Ethical Life gets the grade

Rachel Edgar
Staff Writer

The Spring 2007 semester will usher in several changes to the Ethical Life program. Perhaps the most noticeable change to the course will be in the way students are graded.

The course will no longer be offered on a pass/fail basis. Instead, each student will take the course for a grade. Ethical Life will also feature a new textbook, devised by Course Administrator Dr. Elizabeth Meade. Since its inception in 1998, Ethical Life has been a requirement for sophomore Cedar Crest students.

It is a three-credit course that meets one hour per week in a classroom setting to discuss theories of ethics and social justice. The other two credit hours are spent performing community service on-site at locations such as Trinity Soup Kitchen and the Phoebe Home.

The program’s goals complement Cedar Crest College’s liberal arts foundation and the experiential application of liberal arts. “The course gives students an opportunity to experience something they might not come into contact with at home,” explained Tammy Bean, Director of the Lutz Center for Community Service and Site Coordinator for Ethical Life.

A meeting between Registrar Janet Baker, Chair of the Curriculum and Academic Policy Committee Dr. LuAnn Fletcher, and Meade decided the change from pass/fail was plausible. The change had been considered several times by the faculty, but was finally approved for the Spring ‘07 semester, with tremendous support from the faculty.

“I know that the Business department is developing a course that they will propose to fulfill the Ethical Life requirement as well as their own business ethics requirement, which will carry a grade, so it seemed extremely important to me that the Ethical Life be changed to carry a grade as well,” explained Meade.

Fletcher and Baker agreed if one course was going to count for the Ethical Life requirement as well as their own business ethics requirement, which will carry a grade, Ethical Life should also carry a grade. Fletcher also said the course should carry a grade in order to correctly assess the effort students put into the course.

Although the grading system will change, the type and number of writing assignments will not. Students will be expected to put in the same amount of effort to pass the class. “Of course, any student who would be inclined to do the bare minimum necessary to pass the class will probably need to invest more effort if she wants better than a D, but I do not believe that describes the majority of our students,” exclaimed Meade.

Also, beginning in Spring 2007, Ethical Life will feature a new textbook developed by Meade during her sabbatical in Spring 2006. The former textbook had been largely unchanged since 1998, and when stocks of the textbook began running out, Meade knew it was the perfect opportunity to update the somewhat outdated text.

“The new book has much more current and relevant material, covering more topics than the previous textbook,” commented Dr. LuAnn Fletcher, Site Coordinator for Ethical Life.

Plan in place to update Ceramic Studio

Linda Misiura | Photo Editor

The ceramics studio, along with the papermaking studio, is currently set to undergo renovations. The newest project to upgrade Cedar Crest will start next semester, around the week of January 18. The studios will be completely made over by the fall of 2007.

Presidential application consideration nears end

Brea Barski
Staff Writer

The first major phase in the search for Cedar Crest’s twelfth president will end this week with the Dec. 15 deadline for applications.

Following the death of Dorothy Blaney, Cedar Crest president of 18 years, a great deal of work has been put into finding the next president.

Edward W. Kelley & Partners, a consulting firm, was hired. Shelly Sorbeck, a consultant familiar with this area, having worked to find presidents for Lafayette and Muhlenberg Colleges, is working closely with a committee of fourteen members of the campus community to find the next president. The members of the committee are:

- Carol Dao, Student Government Association President
- Pamela Kistler, Chair and Associate Professor of the Chemical and Physical Sciences department
- Elizabeth Meade, Chair and Associate Professor of Philosophy
- Michelle Sadig, Assistant Professor of Psychology
- Elaine Deutch, Executive Vice President of Finance and Administration
- Barbara Ginder, Cedar Crest graduate
- Charles Noonan, Chair of the Board of Trustees
- Alice Miller, Vice Chair of the Board of Trustees
- Cynthia Blaschak, Secretary of the Board of Trustees
- Susan Hudgins, Trustee
- Ed Meele, Trustee
- Charles Snelling, Life Trustee
- Ruth Spira, Trustee
- Linda Weiner, Trustee

The committee was chosen by the Board of Trustees with the help of the consulting firm.

The search for a new president began in September when Sturbeck came to campus to discuss the process and expectations with Cedar Crest. According to the CCC website, the search will take about six months to complete.

Elaine Deutch, member of the Presidential Search Committee and Executive President of Finance and Administration at Cedar Crest estimated that the search will be complete sometime during the Spring and that the new president—barring any effecting circumstances—will be taking over responsibilities during the summer months in order to become acclimated before the students return for the fall semester, 2007.

Confidentiality is a big part of the decision process, explained Deutch. Many of the applicants do not want their current employers to know that they are applying for other jobs.

Because of the strict anonymity she was unable to specify the amount of people that have applied for the job, but “many people have applied” and the consultants are “comfortable” with the amount of applicants. Deutch does not know if anyone within the college has applied, though if she did she would be unable to say.

Acting President Carol Pulham was unable to comment on her interest in the position.

Graduation moves from quad to Blaney Hall

Lori Gallagher
News Editor

For as long as most Cedar Crest students can remember, graduation on the quad has been a tradition. However, the class of 2007 will have their graduation moved from the quad to the steps of Blaney Hall.

“Students start their Cedar Crest journey on the steps of Blaney Hall during Open Door Ceremony,” said Dean Joan Laffey. With the change, students will now end their journey on those same steps.

Laffey explained this change was proposed immediately following President Blaney’s memorial service in May, because even those in the last row were close to the stage. Plans to move commencement were finalized only about a month ago.

The set up for the commencement-
Pink recognized as new color of success in business world

Lauren Sandi
Staff Writer

Thursday, November 30, 2006 marked the celebration of Cedar Crest College’s Sixth annual Women in Business award and lecture. Dr. Elaine Thompson, President of Lankenau Hospital Main Line Health, was not only recognized for her contribution to the business world, but she was also acknowledged for her dedication to the success of women.

More than Money with Gene Dickison sponsored the annual event, which attracted a big crowd. “I am honored to be the sponsor of this wonderful event,” said Dickison.

He spoke very generously about the kind of woman Thompson is, and he commended her on her accomplishments in her career and also in her life. “Elaine is committed to enjoying the journey,” he said.

Dickison not only supported the success of Thompson, but he also expressed his sincere gratitude for all that women stand for when he addressed the audience by saying, “The world is made up of 50% women, but it is my belief that they make up 90 to 100 percent of compassion.”

Thompson thanked the audience for celebrating such a momentous event with her. She dedicated the award to late President, Dorothy Gulbenkian Blaney. “Dorothy welcomed me to the Lehigh Valley and she continues to inspire me today,” she said. Thompson entitled her lecture, “The Pink Brigade” to represent the strides and tasks that women take on. She gave startling statistics about current trends of women compared to men and how it is affecting the future. “87% of the poverty stricken elderly are women,” she said. She also stated that, “women take off an average of 11 years more than men to take care of their children and their parents.”

The audience was in awe to hear the dedication that Thompson possessed to mentoring young women to make a difference in this male controlled society. “We have had 43 Presidents, and all have been men,” she said. Thompson also made it a point to discuss such a hot topic as Cosmo magazine. She was concerned with the interest in such demeaning and shameless topics such as, “the latest sexual positions” and “ways to know he cares.” Thompson warned the audience that these are not the issues that women should be concerned with. “Us pinks need to change our focus off what we look like and how we act, to who we are and what we can do,” she said.

Thompson’s lecture was inspirational and motivating to the faculty, staff, students and general public that attended. Her goal was not to talk about what she has done in her life, but it was oriented towards making other women more aware of what they are capable of. “She was very interesting and she made a clear impact on everyone here tonight,” said Tara Wilson, senior marketing major. Thompson represented a clear indication of why she was chosen to join the other five women in accepting the Cedar Crest College Women in Business award.

Tips from Safety and Facilities

Contributed by: James Marstell and the Safety and Facilities Department (Safety & Security, Maintenance, Custodial, Grounds and General Services [Telecommunications, Transportation Services])

Safety & Security asks the college community:

Have you ever been frustrated when using one of our computer labs when you found that the printer is completely out of paper or cannot print because the cartridge has been removed? Safety & Security reminds everyone that removing ink jet cartridges or tampering with computer lab equipment, as well as taking excessive amounts of print paper out of the printer paper violates computer use policy, is a violation of the Honor Code and can constitute theft. Safety & Security investigates all theft complaints and welcomes any report of suspicious activity. Please call whenever activity of this type is observed so an officer can be dispatched to investigate.

Maintenance tells resident students:

Wooo Hooo!! Winter break is almost here, so you know what that means... just a couple of weeks left to bake holiday cookies for the grounds staff.

Grounds reminds resident students:

Please follow the proper parking procedures while you are gone for winter break. Cars not left in the proper parking areas can make snow removal difficult, so we would appreciate your effort to help us in this matter over the holidays!

Telecommunications/Transportation reminds resident students:

Make sure you have not forgotten to set up your voice mail box so you are able to receive important messages from parents, faculty, student affairs and other administrative offices. Also, check to be sure your telephone is working properly and plugged in to your room wall terminal to maintain communications in case of an emergency.

Custodial informs everyone:

The end of the semester is fast approaching. NOW is a great time to start cleaning your room and discarding unwanted items before you are busy with exams.

ETHICAL LIFE

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Meade:
The new textbook will highlight more works on the effects of poverty, race-discrimination, class-conflict, and gender-disadvantage, and will feature some original material written by Meade. The course will offer a new reading and writing assignment, different classroom exercises and case studies, and a brand new syllabus to reflect all the recent changes.

Fanny Bean welcomes the changes to the program. “I think it’s a really positive thing for the course,” she says. “It will put everyone on the same playing field and more clearly define what is expected of students in the course.”

Contributions in memory of Kate Moser can be sent to: Children’s Hospital Foundation 
Attention: Facial Reconstruction Center
34th and Civic Center Boulevard
Philadelphia, PA 19104-4399

In Memory of Kate Moser

Lori Gallagher | News Editor

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Sue Ragusa, Assistant Professor of Performing Arts

Tori Hartnett  Staff Writer

Sue Ragusa has joined the Cedar Crest community as a new Assistant Professor of Performing Arts.

Ragusa has previously used her expertise in lighting design while working as an architectural lighting design consultant, and many theatrical productions. She obtained her BA in Theatre and Art at Cedar Crest, and received her MFA in lighting design from the University of Wisconsin–Madison.

Though theatre and lighting were always strong interests of Ragusa, it was not what she had originally planned to turn into a career. She stated, “I wanted to go into politics because to me, at the time, it seemed to be the more ‘responsible’ thing to do. Eventually in a moment of clarity, I figured out that my passion was for theatre, and later on narrowed into education, Ragusa stated, “I wanted to go into theatre and art department inspire me a great deal. I am thrilled to be working with them.”

Ragusa has previously taught Stage Prop Construction and Lighting Design at the UW–Madison. This semester Ragusa taught Theatre History I and Design for the Stage.

Ragusa is just two minutes older than MTV, and her hobbies include reading and cooking. She stated, “I have been told that I make the best spaghetti sauce. I enjoy experimenting with new spins on recipes; for instance, a dessert spankopotato.”

Ragusa stated, “I will be teaching Lighting Design in the spring. I encourage all students interested in theatre, art, photography, architecture, interior design, film, and/or television to join the class.

We will explore how lighting is a design medium for theatre and beyond. Lighting is part of the daily human experience and shapes how we perceive our environment.” She encourages interested students to stop by her office at any time, located at TCC 326.

Spiezio named Dean of Graduate Studies

Jennifer Woytach  Editor in Chief

Dr. Kim Spiezio, Professor of Political Science and Chair of the History, Law and Politics Department, has recently been appointed to Dean of Graduate Studies at Cedar Crest College. On November 30, Acting Provost Roxanne Amico sent an all-campus email announcing Spiezio’s appointment.

When Spiezio found out about his appointment mid-November, he said he was “pleasantly surprised.”

Cedar Crest’s graduate programs are “an area of the College that have a lot of potential,” Spiezio said.

Educated at the State University of New York–Binghamton, Spiezio has been at Cedar Crest College for eleven years and was previously on the faculty at University of Minnesota and Virginia Tech. He has been Chair of the History, Law and Politics Department since 1998, and was promoted to Professor two years ago.

Spiezio will officially assume the role of Dean of Graduate Studies in January, but said he has already been doing some work. “It’s an interesting job,” he said, “because it’s brand new to Cedar Crest College.”

As Dean of Graduate Studies, Spiezio will be responsible for the supervision of all current and new graduate programs at the College.

One of Spiezio’s goals is to “create an institutional framework to distinguish graduate programs from undergraduate programs at the College and to make sure both aspects maintain their unique identities.”
Cedar Crest sizes up to Spelling Bee

Chritina Hagan
Copy Editor

It was in 2005 when US Secretary of Education, Margaret Spellings announced the creation of the Secretary of Education’s Commission on the Future of Higher Education. The Blue Ribbon Commission of Education outlines the mission of the group in a press release, “commissions recommended funding for postsecondary education that will meet the needs of America’s diverse population and also address the economic and workforce needs of the country’s future.”

Since then, many colleges nationwide have been observing the standards that have been set nationwide have been observing for postsecondary education that is recommended funding for postsecondary education that will meet the needs of America’s diverse population and also address the economic and workforce needs of the country’s future.

Student Government News

Class of 08 petition denied; other club petitions granted

Brea Barski
Staff Writer

Problems among the officers of the Student Senate and the upcoming Nov. 29 Student Government meeting, leaving the class to fund the repairs to the crest to Cedar Crest’s traditional “Big Six Little Six Dunk Donut Night.” The class of 2008 was at the meeting to request $275. Although SGA does not usually give money that events have already taken place, the class wanted to explain why they had not asked for the funding beforehand. The representative claimed that everything was behind schedule and confused—saying that the DJ from the event had not even been paid yet. Most of the blame was placed on one specific class officer.

The $275 was to pay for beverages at the Oct. 12 event. The event stage is expected to be set up in front of the Administration Building steps and the graduates will be seated on the new sidewalk. Trustees and faculty members will be seated on either side of the stage. In the past, there were approximately 1800 seats at graduation. However, Laffey explained that the last severa rows are usually empty, so fewer seats will be used when graduation moves to Blaney Hall. Those seats will line the circle, part of the quad in front of “The Mountains” and some of the lawn in front of Blaney Hall. This move will also allow Toshiko’s bell to be incorporated into the ceremony. Laffey said that they are “entertaining ideas for how to choose who will ring the bell.”

The biggest change that will come with the move is that there will no longer be a tent to cover those in attendance. Laffey explained that the college looked at the graduation ceremonies at other LVC institutions and Cedar Crest is the only school that still uses a tent. In the event of a light rain, the audience can use their umbrellas, said Laffey. Plans for severe weather conditions are still being worked out, but as of now, Laffey expects that the audience will be brought into Lee's Hall, which will already be set up for Baccalaureate. The downside is that Lee’s Hall only seats about 750 people, and there are usually about 250 graduates, so guest seating would be limited. However, Laffey is optimistic about the weather. She said, “Since 1989, it has only rained one time and that was after every- one was already inside the tent.”

Even though the commencement location is changing, some aspects of the ceremony, such as the band, reserved seating, and golf cart transportation.

Speech team places in several categories at competition

Brea Barski
Staff Writer

The Forensic Speech team has proven that they know what they are talking about. This week end at a competition in Richmond, Va. the team won a dozen awards, making the team’s total for this season amounting 25.

The goal of the Forensic Speech team, said Allison Kazara, senior four-year member of the team and President of Pi Kappa Delta (Forensic Speech National Honors Society), is to become better both individually and as a team. This year the goal seems to be coming a reality.

“Although this is my first year as coach for the Forensic Speech team, I have been told by the members of the team that this year’s team is doing far better than we have in years past,” said Tim Brown, who replaced Linda Baas as assistant director.

““The team is incredibly unified right now, and works hard supporting each other as we go for competition.”

Kazara agrees with Brown, saying that “We’ve come together as a team, but in the past we were only good as individuals; ‘you must first become an individual as a team to succeed as an individual.’”

Cedar Crest has a popular forensics program, but the Forensic Speech team has nothing to do with science. Forensics refers to intercollegiate Speech competition, explain Brown. “It consists of two distinct areas, Individual Events and Debate.” The individual events include a variety of traditional public speaking formats such as informative, persuasive, impromptu, extemporaneous, after dinner speaking, oral interpretation of news, prose, and drama. Debate involves examination, analysis, and reasoned argumentation of a particular topic. The Forensic Speech team represents Cedar Crest at regional and national Forensic Speech competitions.

Those trips to competitions are big perks to membership, says Kazara, who has traveled to Montreal and St. Louis to compete with Cedar Crest.

The Forensic Speech team is done with competitions until the “three or four” they have next semester said team member Nissy Johnson. Awards for the last competition, in Richmond, were:

• First in Poetry – Allison Kazara
• Second in Poetry – Monica Cawley
• Third, Poetry – Nissy Johnson
• Third, Duo – Allison Kazara and Adina Smith
• Fourth, Duo – Allison Kazara and Joey Craig
• Fifth, Duo – Nissy Johnson and Jess Dominczak
• Second, Dramatic Interpretation – Allison Kazara
• Third in Dramatic Interpretation – Allison Kazara
• Sixth in Prose – Chelsea Toth

Homeless man confesses to murder

A man has confessed to stran- gling or suffocating 23 men during an eight-year killing spree and dumping their bodies in remote spots in seven parishes. Ronald J. Dominique, 42, was arrested Friday and charged with second-degree murder. The Crestiad - December 11, 2006 - Page 4

The Fiji Government is confident that the Fiji coup will not have a lasting effect on the nation’s relations with the rest of the world, Prime Minister Laisenia Qarase said yesterday. Qarase, who was charged with nine additional counts against him -- 10 for second-degree murder, said that he had been lost for two daughters were found dumped in the South Pacific in 1999, and had his roots in the same ethnic divide that produced the previous three. The coup was the fourth armed takeover in the South Pacific country in 19 years, and had its roots to the same ethnic divide that produced the previous three.
Faculty to implement new scheduling format in fall 2007

Alison Capik
Staff Writer

At a recent meeting, the Cedar Crest faculty passed a new scheduling format for the Fall 2007 semester. The format was developed by Janet Baker and Marie Wilde of the Registrar’s Office because of the growing number of students and the need for more class space.

The format is as follows: Blocks A through E are 50 minute classes held three times a week. H through J are 75 minute classes held twice a week. F through L can be used as 75 minute time blocks or combined to make a two hour and 45 minute time block for classes held once a week. Blocks M through P are classes held once a week. Block R is the only space of time reserved for college programs. Extra study sessions needed for classes, or campus wide events such as the Health center, Academic Support Office, and the professor’s preference.

A faculty member is invited to submit ideas for a competition. Dr. LaAnn Fletcher, Associate Professor of English and Director of the English Program, has found that the classes held on Monday, Wednesday and Friday are generally taken up by science courses and that when teaching with the format a few years ago, students did not want to be on campus for Friday afternoon classes, and this format “preserves the rest of the universe that works on a Monday – Friday schedule.”

The new format is a great way to make a predictable start time for every class. Teachers may be taking up two time slots, so in order to make use of all the classrooms, a strict schedule needs to be set.

A similar format was implemented several years ago with Wednesday as an open day with no classes, but that format was rejected because it conflicted with the schedules of other LVAIC schools, making cross registration hard for students.

From the meetings, Amico has discovered that the faculty is okay with this format and enjoys the convenience of having 75 minute classes instead of 50 minute classes.

She explained that a model example of a strict scheduling format is the setup of the top classes taught by Nicole Hockenberry. Classes run from 8:00-9:15 a.m., 9:30-10:45 a.m., and 11:00 a.m. - 12:15 p.m. Dance classes are fine schedule wise, and no one else is in need of the facilities besides the dance department. The issue concerning the faculty and staff was the proper use of equipment and proper facilities, because certain disciplines have certain requirements.

Instead of putting a class in any classroom at any building, the location and time of classes will be determined by the number of seats, the number of students enrolled, and the professor’s preference.

A faculty member can choose what time and place they wish to have their class, but will provide a back up in case that space is already full. Professors can choose the facility that they want and students can take classes with greater ease knowing that each class has a definite beginning and ending time.

The new format will not have to load everything into classes a week and this will prevent an over-lapping of classes within depart- ments. Overall, the new scheduling format is a great way to make the most of the facilities each classroom has to offer, give students a set start and end time for their classes, and make semester planning easier.

Campus Jobs
On December 15 payday, all checks will be held at the Cashier’s Window for pickup and will be mailed out the following Friday if not picked up by then. If you want to have this check mailed out on December 15, please make this request at the Cashier’s Window before December 15. December 29 checks will be mailed out on that day.

Free Coffee
Rooster’s Coffee Shoppe and American Education Services are coming together for the $20,000 Lighten your load sweepstakes. They are giving away free cups of coffee to all students who come and show their Cedar Crest ID. Rooster’s offers coffee and espresso that is locally roast- ed to provide the freshest drinks possible. They are located at 3512 Hamilton Boulevard, across from Donkey Park.

Club Transactions
The last day for club transactions with Student Accounts is Monday, December 11, 2006 (the last day of classes). Please check that your club ledgers (both SGA and personal) match your trial balance sheets. If there are any discrepancies, please see Student Accounts to fix any problems. Also, all receipts must be turned into Student Accounts by this date in order to receive a reimbursement.

Communication Night
Wednesday, December 13, beginning at 5 pm, student work from the Digital Photography and Video Production classes will be shown in the Bistro. Digital Photography will run first, and Videos will begin playing around 6:30 pm.
On Saturday, December 9, will blend with the voices of BASU anticipates that his voice phrase “Silence is Forbidden.” special guest. An inspiring voice ken word artist Beny Blaq as a recitations. Lehigh University’s featuring hip-hop and tap, dramat- p.m. in the Alumnae Auditorium. The Second Annual Black Awareness that are extremely similar in con- allowed, combinations of majors must be of a distinct area of study (such as biology or history), but they are also studying education. Students can pursue a second degree to be awarded either at the same time as their first degree or at a subsequent time. The second degree, however, must be of a distinct area of study and is limited to the majors and programs listed in the course cata- log. While most dual degrees are allowed, combinations of majors that are extremely similar in con- tent will not merit a dual degree. Such combinations are: biology and genetic engineering; biology and biochemistry; and conservation biology; neuroscience and biolo- gy; chemistry and biochemistry; and management and accounting. Also, no biological sciences major can minor in biology. Janet Baker, Cedar Crest College Registrar suggests stu- dents to speak with their advisors about double majoring, to make sure that it will work with their schedule and that the combination of majors is allowed. Each program is different. While some programs may require two independent Capstone proj- ects, others majors may be more accommodating to students who are double majoring. Each semester while students are registering for classes, Baker suggests that they speak to both or all of their advisors, check that they are taking the right classes, that what courses they are taking will suit their needs and wants, and make sure that they are on the right path for graduation. Go over everything with them each semester, and even speak with them a few times throughout the semester. The faculty members that are advisors are so because they know what the requirements are for that field of study. If you are double majoring or thinking about it, speak to your advisors and find out what is required of you now and what will be required of you in the future. Your advisor is the best resource student’s have.

Students register for classes at surrounding colleges

Leann Pettit Staff Writer

So, you want to take a class that Cedar Crest does not offer. Either you are interested in some topic that is not offered at the Crest or you need a class for some specific requirement. What options do stu- dents have?

Once students are of sopho- more standing at the college, stu- dents can enroll in LVAIC (Lehigh Valley Association of Independent Colleges) cross-registration class- es. This program allows students to take classes at any of the LVAIC colleges without having to worry about transfer credits.

To register for an LVAIC class, first, find the class that you want to take at the other school (make sure that it works with your schedule!). You cannot take a course that is being offered here at the same time, but if Cedar Crest is not offering the same course, any student can take it at any of the LVAIC schools. Students can take up to two courses per term or sum- mer session at an LVAIC school. Janet Baker, Cedar Crest College Registrar, suggests that students speak to their registrar’s office at the host institution to find out all of their policies and let them know that you are interested in cross- registering.

Once you have decided on the class, students must pick up the cross-registration form from Cedar Crest’s registrar’s office. This form needs to be signed by the stu- dent, the student’s advisor, the reg- istrar, and the registrar of the host school. Baker suggests that stu- dent’s personally take this form to the host school and ask for a pho- tocopy of it before they leave. Although, the form can be mailed.

The credits that you are tak- ing at the other institution count towards your full or part time count here, so you do not have to transfer credits from one school back to Cedar Crest. Students can also retake a class at another LVAIC school. (But again, Cedar Crest can not be offering the same class at the same time, no excep- tions!) The class will show up on CampusWeb with X-(two letters). This represents an off-campus class and shouldn’t concern stu- dents. Cross-registering is free for full-time students and is included in your tuition. However, part-time students will have to pay the host institution. Student’s can take classes at any LVAIC school during the spring semester, but it is only includ- ed in tuition during the fall and spring semesters.

Preparation for annual Cultural Extravaganza begins

Rachel Edgar Staff Writer

Plans are underway for the Second Annual Black Awareness Student Union (BASU) Cultural Extravaganza, which will be held Thursday February 22 from 7-9 p.m. in the Alumnae Auditorium. Performances by students will include singing, dance routines featuring hip-hop and tap, dramat- ic interpretation, and poetry recitations. Lehigh University’s Step team, LU’s Finest, will perform a dance routine. BASU hopes to spread awareness and knowledge of African-American and Black culture to the Cedar Crest commu- nity,” says Remina Polk, BASU Vice President. BASU is looking for more students to participate in the event. Singing, dancing, poetry readings, and skits are wel- come. Performances should focus on black culture or diversity issues. Students can contact the club through the email account BASU@cedarcrest.edu to sign up for a time slot.

The Cultural Extravaganza is free and open to the public. Donations are welcome. Light refreshments will be served fol- lowing the program. “It’s just a fun time to come out and be edu- cated while you’re entertained,” said BASU President Brittany Walker.

Alumnae brought Santa to campus

Jamie Bodor Staff Writer

On Saturday, December 9, 2006, Santa Claus made a visit to Cedar Crest College. He was in the Tompkins Colonnade dining hall to meet with kids from the community, parents, grandparents, and Cedar Crest students as well. Cedar Crest students volun- teered at this event and helped the children enjoy a day full of crafts and activities such as coloring Christmas pictures and decorating a Christmas tree. There were also games for the children to play and a breakfast to eat.

The breakfast will include eggs, bacon, toast, pancakes, French toast, juice, milk, coffee and tea. Diane Gehring, Assistant Director of Alumnae Affairs, explained that the number of peo- ple who attend the Santa breakfast has increased every year during the past three years, since the breakfast began.

She said, “When we started the program in 2004, we had 64 adults and 54 children take part. In 2005, we had 100 adults and 76 children attend. This year, we anticipate having over 120 children and over 150 adults par- ticipate.”

In order to accommodate this many people, two seating times were offered, one from 8.30 a.m. until 10:00 a.m. and the other from 10:30 a.m. until noon.

Guests were encouraged to bring a new children’s book to don. The books were donated to the Reading Corner at the public assistance office, which is spon- sored by the Cedar Crest College American Association of University Women Student Affiliate Chapter.

Course overload results in applications for dual majors

Leann Pettit Staff Writer

More and more students are double majoring at Cedar Crest College; taking 18 or 21 credits a semester to complete both majors. This is also students on campus that have a co-major. Co-majors are also a certifica- tion in some field of study. Co- majors are popular with secondary education students, who’s main focus is on their area of study (such as biology or history), but they are also studying education. Students can pursue a second degree to be awarded either at the same time as their first degree or at a subsequent time. The second degree, however, must be of a distinct area of study and is limited to the majors and programs listed in the course cata- log. While most dual degrees are allowed, combinations of majors that are extremely similar in con-
Behind Closed Doors
A deeper look at the services rendered in the buildings on campus

Alumnae Hall

June 1949, Dr. Frank M. Cressman, President of Cedar Crest College, laid the cornerstone that broke the ground for the building of Alumnae Hall. Over 360 alumnae were present at the ceremony and witnessed a dream of the college come true. The building of the hall was made possible by the $350,000 that was raised during a campaign directed towards the community and alumnae.

November 12, 1949, marked the day for the Cornerstone-Laying Ceremony. The cornerstone was set in place by Mrs. Ralph Henry, chairman of the committee in charge of fund-raising, and John A. Rupp, chairman of the committee on building and grounds.

In October 1950, six Massachusetts colleges and universities participated in a ceremony where ivy was planted outside Alumnae Hall as a dedication to the new building.

Alumnae Hall is a building from colleges such as Harvard, Radcliffe, Wellesley and Boston University took part in the services. In addition, Ivy was sent from over 40 different colleges as a “symbol of relationship and fusion of ideals and traditions”.

College & University Business in July of 1951 published an article on the new hall. Alumnae Hall is over 375,000 cubic feet of space and the final cost of the hall reached to over $375,000 including the building of the hall and its furnishings.

The first level of the building contained an auditorium with 502 fixed seats and space for 100 movable chairs. The stage was spacious enough for small productions or even large ones and is equipped with new lighting, a ceiling dome and plenty of storage. The stage curtain was donated by a member of the Alumnae Association and cost $2,500.

Attached to the main entrance are two administrative offices of the alumnae association and an alumnae lounge. The north wing of the building houses the art department which has one oversized room, a standard and a special workroom with sinks.

On the ground floor is a dressing room area with small rooms adjacent. These rooms were used as music practice rooms and dressing rooms when needed. A smaller theater was connected to this area and used for chorus, visual art and dramatics.

The Lees Memorial Chapel was located in north-west wing of the building and remains there today. The chapel held over 114 and when first built contained walnut pews. The chapel windows were originally made of tinted glass but later replaced with stained glass.

At this time, Alumnae Hall only had the bottom floor and the first floor. February 1963, marked the completion of the second floor to Alumnae Hall.

The expansion was part of the college’s 10 year plan that was devoted to the expansion and improvement of the physical facilities of the college. The expansion provided four new classrooms, visual arts center, laboratory for teaching languages and 12 faculty offices.

Today the Alumnae Hall houses the art department including print making, jewelry and metal working, a natural drawing and painting studio. Alumnae Hall also contains an auditorium, a theater that can seat 75, multi-media studio, communications studio, distant learning laboratory and classrooms.

Alumnae Hall is a building that displays the progress of Cedar Crest College throughout history and fervor of our trusted alumnae.

The honors program at Cedar Crest is a continuously evolving program designed to elevate students’ educational experiences. The program currently has roughly 120-160 students in it, and this May, the college will graduate the highest number of Honors students in the programs history (approximately 20).

It is not a long-standing tradition at Cedar Crest. According to honors program co-director Dr. James Ward, the program has only been around since former president Dr. Dorothy Blaney began to put it together in 1989, with the full honors program appearing around 1991-1992.

Admission to the honors program can be attained at most levels throughout a student’s academic career. According to the Cedar Crest website, “Freshmen are admitted to the program if they enter college with a minimum of 1510 on their SATs, and if they place in the top 10 percent of their graduating class.” Other traditional and Lifelong Learners can enter into the program after obtaining a GPA of 3.5 from 12 completed credits.

Honors courses are offered on a voluntary basis by departments. Some departments offer a many honors courses (such as the humanities department), while other departments (such as the art department) do not offer any honors courses. It is a cross-disciplinary program, but one which allows students to combine their interests.

The honors program is something Cedar Crest students should take advantage of, and, in recent years, more and more students have been doing just that. In the past six years, Dr. Ward has observed the number of students enrolled in the honors program increase dramatically. He cites the reasons for the increase in students as being because of the “measurability” of combining several requirements, and also the prestige in being able to present a company or grad school with a degree from honors.

More information about the honors program is available at the course catalog and on the website.

Sculpture Studio
An opportunity to learn about the art you see everyday, but might not notice

Mystery sculpture revealed

Linda Misiura
Managing Editor

In the last issue of The Crestiad, we left you all guessing as to what the small sculpture in the Tompkins College Center really is. The Crestiad had a chance to interview the artist, Linda Rossell, who gave a little bit of insight into the inspiration for...dum da dum da dum da dum da dum da da dum da da dum da da dum da dum da dum.

The Crestiad: When did you sculpt the piece?
Linda Rossell: Last fall when I took my second semester of Sculpture Studio.

TC: What have you named the piece?
LR: We were asked to react to the word “merge” for our assignment, and I automatically thought of a baby bird emerging from its egg and nest. I wanted to make it more abstract than just a bird and a nest, so I made the bird look more like a marshmallow peep.

TC: Is it white for any particular reason?
LR: The color of the plaster was white, and I thought that letting the color of the plaster show would make it more interesting.

TC: How did it end up in TCC?
LR: It was displayed in the display case in Alumnae Hall and I believe Elouise asked Jill Oedegaard if there was anything available to put in the TCC, so Jill brought my sculpture over.

TC: So are you an art major?
LR: I’m a senior Biodiversity and Conservation Biology major.

TC: Have you taken other art classes?
LR: I have an art scholarship, so I’ve taken an art class every semester (except one) that I have been here. Besides two semesters of Sculpture, I’ve taken the Printed Image, Drawing Illustration & Graphics 1 & 2, and Jewelry and Metallihiuming.

TC: So you enjoy art?
LR: I really do enjoy art. Although I am a science major, art has always been a part of my life. My grandparents have always been into art so I was always a part of it. My grandmother has always run a studio in which she sold wooden duck decoys that she carved and painted. My whole family has encouraged me to express myself artistically. I’ve always been into drawing, but I took Sculpture my freshman year here and I really enjoyed it. It was a nice change and a new experience.

TC: I see you are a big nature fan; has that influenced your sculpture?
LR: Nature has definitely influenced my art. Most of the work I’ve done since high school has been inspired by either a plant or animal. It’s fun a way for me to merge a few of my interests.
Nurses need early hospital experience

Jaime Smith
Staff Writer

The joys of nursing -- there are many, but early experiences in the field should be limited to the hospital setting. This is why if you are a nursing student at Cedar Crest College and use it in order to help heal our earth. No matter what your major and career plans, you can help. Don’t simply milk. Fulfill yourself and create a better place for future generations while you are at it.

My future plans are uncon- firmable. What I do know is that I am awaiting word from Lehigh University. I have applied to be a Fellow in the American Studies Masters Program, and I am 90% sure of getting in. I had a successful interview with the Chair of the Department, and a decent GRE score.

After I earn my Master, I’d like to go on to a Ph.D. I don’t know in what or where. I just take it day by day and see where life takes me. It’s been a successful strategy so far.

I would like to teach at the University level at some point. I fell in love with teaching doing class presentations and find it a great deal of fun.

I want to thank all of the great professors I have had during my time here. Space constraints restrict my naming them all, but you know who you are.

I guess that’s it. Thanks for putting up with me and telling you what to think. It’s been an honor.

For the last time, Peace

Contact Beth at beth@voicenet.com and see more thoughts at www.bethculator.com

Linda Minnora
Managing Editor

I saved a girl from serious harm last Sunday. While on the Bierer Bus to New York City, one of the overhead compartments opened and revealed the girl sitting below. I was wor- ried her luggage would clunk her on the head, so I tapped her on the shoulder, pointing and mentioning the perilous compartment. She shrugged. I sighed. I was only try- ing to help.

This need to help strangers is an everyday part of my life. I’ll admit that I often adversaries people’s conversation, admitting my opinions when they are not always asked for, but usually well received. This was obviously not the case on this sunny morning. This girl, 17, derry blonde hair, could care less if her Vera Bradley duffle tumbled out onto her head during the journey. I shrugged too, and settled down to the ride into the city, preparing myself for more of the same: holiday shop- pers, or just people in general, who have forgotten the niceties. Or who have just plain forgotten the basic niceties. I often say that I hate people. This of course, is usually shouted in the midst of a crisis instead of a four letter word, and I don’t com- pletely mean it. But I do feel that this statement leads to something I state less often: I have lost faith that there are nice people in the world.

To add to the cliché phrase “I have lost faith in people” I pro- pose another adage propagated by the novel Pay It Forward: “What comes around, goes around.” I saw this happen today in a chain of events that was startling and inspiring, and most of all, faith- filling. At Allentown. After the Vera Bradley Girl incident, Lori Gallagher and I tripped off into the city for some holiday fun, forgetting the girl and her small bit of rudeness. We walked from 42nd to 50th, to Bryant Park and the Chrysler Building, to the New York Public Library and St. Patrick’s cathedral. Of course they were, and I stopped into a café to order coffee when a surprise stepped into our path and sang some more, and as they stood up to put their coats on and leave, we wished them a safe trip back to Allentown (he}
On November 21, I was making my six hour trek home for Thanksgiving. After a while, I started getting bored making this journey, which I am sure takes more time than it took for Christopher Columbus to crash into the Americas. So I decided, with two hours left, that I would count how many people had Christmas lights already lit.

Forty-nine. Two days before Thanksgiving, and that many houses were already set for Christmas. Granted, there were two homes still celebrating Halloween. But 49 had skipped over Thanksgiving completely! This fact amazed me.

I made it home that night to find that my family was indeed celebrating Thanksgiving, and wasn’t quite ready for Christmas yet, which was a relief to me. I happen to be a big fan of turkey, and I can yell at the football game on television with the best of them, regardless of the fact that I have no idea of what’s going on, or who the teams are for that matter.

The day after Thanksgiving, however, my house slowly began transforming into a winter wonderland.

My mother is a big fan of snowmen, and, more recently, Christmas trees. About two years ago, I was bored enough to count all of the snowmen that were around my home. I gave up when I hit the 500 mark. And, her collection continues increasing.

The tree thing is probably the most off the wall, bizarre phenomenon my house has ever seen. As a kid growing up, we have always had a live tree set up in our living room, which my family would all help decorate. Eventually, we also got an artificial tree, which was then decorated and put up in our family room, which is the most traveled through room in our house.

The silver tree was next. And it is possibly the most hideous tree that I have ever seen in my life. It is about a foot and a half tall, is silver, and has fiberoptic lights on the end of each branch that change color. My mom claims that the original price of this tree is around the fifty dollar mark, but that she got it for “real cheap”. If you could see this tree, you would understand why she got it for cheap.

Regardless, she loves the tree, and I think that it is the ugliest thing that I have ever seen in my life. My sophomore year of high school, I had a boyfriend who thought that the silver tree was great, and so my mom had us take a picture with the two of us in front of the thing. There’s a Christmas card to send out.

The tree in our kitchen was next. A tree that was about a foot tall and had tiny ornaments hanging from it graced the island in the middle of my kitchen. Next was a three foot artificial tree in our upstairs hallway, to be seen out the window. Then, a tree appeared in the bathroom about two years ago. We even put lights and bows on a palm tree that is in my house! I thought that the trees were done. But, as the winter wonderland began making itself known this year, as I tried to hide away in my room working on final projects, I learned that this was not the case.

Out of storage came two more artificial trees. I was thankful to learn that one was intended for my mother’s office at work. But, that left one more tree. It was destined for the other bathroom in our home.

How could our upstairs bath-
I am completely ashamed to admit this, but probably the most surprising thing to happen to me since I’ve arrived at Cedar Crest was that we had classes on Nov. 27. That’s a really sad statement, but I was shocked! Where I come from, the Thanksgiving weekend increases in importance as it goes: Thanksgiving being somewhat important, Black Friday shopping being very important, and the first day of deer hunting ranking higher than Christmas to most. Each year, weeks are spent on preparation, dozens of sleepless nights are had, and small fortunes are spent to finance these hunting expeditions.

People purchase their cars and sometimes even their houses based on how beneficial it is to deer season. Vacation days are stock-piled and then used during the first week of deer season in order to leave the house by 3 or 4 a.m. and wait for a deer to walk by. That’s all crazy. It’s where I’m from, though, and a smart part of my life.

I’ve never hunted, but I fall into that category. I’m a shooter, though. I’ve never even tried to kill anything in my life. I was once a member of the first place junior pistol team in the state of Pennsylvania, my high school rifle team went to States each of the four years I was on it, and I was an honorary mention athlete of the week for a local newspaper that had over half a dozen school districts.

Along with being surprised at having classes on the first day of deer, I’m surprised at how shoot- ing has come back into my life. Most people are surprised to find that I shoot—even more surprised to find what I shoot, which I’ll get to in a minute. I miss it, though, while I’m here and found myself going to the range over the Thanksgiving break while all of the hunters were out, it felt like home.

Rifles is a harder sport than most people think—especially hunters. Precision, patience, focus, and upper body strength are important, so training starts months in advance. Advance training is common amongst serious shooters and cutting caffeine from your diet entirely (coffee, tea, chocolate—everything!) is also really important. Shoes need to be between breads and, preferably, between heart-beats, so a lot of this control is needed to be successful.

This is also a fairly expensive sport. Rifles, bullets, a special glove to support the gun, a restrict- ing straight-jacket type of coat to keep the upper body steady while in position, a sweat shirt or shoot- ing sweater for added bulk, a leather sling to attach the shooter to the gun, ear plugs, eye protec- tion, a special mat to lay, sit, or kneel on that prevents sliding and other movement while shooting, and stated cleaning products are all necessary and most aren’t cheap.

So how exactly does this work? There are several positions to shoot from: sitting, standing, bench (resting the gun on some- thing, and prone (four down). For PIAA (the Pennsylvania Interscholastic Athletics Association) riflery (the only co-ed sport offered for public high schools) is practiced in the prone position.

So the shooter gets dressed in this crazy outfit, lays down on the ground in uncomfortable posi- tions, and then tries to hit a piece of paper with this deadly weapon. If there’s a sale after school for kids!

The target is fifty feet away and the part that’s to be hit is about the size of a pencil eraser. There are eleven bull’s-eyes per target. The center one is for sighting in the gun—making slight changes to the eyepiece of the gun so the shooting is more accurate—and also for practical warming of the gun (most of the ranges are cold, some even below freezing at times where the shooter’s breath can be seen and blocks the sights). The other ten bull’s get shot and scored. A perfect target is a 100. Each bull can get as much as ten points—being a perfect center shot—or none, eight, seven, six, or zero. If you don’t the nine- point ring. An X only matters in a tie-breaker and for the shooter’s personal records. A 100-10X is an absolutely perfect target, without a tie. If you hit the same value as a 100-0X. Accuracy is important. In scoring, a few millimeters can lose a match and magnifying glass- es are commonly used to deter- mine shots.

The shooter has a time-limit of fifteen minutes to finish his one target. Ten varsity shooters shoot per match, but only the top five are counted for the final win, going to the others for tie-breaking pur- poses.

I’m a rifle shooter, though meeting me, I don’t fit the stereo- types. Most shooters are male— some teams are entirely—but I’m kind of girly, wearing skirts to sev- eral matches and having to put on sweatpants under my skirt. I’m not a hunter and I’m not even really a country person (the shooters with John Deere hats and camouflage clothes and chewing tobacco weren’t exactly easy for me to relate to). The most surprising dif- ference (as I suggested before) is that my gun was different: most of the shooters bolted, dark, stan- dard rifles, but mine was light- weight and non-peak. A shot was the gun was closer to Pepto Bismol pink, but my dad painted it for me and it was a little bright. I glow in the dark, so don’t mess with me pink.”

A Rifle at school. I have a target on the inside of my closet door and next to my bed there’s a picture of me in black and white holding up my gun—the only colored thing in the picture. A lot of my friends see these things and can’t help laughing for factors for me: It’s different.

In the remaining three and a half months I’ll be at Cedar Crest. I don’t think I’ll ever be comfortable sitting in classes the first Monday after Thanksgiving. It’s not because I want to be hunting, but because shooting is a huge part of my life. I used to have that ground, unable to move from the uniform of a shooter, focusing, controlling my breathing and heart-beats, smelling gun powder in the air, and freezing is when I feel most at home.

A model of acceptance brings learning home

Susan Lopez Staff Writer

August 28, 2006 marked my first day at classes at Cedar Crest College. I am actually a transfer student from Penn State, who decided to change my major from Biology to Communications with a minor in Marketing. Yes, I can hear all of you gasp after just read- ing that, but I found myself no less passionate about the sci- ence field and wondering where I was going in life. So I started to search for other schools that were local to home and came across Cedar Crest College’s website. At first, I wasn’t so sure about going to a school for women. I was used to interacting with both sexes on a daily basis and the thought of it didn’t want to adapt well. I finally weighed out my options and decided to go with Cedar Crest College.

When I first arrived at the coll- age I scheduled my classes and to set up the financial aid. I was extremely impressed by the level of support that all of the faculty and staff gave me. They all were tremendously helpful in choosing a major right for me and even offered their help when it came to scheduling the appropriate classes.

I met with an advisor and she assured me that this college was a very unique one, where women of all ages could expand their knowl- edge, express themselves and learn in an environment that was non-judgmental. I will admit, I was quite skeptical about everything that she was telling me, but decid- ed that if I was going to be suc- cessful at this college, I needed to give it a chance and experience all there was.

I sat there at my first class and watched as everyone sat together with their friends and sat where they felt most comfortable. Everyone seemed to be in such good spirits and continued to talk with one another until the profes- sor walked in. The sound of con- versation quickly faded and the professor took the floor to intro- duce himself. The professor began to talk about his past experience in the workforce and his job as a pro- fessor. He continued by explaining the course and what was to be expected from us. Time quickly passed and class was soon over. As I went up to get up and leave, the stu- dent that was sitting next to me asked me what my name was. I was sort of taken aback because at my old school everyone tended to stay with their group of friends and not stay far away from them. It was much like high school was with the different clicks of people. I introduced myself to the student and was relieved that someone took the ini- tiative to introduce their self to me. Everyone seemed to be in such good spirits and continued to talk with one another until the profes- sor walked in. The sound of con-
How commercialism stole Christmas

Jesse Dominiczak
Staff Writer

I first learned that "Santa Claus" died when I was in 3rd grade homeroom, wearing a red sweatshirt that read — "I believe in Santa Claus." To me it was a mas- sive funeral because when Santa died, as did the Easter bunny, and the tooth fairy. I had lost my faith in that which I now know is commer- cialism.

However, Santa can never be truly dead if he is in your hearts, and everywhere you look from Black Friday to New Year's.

Santa Baby

According to the History Channel, the legend of Santa origi- nates hundreds of years to a monk named Saint Nicholas, believed to have been born around 280 A.D. near modern day Turkey. He was much admired for his kindness, and giving away all of his inherit- ed wealth, while traveling the countryside helping the sick and poor. A feast occurs on Dec. 6, the anniversary of his death.

St. Nick made his first appearance in American popular culture in 1822, Clement Clarke Moore's poem entitled, "An Account of a Visit from St. Nicholas." Moore's poem is responsible for the modern image of Santa. The first image of Santa as the portly figure with the supernatural ability to ascend a chimney with a mere nod first appeared in Harper's Weekly. He depicted Santa as a rotund, cheerful man with a full, white beard, holding a sack with toys, wearing a red suit trimmed with white fur.

Yes Virginia, there is Commercialism

To reiterate my point I’m bringing in the big guns, the editorial page of the New York Sun, written by Francis Church on September 21, 1897 in answer to a 8 year old Virginia O’Hanlon’s question, "Is there a Santa Claus," should prove enough hard evi- dence about his existence. The edi- torial later came to be known as "Yes Virginia, there is a Santa Claus" because of the famous line "You may ask "Is there a Santa Claus?" but I will ask you again — "Why of course there is!"

Why you better not shut, I’m telling you why Santa Claus is coming to town — whether you believe in him or not. So why not embrace com- mercialism and all that entails, sing some carols, gather with friends and family, and most of all enjoy it, because whatever tradi- tions you celebrate, you believe.

A lot of hand ‘isms’

Commercialism has a bad rap. It’s first definition is the prin- ciples, practices, and spirit of com- mercialism. Spirit, like the Spirit of the holidays, or the spirit of Santa. This spirit of commerce is what gets the big guy on his sled every year, and the same spirit that caus- es traffic jams and accidents near malls on the weeks leading up to that special day. The second defi- nition is; a commercial attitude in non-commercial affairs; inappro- priate or excessive emphasis on profit, success, or immediate results. Alright now, when have you ever seen commercial atti- tudes in non-commercial affairs, or indulge in any other physical embellishments. I’ve owned the same three containers of hair products for three or four years. Painting my nails is the one pam- pering activity that I actually enjoy, and I had neglected to take one hour out of my crazy schedule to do something to make me feel good about myself.

As the holidays approach and the semester ends, it is easy to get caught up in everything and everyone else, and even easier to forget to take care of yourself. It’s easy to feel selfish when I buy things for myself or my living space on Black Friday instead of perspective. It seems selfish to give this opportunity less time and effort than it deserves, yet, how long can I ignore the rest of my life and the health of my body? Sure, I can tell myself that every little grade doesn’t matter in the long run. But secretly, I never believe it.

I wonder when my priorities turned from a social quality life to quality school work and work work. Oh wait, is that what they call responsibility? Well, I guess it had to arrive some time. Maybe when I was returned to school 5 years ago, or maybe when I signed a 30-year mortgage, or maybe it didn’t really exist until I acknowled- ged it while staring at my pale blank fingernails.

I have no idea what I think I need to prove to myself, or anyone else, but inevitably I always take on more than is healthy for both my body and mind. Lack of sleep, quality work and relaxation time, and distancing from friends and

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It was excited because he knew where that was) and a happy holi- day.

And then he leaned over and said, “Don’t worry about your bill, we took care of it.” And my mouth dropped open, which I quickly formed into a smile, an emphatic “Thank you!” and “You have a happy holiday!” All I could think of was how I should ask for their address to send them a Christmas card, but by then they were gone.

Don’t forget yourself

Ms. Takes

Jennifer Kuznetz
Columnist

The other day, as I was pick- ing away at my cuticles in a blank state of mental overload, I realized that I hadn’t painted my finger nails since the summer time. This seemed like a fairly mundane real- ization, until I recognized what this could mean—had I forgotten to take time out for myself almost all semester? I don’t wear makeup or indulge in any other physical embellishments. I’ve owned the same three containers of hair products for three or four years. Painting my nails is the one pam- pering activity that I actually enjoy, and I had neglected to take one hour out of my crazy schedule to do something to make me feel good about myself.

As the holidays approach and the semester ends, it is easy to get caught up in everything and everyone else, and even easier to forget to take care of yourself. It’s easy to feel selfish when I buy things for myself or my living space on Black Friday instead of

family take a toll on my quality of life each and every semester. As soon as the semester is over, I feel lazy and dream of (note I say dream, not act upon) the noble deeds I could be accomplishing with ALL my free time now that classes are over. And just when I get in a comfortable routine including sufficient sleep, exercise, meditation and quality time with others, a new semester begins.

During interim I plan on painting my nails often. Oh yeah, and doing other things like sleep- ing and cooking real food and doing my job well and taking care of my home. Paint your nails sometime soon, you deserve it.
Hanukkah: The festival of lights

Rachel Edgar  Staff Writer

For many students, the holidays mean Christmas trees, scenes of the Nativity, and a visit from Santa Claus. But for a handful of students at Cedar Crest, the holidays mean latkes, dreidels, and a time to celebrate the Miracle of the Oil.

Hanukkah, also known as the festival of lights, begins on the 25th day of the Jewish month of Kislev. It marks the re-dedication of the Temple after its desecration by armies under Antiochus IV, who oppressed and massacred the Jewish population and desecrated the Temple by forcing the sacrifice of pigs (a non-kosher animal) on the altar.

According to history, there was not enough oil left for the menorah in the temple, which was supposed to burn during each night. Although there was only enough oil left to burn for one day, the menorah miraculously burned for eight days, which gave the people enough time to prepare a fresh supply of oil. An eight-day festival was declared in honor of the miracle of the Oil.

The menorah is the focal point of the holiday, and is probably one of the most recognizable symbols of Hanukkah. The menorah holds nine candles: one for each of the eight nights that the oil burned, and a shamash candle that is used to light the others. One can- dela is lit on the first night, and every night thereafter another can- dela is lit. Finally, on the eighth night, all eight candles burn brightly.

“My favorite Hanukkah tradi- tion is lighting the menorah,” says Caren Torr, a senior Dance major. “I love the beauty of the glowing light and the way the colored wax drips down onto the menorah.”

It is also traditional to eat foods that are baked or fried in oil due to the significance of oil to Hanukkah. Often times this takes the form of latkes, which are simple potato cakes. More elaborate latkes are sometimes made by adding grated onion, apples, or cheese to the pancakes. It is also a custom to eat doughnuts, called sufganiyot, which are deep-fried in oil and usually filled with jelly. Angel Bakers, the largest bakery in Israel, supplies over 250,000 sufganiyot every day during the eight-day Hanukkah festi- val.

Another Hanukkah custom is play- ing dreidel, which is a gambling game using a square top as the game piece. The game has an historical significance to the holiday. During the oppressive rule of Antiochus IV, study of the Torah was made illegal. Those who wished to study Torah would hide their readings by playing games with a top whenever an official of the government would come along. Today, people play the game to celebrate the miracle of Hanukkah. In fact, the Hebrew letters inscribed on the dreidel are Nun, Gimel, Heh, and Shin, which stand for the phrase, “a great miracle happened there.”

Hanukkah is a time to celebrate with family and friends, with lots of food and presents,” says Torr.

Celebrate Christmas with traditions

Stacey Sohl | Lifestyles Editor

As students prepare to go home for winter break, many will be thinking about family and the Christmas traditions that make the holidays a magical time of the year.

Christmas incorporates Christian religious ceremonies with the traditions of ancient winter festivals such as Yule. This combination of traditions has cre- ated many of the customs we asso- ciate with Christmas today. Some of the most popular Christmas tra- ditions include baking cookies, picking out and decorating Christmas trees, and singing Christmas carols.

Baking Christmas cookies, traditionally sugar or gingerbread cookies, is a common custom among households during Christmastime. One of the most popular cookies is the Gingerbread cookies, which probably originated from a German cookie called Lebkuchen. This is a traditional Christmas cookie that was most likely popularized by medieval monks in the 13th Century. The ingredients of Lebkuchen include honey, spices and nuts, and sometimes almonds or candied fruit.

Leaving cookies and milk for Santa Claus began in the United States during the 1930s, and has been a popular U.S. custom since then. Jessica Ragan, a freshman Nursing major, enjoys baking cookies with her mother each Christmas. “We make every kind of cookie imaginable – and we do it all in one day,” said Ragan.

Although the fir tree has long been a symbol for Christianity, legend credits Martin Luther as the father of Christmas trees. On a cold Christmas Eve in 1500, Luther walked through a forest covered with snow and was struck by the beauty of a group of evergreen trees. Their branches were blanketed with snow and looked like stars. He decorated them with lights, decorating them in honor of Christ’s birth.

Picking out and decorating an evergreen is a tradition that the Crest department store, Mallardiff, is most proud of. “We always get our tree on Christmas Eve, and no matter what, my entire family has to go and pick it out together,” she said.

The tradition of singing Christmas carols can be traced as far back as the thirteenth century, when communal songs were sung during celebrations such as harvest tide and Christmas. Traditional carols require a strong tune and consist of a verse or chorus for group singing. Today, carols are usually sung at religious services on Christmas Eve or Christmas Day. It is not uncommon for per- formers to come and hold caroling concerts at churches. People in the audience hold lit candles and join in singing some of the carols in accompaniment with the performer.

This is exactly what Jess Dyzel does with her family on Christmas Eve. “For the past few years, our church has invited a Broadway singer to come in and sing O Holy Night, and it’s absolutely amazing to hear him sing.”

Whatever Christmas customs families observe, the meaning of Christmas is always the focal point of the holiday. Christmas incorpo- rates themes of family, goodwill, giving, and compassion. “For me, Christmas is all about giving. I just love to watch my family open their gifts,” Malifar added.

However you choose to cele- brate the holiday, The Crestiad wishes you a safe and happy holi- day!
Kwanzaa
Celebrating traditions, family and history

Emily Pulham
Columnist

The holiday season is fast approaching, bringing a time for celebration and joy, for togetherness and thankfulness. For Kwanzaa, it is also time for an anniversary, as 2006 marks the 40th year of its celebration.

Although the tradition of giving thanks for harvests dates back to the days of the ancient Egyptians, Kwanzaa was “created” as an official holiday in 1966 by Dr. Maulana Karenga. Kwanzaa is a celebration from African culture dedicated to giving thanks for the first harvest. According to the official Kwanzaa website (www.officialkwanzaawebsite.org), the word “Kwanzaa” is Swahili for “first fruits.”

There are seven principles of Kwanzaa, all of which reinforce family, community and culture among African American people and the global African community. Each night during Kwanzaa, one of these principles (the “Nguzo Saba”), is honored. The principles are Unity, Self-Determination, Collective Work and Responsibility, Cooperative Economics, Purpose, Creativity, and Faith.

Each of the seven principles is represented by a colored candle that is lit on its respective day. Red candles represent self-determination, cooperative economics, and creativity; green represents collective responsibility, purpose, and faith. Unity is represented by a black candle, and is always lit on the first night, to symbolize the unity of the people being the thing of first-most importance. Ears of corn, crops, the unity cup, and beautiful works of African art are placed out on a mkeka mat to honor ancestors.

Kwanzaa is celebrated every December from the 26th until January 1st. Presents are involved in Kwanzaa celebrations, but they tend to be less commercialized and more artistic, educational, and meaningful in nature. When giving gifts for Kwanzaa, creativity is definitely an important principle.

For those who celebrate Kwanzaa, the holiday is a time for appreciating family—with gatherings, celebration, and food. Food served varies from family to family, but most menus do include such favorites as Sweet Potato Pie, black-eyed peas, and a variety of Okra-themed dishes.

Different families may have different traditions, different foods, and different ways of appreciating the seven principles, but hopefully this year there will be a blessed Kwanzaa to all.

Ringing in the new year

Kimberly Baksovich
Staff Writer

“For, four, three, two, one… Happy New Year!”

Hundreds of thousands of people shout in unison on the streets of Times Square in New York, as they countdown the seconds to the coming of a new year. Millions more watch the festivities broadcasted on live television. This tradition began back in 1906, and is just one example of how people celebrate the new year.

For many people, New Year’s Day is a way to acknowledge the passing of time. They spend this day celebrating with close friends and family. People approach the new year reflecting on what has passed and anticipating what is to be.

The official beginning of the new year is at midnight on January 1. People stay up late and enjoy good food, music, and other forms of entertainment. Many people celebrate this holiday in different ways.

One freshman, Amanda McFai, shared that one of her New Year’s traditions is to, “eat twelve grapes at twelve o’clock.” This tradition is followed throughout the world—the twelve grapes are meant to bring good luck and prosperity in the twelve months to come.

Many people like to come up with New Year’s resolutions, which are the plans that people make up for the New Year. According to a survey done by the U.S. Government, some of the most common American New Year’s resolutions are to loose weight, save money, quit smoking, and get fit.

People from all over spend the young new year in different locations. Freshman Kaytale Maxsell spends her New Years in the clubs. Some people go to parties, nice restaurants, and some people choose to just enjoy the holiday in the comfort of their homes. No matter where you choose to celebrate, the New Year is something that will be welcomed by all.

Sweet Potato Pie

Ingredients:
- 2 c sweet potatoes, drained
- 4 T margarine, melted
- 3 eggs
- 1 c Sugar
- 1 tsp cinnamon
- ½ tsp grated nutmeg
- ¼ c milk
- 1 tsp vanilla
- 1 9 inch pie shell, baked
- ¼ c chopped pecans

Use a food processor or fork to mash sweet potatoes together with melted margarine. Blend in eggs, sugar, cinnamon and nutmeg. Add milk and vanilla. Pour mixture into baked pie shell.

Microwave on 70 percent power (medium high) 7 minutes. Sprinkle pecans over surface of pie.

Rotating midway through cooking, microwave on 70 percent power (medium high) 6 to 8 minutes or until center no longer jiggles.

If you prefer, you can bake it in the oven at 375 degrees for about 35-45 minutes or until it doesn’t jiggle.

Yield: 8 servings

Contributed by Emily Pulham

www.theholidayspot.com

Recipes to go…

Peanut Butter Pie

Ingredients:
- 1 b—in size cream cheese
- ½ c powdered sugar
- 2 tbsp milk
- ½ c peanut butter
- 3 egg whites
- Cool Whip
- Graham cracker pie shell

Combine ingredients one at a time, in the order that they are listed. Scoop into pie shell. Chill and enjoy!

Contributed by the Solt family
“Come sail away…”

Sometimes in life, you quote pirates. You don’t mean to, but you do it. With that in mind, I have to confess to myself: I’m transferring and moving back to England.

I am now a student at Richmond University in London. Don’t pretend to be surprised — especially since I spent my second year back in the United States before applying to go back.

I love it, really. I do realize, but every time I see what the world had to offer to me, I’ve been a different person. And since I’ve come back here, I feel like I’ve lost that person, and just become a shell of the girl I loved being.

I miss London every morning and night. I miss every day my boyfriend goes to soccer games and I can’t get chips and beer with him afterwards. I miss it when the weather gets crisp and cold, and I’m reminded of standing on train platforms on winter mornings wondering if the train will ever make an appearance. I miss finding myself in a city I love. After all this missing and being miserable and empty, I had another giant revelation.

I know I have never ever, even wanted anything as badly as I want to go back. I have never, throughout my whole life, had this great desire for anything. I’ve never felt the amount of emptiness and loss that I did from leaving London. I can’t function for one day without feeling empty and lost. I can’t pick up a book or watch a film without knowing that I have to be there. And with that, I know I had to do

anything to get back there.

And I’m not scared of leaving America this time. I’m not panicking, because I know I’m doing the right thing. Last time I was hesitant, I could have lived without going. I can’t live without it this time. I’m sure, I’m so sure that I need to go back.

But even though I know I’m doing the right thing, I still miss it here. I can truthfully use the old “it’s not you, it’s me” line. My situation is kind of like growing plants. If a plant stays too long in one pot, its roots grow too big for it, and there’s no room left for it to grow.

I grew up in Allentown, and I’m not sure there’s enough room left here for my roots to grow any further.

I will, however, take every single thing that I learned here on campus with me. And I know that no matter what I go, or for how long I stay there, I will always consider myself a Cedar Crest student. The thing is, what Cedar Crest gives us isn’t always obtained in the set standard of four years. Some of us will take five years to get it, and some of us only need two.

I’ve learned what I’ve needed to here. I’ve gone from being a depressed child who saw no visible future, to a woman who’s itching to get out and grab the world with both hands — to see and do as much as physically possible until I pass out, exhausted with breathing the fresh air of the freedom of all the possibilities available to me across the world.

I’ve got what the Cedar wants us to have — I received confidence, strength, the ability to think, and I became a woman. For the first time in my life I felt like an adult, and I got that from here.

I can truly say that this place made me who I am — just in less time than I imagined.

And when I buy a ring, it will not be a Richmond one. It will be from my alma mater, a Cedar Crest College ring. I may graduate from Richmond, but I went here. I went here. If a platter, I loved here, I laughed here, I cried here.

And although a piece of paper will eventually obtain will not have Cedar Crest’s name on it, my heart will always be stamped with the

I will miss it here. I will miss so much about it — especially the people. I can’t imagine a future for the good times I had with all of you is a thank you — thank you to people who smile when you walk past them on the quad, thank you to the people I live with, the professors, the students, the people, and the students.

I’ll miss it, but I just can’t bring myself to turn away from what my heart wants more than anything - this glorious movie-screen sunset I’m about to sail off into to explore the great wide world around me. And hell, why not quote a pirate at times like these. In the words of the great Johnny Depp:

“Now, bring me that horizon.”

Makeup: Part two

It’s time to complete our wonderful winter weather visage! Let’s get started by getting to the basics.

The most important color is right for everyone. The more natural you go the better you are. Wearing natural colors and mixing them during the day and more eye-catching colors that stand out at night is the way to go.

Not every woman can wear red lipstick or colored lip liner. There are times when you need to tone it down- try wearing latis- ters that come in various shades of brown. Blend in your liner prior to applying lipstick or lip- gloss. In the winter months, wear a darker shade but be sure not to go so dark that your lips over- power the rest of your face.

When applying blush, apply it only to the cheekbone area. If you are puzzled as to where your cheekbones are, make a fish face and where the cheeks indent this is your target area! Blend well and make sure that the blush you choose highlights your face. Fair skin tones should choose pinks or corals, darker skin tones should opt for brown and burgundy tones.

Finally, decide what feature you want to accentuate and down play instead. Highlight your lips, eyes, and cheeks are just too overpower- ing.

For eyeshadow choose three different shades similar in color. The shade that is medium goes on the lid, while the darkest shade goes in the crease. Lastly, the lightest shade is to highlight the area under the brow. Apply eye shadow in a sweeping upward motion.

Choose a liner/mascara combination that matches and stay away from black, which can look harsh. Dark brown is more natural. The darker your skin tone is the darker liner and mas- cara you should choose.

It’s time to turn your look, con- sider a gloss over lipstick. Colors that have plum, wine or deep red undertones flatter darker skin tones. While light-brown or beige with pink or orange under- tones complement lighter tones. Olive skin looks best with a brownish red, light brown or raisin shades of lipstick.

CULTURE-SHOCKED

Emily Pulham | Columnist

Come sail away...

Order for a rapist (in Nigeria) to be punished

When the accused rape is not reported in their article, “Rape - The Silent Weapon” that “Nigerian police force and security forces...” and sexual abuse, and has failed to take action against agents of the Nigerian government as well. Amnesty International stated that the “Nigerian government has failed in its international obligations to take action against agents of the state who have committed rape and sexual abuse, and has failed to amend discriminatory legislation that guarantees impunity from charges of rape.”

The International Society for Human Rights (ISHR) also posted an article on Sharia Laws regard- ing rape. Sharia is the Islamic law.

In the ISHR article, the punish- ment for rape is addressed. In order for a rapist (in Nigeria) to be punished, the woman has to name four male wit- nesses to prove the rape. In case the woman does not find these four male witnesses - which again is very likely - she will be charged with rape.

If the rape is proven, and the rapist is unarrested, he is met with three C’s. He is mar- ried, he is stoned to death. If the victim is charged with slander when the accused rape is not proven, eighty lashes to the victim are then prescribed.

The Human Rights Watch also reported the recent increase of rapes in Nigeria, specifically the increase of rapes being committed by men in police or government official positions. They addressed the issue as to why the rapes are going unreported. “It is believed ... that the vast majority of cases go unreported because of the stigma associated with rape and the fear of intimidation and reprisals by the police.”

For more information about human rights and how to get active, visit the websites of Amnesty International (www.amnesty.org) and The Human Rights Watch (www.hrw.org).

Rape in Nigeria and around the world

Christa Hagan

Copy Editor

In the United States, rape is a crime that affected more than 64,000 people between 2004 and 2005. However, these numbers represent only the cases that are reported. There are many reasons why rapes go unreported -reporting a crime such as sexual assault is a fairly daunting task, and the

INTERNATIONAL CORNER

Smothered by silence

Rape in Nigeria and around the world

IT'S COMPLETED...
Fresh off the shelf
Victoria’s Secret Very Sexy
Secret Embrace Push-up

Leann Pettit
Staff Writer

The Claim: “One-piece construction that is seam-free, label-free and ruched-free.” Bra is available in 32A-B, 34A-D, 36A-D and 38A-D.

The Very Sexy Secret Embrace bra offers “deep wavy scalloped edges” for more cleavage exposure and is convertible by going from a regular, two-strap bra, to a halter and a racer back.

The Results: I will wash laundry just to wear this bra again! It is so comfortable. The bra really is seam-free, label-free and stitch-free.” Bra is available in different designs, including red with cherry blossoms on the inside and purple with purple zebra stripes on the inside.

The scalloped edge, while designed for more cleavage exposure, didn’t do too much for me. However, they were great when I was wearing a lower cut shirt, because you couldn’t see my bra. The only downside is that when I adjusted the bra to racer back, I couldn’t figure out how to get it on, which was a little annoying.

Also different from many other bras - lyra and spandex instead of the usual lace, cotton, or silk. It was like adding another layer of skin to my body, not like adding another layer of clothing.

Almost as cool as the bra itself were the patterns of the bra. The one I got was solid black on the outside and leopard print on the inside, but there are many different designs, including red with cherry blossoms on the inside and purple with purple zebra stripes on the inside.

The push-up pads were fitted and not bulky and stiff like many other push-up bras. The type of material used to make the bra is

Eating for the holidays

While many of us cannot wait until the end of the semester, some of us may dread the holiday season for one reason: the weight gain that sometimes accompanies an appetite for all those holiday treats. So how does one eat what they wish, enjoy numerous holiday parties and get-togethers, and still manage to not feel guilty about doing so? Just follow the tips listed below and the holiday season can be filled with family, friends, and great food.

Eat a healthy snack
If you eat a small healthy snack in the morning or afternoon before a social gathering, you will tend to eat less and slower at the party itself. This will help you maintain portion control and possibly make you steer away from fattening foods.

Portion control
One of the most important factors of holiday eating is portion control. Although the food may be appetizing and tempting, controlling the amount you eat can control the amount of weight you gain and also the food choices you make. When you sample smaller portions of food, you are able to eat a larger variety of foods and fulfill more of your holiday cravings.

Drinking your calories
While alcohol may be a prevalent aspect of the holidays, moderation and healthy choices are key. Try dryer wines, light beer, and alcoholic drinks with diet counterparts. If you are a huge fan of eggnog, opt for a low fat and calorie content.

Substitutions
The food you make during the holiday season can be altered so that the fat and calorie content is made lower so that consuming the food is not a guilty pleasure. Try using low-or no-fat ingredients — family and friends probably won’t even notice.

Set goals
If you are truly concerned about gaining weight during the holiday season, set goals for your self and try your hardest to stick to those goals. Goals may include limiting your food intake at parties or exercising more; completing your goals will make you feel better and begin to counteract the overabundance of food during the holiday season.

You asked for it...

Dear Gillian,
I am concerned about a friend of mine who has been slacking off in school and doing things that she shouldn’t do. I feel like I am being dragged down with her and it is distracting me from my school work. How should I handle this situation?

Concerned Friend

Gillian

Dr. Gillian
Crestiad Advice Columnists

While you may have good intentions for your friend’s well-being, the only thing you can do is remove yourself from the situation and think about your life and the opportunities that are available for you.

College is a huge experience in everyone’s life. This is where we all figure out what we want to do with our lives, and if you are going out every night, partying and not doing your school work, it is going to be tough on you.

Be strong and independent. Your friend is going out a lot and doing things you don’t agree with, why do you have to accom- pany her? Keep this in mind. You have to keep yourself focused and organized.

You have to remember that college is college and some people like to go out and have a good time, but you have to do so in moderation. Sure, I like to go out and socialize. But I always tell myself that I have to get my work done first, and then I can go out. I always hear my mother’s words in the back of my head: “Everything in moderation, Gillian!”

College is all about time management. I am sure that a lot of people have told you this before, but you have to organize your life and your goals. That doesn’t mean go out and party every single night.

In regards to your friend, I would try to talk to her and tell her how you feel. If she doesn’t listen, then there really is nothing you can do. The only thing you can do is remove yourself from the situation and think about your life and the opportunities that are available for you.

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Treat yourself
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Treat yourself
While the holidays may be stressful when it comes to food choices, do not deprive yourself of that rich dessert or tempting food. As long you practice moderation, and don’t eat those foods as leftovers for the entire month of January, splurging for one or two days will not ruin your figure or your diet. The holidays are a time for fun, family, loved ones and friends — so treat yourself, relax and enjoy the holiday season.

Happy holidays, and happy eating!

Carrabba’s ITALIAN GRILL
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LIFESTYLES
If you don’t know what to watch this holiday season and want to curl up with some hot chocolate and a few good movies, here are the top ten movies. Remember, many TV stations will run marathons including many of these movies and TBS will play A Christmas Story on Christmas all day long.

1.) *A Christmas Story*- A boy, Ralphie, tries to get a Red Ryder BB gun that everybody says he shouldn’t have because he’ll shoot his eye out.

2.) *Love Actually*—This movie shows eight different couples and the types of relationships that they experience during the holiday season.

3.) *How the Grinch Stole Christmas* (animated or Jim Carrey version)—The Grinch tries to steal and ruin Christmas for Whoville.

4.) *The Nightmare Before Christmas*—In this Tim Burton stop motion animated classic, the residents of Halloween Town take on a new challenge as they try to turn Christmas into a fright fest.

5.) *Rudolph the Red Nose Reindeer*—Rudolph, teased by the other reindeer, tries to find friends that who accept him for who he is, and ends up helping Santa.

6.) *National Lampoon’s Christmas Vacation*—A family tries to enjoy Christmas, but many things go wrong along the way, including a missing bonus paycheck but in the end all works out right.

7.) *It’s a Wonderful Life*—A man who is upset with life gets his wish and sees what life would be like if he hadn’t been born.

8.) *Miracle on 34th Street*—This movie takes on a new challenge and brings forward at the end of the song.

9.) *Rudolph the Red Nose Reindeer*—Rudolph, teased by the other reindeer, tries to find friends that who accept him for who he is, and ends up helping Santa.

10.) *Love Actually*—This movie shows eight different couples and the types of relationships that they experience during the holiday season.

People were dancing on the stage and in their seats at the “Winter Solstice” dance concert, held Dec. 1 and 2. The concert took place in Samuel’s Theatre, with about eighty percent of the seats being filled each night.

The show featured holiday music. In a positive change from previous shows, the music had “an international flair,” featuring Christmas music, Hanukkah music, and more, all in various languages.

The dancing was great, enthusiastic, and with enough variety to keep the attention in even the youngest members of the audience. Tap, swing, ballet, and modern dance were featured.

In the first act, a collection of five pieces entitled “Weihnachten in Deutschland,” or “Christmas in Germany,” were performed. The dancers, choreography, traditional music, and overall effect were accomplished by the amazing sets, designed by junior Melanie Devlin. The set used pieces of doors that attached to what appeared to be a European looking clock. This portrayed the tiny, animated dancers often found on such clocks. The clock was beautifully designed with a Christmas tree behind it. The tree was later decorated by the participants of the show, and brought forward at the end of the song.

Other highlights of the show included an upbeat guest appearance by the Steel City Swingers and a beautifully moving performance of “Eight Candles,” using boxes and dancers to represent the time-honored Hanukkah menorah. Senior Patricia Eigner added to the concert, reading informational pieces at points throughout the show, and sing the traditional Christmas carol “O Tannenbaum.”

The show was brought to a close with a Latin piece: Paz en la tierra. Brightly colored skirts swirled vibrantly as eight Cedar Crest students masterfully whisked around the stage, smiling the whole time.

There are two more dance concerts scheduled this year at Cedar Crest. The Student Dance Concert is March 30 and 31 and the Spring Dance Concert is April 27 and 28. Cedar Crest faculty, staff, and students had reduced admission and in some situations provided free tickets. If the Winter Solstice Concert was any indication of what the upcoming concerts will be, I wouldn’t want to miss them.

Bet You Didn’t Know...

Meet Ryan Kipp in Development

Ryan Kipp grew up in Wescosville, PA with his parents and older brother Rich. Kipp is the Assistant Director of Development at Cedar Crest College.

The Crestiad: What aspects of Cedar Crest do you like the most?

Ryan Kipp: Since I grew up in Wescosville, PA, which is relatively close to Cedar Crest and attended Muhlenberg, I know this area really well. I enjoy the students that attend Cedar Crest. Every one of them is very nice and seem very determined in what they want to do.

TC: What did you major and minor in at Muhlenberg?

RK: I graduated Muhlenberg in 2002 with a BA in Communication and a minor in Art.

TC: What was your favorite part of the Communication program at Muhlenberg?

RK: I really enjoyed audience analysis class. We studied the theory of how the media affects the audience.

TC: Were you involved with any activities or organizations at Muhlenberg?

RK: I was in a fraternity, a representative on Student Government for 3 years, chair of campus safety committee, studied abroad in Australia at Macquarie University and played Varsity baseball for the university.

TC: Why did you choose to work at Cedar Crest?

RK: I applied to other colleges, but that I am working on that come out in the spring, the Phonathon - which starts in February, and help raise money for Cedar Crest. I also attend events that go on at Cedar Crest and talk to alumni.

TC: What are your typical working hours?

RK: I work from 8:30 am to 4:30 pm. Sometimes I work later because of events that are taking place.

TC: What is your favorite part of the Holiday season?

RK: I love the outdoors and I am a very spiritual person. I love going to the beach and skydiving. I really enjoy meeting new people and I am not shy!

TC: Do you have any suggestions for graduating students?

RK: I like to visit my friends at Lehigh University and Kutztown University. Also, if I have events to work on for Cedar Crest, I’ll work on those.

TC: What is your favorite part of the Holiday season?

RK: I go to Florida every year for Christmas. We have family down there and we call it the “Beach Boy Christmas!”

TC: What do you do in your spare time?

RK: I love to work out and I swim at the Rodale Aquatic Center on campus. I also run 5K’s, snowboard, ski, watch football - Giants are my favorite team, take pictures, attend concerts, and hang out with friends.

TC: What other qualities or unique things do you want people to know about you?

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ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

Chitter Chat

Kelly O’Donnell
A&E Editor

Jennifer Aniston and Vince Vaughn have split. The two started dating over a year ago called it quits in a relationship full of tabloid comments. In October, the two visited London and decided then that they were going to break up. According to their representatives, “Jennifer and Vince mutually agreed to end their relationship but continue to be good friends today.” Let’s hope that this does not become a trend for Aniston.

Nominations for the Grammy awards announced Thursday and Mary J. Blige ended up walking away with eight nominations. Her Album The Breakthrough was nominated for R&B album and Record of the year. Other nominees include The Dixie Chicks, James Blunt, Prince, John Mayer, and Justin Timberlake. The Red Hot Chili Peppers got six nods and Corinne Bailey Rae was nominated for best new artist, record, and song of the year for “Put Your Records On.” This should be an interesting award show with so many good nominees, so stayed tuned next semester for the winners.

Although Tom Cruise and Katie Holmes got married in Italy the newlyweds have decided to throw a party. Cruise and Holmes got married on November 18 and many big celebs were there but the couple will host a reception/cocktail party at their home in Los Angeles for people who were not able to attend. Maybe this time Mr. Big Shot will invite Oprah and I personally hope she shoots him down.

George Clooney recently named Sexiest Man Alive, has had tragedy befallen upon him. His dog and best friend died at the age of 19 on December 1. Clooney had Max for 18 years and this was the first time that he was near death. The pet was run over by a friend in 2001. He was nursed back to life by Clooney and fully recovered. Our thoughts are with you Clooney. R.I.P. Max.

And in a final train of thought what is with all these celebrities going around with little skirts, no underwear and then trying to get out of a car but then flashing everyone because they can’t do it elegant ly? Britney Spears, Paris Hilton, and Lindsey Lohan have been in this situation. On her website Britney Spears said “It’s been a long time since I’ve been out on the town with friends and I probably did take my freedom a little too far. Yeah, I would say she did. Just because she is single and with her husband doesn’t mean she had to break it off with her panties. Remember Britney Spears, little girls looks up to you. You may not care but others do.

Linda Misiura
Managing Editor

Sex, Iow gestures and four-letter words present themselves as the main characters in Broadway’s newest musical. Prudes be warned: this is a far cry from Beauty and the Beast. With a startlingly straightforward message and poignant songs, Spring Awakening lets us know that the problems of sexuality and abstinence that plagued our ancestors 100 years ago are still pertinent today. Instead of appearing as that misionary, the f-word and the onstage sex to bring the story round in its emo-tional ferris wheel. To be fair, the rock music is more important than the vulgarity presented in the musical. Most of the time, the music is so powerful that the lewdness is transferred to the back burner. The musical, overall, was amazing. Despite what some might call over the top, Spring Awakening manages to tackle the issues of teenage sex in a healthier way that will appeal to most under twenties. More than teachings on abstinence.

THE CRESTIAD

ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

The Sound Booth

Everyone’s screaming for LostProphets

Amanda Goodman
Opinions Editor

The Lostprophets June 2006 release, Liberation Transmission is a combination of amazing lyrics, raw talent, great vocals, and addicting rock/alternative/new wave music. The band, comprised of Ian Watkins (vocals), Oliver James and Stuart Richardson (bass guitar), are a Welsh rock band that formed in 1997. In June 2005, frontman and drummer Mike Chaplin left the group, so drummer John Freeze of The Vandals and A Perfect Circle joined the group for this album. The band derived its name from a bootleg recording of a 1988 Duran Duran concert in Italy. Since 1997, the band has released numerous demos, three studio albums, and two singles.

The band has experimented with a range of sounds from ska to rock to hip-hop, and their latest release does not disappoint. Starting the album in a UK recording studio and eventually composing the album in Hawaii saw a strong foundation in the way of which takes inspirations from The Cure and We Are Scientists, has the perfect combinations of the making of a great album.

With lyrics like, “So can u feel your heartbeat racing/can you feel the tension rise/can you see the road you’re walking/are those signs too hard to recognize/part of where you’re going/is knowing where you’re coming from/the
toughest part of moving forward/are the times where we all stand alone,” as seen in the song “For All These Times Son, For All These Times” this album can truly be the soundtrack to your life. The song titles (very similar in fashion to Fall-Out Boy’s lengthy and clever song titles) are catchy (“Everybody’s Screaming!!!”, “Broken Hearts, Turn Up Letters and The Story of a Lonely Girl”) and truly make you want to hear the songs based on their titles. Once you listen to the songs, the titles do not disappoint. Lead singer, Ian Watkins voice is amaz-

Linda Misiura
Managing Editor

We’re sing about sex...

When Wendla’s mother tells her children can only come about when a woman loves a man very much, very very much, and they are married.

Tragedy saves the day, sopp ing up the massive quantities of the f-word and the onstage sex to bring the story round in its emo-tional ferris wheel. To be fair, the rock music is more important than the vulgarity presented in the musical. Most of the time, the music is so powerful that the lewdness is transferred to the back burner. The musical, overall, was amazing. Despite what some might call over the top, Spring Awakening manages to tackle the issues of teenage sex in a healthier way that will appeal to most under twenties. More than teachings on abstinence.
It was a Sunday night, and for the first time I was walking into Montana West. I had never been there before, though many of my friends had told me how much fun it was. Upon entering Montana West, I paid to enter seven dollars, and my hand was stamped with a unique Montana West insignia. Sunday nights are referred to as ‘Family Nights’ at Montana West. The doors open at 5 pm, and there is only a one-dollar admission between 5 and 6 pm. After 6 pm, it is seven dollars to enter.

As I walked into the club, crowds of people were dancing on the enormous dance floor. It was about 7 pm at the time, and dance lessons were taking place, as they do every week. Beverly D’Angelo, lead dance instructor, was teaching many young kids and adults how to line dance to a few different country songs. The December dance of the month is the popular ‘RIP’. Now, this dance is actually the most popular dance being taught around the whole world. Montana West’s website states, “It’s a very well choreographed Cha Cha and one of the dancer’s favorites. This is a dance with staying power and will not be around a long time. Be sure not to miss this one! It will be taught every week.”

On Sunday Night, there were a different array of people at the club. I saw so many “cowboy” types of guys and girls. After living in Quakertown my whole life, I did not see that everyday, so it was a good experience seeing people who were different than the everyday norm. They were all wearing their cowboy hats and boots, and their tights pants. Another exciting feature at Montana West is the mechanical Bull. The charge is 5 dollars for a ride. I rode it for the first time on Sunday, and it was so much fun! I had been on horses before, but this was nothing compared to that. I had to hold on with my dear life, and pray that I wouldn’t fall off! There was an instructor watching me as I rode the beast, and he was telling me how to stay on.

On Sundays, children under 12 years of age get to ride the bull for free, and there are many prizes, games, and giveaways. I also found out that kids could eat and get in free on Sundays! Any child, 12 years of age or younger can receive a free child meal from their kids menu for each adult meal purchased. This series is something to look forward to every Thursday. America Ferrera, Vanessa Williams, Alan Dale, and Eric Mabius. The show is based on a popular Columbian soap opera “Yo Soy Betty, La Fea” (I am Betty, the Ugly One).

The concept was adopted for American television with executive producer Salma Hayak. ‘Ugly Betty’ is a drama/comedy that airs Thursday nights at 8.00 pm. The show stars America Ferrera, Vanessa Williams, Alan Dale, and Eric Mabius. The show is based on a popular Columbian soap opera “Yo Soy Betty, La Fea” (I am Betty, the Ugly One).

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ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

Reel Review

Bobby: A genuinely touching film

Kelly O'Donnell
A&E Editor

Have you ever watched a movie and been so touched that you were amazed a movie could have been so emotional? Bobby is one of those movies where you walk out of the theatre wanting to watch it all over again. Bobby was a touching movie not only because it seemed to truly honor Robert Kennedy, but because it showed how he affected so many different individuals around him.

The movie Bobby is based on the assassination of Senator Robert Kennedy at the Ambassador Hotel on June 6, 1968. It is not really a look at Robert Kennedy's life, but the lives of 22 people who were in the hotel at the time of his assassination, and how they were dealing with senator coming to the area. It shows very different people dealing with varying issues including racism, sexism, immigration, and even identity issues. The 60's were a very trying time for many people and this is evident during this film. The film also does an amazing job of making you feel connected to Kennedy and those who felt that this was their last chance for change, even if you were not born in the 60's.

Bobby was directed and written by Emilio Estevez (St. Elmo's Fire, The Mighty Ducks). The actors in this film are incredible and I do not know if I have ever seen a film with as many famous, great actors as this one. They range from veteran actors like Anthony Hopkins (Hannibal, The Human Stain) to newcomers such as Nick Cannon (Drumline, Underclassman), each delivering an inspiring performance. Every single actor added something valuable to this movie and although I have not heard about any award buzz, I definitely think that someone should receive a nomination for their acting capabilities.

This movie is well worth the money to see and I would actually recommend buying the movie on DVD. I think this movie deserves to be seen by everyone and it will help not only to better understand not only history, but a country at a time when it was at it's most vulnerable. Go out and see this movie right away, or else you'll be missing out on something big!

Rating: Rated R for language, drug content and a scene of violence
Runtime: 120 Minutes

CROSSWORD PUZZLE

ACROSS
1 Price sticker
2 Inability to recognize writing
4 Clegg
5 Dub
10 Wing
15 Peculiarity
16 Anger
17 Pillow place
18 Roast beer brand (3 wds.)
19 Hold off
20 Prestigious British university
22 Small city
24 Fats
25 Ghost
27 Reverent
30 States
32 Shoulder covering
33 To be in debt
34 Book by Homer
36 Similar to oak
38 Most secure
40 Prospect
42 Japanese capital
43 Bowed
44 Boxer Muhammad
45 "The Real ..."
47 Avails
51 Stick
53 Throw in the air
54 Slam
55 Please respond
57 Number after nineteen
59 Bundle of sticks
62 North of the Beehive State
65 New Jersey's neighbor
66 Rome's country
67 Lowest point
68 Be
69 Southern girl
70 Something that haunts
71 Hallucinogen

DOWN
1 No-no's
2 Cackle
3 Price sticker
4 Forger wound
5 Has 3 identical siblings
6 Vase
7 Relief
8 Teady
9 Northwest by west
10 Playing field
11 Bad (prefix)
12 Airport abbr.
13 Inadequate
14 Wing
15 Peculiarity
16 Anger
17 Pillow place
18 Roast beer brand (3 wds.)
19 Hold off
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70 Something that haunts
71 Hallucinogen

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**Morcom leads Falcons; named Athlete of the Week**

Jennifer Woystach
Sports Editor

Janelle Morcom led the Falcons basketball team with 11 points, including two 3-pointers, during their 47-36 season opening loss to Penn State University Abington. For this, Morcom was named Cedar Crest College’s Athlete of the Week for the week ending November 19.

Morcom has been playing basketball since third grade and also plays field hockey and softball and did karate for eight years. “I love the competition. I play for the challenge of always having someone who could beat me,” Morcom said.

Currently second on the team in scoring with 39 points, including seven 3-pointers, Morcom has also recorded 17 rebounds this season. “Watching the team grow has been memorable. I think learning about the younger girls and hearing their stories has made it worth the long pre-season,” Morcom said, of her most memorable moment so far this season.

Morcom will be representing Cedar Crest College at the Lehigh Valley Association of Intercollegiate Athletics for Women (LVIAAW) media luncheon tomorrow.

“I think everyone has kept a good positive outlook,” Morcom said, adding that the team is “bonding very nicely.”

“My individual goals are to stay strong, last year was a challenge for me. This year I want to be a leader and be able to break my defensive goals from last year,” Morcom said. “Team wise, I want to be just that. A team.”

This captain does sometimes find it difficult to balance both athletics and academic, “but more often I find that athletics keeps me on track and makes me do my work.”

A sophomore from Milford, PA/DElaware Valley High School, Morcom is a Biology/Pre-Vet major. Aside from participating in Falcon athletics, she will be planning team for Relay for Life next April.

Morcom was the the 2006 Cedar Crest College Rookie of the Year, the 2006 Most Improved Player on the softball team, and was named to the Pennsylvania Athletic Conference’s All-PAC Field Hockey Second Team this past season.

**Challenges and competition keep Campbell going**

Jennifer Woystach
Sports Editor

Sophomore Sarah Campbell was named Cedar Crest’s Athlete of the Week for the week ending December 2. Campbell currently leads the Falcons with 26 total rebounds and also has 25 points. During last Monday’s loss to Immaculata University, Campbell made 5 of 7 free throws and chipped in 3 rebounds. In the game versus Rosemont College, Campbell led both teams with 13 rebounds.

Campbell has played basketball since sixth grade, but took off her senior year of high school and her freshman year at Cedar Crest. “I decided to play basketball this year because I had promised Coach that I would,” she said. “I was excited to get back into playing basketball and having fun with it.”

Recalling the game against Rosemont, where the Falcons were unable to capitalize on a 25-25 halftime tie, Campbell said: “Even though we lost, we really came together in that game and showed the potential that we have to become a major force in this conference in the next couple of years.”

Campbell’s positive attitude is highly visible on the court. She has set goals for herself and the team for the rest of the season. “My individual goals this year are to improve my free throw percentage, watch my fouls, and to dominate the boards with Ashley Bechtel,” she said. Campbell’s free throw percentage (68.4) is currently the team’s best.

“Our team goals are to get better with each practice, to stick together, and do our best this year, so we can be amazing next year,” she said. “I think our team chemistry is pretty darn good. We can have our frustrated moments on the court, but everyone understands that in the end we are all a team and we need to stick together for everything. We are all there to help each other out and make each other better.”

Campbell is also aware of the opportunities she has. “The thing that motivates me to play sports is that some people never get the chance due to illness or something else, so why should I just throw away an opportunity to use the talents that God gave me? Not to mention I love the challenges and the competition involved.”

A Biodiversity and Conservation Biology major, Campbell is a native of Easton, PA. She attended Notre Dame High School and currently calls Plainfield, IL home. “It’s not really that hard balancing athletics and school. I have found that I plan better when I am playing a sport because it makes me manage my time and get things done sooner,” said Campbell, who has also been playing softball since she was five and is an outfielder for the Falcons softball team. Campbell is also a Big Sis. “I just want to keep getting better because I love to win and I want to contribute in making the team better,” she added.

**Basketball Results & Schedule**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Results</th>
<th>Date</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>11/30 vs. College Misericordia</td>
<td>87-27 L</td>
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<tr>
<td>12/2 vs. Rosemont College</td>
<td>57-43 L</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12/4 vs. Immaculata University</td>
<td>96-56 L</td>
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**Upcoming games**

- Wednesday, 1/3 @ FDU-Madison: 6:00
- Saturday, 1/6 vs. Albvernia College: 1:00
- Monday, 1/11 @ Neumann College: 6:00
- Thursday, 1/18 vs. Bryn Mawr College: 7:00
- Saturday, 1/20 vs. Gwynedd-Mercy College: 1:00
- Monday, 1/22 vs. Cabrini College: 7:00
- Thursday, 1/25 @ College Misericordia: 7:00
- Saturday, 1/27 @ Albvernia College: 1:00