture 133rd place out of 278 runners.

Seward and Carter ran their six kilometer race at noon. Seward came in 38th place with a time of 21:49 and Carter came in 131st with 22:41. There were 279 runners competing in total.

As Carter looked back on her final cross country season, she said, "I have ran cross-country for eight years, and this past year was the most rewarding season I have ever had. I have never competed with a team that was as united, as focused and as selfless as this year's team. I am proud to say I ran with those girls, and I will miss them tremendously."

This race culminated the impressive season for both the men's and women's teams. For the College, both the men and women brought home the Presidents' Athletic Conference Titles in cross country.

## WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

## Team wins three in a row after slow start

After five straight losses, the Grove City women's basketball team bounced back with three wins in a row against Geneva, Westminster and Allegheny.

The team's fifth loss came against conference foe Washington & Jefferson on Dec. 1. The team played well in the first half, keeping the game within seven points. But W&J surged ahead in the second half for a win of 63-30.

The Lady Wolverines were led by freshman Megan Gebrosky, who had a career-high 13 points. Sophomore Christine Slater grabbed a team-high 10 rebounds.

With just a seven-member

team, led by captains senior Raeann Szelong and juniors Laura Miller and Krista Beechy, the Wolverines team is half the size of most.

But the losses for the small squad came to an end with three wins in a row.

In a 68-58 win against Geneva on Dec. 3, Miller fired in a career-high 18 points while Slater added 14 points and a game-high nine rebounds.

Szelong added a dozen points while Gebrosky posted 11 points and four assists.

Then on Dec. 6, the team chalked up its second win against Westminster, beating the Titans 40-36 and limiting them to just

23 percent shooting from the floor. Grove City also forced 20 turnovers.

To extend the win streak to three, the Wolverines pulled out a 54-51 victory over visiting Allegheny on Dec. 10.

Grove City broke a 49-49 tie with 48 seconds left on a three-point play from Szelong. Allegheny closed to within 52-51 but Miller sank both ends of a one-and-one with four seconds left to extend the lead back to three. A desperation heave at the buzzer by Allegheny fell well short.

A major obstacle the players will have to overcome is growing fatigue throughout the season.

Against W&J, for instance, each team member played for about 15 minutes, and four women played more than 30 minutes.

"We need to figure out how to put 40 minutes of play together without letting up," Beechy said. She added that they are not at this point yet, but she expressed optimism.

"We all understand our roles on the team and how hard we have to work in order to be successful," Beechy said.

This year the team features a two-guard, three-forward lineup. The team has no center but uses this to its advantage. Against W&J, Grove City pushed the ball up the floor quickly to capitalize

on its athleticism. The team's offensive strategy, under the leadership of coach Sarah Harris, will key on the fast break to create changes for layups and uncontested shots.

On defense, the team will also try to utilize its quickness and athleticism. Beechy said that the team will strive to play tough defense until the shot goes up or the team forces a turnover.

The Lady Wolverines have many goals this year, both on and off the court. On the court, the team hopes to get a .500 winning percentage and always give absolute effort.

(David Larson contributed to this story.)

## INTRAMURAL FOOTBALL

AEX defeats Tri-Rhos  
in annual match up

By David Janssen  
Collegian Sports Editor

Saturday morning felt cold. Really cold. Despite temperatures below 20 degrees, more than 100 people arrived at 10 a.m. to cheer for the brothers of AEX and Rho Rho Rho as they competed in their annual tackle football game.

The AEX/Rho football game tradition began in the late '90s. Members of both groups spend two months before the game practicing and preparing. A lot of time and hard work goes into the game.

Before game play began, junior Beth Bieber and AEX senior Caleb Vits led the attendees in the national anthem; Bieber sang and Vits accompanied on saxophone. Rivalries were put aside as senior Josh Skipper of AEX and senior Pierce Babirak of the Tri-Rhos took turns leading the group in prayer.

Once the teams took their places on the frozen tundra, the struggle began. At times, the game seemed to blur the lines between rugby and football. Both teams fought to get the ball down the field, but little happened until late in the first half.

Senior Chris Martin, AEX president, said, "The 2008 matchup was a very defense-oriented game; both the AEX and Rho defenses made scoring difficult."

With less than a minute to go in the half, AEX quarterback junior Jonathan Coopersmith maintained the ball and rushed for a touchdown. Martin said that the Rho defense prevented an AEX conversion, so the score remained 6-0.

Despite consecutive attempts toward the end of the game to complete a passing drive, the Rho players failed to score.

Senior Dan Huber, Rho team captain, said, "The bitter cold really had an effect, with our receivers not being about to catch the ball when we needed it most at the end of the game. It took a toll on everyone, because every time you hit the ground, it was like hitting a concrete wall."

Though no scoring took place in the



Adam Aljets

## Cold temperatures cannot keep the Tri-Rhos or AEX off the field.

second half, one exciting moment occurred when AEX safety junior Jordan Roberts intercepted the ball, running it back 30 yards in the last seconds of the game.

Reflecting on the game, AEX team captain senior Josh Skipper said, "I consider it an immense achievement to have beaten the Rhos, and not by much, mind you. They played a skillful game, and I sincerely applaud their upright sportsmanship, which was encouraging for my brothers and I to observe."

Skipper also said that "what makes this game so significantly intense is the fact that we have one chance to demonstrate two grueling months' worth of practices, not to mention the excitement of the many cheering alumni who make the journey back to witness the great legacy they have passed on."

After the game, Skipper and the men of AEX reclaimed the dinner tray that has served as the official trophy since 2002. The men of Rho Rho Rho won last year's game.

## MEN'S BASKETBALL

Team uses defense  
for success

By David Larson  
Contributing Writer

The Grove City men's basketball team won its conference opener 58-44 over Washington and Jefferson on Dec. 1 at the Grove City Arena. Grove City controlled the tempo of the game with stifling defense and a balanced offensive attack.

The Wolverines were led by senior Ryan Gibson who had team highs of 16 points and six rebounds. Senior guard Joe McCoy added 11 points, and junior Andy O'Keefe scored nine points. Grove City improves its standings to 5-1 overall and 2-0 in the conference. While the Wolverines accomplished a successful start, they hope to achieve even more in the future.

"The team goal for the season is to win the PAC championship," O'Keefe said. If Grove City wins the post-season PAC tournament, they will clinch a spot in the NCAA Division III Tournament.

This task, however, will not be easily accomplished. O'Keefe noted that the team's success requires passion and focus from every player.

This season, Grove City plans its success on the defensive end. The team takes pride in holding opponents to a low shooting percentage. In its three wins this season, Grove City has held its opponents to 40 percent shooting or less from the field.

Head coach Steve Lamie refuses to allow the Wolverine defense to become complacent. In practice, the players continue to work on their defense under Lamie's instruction. One drill the team frequently performs is called the shell drill, which helps the defensive players learn to quickly adjust to the offense's passes.

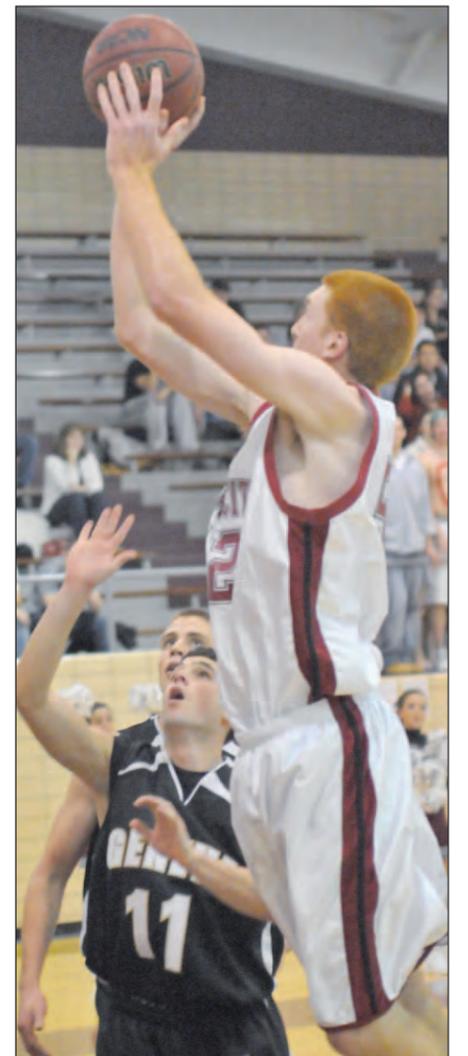
The shell drill also enforces the trust and communication necessary among team members. O'Keefe said that recently, the team's communication has become one of its strengths.

On the offensive end, the players hope to become more aware of one another's tendencies. As the season continues, the team will integrate more complex offen-

sive schemes and will look to utilize its advantages.

The team is hoping to push the ball up the floor quickly after missed baskets to demonstrate its athleticism. While the team lacks size, their big men are athletic and O'Keefe said the team should be able to exploit this advantage.

The team also pulled off two wins in overtime during the past week. On Dec. 3, the team beat Geneva, 68-64, and Westminster 89-81. They lost their Dec. 10 game against Hiram 66-56.



Fred Jenny

Junior Andy O'Keefe scored 21 points during the team's win against Geneva on Dec. 3.